PRESENT:

SCOTT FRANK, HEARING OFFICER
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WARREN D. GOETSCH, P.E., ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

BRAD A. BEAVER, ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NICOLAS RIPPEL, VMC MANAGEMENT

MATT WAGNER, WAGNER CONSULTING
AND AGRICULTURE, LLC


HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Good evening.

On behalf of Bob Flider, Director of the Illinois Department of Agriculture, we thank you very much for the invitation to come to Marshall County today.

My name is Scott Frank. I am with the Illinois Department of Agriculture and I will be serving as the Hearing Officer for tonight's public informational meeting.

Also with me on behalf of the Department are Warren Goetsch, Chief of the Bureau of Environmental Programs and Brad Beaver, Manager of the Bureau's Livestock Program.

This meeting is being conducted pursuant to Section 12 of the Livestock Management Facilities Act. The informational meeting is being held at the request of the Marshall County Board and is to afford the members of the public an opportunity to ask questions and present oral and written testimony regarding the proposed construction of a 3,384 animal unit swine gestation farrowing isolation facility owned by Sandy Creek Lane, LLC.

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    My task this evening is to ensure
    that this meeting is conducted in an orderly
    fashion and to ensure that all comments and
    testimony received are entered into the record.
    Tonight's meeting is being
    transcribed. The transcript of the meeting will
    be sent to the Marshall County Board as well as
    used by the Department of Agriculture in making
    its determination regarding the proposed
    construction of this facility.
    In order to ensure that we have an
    orderly process I will quickly explain how the
    meeting will proceed this evening.
    First, following my comments Warren
    Goetsch will provide an overview of the provisions
    of the Livestock Management Facilities Act as it
    relates to this particular project, specifically
    outlining the current status of the project and
    how the process will proceed following this
    meeting.
    Following Mr. Goetsch,
    representatives for the proposed construction
    project will be given an opportunity to describe
    the project and demonstrate how they believe it
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## PUBLIC MEETING 4/17/2014

1 meets siting criteria of the Livestock Management
2 Facilities Act. After their presentation $I$ will open
the meeting to questions. Anyone wishing to ask questions of the facility representatives or the Department will be given an opportunity to do so. During the question and answer session I will ask that you state your name and spell your last name for the court reporter. You may then ask your question. Depending upon the number of people who wish to testify in the oral testimony phase of the meeting which is right after the question phase, there may need to be a time limit placed on this questioning phase. We will have a microphone set up in the center. We ask that you step up to the microphone to ask your question.

Please keep in mind that we are not here this evening to discuss or debate the perceived adequacies or merits of the regulations. The Livestock Management Facilities Act an accompanying rules have been in force for over 15 years. Some people like them, some people don't. We cannot change anything here in that regard so we will not take the time to get into a discussion

| 1 | about changes. We are here tonight to receive |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | information on this particular livestock facility |
| 3 | to determine compliance with the existing |
| 4 | regulations. |
| 5 | Following the question and answer |
| 6 | session I will ask for oral testimony from the |
| 7 | public. |
| 8 | Sign in sheets were placed at the |
| 9 | side of the room as you came in. One sheet for |
| 10 | attendance and one sheet for testimony. People |
| 11 | who wish to provide comments during this oral |
| 12 | testimony phase are asked to sign the oral |
| 13 | testimony sheet. People providing oral comments |
| 14 | will be sworn in and will be subject to |
| 15 | questioning from the public. Each person will be |
| 16 | given three minutes to provide his or her |
| 17 | comments. Legal counsel speaking on behalf of |
| 18 | multiple clients will be given a total of 15 |
| 19 | minutes for all clients and will be asked to state |
| 20 | the names of all of the persons on whose behalf he |
| 21 | or she is speaking. Deferring time to other |
| 22 | speakers will not be allowed. If you sign the |
| 23 | oral testimony sheet, you may either speak or you |
| 24 | may pass. You may not give your time to someone |


| 1 | else. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | Also please keep in mind that if you |
| 3 | do not wish to be asked questions regarding your |
| 4 | oral testimony, do not sign the sheet. Or if you |
| 5 | have already signed it, indicate that you would |
| 6 | like to pass when I call your name. |
| 7 | Following the oral testimony I will |
| 8 | ask for written testimony. Written testimony will |
| 9 | be accepted in paper form and will be entered into |
| 10 | the record for this proceeding. |
| 11 | The meeting will then conclude with |
| 12 | closing comments from the facility and the |
| 13 | Department of Agriculture. |
| 14 | So, to summarize the procedure |
| 15 | tonight, we will have comments from the |
| 16 | Department, comments from the Facility, questions |
| 17 | directed to the Department and the Facility, oral |
| 18 | testimony from the public, written testimony and |
| 19 | then closing comments. |
| 20 | Again, we very much appreciate your |
| 21 | hospitality in inviting us here tonight to |
| 22 | consider the proposed construction of the Sandy |
| 23 | Creek Lane swine facility. |
| 24 | Please remember to confine your |

PUBLIC MEETING 4/17/2014

| 1 | comments and questions to that subject as we |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | continue. |
| 3 | I will now turn the proceedings over |
| 4 | to Warren Goetsch for remarks from the Illinois |
| 5 | Department of Agriculture. |
| 6 | MR. GOETSCH: Good evening. Again, |
| 7 | my name is Warren Goetsch and I currently serve |
| 8 | as the Bureau Chief of Environmental Programs for |
| 9 | the Illinois Department of Agriculture. |
| 10 | One of our responsibilities at the |
| 11 | Department is the administration of various |
| 12 | provisions of the Livestock Management Facilities |
| 13 | Act. |
| 14 | On behalf of the Department, let me |
| 15 | welcome you to this public informational meeting. |
| 16 | Before we hear from the proposed |
| 17 | facility's representatives I would like to say a |
| 18 | few words regarding the applicable provisions of |
| 19 | the Livestock Management Facilities Act and the |
| 20 | current status of this proposed project. |
| 21 | The Livestock Management Facilities |
| 22 | Act was originally passed and became law on |
| 23 | May 21st of 1996. Since that time the Act has |
| 24 | been amended four times. First during the General |


| 1 | Assembly's 1997 fall veto session, second a major |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | revision during the General Assembly's 1999 spring |
| 3 | session, and most currently two minor amendments |
| 4 | in 2007 and 2009. |
| 5 | The current Act can be generally |
| 6 | described as covering five major areas. Those |
| 7 | being facility design standards, waste management |
| 8 | planning requirements, facility operator training |
| 9 | and testing, anaerobic lagoon financial |
| 10 | responsibility demonstration and facility setback |
| 11 | requirements. |
| 12 | Each of these provisions impacts |
| 13 | various types of facilities in different ways |
| 14 | depending upon their size expressed in animal |
| 15 | units and whether the proposed facility is |
| 16 | considered as a new facility, a modified facility |
| 17 | or the expansion of an existing site. |
| 18 | The Livestock Management Facilities |
| 19 | Act's provisions are quite complicated and |
| 20 | specific facility designs and situations certainly |
| 21 | can differ. |
| 22 | It is, however, the Department's |
| 23 | intention to always fairly and equitably apply |
| 24 | these requirements to the livestock industry in |



| 1 | of Sandy Creek Lane, LLC and VMC Management |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | Corporation of Williamsburg, Iowa. |
| 3 | The maximum design capacity of the |
| 4 | proposed facility is 3,384 animal units or 7,560 |
| 5 | head of swine greater than 55 pounds and 12,000 |
| 6 | head of swine less than 55 pounds. |
| 7 | As I mentioned earlier, the |
| 8 | Department received the Notice of Intent to |
| 9 | Construct application on February 25 th and |
| 10 | reviewed it for compliance with the applicable |
| 11 | provisions of the Act. |
| 12 | On March 12, the Department |
| 13 | determined that the notice was complete and |
| 14 | forwarded a copy of the completed application to |
| 15 | the Marshall County Board. |
| 16 | Notice of that application was also |
| 17 | published in an appropriate newspaper. |
| 18 | The design capacity of the proposed |
| 19 | facility requires compliance with a residential |
| 20 | setback distance of not less than 1,760 feet and a |
| 21 | populated area setback distance of not less than |
| 22 | 3,520 feet. |
| 23 | On March 31st, 2014 the Department |
| 24 | received notice from the Marshall County Board |


| 1 | requesting that a public informational meeting be |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | scheduled regarding the proposal. After further |
| 3 | consideration and consultation with the county |
| 4 | Board, the Department scheduled this meeting and |
| 5 | caused notice of the meeting to be published in |
| 6 | the appropriate newspapers. |
| 7 | An additional requirement of the |
| 8 | Livestock Management Facilities Act deals with the |
| 9 | design and construction plans of a livestock waste |
| 10 | handling facility. The Department has not |
| 11 | received a formal submittal of detailed |
| 12 | engineering design plans and specifications for |
| 13 | the proposed project's under building livestock |
| 14 | waste handling facility at this time. As such, |
| 15 | the Department is currently unable to comment as |
| 16 | to their compliance with the statutory provisions |
| 17 | of the Act. |
| 18 | We are here this evening to receive |
| 19 | testimony regarding the proposed livestock |
| 20 | management facility's compliance with eight siting |
| 21 | criteria as designed in Section 12, Paragraph D of |
| 22 | the Livestock Management Facilities Act. |
| 23 | In general, information regarding the |
| 24 | following would be appropriate for this evening's |

    1 meeting: Information regarding manure management
    2 planning, potential impact of the proposed
    3 facility on the surrounding area's character,
    4 whether the proposed facility is located within
    5 any floodplains or other sensitive areas, odor
    16 receive a copy. Anybody need a copy of the
17 criteria?
control plans, possible impact of the proposed
facility on existing area traffic patterns and
possible impact of the proposed facility on
community growth, tourism and recreation or
economic development of the area.
Copies of the specific criteria were
available on the table with the sign in sheets.
If anyone would like to have a copy of the
criteria but didn't pick one up, if you want to
raise your hand and Brad will make sure that you
There were two documents, a small one
and a large one. They all say pretty much the
same thing.
Finally, the process that we will be
following or that will be followed after this
evening's meeting is as follows: The County Board
will have up to 30 business days from tonight's

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    1 \text { meeting to submit to the Department a nonbinding}
    2 ~ r e c o m m e n d a t i o n ~ r e l a t i v e ~ t o ~ t h e ~ p r o p o s e d ~ s i t i n g ~ o f ~
    3 this facility. Thus a recommendation from the
    4 Marshall County Board is due at the Department on
    5 or before May 30, 2014. After the close of
    County's 30 business day comment period the
    Department will have 15 calendar days, or until
    June 14, to review all of the information
    submitted to date, including the Notice of Intent
    to Construct, construction plans, transcripts from
    tonight's meeting, the County Board's
    recommendation and any other additional
    information submitted by the owners at the request
    of the Department.
    Based on that review the Department
    will determine whether the eight siting criteria
    have been met.
    Once that determination has been
    made, the Department will notify both the County
    Board and the Applicant of the Department's
    decision.
    Mr. Hearing Officer, at this time I
    would like to submit a complete Notice of Intent
    to Construct application and its associated
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    County officials.
    presentation.
    proposal.
    from the facility.
    correspondence file for formal entry into the
    record as an exhibit. And I have also included a
    copy of the Department's power point presentation
    that could also be entered.
    HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Entered into
    the record as Exhibit Number 1 is a copy of the
    Notice of Intent to Construct, including
    correspondence between the Department and the
    Applicant, notices of the public informational
    meeting and correspondence with the Marshall
    Also entered into the record as
    Exhibit Number 2 is the Department's power point
    MR. GOETSCH: This concludes my
    Again, thank you for your attention
    and I look forward to your comments regarding this
    HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Thank you,
    At this time we will hear comments
    Before you begin, for those who will
    | 1 | be presenting information, please state your name |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | and spell your last name for the court reporter |
| 3 | and then I will swear you in. |
| 4 | Will all representatives who will be |
| 5 | presenting testimony please raise your right hand? |
| 6 | (Dr. Rippel and Mr. Wagner sworn in.) |
| 7 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: You may |
| 8 | proceed. |
| 9 | MR. RIPPEL: Good evening. I am |
| 10 | excited to be before you today in order to show |
| 11 | you how Sandy Creek Lane will meet the eight |
| 12 | siting criteria of the Livestock Facilities |
| 13 | Management Act. But before we get to that, I |
| 14 | would like to give you a general overview of VMC |
| 15 | Management and Sandy Creek Lane. |
| 16 | MS. CHURNEY: Could we have the |
| 17 | gentleman's name, please? |
| 18 | MR. RIPPEL: Nicolas Rippel. I was |
| 19 | just going to tell you that. |
| 20 | Let me begin with myself. My name is |
| 21 | Nicolas Rippel, no H, R-I-P-P-E-L. I grew up |
| 22 | 2 miles outside of Toluca on a hog and grain farm. |
| 23 | I attended the Toluca School District. I went to |
| 24 | Toluca Grade School, I went to Toluca Junior High. |

In fact, it's been a long time since I have been in this gym. The last time $I$ was in the gym I was a Toluca Wildcat playing the Wenona Mustangs. As you all know, Toluca, Wenona, Minonk, Dana, Rutland no longer exist as a school district. Consolidated as Fieldcrest. I eventually did graduate from Fieldcrest High in 1995.

From high school I went on to college and got my BA in 1999. And for some odd reason I didn't think four years was long enough so I thought what the heck, I will do another four years, and I attended the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine. That's back when Chief Illiniwick was still cool.

In 2003 I did graduate with my Doctor of Veterinary Medicine Degree, and from there I launched into my veterinary career into the great state of Iowa.

Even though I live in Iowa now, all of my immediate family still resides in this area. My parents still farm outside of Toluca. My brother Jim lives here in Wenona, my sister Dawn, Toluca, my brother Todd in Utica. So it is not

| 1 | unusual for me to return home with my wife and my |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | four children for birthdays, holidays. Toluca |
| 3 | Labor Celebration, $I$ have to donate my \$10 every |
| 4 | year so I can make it two rounds. And sometimes |
| 5 | we come home just to visit. |
| 6 | But like I said, I do live in |
| 7 | Williamsburg now. Williamsburg is along |
| 8 | Interstate 80. Here's Iowa City. Williamsburg is |
| 9 | about 25 miles west of Iowa City along Interstate |
| 10 | 80. If you travel Interstate 80 much between Iowa |
| 11 | City and Des Moines, there is a Tanger Outlet Mall |
| 12 | on the north side. If you look the other |
| 13 | direction and go one mile south, that is |
| 14 | Williamsburg. |
| 15 | It is in Williamsburg that I am a |
| 16 | veterinarian in a mixed animal practice called |
| 17 | Veterinary Medical Center. |
| 18 | The Veterinary Medical Center was |
| 19 | established in 1972 and is an eight vet practice. |
| 20 | We have two small animal vets. So they take care |
| 21 | of the community's cats and dogs. We have three |
| 22 | cow/calf vets. We service farms that have |
| 23 | anywhere from five cows all of the way up to 5,000 |
| 24 | cows. And finally we have three swine |

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    1 veterinarians, including myself. We provide
    2 service for farmers with five sows and show pigs
    3 to we have a farmer who has 6,000 sows farrow to
    finish.
    Now, the type of farmer that we serve
    with the Veterinary Medical Center is not unlike
    many of the farmers in this room. They are crop
    farmers. They plant their seed in the spring,
    they harvest the corn and soybeans in the fall.
    The only difference is that the farmers that we
    provide service for, they try to capture extra
    value out of that crop they harvest. So instead
    of hauling it to elevator, rather they feed it to
    their livestock.
    Any of you in ag or any other
    business knows whenever you try to capture more
    value from your product or your service there is
    more inherent risk involved. And that is how VMC
    Management came into existence.
    The veterinary owners of Veterinary
    Medical Center are the same owners of VMC
        Management.
    VMC Management started and VMC
    Management is our sow farm management business.
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| 1 | It was started in 1998 when the first sow farm was |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | built. |
| 3 | That farm was built as a result of |
| 4 | Williamsburg area farmers coming together and |
| 5 | believing that if they could pool their resources |
| 6 | together they could be more profitable by going |
| 7 | together and building a specialized breed to wean |
| 8 | sow farm. |
| 9 | So in other words, they took a part |
| 10 | of their operation and removed it so they could |
| 11 | specialize in breeding adult female pigs in order |
| 12 | to produce baby pigs, and large numbers of baby |
| 13 | pigs, so they could bring back to their own farms |
| 14 | and raise to market. |
| 15 | So what started in 1998 with one farm |
| 16 | has turned into what VMC Management is today, |
| 17 | using the same farmer investor model, group |
| 18 | farmers come together, build a sow farm, hire VMC |
| 19 | management to run that specialized farm for them |
| 20 | so they can take those pigs back to their own |
| 21 | farm. Using that same model VMC Management |
| 22 | currently manages 27,000 sows across 12 sow farms |
| 23 | up and down eastern Iowa. These 12 sow farms are |
| 24 | owned by 72 different farmers. It takes about 80 |

1 employees to care for these pigs on these 12
2 different farms.

