

January 6, 2012

Hon. Robert W. Godshall
150 Main Capitol Building
PO Box 202053
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2053

Dear Chairman Godshall:

On behalf of Star Rock Farms, I would like to thank the House Consumer Affairs Committee for allowing the Pennsylvania State Grange to submit written testimony regarding House Bill 1580.

I am writing to urge your support of House Bill 1580. I was just recently made aware of this bill. Our dairy is currently in a position where this bill would affect us greatly. We installed solar panels with the help of state and federal grants. Although this was very helpful, the grants only covered a portion of the cost and we were counting on the reduced electricity bills and sale of Solar Renewable Energy Credits (SRECs) to fund the remaining cost. The energy savings have been helpful but, the SREC income has been disappointing. Our business plan estimated the value of future to be worth \$200 to \$300, however they have fallen to as low as \$20. This is causing it to take much longer to recoup our investment.

Additionally, the industry created by this new clean energy is in danger of going out of business or leaving for states that continue to support solar energy. I believe that we need to encourage clean energy and jobs in Pennsylvania now more than ever before.

I think that this is an important bill. It will benefit Pennsylvania by increasing clean energy as well as retaining and creating jobs.

Thank you for your support.

Robert N. Barley
President, Star Rock Dairy, Inc.
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Millersville, PA 17551