

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24

IN RE: PUBLIC)
INFORMATIONAL MEETING -)
RICH GASTLER FARM.)

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS had and evidence
taken in the above-entitled matter before the Adams
County Board on October 30, 2013, at the Adams
County Courthouse, Quincy, Adams County, Illinois.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24

PRESENT:

MR. SCOTT FRANK
MR. WARREN GOETSCH
MR. BRAD BEAVER

Illinois Department of
Agriculture.

MR. JACOB NIMS

Frank & West Environmental
Engineers.

MR. RICH GASTLER

Applicant.

MEMBERS OF THE ADAMS COUNTY BOARD

MRS. GINA L. NOTTINGHAM, CSR
License No. 084-002584
2420 Klondike South
Quincy, Illinois 62305
(217) 224-7009

	EXHIBITS		
	NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	MARKED
1			
2			
3	1	Notice of Intent to Construct	14
4	2	Department's Power Point Presentation	15
5			
6	3	Facility's Power Point Presentation	32
7	4	Oral Testimony Sign-in Sheet	45
8	5	Attendance Sign-in Sheet	45
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			
23			
24			

1 Good evening. On behalf of Bob Flider,
2 director of the Illinois Department of Agriculture,
3 we thank you very much for the invitation to come
4 to Adams County today.

5 My name is Scott Frank. I'm with the
6 Illinois Department of Agriculture, and I'll be
7 serving as the hearing officer for tonight's public
8 informational meeting.

9 Also with me on behalf of the Department
10 are Warren Goetsch, bureau chief of the Bureau of
11 Environmental Programs, and Brad Beaver, manager of
12 the bureau's livestock program.

13 This meeting is being conducted pursuant
14 to Section 12 of the Livestock Management
15 Facilities Act. The informational meeting is being
16 held at the request of the Adams County Board and
17 is to afford members of the public an opportunity
18 to ask questions and present oral and written
19 testimony regarding the proposed construction of a
20 1,984 animal unit swine finishing facility owned by
21 Rich Gastler.

22 My task this evening is to ensure that
23 this meeting is conducted in an orderly fashion and
24 to ensure that all comments and testimony received

1 are entered into the record.

2 Tonight's meeting is being transcribed.
3 The transcript of the meeting will be sent to the
4 Adams County Board, as well as used by the
5 Department of Agriculture, in making its
6 determination regarding the proposed construction
7 of this facility.

8 In order to ensure that we have an
9 orderly process, I will quickly explain how the
10 meeting will proceed this evening.

11 First, following my comments Warren
12 Goetsch will provide an overview of the provisions
13 of the Livestock Management Facilities Act as it
14 relates to this particular project, specifically
15 outlining the current status of the project and how
16 the process will proceed following this meeting.

17 Following Mr. Goetsch, representatives
18 for the proposed construction project will be given
19 an opportunity to describe the project and
20 demonstrate how they believe it meets the citing
21 criteria of the Livestock Management Facilities
22 Act.

23 After their presentation, I will open the
24 meeting to questions. Anyone wishing to ask

1 questions of the facility representatives or the
2 Department of Agriculture will be given an
3 opportunity to do so.

4 During the question and answer session I
5 will ask that you state your name and spell your
6 last name. You may then ask your question.

7 Please keep in mind that we are not here
8 this evening to discuss or debate the perceived
9 inadequacies or merits of the regulations. The
10 Livestock Management Facilities Act and the
11 accompanying rules have been in force for over 15
12 years.

13 Some people like them. Some people
14 don't. We cannot change anything here in that
15 regard, so we will not take the time to get into a
16 discussion about changes.

17 We are here tonight to receive
18 information on this particular livestock facility
19 to determine compliance with the existing
20 regulations.

21 Following the question and answer
22 session, I will ask for oral testimony from the
23 public. Sign-in sheets were placed, are outside
24 the room as you came in, one sheet for attendance

1 and a second sheet for testimony. People who wish
2 to provide comments during this oral testimony
3 phase are asked to sign the oral testimony sheet.

4 People providing oral comments will be
5 sworn in and will be subject to questioning from
6 the public. Each person will be given three
7 minutes to provide his or her comments.

8 Legal counsel speaking on behalf of
9 multiple clients will be given a total of 15
10 minutes for all clients and will be asked to state
11 the names of all the persons on whose behalf he or
12 she is speaking.

13 Deferring time to other speakers will not
14 be allowed. If you sign the oral testimony sheet,
15 you may either speak or you may pass. You may not
16 give your time to someone else.

17 Also, please keep in mind that if you do
18 not wish to be asked questions regarding your oral
19 testimony, do not sign the sheet, or, if you have
20 signed it already, indicate you would like to pass
21 when I call your name.

22 Following the oral testimony, I will ask
23 for written testimony. Written testimony will be
24 accepted in paper form and will be entered into the

1 record for this proceeding.

2 The meeting will then conclude with
3 closing comments from the facility and the
4 Department of Agriculture.

5 Again, we very much appreciate your
6 hospitality in inviting us here tonight to consider
7 the proposed construction of the Rich Gastler swine
8 finishing facility.

