**In The Matter Of:** *PARKS E-4 LIVESTOCK FACILITY* 

> PUBLIC HEARING August 8, 2019

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PARKS E-4 LIVESTOCK FACILITY STOCKLAND, IL - IROQUOIS COUNTY August 6th, 2019, 6:00 PM County Administration Center/County Board Room 1001 East Grant Street, Watseka, IL PUBLIC HEARING Reported By: Deann K. Parkinson: CSR 84-002089 Area Wide Reporting & Video Conferencing 301 West White Champaign, Illinois (800)747 - 6789

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1	MR. COLL: Good evening. On behalf of
2	John Sullivan, the director of the Illinois
3	Department of Agriculture, we thank you very much
4	for the invitation to come to Iroquois County this
5	evening.
6	My name is Albert Coll, and I am with
7	the Illinois Department of Agriculture. And I
8	will be serving as a hearing officer for tonight's
9	public informational meeting.
10	Also with me on behalf of the department
11	is Rosario Johnstone, manager of the bureau's
12	technical services and pesticide laboratory
13	section.
14	This meeting is being conducted pursuant
15	to Section 12 of the Livestock Management
16	Facilities Act. The informational meeting is
17	being held at the request of the Iroquois County
18	Board, and is to afford members of the public an
19	opportunity to ask questions and present oral and
20	written testimony regarding the proposed
21	construction of a new, 1,800 animal unit swine
22	facility by Parks Livestock.
23	My task this evening is to ensure that
24	this meeting is conducted in an orderly fashion,

1and to ensure that all comments and testimony2received are entered into the record.3Tonight's meeting is being transcribed.4The transcription of the meeting will be sent to5the Iroquois County Board, as well as used by the6Illinois Department of Agriculture in making its7determination regarding the proposed construction8of this facility.9In order to ensure that we have an10orderly process, I will quickly explain how the11meeting will proceed this evening. First,12following my comments, Rosario Johnstone will13provide an overview of the provisions of the14livestock15(Brief discussion off the record.)16First, following my comments, Warren17Goetsch will provide an overview of the provisions18of the Livestock Management Facilities Act as it19relates to this particular project. Warren is a20deputy director at the Illinois Department of21Agriculture.22He will specifically outline the current		
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22 He will specifically outline the current	21	Agriculture.
	22	He will specifically outline the current
23 status of the project and how the process will	23	status of the project and how the process will
24 proceed following this meeting. Following Mr.	24	proceed following this meeting. Following Mr.

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

Then, depending on the amount of time that has elapsed at this point in the meeting, we may take a short break. Following the written testimony, I will ask for oral testimony from the public. Sign in sheets were placed at the door as you came in. One sheet for attendance and a second sheet for testimony.

People who wish to provide comments 11 during this oral testimony phase are asked to sign 12 the oral testimony sheet. People providing oral 13 comments will be sworn in. Each person will be 14 given three minutes to provide his or her 15 16 comments. Legal counsel speaking on behalf of 17 multiple clients will be given a total of 15 minutes for all clients, and will be asked to 18 state the name of all persons on whose benefit or 19 20 behalf he or she is speaking. Deferring time to other speakers will not be allowed. If you sign 21 22 the oral testimony sheet, you may either speak, or if you have changed your mind, you may pass. 23 You 24 may not give your time to someone else.

1	The meeting will then conclude with
2	closing comments from the facility and the
3	Illinois Department of Agriculture.
4	So just to summarize, tonight we will
5	have comments from the Department, comments from
6	the facility, questions directed to the facility
7	or the Department, and at that time remember to
8	state your name and spell your last name. Written
9	testimony will be accepted. Oral testimony from
10	the public. And if you come up to speak, you will
11	be sworn in. And then closing comments.
12	Please keep in mind that we are not here
13	this evening to discuss or debate the merits or
14	perceived inadequacies of the existing regulations
15	or laws. We are here tonight to receive
16	information on this particular proposed livestock
17	facility, and to assist with determining
18	compliance with the existing regulations.
19	This is a public informational meeting,
20	not a court proceeding. The purpose is to share
21	information and to provide an opportunity for the
22	Department, members of the county board, and you,
23	the public, to learn about this proposed facility.
24	Again, we very much appreciate your
L	

1	hospitality for inviting us here tonight to
2	consider the proposed construction of the Parks
3	E4 swine facility. Please remember to confine
4	your comments and questions to that subject as we
5	continue.
6	And now I'd like to invite any members
7	of the county board to make comments if they so
8	choose to do so. (None made. )
9	And now I'd like to turn the proceedings
10	over to Deputy Director Warren Goetsch for the
11	remarks from the Illinois Department of
12	Agriculture.
1 2	
13	MR. GOETSCH: Good evening. As was just
13 14	stated, my name is Warren Goetsch. I currently
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14 15	stated, my name is Warren Goetsch. I currently serve as the deputy director of the Illinois
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1 the Livestock Management Facilities Act, and the 2 current status of this proposed project. The Livestock Management Facilities Act 3 was originally passed and became law on May 21st 4 of 1996. Since that time, the Act has been 5 amended seven times, three of which have been 6 7 substantive. 8 The Act can be generally described as 9 covering five major areas. Those being, facility design standards, waste management planning 10 requirements, facility operator training and 11 12 testing, anaerobic lagoon financial responsibility demonstration, and facility setback requirements. 13 Each of these provisions impacts various 14 types of facilities in different ways, depending 15 upon their size, expressed in annual units, and 16 17 whether the proposed facility is considered as a new facility, a modified facility, or the 18 19 expansion of an existing site. 20 The Livestock Management Facilities Act 21 provisions are quite complicated, and specific facility designs and situations certainly can 22 It is, however, the Department's 23 differ. 24 intention to always fairly and equitably apply

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these regulations to the livestock industry in
 this state.

Now, regarding the current status of 3 this project, the Department received a formal 4 notice of intent to construct application for the 5 proposed construction of a swine facility on June 6 7 10th of 2019. The proposed project is to consist of the construction of one, 108 foot -- or excuse 8 me, 101 feet 8 inch by 341 feet swine finishing 9 building with concrete slats and an 8 foot deep 10 underbuilding concrete livestock waste holding 11 12 structure.

13 The project is proposed to be located 14 approximately one and a quarter miles east of 15 Stockland, Illinois, in southeastern Iroquois 16 County.

The application was submitted by Parks Livestock. The maximum design capacity of the proposed facility is 1,800 animal units, or 4,500 head of swine greater than 55 pounds.

As I mentioned earlier, the Department received the notice of intent to construct application on June 10th, and reviewed it for compliance with the applicable provisions of the

1 Act. On June 24th the Department determined 2 that the notice was complete, and forwarded a copy 3 of the completed application to the Iroquois 4 5 County Board. Notice of that application was also 6 7 published in the appropriate newspaper. The 8 design capacity of the proposed facility requires compliance with a residential setback distance of 9 not less than 1,320 feet, and a populated area 10 setback distance of not less than 2,640 feet. 11 On July 16th, the Department received 12 official notice from the Iroquois County Board 13 requesting that a public informational meeting be 14 15 scheduled regarding the proposal. After further 16 consultation with the County Board, the Department 17 scheduled this meeting, and caused notice of the meeting to again be published in the appropriate 18 19 newspapers. 20 An additional requirement of the 21 Livestock Management Facilities Act deals with the 22 design and construction plans of the livestock 23 waste handling facility. The Department has received a formal submittal of detailed 24

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<ul> <li>engineering design plans and specifications for</li> <li>the proposed project's underbuilding livestock</li> <li>waste handling facility.</li> <li>However, a detailed review of the</li> <li>aforementioned plans has not been completed at</li> <li>this time. As such, the Department is currently</li> <li>unable to comment as to their level of compliance</li> <li>with the statutory requirements of the Act.</li> <li>We are here this evening to receive</li> <li>testimony regarding the proposed livestock</li> <li>management facility's compliance with the eight</li> <li>siting criteria as defined in Section 12,</li> <li>paragraph (d) of the Livestock Management</li> </ul>	
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12 siting criteria as defined in Section 12,	
13 paragraph (d) of the Livestock Management	
14 Facilities Act. In general, information regarding	
15 the following would be appropriate for this	
16 evening's meeting.	
17 Manure management planning. Potential	
18 impact of the proposed facility on the surrounding	
19 area's character. Whether the proposed facility	
20 is located within any floodplains or other	
21 sensitive areas. Odor control plans. Possible	
22 impact of the proposed facility on existing area	
23 traffic patterns. And possible impact of the	
24 proposed facility on community growth, tourism and	

1	recreation or economic development of the area.
2	Copies of the specific criteria were
3	available on the table with the sign in sheets.
4	These documents I believe were out there. If
5	anyone didn't get a copy, and would like one, if
6	you would just hold up your hand, we will make
7	sure 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
12	the Department a nonbinding recommendation
13	relative to the proposed siting of this facility.
14	Thus, a recommendation from the Iroquois County
15	Board is due at the Department on or before
16	September 18th, 2019.
17	After the close of the county's 30
18	business days comments' period, the Department
19	will have 15 calendar days or until October 3rd to
20	review all of the information submitted to date,
21	including the notice of intent to construct, the
22	construction plans, transcripts from this
23	evening's meeting, the County Board's
24	recommendation, and any other additional

