

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Legislative Information Office
Room 100
Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Dave Leherr -- (717) 787-7895

HARRISBURG, August 19 -- Westmoreland County's five Democratic House members joined forces today in calling for a special legislative investigation into the problems and costs of the Pennsylvania Turnpike with an eye toward making it toll free.

Co-sponsored by State Reps. James J. Manderino, Amos K. Hutchinson, John F. Laudadio, Gust L. Stemmler, and C. L. Schmitt, the resolution would create a five member house committee, made up of three Democrats and two Republicans, with the power to hold hearings and subpoena witnesses.

"The Pennsylvania Turnpike system was instituted over 30 years ago; yet during the interim there have been vast changes in our highway transportation system and especially in relation to new interstate highways like the Keystone Shortway," the sponsors said.

"The time has come to review the problems and costs involved in operating the Turnpike with a view towards making it a toll-free highway."

One concept expressed by the five sponsors is that, by making the Turnpike toll-free, it would help ease the unemployment problem.

"Too many prospective industries are finding the toll free Keystone Shortway a more appealing lure to locating in Pennsylvania," the sponsors said. "This would make the Turnpike more competitive."

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PENNSYLVANIA TURNPIKE COMMISSION
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
November 17, 1971 #11
Anthony S. Mammarella, 939-9551

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HARRISBURG....The Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission has sent a resolution to the Pennsylvania Legislature to encourage legislation that would outlaw the use of metallic studded tires on all Pennsylvania highways. Although the Commission can ban the use of studded tires on the Pennsylvania Turnpike, it would be impractical if their use were permitted on adjoining highways in the state.

The decision to call for the "ban" on the use of studded tires was largely based on a report by Michael Baker, Jr., Inc., Consulting Engineer to the Commission. According to their report, studded tires are presently banned in three states, including Minnesota, a pioneer in studded tire research. Four other states, Oregon, Michigan, Iowa, and Wisconsin, have the matter under consideration. Many other states have restrictions on the use of studded tires but have not banned them altogether.

- More -

*What did Michael Baker get paid?
Compare his report with Kassab's*

TURNPIKE ADD 1:

While providing the Commission with the related data compiled by other states and organizations, the Michael Baker, Jr., Inc. report also provided an analysis of the effect of studded tires on the Pennsylvania Turnpike. This phase of the report concluded that "Studded tires have the effect of rapidly wearing away the finished concrete surface and exposing the coarse aggregate, which in turn allows deicing chemicals to penetrate and cause deterioration of the concrete roadway."

The report further concluded that the Commission should join with PennDOT in urging the banning of studded tires throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

In making the report available, Commission Chairman, Lester F. Burlein concluded, "The banning of studded tires is in the best interest of our patrons and all Pennsylvania motorists."

RESOLUTION

Whereas, the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission recognizes the deleterious effects metallic studded tires have on the highway surface of the Pennsylvania Turnpike and on the highways of the Commonwealth generally; and

Whereas, the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission acknowledges several bills have been introduced in the Legislature banning or restricting the use of such studded tires on highways within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; and

Now, Therefore, be it resolved that the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission supports Senate Bill No. 560, session of 1971, introduced by Senator McCreesh on April 19, 1971, which Bill prohibits the use of tires containing metallic studs on any highway within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania;

And be it further resolved that a copy of the within resolution be sent to Senator McCreesh and any and all other public officials, legislators, or interested parties concerned with effectuating the banning of metallic studded tires from the highways of the Commonwealth.

SUBJECT: Hanky Panky or Stupidity

September 19, 1971

TO: John Laudadio

L

Dear John,

Sorry I missed you because one word is worth a thousand pictures or some such . I expected another call from you, and when I didn't get it; I assumed you weren't coming. Was going to have you drop off at the pistol range at Carlisle—we even ordered an extra case of beer; I coulda done without it the next day.

