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5	OF LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT	
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14	TAKEN ON JUNE 28, 2016	
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1	EXHIBITS	
2	MARKED AND ENTERED	
3	Exhibit 1 17	
4	(Notice of Intent to Construct	
5	including correspondence and Notices of	
6	the public informational meeting	
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13	Exhibit 4 53	
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17	Transcript of Proceedings, held on	
18	June 28, 2016 between the hours of six o'clock in the	
19	evening and eight o'clock in the evening of that day,	
20	at the offices of Randolph County Sheriff's Office,	
21	211 East Market Street, in the City of Olney, State of	
22	Illinois, on the 28th day of June, 2016 before	
23	Catherine L. Turner, IL-CSR, MO-CCR, RPR in the	
24	aforesaid matter In Re: Proposed Construction of	
25	Livestock Management Facility by Craig Diel.	

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1	APPEARANCES	
2		
3	PRESENT FOR THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF	
	AGRICULTURE:	
4	SCOTT FRANK	
	BRAD BEAVER	
5	JOHN TEEFEY	
	DOUG OWENS	
6	Illinois Department of Agriculture	
	State Fairgrounds PO Box 19281	
7	Springfield, Illinois 62794	
	(217) 785-2427	
8	scott.frank@illinois.gov	
	brad.beaver@illinois.gov	
9		
1.0	PRESENT FOR CRAIG DIEL:	
10	CHRIS J. WEST	
	Frank and West	
11	7226 N. State Route 29	
1.0	Springfield, Illinois 62707	
12	(217) 487-7686	
1.7	cwest@fwieng.com	
13	DOADD MEMDEDG DDEGEME.	
14	BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: ALICE MULLINAX	
14	BILL CLOW	
15	EMILY BLACKFORD	
13	MARY SPILLMAN	
16	GREG AMERMAN	
10	LEO LEDERER	
17	MELINDA HUNT	
18	ALSO PRESENT	
10	AMANDA BLAIN	
19	CRAIG DIEL	
10	ROD WILSON	
20	NIC ANDERSON	
	WALE HARRISON	
21	MORGAN BOOTH	
	VICTORIA GOAD	
22	ALAN WALKER	
	CHARLES DIEL	
23	BEN SHILLING	
	REID THACKER	
24	ANDREW MUSHRUSH	
	LISA WEIDNER	
25	BOB RITTER	

		Page 6
1	APPEARANCES	
	(Continued)	
2		
	ALSO PRESENT:	
3	GEORGE WESTELL	
	LEO LEDETER	
4	J. R. RITTER	
	STEVE BURGENER	
5	COREY STEBER	
	EMILY STEBER	
6	MIKE BORGI	
	ISAAC FINLEY	
7	SCOTT FINLEY	
	DIANE WRIGHT	
8	DENNIS HANCOCK	
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10		
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19		
20		
21		
22	Court Reporter:	
	Catherine L. Turner, IL-CSR, MO-CCR, RPR	
23	Midwest Litigation Services	
	711 North Eleventh Street	
24	St. Louis, Missouri 63101	
	(314) 644-2191	
25	1-800-280-3376	

		Page 7
1	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED that	
2	these proceedings may be taken in shorthand by	
3	Catherine L. Turner, IL-CSR, MO-CCR, RPR, and	
4	afterwards transcribed into typewriting.	
5	* * * *	
6	(Starting time of the meeting: 6:00 p.m.)	
7	OPENING REMARKS BY MR. FRANK	
8	MR. FRANK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Before	
9	we begin here tonight, I would ask that everyone	
10	please turn your cell phones to silent. Thank you	
11	very much.	
12	Good evening. On behalf of Raymond Poe,	
13	director of the Illinois Department of Agriculture, we	
14	thank you very much for the invitation to come to	
15	Richland County tonight.	
16	My name is Scott Frank. I'm with the	
17	Illinois Department of Agriculture, and I will be	
18	serving as a hearing officer for tonight's public	
19	informational meeting.	
20	Also with me, on behalf of the Department	
21	are John Teefey, bureau chief of the Bureau of	
22	Environmental Programs, Doug Owens in the back,	
23	manager of the Bureau's livestock program and Brad	
24	Beaver, also with the Bureau.	
25	This meeting is being conducted pursuant to	

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- 1 Section 12 of the Livestock Management Facilities Act.
- 2 The informational meeting is being held at the request
- 3 of the Richland County Board and is to afford members
- 4 of the public an opportunity to ask questions and
- 5 present oral and written testimony regarding the
- 6 proposed construction of a new 1,680 animal unit swine
- 7 finishing facility by Craig Diel.
- 8 My task this evening is to ensure this
- 9 meeting is conducted in an orderly fashion and to
- 10 ensure that all comments and testimony received are
- 11 entered into the record.
- 12 Tonight's record is being transcribed. The
- 13 transcript of the meeting will be sent to the Richland
- 14 County Board, as well as used by the Department of
- 15 Agriculture, in making its determination regarding the
- 16 proposed construction of this facility.
- 17 In order to ensure that we have an orderly
- 18 process, I will quickly explain how the meeting will
- 19 proceed this evening. First, following my comments
- 20 John Teefey will provide an overview of the provisions
- 21 of the Livestock Management Facilities Act as it
- 22 relates to this particular project, specifically
- 23 outlining the current status of the project and how
- the process will proceed following this meeting.
- Following Mr. Teefey, representatives for

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- 1 the proposed construction project will be given an
- 2 opportunity to describe the project and demonstrate
- 3 how they believe it meets the siting criteria of the
- 4 Livestock Management Facilities Act.
- 5 After their presentation, I will open the
- 6 meeting to questions. Anyone wishing to ask questions
- 7 of the facility representatives or the department will
- 8 be given an opportunity to do so.
- 9 During the question-and-answer session, I
- 10 will ask that you state your name and spell your last
- 11 name. You then may ask your question. Depending on
- 12 the number of people who wish to testify in the oral
- 13 testimony phase of the meeting, which is right after
- 14 the question phase, there may be a time limit placed
- 15 on this questioning phase.
- 16 Following the question-and-answer phase, I
- 17 will ask for written testimony. If anyone has written
- 18 testimony that is not part of your oral testimony, I
- 19 will accept it and enter it into the record for this
- 20 proceeding.
- 21 If you have written material that you will
- 22 be using as part of your oral testimony, it can be
- 23 entered into the record following your oral testimony.
- 24 Then, depending on the amount of time that has elapsed
- 25 at this point, we may take a short break.