1 information submitted by the owners at the request 2 of the Department. Based on that review, the Department 3 will determine whether the eight siting criteria 4 have been met. Once that determination has been 5 made, the Department will notify both the County 6 7 Board and the applicant of the Department's 8 decision. Mr. Hearing Officer, at this time I 9 would like to submit the completed notice of 10 intent to construct application and its associated 11 correspondence file for formal entry into the 12 record as an exhibit. I would also like to 13 present a copy of the power point presentation for 14 an exhibit as well. This concludes my formal 15 16 remarks. 17 Again, thank you for your attention, and I look forward to hearing your comments regarding 18 19 the proposal, and I will now turn the meeting back 20 to the hearing officer. 21 MR. COLL: Thank you, Mr. Goetsch. 22 Entered into the record as Exhibit 1 is the completed notice of intent to construct, including 23 24 correspondence between the Department and the

1 applicant. Notices of the public informational 2 meeting, and correspondence with the Iroquois County officials. 3 Also entered into the record as Exhibit 4 No. 2 is the department's power point 5 6 presentation. 7 At this time, we will hear comments from 8 the facility. Before we begin, for those who will be presenting information, please state your name 9 and spell your last name for the court reporter. 10 11 And then I will swear you in all together. 12 MR. JAMES: Hi, my name is David James. 13 I work with the Parks companies. The Parks companies are based --14 15 MR. WEST: You want to swear us in 16 first? 17 MR. COLL: Can you please spell your last name? 18 19 MR. JAMES: J-A-M-E-S. 20 MR. WEST: Chris West. W-E-S-T. 21 MR. COLL: Will you have anyone else be 22 speaking? 23 MR. JAMES: No. MR. COLL: At this time I would like to 24

1 swear you in. 2 (Witnesses sworn. ) 3 MR. COLL: You may proceed with your 4 testimony. MR. JAMES: Hi, I'm David James. 5 I work with the Parks companies. We're a Danville based 6 7 company, it's a family owned company. We have hog facilities in Iowa, Missouri, and here in 8 Illinois, and with our Parks finishing E4, which 9 we're looking to build outside of Stockland. 10 11 I'm going to turn it over to Chris West, who is our consulting engineer, and he's going to 12 13 talk about the siting criteria. 14 MR. WEST: Good evening everyone. As Mr. James mentioned, I am Chris West. 15 I am 16 president of Frank & West Environmental Engineers 17 out of Springfield. First of all, can everyone hear me okay? Great. I usually don't have a 18 19 problem speaking too loud. 20 So, this evening, what I'm going to do 21 is do a quick overview of the proposed farm, and 22 then go through each of the eight siting criteria 23 and show how the farm meets or exceeds those 24 requirements.

1	So, when we have, we show an overview of
2	the area east of Stockland. And you see the
3	yellow pin there is where the proposed barn would
4	be located. And then an overview showing the
5	dimensions of the proposed barn.
6	As Mr. Goetsch mentioned, 101 feet 8
7	inches wide by 341 feet long. And I will get into
8	more of the barn and how it's constructed here in
9	just a little bit.
10	But, what I would also like to do, the
11	biggest part of this tonight will be going through
12	each of the eight siting criteria.
13	So, number one, the registration and
14	certification requirements. Two, design, location
15	and operation standards. Location compatibility.
16	Floodplain and aquifer protection. Minimize
17	environmental impact. Odor control and or
18	reduction. Traffic patterns that minimize
19	impacts. And is the facility consistent with area
20	development.
21	So starting with number one, each of
22	these will likely have a couple of different parts
23	to it. So we're going to go through each one of
24	these one by one and let you know how we believe

1 the barn has met those requirements. 2 Registration and certification 3 requirements. Whether the registration and 4 livestock waste management plan certification 5 requirements, if required, are met by the notice 6 of intent to construct. As Mr. Goetsch mentioned 7 we filed the notice of intent with the Department 8 of Ag July 10th of this year and it was deemed 9 complete June 4th I'm sorry, June 10th, not 10 July 10th. June 10th, and then deemed complete	
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9 complete June 4th I'm sorry, June 10th, not	
July 10th. June 10th, and then deemed complete	
11 June 24th of this year. Nutrient management plan	,
12 which is a very important part of any livestock	
13 farm in Illinois and throughout the Midwest.	
14 But, according to the Livestock	
15 Management Facilities Act, any farm which exceeds	
16 1,000 animal units, but has less than 5,000 anima	L
17 units, shall prepare, maintain and implement a	
18 nutrient management plan within 60 working days	
19 after commencing operation.	
20 So, one of the important things to	
21 notice here, to note, is I mentioned a nutrient	
22 management plan. So what we will actually be	
23 writing is a comprehensive nutrient management	
24 plan.	

1	So, what that does, it provides a lot
2	more information, a lot more detail than what's
3	required in the actual nutrient management plan.
4	A comprehensive plan is a very large document that
5	goes through specific site information for the
6	farm, and provides us with application rates so
7	that we can apply that manure in a sound fashion.
8	The farm will submit to the Department
9	of Agriculture a certification form certifying
10	that the nutrient management plan has been
11	prepared. The farm will keep that comprehensive
12	nutrient management plan as well as all records of
13	livestock application and disposal on the farm on
14	file at the farm. And that plan will be available
15	and all records for the Department of Ag upon
16	inspection.
17	The goal of any comprehensive nutrient
18	management planning is to utilize the manure at
19	approved agronomic loading rates that meet the
20	needs of the locally grown crops in an
21	environmentally sound fashion. This goal will be
22	accomplished by developing this comprehensive
23	nutrient management plan.
24	So, that plan will include the total

1	annual manure volume calculations. So we
2	determine how much manure will be produced on this
3	farm during the first year. Historically proven
4	yields in the application area.
5	So we take the fields where we're
6	planning on putting this manure, and we look at
7	proven yields for those, whether that be corn
8	crops, bean crops or whatever that crop is, we
9	look at historically proven yields so that we can
10	then, in addition to an analysis of that manure,
11	so we take that manure once it's in the pit, we
12	take a sample of it, send it to a lab, then we can
13	know exactly what the nutrient value is of that.
14	Then that will allow us to calculate between the
15	yields, the yield data, and then the manure
16	calculations will allow us to calculate what we
17	call the agronomic loading rates of manure. So,
18	how much manure we can put on that field to best
19	be utilized by that crop.
20	Also in the plan will be provisions for
21	setback and incorporation standards. And then
22	documentation of all phases of the plan. So
23	record keeping is an essential part of that.
24	So, continuing on with siting criteria

1	two; I'm sorry, this is siting criteria two,
2	excuse me. Whether the design, location or
3	proposed operation will protect the environment by
4	being consistent with the Livestock Management
5	Facilities Act. So now we're getting into the
6	design of the structure.
7	So, within the LMFA, the Livestock
8	Management Facilities Act, we have some guidelines
9	that we're required to design with. So, our
10	design will be according to standards that are
11	within the Midwest Plan Service, Concrete Manure
12	Storage Handbook guidance. So the Midwest Plan
13	Service is a University-based publishing
14	cooperative dedicated to publishing and
15	disseminating research based and peer reviewed
16	publications.
17	So, within these, we're talking about
18	concrete specifications, reenforcement
19	requirements, water stop requirements.
20	So the design for this farm, as Mr.
21	Goetsch mentioned as well, is one finishing barn.
22	So this is an example of what that barn could look
23	like. This is a finishing barn of similar size
24	here in Illinois. This would be an inside view of

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1	that same barn. So if you've never been inside
2	one of these, that's a really good example of what
3	one would look like. Typical cross-section. So,
4	if you take that barn and cut it in half across
5	the width of that barn, this is what we're talking
6	about.
7	So, we have the roof line. We have the
8	flooring that the animals will be on. And then we
9	have the eight foot section below that, that's
10	where all the manure is stored. So all the manure
11	is stored within the building. Nothing goes
12	outside. It's all stored within that reenforced
13	concrete pit under the floor.
14	So, another part of siting criteria two
15	is the location. Whether the location and setback
16	distances have been met. All of those setback
17	distances are outlined within the Act. So we're
18	talking about an occupied residence setback. A
19	populated area. Both of those were met and
20	exceeded, as Mr. Goetsch mentioned. The notice of
21	intent and the setbacks in particular were deemed
22	complete by the Department in June of this year.
23	Proposed operation. Another requirement
24	that the farm has is the farm manager of the farm

1	will be a certified livestock manager. So there
2	has to be someone at the farm that meets this
3	requirement. A certified livestock manager. So,
4	what is that? What does that mean?
5	The Department of Ag has a program that
6	was developed to educate livestock managers on the
7	manure management handling and their systems. The
8	managers of farms over 1,000 animal units, which
9	then one would qualify for that, are required to
10	attend a training course and pass an exam by the
11	Department of Agriculture. As well as the waste
12	management plan. That is a critical part of the
13	operation of the farm.
14	And that plan, as I mentioned, and I'm
15	going to go into this in a little more detail
16	again, but it cites specific data. So that plan
17	is for this farm and this farm alone. So, the
18	manure will be tested from this barn. The acres
19	that will be that manure will be applied on
20	will have the yields from those fields. So
21	everything in that plan will be from this farm
22	alone.
23	Siting criteria three, whether the
24	location minimizes any incompatibility with the