Possibly I can explain this deal; so that you get the picture, by following the copies of the agreement and map. Jack Gothie bought a tract of about 550 acra about 6 or 8 years ago. This tract is known as the Old Weighth Fields and lies northeast of what use to be Bill's Place on Route# 30 on the Bedford - Fulton Line. You can see his lake from 30. He has been nothing but bad news—apparently lives by his profits from law suits.

You can see by the map that when the Turnpike abandoned Rays Hill and Sideling Hill Tunnels that this did not touch his land; infact this improved his establishment by moving the pike away from it. The only thing it did was cut off his right-of-way, and it stands to reason they will grant him a new access. He threatened with a suit, and this is what The Turn Pike gave him. The 28 acres and 77 perches is adjacent to his lake and valued at least \$3,000.00 per acre. This they gave him in the settlement. This originally was State Forest Land taken by the Tunpike by condemnation. In addition they gave him \$3,500. They put an underpass under the new pike for him and also ran the Oregon Road through this underpass; since it was also cut off from Route# 30. Now Gothie says that this is his underpass and sportsmen or no one else may use it. I can't believe this was ever intended, but read this stupid agreement and decide for yourself. The Turnpike contends that the two geniuses who drafted this agreement are no longer with the Commission. One resigned and the other was fired for Hankey Pankey. This deal creates a hardship for our sportsmen. The Tract privetly owned by Pete Dale has always been open to public hunting—now Pete can't even get to his own land.

This is just a hunch, but the \$3,500 sounds like an acre of ground to some wheel on the Turn Pike Commission. We are having all tracts purchased from Gothie checked against the Turn Pike Roster by Percy Foor. Don't let this out; since they will have it tied up with receiptsetc; if we loose the surprise element. Elmer Hawbaker and Schuman will probably be working on this affair; also.

If you need further clarafication drop me a note or better still drop in and see me. You'd never believe the deals this guy and his son are trying to pull in the County. A lot depends on how the Court decides, but I'm afraid they stole Sid Beeches Place (on 30 on Fulton-Franklin Line).



THE SECRETARY

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF FORESTS AND WATERS
HARRISBURG
17120

ACTING
SECRETARY

AS OF JANUARY 19, 1971
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

September 29, 1971

In reply refer to
F-M

The Honorable John F. Laudadio, Sr.
925 South Jefferson Street
Jeanette, Pennsylvania 15644

Dear Representative Laudadio:

This is in regard to an agreement executed July 21, 1970 between the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission and Jack F. Gothie and Sarah U. Gothie, his wife, of the Borough of Camp Hill.

The agreement was the result of certain relocations of the Pennsylvania Turnpike in the area of Rays Hill Tunnel and Side-ling Hill Tunnel in Brush Creek Township, Fulton County. The intent of the agreement was to provide Mr. Gothie with access to his property, and at the same time provide access for this Department and the general public to State Forest land.

It has come to my attention that Mr. Gothie has been taking certain action to prohibit access to public lands and other private lands in the area. My concern is that the Oregon Road be kept open for travel by our personnel in the performance of their duties and for the general public who have a right to use public lands. While this Department had no part in the agreement between the Gothies and the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission, I must insist that the Turnpike Commission take whatever action is necessary to prohibit Mr. Gothie from denying access to State Forest land.

