

**Good Afternoon, my name is Dennis Hoak and I am a retired Penna. State Trooper who retired from the Aviation Division here at the Williamsport airport.**

**I would like to you to consider the geographic aspect of this move. The Williamsport Aviation Patrol Unit was the most centered in the state. Our helicopter could assist and or cover other aviation patrol units areas faster than any other in the state simply because we were located in the center of the state.**

**Now with the Marcellus Shale drilling in Pennsylvania counties like Tioga and Bradford have had a very high increase in police activities, both criminal and traffic, not to mention disaster risks from the drilling. Response time has always been a factor in any of these situations.**

**The residents of North Central have suffered greatly from the natural disasters over the last few years. The helicopter has been able to assist all the emergency departments and has saved several lives. Again I refer to response time, a major factor plus the fact that the helicopter can't be in two places at one time, serving the residents/emergency personnel in the Eastern part of the state and not being available in North Central area. These people will suffer the most and we all know unfortunately we have not seen our last natural disaster.**

**This patrol unit helicopter was one of the busiest in the state. Why choose this unit to close down and move when there are other units that are way less productive in police and other missions flown. This move to the Eastern part of the state will add response time, more fuel costs, and will not be able to cover the North Central area as the residents, police, and emergency personnel are accustom to having.**