9 Please remember to confine your comments
10 and questions to that subject as we continue.

11 I will now turn the proceedings over to
12 Warren Goetsch for remarks from the Illinois
13 Department of Agriculture.

14 MR. GOETSCH: Good evening. My name is
15 Warren Goetsch. I currently serve as the bureau
16 chief of environmental programs at the Department
17 of Agriculture. One of our responsibilities at the
18 Department is the administration of the Livestock
19 Management Facilities Act.

20 On behalf of the Department let me also
21 welcome you to this public informational meeting.

22 Before we hear from the proposed
23 facilities representatives, I would like to say a
24 few words regarding the applicable provisions of

1 the Livestock Management Facilities Act and the
2 current status of this proposed project.

3 The Livestock Management Facilities Act
4 was originally passed and became law on May 21st of
5 1996. Since that time it's been amended three
6 times, first during the General Assembly's 1997
7 fall veto session, second during the General
8 Assembly's 1999 spring session, and most recently
9 during the General Assembly's 2007 spring session.

10 The act can generally be thought of as
11 covering five major areas; those being facility
12 design standards, waste management planning
13 requirements, facility operator training and
14 testing, anaerobic lagoon financial responsibility
15 demonstration, and facility setback requirements.

16 Each of those provisions impacts various
17 types of facilities in different ways depending
18 upon their size, expressed in animal units, and
19 whether the proposed facility is considered as a
20 new facility, a modified facility, or the expansion
21 of an existing site.

22 The Livestock Management Facilities Act's
23 provisions are quite complicated, and specific
24 facility designs and situations certainly can

1 differ. It is, however, the Department's intention
2 to always fairly and equitably apply these
3 requirements to the livestock industry in this
4 state.

5 Now, regarding the current status of this
6 project, the Department received a formal notice of
7 intent to construct application for the
8 construction of a swine facility on July 26th,
9 2013.

10 The proposed project is to consist of the
11 construction of one swine finishing building
12 measuring 71 feet, 2 inches by 561 feet, with an
13 eight-foot deep underbuilding livestock waste
14 handling facility. The project is proposed to be
15 located approximately 4.2 miles southwest of Bowen,
16 Illinois, in northeastern Adams County.

17 The application was submitted by Frank &
18 West Environmental Engineers, Incorporated, on
19 behalf of Mr. Rich Gastler of West Point, Illinois.
20 The maximum design capacity of the proposed
21 facility is 1,984 animal units or 4,960 head of
22 swine greater than 55 pounds.

23 As I mentioned earlier, the Department
24 received the notice of intent to construct

1 application on July 26th and reviewed it for
2 compliance with the applicable provisions of the
3 act. On September 11th, the Department determined
4 that the notice was complete and forwarded a copy
5 of the completed application to the Adams County
6 Board. Notice of that application was also
7 published -- or notice of the application was also
8 published in the appropriate newspapers at that
9 time.

10 The design capacity of the proposed
11 facility requires compliance with the residential
12 setback distance of not less than 1,324 feet and a
13 populated area setback distance of not less than
14 2,640 feet.

15 On October 16th, the Department received
16 notice from the Adams County Board requesting that
17 a public informational meeting be scheduled
18 regarding the proposal. After further consultation
19 with the county board, the Department scheduled
20 this meeting and caused notice of the meeting to be
21 again published in the appropriate newspapers.

22 An additional requirement of the
23 Livestock Management Facilities Act deals with the
24 design and construction plans of livestock waste

1 handling facilities.

2 The Department has received a formal
3 submittal of detailed engineering design plans and
4 specifications for the proposed project's
5 underbuilding livestock waste handling facility.
6 The Department's detailed review process of those
7 plans has been completed, and the plans were found
8 to be in compliance with the statutory requirements
9 of the act.

10 We are here this evening to receive
11 testimony regarding the proposed facility, or,
12 excuse me, the proposed Livestock Management
13 Facilities compliance with the eight citing
14 criteria as defined in Section 12, paragraph D of
15 the Livestock Management Facilities Act.

16 In general, information regarding the
17 following would be appropriate for this evening's
18 meeting: Manure management planning, potential
19 impact of the proposed facility on the surrounding
20 area's character, whether the proposed facility is
21 located within any floodplains or other sensitive
22 areas, odor control plans, possible impact of the
23 proposed facility on existing area traffic
24 patterns, and possible impact of the proposed

1 facility on community growth, tourism, recreation,
2 or economic development of the area.

3 Copies of the specific criteria were
4 available on the table with the sign-in sheets. If
5 anyone would like to have a copy of the criteria
6 but did not pick one up, please identify yourself,
7 and we will see that you receive a copy.

8 Finally, the process that will be
9 followed after this evening's meeting is as
10 follows: The county board will have up to 30
11 business days from today's meeting to submit to the
12 Department a non-binding recommendation relative to
13 the proposed citing of this facility. Thus, a
14 recommendation from the Adams County Board is due
15 at the Department on or before December 16, 2013.

16 After the close of the county's
17 30-business day period, the Department will have up
18 to 15 calendar days, or until December 31st, 2013,
19 to review all of the information submitted to date,
20 including the notice of intent to construct, the
21 construction plans, transcripts from this evening's
22 meeting, the county board's recommendation, and any
23 other additional information submitted by the
24 owners at the request of the Department. Based on

1 that review, the Department will determine whether
2 the eight citing criteria have been met.