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    VMC Management has the structure to
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    manage every aspect of a sow farm, and it begins
    with the veterinarians. There are three
    veterinarians in VMC Management, including myself.
    We have a production manager and supporting office
    staff to do payroll, production records, human
    resources. And then every farm has a site manager
    or what you may consider a general manager. Ed
    Siren is my site manager at this farm. He worked
    his way up through ranks. He started at a low
    entry level position, worked up to breeding
    assistant, breeding manager, and six years ago I
    hired him for this farm to become my site manager.
    The site manager reports directly to
    the veterinarian. In the case of Sandy Creek
    Lane, that veterinarian is me. That veterinarian
    is on the farm every two weeks.
    Underneath the site manager we have a
    breeding manager and farrowing manager. Breeding
    manager is in charge of overseeing, making sure
    the adult females are bread and cared for. Then
    we have the farrow manager who is in charge of the
    | 1 | birthing barn where the adult females give birth |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | to their piglets. |
| 3 | Underneath that you have various |
| 4 | numbers of caretakers underneath them. |
| 5 | So we get to Sandy Creek Lane. Sandy |
| 6 | Creek Lane, as I already described, will be three |
| 7 | and a half miles northwest of Wenona on land |
| 8 | currently owned by Mike Salz. |
| 9 | When Sandy Creek Lane is built, |
| 10 | Mike's house will be 681 feet from the farm. You |
| 11 | know what's interesting, I would have never |
| 12 | thought that by working for Mike back between my |
| 13 | junior and senior years in high school -- back |
| 14 | then Mike had a cow/calf operation, he crop |
| 15 | farmed. He even drove a truck at that time. One |
| 16 | of my daily chores for him that summer was to go |
| 17 | feed the reject cookies that he would get from the |
| 18 | bakery in town here to his cows in the pasture. |
| 19 | So I would go with the Gater into the barn -- Mike |
| 20 | had a hay rack stacked up with boxes. I would go |
| 21 | to the middle boxes that weren't quite as stale |
| 22 | and have my own little cookie break. Then I would |
| 23 | load up the Gater with a half dozen boxes, high |
| 24 | tail it out to the pasture. And let me tell you, |


| 1 | when those cows, when they heard that Gater |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | coming, they knew cookies were coming. You hit |
| 3 | the dump, dump boxes and cookies and all and kept |
| 4 | on going because there was a stampede after that. |
| 5 | I would come back later, clean up the boxes and |
| 6 | move on to my next chore. |
| 7 | And it's from that experience and the |
| 8 | years that have transpired since then that I have |
| 9 | observed Mike. Mike, like many farmers, is |
| 10 | devoted to the farming profession. He's devoted |
| 11 | to his land. Mike is a man who appreciates the |
| 12 | value that natural fertilizer, natural fertilizer |
| 13 | produced by pigs, what that can do to the soil. |
| 14 | By applying the natural fertilizer produced by |
| 15 | pigs to a soil, he can rebuild that soil structure |
| 16 | after so many years of crop production. |
| 17 | And so really Sandy Creek Lane was |
| 18 | born out of a relationship. A relationship I had |
| 19 | no clue back when I worked for Mike in high |
| 20 | school. |
| 21 | As you can see, Sandy Creek Lane will |
| 22 | consist of three barns. |
| 23 | The first barn is what we call a gilt |
| 24 | barn, followed by gestation barn, and then a |



So every week we will wean 2500 pigs to send off to one of the farmer owners. And in this birthing barn we will house approximately 1000 adult females that are either delivering or nursing their young. If you talk to a realtor they always say location, location, location. In my opinion, and I know it will be challenged today, but in my opinion this is a great location. We are no closer than three and a half miles to the nearest community, and that is Wenona. After that there is four miles to Lostant, over five to Toluca, seven to Varna, eight and a half to Lake Wildwood. We are far removed from any community.

Another way to look at the location, as you know, there are not very many hogs around here. That's good for you. I am not adding even more hogs into a hog dense area. There are no hogs here. It is great for the sow farm because the less hog dense an area the less disease transmission there is between farms. Which means a healthier sow farm produces a healthier baby pig. Which means a healthier baby pig makes the farmer owner more profitable, more productive.

You can see if $I$ were to start at Sandy Creek Lane and go out in any direction $I$ am no closer than 8 miles to the next hog farm.

Another big factor to location, you feed pigs where feed is made. Iowa and Illinois are big corn states.

Sandy Creek alone will use 210,000 bushel of corn every year. So I know I have got farmers in here that will say $I$ will sell that for \$7, I'll sell that for 6.50. We just came out of some of those times, as you know. Now we are down at that $\$ 5$ range. At $\$ 5$, a million dollars of corn every year.

Then we have job creation at Sandy Creek Lane. Amazingly enough I have already received calls. When you get this farm built, I want an application. I have had local contractors, electricians, plumbers already call me about construction of the site.

Like I said, 20 on farm jobs. Site manager, this is our -- breeding manager, farrowing manager. This is one of our farrow managers. This is Gary Joe. He's been with me for six years now. He looks like a rough and

1 tough guy but then he pulls this and hugs a pig. tough guy but t
Ag

Again, farrowing caretakers, 24 hour monitoring. Then there is the jobs that are associated with Sandy Creek Lane. Feed, grind, mix and delivery, incorporating the nutrient into the surrounding cropland.

Twice a week we will have weaner pigs going out to the farmer owners to raise out in their own barns.

Then we have got normal landscaping stuff, snow removal and mowing. All of that stuff needs to be done.

Now throw in property taxes. You
know, based on property taxes that we pay in Iowa of similar size farms -- and I'll add in a multiplier fact since we are in Illinois -- we come up to about $\$ 70,000$.

So you take four big things that this farm will do every year.

We have got corn, 20 on farm jobs,
nutrient application and taxes. Just those four
things alone will contribute $\$ 2$ million to the
surrounding area every year.

Now, about seven years ago I took up

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    1 a hobby, a backpacking hobby. So every year -- it
    2 ~ s t a r t e d ~ o u t ~ j u s t ~ g o i n g ~ o u t ~ t w o ~ o r ~ t h r e e ~ d a y s ~ o u t .
    Now we are up to five or seven days out.
    Everything you need you put on your back and you
    walk miles and miles on end.
    It didn't take me long to figure out
    there is a back country ethics called leave no
    trace.
    And as I was preparing tonight that
    kept coming back to me. You know, there is a lot
    of similarities here between leave no trace and
    the eight siting criteria of the Livestock
    Facilities Management Act.
    I am not going to get in depth of all
    of the principles of leave no trace, but I want to
    draw some similarities.
    First for a backpacker, plan ahead
        and prepare.
    So what that means is follow the
    rules and regulations of the national park or the
    wilderness area you are going into. Have a map
    and compass. Know your route.
    To me that sounds a whole lot like
    the Notice of Intent to Construct that we
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| 1 | completed. We know the rules and regulations, we |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | are meeting the siting criteria set forth by the |
| 3 | Department of Ag. |
| 4 | Another principal, travel and camp on |
| 5 | durable surfaces. |
| 6 | That's pretty self-explanatory. As |
| 7 | applies to what we are here tonight, we are |
| 8 | building a farm in an agriculture area. We are |
| 9 | not building a farm in downtown Wenona, downtown |
| 10 | Toluca or downtown Varna. We are building a farm |
| 11 | in a farming area. We do not build a farm within |
| 12 | a 100 year floodplain or a karst area. |
| 13 | Dispose of waste properly. Amazingly |
| 14 | enough, my kids love this one. When you are in |
| 15 | the back country you dig a cat hole 6 to 8 inches |
| 16 | and you fertilize the wilderness. You incorporate |
| 17 | your fertilizer. |
| 18 | Well, to me this sounds a lot like |
| 19 | the manure management plan that we have to set |
| 20 | forth for the -- one of the eight siting criteria. |
| 21 | And then the final principle that I |
| 22 | would like to draw similarities to, be considerate |
| 23 | of other visitors. |
| 24 | The reason I go to the back country |


| 1 | is so I can get away from people. I like being |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | alone. I don't want other people to ruin my |
| 3 | experience and I don't want to ruin their |
| 4 | experience. Be polite. You meet a party, you |
| 5 | step off the trail, allow them by. |
| 6 | As applies to Sandy Creek Lane, we |
| 7 | will have odor control plans in place. We want to |
| 8 | communicate with neighbors to know what your |
| 9 | concerns are and address those concerns. |
| 10 | And finally, this slide is what it is |
| 11 | all about. It's about a safe, abundant, |
| 12 | affordable and may I add a mighty tasty food |
| 13 | supply for my family, for your family and for |
| 14 | families around the world. |
| 15 | And with that I'll pass the |
| 16 | microphone on to Matt Wagner, the agriculture |
| 17 | engineer, so he can take us deeper into the eight |
| 18 | siting criteria. |
| 19 | Thank you very much. |
| 20 | MR. WAGNER: For the court record, |
| 21 | Matt Wagner, W-A-G-N-E-R. Okay. |
| 22 | I was hired by Sandy Creek Lane to |
| 23 | help them in the permitting process of the |
| 24 | proposed sow farm. So we are going to talk about |

1 the eight siting criteria tonight.
the eight siting criteria tonight.
Again, my name is Matt Wagner, I'm a
Professional Engineer licensed in the states of
Illinois, Wisconsin and Iowa, and own my own
company called Wagner Consulting and Agriculture.
The purpose of my talk tonight will
be to explain the proposed project, that it meets
the eight siting criteria. I think you all have a
copy of that. Warren talked a little bit about it
as well.
I am going to talk specific verbatim
out of the Livestock Management Facilities Act,
which from this point out in the interest of time
I am going to call it $L$ M F A.
We are also going to talk about the
considerations that influence the site selection
and some of the technology and management we are
going to use to protect the environment. When we
will are all done we will answer any questions you
have relative to the eight siting criteria.
This slide Dr. Rippel already put up
as well. The main point $I$ want to make with this
slide, it gives you an overview where the site is
going to be located. We show the county road


Just a little project overview. We talked already quite a bit about this, but the project itself is a 5,600 sow to breed -- sow breed to wean operation that also has 1,960 gilts and 12,000 piglets.

We will talk a little bit about some of the modern technology in this farm as part of the presentation and we are also going to talk in great depth about the concrete manure storage structures and how they will meet the eight siting criteria.

I wanted to show this slide to show a little bit more how we calculate the actual animal units and show you what the animal units are.

So we look at swine and whether they are greater than 55 pounds or less than 55 pounds. So under the first category there, 7,560, that includes the 5,600 sows and the gilts as well. And we multiply by a factor of . 4 to get 3,024 animal units.

Then all of the piglets, they are less than 55 pounds, they have a factor of . 03 . We multiply that times. 03 and we get 360 .

So the total animal units on this

1 farm -- and we will be talking about this more a

2 little later -- is 3,384.
Just remember that number for a
little later along here.
Okay. So I am referencing that LMFA,
the eight siting criteria, I list the code where
it is located. I am going to read these exactly
so we understand what we are looking at and how we
will meet it.
First siting criteria, if you have
your sheet you can follow along as well, but this
is whether registration and Livestock Waste
Management Plan certification requirements, if
required, are met by the Notice of Intent to
Construct.
So what specifically are the
requirements? What do we have to do?
Again, $I$ am quoting out of the
Livestock Management Facilities Act.
The Livestock Management Facilities
Act says the livestock management facility owner
or operator at a facility of 1,000 or greater
animal units but less than 5,000 animal units --
so just a few slides ago we said we are 3,384, so

```
    we fall under this category, this is applicable to
    us -- shall prepare, maintain and implement a
    Waste Management Plan and comply with the
    following.
    Here's what the following is.
    Facilities which commence operations or reach or
    exceed 1,000 animal units after the effective date
    of the part. So we are going to beat that because
    we are 3,384. The owner or operator shall
    prepare, maintain and implement a Waste Management
    Plan within 60 working days after commencing
    operations or exceeding the 1,000 animal units.
    So if you read the text here, the
    requirement is within 60 working days after
    commencing operations or exceeding 1,000 animal
    units. So we will have a Manure management Plan,
    Waste Management Plan prior to there being hogs at
    that facility.
    It is not completed to date but it
    will be completed prior to there being hogs at
    that facility.
    And this requirement here again
    verbatim out of the Livestock Management
    Facilities Act, prior to the expiration of the
```

1 Waste Management Plan preparation period the owner operator shall submit to the Department a form certifying that a Waste Management Plan has been prepared. And then the form shall also list the animal unit capacity of the facility and location of the plan.

It is a one page document. I have a copy right here. And this will have to be filled out and submitted to the Illinois Department of Agriculture.

Then finally, the Waste Management Plan and records of livestock waste disposal shall be kept on file at the facility for a period of three years and shall be available for inspection by the Department personnel during normal business hours.

So once the plan is completed they will keep it at the facility for a period of three years. And if the Department of Ag wants to stop and take a look at it they are welcome to do that. This is my application timeline. I have a few I guess additional things or things from my side from what Warren had, so I am going to go over this real briefly.

The first date when the Notice of Intent was submitted, as you can see that date is a little earlier. I am in the northwest part of the state so I guess it took seven days to get down here. We submitted it February 18.

On March 3rd the Illinois Department of Agriculture, which I may call IDOA a little bit in this presentation, they requested additional information. So they had a couple of questions on that application.

So by March 6th we responded to that additional information request and answered their questions. And then on the 12 th we received their approval of the Notice of Intent to Construct. By March 18 -- one of the
requirements of the Notice of Intent to Construct
is to notify all property owners via certified
mail. So all property owners -- that map that
Warren had and I'll throw up in a minute -- but
all property owners in that outer circle, which is
3,520 feet for this facility, were notified via
certified mail and sent the complete Notice of
Intent to Construct application.
And then April 16 we sent revision of

1 the Notice of Intent to Construct to the Illinois

2 Department of Agriculture.

What this consisted of, the gestation barn size was slightly modified. It was shortened. It is now 162 -foot by 700 feet. It was slightly larger originally, but due to some changes in feeding and ventilation in the barn we were able to shorten that barn size. We actually
reduced that barn size, and in doing so the
setback distances all slightly increased just a
little bit.
And then another requirement is a
Certified Livestock Manager. Farm operator must
complete training and pass a written exam every
three years.
So with this facility all managers --
Dr. Rippel went over the different breakdown of
management at this farm -- but all managers will
receive this training and be a Certified Livestock
Manager as well as Mike Salz. Okay.
On to siting criteria number two.
This is one whether the design,
location or proposed operation will protect the
environment by being consistent with the Livestock


```
    We will talk about storage capacity,
    which is my last line item, in regards to LMFA
    requires }150\mathrm{ days of liquid manure storage
    structure for a facility such as this. And we
    will have over a year's storage.
    So here's a couple of pictures where
    I can talk a little bit about the specifics.
    If you see the vertical rebars
    sticking vertically up, the concrete at the bottom
    would be the actual concrete footing for this
    particular structure. The black material behind
    the rebar is a water stop product.
    So any time you have a cold joint
    between two different pours you have to put a
    water stop product in that seals that joint.
    Prior to pouring concrete they put this product in
    and then they will make that a water tight seal
    right there.
    This slide talks about the
    reinforcing steel.
    I mentioned Midwest Plan Service. So
        in our design we use Midwest Plan Service. That
        is a design code referenced in the LMFA. Midwest
        Plan Service 36 is a rectangular concrete manure
```



| 1 | either wire mesh or reinforcing bar. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | The same requirement exists in the |
| 3 | walls so I am not going to talk about this slide |
| 4 | in great detail. We will look at the Midwest Plan |
| 5 | Service and we are going to meet or exceed what |
| 6 | the steel requirements are for that. |
| 7 | The beams and slats, I guess I want |
| 8 | to make a couple of points with this. This kind |
| 9 | of shows how a typical hog building -- actually |
| 10 | this was taken off of a beef facility but similar |
| 11 | idea -- is constructed. |
| 12 | You pour concrete footing and walls |
| 13 | and then columns as well. The beams and slats are |
| 14 | all precast. Where you see 16, that is a beam. |
| 15 | That is a controlled environment that sits on top |
| 16 | of the columns and then you sit the slats on top |
| 17 | of that. And you grout and seal everything to |
| 18 | make it tight and make a pen. |
| 19 | My biggest point with this slide, |
| 20 | one, is this meets Midwest Plan Service and LMFA. |
| 21 | But two, this design is going to have over a |
| 22 | year's storage. And I guess that is going to be |
| 23 | another one of my take home messages today in a |
| 24 | number of different siting criteria that I talk |


| 1 | about tonight. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | The perimeter drain tile, this kind |
| 3 | of shows what the perimeter drain tile is. It is |
| 4 | a perforated pipe placed around the exterior of |
| 5 | the concrete manure storage structure. And the |
| 6 | idea is to have a conduit for water so testing can |
| 7 | be done if required. And this just shows the |
| 8 | perforated pipe being placed in this particular |
| 9 | installation. |
| 10 | With this particular installation, if |
| 11 | you look -- this is being enveloped in gravel |
| 12 | material. We also have done one where you place |
| 13 | what I would call a sock or fabric material around |
| 14 | it and put the virgin material back on. But both |
| 15 | of them the idea is to provide a conduit for the |
| 16 | water to go and basically stop -- well, I guess |
| 17 | with the sock, where I was going there, stop any |
| 18 | collapse or plugging up of those holes so the |
| 19 | water can get to it I guess was my point there. |
| 20 | This shows numerous ways to do this, |
| 21 | but this is a monitoring sampling port. This |
| 22 | brings up from the ground. |
| 23 | So the last slide -- I will go back a |
| 24 | second. That shows the perimeter drain tile. |


