

**R. LEE JAMES, MEMBER**  
64TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

**HARRISBURG OFFICE:**  
145A EAST WING  
P.O. BOX 202064  
HARRISBURG, PA 17120-2064  
PHONE: (717) 783-8188  
FAX: (717) 782-2924

**DISTRICT OFFICE:**  
3220 STATE ROUTE 257  
P.O. BOX 547  
SENECA, PA 16346  
PHONE: (814) 677-6413  
FAX: (814) 676-1653



**House of Representatives**  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Harrisburg

**COMMITTEES**

APPROPRIATIONS

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES &  
ENERGY

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY  
PREPAREDNESS

May 24, 2018

PENNVEST  
Brion Johnson  
Executive Director  
Room 434 Forum Building  
607 S Drive  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Mr. Johnson:

We are writing to formally request that you put an *immediate end* to the process whereby loans totaling approximately 50 million dollars are proposed to be granted to Lyme Timber for land acquisitions in North Central and North Western Pennsylvania.

Further, we request that *all* commitments to this effect be rescinded on the basis that answers to questions in the loan application were completed erroneously.

We believe there have been several misleading statements made by representatives of Lyme Timber. An out-of-state investment company with stated assets reported to be in excess of more than one billion dollars should never be subsidized with a preferential 1% financing rate of interest by Pennsylvania taxpayers or any state agency. This type of corporate welfare creates an uneven playing field in the private sector market place and puts Pennsylvania forest products companies at a disadvantage.

We believe the sole purpose for a PENNVEST loan should be for public drinking water and sewage systems or storm water projects that directly improve stream health.

PENNVEST staff have stated that Lyme Timber will use BMP's (Best Management Practices) in their timber operations to try and justify this loan. Most Pennsylvania timber companies use BMP's all day every day and are not requesting subsidies for doing the "right thing."

If PENNVEST has excess funds, they should be used for financing municipalities' new projects or refinancing existing higher interest rate loans. This would result in lower water and/or sewage bills for their customers.

Sincerely,

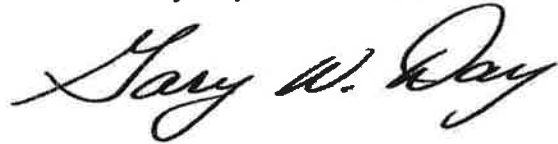
R Lee James – 64<sup>th</sup> District

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R. Lee James".

Seth Grove – 196<sup>th</sup> District



Gary Day – 187<sup>th</sup> District



John Lawrence – 13<sup>th</sup> District



Russ Diamond – 102<sup>nd</sup> District



Cris Dush – 66<sup>th</sup> District



Kathy Rapp – 65<sup>th</sup> District



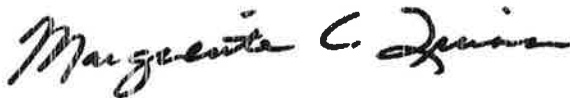
Greg Rothman – 87<sup>th</sup> District



Kate Klunk – 169<sup>th</sup> District



Marguerite Quinn – 143<sup>rd</sup> District



Kate Harper – 61<sup>st</sup> District



Rich Irvin – 81<sup>st</sup> District



Dan Moul – 91<sup>st</sup> District



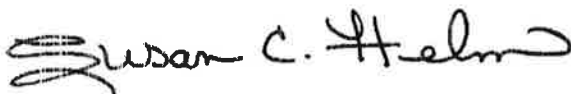
Dawn Keefer – 92<sup>nd</sup> District



David Maloney – 130<sup>th</sup> District



Susan Helm – 104<sup>th</sup> District



Tina Pickett – 110<sup>th</sup> District



John Maher – 40<sup>th</sup> District



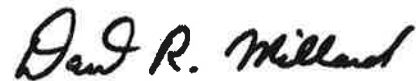
Jonathan Fritz – 111<sup>th</sup> District



Mark Keller – 86<sup>th</sup> District



David Millard – 109<sup>th</sup> District



Kurt Masser – 107<sup>th</sup> District



Kristin Phillips-Hill – 93<sup>rd</sup> District



Jeff Pyle – 60<sup>th</sup> District



Daryl Metcalfe – 12<sup>th</sup> District