3 Once that determination has been made,
4 the Department will notify both the county board
5 and the applicant of the Department's decision.

6 Mr. Hearing Officer, at this time I would
7 like to submit the completed notice of intent to
8 construct application and its associated
9 correspondence file for formal entry into the
10 record as an exhibit.

11 I would also provide a copy of our Power
12 Point for an exhibit, as well.

13 And with that, I will conclude my
14 comments. Thank you.

15 MR. FRANK: Thank you, Mr. Goetsch.

16 Entered into the record as Exhibit Number
17 1 is a copy of the completed notice of intent to
18 construct, including correspondence between the
19 Department and the applicant, notices of the public
20 informational meeting, and correspondence with the
21 Adams County officials.

22 Entered into the record as Exhibit Number
23 2 is a copy of the Department's Power Point
24 presentation.

1 At this time, we will hear comments from
2 the facility.

3 Before you begin, for those who will be
4 presenting information, please state your name and
5 spell your last name for the court reporter, and
6 then I will swear you in.

7 MR. GASTLER: Rich Gastler, finishing
8 farm owner. Last name is spelled G-a-s-t-l-e-r.

9 MR. NIMS: Jake Nims, last name N-i-m-s.
10 (Mr. Gastler and Mr. Nims were sworn.)

11 MR. FRANK: You may proceed.

12 MR. GASTLER: First of all, I'd like to
13 thank everyone for coming this evening and hearing
14 our plans about the swine facility we are wanting
15 to build on our family farm.

16 My name is Rich Gastler. Just to give
17 you a little history of our farming operation, I am
18 a third generation farmer starting with my granddad
19 in Missouri.

20 We started farming in the Bowen area in
21 1970 when my mom married my step-dad. We have been
22 in the livestock business since the '70's, since
23 our two families merged together, so to say.

24 I have a 21-year old and a 15-year old

1 son at home. Looks like maybe one or maybe both
2 would like to farm someday, and we are trying to
3 carry on the family tradition of agriculture in our
4 family, and we feel like this is one way to secure
5 that opportunity to carry on the family farm.

6 I'm 47-years old. I've been married for
7 25 years to Gayla Gastler, and we just -- I've been
8 farming since 1988, since the year we got married.

9 And for any questions about that, I would
10 be glad to field them at this time. If not...

11 MR. NIMS: Again, my name is Jake Nims.
12 I'm with Frank & West Environmental Engineers. We
13 were hired by Mr. Gastler to evaluate the site and
14 his potential plans to make sure that they conform
15 with the Livestock Management Facilities Act.

16 I've got a quick presentation here I'll
17 go through here tonight just to kind of detail the
18 eight citing criteria and how his facility meets
19 each one of those. Like I said, a quick
20 introduction site overview and layout and then
21 conformance with the LMFA.

22 Here is a zoomed out map of Adams County.
23 You can see the facility is located in the
24 northeast corner.

1 This next slide is more of a section
2 distance and where that building sits within his
3 particular section.

4 And then this map shows where the
5 building is actually going to sit on that property
6 in relation to the existing infrastructure.

7 As Warren alluded to a little bit, plans
8 for one finish 561 feet long by 71.2 feet.

9 The eight citing criteria real quickly:

10 One, registration and certification
11 requirements; two, design, location and operation
12 standards; three, location compatibility;
13 floodplain and aquifer protection; minimizing
14 environmental impact; odor control and reduction;
15 traffic patterns minimizing impacts; and the
16 facility consistent with area development.

17 And as we go along on each individual
18 one, I'll give a little more detailed definition.

19 Citing criteria 1: Registration and
20 certification requirements: Whether registration
21 and livestock waste management plan certification
22 requirements, if required, are met by the notice of
23 intent to construct.

24 As alluded to earlier, the notice of

1 intent was filed with the Department of Ag on July
2 26th and deemed complete on September 11th.

3 Part 2 of citing criteria number one is
4 the waste management plan. According to the LMFA,
5 a facility which exceeds 1,000 animal units but
6 less than 5,000 shall prepare, maintain, and
7 implement a waste management plan within 60 working
8 days of after commencing separation.

9 This particular farm will prepare,
10 maintain, and implement a comprehensive nutrient
11 management plan. The farm will submit to the
12 Department of Ag the waste management plan
13 certification form certifying that the waste
14 management plan has been prepared within those 60
15 days of putting the hogs in the building.

16 The farm will keep records for the
17 nutrient management plan, as well as waste disposal
18 on file at that farm. The plan and associated
19 records will be available for all Department of Ag
20 inspections.

21 Citing part 2, still of citing criteria
22 1:

23 The goal of the comprehensive nutrient
24 management plan will be to utilize the waste

1 produced as approved agronomic loading rates that
2 meet the nutrient needs of locally grown crops in
3 an environmentally sound fashion.