| 1 | That is going to be at the base of the manure |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | storage structures which are ten, eight or two |
| 3 | foot deep. |
| 4 | We have to bring that up to the top |
| 5 | if we have to grab a sample. We typically bring a |
| 6 | riser up to the top of the ground, and if required |
| 7 | we can dip in and grab a sample. |
| 8 | The concrete specification |
| 9 | requirements, these are specific things that are |
| 10 | required by the Illinois Department of |
| 11 | Agriculture. |
| 12 | The first thing is the concrete |
| 13 | strength. We have to have a minimal strength of |
| 14 | 4,000 PSI at 28 days. Every load is certified in |
| 15 | writing by the manufacturer. And all construction |
| 16 | work has to be photo documented and submitted to |
| 17 | the Illinois Department of Agriculture. And then |
| 18 | during the construction on this project Illinois |
| 19 | Department of Agriculture will make periodic |
| 20 | inspections throughout the site and then they will |
| 21 | sign off on it before the facility can be stocked |
| 22 | with the hogs. |
| 23 | Okay, siting criteria number three. |
| 24 | This talks about whether the location of the |


| 1 | facility minimizes any incompatibility with the |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | surrounding area's character by being located in |
| 3 | an area zoned for agriculture where the county has |
| 4 | zoning or where the county is not zoned. The |
| 5 | setback requirements established by the Livestock |
| 6 | Management Facilities Act are complied with. |
| 7 | So the easy answer to this -- I will |
| 8 | have more in a minute, but this site is zoned |
| 9 | agriculture. That is the easy answer to the first |
| 10 | part. |
| 11 | The setback requirements, the main |
| 12 | thing I want to talk about here, go back to the |
| 13 | number of animal units. So we are at 3,384 animal |
| 14 | units. The base setback from an occupied |
| 15 | residence is a quarter of a mile for less than |
| 16 | 1,000 animal units. And then you increase by an |
| 17 | additional 220 feet for each 1,000 animal units |
| 18 | over that. |
| 19 | So with this particular facility, |
| 20 | since we are 3,384 animal units our occupied |
| 21 | residence setback is 1,760 feet. |
| 22 | So as I mentioned earlier, Mike Salz |
| 23 | has signed a waiver. And the next nearest would |
| 24 | be to the northeast. |

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Then the next setback requirement would be a populated place. This is a similar calculation. You take half a mile as a starting point for less than 1,000 animal units and then an additional 440 feet for each 1,000 animal units above that. So we are at 3,520 feet.

And everyone in that outer ring was notified via certified mail of the Notice of Intent to Construct, the complete application. This is another setback map. Dr. Rippel and Warren both already talked about this so $I$ won't go into detail, but there is another couple setbacks that we have to meet.

The nearest town, we already talked about that one, has to be greater than 3,520 feet. So we met that.

The nearest commonplace of assembly in this instance is Bethany Lutheran Church. It is greater than 3,520 feet so we meet that requirement.

And then the nearest nonfarm business
is the airport. And again, that is greater than 3,520 feet. So we meet that requirement as well.

Okay, on to site criteria number

| 1 | four, whether the facility is located within a 100 |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | year floodplain or otherwise environmentally |
| 3 | sensitive area defined as an area of karst area or |
| 4 | with aquifer material within 5 foot of the bottom |
| 5 | of the livestock waste handling facility and |
| 6 | whether construction standards set forth in the |
| 7 | Notice of Intent to Construction are consistent |
| 8 | with the goal of protecting the safety of the |
| 9 | area. |
| 10 | So I am going to skip to this one. |
| 11 | The first thing they talked about was the 100 year |
| 12 | floodplain. It is a little hard to see, but you |
| 13 | can see the box and Sandy Creek below to the |
| 14 | south. This is the Federal Emergency Management |
| 15 | Agency map. The facility is not located in the |
| 16 | 100 year floodplain, so that is how we reach that |
| 17 | requirement. |
| 18 | The second thing listed there was |
| 19 | karst. The Livestock Management Facilities Act |
| 20 | specifies what map we need to look at to see if it |
| 21 | is in a karst area or not. The source that's |
| 22 | listed, karst drains and carbonate rocks of |
| 23 | Illinois IDNR Illinois map eight, that is the map |
| 24 | they require us to -- the map is a huge map and it |


| 1 | wouldn't come into scale. This is a little map of |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | the lower corner of that map they reference. And |
| 3 | as you can see, there are specific areas where |
| 4 | karst are located. The star where our facility |
| 5 | is, there is no karst anywhere in the immediate |
| 6 | vicinity at all. Okay. |
| 7 | We performed soil borings out at the |
| 8 | site. Actually just completed this week. |
| 9 | Here's the three buildings that are |
| 10 | going to be constructed. As you can see, there |
| 11 | was a total of 24 soil borings performed on that |
| 12 | site. And we were basically trying to determine |
| 13 | what the soil structure was at that site and if we |
| 14 | are meeting criteria number four for the most |
| 15 | part. |
| 16 | I have a star at number five. We are |
| 17 | going to look at that more in just a second. |
| 18 | I want to go back to the definition |
| 19 | of aquifer material. |
| 20 | So the one item we haven't talked |
| 21 | about yet is aquifer material. What is that? |
| 22 | Directly out of the Livestock |
| 23 | Management Facilities Act, aquifer material means |
| 24 | sandstone that is 5 foot or more in thickness or |


| 1 | fractured carbonate that is 10 foot or more in |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | thickness, or sand, gravel or sand and gravel as |
| 3 | defined in this section such that there is at |
| 4 | least 2 feet or more present within a 5 foot |
| 5 | section of a soil boring performed with Sections |
| 6 | 506.202 and 506.302 of this part. |
| 7 | So here's the soil boring that was |
| 8 | performed. I would like to enter into as an |
| 9 | exhibit when I am done here the complete soil |
| 10 | boring report and have that on file. Because |
| 11 | there was 24 and we don't have time to go through |
| 12 | all 24. But they were all consistent at the whole |
| 13 | site. |
| 14 | So this was done at a depth of 15 |
| 15 | foot. We are below 5 foot of the bottom of the |
| 16 | proposed manure storage structure, which is where |
| 17 | we wanted to be. |
| 18 | We are looking at whether there is |
| 19 | aquifer material or not. |
| 20 | So if you take a look at this, it is |
| 21 | probably a little hard to see in the back, but on |
| 22 | the right-hand side there, dark brown clay topsoil |
| 23 | was from a depth of zero to 0.9. You had about a |
| 24 | foot of topsoil at that site. |

Slightly classified them different coming down, but I guess the take home message here from about a foot all of the way to the bottom we're in clay material, hard brown clay. And if you read the lower right-hand side of the screen, very tough to tough gray silty clay. Trace sand, moist clay.

The definition $I$ just read of aquifer, $I$ don't see any sand, $I$ don't see gravel that meets their definition of 2 foot area in a 5 foot section, nowhere exists. So the aquifer material does not exist at this site.

Siting criteria number five, whether the owner and operator has submitted plans for the operation that minimize the likelihood of any environmental damage to the surrounding area from spills, runoff and leaching.

Okay. We are going to talk about modern applicable technology. This goes into a couple other siting criteria. You will see this again. What $I$ like to refer to as best management practices.

So this picture here shows an example of what we can do as a best management practice.

This particular picture is a Jamesway honey wagon. We have a flow meter and they are injecting it and knifing it below, behind the unit. We can do a dragline, we can do a couple other technologies. But the biggest thing with this picture, we are injecting.

One of the best management practices we can use is direct application of manure into the soil profile.

There are other ways to do that.
Calibrated flow meters are one great way.
What we are trying to achieve here on the Manure Management Plan, we are going to look at different fields and we are going to look at different agronomic rates, depending on crop rotation, tillage practices, basically the nitrogen phosphorous uptake. So the rates could be different at different fields. And basically we need to make sure we are applying at the appropriate rates at different fields. So we need some sort of calibration in place to ensure we are applying at the right rates. And flow meters is one way to do that. Another best management practice out there is conservation change to help


| 1 | reasonable or innovative odor reduction |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | technologies given the current state of such |
| 3 | technologies. |
| 4 | So we are going to look at an |
| 5 | integrated management system. There is multiple |
| 6 | pieces of the puzzle here that affect and help |
| 7 | with odor control. |
| 8 | We talked about the nutrient |
| 9 | management slide. Nutrient management -- and we |
| 10 | will have another slide on that again and it will |
| 11 | be real similar -- but it all starts at the barn. |
| 12 | The feed management and what you are feeding that |
| 13 | animal can affect the odor coming out and the |
| 14 | nutrients. We are going to talk about that. |
| 15 | Manure treatment, if you want to do |
| 16 | manure treatment, that can affect it as well. |
| 17 | The big one is barn cleaning and |
| 18 | sanitation. If the barn is not clean you can get |
| 19 | particular matters of dust getting up in the fan |
| 20 | and going and leaving the site. |
| 21 | Tree buffers is another good odor |
| 22 | control strategy. And we will talk about that in |
| 23 | a minute as well. Okay. |
| 24 | We talked about feed management. I |



And the biggest take home message, which is what we are looking at, is reducing the odor and emissions.

Tree buffers. Tree buffers will be added to this farm.

Now, this is just a slide we found on the internet of some tree growth. These are I believe -- fast growing trees. You can show within three years you can barely even see this facility.

Trees will be on this farm. There may be a mix of different types of trees and species. We will submit a planting plan to the Illinois Department of Agriculture for approval.

This one I think is a big one. This boils down to management to me. But each barn will be pressure washed and sanitized between every production cycle.

If you have a dirty barn, you have fans in that barn, you are pulling out particles in the area that can contribute to odor.

If you keep the barn clean, keep the fans, that odor is not coming out, its staying in the pit rather than getting up in the air. The

1 biggest thing with this, I guess, is to keep those particles down in the pit and not get them up in the air where they could possibly be pulled out.

Again, $I$ am not going to talk about this one in great depth. We hit on this.

The same applicable technology that protects the environment is applicable as odor control.

We are no longer -- we are no longer taking side sling and just shooting it out the side. It is going to be injected down in the ground.

Another management practice for odor control is dead animal disposal.

With dead animal disposal -- I guess we list two different options that are available to us. There is a concrete bin system on the top or a bio bay. Basically an end vessel system.

Both of these are acceptable methods for dead animal disposal. The key take home message is to be designed and be constructed in accordance with the Illinois Dead Animal Disposal Act is the take home message. It will be one of these two options here.

```
    Okay, site criteria number seven,
    whether traffic patterns minimize the effects on
    existing traffic flows.
    So let's take a look at what that
    actual traffic is going to be. We are talking
    truck traffic now.
    So two weaner pig deliveries from the
    farm per week. There will be one cull sow
    delivery from the farm every week and a half and
    six feed deliveries to the farm per week.
    If you count that out -- I am going
    to talk about ADT, average daily traffic, here in
        a minute. When you say -- count that out per day
        it is approximately 1.2 trucks per day.
    We have two routes we are looking at.
        This would be right now the main transportation
        route. And from this site we have due north on
        whether you want to call it Third Road or 2800
        East. We turn east on State Route 18 and then go
        on 39 wherever we need to go. That's the main
        route.
            The alternate route is similar except
        we are heading and turning due south. And with
        this route we are going State Route 17 and again
```

```
    1 \text { heading east until we hit 39.}
    So what is our traffic on these
    existing roads? This was pulled off the Illinois
    Department of Transportation's website, readily
    available to anyone who wants it.
    For each of the roads I have the
    average daily traffic. So that's the total
    traffic, including all vehicles, multi axil, cars.
    That's total traffic.
    So as you can see, State Route 17
    gets a little bit more than State Route 18. And
    County Road 2800 is obviously a lot less.
    Now, what I wanted to look at, daily
    truck traffic, which again is available on the
    same website. Because it was a secondary road I
    am guessing they probably didn't go that in depth
    and break down what the truck and vehicle traffic
    is. So I don't have data on that for the county
    road. But State Route 18 is 270, State Route 17
    is 325.
    So basically with this slide we plug
    in our 1.2 trucks per day and what is that
    increase? You look at the increases, they are all
    below 1 percent. The greatest being . }6\mathrm{ on the
```



I am going to read this verbatim, because $I$ think if you read this you will see what the goal is in an agriculture area.

The long range goal for agricultural land use in the county is to preserve the most valuable of all natural resources. That of fertile land for agricultural pursuits and to protect the land best suited for farming for premature urbanization. Agricultural district regulations are therefore designed to regulate the use of land and structures within the areas of the county where soil and topographic conditions are best adapted to the pursuit of agriculture and utilization of other natural land uses and to provide for low density residential development in areas where such development is compatible with agricultural uses.

So as I read this, to me we want to keep agriculture, we want to preserve the natural resources.

Dr. Rippel talked a little bit about the manure, the value of the manure and it being a natural fertilizer for the ground. And that's what we want to do here.

The economic side of it Dr. Rippel talked as well, and I am not going to go over his numbers, but there is going to be economic growth as far as jobs, hiring different individuals to do different items, the economic opportunities, property taxes. $\$ 2$ million was the number that was on Dr. Rippel's slide. So I guess a lot of different items here go together to show economic growth. And then as far as what the goal for zoning and increase agriculture, if we read this, we want fertile land and to pursue the use of natural resources. That's what we are trying to do here.

So I guess in closing, hopefully today you had a chance to listen and see why we think we are meeting the eight siting criteria in the LMFA. And with that $I$ will take questions.

Before I do that, I guess I want to enter this in for an exhibit.

Then I guess my powerpoint as an exhibit as well. Do you want a copy of that?

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: I have a copy of your presentation here that you supplied to us earlier.

MR. WAGNER: Okay.

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: So I will enter into the record as Exhibit Number 3 a Report of Soils Exploration for the Proposed Hog Facility done by Wagner Consulting and Agriculture, LLC.

I will also enter into the record as Exhibit Number 4, which is a copy of the powerpoint presentation that was just presented.

We will now open the meeting for any questions that you may have of the Facility or of the Illinois Department of Agriculture.

If you have a question that you would like to ask, please step up to the microphone, please state your name and spell your last name. Please indicate to whom you are directing your question.

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

So please limit this session to questions only.

MS. CHURNEY: Cheryl Churney,
$\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{U}-\mathrm{R}-\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{E}-\mathrm{Y}$.
First I have some questions for
Mr. Goetsch.

Mr. Goetsch, you mentioned that the representatives for the applicant had not provided any formal engineering or design plans. Have they submitted any informal plans to the department?

MR. GOETSCH: No, they have not.
MS. CHURNEY: Did you say during your open remarks, I am asking for clarification here, that you anticipated having construction plans from the applicant before June 14 of this year?

MR. GOETSCH: I don't know that I said that, but the Department will not take a final action in this -- in this process until such time as an applicant would have met all of the requirements of the statute; one of those being construction plans and specs. So we won't be able to take any kind of an action until that information is provided to us.