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- 1 Following the written testimony, I will ask
- 2 for oral testimony from the public. Sign-in sheets
- 3 were placed outside the room as you came in. One
- 4 sheet for attendance and a second sheet for testimony.
- 5 People who wish to provide comments during
- 6 this oral testimony phase are asked to sign the oral
- 7 testimony sheet. People providing oral comments will
- 8 be sworn in and will be subject to questioning from
- 9 the public.
- 10 Each person will be given three minutes to
- 11 provide his or her comments. Legal counsel speaking
- 12 on behalf of multiple clients will be given a total of
- 13 15 minutes for all clients and will be asked to state
- 14 the names of all the persons on whose behalf he or she
- 15 is speaking.
- 16 Deferring time to other speakers will not be
- 17 allowed. If you sign the oral testimony sheet, you
- 18 may either speak, or if you have changed your mind,
- 19 you may pass. You may not give your time to someone
- 20 else.
- 21 Also, please keep in mind that if you do not
- 22 wish to be asked questions during your oral testimony,
- 23 do not sign the sheet, or if you have signed it,
- 24 indicate you would like to pass when I call your name.
- 25 The meeting will then conclude with closing comments

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- 1 from the facility and closing comments from the
- 2 department.
- 3 So to summarize the procedure tonight, we
- 4 will have comments from the department, comments from
- 5 the facility, questions directed to the department and
- 6 facility, written testimony, oral testimony, and then
- 7 closing comments.
- 8 Please keep in mind that we're not here this
- 9 evening to discuss or debate the merits of the
- 10 perceived inadequacies of the existing regulations or
- 11 laws. We are here tonight to receive information on
- 12 this particular proposed livestock facility to assist
- 13 with determining compliance with the existing
- 14 regulations.
- This is the public informational meeting,
- 16 not a court proceeding. The purpose is to share
- information and provide an opportunity for the
- 18 department, members of the county board and you, the
- 19 public to learn about this proposed facility.
- 20 Again, we very much appreciate your
- 21 hospitality in inviting us here today to consider the
- 22 proposed construction of the Craig Diel Swine
- 23 Finishing Facility. Please remember to consign your
- 24 comments and questions to that subject as we continue.
- I will now turn the proceedings over to John

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- 1 Teefey for remarks from the Illinois Department of
- 2 Agriculture.
- 3 COMMENTS BY MR. TEEFEY
- 4 MR. TEEFEY: Thank you, Mr. Frank. Good
- 5 evening. My name is John Teefey. I currently serve
- 6 as the bureau chief of environmental programs for the
- 7 Illinois Department of Agriculture.
- 8 One of our responsibilities at the
- 9 Department is the administration of the various
- 10 provisions of the Livestock Management Facilities Act.
- 11 On behalf the of the Department, let me welcome you to
- 12 this public informational meeting.
- Before we hear from the proposed facility's
- 14 representatives, I would like to say a few words
- 15 regarding the applicable provisions of the Livestock
- 16 Management Facilities Act and the current status of
- 17 the proposed project.
- 18 The Livestock Management Facilities Act was
- 19 originally passed and became law on May 21st of 1996.
- 20 Since that time, the Act has been amended three times,
- 21 first in 1997, second in 1999 and most recently during
- 22 the 2007 spring session.
- The Act can be generally described as
- 24 covering five major areas, those being facility design
- 25 standards, waste management planning requirements,

Page 13

- 1 facility operator training and testing, anaerobic
- 2 lagoon financial responsibility demonstration and
- 3 facility setback requirements.
- 4 Each of these provisions impacts various
- 5 types of facilities in different ways depending on the
- 6 facility size, expressed in animal units, and whether
- 7 the proposed facility is considered as a new facility,
- 8 a modified facility or an expansion of an existing
- 9 facility.
- 10 The Livestock Management Facilities Act's
- 11 provisions are quite complicated and specific facility
- 12 design and situations certainly can differ. It is,
- 13 however, the Department's intention to always fairly
- 14 and equitably apply those requirements to the
- 15 livestock industry in this state.
- 16 Now, regarding the current status of this
- 17 project, the Department received a formal notice of
- 18 intent to construct application for the proposed
- 19 construction of a swine facility on March 14th, 2016.
- The proposed project is to consist of the
- 21 construction of one wean-to-finish building measuring
- 22 101 feet 8 inches by 341 feet with an eight foot deep
- 23 underbuilding with a livestock waste-handling
- 24 facility.
- The project is proposed to be located

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- 1 approximately .9 miles east of Wynoose, Illinois in
- 2 southeastern Richland County. The application was
- 3 submitted by Effingham Equity on behalf of Craig Diel
- 4 of Noble, Illinois.
- 5 The maximum design capacity of the proposed
- 6 facility is 1,680 animal units or 4,200 head of swine
- 7 weighing greater than 55 pounds.
- 8 As I mentioned earlier, the Department
- 9 received the notice of intent to construct application
- 10 on March 14th, 2016 and reviewed it for compliance
- 11 with applicable provisions of the Act.
- 12 On May 11, the Department determined that
- 13 the notice was complete and forwarded a copy of the
- 14 completed application to the Richland County Board.
- 15 Notice of the application was also published
- 16 in the appropriate newspaper. The design capacity of
- 17 the proposed facility requires compliance with a
- 18 residential setback distance of not less than 1,020
- 19 feet and a populated area setback distance of not less
- 20 than 2,640 feet.
- 21 On June 15th, 2016, the department received
- 22 official notice from the Richland County Board
- 23 requesting that a public informational meeting be
- 24 scheduled regarding the proposal.
- 25 After further consultation with the county

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- 1 board, the Department scheduled this meeting and
- 2 caused notice of the meeting to be published in the
- 3 appropriate newspapers.
- 4 An additional requirement of the Livestock
- 5 Management Facilities Act deals with design and
- 6 construction plans of a livestock waste-handling
- 7 facility.
- 8 The Department has received a formal
- 9 submittal of detailed engineering design plans and
- 10 specifications for the proposed projects underbuilding
- 11 livestock waste-handling facilities.
- 12 The Department's detailed review process of
- 13 those plans has been completed and has found them to
- 14 be in compliance with the statutory requirements.
- We are here this evening to receive
- 16 testimony regarding the proposed livestock management
- 17 facility's compliance with the eight siting criteria
- 18 as defined in Section 12 paragraph D of the Livestock
- 19 Management Facilities Act.
- In general, information regarding the
- 21 following would be appropriate for this evening's
- 22 meeting:
- 23 Manure management planning, potential impact
- of the proposed facility on the surrounding area's
- 25 character, whether the proposed facility is located

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- 1 within any flood plains or other sensitive areas, odor
- 2 control plans, possible impact of the proposed
- 3 facility on existing area traffic patterns and
- 4 possible impact of the proposed facility on community
- 5 growth, tourism and recreation or economic development
- 6 of the area.
- 7 Copies of the specific criteria were
- 8 available on the table with the sign-in sheets. If
- 9 anyone that would like to have a copy of the criteria
- 10 but did not pick one up would identify himself or
- 11 herself, we will see that you receive a copy.
- 12 Finally, the process that be would followed
- 13 after this evening's meeting is as follows:
- 14 The county board will have up to 30 business
- 15 days from today's meeting to submit to the department
- 16 a nonbinding recommendation relative to the proposed
- 17 siting of this facility; thus, a recommendation from
- 18 the Richland County Board is due at the department on
- 19 or before August 10th of 2016.
- 20 After the close of the county's
- 21 30-business-day comment period, the Department will
- 22 have 15 calendar days or until August 25th, 2016 to
- 23 review all of the information submitted to date
- 24 including the notice of intent to construct,
- 25 construction plans transcripts from this evening's