1surrounding area by being zoned for agriculture,2whether the county has zoning, or if the county is3not zoned, the setback requirements established by4the Act have been complied with.5So, Iroquois County is zoned for6agriculture. So the farm is compatible with the7surrounding area in that the area is a rural8agriculture area. And this map, so the green9counties are zoned. The red counties are not.10This comes from the Illinois Association of Zoning11Officials.12Setbacks. So, 4,500 animals at greater13than 55 pounds is equal to 1,800 animal units. So14when we talk about that 1,000 animal unit15threshold earlier, this is that's where we get,16that's where that calculation is arrived from.17So the setbacks are two that we are18required to look into. The occupied residence is191,320 feet or a quarter of a mile. Populated20areas, 2,640 feet or one half of a mile. Both of21those have been exceeded.22Siting criteria four, floodplain and23aquifer. Whether the farm is located within 10024year floodplain or an otherwise environmental		
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24 year floodplain or an otherwise environmental	23	aquifer. Whether the farm is located within 100
	24	year floodplain or an otherwise environmental

1	sensitive area known as an area of karst or with
2	aquifer material within five feet of the bottom of
3	the livestock waste handling facility. And
4	whether construction standards set forth within
5	the notice of intent are consistent with the goal
6	of protecting the safety of the area.
7	So here is a floodplain map from FEMA.
8	So if we look in the top right-hand corner you
9	will see this blue hatching. And then we show the
10	area where the building will go. If this is
11	not within a 100 year floodplain. If it was, this
12	whole area here would be hatched with a really
13	bright blue, so it would be really easy to see.
14	There's nothing there, which just means that it's
15	not within the hundred year floodplain.
16	Karst area. An area with a land surface
17	containing sinkholes, springs, disruptive land
18	drainage or underground systems associated with
19	karstified carbonate bed rock. There's a long,
20	long definition for this, and what this means.
21	Basically what we're talking about are areas below
22	the surface that are open.
23	So, if you look at this map, here we see
24	up in the northwest corner of the state, the

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1	western corner of the state, and then Southern
2	Illinois. So, all of these have geological
3	formations that have caves, open areas, those are
4	considered karst areas. And this map is from the
5	Illinois State Geological Survey. And you can see
6	the whole county, there's no karst area within the
7	whole county.
8	Aquifer material. By definition, that
9	is sandstone that is five feet or more in
10	thickness or fractured carbonate that is ten feet
11	or more in thickness or sand and gravel or sand
12	and gravel mixture such that there is at least two
13	feet present within any five foot section of a
14	soil boring.
15	So as part of our requirements for
16	proposing and obtaining an approval from the
17	Department of Agriculture, we're required to go
18	out and do sole borings within the footprint of
19	the barn to look at, to find the consistency, to
20	find out what we're actually dealing with as far
21	as soil types within and below the bottom of that
22	building.
23	So the requirements are that we do a
24	conduct a soil boring within the footprint, and

1	then we go at least five foot below the proposed
2	bottom of that pit. So, again the cross-section
3	across the width of that barn, and then you can
4	see this. So you can see we have an 11 foot
5	boring, that puts us roughly five foot below the
6	bottom.
7	Siting criteria five. Whether the owner
8	and operator has submitted plans for operation
9	that minimize the likelihood of any environmental
10	damage to the surrounding area from spills, runoff
11	and or leaching.
12	So there's a couple of really important
13	concepts here when we're talking about spills and
14	so forth. Number one is proper sizing. The Act
15	requires that any farm that's going to be storing
16	liquid manure hold the minimum of 150 days of
17	storage. This farm will have in excess of 365
18	days.
19	Why is that important? It's very
20	important because this year is a prime example of
21	that. When we have a really, really wet spring,
22	or you have a really, really wet fall or a late
23	fall with crops, 150 day storage means every 150
24	days you're applying manure. If you have more

1	than a year's worth of storage, you have the
2	ability to skip a season, an application time
3	frame, if you have to. You can still do twice a
4	year if you need, if you want.
5	But, if you have a wet spring and you
6	can't get out there in the spring, then you have
7	plenty of time to wait until fall to do that
8	without any issues or potential for running over.
9	Speaking of that, this is a closed
10	system. So, the animals are in the barn. The
11	manure is in the barn. The manure is not outside
12	the barn at the farm. So, there's no uncontrolled
13	release of livestock manure.
14	So, what does that mean? What is the
15	uncontrolled release? The only release, the only
16	time the manure is outside of that barn is when we
17	are putting it on those farm fields. That's the
18	only time. And that's done according to that
19	comprehensive nutrient management plan at rates
20	that the crops can use it as fertilized.
21	Runoff. So, sometimes this can be kind
22	of a hot topic with livestock. And let me
23	reiterate this again, these animals are inside the
24	barn. So there's no issues with runoff here. All

1	clean water diversions will be put in place that
2	will allow for rain water to be directed away from
3	the barn. We want the rain water to go away from
4	the barn and not come toward the barn for multiple
5	reasons. We don't want any clean water getting
6	into the pits. We also don't want, as an
7	engineer, I don't want all that water coming and
8	putting excess pressure on my barn.
9	So, there's multiple reasons for us to
10	take that clean water, the rain water, and divert
11	it away from the barns.
12	Leaching. So this farm is designed as
13	to prevent any release of livestock manure. We do
14	that through construction methods. We use solid
15	concrete construction reenforced with grade 60
16	steel rebar. Waterstop will be placed in all
17	construction and stoppage joints.
18	So if you're not familiar with that
19	term, if we have a joint in the wall, so we have
20	one pour and we stop and we have another pour the
21	next day or two days later, we place a membrane at
22	the end of that first pour. So, so many inches of
23	that membrane are in the first pour. So many
24	inches are in the second pour. So that allows

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<ul> <li>that joint to operate as it should from a</li> <li>construction and design point of view while</li> <li>maintaining that watertight construction.</li> <li>All surfaces in contact with livestock</li> <li>manure will meet the required permeability</li> <li>standards that are set forth within the Act.</li> <li>Siting criteria six. Odor control and</li> <li>or reduction. Whether the odor control plans are</li> <li>reasonable and incorporate reasonable or</li> <li>innovative odor reduction technologies given the</li> <li>current state of such technologies.</li> <li>So, the farm will implement a</li> <li>comprehensive odor control plan. The controlled</li> <li>land application of manure, routine maintenance,</li> <li>feed management and location.</li> <li>So the controlled application of manure,</li> <li>so what we're talking about here is when we're</li> <li>taking that manure out of the field in the fall,</li> <li>or I'm sorry, out of the pit in the fall, and</li> <li>placing it on the field, we're injecting that</li> <li>manure. So that manure is not broadcast out on</li> <li>the top. It is placed directly into the soil,</li> <li>based on nitrogen and phosphorus loading rates</li> </ul>		
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	22	the top. It is placed in the root zone in those
24 based on nitrogen and phosphorus loading rates	23	fields. So it's placed directly into the soil,
	24	based on nitrogen and phosphorus loading rates

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1 based from actual site data.

2	So, again, we're taking those samples
3	from the manure pit, we're having those analyzed
4	and we're finding out how much nitrogen and
5	phosphorus is in there and what that crops needs.
6	And then we're applying it at that rate within the
7	root zone. That way that crop can use that and
8	have that material can be readily accessible to
9	the crops.
10	This farm will intends to utilize
11	injection as the application method for livestock
12	manure. So by placing it directly into the soil
13	you're minimizing air contact. When you take away
14	that air issue, then you take away one of the
15	largest components for odor during application
16	season. Injection is widely accepted as the best
17	available technology or manure application in the
18	US.
19	All livestock manure will be applied by
20	custom applicator. So what this means is, they
21	will require someone, or someone, whoever is doing
22	the manure application, that is their job; that
23	they are paid to do that. So, they are experts in
24	the application of manure. Their application

1	equipment will contain safety controls, such as
2	continual visual monitoring, emergency shutoffs in
3	the cab, and communication between personnel
4	throughout the system, whether they are on the
5	pumping end or the application end.
6	So, a couple of examples of what an
7	injection system could look like. So here's a
8	manure tanker with an injection reel behind it and
9	another one. And then a drag line system. So,
10	those are all different types of systems that
11	utilize injection for the manure application.
12	The farm has approximately 1,080 acres
13	locally available for livestock manure
14	application. Utilizing local yields with area
15	soil types, it's anticipated the farm would
16	utilize approximately four to five hundred acres
17	on a corn/corn rotation. That's a little bit
18	misleading because it can be significantly less.
19	It can be more. That's when we get into the site
20	specific data, because this is based on book
21	values; because we don't have an example, a
22	sample, of that manure yet. Obviously the barn is
23	not up.
24	So, what we are required to do to come

1	up with this number is to use a book value. Well,
2	those book values are older. They're not based on
3	current feed rations, current feeding techniques,
4	current operating techniques.
5	So, we're in the ball park. But when we
6	write, when the manure management plan is up and
7	running, then we will have an exact number of how
8	many acres are not only available, but how much
9	will be used by this farm.
10	Regular maintenance; another really
11	important aspect of our odor control plan.
12	Regular maintenance; cleaning minimizes dust
13	originating from the farm. Regular maintenance
14	will also include routine visual walk-throughs of
15	the barn to insure there is no manure buildup
16	above the floor and walkways, and then the regular
17	cleaning of fans to prevent the accumulation of
18	dust.
19	Between each cycle in the farm, the barn
20	would be pressure washed and sanitized. This
21	again minimizes the odor, the amount of odor
22	causing particles that are able to leave the farm
23	through ventilation fans. The farm will ensure
24	that the building's fans operate efficiently,