MS. CHURNEY: Will there be another public hearing to allow residents of Marshall

| 1 | County to comment on those plans when they are |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | received by the Department? |
| 3 | MR. GOETSCH: There is no plan for |
| 4 | such, no. |
| 5 | MS. CHURNEY: If the facility is |
| 6 | built, would residents of Evans Township and |
| 7 | Marshall County be notified if the owner/operator |
| 8 | of Sandy Creek Lane apply to the Department of |
| 9 | Agriculture to expand the facility in the future? |
| 10 | MR. GOETSCH: Can you restate the |
| 11 | question? |
| 12 | MS. CHURNEY: If they want to expand |
| 13 | the facility in the future, are the residents of |
| 14 | Marshall County advised of that fact by the |
| 15 | Department or anyone else? |
| 16 | MR. GOETSCH: It would -- possibly. |
| 17 | It would depend on the specifics of that proposed |
| 18 | expansion. If they -- if it were an expansion of |
| 19 | a certain amount such that it would be considered |
| 20 | a new facility under the definition of the Act, |
| 21 | then we would repeat this entire process. If the |
| 22 | proposed expansion was less than a certain level |
| 23 | that caused it to be classified as an expansion |
| 24 | and not as a new facility, then we wouldn't have |


| 1 | this same process. The Department would -- they |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | would still be required to meet the other |
| 3 | applicable requirements like the construction |
| 4 | standards, like the Certified Livestock Manager, |
| 5 | Waste Management Plans, all of those things, but |
| 6 | there would not be a public information meeting |
| 7 | process. It depends on the size of that proposed |
| 8 | expansion. |
| 9 | MS. CHURNEY: Their expansion could |
| 10 | be structured to avoid further public input in |
| 11 | the process, is that correct, sir? |
| 12 | MR. GOETSCH: Yes. |
| 13 | MS. CHURNEY: Before approving the |
| 14 | application does the Department of Agriculture |
| 15 | require evidence of the financial ability of the |
| 16 | owners of the facility to ensure proper cleanup |
| 17 | in the event of an environmental incident at the |
| 18 | facility? |
| 19 | MR. GOETSCH: There are no such |
| 20 | requirements in the statute for a facility that |
| 21 | includes this kind of Waste Management Plan. If |
| 22 | it were an anaerobic lagoon there are financial |
| 23 | surety demonstration requirements, but for an |
| 24 | under pit or under building manure storage |


| 1 | structure there are no such requirements. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | MS. CHURNEY: Before approving the |
| 3 | application does the Department of Agriculture |
| 4 | require evidence of what $I$ would call a |
| 5 | "Decommissioning Plan" so that when the facility |
| 6 | is closed sufficient funds are in place to make |
| 7 | the site -- make sure the site is properly closed |
| 8 | and without presenting any environmental hazards? |
| 9 | MR. GOETSCH: There are requirements |
| 10 | in the statute that -- there are requirements in |
| 11 | the statute that apply to closure of a facility. |
| 12 | There are not any financial thresholds as part of |
| 13 | that requirement but there are certain |
| 14 | requirements for the closure of a facility. |
| 15 | There is a process established by statute. |
| 16 | MS. CHURNEY: Thank you, sir. |
| 17 | I now have some questions for |
| 18 | Dr. Rippel and Mr. Wagner. |
| 19 | Has Sandy Creek purchased the real |
| 20 | estate where the facility will be built? |
| 21 | MR. RIPPEL: No, they have not. |
| 22 | MS. CHURNEY: Have you executed an |
| 23 | option to purchase the real estate? |
| 24 | MR. RIPPEL: We have an agreement in |

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    1 effect.
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MS. CHURNEY: Has a memorandum of that agreement been recorded with the Marshall
    County Recorder of Deeds?
    MR. WAGNER: I don't think that is
    applicable of the eight siting criteria.
    MS. CHURNEY: If you don't want to
    answer the question say you don't want to answer
    the question.
                            MR. RIPPEL: What was the question
    again?
    MS. CHURNEY: The question was has a
    memorandum of an agreement to purchase the land
    been recorded with a Marshall County Recorder of
    Deeds?
    MR. RIPPEL: No, it has not.
    MS. CHURNEY: How much land will be
    purchased?
                            Can you tell me the acreage and the
    dimensions?
    MR. RIPPEL: It would be a
    disservice if I gave you the -- It is
    approximately 17 acres.
    MS. CHURNEY: The setback
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| 1 | calculations -- maybe Mr. Wagner can better |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | answer this question -- what was the starting |
| 3 | point for the setback calculation so that you can |
| 4 | create that radius? Where is the beginning |
| 5 | point? |
| 6 | MR. WAGNER: There's multiple |
| 7 | points. Be the nearest livestock waste |
| 8 | management facility -- so that's not a true |
| 9 | circle. That is arcs all formed together. |
| 10 | MS. CHURNEY: Okay. So where is the |
| 11 | first -- |
| 12 | MR. WAGNER: It's the outer edge of |
| 13 | all manure storage structures. |
| 14 | MS. CHURNEY: That is somewhere on |
| 15 | the Salz property? |
| 16 | MR. WAGNER: There is not a starting |
| 17 | point. When you swing those occupied residence |
| 18 | radiuses -- so he's got all of those different |
| 19 | buildings. It is from the outer edge of the |
| 20 | concrete manure structure of all of those. |
| 21 | MS. CHURNEY: Perhaps, I don't know |
| 22 | if you could find quickly that slide that shows |
| 23 | the setback radius. Maybe you could point for us |
| 24 | how you calculated that radius, please. |

MR. WAGNER: So for instance like if you look up here for that arc, it is coming from the nearest corner, which would be right here. This corner is swinging an arc there.

MS. CHURNEY: Thank you. I understand now.

Dr. Rippel, can you tell us how many gallons of waste will be produced per animal unit each day at the facility?

MR. RIPPEL: I can tell you based on farms that we currently manage that we will produce approximately 5 gallons per inventoried sow per day.

MS. CHURNEY: The informational letter that you sent to Leslie Smith, and I have a copy of it if you need to refresh your recollection, indicated that a waste produced at that facility will be applied in the spring and fall to surrounding cropland.

Does that mean Mr. Sals' cropland?

MR. RIPPEL: Mike has exclusive rights to the nutrient produced by this facility. So the Manure Management Plan will include what ground that will be applied on.

MS. CHURNEY: Have you secured
either leases or manure transfer agreements from
any other property owners?
MR. RIPPEL: No.
MS. CHURNEY: Do you intend to?
MR. RIPPEL: No.
MS. CHURNEY: How will you get the
manure to Mr. Sals' land?
MR. RIPPEL: That will either be --
most likely through dragline, but that is yet to
be determined.
MS. CHURNEY: Do you need any
easements for those draglines?
MR. RIPPEL: Again, that will depend
on once we put together the Manure Management
Plan and which fields we are going to incorporate
that nutrient to.
MS. CHURNEY: How many investors are
there in the Sandy Creek Lane, LLC?
MR. RIPPEL: Currently there are no
investors because we have to have a permitting
approved before we have any farmer investors
commit to the project.
MS. CHURNEY: You indicated that VMC

| 1 | is affiliated with 12 other farms. Can you give |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | us the names of those 12 other farms? |
| 3 | MR. RIPPEL: You know, that will be |
| 4 | like going to the doctor's office and asking for |
| 5 | the client list. I cannot give you that |
| 6 | information. |
| 7 | MS. CHURNEY: Are those licensed |
| 8 | facilities in the state of Iowa? |
| 9 | MR. RIPPEL: Correct. |
| 10 | MS. CHURNEY: So that is public |
| 11 | information? |
| 12 | MR. RIPPEL: Yes. But we are also a |
| 13 | veterinary clinic and we provide veterinary |
| 14 | service to those farms, so that would be again |
| 15 | like giving client information out. |
| 16 | MS. CHURNEY: VMC Management |
| 17 | Corporation is a veterinary clinic? |
| 18 | MR. RIPPEL: As I said in my intro, |
| 19 | Veterinary Medical Center is a mixed animal |
| 20 | practice, and the same veterinarian owners of |
| 21 | Veterinary Medical Center also own VMC |
| 22 | Management. As we provide -- through VMC |
| 23 | management we provide the management of the sow |
| 24 | farm. We run the sow farm for the farmer owners |

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    1 \text { and at the same time we also provide the health}
    2 and veterinary care for those animals.
    MS. CHURNEY: Is VMC Management
    Corporation a veterinarian practice?
    MR. RIPPEL: No.
    MS. CHURNEY: Is VMC Management
    Corporation -- has VMC Management Corporation
    applied for a license to operate facility farms
    in the state of Iowa?
    MR. RIPPEL: I am not aware of the
    requirement for that.
    MS. CHURNEY: Is VMC Management
    corporation an Illinois corporation?
    MR. RIPPEL: Yes.
    MS. CHURNEY: Who's the registered
    agent for VMC Management Corporation in Illinois?
    MR. RIPPEL: I believe it would be
    Dr. Aljets.
    MS. CHURNEY: I understand that
    there are to be concrete pits under each
    building. How many buildings will there be?
    Just the three?
    MR. RIPPEL: Three manure containing
    structures, correct.
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MS. CHURNEY: How deep are those pits?

MR. RIPPEL: Underneath the gilt barn will be an 8 foot pit. Underneath the gestation barn will be a 10 foot pit, and a 2 foot pit underneath the farrowing barn.

MS. CHURNEY: This question is for Mr. Wagner.

You had another slide, sir, where you showed the pits being constructed. And I couldn't tell from the slide -- there was a crane that was depicted in the photograph or it was a concrete truck that was filling the structure with concrete. Do you know the photograph I am talking about?

MR. WAGNER: It was a concrete pumper truck.

MS. CHURNEY: Do you will know how much that truck weighs?

MR. WAGNER: Not off the top of my head.

MS. CHURNEY: Do you know how many of those trucks will be used during the construction phase of the facility?

1

2

MR. WAGNER: No, we haven't

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    finalized that.
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MS. CHURNEY: Do you know how many
loads of gravel and sand will be delivered to the
site to construct the facility?

MR. WAGNER: No.

MS. CHURNEY: Will you be
constructing any roads within the facility
itself, you know, to get from building to
building or to get from the access road?
MR. WAGNER: Yes, obviously.

MS. CHURNEY: Do you know how many
loads of gravel you will need to construct those roads?

MR. WAGNER: What does this have to do with the eight siting criteria?

MS. CHURNEY: Related to the traffic pattern, sir.

Do you know how many loads of gravel
you --

MR. WAGNER: No. I could calc it out but $I$ don't know off the top of my head.

MS. CHURNEY: Will there be a
parking area on the facility?

MR. WAGNER: There will be a spot for vehicles to park their cars, yes.

MS. CHURNEY: I take it that will be a gravel construction as well?

MR. WAGNER: More than likely.

MS. CHURNEY: Do you know how many gravel trucks you will need or how many loads of gravel you will need for the parking area?

MR. WAGNER: No.

MS. CHURNEY: I will clean up -- I will get to the end here and ask just a few more questions.

Do you know -- Mr. Rippel, you
indicated that there will be $\$ 70,000$ worth of property tax generated from the property. Do you know how much of that $\$ 70,000$ will actually go to the Evans Township Road and Bridge fund?

MR. RIPPEL: I do not have that number.

MS. CHURNEY: Would you be surprised to know that it would be less than $\$ 350$ a year?

MR. RIPPEL: I can't comment on that.

MS. CHURNEY: Okay. Will you be
applying for property tax abatements for the
concrete placement under the building?
MR. RIPPEL: Yes.
MS. CHURNEY: So \$70,000 that you
calculated, does that include the abatement for
those facilities or is that before you take that
property tax abatement?
MR. RIPPEL: That was a pure
estimate so I cannot comment on that.
MS. CHURNEY: And you will be taking
depreciation on the buildings from various years?
MR. RIPPEL: Just like any other
agricultural facility, yes.
MS. CHURNEY: The $\$ 70,000$ estimate
will continue to go down year after year?
MR. RIPPEL: I am not an accountant
so I cannot comment on that.
MS. CHURNEY: I'll defer to some
other questioners.
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Yes, let's
let some others ask questions here.
MR. GENTERT: My name is Charles
Gentert, $\mathrm{G}-\mathrm{E}-\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{T}-\mathrm{E}-\mathrm{R}-\mathrm{T}$.
I want to ask one question right now.

1 They said $\$ 70,000$ in tax money only for Marshal
County, not for LaSalle County. One question.
Have any studies been done about the devaluation
of the neighborhood houses around there? Has that
been taken into account, once this hog farm is
built, the devaluation of the nearby houses that
are built around?
MR. RIPPEL: I guess the question
is -- I guess I am not sure what the question is.
MR. GENTERT: Well, once these hog
farms go up there is a general -- to people that
lives in the general area, isn't there a
devaluation of the houses?
MR. RIPPEL: What data would you be
pulling that from to justify that statement?
MR. GENTERT: Well, a --
MR. RIPPEL: Do you have comparables
to justify that statement?
MR. GENTERT: You want to make --
MS. CHURNEY: Point of order, he's
answering questions, not asking questions.
MR. GENTERT: You want me to pull
the data, $I$ will hire an attorney to get all of
the data.

Seems like we are trying to get the wool pulled over our eyes. Excuse me, I will let somebody else talk.

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: State your name.

LESLIE SMITH: Leslie Smith, $S-M-I-T-H$.

I have a question for you. We were speaking about hogs in the area and disease, things like that. The PED is a very contagious issue, especially in large confinement facilities.

With the high risk rate of transmission of PED and other hog diseases and shipping those hogs by third parties, how can you ensure that neighboring farms, including Mr. John Foote, who is right outside your setback area, and be confident you will not spread these diseases to his hogs that he has currently on his property?

MR. RIPPEL: First of all, nice to meet you face-to-face. You called and asked those questions. I appreciate your phone call. I was disappointed you didn't come out and take the tour of the farms with me.

To address your question, I guess I

| 1 | didn't realize John had any pigs. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | LESLIE SMITH: Yes. |
| 3 | MR. RIPPEL: I know he had a pig |
| 4 | background but I did not realize he had pigs. |
| 5 | I guess your question is what is |
| 6 | our -- |
| 7 | LESLIE SMITH: How can he feel safe |
| 8 | that since you are transporting these -- your |
| 9 | pigs to and from your facility with like a third |
| 10 | party, how can he feel safe that if you get |
| 11 | disease in your facility it won't be passed on to |
| 12 | his current livestock? |
| 13 | MR. RIPPEL: I could have the same |
| 14 | feeling, if he gets disease in his facility he |
| 15 | could transmit it to our farm. With many pig |
| 16 | diseases they are transmitted through pig to pig |
| 17 | contact. There would be none there. But they |
| 18 | also could transmit to contaminated trailers, |
| 19 | equipment, people. Just John going to Casey's or |
| 20 | taking his pigs to market and coming back to his |
| 21 | own herd he can infect his own herd with PED, |
| 22 | TGE, erysipelas, you name it. So I don't see how |
| 23 | Sandy Creek Lane would pose any great risk to |
| 24 | his. |

LESLIE SMITH: Currently right now I guess just it being so close and these type of facilities having such a high rate of PED compared to traditional farming practices.

MR. RIPPEL: Do you understand what PED is, ma'am?

LESLIE SMITH: Yes, a diarrhea disease that the pigs get.

MR. RIPPEL: Do you understand how it's transmitted?

LESLIE SMITH: I do, yes.

MR. RIPPEL: You know, not -- it is beyond the scope of this to get into epidemiology of PED, but it is a disease of pigs that was first detected this spring -- or this past spring. Sorry. First time ever in this country. And you have an entire naive population of pigs. I don't know the history of John's pigs. I am assuming they would be naive, I don't know. But it has been a challenge to the industry. We will not be stocking this facility with PED positive pigs.

LESLIE SMITH: From what I have
read, Iowa has -- I do believe it was 30 or

| 1 | 40 percent of all of the facilities are testing |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | positive for PED within the last year. |
| 3 | Are your pigs going to be going to |
| 4 | and from Iowa? |
| 5 | MR. RIPPEL: They would be going to |
| 6 | farms in Iowa and Illinois. |
| 7 | There is PED in Illinois currently. |
| 8 | There is -- so Iowa is not unique. It's been |
| 9 | found in most hog producing states. |
| 10 | LESLIE SMITH: I think that's what I |
| 11 | worry, is you guys moving them in and out at such |
| 12 | a constant rate, the chance is going to be |
| 13 | greatly increased for that in the area. |
| 14 | MR. RIPPEL: So I appreciate your |
| 15 | concern, but we also have a concern for our own |
| 16 | farms. We don't want to bring that disease back. |
| 17 | We have bio security. Just to give you an idea, |
| 18 | bio security, we -- you know, we wash and bake |
| 19 | trailers to prevent disease transmission before |
| 20 | it returns to the farm. We have -- when we bring |
| 21 | product into farms we run it through a UV light |
| 22 | box to disinfect it. We shower into a farm and |
| 23 | back out of the farm to not only prevent disease |
| 24 | entering in the farm on our person but also if we |



LESLIE SMITH: That's what I mean, it is uphill of the creek. The reason for having them away from surface bodies, so if there is a runoff, when you are uphill, if there is any type of spill or anything like that, it will run down to the creek. Which is kind of I think their instance of don't put it by surface water.

MR. WAGNER: If you would go to flat lying you probably couldn't build it hardly anywhere in the state Illinois because eventually something is going to run into something eventually. Plus the site's designs -HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Let's move on to the next questioner.

State your name and spell it. MIKE PHILLIPS: Mike Phillips, $\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{I}-\mathrm{L}-\mathrm{L}-\mathrm{I}-\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{S}$. Mr. Rippel, according to your presentation this will be the largest facility in service, yet your headquarters -- this will be the farthest away from your headquarters. It will be about 150 miles away. How do you intend to provide adequate oversight?

MR. RIPPEL: We have, as I described

| 1 | prior, we have an on farm site manager, general |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | manager, who is directly responsible for that |
| 3 | farm and who reports directly to myself. |
| 4 | MIKE PHILLIPS: Mr. Wagner, you said |
| 5 | that an important aspect of this, about how great |
| 6 | your operation is going to be, is that Mr. Salz |
| 7 | is willing to sign a waiver for the setback |
| 8 | distance. |
| 9 | Did it occur to you that Mike is okay |
| 10 | with the setback waiver because he's going to make |
| 11 | a lot of money out of this? |
| 12 | MR. WAGNER: No comment. |
| 13 | MIKE PHILLIPS: Mr. Wagner, will the |
| 14 | perimeter drain tile allow you to detect leakage |
| 15 | from the bottom of the structure or just from the |
| 16 | side? |
| 17 | MR. WAGNER: It would be constructed |
| 18 | in accordance with the Livestock Management |
| 19 | Facilities Act, which is around the perimeter of |
| 20 | the structure. |
| 21 | MIKE PHILLIPS: Let's see, the last |
| 22 | question I have is again for Mr. Wagner. |
| 23 | When you counted the traffic increase |
| 24 | on County Highway 2800 you said that there is |



1

2 name.