4 This goal will be accomplished by
5 developing a plan which includes the following:

6 Total annual manure volume calculation,
7 historically proven yield in application areas,
8 manure analysis to provide the nutrient content of
9 the manure, agronomic loading rates of the manure,
10 land application provisions for setbacks and
11 incorporation standards, and documentation of all
12 phases of that plan.

13 Citing criteria 2 definition: Whether
14 the design, location, or proposed operation will
15 protect the environment by being consistent with
16 the Livestock Management Facilities Act.

17 Part 1 is design of the concrete
18 structures.

19 All concrete work is designed according
20 to Midwest Plan Service concrete manure storage
21 handbook. This MWPS is a university-based
22 publishing cooperative dedicated to publishing and
23 disseminating research-based and peer-reviewed
24 publications.

1 Within this manual there are concrete
2 specifications, reinforcement requirements, and
3 water-stop requirements.

4 The design of this particular farm will
5 consist of construction plans for one finishing
6 barn.

7 And here is just a quick picture of a
8 typical or a similar building. You can see the
9 fans on the end there. I believe this is
10 approximately half the length of what the proposed
11 facility will be, but the similar design.

12 Here is a picture of a typical pen layout
13 for the inside. You can see the feeders within the
14 pens and then the actual gating system itself.

15 Part 2: The location and setback
16 distances have been met, both the occupied
17 residence setback, the populated area setback. And
18 these setbacks were deemed complete by Department
19 of Ag on September 11th.

20 Part 3 is proposed operation. The
21 manager of this particular farm will be a certified
22 livestock manager. And this is a program developed
23 by the Department of Ag to educate livestock
24 managers on manure management handling and systems.

1 Managers of farms of over 1,000 animal units are
2 required to attend a training course and pass an
3 exam.

4 And also the livestock waste management
5 plan that we talked about, the plan will detail the
6 operation at the farm so that all manure
7 applications will be based on site specific data.

8 Citing criteria 3: Whether the location
9 minimizes any incompatibility with the surrounding
10 area's character by being zoned for agriculture,
11 where the county has zoning, or where the county is
12 not zoned, the setback requirements established by
13 the LMFA are complied with.

14 The proposed building location has no
15 zoning. The Department of Ag deemed the setbacks
16 for the facility complete on September 11, and the
17 farm is compatible with the surrounding area in
18 that the area is a rural agricultural area.

19 The setbacks, like Warren said earlier,
20 had 4,960 animals greater than 55 pound equals
21 1,984 animal units. This equates to an occupied
22 residence setback distance of a quarter mile or
23 1320 feet and a populated area setback of a half
24 mile or 2,640 feet.

1 Here is a map of the proposed facility.
2 Obviously the inner circle is the quarter mile
3 setback and the outer circle is the half mile
4 setback. You can see there is only one residence
5 located within -- no residences located within the
6 quarter mile setback and one located just inside
7 the half mile setback at, I believe, 2300.

8 Criteria 4: Whether the farm is located
9 within a 100 year floodplain or an otherwise
10 environmentally sensitive area, which is defined as
11 an area of karst area or with aquifer material
12 within five feet of the bottom of the livestock
13 waste handling facility and whether construction
14 standards set forth in the notice of intent to
15 construct are consistent with the goal of
16 protecting the safety of the area.

17 This is a map of the 100 year floodplain.
18 It's a little different maybe if you are familiar
19 or seen a presentation before.

20 I will scroll through here.

21 The actual panel, this is almost not
22 quite county wide, but within several townships, I
23 guess. The particular township that Mr. Gastler's
24 facility falls in his facility would be located

1 right about there (indicating).

2 That particular panel is not printed by
3 FEMA because there is no 100 year floodplain within
4 that entire township or either township or maybe
5 just a shade less than a township. But,
6 regardless, there is no floodplain area in the
7 remote vicinity of his location.

8 Karst area is an area with a land surface
9 containing sinkholes, large springs, disruptive
10 land drainage, and underground systems associated
11 with karstified carbonate bedrock, limestone, or
12 dolomite, and caves or a land surface without these
13 features but contain a karstified carbonate bedrock
14 unit generally overlain by less than 60 feet of
15 unconsolidated materials.

16 This is the general map of karst areas
17 within Illinois, zoomed into the area around Adams
18 County. Three-quarters of Adams County is
19 concerned a potential karst area, but in the
20 northeast corner where this facility is located it
21 is not a potential karst area.

22 The farm is not located within an area
23 indicated by the Illinois Department of Natural
24 Resource, Illinois State Geological Survey's Karst

1 Terrains and Carbonate in Illinois map as being a
2 potential karst area.

3 Aquifer material: Sandstone that is five
4 feet or more in thickness or fractured carbonate
5 that is ten feet or more in thickness, or sand,
6 gravel, or sand and gravel, such that there is at
7 least two feet or more present within any five-foot
8 section of a soil boring.

9 A site investigation was conducted by
10 Frank & West. A soil boring was advanced to a
11 depth of 21 1/2 feet below the ground surface
12 within the footprint of the proposed building.
13 This is a distance of at least 15 feet below the
14 planned bottom of the barn. And no aquifer
15 material was encountered.

