

Young farmers ask Bergland to speak up

DANVILLE — A group of young family farmers publicly petitioned U.S. Agriculture Secretary Bob Bergland to speak up for the American farmer.

Group spokesman C. Herbert Zeager, R2 Wat-

sontown, read their petition to Bergland during his stop at the Chris Wolf farm in Columbia County last week.

Co-signers of the petition included William S. Geise, R1 Northumberland; Richard J. Davies, R3

Danville; A. Dean Heebner, R2 Danville; Richard L. Beachel, R2 Danville; and Franklin Shupp, R3 Danville.

The farmers' statement to the Secretary was as follows:

We are extremely pleased that you are visiting we farmers in central Pennsylvania.

As you are well aware, the farmers in this area are under severe economic stress at this time.

We would like to call your attention to the fact that several policies of the Carter Administration have contributed to this situation.

First and foremost, your energy policy, or lack of one, has forced our costs of production to an all time high. Not only has the cost of fuel escalated, but the cost of all forms of energy, in-

cluding electricity, has increased at an alarming rate.

This increasing cost has (Turn to Page C21)



"Speak up for the American farmer," pleaded C. Herbert Zeager, left, spokesman for a group of young family farmers who presented Secretary Bergland with a letter of recommendations on national farm policy.

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