1	again minimizing dust buildup. That's important
2	because the odor has to have a carrier. So that
3	carrier is typically dust particles. So if you
4	remove that aspect, then we can reduce the odor
5	emanating from the farm. Regular maintenance is
6	known to reduce odor concentrations and intensity.
7	Another important part of this is diet.
8	The farm will incorporate an annual diet
9	formulated to allow the most efficient utilization
10	of proteins and other nutrients in the field.
11	This aids in the reduction of overall odors from
12	the farm by reducing excess nutrients excreted by
13	the animals. It's in the farm's best interests to
14	make that feed ration the most efficient ration
15	possible. So, we want every bit of that goes in
16	to be utilized by that animal. The less that
17	comes out, then the less odor particles, odor
18	causing particles, that you have.
19	Odor control plan as well; location.
20	The farm complies with and exceeds facility
21	setback distances as established by the Act. And
22	then we have the two setbacks. The residential
23	setback was exceeded by 1,810 feet. So more than
24	double. The populated area setback was exceeded

1 by 3,960 feet. So, also well more than double 2 there. So any comprehensive nutrient odor 3 control plan, farm location and maintenance, 4 proper nutrition and the injection of the manure 5 from the barn. The farm has diligently planned an 6 7 overall odor control strategy by incorporating numerous odor control techniques and technologies. 8 The farm will also look for and 9 incorporate other technologies as they become 10 available. This strategic plan incorporates 11 reasonable and innovative technologies that will 12 allow the facility to operate with minimal odor 13 14 impact to the surrounding area. 15 Siting criteria seven. Traffic 16 patterns. Whether the traffic patterns minimize the effect on existing traffic flows. 17 So again, what we have here is an aerial 18 view showing the location of the barn. And then 19 20 the anticipated traffic pattern from the farm 21 would be directly east over to Route 41 there in 22 Indiana. So, there's back and forth from -- that 23 would be the anticipated travel pattern, excuse 24 me.

1So, what we do is then we contact the2Illinois Department of Transportation and get the3traffic numbers on that section of the road where4the farm trucks will be. The Department of5Transportation gave us a weekly average of 1,2256vehicles that are on that section of the road.7The farm will average three trucks weekly. And8that's feed, transportation and animal9transportation trucks.10So throughout the year, three trucks a11week is what would be the average. That consists12of less than .25 percent of the average weekly13vehicle traffic on that county road 880 north14between the farm and the Indiana state line. And15again, all that data comes from the Illinois16Department of Transportation.17Parks Livestock farm traffic will comply18with the same seasonal posted road weight limits19as all other traffic in the area.20Siting criteria eight. Is the farm21consistent with the area? Whether the22construction of the new farm is consistent with23the existing community growth, tourism, recreation24or economic development, or with specific projects		
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Siting criteria eight. Is the farm consistent with the area? Whether the construction of the new farm is consistent with the existing community growth, tourism, recreation	18	with the same seasonal posted road weight limits
21 consistent with the area? Whether the 22 construction of the new farm is consistent with 23 the existing community growth, tourism, recreation	19	as all other traffic in the area.
22 construction of the new farm is consistent with 23 the existing community growth, tourism, recreation	20	Siting criteria eight. Is the farm
23 the existing community growth, tourism, recreation	21	consistent with the area? Whether the
	22	construction of the new farm is consistent with
24 or economic development, or with specific projects	23	the existing community growth, tourism, recreation
	24	or economic development, or with specific projects

1	involving community growth, tourism, recreation or
2	economic development that have been identified by
3	government action for development or operation
4	within one year through compliance with applicable
5	zoning and setback requirements.
6	I think it's pretty simple. We believe
7	the farm is consistent with the existing and
8	planned community development of this rural
9	agricultural area by demonstrating compliance with
10	zoning and setback. The farm will meet or exceed
11	all of the requirements within the Act.
12	So, I appreciate the opportunity to
13	demonstrate how the farm has met each of those
14	eight siting criteria. Look forward to
15	entertaining any questions that you might have.
16	Thank you.
17	MR. COLL: Thank you, Mr. West. Entered
18	into the record as Exhibit 3 is a presentation
19	from the facility representatives.
20	MR. WEST: He's got the electronic copy.
21	A VOICE: I will have to print it off.
22	MR. COLL: We will now open the meeting
23	for any questions that you may have of the
24	facility or of the Department. If you have a

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1	question you would like to ask, please raise your
2	hand; and when called upon, please state your name
3	and spell your last name. Please indicate to whom
4	you are directing your question. I will remind
5	you that this portion of the meeting will be
6	limited to questions only. After this question
7	and answer session, there will be a session
8	dedicated to public testimony where you can
9	provide your oral comments.
10	So please limit this session to
11	questions only. Also, keep in mind that questions
12	need to pertain to this particular facility. And
13	at this time I will open up for any questions.
14	Yes, in the back.
15	MR. LAVICKA: Lavicka is my last name,
16	L-A-V-I-C-K-A. How will this affect the water
17	table in our area?
18	MR. COLL: Is it Mr. Vick?
19	MR. LAVICKA: Lavicka, L-A-V-I-C-K-A.
20	MR. COLL: Can you please identify to
21	whom the question is being directed to?
22	MR. LAVICKA: To the hog operation.
23	MR. COLL: That's to you, Mr. West.
24	MR. WEST: I'm sorry, I apologize, I

1 didn't hear the question when he was trying to get 2 you the microphone. My apologies. MR. LAVICKA: How will this affect the 3 water table in our area for wells? 4 MR. WEST: I don't think it will affect 5 it at all. 6 7 MR. LAVICKA: You don't think, or you 8 don't know? MR. WEST: Well, no. It won't affect 9 any of the wells in the area. From the wells that 10 I looked at, when we were doing an initial search, 11 so all of the wells that came up on the Illinois 12 State Geological Survey, most of the local wells 13 are very shallow wells. And not all of them, but 14 most of the wells are shallow wells and they're 15 16 all -- the closest one is nearly a mile away. 17 MR. LAVICKA: You're less than a mile, ain't you, Ben? 18 19 A VOICE: Yeah. 20 MR. WEST: May not be quite a mile, but 21 in the testing that we've done on other projects, well testing, the typical zone of influence that 22 we see is 100 yards. So, there's nothing close to 23 that number at all. So, I don't think -- there 24

1 should be no impact whatsoever. MR. LAVICKA: What if there is? 2 MR. WEST: Well, there won't be. 3 4 MR. COLL: Thank you. Do we have any 5 other questions? I have a question. 6 MR. ZUMWALD: My 7 question, my name is John Zumwald, spelled Z-U-M-W-A-L-D. And my question is for David. 8 Ι 9 was wondering, are you going to be feeding local corn, or is this corn going to be brought in from 10 somewhere else or what? 11 MR. JAMES: The corn will be coming 12 Equity out of Effingham, Illinois, and they have 13 got a mill at Horace. I know their plan is, they 14 want to grow in this area, or in that area. 15 So, 16 with feed trucks coming up and possibly could be 17 corn going back to their mill. So, it's a possibility. 18 19 MR. COLL: Thank you. Any other 20 questions? In the back? 21 MR. KWAK: Names is James Kwak, K-W-A-K. 22 If by some reason the facility shuts down, who is 23 going to do the clean up? 24 MR. COLL: Mr. Kwak, just to clarify, is

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1 your question for the facility? 2 MR. KWAK: Yes, it is. MR. COLL: 3 Thank you. 4 MR. WEST: Well, these facilities, these 5 farms are made, designed in such a way that they will last decades. So, keep that in mind. 6 7 Obviously there's no plan on shutting anything There's no -- there would be no reason to 8 down. 9 propose something this expensive and then come in and shut it down. 10 Now, things happen. So, the Department 11 12 of Agriculture within the Act has a program that goes through very stringent stipulations on how 13 one of these can be removed from working, let's 14 So, let's say worse case scenario. A farm 15 sav. gets shut down. There is no pigs in there any 16 17 more. Well, in my presentation I went through, there's no water that comes into and there's no 18 19 water that comes out unless we take it out. So, 20 it sits there, worse case. 21 But like I said, that's -- that doesn't 22 happen with the new farms. They're too expensive. 23 There's too much invested in them for the farm to 24 not operate them.