16 In actuality, for facilities that are not
17 in potential karst areas, the Livestock Management
18 Facilities Act only requires a boring five feet
19 below the bottom. There was miscommunication on
20 the day the person was out there, and he did an
21 extra 15 feet or ten feet.

22 Here is a sketch of the bottom of the
23 boring in relation to the bottom of the pit itself.

24 Citing criteria number 5: Whether the

1 owner or operator has submitted plans for operation
2 that minimize the likelihood of any environmental
3 damage to the surrounding area from spills,
4 run-off, and leaching.

5 The facility has proper sizing and an
6 adequate storage capacity. Required timeframe for
7 storage for a facility like this is 150 days. This
8 particular design will have storage capacity in
9 excess of 365 days. The pit is operated as a
10 closed system with no uncontrolled release of
11 livestock manure.

12 There is a clean water diversion that
13 will allow rainwater to be directed away from the
14 farm so that fresh water is not running into the
15 pit and decreasing the amount of storage days that
16 pit would hold.

17 Leaching: The farm is designed so as to
18 prevent a release of livestock manure. This
19 consists of solid concrete construction reinforced
20 with grade 60 steel rebar. And all water-stop is
21 placed in all construction and stoppage joint.

22 All surfaces in contact with the
23 livestock manure, in this case concrete, will meet
24 the required permeability standard.

1 Odor control reduction, criteria number
2 6: Whether odor control plans are reasonable and
3 incorporate reasonable or innovative odor reduction
4 technologies given the current state of such
5 technologies.

6 The proposed facility or the proposed
7 farm will implement a comprehensive odor control
8 plan. This will consist of controlled land
9 application of manure, routine maintenance of the
10 concrete pit and livestock facility itself, feed
11 management, what's being fed to the animals, and
12 the location of the building itself.

13 Controlled application of manure by
14 injection based upon nitrogen and phosphorous
15 loading from actual on-site data.

16 The proposed farm intends to utilize
17 injection as the application method for livestock
18 manure. This minimizes the contact with air and is
19 widely accepted as the best available technology
20 for manure application.

21 All livestock manure will be custom
22 applied by a certified manure applicator. The
23 application equipment will contain safety controls,
24 not limited to the equipment will be visually

1 monitored continuously, emergency shut-offs in the
2 cab, and communication between personnel available
3 at all times.

4 Here is an example of an injection manure
5 tanker. This particular design the manure is
6 pumped into the pit itself and then driven through
7 the field.

8 The injection equipment and the injection
9 knives behind the tank.

10 And this next drawing shows a little
11 closer. Injection knives place, inject the manure
12 into the ground at the root depth, and then the
13 wheels come behind and close the furrow that the
14 injection knives create.

15 This is an example of an injection drag
16 line system. The actual injection equipment is
17 similar, but rather than have a tank, there will be
18 a hose stretched from the facility itself to this
19 equipment and drug through the field.

20 The Rich Gastler farm has at least 634
21 acres locally available per year for livestock
22 manure applications utilizing local yields with
23 local soil types and book values for nutrient
24 content of the manure. It's anticipated that the

1 farm would utilize approximately 554 acres of a
2 corn/corn rotation.

3 Farm will utilize regular maintenance to
4 reduce odors generated by the facility and to
5 minimize dust originating from the facility.

6 Regular maintenance will include routine
7 visual walkthroughs of the facility to ensure there
8 is no manure build-up above the slatted floor and
9 walkways and the regular cleaning of fans to
10 prevent the accumulation of dust.

11 The facility will be thoroughly pressure
12 washed and sanitized between each production cycle.
13 This will minimize the amount of odor causing
14 parcels that are able to leave the facility through
15 the ventilation fans. The farm will ensure that
16 the facility's fans operate efficiently, thus
17 minimizing dust build-up.

18 Regular facility maintenance is known to
19 reduce odor concentrations and odor intensity.

20 The facility will immediately incorporate
21 an animal diet formulated to allow the most
22 efficient utilization of proteins and nutrients in
23 the feed. This dietary practice aids in the
24 reduction of overall odors from the facility by

1 reducing excess nutrients excreted by the animals.

2 The facility also complies with and
3 exceeds facility setback distances as established
4 in the Livestock Management Facilities Act. The
5 residential setback is exceeded by 980 feet, and
6 the populated area setback is exceeded by 19,360
7 feet.

8 Again, in the comprehensive odor control
9 plan we utilize farm location and maintenance,
10 proper nutrition, and injection of manure to
11 minimize the odor impacts.

12 The farm has diligently planned and
13 overall odor control strategy by incorporating
14 numerous odor control techniques and technologies.
15 The farm will also continue to look for and
16 incorporate other technologies as they become
17 available.

18 This strategic plan incorporates
19 reasonable and innovative technologies that will
20 allow the facility to operate with minimal odor
21 impact to the surrounding area.

22 Citing criteria 7: Whether traffic
23 patterns minimize the effect on existing traffic
24 flows.

1 Here is a map of the proposed building
2 location. The travel pass would be down the
3 private lane to the Illinois state highway, 61/94.