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- 1 meeting, the county board's recommendation and any
- 2 other additional information submitted by the owners
- 3 at the request of the department.
- 4 Based on that review, the department will
- 5 determine whether the eight siting criteria have been
- 6 met. Once that determination has been made, the
- 7 Department will notify both the county board and the
- 8 applicant of the Department's decision.
- 9 Mr. Hearing Officer, at this time, I would
- 10 like to submit the completed notice of intent to
- 11 construct application and its associated
- 12 correspondence file for formal entry into the record
- 13 as an exhibit.
- 14 (Exhibit 1 marked for identification.)
- MR. FRANK: Entered into the record as
- 16 Exhibit No. 1 is a completed notice of intent to
- 17 construct including correspondence between the
- 18 Department and the applicant, notices of the public
- 19 informational meeting and correspondence with the
- 20 Richland County officials.
- 21 MR. TEEFEY: I would also like to present
- 22 the PowerPoint presentation that was just presented as
- 23 an exhibit.
- 24 (Exhibit 2 marked for identification.)
- 25 MR. FRANK: Entered into the record as

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- 1 Exhibit No. 2 is a copy of the Department's PowerPoint
- 2 presentation.
- 3 MR. TEEFEY: This concludes my formal
- 4 remarks. Again, thank you again for your attention.
- 5 I look forward to hearing your comments regarding the
- 6 proposal. I will now turn the meeting back over to
- 7 the hearing officer.
- 8 MR. FRANK: Thank you, Mr. Teefey. At this
- 9 time, we'llhear comments from the facility before you
- 10 begin.
- 11 For those who will be presenting
- 12 information, please state your name and spell your
- 13 last name for the court reporter, and then I will
- 14 swear you in together.
- MR. CRAIG DIEL: Craig Diel, D-i-e-l.
- MR. WEST: Chris West, W-e-s-t.
- 17 CRAIG DIEL AND CHRIS WEST,
- 18 of lawful age, produced and sworn testifies and says
- 19 as follows:
- 20 COMMENTS BY CRAIG DIEL
- 21 MR. CRAIG DIEL: Good evening. My name is
- 22 Craig Diel. I own and operate a family farm with my
- 23 dad in Southwest Richland County. My wife, Christine
- 24 and I, along with our children, are excited about
- 25 starting our own chapter in farming by building this

Page 19

- 1 proposed hog farm.
- 2 Farming has always been a passion for my
- 3 family. My wife and I were both raised on hog farms.
- 4 Growing up on family farms, we were taught good work
- 5 ethic, and learned farming was not just a job but a
- 6 way of life.
- 7 Building a hog barn is not a new venture for
- 8 us. We currently own and operate two hog facilities
- 9 already. We know the work that it takes to take care
- 10 of the animals and maintain the facilities.
- 11 These barns are helping my kids develop a
- 12 good work ethic also. They also provide an
- 13 opportunity for the kids to come back to the family
- 14 farm, if they want to, when they get older.
- 15 Our community has been very supportive from
- 16 the day that we discussed building our first barn and
- 17 have continued to support us in the building of this
- 18 new facility.
- 19 This is the community we plan to live in for
- 20 the rest of our lives and want to continue to be good
- 21 neighbors and maintain good relationships and
- 22 friendships we have today.
- This hog farm will also provide increased
- 24 tax revenue to the Richland County School District.
- 25 Each existing barn we have now now generates

Page 20

- 1 approximately \$7,000 a year in real estate taxes.
- 2 Thank you.
- 3 COMMENTS BY MR. WEST
- 4 MR. WEST: My name is Chris West. I'm
- 5 president of Frank and West Environmental Engineers.
- 6 So what I would like to do today is to go over a
- 7 couple of things.
- 8 One is an introduction of the facility, a
- 9 description of where it's at and what we're going to
- 10 be doing, and then mainly go into detail about how the
- 11 farm will perform with the eight siting criteria that
- 12 are detailed in the Livestock Management Facilities
- 13 Act.
- 14 Most of you are aware of this, but you see
- 15 the location Mr. Diel's farm, south of Noble,
- 16 northeast of Wynoose, and the approximate location
- 17 from the existing barn along with the dimensions.
- 18 So let's get into the eight siting criteria.
- 19 Mr. Teefey went over these already, so what I'm going
- 20 to do is just briefly go over each of the eight, and
- 21 then we'll get into those individually, and then we'll
- 22 discuss, and I will provide the information to
- 23 demonstrate how the farm will meet each of these.
- 24 Siting criteria one is the registration and
- 25 certification requirements. Two, design, location and

Page 21

- 1 operation standards. Three, location compatibility.
- 2 Four, floodplain and aquifer protection. Five,
- 3 minimize environmental impact. Six is odor control
- 4 and reduction. Seven is traffic patterns, minimize
- 5 the impacts of those. And is the facility consistent
- 6 with area development, No. 8.
- 7 So if we go into No. 1, here is the full
- 8 definition, whether the registration and livestock
- 9 waste management plan certification requirements, if
- 10 required, are met by the notice of intent to
- 11 construct.
- 12 As was already mentioned, the notice of
- 13 intent to construct was filed March 14th and deemed
- 14 complete May 11th of this year.
- 15 So according to the Livestock Management
- 16 Facilities Act, any facility, any farm that exceeds a
- 17 thousand animal units, but less than 500, shall
- 18 prepare, maintain and implement a nutrient management
- 19 plan within 60 days after commencing operation.
- 20 So that nutrient management plan, what that
- 21 will do, and we'll get into this in a little bit more
- 22 detail later, but it's going to show how the farm will
- 23 utilize the manure that's created by the animals in
- 24 the barn and apply that at an agronomic rate to the
- 25 local farm field.

Page 22

- 1 The farm will prepare and maintain and
- 2 implement a comprehensive nutrient management plan.
- 3 Along with that, the farm will submit to the
- 4 Department of Ag a certification form certifying that
- 5 the nutrient management plan has been prepared, that
- 6 nutrient management plan, as well as all the records
- 7 of manure disposal, will be kept on file at the farm
- 8 and will be available to the Department of Ag at any
- 9 time for inspection.
- 10 The goal of any comprehensive nutrient
- 11 management plan is to utilize the manure that's
- 12 produced by the animals at approved agronomic loading
- 13 rates that meet the nutrient needs of the locally
- 14 grown crops in an environmentally sound fashion.
- 15 So it's a closed cycle. That's what any
- 16 farm intends to do here. So we have the corn,
- 17 soybeans that are grown and are fed to the pigs and
- 18 applied back to the local farm field, so they can be
- 19 used as nutrients by the same crops that will then be
- 20 used as food for the pigs.
- 21 This goal will be accomplished by developing
- 22 a comprehensive nutrient management plan that includes
- 23 all of the following: The total animal manure
- 24 volumes, so how much is going to be produced by the
- 25 animals of the farm, the historically proven yields in