42 1 MR. COLL: Are there any other 2 questions? 3 MR. KRIMM: Yeah, this is Harold Krimm. This is petty, but how about the flies that you 4 5 guys are going to create? MR. COLL: Mr. Krimm, can you please 6 7 spell your last name? 8 MR. KRIMM: K-R-I-M-M. MR. COLL: Thank you. Is that question 9 for the facility or the Department? 10 11 MR. KRIMM: Yeah. MR. JAMES: On the farm we put out fly 12 13 bait. We don't usually have a problem as long as everything is -- with the cleaning of the barn up 14 15 the way it is, with the way the slats are, the 16 manure in the pit actually forms a crust in that 17 pit. So, there usually isn't a place for the flies to lay their eggs. But, we do put out, just 18 19 like we do for other rodents, we do put out fly bait. 20 21 MR. KRIMM: So you say there ain't going 22 to be very many flies then, huh? 23 MR. JAMES: It isn't going to be a problem. 24

1	MR. SMITH: Ben Smith, S-M-I-T-H. My
2	question is for the hog guys. Mr. Lavicka's
3	question, I don't think got answered. We've
4	lived we're just outside the circle to the
5	north. We've lived there for 30 years in our
6	little idyllic little world with our
7	A VOICE: Just state your comment.
8	MR. SMITH: My comment is, it's a pretty
9	broad statement to say you're not going to have
10	trouble with your wells. We hope we don't. And I
11	understand you are going to take every precaution
12	that we won't.
13	But, what if we do? That was the
14	question, I think. What if we do? What's our
15	recourse if we do? It's easy for you to sit there
16	and say, you're not going to. What if we do?
17	What if we have problems with our well? What's
18	our recourse?
19	MR. WEST: Well, I'm not a lawyer,
20	unfortunately. I'm an engineer. So I'm not
21	certain I'm going to be able to answer that
22	question the way that's going to completely
23	satisfy you.
24	What I can do is try to elaborate a

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1	little bit more on what I said earlier. I have
2	worked with farms throughout the Midwest. I grew
3	up farming, I grew up in Southern Illinois where
4	water is not as available as what you all have it
5	up here.
6	We don't see issues. We don't see
7	because if you were ten feet away, that's a
8	different story. But you're talking about, you're
9	outside of the setback. Our well is over a
10	quarter of a mile away. And when we have tested
11	wells within this part of the state on our farms
12	the draw down, so the radius, what we call the
13	zone of impact, so the radius away from that well
14	where we see any influence whatsoever goes in that
15	100 yard distance.
16	So, and I don't know where your well is,
17	I don't know how deep your well is that you're
18	referring to either. I don't know where your well
19	is. I know where it's at, I don't know how deep
20	it is.
21	MR. SMITH: It's about 80 foot.
22	MR. WEST: So likely you're talking
23	about totally different even zones that would be
24	pumped from.

1 MR. SMITH: Okay. Just curious. I can understand. 2 MR. WEST: It's a 3 legitimate question. 4 MR. SMITH: Thank you. 5 MR. WEST: No problem, sir. MR. COLL: Another question in the back? 6 7 MR. HAAG: Mike Haag, H-A-A-G. And this 8 is for Chris. How many years have you been working on these types of buildings, Chris? 9 MR. WEST: 21 years. 10 MR. HAAG: And how many times has the 11 12 wells been an issue on these buildings that you've 13 heard of? I've not had one where the MR. WEST: 14 pumping rate was affected whatsoever. Not one. 15 16 MR. HAAG: Okay. MR. WEST: And let me elaborate that a 17 little bit. The reason for that is because of the 18 distance. You're not in a town. You're not --19 20 the well is not -- most of these farms are in a 21 field where there's nothing close to it. So, 22 that's our protection. 23 MR. KRIMM: One more, I don't need that mike. 24 How many gallons a day would you guys use?

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1 How deep --2 MR. COLL: State your name. MR. KRIMM: I'm Mr. Krimm. How deep are 3 4 you going to go with your well, the one you'll be 5 putting in there, and how many gallons of water do 6 you use per day? 7 MR. JAMES: I can answer that one. 8 We'll use approximately 20 gallons per minute on an average day. The well on that for E4 is 105 9 feet deep. And it's putting out about 70 gallons 10 per minute. 11 12 MR. COLL: Any other questions? 13 MR. ANDERSON: Nick Anderson, A-N-D-E-R-S-O-N. This is for the Department. 14 Mr. 15 West kind of expanded on the viability of a farm 16 that might be empty or whatnot. Could you kind of 17 discuss the closure process in the LMFA and what that might take if someone would like to close 18 that farm or chooses to do that? 19 20 MR. GOETSCH: Certainly. I don't know 21 that it really gets at though what these, I think 22 the question really was. But, there is a closure 23 provision in the statute. The main reason for it 24 is to allow for once a facility is sited, is

1	built, is operated, and then if they were to go
2	into an idle period, and they still want to
3	maintain their viability as a facility, then they
4	have to file with the Department a request for
5	closure. That then allows them to maintain that
6	facility, or maintain that site as a viable site
7	for, I believe, if I remember correctly, the next
8	ten years.
9	But, to do that they have to remove all
10	of the manure from the facility and agronomically
11	apply it so that that facility can in essence go
12	into a dormant state. And then if say a new owner
13	came along, they could then reopen the facility
14	because the setback maintenance has been
15	maintained, and they would then be able to restart
16	the facility.
17	Let me just say this in addition. The
18	fact that these facilities are built the way they
19	are, they continue to have value even if a
20	facility is say it was going to be no longer in
21	service. We have, for example, we have a facility
22	right now that was sited almost 20 years ago right
23	after the LMFA became effective. And that
24	facility is possibly going to terminate its

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1	service, and there's already people interested in
2	actually taking the buildings down for the salvage
3	value of the buildings.
4	I mean, so, buildings, these kinds of
5	structures, they have value as livestock
6	facilities. And then even after a significant
7	period of use there still is a significant value,
8	a value enough, that someone is willing to
9	actually buy it and deconstruct it.
10	MR. ANDERSON: Second part to that
11	question. So what if somebody takes a barn out of
12	service that's not going to continue, and they
13	remove it; they would follow that same standard?
14	MR. GOETSCH: Yeah, they're required to
15	remove all of the manure and appropriately apply
16	that manure at agronomic rates. So it's not like
17	someone can just walk away. They have to
18	appropriately remove the manure from that
19	facility.
20	MR. COLL: We got another question in
21	the back.
22	MS. GIBSON: Ruth Gibson. G-I-B-S-O-N.
23	When they remove that, do they have money set
24	aside for that ahead of time?

1	MR. COLL: Ms. Gibson, is your question
2	for the Department or for the facility?
3	MS. GIBSON: I suppose the Department.
4	Are provisions made for money for the removal?
5	MR. GOETSCH: There are no unlike I
6	think solar farms, for example, there are
7	requirements for certain amounts of money to be
8	set aside for decommissioning. No, there are no
9	such provisions in the Livestock Management
10	Facilities Act.
11	MR. COLL: We got two questions in the
12	back.
13	MR. BARD: Roger Bard. B-A-R-D. This is
14	for the two gentlemen over here. You said the
15	traffic would go, I believe, 800 north over to
16	Route 41. However, you also said that the feed
17	would come up from Effingham, which is southwest
18	of here. So, what route would they take to bring
19	the feed up? Obviously they're not going to drive
20	over to Route 41 and Indiana, and then come up to
21	800 north and come into the farm.
22	MR. JAMES: Effingham also has a mill in
23	Horace, Illinois. And that would be where the
24	feed would be coming from.

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		50
1	MR. BARD: Forest, Illinois?	
2	MR. JAMES: Horace.	
3	MR. BARD: Where is that located?	
4	MR. JAMES: It is close to Chrisman.	
5	MR. BARD: To Chrisman? Well, that's	
6	south of here, so you're still coming you're	
7	still not coming in on Route 41.	
8	MR. JAMES: But Route 41 gives them a	
9	posted road to run on.	
10	MR. BARD: So, they would then go over to	
11	Route 41 from Chrisman rather than using any of	
12	the other roads here in Iroquois County?	
13	MR. JAMES: I would leave that up to	
14	Effingham to answer that. But, my understanding	
15	is they're going to come around and come in	
16	through Indiana.	
17	MR. BARD: Thank you.	
18	MR. STICHNOTH: Duane Stichnoth,	
19	S-T-I-C-H-N-O-T-H. These guys over on the side,	
20	what do you do about existing tile that's closer	
21	than 100 feet?	
22	MR. WEST: So, if there's any tile	
23	within the footprint of the barn, or within 50	
24	feet of the footprint of the barn, so during	

		51
1	construction that would all be removed 'cuz the	
2	requirement in the Act says that there can not be	
3	any tile within 50 foot of the barn itself.	
4	So, anything that's encountered, I	
5	understand there's pattern tile in that field, so	
6	anything within 50 foot of the perimeter of that	
7	barn would be removed.	
8	MR. STICHNOTH: So I am mistaken? It's	
9	not 100 feet, is that right?	
10	MR. WEST: Correct. 50 feet.	
11	MR. COLL: Any other questions this	
12	evening? With no further questions, we are going	
13	to move on to the next segment of the	
14	informational meeting tonight.	
15	I will now at this point accept written	
16	testimony. If you have written testimony that is	
17	not referred to in your oral testimony, I will	
18	accept it now and enter it into the record. If	
19	you have written testimony that you will be	
20	referencing during your oral testimony, it can be	
21	entered into the record after your oral testimony.	
22	Is there any written testimony to be	
23	offered at this time?	
24	MR. TWEEDY: That is the only	