4 Illinois Route 61/94 just east of the
5 proposed facility, according to IDOT traffic
6 counts, has a daily average of 650 vehicles, which
7 equates 4,550 vehicles. Of that, almost 91 percent
8 are personal vehicles, passenger cars, trucks; and
9 9 percent of those are multiple unit vehicles
10 weekly, which are single axle, tandem axle, and
11 semi trailer trucks.

12 Like I said, just east of the proposed
13 facility the daily average of 650 vehicles and the
14 4,550 vehicles. This particular facility has an
15 estimated number of four total trucks, four total
16 trucks weekly, and this includes feed
17 transportation and animal transportation trucks.

18 Just looking at the overall traffic
19 numbers, this consists of 0.09 percent of the
20 average weekly traffic on the state highway just
21 out in front of the facility. Then, if you look at
22 the truck numbers, the four total trucks, in
23 relation to the previous numbers, that equates to
24 .95 percent of the average weekly truck traffic on

1 that state highway.

2 The proposed farm traffic will comply
3 with all the same seasonal posted road weight
4 limits as all other traffic in the area.

5 Criteria 8: Whether construction of a
6 new facility is consistent with existing community
7 growth, tourism, recreation, or economic
8 development or with specific projects involving
9 community growth, tourism, recreation, or economic
10 development that have been identified by government
11 action for development or operation within one year
12 through compliance with the applicable zones and
13 setback requirements for populated areas as
14 established by the Livestock Management Facilities
15 Act.

16 The farm is consistent with existing and
17 planned community development of this rural
18 agricultural area by demonstrating compliance with
19 zoning and setback requirements. And the farm will
20 meet all the requirements of the Livestock
21 Management Facilities Act.

22 We appreciate the opportunity, and thank
23 you.

24 MR. FRANK: Do you have a copy of your

1 presentation?

2 MR. NIMS: I do.

3 MR. FRANK: Thank you very much.

4 Entered into the record as Exhibit Number
5 3 is a copy of the Power Point presentation from
6 the facility.

7 We will now open the meeting for any
8 questions that you may have of the facility or of
9 the Department. If you have a question that you
10 would like to ask, please raise your hand, and,
11 when called upon, please state your name and spell
12 your last name. Please indicate to whom you are
13 directing your question.

14 I will remind you that this portion of
15 the meeting will be limited to questions only.
16 After this question and answer session, there will
17 be a session dedicated to public testimony where
18 you can provide your oral comments.

19 Are there any questions?

20 MR. HEIDBREder: John Heidbreder,
21 H-e-i-d-b-r-e-d-e-r, county board member.

22 We got a hand-out by e-mail about this
23 meeting this evening. The residence of Peggy
24 Redenius, 2,300 feet away, the map shows is 2,200.

1 It also shows that -- it says occupied residents
2 and gives the lady's same name and the same
3 distance, and then on a map it says it's a
4 non-occupied.

5 And I just thought that probably you guys
6 ought to make that correct if there, if that's
7 required. I don't know. It's just for my
8 information.

9 And then I guess for the engineer, I was
10 surprised that the pit is smaller than the
11 building. How does animal waste get from areas not
12 above the pit to the pit?

13 MR. NIMS: They are the same size, I
14 guess.

15 MR. HEIDBREder: Well, the building is
16 561 feet by 71 feet, 2 inches, and that's what it
17 says here.

18 MR. NIMS: Yeah.

19 MR. HEIDBREder: And up above it says
20 that the pit is 40 by 80 or 100 by 100, depending
21 on which building you are talking about. Those are
22 not the same dimensions, sir.

23 MR. NIMS: I'm not -- the 40 by --

24 MR. HEIDBREder: It came to us on this

1 page.

2 MR. NIMS: Is that the approved notice of
3 intent?

4 MR. HEIDBREder: It's whatever you folks
5 sent to our county clerk in preparation for this
6 meeting.

7 MR. NIMS: I guess without knowing what
8 you are looking at, the building and the pit are
9 the exact same dimensions. I don't know where the
10 discrepancy is.

11 MR. HEIDBREder: That answers that.

12 MR. NIMS: Okay.

13 MR. HEIDBREder: Then does your firm or
14 some firm of the Department of Agriculture inspect
15 the pit construction during construction?

16 MR. GOETSCH: (Nodded his head up and
17 down.)

18 MR. HEIDBREder: You do? Great.

19 MR. GOETSCH: We are required to make at
20 least three visits during any proposed project;
21 first before the facility would be allowed to
22 construct, at least one time during construction,
23 and then at least one time post-construction to
24 make sure that what they have built is consistent

1 with what was proposed.

2 MR. HEIDBREder: What prompted the
3 question is a few months ago we had big time rain
4 here in Quincy, and basements that weren't supposed
5 to leak did, and that's what prompted the question
6 to see if the water-stops are inspected by somebody
7 other than the concrete contractor.

8 MR. GOETSCH: Yes.

9 MR. HEIDBREder: And then the other
10 thing, this came up again on the other hog farm
11 that we approved about a year ago, how does the
12 tractor pulling a drag line turn around to make
13 another swathe without tangling the drag line? I
14 can't figure that out up here.

15 MR. GASTLER: I've watched it. It's got
16 a swivel in the middle of the tool, and they will
17 come up, they go back around, and they will go
18 right back in, and that swivel just switches from
19 one side to the other just kind of on its own.
20 It's fairly simple once you see it.