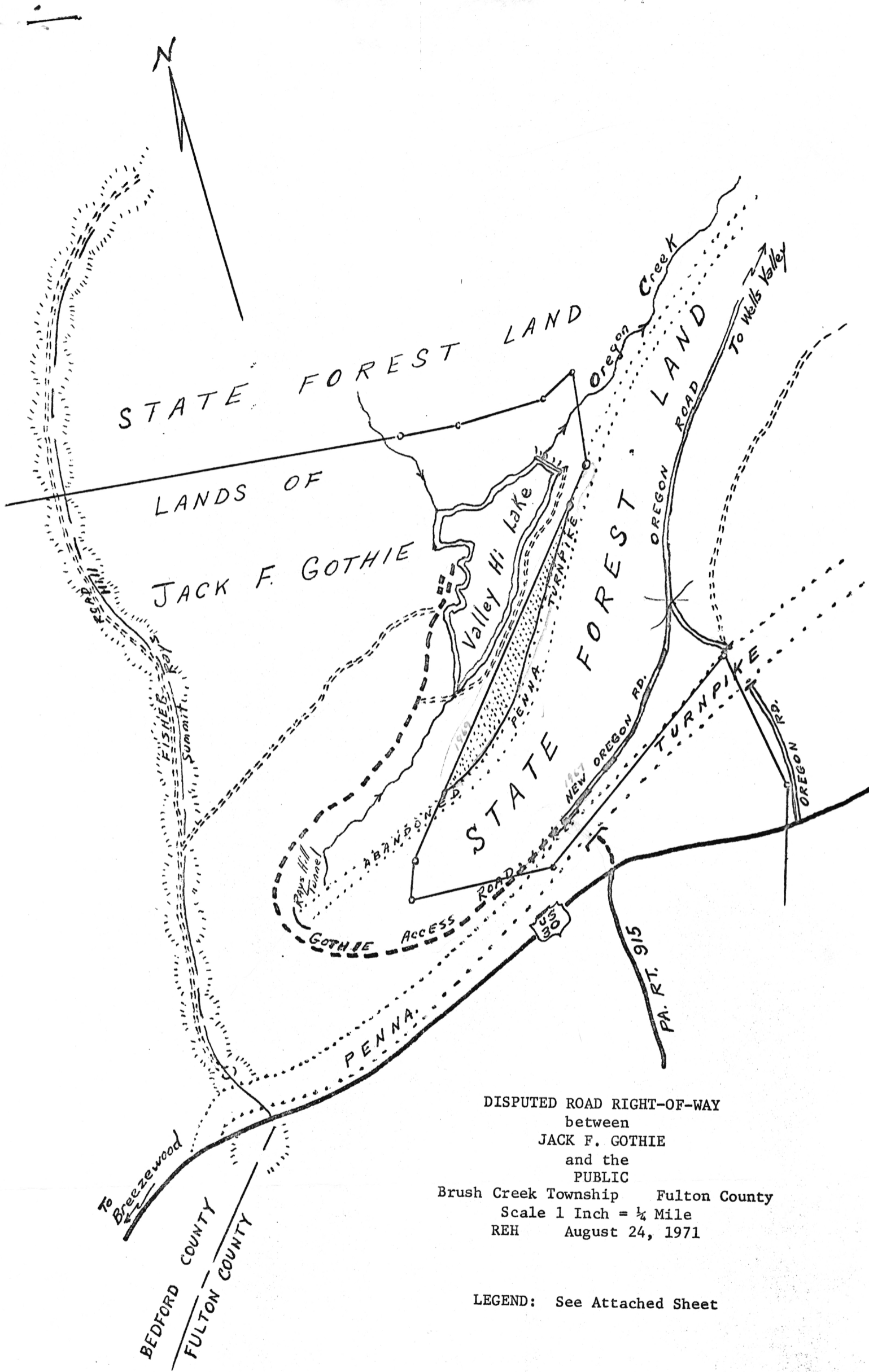
I am enclosing herewith a map of the area which will tend to clarify the situation. The Oregon Road, marked in green, on the map is the section in which we are interested. It is my understanding that Mr. Gothie claims all the road beyond the underpass under the present turnpike. This is the area that must be kept open.

Sincerely yours,

MAURICE K. GODDARD
Acting Secretary

Enclosure








- I have also enclosed items you gave me last Friday. mep



DISPUTED ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY
 between
 JACK F. GOTHE
 and the
 PUBLIC
 Brush Creek Township Fulton County
 Scale 1 Inch = 1/4 Mile
 REH August 24, 1971

LEGEND: See Attached Sheet

EXHIBIT A
LEGEND

-  Hard Surfaced Road
-  Gothie Access Road
-  New Road on State Forest Land (1967)
-  R/W on S.F.L. Condemned by Pa. Tpk. Comm.
-  Improved Earth Road
-  Woods Road
-  State Forest Land Ceded to Pa. Tpk. Comm., thence to Jack Gothie (1969)