1 handwritten letter that I have. 2 MR. COLL: Can you please give me your 3 name and spell your last name? 4 MR. TWEEDY: Mark Tweedy. T-W-E-E-D-Y. MR. COLL: And at this point I'm going 5 to enter into the record Exhibit No. 4 from Mark 6 7 Tweedy. And also at this time I'd like to ask everyone here at this meeting, would you like to 8 take a short ten minute break or would you like to 9 keep going? (No response.) All right. I think 10 we'll keep going. Thank you. 11 At this time I have the sign up sheets 12 that were at the entrance to the room listing the 13 people who wish to provide oral testimony. 14 I will call the names of those who wish 15 to testify. When called upon, please step up to 16 17 this microphone at the podium, state your name, spell your last name for the court reporter. 18 Ι will swear you in. Remember, you will have three 19 20 minutes to speak. Are there any attorneys here 21 tonight representing clients? 22 (None identified.) 23 MR. COLL: So now I will begin with tonight's part of the oral testimony. 24

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1 First person to be called tonight is Ruth Gibson. 2 MS. GIBSON: Ruth Gibson, G-I-B-S-O-N. 3 MR. COLL: Ms. Gibson, can you please 4 5 raise your right hand. (Witness sworn.) 6 7 MS. GIBSON: I own the property just 8 east of the Parks company's property. And I did not realize this was happening until about 3 9 o'clock yesterday afternoon when I got this 10 registered package. 11 12 I'm very unhappy. For one thing, it's incorrect. That ground has been owned in my 13 family since my great grandfather in the late 14 There are a lot of old out buildings 15 1800s. 16 There's a cook house that's falling down. there. 17 Everything else is about gone. When I was a child, we watered cattle 18 19 there from the well that is on that property. 20 That is under a thousand feet away from that. The reason why there's no pump there is because you 21 22 can't leave one out there. It will disappear. My plans were, and I hope to, hope to 23 24 put a home there in about two years when I retire.

1That well is a deep well. I drank from it when I2was a child. I pumped water from it. It is ice3cold water, icy cold. It's a deep well. The pipe4is four and a half inches wide. And I have5pictures of it on my phone that I took this6morning if somebody would like to see them.7A hog farm is a hog farm. If it quacks8like a duck, it's a duck. A hog farm stinks. I9don't want to live next to one. I want to enjoy10my evenings outside. I want to enjoy the property11that my family paid taxes on and farmed for years.12Thank you.13MR. COLL: Thank you, Ms. Gibson.14MS. GIBSON: You're welcome.15MR. COLL: Next I'd like to call Mrs.16Mary Smith.17MS. SMITH: Mary Smith. S-M-I-T-H.18(Witness sworn.)19MR. COLL: Thank you. You may proceed20with your testimony.21MS. SMITH: I'd like to address myself to22the Farks company and the land owners and the		
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<ul> <li>that my family paid taxes on and farmed for years.</li> <li>Thank you.</li> <li>MR. COLL: Thank you, Ms. Gibson.</li> <li>MS. GIBSON: You're welcome.</li> <li>MR. COLL: Next I'd like to call Mrs.</li> <li>Mary Smith.</li> <li>MS. SMITH: Mary Smith. S-M-I-T-H.</li> <li>(Witness sworn.)</li> <li>MR. COLL: Thank you. You may proceed</li> <li>with your testimony.</li> <li>MS. SMITH: I'd like to address myself to</li> <li>the Parks company and the land owners and the</li> </ul>	9	don't want to live next to one. I want to enjoy
<ul> <li>12 Thank you.</li> <li>13 MR. COLL: Thank you, Ms. Gibson.</li> <li>14 MS. GIBSON: You're welcome.</li> <li>15 MR. COLL: Next I'd like to call Mrs.</li> <li>16 Mary Smith.</li> <li>17 MS. SMITH: Mary Smith. S-M-I-T-H.</li> <li>18 (Witness sworn.)</li> <li>19 MR. COLL: Thank you. You may proceed</li> <li>20 with your testimony.</li> <li>21 MS. SMITH: I'd like to address myself to</li> <li>22 the Parks company and the land owners and the</li> </ul>	10	my evenings outside. I want to enjoy the property
<ul> <li>MR. COLL: Thank you, Ms. Gibson.</li> <li>MS. GIBSON: You're welcome.</li> <li>MR. COLL: Next I'd like to call Mrs.</li> <li>Mary Smith.</li> <li>MS. SMITH: Mary Smith. S-M-I-T-H.</li> <li>(Witness sworn.)</li> <li>MR. COLL: Thank you. You may proceed</li> <li>with your testimony.</li> <li>MS. SMITH: I'd like to address myself to</li> <li>the Parks company and the land owners and the</li> </ul>	11	that my family paid taxes on and farmed for years.
<ul> <li>MS. GIBSON: You're welcome.</li> <li>MR. COLL: Next I'd like to call Mrs.</li> <li>Mary Smith.</li> <li>MS. SMITH: Mary Smith. S-M-I-T-H.</li> <li>(Witness sworn.)</li> <li>MR. COLL: Thank you. You may proceed</li> <li>with your testimony.</li> <li>MS. SMITH: I'd like to address myself to</li> <li>the Parks company and the land owners and the</li> </ul>	12	Thank you.
<ul> <li>MR. COLL: Next I'd like to call Mrs.</li> <li>Mary Smith.</li> <li>MS. SMITH: Mary Smith. S-M-I-T-H.</li> <li>(Witness sworn.)</li> <li>MR. COLL: Thank you. You may proceed</li> <li>with your testimony.</li> <li>MS. SMITH: I'd like to address myself to</li> <li>the Parks company and the land owners and the</li> </ul>	13	MR. COLL: Thank you, Ms. Gibson.
Mary Smith. Ms. SMITH: Mary Smith. S-M-I-T-H. (Witness sworn.) MR. COLL: Thank you. You may proceed with your testimony. Ms. SMITH: I'd like to address myself to the Parks company and the land owners and the	14	MS. GIBSON: You're welcome.
<ul> <li>MS. SMITH: Mary Smith. S-M-I-T-H.</li> <li>(Witness sworn.)</li> <li>MR. COLL: Thank you. You may proceed</li> <li>with your testimony.</li> <li>MS. SMITH: I'd like to address myself to</li> <li>the Parks company and the land owners and the</li> </ul>	15	MR. COLL: Next I'd like to call Mrs.
18 (Witness sworn.) 19 MR. COLL: Thank you. You may proceed 20 with your testimony. 21 MS. SMITH: I'd like to address myself to 22 the Parks company and the land owners and the	16	Mary Smith.
<ul> <li>MR. COLL: Thank you. You may proceed</li> <li>with your testimony.</li> <li>MS. SMITH: I'd like to address myself to</li> <li>the Parks company and the land owners and the</li> </ul>	17	MS. SMITH: Mary Smith. S-M-I-T-H.
<ul> <li>20 with your testimony.</li> <li>21 MS. SMITH: I'd like to address myself to</li> <li>22 the Parks company and the land owners and the</li> </ul>	18	(Witness sworn.)
21 MS. SMITH: I'd like to address myself to 22 the Parks company and the land owners and the	19	MR. COLL: Thank you. You may proceed
22 the Parks company and the land owners and the	20	with your testimony.
	21	MS. SMITH: I'd like to address myself to
23 tenants of the proposed building Tapprograte	22	the Parks company and the land owners and the
23 cenance of the proposed butturing. I appreciate	23	tenants of the proposed building. I appreciate
24 that you have gone through and given all your	24	that you have gone through and given all your

documentation of what you have done, and in
 accordance with everything you have dotted your
 I's and crossed your T's.

However, we live right north of not only 4 5 this proposed facility, but the two more that you have applied for. We are directly in line with 6 7 these farms. Whether it affects our well or not, that is to be seen. We have lived there 30 years. 8 We have enjoyed our quality of life. This hog 9 farm is going to definitely diminish our quality 10 of life. If we choose to try to sell our property 11 because we would like to move away from this, the 12 economic value you talked about, our property 13 value is going to go down. 14

15 You have talked about odor management. Case in point, odors don't stay behind the line 16 17 that you have drawn. We live four miles to the west of a dairy facility in Indiana, which we 18 absolutely had no control over it going in either. 19 20 It is not uncommon for the odor from this dairy to not only come to our property, but on into 21 Stockland. This is going to diminish the quality 22 of life, especially for us more than anybody else 23 24 in this room, but our whole community is going to

1 be diminished by putting these facilities here. 2 I would like to state, we are not 3 opposed to anybody putting up a facility and 4 promoting agriculture. But, we are definitely opposed to this site and the other two that are 5 being proposed. We would hope the land owners and 6 7 the company would reconsider other property owned 8 by the land owners, siting these buildings away from our community, and most importantly our own 9 property. Thank you. 10 11 MR. COLL: Thank you, Ms. Smith. Next I'd like to call Mr. Mark Tweedy. Mr. Tweedy, can 12 you please spell your last name for the court 13 14 reporter. 15 MR. TWEEDY: T-W-E-E-D-Y. 16 MR. COLL: Thank you. 17 (Witness sworn. ) 18 MR. COLL: You may proceed with your 19 testimony. MR. TWEEDY: Just three minutes? We have 20 21 several, I've been asked to answer or ask some 22 questions about this, and I hope I can get through 23 this in three minutes. 24 Some of these questions have been