Page 23

- 1 these farm fields, a manure analysis.
- 2 So every year, we're going to be testing
- 3 that manure to find out exactly what the nutrient
- 4 content is of that, so that we can then plan those
- 5 manure applications based on the crops that are
- 6 anticipated to be used in each of those fields.
- 7 Also included in that will be provisions for
- 8 setbacks and incorporation standards, so exactly where
- 9 that manure can be placed. And then documentation of
- 10 all phases, so records will be kept of all of that.
- 11 Design and operation standards, also a part
- 12 of Siting Criteria 2. And this is whether the design,
- 13 location or proposed operation will protect the
- 14 environment by being consistent with the Livestock
- 15 Management Facilities Act.
- 16 When we design one of these barns, we have a
- 17 standard that we are required to go by, use the
- 18 guidance from. It's the Midwest Plan Service. It's
- 19 the Concrete Manure Storage Handbook.
- 20 The Midwest Plan Service is a
- 21 university-based publishing cooperative dedicated to
- 22 publishing and disseminating research-based and
- 23 peer-reviewed publications.
- 24 They include concrete specifications,
- 25 reinforcement requirements and water stop

Page 24

- 1 requirements. So it goes into great detail on what
- 2 our requirements are that we have to meet in order to
- 3 build a livestock facility.
- 4 So the proposed building for this farm, one,
- 5 finishing barn. This gives you an example of what a
- 6 finishing barn would look like. And then there would
- 7 be the inside of a fairly typical finishing barn.
- 8 Another section of Siting Criteria 2, the
- 9 location. As Mr. Teefey mentioned earlier, the
- 10 location and setback distances have been met both for
- 11 occupied residences and populated areas, and these
- 12 setbacks were deemed complete by the Department May
- 13 11th of this year.
- 14 Proposed operation, that's a very important
- 15 part of any livestock farm. The manager of the farm
- 16 will be a certified livestock manager.
- 17 And what that means is there is a program
- 18 put on by the Department of Ag to educate livestock
- 19 managers on manure management handling and systems.
- 20 Managers of farms of over a thousand animal units are
- 21 required to attend a training course and pass an exam.
- 22 And then it also goes into the livestock
- 23 waste management plan, which we talked about earlier.
- 24 That plan will detail the entire operation of the
- 25 farm, so all manure applications will be based on

Page 25

- 1 site-specific data.
- 2 Siting Criteria 3, location compatibility.
- 3 Whether the location minimizes any incompatibility
- 4 with the surrounding area by being zoned for
- 5 agriculture where the county has zoning, or if the
- 6 county is not zoned, setback requirements would have
- 7 to be met and complied with.
- 8 Here's a map put out by -- published by the
- 9 Illinois Association of County Zoning Officials. And
- 10 if you can see, obviously, you know where Richland
- 11 County is. It's in an area classified as no zoning,
- 12 so the farm obviously would be compatible, it's a
- 13 rural agricultural area and all of the setbacks have
- 14 been met.
- 15 When we talk about animal units, that's how
- 16 we come up with there's a calculation that we use to
- 17 determine what those setbacks are. And again, those
- 18 setbacks have been deemed complete.
- 19 Siting Criteria 4, floodplain and aquifer.
- 20 So we have talked about environmentally sensitive
- 21 areas at the very beginning. So these are two things
- 22 we would look for as a potentially environmental
- 23 sensitive areas.
- Is the farm located within a 100-year flood
- 25 plain or an otherwise environmentally sensitive area

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- 1 referred to as a karst area?
- 2 So we'll start first with the 100-year
- 3 floodplain. So this is the -- if you look at this
- 4 line here, that's the creek that runs to the west of
- 5 the farm.
- 6 That gray shaded area would represent areas
- 7 within the 100-year flood plain, so if you see the
- 8 location of the farm, well outside of that area, so
- 9 not within a 100-year flood plain.
- 10 Karst areas would be the second potentially
- 11 environmentally sensitive area that we look for.
- 12 These are typically areas associated with sinkholes
- 13 that would be associated with limestone, cave areas.
- So if we look at a map put out by the
- 15 Illinois State Geological Survey, these hatched areas,
- 16 lined areas represent the known karst areas of the
- 17 state, so you can see we have far Northwestern
- 18 Illinois along the western boundary and then Southern
- 19 Illinois. So we're well outside, several counties
- 20 away from any karst areas in the state.
- 21 Then we get into aquifer material. Aquifer
- 22 is considered to be sandstone, five feet or more in
- 23 thickness, fractured carbonate ten feet or more in
- 24 thickness, sand, gravel, or sand and gravel mixture
- 25 such that there is at least two feet or more present

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- 1 within five-foot section of soil boring.
- 2 So what we do, we go out to the site. We do
- 3 soil borings within the footprint of the barn, so we
- 4 look for this material. So this would be a typical
- 5 barn cross-section.
- 6 So if you look at -- this would be a
- 7 cross-section through the pit under the barn. This
- 8 would represent the ground surface. So what we're
- 9 required to do is to go a minimum of five feet below
- 10 the bottom of that barn looking for that aquifer
- 11 material.
- 12 There was absolutely no aquifer material
- 13 found in that boring. That information was all
- 14 submitted to the Department of Aq and has been
- 15 approved.
- 16 Siting Criteria 5, whether the farm will
- 17 minimize the environmental impact, whether they
- 18 have -- the owner or operator has submitted plans for
- 19 operation, that minimize the likelihood of any
- 20 environmental damage to the surrounding area from any
- 21 spills, runoff or leaching.
- 22 So we're going to go through each of these
- 23 individually here. To show how the farm will meet all
- 24 of those.
- 25 One of the most important things that we can

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- 1 discuss as far as this siting criteria is sizing,
- 2 whether the farm will have adequate sizing to minimize
- 3 any potential problems during manure application.
- 4 The Livestock Management Facilities Act
- 5 requires that the farm would maintain a minimum of 150
- 6 days worth of storage.
- 7 The farm building that is being proposed
- 8 will have an excess of 365 days. So we're required to
- 9 have 150 days of storage. What we're saying is, the
- 10 barn will have over a year's worth. So more than
- 11 double what the requirement would be.
- 12 This is also a closed system. Also very
- 13 important. What this means is the animals are inside
- 14 that barn. The manure is inside that barn. The
- 15 manure does not go outside the barn unless it's being
- 16 put on a farm field.
- 17 So those are controlled manure applications
- 18 for the crops. Also by being a closed system
- 19 everything that's in the barn stays in. Everything
- 20 that's out stays out.
- 21 So any rainwater would be diverted. The
- 22 final grade of that building would slope away from the
- 23 barn. So any rainwater that falls outside the barn
- 24 stays outside the barn.
- 25 Leaching. So basically, that's -- the farm

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- 1 will be designed to prevent any release of livestock
- 2 manure. This is done through those design standards
- 3 that I discussed earlier. Solid concrete
- 4 construction, the minimum reinforcement of Grade 60
- 5 steel rebar. A water stop will be placed at all
- 6 joints, either construction or stoppage joints.
- 7 All surfaces in contact with manure, which
- 8 is concrete, so it's entirely concrete, will meet the
- 9 required permeability standards.
- 10 Odor control and/or reduction. Whether the
- 11 odor control plans are reasonable and incorporate
- 12 reasonable or innovative odor reduction technologies
- 13 given the current state of such technologies.
- 14 So what the farm is proposing as part of
- 15 their comprehensive odor control plan, controlled land
- 16 application of manure, routine maintenance, feed
- 17 management, and location. Those are all imperative
- 18 when we talk about odor control.
- 19 So we'll go through each of these. The
- 20 controlled application of manure by injection, so what
- 21 that means is we're taking that manure and we're
- 22 putting it at the root level of the crops, so it can
- 23 be utilized for what it's exactly intended to do as a
- 24 nutrient for that crop.
- The Craig Diel farm intends to utilize

