PENNSYLVANIA ORNITHOLOGICAL RECORDS COMMITTEE 210 Welcome Ave. Norwood, PA 19074

6 February 2002

Larry Brown, Sr. RR #2 Box 187 Millerton, PA 16936

Dear Larry

Thank you for submitting documentation on the hummingbird you observed at Jackson Township on 9 June 2000. After careful review, the Committee regrets that it has voted not to accept this record.

The vote was unanimous, and all of the members felt that the details provided were insufficient for a conclusive identification -- especially for a first state record of a species difficult to separate from Rufous and perhaps other hummingbird species.

All authorities consider measurement of the retrices the only diagnostic method of separating Allen's from Rufous. The green back color is present in some adult Rufous, and the two species can look exactly alike to the eye. The members found the "J" flight description indicative, but needed information about whether there was a shrill noise of the wings at the end of the dive. One member noted in addition that no information was provided about the color and shape of the gorget.

Ultimately, it is unlikely the state's first Allen's record would be accepted in any case except by a specimen or a bird in hand enabling determination of the diagnostic tail "formula."

The Committee emphasizes that non-acceptance does not mean the bird was not an Allen's, but rather that we did not find the description conclusive for this difficult species.

We hope this will not discourage you from submitting reports of rarities in the future.

Sincerely,

For the Committee: Paul Hess, Chairman

Record No. 496-01-2000

RARE BIRD REPORT Species: <u>Allowing of Allowing of Allowing Species</u> Date Found: <u>9 June</u> Last Date Seen: <u>10 June</u> County: <u>1006</u> Dote Found: <u>9 June</u> Last Date Seen: <u>10 June</u> County: <u>1006</u> Person Writing this report: <u>Larry Grown SE</u> Address: <u>128472 Colspan=27</u> , <u>prillector PP 16526</u> Address: <u>128472 Colspan=27</u> , <u>prillector PP 16526</u> Address: <u>128472 Colspan=27, prillector PP 16526</u> Other Observers: <u>Acter Clause Status Forder PP 16526</u> Other Observers: <u>Acter Clause Clause Status Forder PP 16526</u> Other Observers: <u>Acter Clause Clause Status Forder PP 16526</u> Other Observers: <u>Acter Clause Clause Status Forder </u>		496	-01-2000	2	
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Record No.:496-01-2000

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Tabulation Form - Round One

Species: Allen's Hummingbird (Selasphorus sasin)

Date of Sighting: 9 June 2000 to 12 June 2000 Location: JOBS CORNER County: TIOGA Observer(s): Larry Brown

Date of Submission: 2000 Submitted by: Larry Brown

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Written Description: Yes Photo: No				Specin	nen: No	Record	Recording: No	
Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV-A	Class IV-B	Class IV-C	Class V	Abstain
G. Armistead					X			
D. Couchman				X				
P. Hess					\times			
R. Ickes				\times				
B. Reid					X			
P. Rodewald				X				
M. Sharp				\times				
TOTALS				4	3			
DECISION				X				
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