MR. WAGNER: If you are assuming each one has their own vehicle, sure.

MIKE PHILLIPS: Thank you.

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: State your

FRED HARTENBOWER: My name is Fred Hartenbower, Mayor from Lostant.

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Please spell your name.

FRED HARTENBOWER: $\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{A}-\mathrm{R}-\mathrm{T}-\mathrm{E}-\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{B}-\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{W}-$

I have got about three pages for questions.

First one is do you have a five year plan on what you intend on doing on this facility? Any increases in production than what you have stated tonight?

MR. RIPPEL: No. We have no intentions of doing -- doing any increase in size in this facility.

FRED HARTENBOWER: Okay. Lostant has a TIF District, Dr. Rippel, just 2 miles away from your facility. Less than 2 miles away. And that does put it within the town limits, not the

1 four to six that you stated.
MR. RIPPEL: Can you explain that,
please?
FRED HARTENBOWER: Excuse me?
MR. RIPPEL: Can you explain that
for me, please?
FRED HARTENBOWER: Lostant increased
since the time you moved to Iowa. A TIF District
is a tax incentive financing. And Lostant has
moved their borders out beyond when you were
living here and playing basketball. We are out
by 18 and 39 at this time.
My question about that is what can we
expect 2 miles away with the smell coming in?
It makes it difficult for us to grow
business in that TIF district if we have that
smell.
MR. RIPPEL: Obviously odor is -- is
the big concern for tonight.
I will tell you in my opinion if you
drive onto the Sandy Creek Lane site once it is
stocked, or any other farm that we manage, you
will smell pigs when you are on the site. As you
move further away you will smell less and less

| 1 | than that with the prevailing winds. Two miles |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | away I would not expect to smell that very often, |
| 3 | if at all. |
| 4 | FRED HARTENBOWER: The last question |
| 5 | I have is two part. |
| 6 | The well that you intend on drilling |
| 7 | from what I understand is going to be |
| 8 | approximately 1800 feet, is that correct? |
| 9 | MR. RIPPEL: Correct. |
| 10 | FRED HARTENBOWER: That's the same |
| 11 | depth that Lostant and Toluca and I believe |
| 12 | Wenona have. |
| 13 | Has there ever been any kind of an |
| 14 | accident or spillage in that size of a well or |
| 15 | that depth of a well that could allow the affluent |
| 16 | to leak into the well? |
| 17 | Do you know of any history of that |
| 18 | ever happening? |
| 19 | MR. RIPPEL: I know of no history of |
| 20 | that happening. |
| 21 | FRED HARTENBOWER: Okay. And the |
| 22 | last question $I$ have about the well is these deep |
| 23 | wells, we have been spending the last ten to 15 |
| 24 | years trying to remove the radium in these wells. |


| 1 | You should expect to see radium in the well that |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | you are digging. Is it your intention on putting |
| 3 | a reverse osmosis system in there or are you |
| 4 | going to feed the piglets radiation water that |
| 5 | the EPA has deemed unfit for human consumption? |
| 6 | MR. RIPPEL: There will be no |
| 7 | reverse osmosis system. |
| 8 | We have seen the water sample or |
| 9 | water quality results from the City of Wenona and |
| 10 | it did not indicate radium in those water samples, |
| 11 | so I cannot comment on that. |
| 12 | FRED HARTENBOWER: If you find it |
| 13 | will you -- the radium, will you then put in a |
| 14 | reverse osmosis system or its equivalent? |
| 15 | MR. RIPPEL: I don't have enough |
| 16 | information to answer that question at this |
| 17 | point. |
| 18 | FRED HARTENBOWER: Thank you. |
| 19 | NIC ANDERSON: Nic Anderson, N-I-C, |
| 20 | $\mathrm{A}-\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{D}-\mathrm{E}-\mathrm{R}-\mathrm{S}-\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{N}$. |
| 21 | Dr. Rippel, there was a little |
| 22 | confusion based on -- clarification based on your |
| 23 | vet management clinic or your vet management team |
| 24 | and the veterinary clinic. The veterinary clinic |


| 1 | provides veterinary services to the management |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | team through their sow units? |
| 3 | MR. RIPPEL: Correct. |
| 4 | NIC ANDERSON: That clarifies that |
| 5 | for me. |
| 6 | When you talk about size -- when you |
| 7 | talk about size and the scope of possibilities of |
| 8 | expansion, and I think Mr. Goetsch talked about |
| 9 | what it would take to be an expansion and |
| 10 | notification process, I think you mentioned that |
| 11 | you had no plans for expansion, is that correct? |
| 12 | MR. RIPPEL: Right. |
| 13 | NIC ANDERSON: Why would you not |
| 14 | have plans? Or what would be a potential of not |
| 15 | expanding this farm? |
| 16 | Is there criteria that makes that |
| 17 | feasible or not feasible? |
| 18 | MR. RIPPEL: This farm was sized |
| 19 | based on the current barn sizes and sites out |
| 20 | there that our typical farmer investor has. They |
| 21 | can fill whole barns or whole sites with one week |
| 22 | of production from this farm. You go much bigger |
| 23 | than that, it doesn't fit and you start, you |
| 24 | know, getting all of your eggs in one basket too. |

NIC ANDERSON: For Mr. Goetsch, some emphasis was put on the design plans and compliance. Just for clarity, the farm doesn't have their plans in, and you made a note of that, and you haven't received or reviewed those, but they will have to do that at some point in a certain amount of time and you will have to
approve those before they even start
construction?

MR. GOETSCH: Yes. The Department
would not take $a$ form or final action in this
process until such time as all of the
requirements are met. One of those being the
submittal of complete construction plans and
specifications.

NIC ANDERSON: So if the plans
weren't in they couldn't even start the construction at that point?

MR. GOETSCH: That's correct.
NIC ANDERSON: That clarifies that
for me. Thank you.
DAVE LOESER: My name is Dave
Loeser. Last name $L-0-E-S-E-R$.

My question is in this illustration


```
    1 creek? What's in a creek? What's in a creek?
    2 What's in a creek?
    I am asking a forward question.
    MR. WAGNER: You know the answer.
    DAVE LOESER: Okay. Is it water?
    And water flows.
    I grew up in Sandy fishing, swimming.
    Why is it white?
    If you are talking tiling, I see a
    lot of roads around there. This is misleading to
    me.
    Water is depicted -- you look at
    maps, it is dark just like that creek.
    Has this been tampered with, this
    map? That is just a question.
    MR. WAGNER: No.
    HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Do you have
    another question?
    DAVE LOESER: I do.
    In a case of emergency if something
    happens to the facility, what is emergency
    protocol? Is there any kind of backup?
    I see tanks, I see -- any kind of
    emergency protocol?
```

| 1 | We have had tornadoes lately around |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | here in this land. Anything? |
| 3 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Who are you |
| 4 | directing the question to? |
| 5 | DAVE LOESER: Anybody really. I |
| 6 | would like to hear something. |
| 7 | MR. RIPPEL: So the question is what |
| 8 | would be the emergency response if there would |
| 9 | happen to be a spill? |
| 10 | DAVE LOESER: I do -- |
| 11 | MR. RIPPEL: First of all, these |
| 12 | facilities are designed so spills will not |
| 13 | happen. It is a totally contained facility. We |
| 14 | have no permission to discharge like the local |
| 15 | communities do into the tributaries of Sandy |
| 16 | Creek. We have to apply that, incorporate that |
| 17 | into the manure through the practices we |
| 18 | described. So there would be no intentional |
| 19 | release of nutrient. |
| 20 | DAVE LOESER: Do you have a map that |
| 21 | is maybe spanned out a little more than this? |
| 22 | Does anybody at home have a map? |
| 23 | Scan it out and look and watch where the drain |
| 24 | goes. It points right to it. |

2 name.
time?

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: State your

STEVE CLANIN: Steve Clanin,
$\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{L}-\mathrm{A}-\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{I}-\mathrm{N}$.

Just for clarification $I$ would like
to point out Mr . Anderson is paid to represent the interest --

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Sir, do you have a question?

STEVE CLANIN: Yes, I do, but I would like to point out he's paid to represent the interest of Sandy Lake.

My question to Mr. Rippel, you stated 20 employees?

MR. RIPPEL: Correct.

STEVE CLANIN: How many will be full

MR. RIPPEL: Twenty.

STEVE CLANIN: All 20 full time?

That seems a little inconsistent with the 12
farms and 80 employees and 20 on one.

MR. RIPPEL: This is a bigger farm than most of the other farms.

STEVE CLANIN: What's the pay scale?

MR. RIPPEL: We will have a salary
budget of approximately $\$ 800,000$ a year.

STEVE CLANIN: What's that come to per person?

MR. RIPPEL: We pay based on ability and the position, so it is hard for me to specifically say that.

STEVE CLANIN: So will some of these be minimum wage jobs?

MR. RIPPEL: We don't start anybody at any of our systems at minimum wage.

STEVE CLANIN: Where do you start?

MR. RIPPEL: Typically if we have somebody with no experience whatsoever it is in the 10 to \$11 range.

STEVE CLANIN: Do these job include health benefits, insurance, retirement?

MR. RIPPEL: Yes, it is required, or will be required soon after they stop postponing the Obama Care. We have already --

STEVE CLANIN: Will they be all
local people or are you going to hire green cards?

MR. RIPPEL: We are an equal

| 1 | opportunity employer and we hire based on a |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | person's ability to work and show up. |
| 3 | STEVE CLANIN: Okay. |
| 4 | LISA PHILLIPS: My name is Lisa |
| 5 | Phillips, P-H-I-L-L-I-P-S. I have a question. |
| 6 | We have read that sometimes there can |
| 7 | be a buildup of noxious gases inside these |
| 8 | facilities. If those gases need to be released |
| 9 | into the air or are released into the air we are |
| 10 | worried this could cause a public health risk. |
| 11 | I have two kids in close proximity to |
| 12 | this facility. |
| 13 | What type of notification or |
| 14 | evacuation plans do you have in effect in case |
| 15 | something like this happens to protect the health |
| 16 | of the neighbors? |
| 17 | There have been documented -- like I |
| 18 | have the research -- cases where there have been |
| 19 | mass releases of noxious gas. And can you address |
| 20 | if you have an evacuation plan in place? |
| 21 | MR. RIPPEL: I can tell you on our |
| 22 | managed farms we have never had that issue. As |
| 23 | you see by my pictures, I take my family into the |
| 24 | farms with me. I would not put them in jeopardy. |


| 1 | So we have not had trouble with that, nor do we |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | foresee having any trouble with that. |
| 3 | As far as air quality outside of the |
| 4 | farm, a study by the University of Saskatchewan |
| 5 | showed that air quality upwind from a hog |
| 6 | confinement, one mile upwind is the same as a half |
| 7 | mile downwind. |
| 8 | LISA PHILLIPS: Okay. Follow-up |
| 9 | question to that. So according to the Drake |
| 10 | Journal of Agriculture Law there are -- certainly |
| 11 | within Iowa have been lots of emissions. |
| 12 | I want to understand if you have an |
| 13 | evacuation plan filed in place or with the fire |
| 14 | department so we have some kind of idea of what -- |
| 15 | whether we would be notified, what kind of |
| 16 | evacuation plan is in place? According to the |
| 17 | Section 6 there has to be odor control plans in |
| 18 | place. |
| 19 | I would like to know what you have |
| 20 | done to -- filed with the city, local fire |
| 21 | departments, communities, to know what kind of |
| 22 | evacuation plan there is so I can protect my |
| 23 | children. |
| 24 | MR. RIPPEL: There is no -- there is |

## MIDWEST LITIGATION SERVICES

| 1 | no risk of lethal gases affecting the surrounding |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | community. And on all of our farms, all |
| 3 | employees are certified, and part of that |
| 4 | certification process is we have an emergency |
| 5 | action plan which is posted at the farm. |
| 6 | LISA PHILLIPS: It is just posted at |
| 7 | the farm? There is no kind of planning with the |
| 8 | city or with anybody? Local neighbors, they |
| 9 | don't have to know, is that what you are saying? |
| 10 | MR. RIPPEL: Correct. |
| 11 | LISA PHILLIPS: So you can have -- |
| 12 | okay. |
| 13 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: State your |
| 14 | name. |
| 15 | MICHAEL MENDOLA: Good evening. My |
| 16 | name is Michael Mendola, $\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{E}-\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{D}-\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{L}-\mathrm{A}$. |
| 17 | My first question is for Mr. Goetsch. |
| 18 | You mentioned there would be a |
| 19 | powerpoint presentation that is part of the file |
| 20 | in this case. Will that be available to the |
| 21 | public either on your website or other -- |
| 22 | MR. GOETSCH: It will -- the |
| 23 | powerpoint presentation that we made will be part |
| 24 | of the official record. It will be attached to |


| 1 | the transcript of tonight's meeting. And it |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | would be available -- it would be subject to the |
| 3 | Freedom of Information Act. So yeah, we can make |
| 4 | it available. If you would like a copy, we can |
| 5 | certainly provide it. |
| 6 | MICHAEL MENDOLA: I think perhaps a |
| 7 | lot of people in this room would like to have |
| 8 | access to it because it is -- a lot of words were |
| 9 | said tonight that we don't necessarily remember |
| 10 | everything that has been said over the course of |
| 11 | the evening. Thank you. |
| 12 | My next question is for Dr. Rippel. |
| 13 | Earlier you, in response to another |
| 14 | question, you listed or kind of rattled off a |
| 15 | whole bunch of diseases that are inherent or |
| 16 | possible with hogs. Are any of those diseases |
| 17 | transferable to human beings? |
| 18 | MR. RIPPEL: PED is not, PRRS virus |
| 19 | is not, erysipelas is not. I know where you are |
| 20 | going with this. |
| 21 | A few years back they had that H1N1 |
| 22 | influenza virus and that was found in people. |
| 23 | MICHAEL MENDOLA: Are there any |
| 24 | others? |

MR. RIPPEL: There are but I am blanking right now.

MICHAEL MENDOLA: You remember the ones not transferable but not the ones that are. I understand.

Also for Dr. Rippel, or perhaps
Mr. Wagner, I am not sure who is the best recipient of this question. You are going down

1800 feet deep to get water from our aquifer. How much water from our aquifer are you going to be using per day or per week?

MR. RIPPEL: We know from our other
managed sow farms that we will use on average 6 gallons per inventoried sow per day. So that is for everything from drinking, power washing. All of the water uses on the farm.

If you compare that to what -- the average person in Wenona uses 180 gallon per day.

MICHAEL MENDOLA: My last question
is directed to Mr. Wagner. You spent a great deal of your presentation on odor control.

Do you expect this assemblage to believe there are not going to be noxious odors within a short downwind radius or even a longer

| 1 | downwind radius of your facility? |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | MR. WAGNER: I think Dr. Rippel just |
| 3 | a few minutes ago commented on the odor and the |
| 4 | study that was done on the odor. |
| 5 | MICHAEL MENDOLA: Okay. Thank you. |
| 6 | JAMIE CASOLARI: My name is Jamie |
| 7 | Casolari, $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{A}-\mathrm{S}-\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{L}-\mathrm{A}-\mathrm{R}-\mathrm{I}$. |
| 8 | I realize Dr. Rippel supposedly |
| 9 | addressed the odor issue, but in your presentation |
| 10 | you showed a tree buffer zone and you showed |
| 11 | pictures of trees at two years and at three years. |
| 12 | Now, I can guarantee that a majority of the people |
| 13 | in this room have gone by a hog facility, |
| 14 | including the representatives we did send to an |
| 15 | Iowa farm belonging to VMC Management, and they |
| 16 | said there is a noxious odor. |
| 17 | What is my family who lives quite |
| 18 | close to this facility supposed to do for the two |
| 19 | to three years it takes your wind buffer to grow |
| 20 | and protect my family from your odors? |
| 21 | MR. RIPPEL: Where do you live in |
| 22 | relation to the site? |
| 23 | JAMIE CASOLARI: Down the road. |
| 24 | MR. RIPPEL: Can you point? |

        JAMIE CASOLARI: I live straight
    down -- we call it East Third Road. I don't know
    what they call it on the other side. Toward
    Route 18.
    Yesterday the wind was blowing
    directly at my house from where your facility
    would be.
    MR. RIPPEL: Where would that be?
    JAMIE CASOLARI: I don't do maps at
    all. I live -- if you come out of the facility,
    drive down north.
    MR. RIPPEL: How far north do you
    live?
                            JAMIE CASOLARI: Slightly more than
    a mile.
    MR. RIPPEL: Slightly more than a
    mile. I would be surprised if you being a mile
    or more away from this farm in the direct north
    direction, \(I\) would be surprised if you smell it
    at all.
    JAMIE CASOLARI: Okay. You would be
    surprised now, but if \(I\) am not surprised then,
    then what happens?
    MR. RIPPEL: You know, odor is a
    | 1 | very personal, emotional and no specific thing. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | JAMIE CASOLARI: Correct. And I |
| 3 | suffer from sun induced migraines and have put a |
| 4 | lot of effort into establishing my home, which is |
| 5 | a five generation family, what is left of it, |
| 6 | farm. |
| 7 | What gives you the right to come in |
| 8 | and negatively impact my quality of life and |
| 9 | portray yourself as a good 'ole boy just doing it |
| 10 | for your community? |
| 11 | MR. RIPPEL: I could ask you the |
| 12 | same question, but I can't ask the -- I have got |
| 13 | family farms that are looking to make a living |
| 14 | just like you do, like everybody in this |
| 15 | gymnasium do. Why do you have the power to deny |
| 16 | them the right to make a living? |
| 17 | JAMIE CASOLARI: I have no objection |
| 18 | to family farms. This is not a farm, this is a |
| 19 | factory in my opinion. |
| 20 | MR. RIPPEL: What is your definition |
| 21 | of factory, ma'am? |
| 22 | JAMIE CASOLARI: Mass production. |
| 23 | MR. RIPPEL: So what number is mass |
| 24 | production? |

JAMIE CASOLARI: 1,000, 2,000, 3,000.