1	answered, I guess. I will try to get through
2	this. I apologize. Once again, what happens if
3	our wells get go dry, and that's a concern.
4	Many wells around there in the Stockland, Dawson
5	Park, I live about three-quarters of a mile away
6	from the first, and this hearing is just for the
7	first proposed site, right? I do did two
8	get there's two more facilities coming? I just
9	got that. So I'm assuming we're going to have
10	another hearing on these other two that will be
11	soon.
12	So, we've lived well, let me get
13	through this.
14	And how much smell will be detected for
15	the surrounding area or residents? How much
16	evaluation will there be in surrounding homes and
17	why do residents suffer financially while Park
18	the Parks profit at our expense.
19	What happens if disease renders the
20	facility inoperative? What is the plans for
21	upgrading the substandard roads that are being
22	used by the hog farm?
23	And along with that, we they do close
24	posted roads from January 1st to I think it's

1	April 15th. If that's right, how are they going
2	to get feed and hogs in and out of this facility
3	if it's a if those roads are posted? Because I
4	can't haul grain during that time. I don't know
5	how they're going to feed these hogs or move these
6	hogs to market.
7	And there again, this is only this is
8	only for this facility. There's a question here,
9	we think these other abandoned wells are too close
10	to this east facility. So, I guess that's I'll
11	say it, but this hearing is just for the north
12	facility, I'm guessing.
13	So that question is, is the east
14	facility too close to the house that is
15	approximately 2,150 feet to the east of that
16	building?
17	Prevailing westerly winds will put that
18	home in the direct path of any smell.
19	MR. COLL: Mr. Tweedy, can you please
20	close your remarks?
21	MR. TWEEDY: Okay. I apologize. I
22	didn't get through this. Someone will have to
23	explain about the aquifer. We are not on the
24	Mahomet aquifer. Our aquifer goes towards
I	

	5
1	Indiana, Northwestern Indiana. And there are
2	eight center pivots, three other ones are removing
3	water out of Sugar Creek. There is the dairy that
4	is four or five miles south or east of us.
5	There's 6,500 milk cows there that's up and
6	running. And these three facilities for the hogs
7	here are going to pull out 15 million gallons of
8	water per year, and you're going to tell me our
9	wells aren't going to go dry?
10	MR. COLL: Thank you, very much. Thank
11	you for your comments.
12	MR. TWEEDY: I apologize.
13	MR. COLL: Next I'd like to call Mr. Ron
14	Bork.
15	MR. BORK: My name is Ron Bork, B-O-R-K.
16	(Witness sworn.)
17	MR. COLL: You may proceed with your
18	testimony.
19	MR. BORK: As I said, my name is Ron
20	Bork. I am the president of the Ford Iroquois
21	Farm Bureau, a general farm organization
22	representing a majority of the farmers in Ford and
23	Iroquois Counties.
24	Ford Iroquois Farm Bureau supports the

1	growth and enhancement of the livestock industry
2	in Iroquois County. Our proximity to large grain
3	supplies, excellent transportation infrastructure,
4	and well trained work force make Iroquois County
5	an ideal for the production of livestock.
6	Livestock production currently
7	contributes 73.8 million to the economy of
8	Iroquois County each year, as well as providing
9	225 jobs. Additional livestock facilities will
10	provide permanent employment opportunities,
11	construction jobs, additions to the local tax
12	base, and open new markets for locally produced
13	grain.
14	Ford Iroquois Farm Bureau supports the
15	Livestock Facility Management Act, LMFA, which
16	provides statewide standards for siting
17	construction, certain operating procedures of
18	livestock farms in the state under the direction
19	of the Illinois Department of Agriculture.
20	This facility must demonstrate the
21	ability to meet the eight siting criterias for the
22	Department of Agriculture as was listed tonight.
23	The testimony we heard tonight included
24	information showing that this farm has the ability

	6
1	to meet those provisions of the LMFA.
2	On behalf of Ford Iroquois Farm Bureau,
3	I appreciate the opportunity to provide the
4	comments supporting the agriculture development in
5	Iroquois County. Thank you.
6	MR. COLL: Thank you, Mr. Bork. Next
7	I'd like to call Mr. Mike Haag. Can you please
8	spell your last name for the record.
9	MR. HAAG: H-A-A-G.
10	(Witness sworn.)
11	MR. COLL: You may proceed with your
12	testimony.
13	MR. HAAG: I do not have a lot prepared.
14	As you can see, I was a little bit late getting
15	here. My name is Mike Haag, I live about 60 miles
16	away from here. My family has grown up on a hog
17	farm my entire life. Since my kids were born, we
18	have had 1,200 sows on our farm. And the water
19	was about 50 foot from the building. The well.
20	It's only 100 foot deep. None of them has got
21	orange growing or anything. They've all graduated
22	college and are doing great.
23	Just to try to relieve, and I appreciate
24	your questions and concerns, and I know these

1	things are scary. But I think livestock in a
2	community like this, in rural areas, is about the
3	only type of rural development we're going to get.
4	And I think we need to embrace it. We need to be
5	careful. We need to ask good questions.
6	But I think we need to also embrace it.
7	I have not done any calculations to figure that 15
8	million gallon that we just talked about these hog
9	farms would use. But, to put that number in
10	perspective, I just did a little calculating back
11	there; 640 acres would be one section of ground,
12	one square mile. One inch of rain would be right
13	at 19 million gallon.
14	So, if you think about how much inches
15	of rain fall a year on a corn crop, one inch would
16	be 19 million gallon. These hog barns might take
17	15 million gallon. I agree, that sounds like a
18	big number, but in relationship to what
19	agriculture uses, and what we use out there, it's
20	not a real big number. Just to put things in
21	perspective.
22	I just wrote a couple other things down.
23	I think it's exciting that Illinois is developing
24	some businesses, because I see so many things
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1 leaving our state. And I think it's going to be 2 so important that if we can keep some of these businesses in. 3 Like I said, my family has grown up 4 there for years. I can't say pigs don't smell. 5 But I can tell you that our new buildings that we 6 7 have built in the last ten or 15 years, the smell is reduced probably 500 percent from the old 8 Cargill huts that we used to have back 40 years 9 They smell much less. And it's very few 10 aqo. days -- I know some of you feel like you're close. 11 And I'm not going to tell you that there won't be 12 a few days a year that you won't get a smell. 13 14 But, it will not drive you from going outside. 15 My kids still play in our yard all the 16 time growing up 120, 30 feet from the buildings. The pigs, you hear the feeders clank at night. 17 So, it's not going to change your lives. It's not 18 as scary as is seems. And I think there is some 19 20 opportunities here also. 21 So, with that, if there's any other 22 questions, I would be willing to entertain them. 23 Like I said, I've grown up on a livestock farm my whole life, and I really embrace livestock moving 24

	64
1	into Illinois and staying in Illinois to feed this
2	corn. We have a heck of a surplus of corn here.
3	And if it's not going to China, we better find
4	somewhere to feed it. Thank you.
5	MR. COLL: Thank you, Mr. Haag. Next
6	I'd like to call Mr. Randy Poskin.
7	MR. POSKIN: P-O-S-K-I-N.
8	(Witness sworn.)
9	MR. COLL: You may proceed with your
10	testimony.
11	MR. POSKIN: Thank you. Good evening. I
12	am Randy Poskin. I am the District 6 director for
13	Illinois Farm Bureau. I represent Ford Iroquois
14	Farm Bureau, Kankakee and Livingston Counties as
15	well. I also live in Iroquois County in the
16	village of Ashkum.
17	Illinois Farm Bureau supports all
18	aspects of agriculture, including the development
19	of livestock farms. Animal agriculture plays a
20	vital role in the economy of Illinois, including
21	this county, Iroquois. Our organization's policy
22	it to encourage growth and enhancement of the
23	livestock industry in Illinois, provided that the
24	facilities comply with the statutory and

1 regulatory requirements.

2	Today's farms have changed over the
3	course of the decades. Just as many of our homes
4	and businesses have evolved through the years, the
5	size of farms has grown. The values we hold dear
6	are just as strong as they were generations ago.
7	We too want safe food. We want quality care of
8	animals. And we want to protect the environment.
9	The Livestock Management Facilities Act
10	governs the siting, construction and certain
11	aspects of operating livestock farms in our state.
12	It ensures that livestock farms will be sited on
13	scientific, objective criteria, and the rules are
14	applied uniformly throughout the state. Tonight
15	this meeting provided the opportunity for the
16	public to ask questions or comment on the proposed
17	construction of a new project here in this county.
18	The testimony presented outlined for all
19	of us in attendance the plans for this proposed
20	facility to meet each set of criteria, including
21	environmental protections, manure management, and
22	odor mitigation. Should the Department discover
23	through the testimony tonight the information
24	contained within the application and inspections

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1	of the proposed site, the ability of the project
2	to meet the standards set forth in the LMFA, then
3	it should be allowed to proceed to the next phase
4	of the LMFA.
5	Bringing more livestock production into
6	Illinois, and specifically Iroquois County, allows
7	future generations an opportunity to become
8	involved in animal agriculture. The opportunities
9	available to newer farmers are sometimes limited.
10	But expanding livestock allows those interests a
11	place in the industry.
12	On behalf of Illinois Farm Bureau, I
13	appreciate the opportunity to speak tonight.
14	Thank you.
15	MR. COLL: Thank you, Mr. Poskin. Next
16	I'd like to call Ms. Jennifer Tirey.
17	MS. TIREY: Jennifer Tirey, T-I-R-E-Y.
18	(Witness sworn.)
19	MR. COLL: Please proceed with your
20	testimony.
21	MS. TIREY: Good evening. My name is
22	Jennifer Tirey. I am the executive director for
23	the Illinois Pork Producers Association.
24	So essentially what I get to do every