21 MR. HEIDBREder: In case some fellow
22 board members asks next week, I will be a little
23 bit more informed. Thank you.

24 MR. GOETSCH: Yes. To just clarify what

1 the engineer represented, the waste handling
2 structure is the same dimension as the building.
3 The entire building covers the manure storage
4 structure. I think the 40 by 80 number that you
5 were talking or that you referenced was an example
6 on the form itself. So, the waste management
7 structure or the waste handling structure itself,
8 the measurements are consistent with the building
9 measurements.

10 MR. HEIDBREder: Okay. So, in the
11 finishing building and the farrowing building are
12 just continuations of each other? It's not two
13 separate structures?

14 MR. GASTLER: It's a finishing building
15 only.

16 MR. HEIDBREder: In your presentation you
17 showed two building or just one?

18 MR. NIMS: No. Just one. Just one.

19 MR. HEIDBREder: Thank you.

20 MR. FRANK: Mr. Gastler, did you want to
21 comment on that?

22 MR. GASTLER: It was just a finishing
23 building only. You had farrow to finish. It is
24 just finishing only.

1 MR. NIMS: Maybe my friend should take
2 that picture down with multiple buildings, but
3 there is only one.

4 MR. HEIDBREDER: All right. Very good.

5 MR. FRANK: Are there other questions?
6 Yes, Mr. Nichols.

7 MR. NICHOLS: Lyle Nichols,
8 N-i-c-h-o-l-s, member of the county board.

9 How often will you empty the pit?

10 MR. GASTLER: Ideally what we plan is to
11 do it twice a year, but there is enough storage
12 under the pit to go one full year without emptying
13 it.

14 MR. NICHOLS: And I think I remember from
15 Mr. Nims' presentation that there is no water
16 drainage likely to be there or rain or snow melt
17 that will get into the pit?

18 MR. NIMS: Correct.

19 MR. GASTLER: Correct.

20 MR. NICHOLS: Who is going to own the
21 hogs and the building?

22 MR. GASTLER: I will own the building, or
23 our family will own the building, and Cargill will
24 be owning the pigs.

1 MR. NICHOLS: Where is your feed supply
2 coming from?

3 MR. GASTLER: Ursa Farmers Co-op in Ursa.

4 MR. NICHOLS: So, they won't be coming
5 from Bowen then?

6 MR. GASTLER: No.

7 MR. NICHOLS: When do you plan to have
8 the building up and running and occupied?

9 MR. GASTLER: We hope -- well, given the
10 time you folks have to decide, shortly after you
11 all decide we will start construction, weather
12 permitting.

13 MR. NICHOLS: So, sometime next summer
14 probably?

15 MR. GASTLER: I would say somewhere
16 between March and May, if I was guessing right now.

17 MR. NICHOLS: The private road going
18 from, I guess, the building to 61/94, you maintain
19 that?

20 MR. GASTLER: Yes, sir.

21 MR. NICHOLS: Is that like a gravel road
22 now?

23 MR. GASTLER: Yes, sir.

24 MR. NICHOLS: What's the topography where

1 your private road meets 61/94? Is it flat? Is
2 there a hill?

3 MR. GASTLER: It's flat, basically flat.

4 MR. NICHOLS: In what township is this
5 located?

6 MR. GASTLER: Houston.

7 MR. NICHOLS: Houston. Thank you.

8 MR. GASTLER: Uh-huh.

9 MR. FRANK: Are there other questions for
10 the Department or the facility?

11 Mr. Peter.

12 MR. PETER: Mark Peter, P-e-t-e-r, county
13 board.

14 What about the water supply, Mr. Gastler,
15 your water supply?

16 MR. GASTLER: Our plans are as of right
17 now, we have it in front of the water board, we are
18 going to invest in a water line from the rural
19 water system to supply the building at this time.

20 MR. PETERS: So, there is no -- the last
21 one of these we had there was concern from the
22 local town. There is no -- I mean, your water
23 supply is strong enough? Its volume is good
24 enough?

1 MR. GASTLER: The volume is good enough,
2 but the board does have to approve it since it's
3 going to be such a bigger gallon usage.

4 MR. PETER: Thank you.

5 MR. FRANK: Other questions?

6 (No response.)

7 MR. FRANK: Seeing none, that completes
8 the question and answer session.

9 I have the oral testimony sign-in sheet
10 in front of me, and we have two people who wish to
11 testify. We will have you come up to the table up
12 here and use the microphone. When called upon,
13 please step up to the table, have a seat, state
14 your name, and spell your last name, please. I
15 will then swear you in. You will have three
16 minutes to speak.

17 First on the list is Kent Buckert.

18 Please state your name and spell your
19 last name.

20 (Witness sworn.)

21 MR. BUCKERT: Kent Buckert,
22 B-u-c-k-e-r-t.

23 MR. FRANK: You may proceed.

24 MR. BUCKERT: Speaking on behalf of the

1 Ursa Farmers Co-op, a potential feed supplier for
2 this unit, and just its impact of feed usage of
3 commodities from our area.