MR. RIPPEL: So if we put 5,000 sows on pasture would you be more appeased, more acceptable to that design?

JAMIE CASOLARI: Depending on how much land you use and if you weren't treating them with antibiotics that are going to contaminate my well. If you are doing it in a truly sustainable manner, $I$ would be open to some suggestions.

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Do you have another question, ma'am?

JAMIE CASOLARI: Yes, I do, and it happens to be for the Department of Agriculture.

On November 18, 2003 the American Public Health Association urged federal, state and local governments and public health agencies to impose a moratorium on concentrated animal feed operations until more data on the intendant risks to public health could be collected and the uncertainties resolved.

The Department of Ag apparently
evidenced by today's proposal ignored the concerns

| 1 | of the APHA in a blatant disregard to the health |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | and safety of rural community residents. |
| 3 | Why is that? Why are my wants, needs |
| 4 | and medical concerns not as important as pig's |
| 5 | medical concerns? |
| 6 | MR. GOETSCH: The easiest answer I |
| 7 | guess to that would be that we don't write the |
| 8 | law, we administer the law as it is written by |
| 9 | the Illinois General Assembly, as is and then |
| 10 | approved by the Governor. |
| 11 | The bottom line is if there are those |
| 12 | issues like that you need to take those issues to |
| 13 | your appropriately elected representatives and |
| 14 | senators. They then, if they feel the need, will |
| 15 | change the law. And then we will, if continued to |
| 16 | be charged to do so, we will administer the law. |
| 17 | JAMIE CASOLARI: Thank you for the |
| 18 | advice. |
| 19 | MR. GOETSCH: That's not advice, |
| 20 | that is an answer. |
| 21 | JAMIE CASOLARI: Two more quick |
| 22 | questions. |
| 23 | You said your facility is I believe a |
| 24 | zero output -- |

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Could you
step up to the microphone?

JAMIE CASOLARI: Sorry.

That it is a zero output, and you pretty much said there is no chance for leakage through the concrete.

MR. RIPPEL: Correct.

JAMIE CASOLARI: Okay. I am trying to figure out, because $I$ have a concrete foundation and it has cracks and it leaks. It leaks inward. I am assuming it also leaks outward. But it does leak.

NIC ANDERSON: Is it built to LMFA standards?

JAMIE CASOLARI: I am wondering where you get your magic concrete that doesn't leak?

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Let me interject here, please. Both sides have had their opportunities for applause. Let's dispense with the applause and let's get on with the questions and answers. Thank you.

MR. WAGNER: We don't know any history on your particular structure, whether it

| 1 | was built to LMFA or not, so we can't answer that |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | question. |
| 3 | JAMIE CASOLARI: But you can answer |
| 4 | that -- what will you do if your concrete |
| 5 | structure fails and is leaking? |
| 6 | MR. WAGNER: We have precautionary |
| 7 | measures in place. |
| 8 | JAMIE CASOLARI: Which are? |
| 9 | MR. WAGNER: Drain tile and sampling |
| 10 | port. |
| 11 | JAMIE CASOLARI: If your concrete |
| 12 | sidewall cracks and leaks, what are those |
| 13 | measures going to do for that? |
| 14 | If you have up to, what did you say, |
| 15 | 180 days, 150 days of liquid manure in here and |
| 16 | your facility fails and leaks, then what? |
| 17 | MR. WAGNER: It would be over a |
| 18 | year's storage. And like I said, it is designed |
| 19 | to be a water tight structure. |
| 20 | JAMIE CASOLARI: Okay. Lots of |
| 21 | things are designed to be something. That |
| 22 | doesn't mean they don't fail. |
| 23 | I am asking you what your plan is if |
| 24 | it fails? |

MR. RIPPEL: I can tell you out of our 12 managed farms we have tiles we sample quarterly, and we have never detected any manure outside of the manure containment structure.

If we would ever happen to find manure in those tiles we would have to excavate around the barn and find the leak and repair it.

JAMIE CASOLARI: Okay.
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Do you have another question?

JAMIE CASOLARI: Yes, I did. I had one.

When you were -- Dr. Rippel, when you were doing your slide show and you were showing the pictures of the pigs, the sows, the gilts, whatever they are in the various stages, I am assuming those were your children.

MR. RIPPEL: Correct.

JAMIE CASOLARI: They were beautiful children.

MR. RIPPEL: Thank you. I am very proud of them.

JAMIE CASOLARI: I would be too. I love my kids and $I$ am sure you do too.

I found it just a little bit misleading, because what I understand, the type of facility that you are building the pigs haven't really got quite that much room, and I was under the impression that you didn't really like to have outsiders like visitors and such come into it for fear of disease and contaminants and whatever. So I am wondering why you chose to show pictures of your kids playing with pigs? Which I don't really think what you showed was representative of the type of facility you are going to have. Because -- I could be wrong. I googled it and it showed pictures of what the inside of these operations are. And like I said, we had three members from our group go and tour your farm. And those pictures were nothing like what $I$ have seen on the internet, nor were they anything like what they came back and said the facility was like. So don't you find that kind of misleading to make it look like it is a petting zoo?

MR. RIPPEL: I was not trying to make it look like a petting zoo. I knew this was going to be an intense meeting. I was trying to
lighten the mood just a bit by showing off my
family. That said, those are actual pictures out
of a facility that we manage. And as I
showed our guests last week, I am very proud of
the pork industry. I will show you whatever you
want to show, but those are actual pictures
inside our managed hog farms.
JAMIE CASOLARI: Okay. I'll take
your word for that. Thank you.
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: State your
name.
TIM SMITH: Tim Smith, S-M-I-T-H.
First question for Dr. Rippel. You
are familiar with those Dutchman air filters,
those smart air filters that are available? I am
just curious if there was any plans to use those
or maybe commit to those?
It's my understanding they can reduce
odor, airborne contaminants by up to 80 percent.
It is really an honest question if
this is going to go forward, and obviously I am
trying to stop it, but if it does go forward, is
there any leeway with you or VMC to maybe work
with the neighbors if that is what it takes to get

| 1 | these things put in, help us out? |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | MR. RIPPEL: We believe -- yes, I am |
| 3 | aware of those type of -- that type of |
| 4 | technology. |
| 5 | We believe the way we have this, |
| 6 | these barns designed with the deep pit structure, |
| 7 | with the roof overhead, constant cleaning of the |
| 8 | barns and with the tree buffer that we have, in |
| 9 | addition to just the natural lay of land -- I mean |
| 10 | the natural lay of the land also helps diffuse the |
| 11 | odor -- but at this time we do not have any |
| 12 | intention. |
| 13 | TIM SMITH: I understand that. I am |
| 14 | just saying is it possible working with people in |
| 15 | the community -- and this may be something that |
| 16 | given the sensitive nature in the area maybe you |
| 17 | can work with the community, maybe you can get |
| 18 | some support, maybe even financial -- if you are |
| 19 | that concerned with the area is it something you |
| 20 | would be maybe open to the possibility of? |
| 21 | MR. RIPPEL: We will continue to |
| 22 | evaluate all odor control plans. |
| 23 | TIM SMITH: So you would at least |
| 24 | maybe consider it? |

MR. RIPPEL: I would -- I would --
we would --
TIM SMITH: I am not -- I am not
trying to be combative. It is an honest
question.
MR. RIPPEL: You are asking me to
commit to that plan?
TIM SMITH: Not commit, just be open
to the idea.
MR. RIPPEL: I am open to
investigate any odor control option.
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: We need one
person to speak at a time for the court reporter.
TIM SMITH: I apologize.
On your family farm -- do you have a
family farm in the area?
MR. RIPPEL: Yes, my folks.
TIM SMITH: Again just wondering,
wouldn't that have been an easier option than
this?
MR. RIPPEL: Actually we looked at
it, but -- we had actually three different sites
that we were considering, and actually Mike's
site actually met the siting criteria the best.

TIM SMITH: Okay. Mr. Wagner, the zoning slide you had up, I agree with you it is an agricultural area, and that's why $I$ guess we should prefer agriculture over residential concerns is what you were driving at with that slide. It also mentioned manure, getting rid of the waste, doing that in a reasonable way.

If it was discovered that the soil around the area that you guys want to put this manure was not the best soil for that as recommended let's say by the EPA and is soil that you probably shouldn't be putting manure on, would that maybe change your guys' outlook on this?

MR. WAGNER: We have to do a Manure Management Plan and soil tests and that will be part of the plan.

TIM SMITH: Okay. And if it shows that you really shouldn't be using the soil around the farms for manure, would that change?

MR. WAGNER: There are requirements in that Manure Management Plan as far as setbacks, and it will be looked at in the Manure Management Plan.

TIM SMITH: Would it dissuade you,

Mr. Rippel, if you knew that 80 to 90 percent of the land in the area wasn't the best for this type of application?

Would you reconsider the site possibly?

MR. RIPPEL: We can only apply nutrient to the land that would be able to take it. That's all designed through the Manure Management Plan.

TIM SMITH: Okay. I just had one last question about the $4,000 \mathrm{PSI}$ concrete that was a requirement in the building construction. Something along those lines.

I was wondering if you could explain that? Something about being certified by the manufacturer.

MR. WAGNER: That 4,000 PSI is
compressive strength of concrete at 28 days.

Basically if you were to test that, take a cylinder and break the cylinder and cause it to fail at 28 days and see what the strength is.

There is a certification form that is
required by Illinois Department of Agriculture that each load that is coming to the site meets

1 that criteria.

TIM SMITH: Who does that test?

MR. WAGNER: It is required by the manufacturer or the concrete plant or the concrete -- someone has to sign off on it that is certifying it.

TIM SMITH: For Mr. Rippel, is your
family involved in producing this concrete or
delivering this concrete to the facility?
MR. RIPPEL: We are working with two
to three different builders working on estimates,
and that has not been determined yet.
TIM SMITH: But it is possible?
MR. RIPPEL: It is possible that
concrete could -- all concrete is going to come
from the area no matter what happens.
TIM SMITH: But it is possible your
family might be certifying the concrete for a
facility that you are going to manage?
MR. RIPPEL: That hasn't been
determined. Depends on which builder we go with.
TIM SMITH: Thank you.
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Let me ask a
question here. We have $I$ see at least three

| 1 | people up here to ask questions. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | How many others would like to ask |
| 3 | questions? |
| 4 | I see about six or eight more in |
| 5 | addition to these three. So whoever is next, |
| 6 | proceed. |
| 7 | STACIE JAMES: Stacie James. I |
| 8 | think most of these questions will be for you, |
| 9 | Mr. Wagner. |
| 10 | Can you please switch to a different |
| 11 | slide where you have a more focused aerial view of |
| 12 | the buildings? |
| 13 | Can you look at this slide? This |
| 14 | isn't the best. But approximately where the -- |
| 15 | the far east building is, if you look at another |
| 16 | aerial image you will see what appears to be a |
| 17 | concentrate storm water flow path. So what are |
| 18 | your plans for basically controlling that storm |
| 19 | water so it doesn't enter the facility? |
| 20 | MR. WAGNER: It will be redirected |
| 21 | to the east. |
| 22 | STACIE JAMES: Can you describe |
| 23 | where to the east? |
| 24 | MR. WAGNER: We haven't finalized |


final drawings yet.
STACIE JAMES: Is there a ditch to
the east that you will be utilizing?
MR. WAGNER: To the lower right you
can see the waterway.
STACIE JAMES: So you will be
basically rounding the storm water around the
facility so it doesn't go through it?
MR. WAGNER: Correct.
STACIE JAMES: Okay. You mentioned
your drain tubing. Can you describe relative to
the floor of each building or the bottom of each
pit where that will be laid?
MR. WAGNER: It will be flush with
the bottom of the footing.
STACIE JAMES: That's the bottom of
the pit?
MR. WAGNER: Correct.
AUDIENCE MEMBER: Just the
perimeter, not the bottom?
STACIE JAMES: What are your plans
for location for discharging your perimeter
drainage?
MR. WAGNER: I guess we haven't

| 1 | finalized that, but it will be to the south |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | obviously. |
| 3 | STACIE JAMES: Do you believe the |
| 4 | discharge will be in one of those two grass |
| 5 | waterways? |
| 6 | MR. WAGNER: I would believe so. |
| 7 | STACIE JAMES: Can you please |
| 8 | describe your method for determining the existing |
| 9 | tile on the site? |
| 10 | MR. WAGNER: When that was installed |
| 11 | it was installed by a local tile operator, and I |
| 12 | have maps and GPS coordinates as well. We are |
| 13 | going to hit it with the site so we are going to |
| 14 | have to take it out and cap it like I said |
| 15 | earlier. |
| 16 | STACIE JAMES: How do you determine |
| 17 | 50 feet out whether there is tile? |
| 18 | MR. WAGNER: There will be tile. |
| 19 | There is patterned tile. |
| 20 | STACIE JAMES: How do you determine |
| 21 | that? |
| 22 | MR. WAGNER: I guess I am not -- can |
| 23 | you repeat the question? |
| 24 | What do you want to know? |

STACIE JAMES: How do you know
whether there is tile within 50 feet of your
facility?
MR. WAGNER: We have as built
drawings and where the tile was installed. So we
actually have more information than we do on most
facilities.
STACIE JAMES: Does that include
historical tile?
MR. WAGNER: I don't know. I would
have to look at it.
STACIE JAMES: If you look at the
building on the far west side, can you tell me
how many feet that is from the grass waterway?
MR. WAGNER: I couldn't tell you off
the top of my head. I know it is greater than
50.
STACIE JAMES: Does the landowner
own a different site that is not located between
two grass waterways where you could perhaps place
this building instead?
MR. RIPPEL: Yes, we looked at those
sites, and this is the site that met the eight
site criteria the best.

STACIE JAMES: What is your
estimated total volume of waste produced
annually?
Earlier you gave a figure for sows,
but can you give an estimated total volume for the
facility annually?
MR. RIPPEL: Yes. 5 gallons per sow
produced per day. That would be approximately
10 million gallons a year.
STACIE JAMES: So in addition there
will be waste from the gilts and from piglets?
MR. RIPPEL: That is total. When I
say 6 gallon -- or 5 gallons produced per
inventory sow, that accounts for all inventoried
animals. That accounts for all animals on the
farm; baby pigs up to adults. When you equate
that to 180 gallons of wastewater produced per
person in town, that's a stark comparison.
STACIE JAMES: How much acreage do
you have of land application minus the required
setbacks?
MR. RIPPEL: Repeat that.
STACIE JAMES: How much land acreage
do you have for application of waste minus the

| 1 | required setbacks? |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | MR. RIPPEL: We have approximately |
| 3 | 1200 acres that Mike farms that is eligible for |
| 4 | incorporation. That will be all included in the |
| 5 | Manure Management Plan. |
| 6 | STACIE JAMES: What is the highest |
| 7 | soil test phosphorous in the land's application |
| 8 | fields? |
| 9 | MR. RIPPEL: That's all based on |
| 10 | soil testing and the test of the nutrient. |
| 11 | STACIE JAMES: So you don't know? |
| 12 | MR. RIPPEL: Off the top of my head, |
| 13 | no. |
| 14 | STACIE JAMES: Do you know whether |
| 15 | you will be using nitrogen or phosphorus based |
| 16 | application rates? |
| 17 | MR. RIPPEL: That will be included |
| 18 | in the Manure Management Plan. |
| 19 | STACIE JAMES: Can you please answer |
| 20 | the questions yes or no? |
| 21 | MR. RIPPEL: What was the question? |
| 22 | MR. WAGNER: The answer is no, we |
| 23 | don't know that yet. |
| 24 | STACIE JAMES: All right. Thank |


| 1 | you. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Next. |
| 3 | JOHN FOOTE: I am John Foote. I |
| 4 | live -- |
| 5 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Spell your |
| 6 | name. |
| 7 | JOHN FOOTE: F-O-O-T-E. And I live |
| 8 | directly downwind roughly 3800 feet from the |
| 9 | facility. And I want to thank Dr. Rippel for |
| 10 | allowing me to be one of the people that went out |
| 11 | and looked at the site. I know this is only |
| 12 | supposed to be question but I want you to realize |
| 13 | that. |
| 14 | MR. RIPPEL: I appreciate that. |
| 15 | JOHN FOOTE: I am a farmer for 60 |
| 16 | years, been associated with farming for 60 years. |
| 17 | And also maybe getting out of line, I want to say |
| 18 | that the facility that you are describing here |
| 19 | shows a lot of merit and it looks like you have |
| 20 | tried to do a lot of things with it. But I have |
| 21 | to ask the questions that -- I base my thoughts |
| 22 | on the internet, heaven forbid. I have spent |
| 23 | hours and hours and hours looking at the internet |
| 24 | since I first found out about this a couple of |