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- 1 injection as the application method for livestock
- 2 manure. It minimizes contact with air because it does
- 3 not hit it. Injection is widely accepted as the best
- 4 available technology for manure application.
- 5 Livestock manure will be applied by a custom
- 6 applicator. All application equipment will contain
- 7 safety controls such as emergency shutoffs, continued
- 8 communication between the personnel that's doing that
- 9 work and visually monitored at all times.
- 10 Here's a couple of examples of what a
- 11 typical injection system would look like, could look
- 12 like. Similar type where you're putting it --
- 13 injecting it right into the ground and a little bit
- 14 different system, a drag line system, but again, still
- 15 utilizing injection.
- 16 Craig's farm has at least 1400 acres locally
- 17 per year available for livestock manure applications.
- 18 Why is that number important? We would anticipate
- 19 that a farm of this size would need a little bit over
- 20 500 acres.
- 21 So we want to impress how many acres they
- 22 have available beyond what is required, so plenty of
- 23 acres to go on with this.
- One of the most important aspects of any
- 25 odor control plan in a livestock farm is how it is

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- 1 maintained, how it is operated. The farm will utilize
- 2 regular maintenance to minimize dust originating from
- 3 the farm. Why is that important?
- 4 Dust is known as the carrier for odor. So
- 5 if you operate a clean farm, that's the way you
- 6 minimize odor production at the farm. That's one of
- 7 the ways you can do that.
- 8 Regular maintenance will include routine
- 9 visual walk-throughs of the farm to ensure there is no
- 10 manure buildup above the slatted floor and walkways
- 11 and regular cleaning of fans to prevent any
- 12 accumulation of dust.
- 13 The farm will be thoroughly pressure washed
- 14 and sanitized between each production cycle. This
- 15 will minimize the amount of odor-causing articles that
- 16 are able to leave the facility through the ventilation
- 17 fans.
- 18 And then again, by keeping up with the fans,
- 19 you ensure they operate efficiently. And again
- 20 minimizing dust buildup. Regular maintenance is known
- 21 to reduce odor controls, odor concentrations and
- 22 intensity.
- 23 Another aspect that's become extremely
- 24 important is the diet of the animal. That has -- it's
- 25 terribly important that the animal utilizes its food

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- 1 for what it's intended to do to help that animal to
- 2 grow.
- 3 So by doing a very intensive diet
- 4 formulation, you can help that animal most efficiently
- 5 utilize the proteins and nutrients in that feed. That
- 6 practice aids in the reduction of overall odors from
- 7 the farm by reducing excess nutrients excreted by the
- 8 animals.
- 9 So we're talking about odor controls. We
- 10 want to talk also about location. The farm complies
- 11 and exceeds with facility setback distances as
- 12 established in the Livestock Management Facilities
- 13 Act. Both setbacks, the residential and the populated
- 14 area, were not only met but exceeded.
- 15 So we talk about the farm location and
- 16 maintenance, proper nutrition and injection of manure.
- 17 That would comprise the overall comprehensive odor
- 18 control plan for the farm.
- 19 We believe the farm has diligently planned
- 20 an overall odor control strategy by incorporating
- 21 numerous odor control technologies, techniques and
- 22 technologies.
- The farm will also look to continue to
- 24 incorporate other technologies as they become
- 25 available. This plan incorporates reasonable and

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- 1 innovative technology that will allow the facility to
- 2 operate with minimal odor impact to the surrounding
- 3 area.
- 4 Siting Criteria 7, traffic patterns, whether
- 5 the traffic patterns of the farm minimize the effect
- 6 on existing traffic flows.
- 7 So if you look at the planned traffic route
- 8 for both feed and animal traffic from the farm, we
- 9 would be travelling north on Jesse Road, west on Elbow
- 10 Lane and north Wynoose Road to Noble. That's the
- 11 expected traffic route for the farm.
- 12 So if you look at each of those sections,
- 13 Wynoose would have a weekly average of 4200 vehicles,
- 14 and that number gradually increases the closer you get
- 15 to Noble.
- 16 Elbow Lane has a weekly average of 1225
- 17 vehicles. Jesse Road would have an average of 70
- 18 vehicles. This all was obtained from the Illinois
- 19 Department of Transportation.
- The farm is anticipating for this barn about
- 21 3 1/2 trucks weekly. That will consist of less than a
- 22 10th of a percent of the average weekly traffic on
- 23 north Wynoose, less than 3/10 of a percent on Elbow
- 24 Lane and about 5 percent on North Jesse Road. The
- 25 farm traffic will comply with the same seasonal posted

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- 1 weight limits as all other traffic in the area.
- 2 Last but not least, Siting Criteria 8. Is
- 3 the farm consistent with the area? So the long
- 4 definition is whether the construction of the new farm
- 5 is consistent with the existing community growth,
- 6 tourism, recreation or economic development or with
- 7 specific projects involving community growth, tourism
- 8 and so forth.
- 9 Has it been identified by government action
- 10 for development or operation within one year, through
- 11 compliance with applicable zoning and setback
- 12 requirements as established by the Livestock
- 13 Management Facilities Act?
- We believe the farm is easily consistent
- 15 with the planned and existing community development.
- 16 This is a rural agricultural area, and this is an
- 17 agricultural barn that we are talking about here.
- 18 This is a farm building that we are talking about.
- Not only that, they've demonstrated
- 20 compliance by meeting all of the setback requirements
- 21 as well as the zoning requirements. We believe the
- 22 farm has met and exceeded all the requirements of the
- 23 Livestock Management Facilities Act.
- I appreciate the opportunity to present this
- 25 information to the board. Thank you very much.

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- 1 MR. FRANK: Thank you very much. We will
- 2 now open the meeting for any questions that you may
- 3 have of the facility or of the Department.
- 4 If you have a question you would like to
- 5 ask, please raise your hand, and when called upon,
- 6 please state your name and spell your last name.
- 7 Please indicate to whom you are asking your
- 8 question. I will remind you that this portion of the
- 9 meeting will be limited to questions only.
- 10 After this question-and-answer session,
- 11 there will be a session dedicated to public testimony
- 12 where you can provide your oral comments. So please
- 13 limit this section to questions only. Also keep in
- 14 mind that questions need to pertain to this particular
- 15 facility. Are there any questions? Yes, ma'am.
- 16 QUESTIONS BY MS. BLAIN
- 17 MS. BLAIN: Amanda Blain, B-l-a-i-n, and
- 18 this is for Mr. West. I know you mentioned the feed
- 19 management, so that would reduce the amount of manure
- 20 that's being created by the hogs. Hogs produce
- 21 anywhere between two to four times as much fecal
- 22 matter as humans do.
- 23 By how much will that feed management
- 24 program reduce the manure?
- MR. WEST: Well, I don't think we talked

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- 1 about volume, how much it would be reduced. What
- 2 we're talking about is the odor-producing particles in
- 3 that.
- 4 MS. BLAIN: Oh, okay. Gotcha. Okay. And
- 5 then you said -- I just want to make sure I got some
- 6 information correct here. How many hogs, not animal
- 7 units, but how many hogs?
- 8 MR. DIEL: 4200.
- 9 MS. BLAIN: 4200. All right. And then I
- 10 understand you said there's a 1400-acre plot. Is that
- 11 your property, then?
- MR. DIEL: Property we own and rent.
- MS. BLAIN: Okay. And then has that
- 14 property been evaluated for safe land application of
- 15 the manure, like considering waterways and things like
- 16 that? Have you guys gotten to that step of the
- 17 process yet?
- MR. WEST: No. Not as of yet.
- MS. BLAIN: Okay.
- 20 MR. WEST: I'll go through kind of the
- 21 reasoning behind that. When we develop a nutrient
- 22 management plan, that ends up being a large document.
- 23 You are talking two- to three-inch binder thick when
- 24 we go through all of the soil testing. It's a large
- 25 expense for the farm to go through.