4 So, the facility such as this will use
5 about 36 tons a year. At current prices that is
6 approximately a million dollars in sales. It will
7 use approximately 73,000 bushels of corn, which is
8 a local market for about 450 acres of corn. It
9 will use about 500 tons of bean meal, which is a
10 local market for about 460 acres of beans.

11 As a whole, Ursa Farmers feeds about
12 60,000 pig spaces similar to this facility. That
13 nets about 41,000 tons a year or about 12 million
14 dollars in sales for Ursa Farmers Co-op. And uses
15 about 830,000 bushels of corn and is a market for
16 about 5,000 acres of corn, and 5700 tons of bean
17 meal, which is a local market again for about 5200
18 acres of beans.

19 UFC as a whole has feed sales of over
20 65,000 tons a year, which is over 16 million
21 dollars in sales.

22 Units such as this makes a feed
23 department and feed mill sustainable for the rest
24 of our community. And we have over 350 swine and

1 beef livestock producers that we serve from our
2 feed mill in Ursa.

3 We have 17 employees that are involved in
4 the feed mill production and the trucking of feed,
5 and Ursa Farmers Co-op as a whole has 187 million
6 dollars in sales annually, and we serve over 2500
7 producers and co-op owners and have 55 employees.

8 MR. FRANK: Thank you.

9 Are there questions for this witness?

10 (No response.)

11 MR. FRANK: I see none.

12 Thank you very much.

13 Next on our list is Tim Maiers.

14 State your name and spell your last name.

15 MR. MAIERS: Tim Maiers, M-a-i-e-r-s.

16 (Witness sworn.)

17 MR. FRANK: You may proceed.

18 MR. MAIERS: Hello. My name is Tim
19 Maiers. I am an Adams County resident, live out in
20 Payson area. I am in Illinois Pork Producers. I
21 will be brief, because I don't know what the record
22 for the shortest hearing on record is, but I don't
23 want to stand between you and the Cardinal game.
24 So, just a couple things.

1 Thank you for coming tonight.

2 We do think that Adams County is a good
3 place to raise pigs and pork production and pork
4 industry, and we know -- we work hard to find good
5 sites. I think, as we see tonight, we can find
6 them. They are out there.

7 We can be good stewards of the
8 environment, care for our animals, and contribute
9 to the economy. As Kent mentioned, this will help
10 a local business support a lot of different farms.

11 The pork industry in Adams County has had
12 a good long tradition here in the county. We know
13 that the pork industry contributes about 29.8
14 million dollars to the county economy and about 2.2
15 million dollars in taxes. So, we do feel that it
16 is a good place to raise pigs.

17 We can be, like I said, good for the
18 economy and be good neighbors. We expect that, you
19 expect that, and we know that's our role to carry
20 that out and do that.

21 So, with that, I want to invite the board
22 next Wednesday, everyone should have gotten an
23 invite, but next Wednesday there is an open house
24 at the Darin Duke barn up around Lima that you had

1 a hearing on several months back. An open house
2 Wednesday, next Wednesday, from 11 to 3. So, if
3 you want to come out and actually see a barn, see
4 some of the manure structures, and the feed systems
5 and kind of what a barn entails, that would be a
6 good opportunity to do that.

7 There is also free pork chops that we
8 will be serving, as well, too. So, if you can find
9 time to come out next Wednesday at the barn from
10 11 to 3, we would love to have you.

11 MR. FRANK: Thank you.

12 Are there questions for this witness?

13 (No response.)

14 MR. FRANK: I see none.

15 Thank you.

16 Is there anyone else who would like to
17 provide any oral testimony?

18 (No response.)

19 MR. FRANK: Entered into the record as
20 Exhibit Number 4 is the sign-up sheet for oral
21 testimony.

22 Also entered into the record as Exhibit
23 Number 5 is the attendance sign-in sheet.

24 I see only four names on the list. If

1 anybody wants to sign this afterwards, you can come
2 up and you can get your name put on it.

3 Is there any written testimony that
4 anyone would like to present?

5 (No response.)

6 MR. FRANK: I see none.

7 Are there any closing comments from the
8 facility?

9 Any closing comments from the Department?

10 MR. GOETSCH: I would just say thank you
11 for having us. We appreciate the opportunity. I
12 hope you've got your questions answered, and just
13 let me assure you that we will look forward to
14 receiving the recommendation from the county board,
15 and we will certainly consider it along with all
16 the other information as we move forward with this
17 proposal and its evaluation.

18 Thank you.

19 MR. FRANK: As I mentioned earlier, a
20 copy of the transcript will be provided to the
21 Adams County Board. For those who would wish to
22 receive their own copy, they can contact the court
23 reporter and receive a copy that way.

24 Thank you for your attendance here

1 tonight. This public meeting is hereby closed.

2 Mr. Post, would you like to adjourn your
3 meeting?

4 MR. POST: Go right ahead.

5 MR. FRANK: This meeting is adjourned.

6 (HEARING CLOSED)

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

1 STATE OF ILLINOIS)
2 COUNTY OF ADAMS) SS.

3

4

5

C E R T I F I C A T E

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

Gina L. Nottingham, CSR

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

Dated this 6th day
of November, 2013.