| 1 | weeks ago when Mike came and visited me, which I |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | appreciated him doing. And Mike and I have had |
| 3 | quite a few civil discussions. |
| 4 | The thing -- I would like to address |
| 5 | a question to Mr. Wagner. |
| 6 | Based on what I just talked about |
| 7 | looking at the internet, didn't all of the |
| 8 | previous facilities that were built that have |
| 9 | since had problems, per the internet, also meet |
| 10 | similar requirements before being built? |
| 11 | MR. WAGNER: That's hard to answer |
| 12 | because the Livestock Management Facilities Act |
| 13 | was enacted in 1996, so I have a lot of |
| 14 | facilities that were constructed prior to those |
| 15 | requirements. |
| 16 | JOHN FOOTE: It would be interesting |
| 17 | to see if somebody had a study on that, because I |
| 18 | know if you look at North Carolina and some of |
| 19 | Iowa and so forth -- but $I$ won't go into all of |
| 20 | that. |
| 21 | After living on the Sandy for 40 |
| 22 | years I have to ask a question again of you, |
| 23 | Mr. Wagner. Living there I have seen what I would |
| 24 | call the floodplain defined by -- which seems to |


| 1 | be a little different than what the floodplain |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | that you had up there, which is what you had - |
| 3 | when and how did they come up with that |
| 4 | floodplain? And why does it appear that I have |
| 5 | only got a 40 year floodplain that I am looking at |
| 6 | but it certainly appears to be a little bigger. |
| 7 | I mean, I would be defining it -- |
| 8 | MR. WAGNER: I don't know when that |
| 9 | particular one was done. It appears to me it was |
| 10 | updated fairly recently because usually the ones |
| 11 | that are updated fairly recently, they put that |
| 12 | aerial imagery in the back, where back in time it |
| 13 | used to be just a black and white type thing. |
| 14 | But directly I guess I would have to |
| 15 | ask -- it might be on the map. We would have to |
| 16 | research that a little more. |
| 17 | JOHN FOOTE: Just as a point of |
| 18 | suggestion, if they looked at some aerial maps |
| 19 | that came in the last two years and the floods of |
| 20 | the Sandy they might get a better idea at least |
| 21 | what the plain was -- whether that is the same as |
| 22 | 100 year, I would think, what little I know about |
| 23 | it, 100 year floodplain should include what I was |
| 24 | seeing in 40 years. |

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HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Mr. Foote, do you have another question?

JOHN FOOTE: Yes, I do.

So you don't really have an answer for that. I guess that's not a question. It is just how did they get it and can they look at it again I guess?

All right. Let's get down to things that personally affect me and questions $I$ have for Dr. Rippel.

I understand we are going to have -this is a -- one truck possibly to me, possibly bringing bugs or disease from other pig farms, which they wouldn't go to visit -- if you delivered the hogs to a farm and you come back, you mentioned that you bring it back and you bake the truck to kill the bugs that are in it, so you are obviously concerned about that. When these trucks go by my farm where $I$ do have hogs and I am within 3800 feet of the facility, I don't have the bio securities that you are trying to implement. And that is a good thing that you do have them, but $I$ guess $I$ am thinking in terms of not only inside the truck but the waste that the truck

| 1 | wheels can pick up when they are going down the |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | road. There are places -- what do you do to get |
| 3 | rid of that so that they don't throw it off? |
| 4 | MR. RIPPEL: That wouldn't be any |
| 5 | different than any other vehicle going up and |
| 6 | down the road. |
| 7 | JOHN FOOTE: The only thing is if |
| 8 | you look at the probable incidence of this going |
| 9 | by -- I mean somebody talked about the vehicular |
| 10 | travel or traffic on the road -- I'll back off of |
| 11 | that question. |
| 12 | Let's get more direct into the point |
| 13 | I guess. |
| 14 | You said Mike has 1200 acres to put |
| 15 | the stuff on. In fact, I am a farmer and I -- |
| 16 | Mike is one person. Can I get some of the manure? |
| 17 | He said -- which made me feel good -- he said |
| 18 | well, your farm probably wouldn't be applicable to |
| 19 | putting the manure on because you are too close to |
| 20 | the Sandy and you have got too much slope in some |
| 21 | places. So that made me feel good. |
| 22 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Mr. Foote, |
| 23 | we have a lot of people that still want to ask |
| 24 | questions. |

JOHN FOOTE: Okay. I understand that, but $I$ also understand that $I$ am living right there.

You want to trade houses?

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Mr. Foote, this is a question and answer session now. We will have oral testimony after this.

JOHN FOOTE: Okay. I'll stop with my testimony.

I want to know what the answers to the questions are. Is that okay?

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Could you step up to the microphone, please?

JOHN FOOTE: I thought maybe somebody turned it off. Maybe turned it down. I don't blame them.

As I said, I thank Dr. Rippel for letting me come out. While we were out there I have to admit that I did observe, and we talked about it a little bit, the manure being applied as being injected. And we went out to the site, and we were kind of running out of time, and a point which I talked with him about was going up and down hills. We went to one place where they were

1 doing just that, going up the hill. And as $I$ was 2 watching -- we did not get out of the car but he did permit me the benefit to watch what was going on. And when it was going up the hill, the manure that was coming out was, as water normally does, was running down the hill inside the trench. But at the bottom of the hill it was kind of running out on the plain, on the flat.

My question is, what is being done to address that kind of a thing and how often does that happen?

MR. RIPPEL: That really is a good question, John. Unfortunately we had to rush at the end of our visit last week and I wasn't able to get out -- when I drove further down that road I was where I could see the applicator turn around and go back up that hill that you observed. And what happens is when they turn around, the pump doesn't shut off but you raise the applicator bar, backs up, turns around and drops it again. So what you were seeing at the end was actually what was being applied on ground. We come back within 24 hours and incorporate that into the end rows.

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JOHN FOOTE: That makes me feel good.

One other question and I am going to stop here.

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Make it a short question, please.

JOHN FOOTE: I'll try.

I asked about how much ground Mike had. You said there is various ways it can go. One of the ways I am assuming he is going to put it on is with tankers. When he takes that tanker to some of his south most farms, I assume he'll use that in the 1200 acres, he will go on a road which goes right through the middle of my farm in two places, east/west, north/south. What do we do to prevent the material that he's hauling from coming out of the tanker as you were just kind of describing or falling off of it?

MR. RIPPEL: You know, I guess we haven't -- like I said, we haven't determined or hired an applicator yet so $I$ can't say if it is going to be through a tether or through tanks. Through a tether we can apply up to two miles away from the farm.

JOHN FOOTE: Okay. I appreciate your diligent patience. Thank you.

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Next.

JAN BAKEWELL: My name is Jan Bakewell, $B-A-K-E-W-E-L-L . \quad I \quad a m$ Evans Township Supervisor. And I am going to discuss with you, ask you questions about the traffic flow.

I ask first of all.

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Could you speak up a little bit?

JAN BAKEWELL: Surely. Have you
budgeted items for the use of the road during the construction and during the use of the facility? MR. RIPPEL: Budgeted items for what?

JAN BAKEWELL: For helping maintain the road that $I$ feel will probably be deteriorating because of the additional use. MR. RIPPEL: I will answer that in two parts.

One, we are in current discussions with the Evans and -- which is in Marshall County -- and then Hope Township, which is in LaSalle County, road commissioners. The second

| 1 | part of that question, the second part of that |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | answer would be, you know, we will use the road |
| 3 | and obey all laws just like everybody else does. |
| 4 | JAN BAKEWELL: Now I wonder why in |
| 5 | the presentation were not the number of traffic |
| 6 | flow for our Evans Township roads, especially for |
| 7 | proposal two, not being included? |
| 8 | You went from Route 18, Route 17, you |
| 9 | went to the state, county road, but the road that |
| 10 | will be most actively used are the township roads. |
| 11 | Yet those numbers were not in your disclosure. |
| 12 | MR. WAGNER: Are you talking about |
| 13 | 2800 East, or which road specifically? |
| 14 | JAN BAKEWELL: Each road. I cannot |
| 15 | remember the numbers but I believe it was 200 and |
| 16 | some on Route 18 and more on Route 17 or vice |
| 17 | versa. I do not recall. |
| 18 | MR. WAGNER: We were looking at the |
| 19 | main truck traffic routes. When you start |
| 20 | getting into secondary roads I had total traffic |
| 21 | counts of the Department of Transportation |
| 22 | website but they don't have as detailed |
| 23 | information on it. So I didn't have truck |
| 24 | traffic data for 2800 East. |

JAN BAKEWELL: Okay. My second question relates to the application or transfer of the liquified manure from the farm site to other fields.

I understand that the plan includes a hose like a fireman's hose across the top of this roadway into the other fields. And to me that is a safety issue for our traffic, of our everyday traffic for our citizens.

MR. RIPPEL: We will have to obey again the rules and regulations of the county. And typically we do not place the dragline over roads. We will run it through, under the road through culverts or specialized made culverts for that purpose.

JAN BAKEWELL: If there is not a culvert will the facility pay for the culvert to be placed under the road?

MR. RIPPEL: If we have to get to that field we will have to construct a passageway some way.

JAN BAKEWELL: Okay. Thank you for your time.

WIL HAYES: My name is Wil Hayes,


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MR. WAGNER: Correct.

BRAD LINDSTROM: Are you in any way a partner with the firm or anything?

MR. WAGNER: No. I work for myself.

BRAD LINDSTROM: Where did you gain so much knowledge about hog production?

MR. WAGNER: I have been permitting livestock facilities since 2005.

BRAD LINDSTROM: You help other livestock facilities get their permits as well?

MR. WAGNER: Correct.

BRAD LINDSTROM: Okay. This is for Dr. Rippel.

Did you have -- Nicolas, did you have three sites that you went to Wagner and said here's my three sites, take a look at them and see which would suit best for these criteria, or did you go to him and say find me three sites that are the best?

I mean did you do it one way or the other?

MR. RIPPEL: No, it wasn't -- it goes back to those relationships you have. You see what sites you have to work with and then,

| 1 | you know, we looked at the regulations ourselves |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | and figured out the setbacks and road access and |
| 3 | everything else and then figured out this is the |
| 4 | best site. |
| 5 | BRAD LINDSTROM: So the crux for you |
| 6 | really is more that you can have a relationship |
| 7 | with the current landowner? |
| 8 | MR. RIPPEL: Yes, because you just |
| 9 | can't go and throw a dart at the map and say |
| 10 | that's where we are going to put a sow farm. |
| 11 | BRAD LINDSTROM: Have you considered |
| 12 | trying that before, like he would define three or |
| 13 | four sites and say these are the best you can do, |
| 14 | go have a chat with that landowner and see if |
| 15 | that works? Have you went that route before? |
| 16 | MR. RIPPEL: Say that again. |
| 17 | BRAD LINDSTROM: You would give him |
| 18 | the criteria that you want for your hog farm to |
| 19 | be sited. |
| 20 | MR. RIPPEL: That still is going to |
| 21 | be based on relationship of who he knows that |
| 22 | would have land available that would sell off a |
| 23 | tract of land. |
| 24 | BRAD LINDSTROM: You always start |


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1 this particular case doesn't require that waste
2 Management Plan until after the facility would be
3 placed into service. I think it is within 60
4 days.

MR. WAGNER: I would submit to

Illinois Department of Agriculture.

BRAD LINDSTROM: Do you think you would have that done by our May 30 deadline so we could have those to look at as well? Is that likely, unlikely?

MR. RIPPEL: Unlikely. Like everything else with this project, everything you do costs money. So until we know we have a permit we really see no need to get past the permitting process to submit that application. BRAD LINDSTROM: What -- I respect if you don't want to indicate how much it costs. What does this permitting process cost VMC, ballpark?

MR. RIPPEL: So this is -- we are talking about $\$ 25,000$.

BRAD LINDSTROM: A lot of money.
Another question for Mr. Goetsch.

So when we get to this level where you are at the permit hearing, how many of these do you approve as the Department of Agriculture in last five years, just a ballpark percentage?

MR. GOETSCH: I guess one of the criticisms -- I will answer it this way. One of the criticisms we always have, we always hear at these hearings is the Department of Agriculture has never denied an application. And the reason why people can say that is they either don't understand the process or they just like to say

| 1 | it that way. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | I will put it to you this way. All |
| 3 | of the projects that we have received since the |
| 4 | beginning of the LMFA, approximately 74 percent of |
| 5 | those were eventually approved and were built. |
| 6 | Approximately 25, 26 percent of the applications |
| 7 | that we received were never completed. |
| 8 | BRAD LINDSTROM: They could have |
| 9 | been withdrawn though? |
| 10 | MR. GOETSCH: Yes. I mean the way |
| 11 | the statute is written, or at least the way the |
| 12 | Department has interpreted the statute, if you |
| 13 | can't meet the requirements, we have to tell you |
| 14 | why. Then it is up to you to try and answer |
| 15 | those questions. Ultimately if you can't meet |
| 16 | the requirements, you don't answer the questions |
| 17 | and so you don't give us back an application or |
| 18 | the additional information response and the |
| 19 | project eventually just dies. |
| 20 | BRAD LINDSTROM: So three-quarters |
| 21 | at the initial review get their permit basically? |
| 22 | MR. GOETSCH: Eventually get their |
| 23 | permit, yes. |
| 24 | BRAD LINDSTROM: Okay. Now, the |



MR. RIPPEL: So VMC Management

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    manages 12 sow farms, but as a veterinarian I
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    work with both sow farms and finishing farms.
    BRAD LINDSTROM: You don't have any
    currently in Marshall County that you are looking
    to site, financing barns?
    MR. RIPPEL: No, we do not.
    BRAD LINDSTROM: Is it likely
    because of transportation costs those will
    eventually pop up in that --
    MR. RIPPEL: It is our wish they
    would not because that's what one of the
    attractive aspects of this location is. Except
    now John just totally crushed my bubble.
    BRAD LINDSTROM: You mentioned when
    we first met in February and you came down to the
    Zoning Department how you wanted to be relatively
    far away from other operations. That's why I
    ask.
        You might be a little disappointed in
    if someone moved in relatively close but there is
    nothing --
    MR. RIPPEL: So seven years ago when
    we built a farm, within the next three years we
    | 1 | had three finishing barns up within a mile. I |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | mean we are rural agriculture community so it |
| 3 | happens. |
| 4 | BRAD LINDSTROM: Thank you, |
| 5 | gentlemen. |
| 6 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Excuse me |
| 7 | just a second, please. |
| 8 | How many more people want to ask |
| 9 | questions? Four or five. |
| 10 | Okay, we have been going for an hour |
| 11 | and a half on questions here and we have about 48 |
| 12 | people that want to provide oral testimony so we |
| 13 | need to move this along real quickly. |
| 14 | PATRICIA HOFMANN: I have one |
| 15 | question. |
| 16 | Patricia Hofmann, $\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{F}-\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{A}-\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{N}$. We |
| 17 | live across 39 from where you are going to be |
| 18 | building and we have -- my family is very |
| 19 | concerned. We have a shallow well. 70 feet. We |
| 20 | are concerned about the depletion of the water for |
| 21 | our well. Because I just did some rough |
| 22 | calculations, and based on what you said about |
| 23 | 6 gallons per sow, I figured you might be using |
| 24 | more or less 200,000 of gallons of water a week. |

MR. RIPPEL: It would be about
30,000-gallon a day.
PATRICIA HOFMANN: Okay. Times
seven?
MR. RIPPEL: Yes.
PATRICIA HOFMANN: In the vicinity
of 200,000?
MR. RIPPEL: Yes.
PATRICIA HOFMANN: I am worried
about the fact that this will cause the water
tables to lower and then our well to go dry. We
are nowhere near being able to afford to drill a
new well. So how -- has this happened in other
areas where you have built facilities, similar
facilities?
MR. RIPPEL: What has happened?
PATRICIA HOFMANN: People's wells
going dry in area.
MR. RIPPEL: No. At this farm we
will be drilling a well that is 1700 feet deep.
PATRICIA HOFMANN: I know, but won't
that lower the water tables?
MR. RIPPEL: In speaking with Clint
Dendridge, is who we are working with, he has

| 1 | researched the geological surveys, the water pump |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | test, other wells in the area, there are |
| 3 | currently no residential wells that are that |
| 4 | deep. They are all shallow wells like yourself. |
| 5 | PATRICIA HOFMANN: Won't that cause |
| 6 | water table to fall for the rest of us? |
| 7 | MR. RIPPEL: It will not affect your |
| 8 | water table. |
| 9 | PATRICIA HOFMANN: Okay. Thank you. |
| 10 | CHRIS GOLDEN: Chris Golden, |
| 11 | $\mathrm{G}-0-\mathrm{L}-\mathrm{D}-\mathrm{E}-\mathrm{N}$. |
| 12 | For Mr. Wagner, did I understand |
| 13 | correctly that you would have some other kind of |
| 14 | material lining outside this cement where it like |
| 15 | came together or where there were junctions, like |
| 16 | a plastic material or something? |
| 17 | MR. WAGNER: That's what is called a |
| 18 | water stop and it is used to seal within two -- |
| 19 | there are different products that seal that |
| 20 | joint. |
| 21 | CHRIS GOLDEN: It is, what, plastic |
| 22 | or something? |
| 23 | MR. WAGNER: There is different |
| 24 | products. There is PVC products, there is -- |


| 1 | this one is acceptable to the LMFA and Midwest |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | Plan Service. |
| 3 | CHRIS GOLDEN: Isn't any chance |
| 4 | anything would leak through that, that material? |
| 5 | MR. WAGNER: There is always a |
| 6 | chance but -- these are construction standards |
| 7 | that we have done since I have been doing this |
| 8 | since 2005, so -- |
| 9 | CHRIS GOLDEN: Thank you. |
| 10 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Okay. |
| 11 | MARK DURHAM: My name is Mark |
| 12 | Durham, $\mathrm{D}-\mathrm{U}-\mathrm{R}-\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{A}-\mathrm{M}$. |
| 13 | Just a quick question for the |
| 14 | engineer pertaining to the concrete. |
| 15 | I know that you are going to put that |
| 16 | waterproofing around the perimeter. Do you cross |
| 17 | tile that slab underneath? Or I mean if the |
| 18 | concrete cracks -- and I will guarantee you it |
| 19 | will crack -- this could leach down into the |
| 20 | ground below your pit, not just around the |
| 21 | perimeter, is that correct? |
| 22 | Is there any kind of a rubberized |
| 23 | barrier? |
| 24 | MR. WAGNER: Well, on the floor slab |

1

2
between pours you have to put the same sort of
product between pours at construction joints and
control joints. But if you are asking about
tile, no there is not requirement to have tile
underneath.
MARK DURHAM: I am not talking about
the perimeter where the wall meets the slab. I
am talking about the slab itself. Any type of
prevention from this contamination leaching in
the ground below the pit?
MR. WAGNER: You have similar water
stopping in the slab pour.
MARK DURHAM: Like a rubberized --
MR. WAGNER: Like I showed it on the
picture. There are multiple products that can be
used. It is a water stop, whether it is PVC
or --
MARK DURHAM: But that is just
around the perimeter where the slab meets the
wall?
MR. WAGNER: No, it's in the slab as
well.
MARK DURHAM: So the entire slab is
going to be protected?