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- 1 So once this is approved, then we'll go
- 2 through that process. So they go through soil testing
- 3 on a regular basis so we'll utilize that. Any acres
- 4 that haven't been soil tested, that will be done
- 5 before any manure is put on.
- 6 And so what you're talking about with
- 7 waterways, that talks about the setbacks, that's where
- 8 we're going with any waterways, any water bodies. All
- 9 of that will be detailed to great extent in that plan.
- 10 MS. BLAIN: Okay. So is it correct, then,
- 11 that that plan to ensure that the land application
- 12 will be safe, that plan will not be complete until you
- 13 guys get the approval to go ahead and build?
- 14 MR. WEST: Correct.
- MS. BLAIN: Okay.
- 16 MR. WEST: You kind of make that sound like
- 17 that's a negative.
- 18 MS. BLAIN: I just want to make sure I'm
- 19 correct.
- 20 MR. WEST: Yeah. No. You're absolutely
- 21 correct. The important thing to think about here, the
- 22 barn will be approved, it will be built, it will be
- 23 stocked. And basically, a year later it will be full.
- 24 So there's a long period of time before any
- 25 manure application will occur.

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- 1 MS. BLAIN: Okay.
- 2 MR. WEST: So it's not going to happen this
- 3 fall. We're talking next year before any manure
- 4 application likely will occur.
- 5 MS. BLAIN: Okay.
- 6 MR. WEST: So there's plenty of time to
- 7 write that document and get it in place.
- 8 MS. BLAIN: I understand that. But what
- 9 happens if, during the evaluation process, you run
- into a problem and find out your plan maybe won't
- 11 work?
- 12 Without taking those precautions, how can
- 13 you be sure that it's going to be safe after you're
- 14 already operating? And what recourse will there be
- 15 for people when the water is contaminated?
- 16 MR. WEST: Okay. So we know what the soil
- 17 types are.
- MS. BLAIN: Okay.
- 19 MR. WEST: We've written -- my company has
- 20 written literally hundreds of nutrient management
- 21 plans. We've worked with farms all over the state.
- 22 So I'm confident that the ground -- the ground, the
- 23 crops are going to be able to take this manure and
- 24 utilize it in a way that it's meant to be utilized.
- MS. BLAIN: Okay.

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- 1 MR. WEST: There's not going to be a problem
- 2 with that.
- 3 MS. BLAIN: In the event that there is,
- 4 though, how can the public stay informed? Because
- 5 you're already going to be in operation.
- 6 The community would probably like to know
- 7 what that plan looks like as you guys are working on
- 8 it and, you know, getting information like we're
- 9 getting right now. I'm sure the community would be
- 10 interested in that.
- 11 It's kind of blindly going into something,
- 12 giving an approval, and then part of the process to
- 13 make sure that, you know, the air and water being
- 14 protected is not complete.
- MR. WEST: I would disagree.
- MS. BLAIN: Okay.
- 17 MR. WEST: I would disagree anybody is going
- 18 blindly into anything here.
- MS. BLAIN: Okay.
- 20 MR. WEST: This will not be the first plan
- 21 that will ever be written. This is technology that
- 22 has been done over and over again. It's been
- 23 approved by the Department of Ag, they have been
- 24 approved by the EPA, they've been approved by the
- 25 Natural Resource Conservation Service.

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- 1 So you've got multiple sections of
- 2 government that have looked over similar plans and
- 3 approved those. So saying anybody here is going
- 4 blindly into anything, I think, would be a
- 5 misstatement.
- 6 MS. BLAIN: And I want you to understand I
- 7 have total respect for what you do and your education
- 8 and all of your hard work into engineering something
- 9 like this.
- 10 I just am asking questions because people
- 11 need to know the what-ifs, especially if they're going
- 12 to give an approval on something that's going to
- 13 impact the community.
- MR. WEST: Certainly.
- 15 MS. BLAIN: Also, how much water does a farm
- 16 of this size use, and where will you be getting that
- 17 water.
- 18 MR. DIEL: We have a pond and well water.
- 19 MS. BLAIN: Okay. So how much water does it
- 20 use, and will that pond and well water be sufficient?
- 21 MR. WEST: It will be. As far as the exact
- 22 number, that changes depending on seasons. The pond
- 23 already on site will be used for that.
- 24 MS. BLAIN: What's the size of that pond.
- MR. DIEL: I would guess an acre.

Page 41 MR. WEST: Yeah, I don't know. 1 2. MR. DIEL: That's just a guess. MS. BLAIN: Just to let you know, I'm 3 4 reporting for the local newspaper. I just want to get 5 the information correct. Maybe we can chat afterwards. 6 MR. FRANK: Ms. Blain, I'm going to give you 8 a break here. 9 MS. BLAIN: Okay. Thank you. 10 MR. FRANK: Mr. Anderson, did you have a question? 11 12 QUESTIONS BY MR. ANDERSON MR. ANDERSON: Nic Anderson, 13 A-n-d-e-r-s-o-n. Kind of a two-fold question. Scott 14 15 or the Department, so you go through the building 16 process, for folks that don't understand that, your 17 role relinquishes here after the permit is let other 18 than the livestock management training system, if 19 that's correct? 20 And then who takes up the environmental 21 issues after Ag is done? Is it EPA? Can you kind of 22 explain that relationship you have with EPA and that 23 process. 2.4 MR. TEEFEY: I can talk about it, and Brad, 25 you can chime in. But you're right. The purpose of

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- 1 today's meeting and, kind of, our role in this, we
- 2 kind of relinquish after the notice of intent to
- 3 construct and our review of this particular
- 4 application, we then relinquish the, kind of, next
- 5 steps regarding waterways and air. That becomes
- 6 Illinois EPA's responsibility.
- 7 So it's not really the purpose of this
- 8 specific forum today without having a representative
- 9 from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.
- 10 That's not the purpose of this meeting.
- We're not really here to answer. We don't
- 12 have the answers to those particular questions. But
- 13 one of the questions you had was what sort of rights
- 14 are you going to have or what sort of repercussions.
- 15 But I mean -- and you well know this too.
- 16 The Illinois EPA through statute and rules, they
- 17 forcibly regulate keeping airways and waterways clean.
- 18 It's not something that's going to be ignored. That's
- 19 something that's going to be strongly regulated not by
- 20 us, so we're not going to be able to answer the
- 21 particular questions.
- But for anyone to think that once this
- 23 manure is created, it's just going to be, willy-nilly,
- 24 put on fields and no one's going to care where it's
- 25 going is not a true statement. It will be regulated