1	day is represent about 2,000 pig farmers from
2	across the State of Illinois. Just like Mike
3	Haag, who testified earlier, and just like we're
4	hoping this next generation of pork producers that
5	will continue to develop in Iroquois County.
6	I wanted to talk specifically about one
7	of the points that came up regarding economic
8	value of your homes. We have many instances
9	across the state, I'm going to tell you one
10	actually is in DeKalb County, so the population is
11	quite a bit larger than Iroquois County. It's
12	close to 18,000 people in that community.
13	And we had a hog farmer who built a barn
14	with a similar number of hogs in that county, and
15	they actually built an entire subdivision of homes
16	that are valued between 200 and 300 thousand
17	dollars after that farm had come in. We actually
18	take a lot of individuals on that tour, they have
19	viewing windows, they can come see their farm.
20	And they have such a great relationship with that
21	neighbor, those neighbors that are less than a
22	quarter of a mile. So, they're inside the
23	setback, but the barns were there first.
24	And they communicate with the neighbors,

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1	they talk with the neighbors. They say hey, we've
2	got a wedding coming up; can you please, if you're
3	going to apply manure, can you not apply manure.
4	As we talked about, we inject our
5	manure. It's not broadcasted, but there's a level
6	of respect with our pig farmers. Because this is
7	their livelihood. They want to bring that back,
8	that livelihood for their future generations. So
9	this is something that our farmers take very
10	seriously. They want to have a good relationship.
11	We welcome these sort of discussions and questions
12	because we want to have a transparent relationship
13	within the community.
14	So I just want to let you know that
14	
14 15	we're in it for the long haul because this is our
	we're in it for the long haul because this is our livelihood. We work very hard, we want to do a
15	
15 16	livelihood. We work very hard, we want to do a
15 16 17	livelihood. We work very hard, we want to do a good job. We want to protect the environment for
15 16 17 18	livelihood. We work very hard, we want to do a good job. We want to protect the environment for our future generations. We appreciate the time
15 16 17 18 19	livelihood. We work very hard, we want to do a good job. We want to protect the environment for our future generations. We appreciate the time and the opportunity to answer these questions, and
15 16 17 18 19 20	livelihood. We work very hard, we want to do a good job. We want to protect the environment for our future generations. We appreciate the time and the opportunity to answer these questions, and thank you so much for your interest.
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	livelihood. We work very hard, we want to do a good job. We want to protect the environment for our future generations. We appreciate the time and the opportunity to answer these questions, and thank you so much for your interest. MR. COLL: Thank you, Ms. Tirey. Next
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	livelihood. We work very hard, we want to do a good job. We want to protect the environment for our future generations. We appreciate the time and the opportunity to answer these questions, and thank you so much for your interest. MR. COLL: Thank you, Ms. Tirey. Next I'd like to call Mr. Nick Anderson.

1 (Witness sworn.) 2 MR. COLL: You may proceed with your 3 testimony. MR. ANDERSON: Thank you, Department of 4 Agriculture and the Parks group and Chris West and 5 the County Board for having this meeting. My hope 6 7 is that afterwards the folks that had some concerns that need more details, that we can help 8 you understand some of that. 9 And we do realize, this seems to be old 10 hat for us in the livestock business and 11 agriculture and it's all new to you and it becomes 12 emotional. And really we need to discuss those 13 issues, and there's several of them that have been 14 15 covered by other folks here, and there's a few 16 that stand out for me. But I work with the Illinois Livestock 17 Development Group, and I work with a lot of farms; 18 19 cattle, hogs, chickens, around the state. And 20 meeting the criteria of the Livestock Management 21 Facilities Act, we haven't had the experience of 22 the concerns that you folks have. It doesn't mean 23 they're not valid. But we need to talk about 24 facts and reality.

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1	And my hope is, we can show you, proof
2	is in the pudding, a lot of people don't want to
3	wait for that, but just a few clerical processes
4	here so the Department of Ag understands what your
5	concern is on, and if you do have those, make sure
6	they know; because they need to vet those out.
7	Whether it's a well, or your distance from that
8	farm, to make sure it's accurate, because they
9	verify those things.
10	And that's part of the purpose of this
11	meeting tonight. And not to point out, Mrs.
12	Gibson, and I realize there are other farms, I
13	hope you understand that that notice you got was
14	not for this E4. It was for another farm that is
15	coming up. So we would need to verify those
16	concerns you had on that location, either
17	personally or with the folks here tonight.
18	MS. GIBSON: I will be happy to show you
19	the well.
20	MR. ANDERSON: That would be great, and
21	we need to verify that. At some point the
22	Department of Agriculture needs to know that
23	information on that project, but I don't think
24	it's associated with this one.

1	The water consumption, and just a
2	ballpark for everybody and the folks that really
3	have water concerns, think about pork production
4	and little pigs coming in at 10 to 15 pounds are
5	going to drink very little water. And when they
6	leave the farm at 280 pounds or so, they're going
7	to drink a lot of water. So, a little piglet
8	drinks a little. A big pig drinks about five or
9	six gallons a day. The average daily consumption
10	per pig from small to big is 1.5 gallons.
11	Over 365 days, if you combine this farm
12	and those other farms that are proposed, it's
13	about seven million gallons.
14	I beg you to go look at the irrigation
15	system, other capacities that are out there; they
16	far exceed anything this farm is going to have
17	impact on the water supply. The 70 gallon a
18	minute that they talked about is indicative of
19	what supply of water is there. And also depth at
20	that 100 feet level. And then distance on the
21	zone of impact.
22	Don't take the farms and the
23	presentation. Go to the Water Survey and look up
24	a cone of impact on wells. It will give you that

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1	same data to verify it so it's not his word or his
2	interpretation. There are systems out there
3	through the geological service, the Illinois Well
4	Survey, that can give you that data and see the
5	maps that he verified. It doesn't have to be
6	emotional.
7	And then also, lastly, I will wrap up
8	here, on the consumption of local grain, and
9	there's a lot of farmers in this room and they
10	know a word that we dread every year. It's called
11	basis. Whether that corn comes from Horace,
12	Illinois, or Effingham or DeKalb or the
13	Mississippi River or somewhere in Indiana, when we
14	consume local corn through livestock, we're
15	affecting basis around the State of Illinois. It
16	might be a nickel or a dime. But, if we can use
17	it here, whether it's in Iroquois County or Ford
18	County or Vermilion County, it takes it out of the
19	market that makes our total corn crop more
20	valuable, and it doesn't get to the river for
21	somebody else to capture the value on it.
22	That's the importance, whether it's not
23	corn locally or from down the road. It's the
24	total basis of Illinois's farm crop that is

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### **PUBLIC HEARING**

1 impacted. And you multiply that over the farms in Illinois, it's very impactful. And I hope you 2 realize that, and look at it on a broader 3 schedule. 4 Thank you tonight for having us, and the 5 Department for putting this on, and I hope the 6 7 County Board will see that the farm can meet the requirements of the Act and this project will move 8 forward. But those of you that have questions, 9 let us know. I think we can answer those. And if 10 we can take some of the emotion that we all have 11 out of it, I think logically we can come to the 12 13 solution that we can all cooperate together. 14 Thanks very much. 15 MR. COLL: Thank you, Mr. Anderson. IS there anyone else here this evening who would like 16 17 to provide oral testimony? (None came forward.) 18 MR. COLL: At this time I'm going to 19 enter into the record as Exhibit 5 the oral 20 21 testimony sign in sheet. This concludes the oral 22 testimony portion of the meeting. 23 Also into the record as Exhibit 6 is the 24 attendance sign up sheet. Are there any closing

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# **PUBLIC HEARING**

1	remarks from the facility?
2	MR. JAMES: No.
3	MR. COLL: Thank you. As I mentioned
4	earlier, a copy of the transcript will be provided
5	to the County Board. For others desiring a copy,
6	the transcript will be available by contacting the
7	court reporter. Thank you for your attendance
8	tonight. This public informational meeting is
9	hereby adjourned.
10	(The time is 7:40 p.m.)
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1 STATE OF ILLINOIS ) SS ) 2 COUNTY OF CHAMPAIGN ) 3 I, DEANN K. PARKINSON, a Notary Public in and for the County of Champaign State of Illinois, do hereby certify that the foregoing was 4 taken on August 6, 2019. 5 That said hearing was taken down in stenographic notes and afterwards reduced to typewriting under my instruction and said 6 transcription is a true record of the testimony 7 given. I do hereby certify that I am a disinterested person in this cause of action; that 8 I am not a relative of any party or any attorney 9 of record in this cause, or an attorney for any party herein, or otherwise interested in the event 10 of this action, and am not in the employ of the attorneys for either party. 11 In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my notarial seal August 11th, 12 2019. 13 14 DEANN K. PARKINSON, CSR NOTARY PUBLIC 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24

### PUBLIC HEARING August 8, 2019

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