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- 1 with a heavy hand by the Illinois EPA.
- 2 I'm sure if any of that is going to get in
- 3 the waterway, there will be repercussions to that.
- 4 MS. BLAIN: If they're caught up--
- 5 MR. ANDERSON: Secondly to that -- excuse
- 6 me. Did you have something else?
- 7 MS. BLAIN: I said as long as they are
- 8 caught up on their work, the EPA.
- 9 MR. ANDERSON: And to the farm and Chris,
- 10 you used that 520-acre number. That number comes up
- 11 with anticipation that manure from a hog barn has a
- 12 certain consistency, a certain nutrient component, not
- 13 that they're all exactly the same, but it gives you
- 14 estimate what the annual production is going to be.
- 15 And then to Craig, the 1400 acres, you have
- 16 got historical harvest information of what you
- 17 produced on those acres.
- 18 Can you kind of explain how those come
- 19 together, so you understand what your acres needed and
- 20 what your capacity is?
- 21 MR. WEST: I'll go first. Exactly right.
- 22 It is an estimation, and that's important because it
- 23 is a plan that breathes. It changes every year. It
- 24 depends on what your crop rotations are. Your crop
- 25 rotations are dependent on the current market.

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- 1 We may change. We may have a plan that says
- 2 we're going to go on 400 acres of corn this year.
- 3 Well, the corn market might fall in the crapper and
- 4 they may decide to go soybeans. So we can take that,
- 5 and we can revise that plan based on a soybean
- 6 rotation. Soybeans need nutrients as well.
- 7 So we can take that historical yield,
- 8 information, we can take the site-specific soil
- 9 information that we just took that year, we can take
- 10 the site-specific manure information that we just
- 11 analyzed. And then we can plan it based on that crop
- 12 at that moment.
- 13 So the 520 acres, you are absolutely right.
- 14 It is an estimate based on what we anticipate right
- 15 now. The purpose of that number was to show there's
- 16 plenty of acres out there.
- 17 We're not cutting it short. We're not
- 18 saying we need 520 and we have 521. There's plenty of
- 19 acres out there regardless of any crop rotation.
- MR. FRANK: Yes, ma'am.
- 21 QUESTIONS BY MS. BLACKFORD
- MS. BLACKFORD: Emily Blackford,
- 23 B-l-a-c-k-f-o-r-d. In terms of the odor, air
- 24 scrubbers, have those been considered as a technology
- 25 for keeping the odor under control?

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- 1 MR. WEST: No. No. That's not a
- 2 technology that's in use in the United States. It's
- 3 still under evaluation in Europe.
- 4 It's not something that is either readily
- 5 available or cost-efficient at the time.
- 6 MS. BLACKFORD: So are you considering the
- 7 feed management; is that considered a technology to
- 8 you?
- 9 MR. WEST: Oh, certainly. Certainly. It's
- 10 a very valuable technology.
- 11 MS. BLACKFORD: So with the manure
- 12 injection -- I just want to clarify.
- 13 So that is held until it could be injected
- 14 into the ground, so in the winter months, there's no
- 15 injection happening.
- MR. WEST: Correct.
- 17 MS. BLACKFORD: And you all are talking
- 18 about the 1400 acres that you have in order to inject
- 19 the manure. Are there other barns using that since
- 20 you stated there's other barns at the facility?
- 21 MR. DIEL: Yeah. There is one other barn
- 22 using that.
- MS. BLACKFORD: How many acres do they
- 24 require.
- MR. DIEL: That one requires --

Page 46 1 MR. WEST: That one would require more in 2 the range of the 240-250 or so. 3 MS. BLACKFORD: Acres? 4 MR. WEST: Yeah. 5 MS. BLACKFORD: Those are my questions. MR. FRANK: Other questions? Ms. Blain. 6 7 QUESTIONS BY MS. BLAIN 8 MS. BLAIN: One more. What about using 9 trees or shrubs to assist with the odor? 10 MR. WEST: There is a good tree barrier buffer right to the south of that that's already 11 12 existing. There are no plans to do anything beyond that. It's a really, really good location. 13 14 MS. BLAIN: Thank you. 15 MR. FRANK: Other questions? Yes. QUESTIONS BY MS. BLACKFORD 16 17 MS. BLACKFORD: I do have one other one. 18 Sorry. Could the pressure for surrounding wells, 19 could that be an issue, the pressure on the aquifer? 20 Could that have an issue for surrounding wells? 21 MR. WEST: No. No. I'll expand on that 22 just a little bit, so it's not, kind of, left out 23 there. We had a farm we represented up in Central Illinois, and that issue came up. And it's a 24 25 legitimate issue.

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- 1 There were some wells being used in the
- 2 surrounding area. So we hired a company to come in,
- 3 did some well testing to determine what's called the
- 4 zone of influence. So how far out are you going to be
- 5 influencing?
- 6 So they pump that for 24 hours, pumped it as
- 7 hard as they could pump it, and the zone of influence
- 8 was 100 feet, give or take ten or so. So you weren't
- 9 even getting outside of, basically, the footprint of
- 10 the barn, basically, so no.
- MS. BLACKFORD Thank you.
- MR. FRANK: Mr. Anderson.
- 13 QUESTIONS BY MR. ANDERSON
- MR. ANDERSON: Nic Anderson,
- 15 A-n-d-e-r-s-o-n. Can you explain -- you talked about
- 16 two water sources, a well and a pond. So one of them
- 17 is a backup. And the pond water is taking surface
- 18 water from storm water. I guess I'd call that three.
- 19 So what is your dependence on either one of
- 20 those, and would that be an avenue to address a water
- 21 issue if it did arise in the future.
- 22 MR. DIEL: We use the pond water, and the
- 23 well water is used for backup for emergency cases in
- 24 case we have a pump go down.
- MR. FRANK: Are there other questions? Any

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- 1 other questions? I see none.
- I will now accept written testimony. If you
- 3 have any written testimony not referred to in your
- 4 oral testimony, I will accept it now and enter it into
- 5 the record.
- 6 If you have written testimony that you will
- 7 be referencing during your oral testimony, it can be
- 8 entered into the record after your oral testimony. Is
- 9 there any written testimony to be entered into the
- 10 record? Any written testimony? I see none.
- I have the sign-up sheets that were outside
- 12 the room listing the people who wish to provide oral
- 13 testimony. I will call the names of those who wish to
- 14 testify. When called upon, please step up to the
- 15 table, state your name and spell your last name. I
- 16 will then swear you in.
- 17 Remember. You will have three minutes to
- 18 speak. Are there any attorneys representing clients?
- 19 First on the list we have Alan Walker.
- MR. WALKER: My name is Alan walker,
- W-a-1-k-e-r.
- 22 ORAL TESTIMONY OF ALAN WALKER
- 23 ALAN WALKER,
- 24 of lawful age, produced and sworn testifies and says
- 25 as follows:

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Fax: 314,644,1334

- 1 MR. WALKER: I have very little to say. I
- 2 am a neighbor to the Craig Diel Farm. They currently
- 3 have some buildings in operation that odor management
- 4 is top notch so far. And I also have an additional
- 5 five or 600 acres that would be available for manure
- 6 management if something happened to the plan that they
- 7 currently have in place, and that's really all I have
- 8 to say.
- 9 MR. FRANK: Are there questions for this
- 10 witness? Mr. Anderson.
- 11 OUESTIONS OF MR. WALKER BY MR. ANDERSON
- 12 MR. ANDERSON: Anderson, A-n-d-e-r-s-o-n.
- 13 As a neighbor, I know in some other meetings, property
- 14 value has come up, and I know you lived in that neck
- 15 of the woods. Is that an issue for you?
- 16 MR. WALKER: No. Actually, for most of us,
- 17 the building causes an increase in property value for
- 18 some lower-cost, high-quality fertilizer in the way of
- 19 the manure.
- MR. ANDERSON: Thanks.
- 21 MR. FRANK: Other questions? Next we have
- 22 Ben Shilling.
- MR. SHILLING: Ben Shilling,
- S-h-i-l-i-n-g.

25

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- 1 BEN SHILLING,
- 2 of lawful age, produced and sworn testifies and says
- 3 as follows:
- 4 ORAL TESTIMONY OF MR. SHILLING
- 5 MR. SHILLING: I'm also a neighbor to the
- 6 Diels. I live approximately three-quarters of a mile
- 7 from one of the sites. And as far as odor control, I
- 8 mean, I rarely ever, ever even smell the buildings.
- 9 As far as -- and I -- neighbors, like I say,
- 10 so I'm around them quite a bit. And their maintenance
- 11 of the facility, the existing facilities is very well
- 12 maintained and very well operated. And I guess that's
- 13 really all I got.
- MR. FRANK: Are there questions for this
- 15 witness? I see none. Thank you. Next we have Steve
- 16 Burgener.
- 17 MR. BURGENER: Steve Burgener,
- 18 B-u-r-g-e-n-e-r.
- 19 ORAL TESTIMONY OF STEVE BURGENER
- 20 STEVE BURGENER,
- 21 of lawful age, produced and sworn testifies and says
- 22 as follows:
- MR. BURGENER: I am another neighbor. I am
- 24 the closest neighbor to the north from the facility
- 25 that's being planned. I am in direct site of the

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- 1 building. I don't remember the last time that I could
- 2 smell an odor from the building. You know, once in a
- 3 while, but very, very seldom, and I can't remember the
- 4 last time I did.
- 5 Everything, as Ben said, the facility is
- 6 clean. It's maintained. It's very, very good. And I
- 7 am saying that Decker Township is kind of a depressed
- 8 area. We need something like this to bring property
- 9 values up, bring some employment into the area.
- 10 And to, you know, for values, the land value
- is probably as high as its ever been down in our area.
- 12 And home sites, there are no homes being built in our
- 13 area, so that's not a problem whatsoever. That's
- 14 basically what I have to say.
- MR. FRANK: Are there questions for this
- 16 witness? Ms. Blain.
- 17 OUESTIONS OF MR. BURGENER BY MS. BLAIN
- 18 MS. BLAIN: Just a question. I want to
- 19 understand. We're talking about an additional 4,200
- 20 hogs.
- 21 Do you know how many your neighbors
- 22 currently own? I forget what they said because it's a
- 23 little bit of a different operation.
- 24 MR. BURGENER: No, I don't know. They have
- one building south of where I live and one building

Page 52 north of where I live. And like I say, no odor 2. whatsoever that I can tell. 3 MS. BLAIN: Are they confined? Is it a 4 concentrated animal feeding operation? 5 MR. BURGENER: Yes. It's just like the one they're talking about building. 6 7 MS. BLAIN: Oh, okay. Gotcha. 8 MR. BURGENER: It's a similar building. 9 MS. BLAIN: Okay. Thank you. 10 MR. FRANK: Other questions? Yes, ma'am. QUESTIONS OF MR. BURGENER BY MS. HUNT 11 12 MS. HUNT: Melinda Hunt, H-u-n-t. So you're 13 saying this will be his third facility? 14 MR. BURGENER: Yes, I believe so. 15 MS. HUNT: Okay. 16 MR. FRANK: Other questions? I see none. 17 Thank you. Next we have Emily Blackford. 18 MS. BLACKFORD: Pass. 19 MR. FRANK: Ms. Blackford passes. Is there 20 anyone else who would like to provide oral testimony? 21 Anyone else? This concludes the oral testimony 22 portion of the meeting. (Exhibit No. 3 marked for identification.) 23 MR. FRANK: Entered into the record as 2.4 25 Exhibit No. 3 is the oral testimony sign-in sheet.

		Page 53
1	(Exhibit 4 marked for identification.)	
2	MR. FRANK: Entered into the record as	
3	Exhibit No. 4 is the attendance sign-in sheet.	
4	Are there any closing remarks from the	
5	facility?	
6	CLOSING COMMENTS BY MR. DIEL	
7	MR. DIEL: I just wanted to clarify on the	
8	two existing sites. We do have two existing sites.	
9	One is owned by my dad. One is owned by myself.	
10	This one is being built by me and my wife,	
11	so we're completely separate from that. And I would	
12	like to thank everyone for coming out.	
13	MR. FRANK: Are there closing comments from	
14	the Department?	
15	CLOSING COMMENTS BY MR. TEEFEY	
16	MR. TEEFEY: On behalf of the Department of	
17	Agriculture Bureau of Environmental Programs, I would	
18	like to thank you for your participation tonight in	
19	this public informational meeting.	
20	Let me assure you the Department appreciates	
21	the time and effort you have put forward to provide us	
22	with all of your comments. I'm sure the Richland	
23	County Board will consider them as they develop the	
24	recommendation to the Department regarding this	
25	proposed facility.	

		Page 54
1	They will certainly be considered as the	
2	Department completes our evaluation process. Thank	
3	you again, and have a safe trip home.	
4	CLOSING COMMENTS BY MR. FRANK	
5	MR. FRANK: Thank you. As I mentioned	
6	earlier, a copy of the transcript will be provided to	
7	the Richland County Board. For others desiring a	
8	copy, the transcript will be available by contacting	
9	the court reporter.	
10	Thank you for your attendance tonight. Our	
11	portion of the meeting is finished. Thank you.	
12	(WHEREIN, the proceedings were	
13	concluded at 7:02 p.m.)	
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1	CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER	
2	I, Catherine L. Turner, IL-CSR, MO-CCR, RPR,	
3	do hereby certify that the witnesses were duly sworn;	
4	that transcript of these proceedings was taken by me	
5	to the best of my ability and thereafter reduced to	
6	typewriting under my direction; that I am neither	
7	counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the	
8	parties to the action in which these proceedings were	
9	taken, and further that I am not a relative or	
10	employee of any attorney or counsel employed by the	
11	parties thereto, nor financially or otherwise	
12	interested in the outcome of the action.	
13		
14		
15		
16		
17	Catherine L. Turner, IL-CSR, MO-CCR, RPR	
18		
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21		
22		
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24		
25		

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