MR. WAGNER: At control and construction joints.

MARK DURHAM: Not the entire slab? There is no bladder?

MR. WAGNER: Correct. No secondary containment, if that is what you are asking.

MARK DURHAM: Thank you.
MR. GOETSCH: But I think -- let me just add to that. The whole idea of water stops is either in cold joints where you stop a pour, you place this material embedded into the one wall, for example, and then when you pour the next wall it extends into that, into that new pour, so that you actually have a seal in the concrete. In addition to that, the construction standards require on the floor at specific spots where you want the floor to crack. In fact you will actually cut the floor in places so that it will crack. And prior to pouring the concrete you have put this material in that location so that you can ensure that if you do have cracking it cracks where you have this additional control, this additional seal.

I don't know if that was clear. But


DEBBIE CLANIN: Okay. How much of this meat will be exported?

MR. RIPPEL: Specifically from the farm I couldn't state, but as an industry about 25 percent.

DEBBIE CLANIN: How much? Sorry.

MR. RIPPEL: 25 percent.
DEBBIE CLANIN: Okay. Thank you.

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Are there other questions?

DEBBIE CLANIN: My name is Carol Stoens, $\mathrm{S}-\mathrm{T}-\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{E}-\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{S}$.

These facilities may be well built but everything deteriorates over time. What happens when it meets its life expectancy?

MR. RIPPEL: Well, I'll use an example. Our oldest managed farm was built in 1971. 1750 sows and it is still in production today. We have had other farms that have met their life expectancy for various reasons. And not necessarily facility reasons. And those are sold off or deconstructed.

DEBBIE CLANIN: What happens if it closes for any reason?

MR. RIPPEL: I guess I am not sure how to -- what your specific question is? DEBBIE CLANIN: Do you just walk away and the building remains?

MR. RIPPEL: So, so it is quite a bit of an investment to build one of those farms, so you are not just going to walk away. There is going to be value in the farm even if you say the worst case scenario and it goes belly up, that facility has value and somebody else would come in there and operate it.

DEBBIE CLANIN: Thank you.
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Any other questions?

MAX RUNKOA: I think these guys deserve applause to stay through it.

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Sir, do you have a question?

MAX RUNKOA: Yes. My name is
$\mathrm{R}-\mathrm{U}-\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{K}-\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{A}$, first name is Max.

I appreciate all of the facts and so forth, but you folks -- that was an awful long explanation about the engineering. But you know, it's probably -- you guys got any thoughts you

1 have got to -- would care to share with us abou
2 the conditions of this up to now?

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: We need questions right now, please.

MAX RUNKOA: Observations won't work?

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: You can give your observations and your opinions at the oral testimony phase.

MAX RUNKOA: Well, I'll be passed out by then.

Real quick, I'll call it a question. You know, I had a feeling this is the first time you have ever done this, you have got no working experience at all. I want to remind you plans are great, but there is a lot of farmers here that planned to have the corn in the ground by now.

| 1 | Not so. Exxon Mobile was planning -- |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Do you have |
| 3 | a question, please? |
| 4 | MAX RUNKOA: Do you think that the |
| 5 | Exxon Mobile -- is that fair? That's all right. |
| 6 | The point I want to say is plans are |
| 7 | just plans and they rarely hit the bullseye like |
| 8 | you expect them to be. There is a lot of |
| 9 | experience talking to you about plans. That's |
| 10 | all. |
| 11 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Thank you. |
| 12 | We have been going on for an hour and 40 minutes |
| 13 | here with questions so I think we are going to |
| 14 | end this phase. We are going to take a break. |
| 15 | We need about a ten minute break here. |
| 16 |  |
| 17 | (Whereupon an off the |
| 18 | record discussion was |
| 19 | held.) |
| 20 |  |
| 21 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Okay. I |
| 22 | have the sign up sheets that were at the side of |
| 23 | the room listing the people who want to provide |
| 24 | oral testimony. I will go down to list and call |

1 your name. We ask that you step forward to the
2 podium. I will ask you or you can give your name
3 and spell your last name for the court reporter.
First on the list is Leslie Smith.
(Sworn in.)
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Okay.
LESLIE SMITH: My name is Leslie
Smith, S-M-I-T-H. I live approximately one mile
north of the proposed facility. My husband and I
have owned a small business since 1998. And when
we were married in 2005 I started working solely
for our company.
We have done a majority of our work
from our home and it is primarily a home based
business.
We moved into our house outside of
Lostant in 2009. Both of our families have a long
history of generations being raised in the area,
including myself. We decided it was a great place
to raise our boys. Our home has been in my

| 1 | husband's family solely since 1919 when it was |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | built. |
| 3 | Since our business is home based we |
| 4 | have conducted business meetings and had clients |
| 5 | business visit our home. During the course of |
| 6 | business we have provided training for network |
| 7 | engineering and certifications. We have also done |
| 8 | contract work for local businesses. I also do |
| 9 | work in web design and maintenance. |
| 10 | If the facility is built it could |
| 11 | have a very serious economic impact on us. It |
| 12 | could limit the business we are able to conduct |
| 13 | from our home. Any odors and noxious gases that |
| 14 | come from the facility will make it impossible to |
| 15 | invite clients to our home or for outdoor |
| 16 | entertaining. |
| 17 | We have invested large amounts of |
| 18 | money in renovating and improving our property. |
| 19 | If the -- all of this renovation was done by local |
| 20 | area businesses. These investments in our home |
| 21 | and property benefit the community by increasing |
| 22 | the property taxes and contributing to the |
| 23 | economic activity of the area businesses. |
| 24 | If this facility is built and |


| 1 | property taxes decrease as stated in many studies |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | on the matter of CAFOs it will hinder the economic |
| 3 | benefit so many of us in the area have contributed |
| 4 | to. |
| 5 | I am also very active in volunteering |
| 6 | my time in the local community, as are many of my |
| 7 | neighbors. I spend a lot of volunteering time |
| 8 | with the local school, library, benefits and even |
| 9 | town wide celebrations. |
| 10 | If this facility is built we must be |
| 11 | aware of the noxious gases that it can produce. |
| 12 | Ventilation malfunction or agitation prior to |
| 13 | applying waste to the cropland can cause buildup |
| 14 | of these gases to be very dangerous levels. |
| 15 | One way to avoid it is by removing |
| 16 | the manure daily. But it is my understand |
| 17 | injecting this will only be done twice a year. |
| 18 | We currently have two small children |
| 19 | and an elderly woman with COPD living in our home |
| 20 | who are the most at risk. We are also in the |
| 21 | direct path since most of the year the prevailing |
| 22 | wind is coming from the south. |
| 23 | If our home becomes unsafe for them |
| 24 | we will be forced to leave the area and any |


| 1 | benefits received because of our consumers of |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | business and volunteer services in the area will |
| 3 | be lost. |
| 4 | I would like to also submit a |
| 5 | document to be added to the exhibit to support |
| 6 | what I have stated. It is a study done for and |
| 7 | supported by the CDC. |
| 8 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Are there |
| 9 | questions for this witness? |
| 10 | LEVI HARMS: If you have a business, |
| 11 | why don't you put it in a business district? |
| 12 | LESLIE SMITH: It is a home based |
| 13 | business. |
| 14 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: State your |
| 15 | name. |
| 16 | LEVI HARMS: Levi Harms, H-A-R-M-S. |
| 17 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other |
| 18 | questions? I see none. Thank you. |
| 19 | We can accept that at the written |
| 20 | testimony phase which is right after this. |
| 21 | LESLIE SMITH: Okay. |
| 22 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Next up is |
| 23 | Mike Phillips. On deck will be Lisa Phillips. |
| 24 | (Sworn in.) |

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Okay.

MIKE PHILLIPS: My name is Mike Phillips, $\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{I}-\mathrm{L}-\mathrm{L}-\mathrm{I}-\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{S} . \quad \mathrm{I}$ am a local resident. I am a Licensed Professional Geologist in the State of Illinois and I have over 25 years experience working as an environmental geologist for USEPA and Illinois State Geological Survey and currently Illinois Valley Community College.

I am a member of the community group that has organized an opposition to this project and $I$ am one of the principal authors of the document we will be submitting later.

The proposed livestock management facility does not meet the eight criteria set forth in the State of Illinois Livestock Management Act.

The site lacks a Waste Management Plan and the stated waste manager has no experience transporting or applying the material.

In addition, the NRCS soil survey
indicates that in a 5500 acre area, including and around his farm in LaSalle and Marshall Counties, 87.2 percent of the soils have the lowest possible rating for the application of manure.

The buildings will obstruct or be adjacent to the surface water base and will likely result in pollution of Sandy Creek.

The intermittent streams within and adjacent to the site are subject to frequent flooding.

One building will actually block an intermittent stream.

During a rainstorm the volume of water in the obstructed stream could easily overwhelm the diversion system, resulting in overflow and the contamination of Sandy Creek.

The proposed project is slated to be built on unstable ground which will lead to the cracking of foundations. The waste storage portion of the building will be partially below the water table and will intersect the shallow aquifer resulting in the leakage of animal waste into the aquifer we use for drinking water and also into Sandy Creek.

The site is located on the Rutland silty clay -- two to five percent slope's eroded. The soil has the worst possible rating for construction of small commercial buildings as well


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        On Monday of this week they were
    drilling test borings. How can we trust them to
    understand the environmental impacts of this
    project, let alone how to protect the local
    environment.
    This lack of attention to detail
    clearly shows the project is lacking attentive
    management before ground has even been broken.
    Sandy Creek Lane, LLC will have a
    very difficult, if not impossible, task preventing
    significant amounts of hog waste from leaving the
    site via surface water and groundwater.
    The hog waste will affect local
    drinking water and impact Sandy Creek and local
    ecosystems, downstream residents and visitors and
    towns including Henry and Lacon.
    Because of the poor site conditions,
    this is not a question of if a toxic release will
    happen but when it will happen.
    Thank you.
    HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Are there
    questions for this witness?
    AUDIENCE MEMBER: You are a
    geologist?
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MIKE PHILLIPS: I am.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Have you built buildings before?

MIKE PHILLIPS: I have been involved in construction. Mostly hazardous waste sites though, cleaning up the messes other people have made.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Well, you are saying that the ground is not stable enough to support the building?

MIKE PHILLIPS: That's correct.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: How do you know that for sure? When we build buildings we come in with machines, compactors, we set bases, footings, things like that that make the structure solid.

MIKE PHILLIPS: I have been on many hazardous waste sites where the buildings were constructed to standard, failed and released toxic substances into the environment, so I am very familiar with the result of construction practices. And no matter how good you build the building, if the foundational material is not supportive, and the USEPA soil survey indicates

| 1 | it is not, this is not a good risk to take. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | AUDIENCE MEMBER: Well, then if you |
| 3 | believe that, how does -- if the base is not |
| 4 | going to be able to hold up, how are towns, as in |
| 5 | Streator, built on mines and they seem -- the |
| 6 | houses, not all, there has been -- but no one's |
| 7 | houses are falling into the ground? |
| 8 | MIKE PHILLIPS: Actually that's not |
| 9 | correct. There are houses in Streator falling in |
| 10 | the ground. And most basements do crack at some |
| 11 | point in time. |
| 12 | AUDIENCE MEMBER: Absolutely. But |
| 13 | do you believe that the foundation of this |
| 14 | facility is going to be the same as your or my |
| 15 | house? |
| 16 | MIKE PHILLIPS: I believe it will be |
| 17 | built a little better than our house, but my |
| 18 | house I also do not put five to |
| 19 | 10 million gallons of waste in my basement. |
| 20 | AUDIENCE MEMBER: Absolutely. But |
| 21 | most houses have 6 to 8 inches of concrete for |
| 22 | footing, for a base. I would believe that this |
| 23 | facility is going to have way more, plus rebar. |
| 24 | MIKE PHILLIPS: You are an engineer? |


| 1 | AUDIENCE MEMBER: No. I am an |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | operating engineer. I build these things. |
| 3 | MIKE PHILLIPS: I've had concrete |
| 4 | structures built and it cracks. |
| 5 | AUDIENCE MEMBER: All concrete |
| 6 | cracks. |
| 7 | MIKE PHILLIPS: All concrete cracks. |
| 8 | AUDIENCE MEMBER: Eventually there |
| 9 | will be some sort of a crack. |
| 10 | MIKE PHILLIPS: There will be a |
| 11 | crack. And on top of the crack, in this case we |
| 12 | will have somewhere between five and |
| 13 | 10 million gallons of hog waste. So when they |
| 14 | crack -- |
| 15 | AUDIENCE MEMBER: That depends if it |
| 16 | cracks through or not. |
| 17 | MIKE PHILLIPS: When it cracks, that |
| 18 | waste will leak out of the structure. If we are |
| 19 | lucky it will crack in the side and the waste |
| 20 | will enter his containment. If we are not lucky |
| 21 | it will crack in the bottom and nobody will know |
| 22 | until it shows up in Sandy Creek or someone's |
| 23 | well. |
| 24 | AUDIENCE MEMBER: Where does the |

## MIDWEST LITIGATION SERVICES

| 1 | Sandy Creek originate? |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | MIKE PHILLIPS: Somewhere east of |
| 3 | here. |
| 4 | AUDIENCE MEMBER: What else flows |
| 5 | into the Sandy Creek? |
| 6 | MIKE PHILLIPS: There are many |
| 7 | tributaries that form the Sandy Creek. |
| 8 | AUDIENCE MEMBER: Does the Wenona |
| 9 | sewer plant? |
| 10 | MIKE PHILLIPS: Absolutely. |
| 11 | AUDIENCE MEMBER: You are aware of |
| 12 | the chemicals and the waste from all of us that |
| 13 | live in town? |
| 14 | MIKE PHILLIPS: I am also aware it |
| 15 | goes through a treatment plant. |
| 16 | AUDIENCE MEMBER: When it floods it |
| 17 | doesn't go in there. |
| 18 | MIKE PHILLIPS: It is connected to a |
| 19 | treatment facility that the EPA monitors on a |
| 20 | regular basis. As per the testimony, this |
| 21 | particular facility will not be monitored for any |
| 22 | kind of outflow. They claim it will have zero |
| 23 | outflow, which we know is not correct. |
| 24 | AUDIENCE MEMBER: Isn't it monitored |


| 1 | four times a year? |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | MIKE PHILLIPS: They said they will |
| 3 | monitor the area around the outside of the |
| 4 | foundation. So if the bottom of the foundation |
| 5 | cracks that failure will not be detected. |
| 6 | AUDIENCE MEMBER: How often is this |
| 7 | town's sewer system monitored that flows into |
| 8 | Sandy Creek? |
| 9 | MIKE PHILLIPS: The sewar system |
| 10 | would leak into the groundwater, and I wouldn't |
| 11 | be surprised if the sewar system cracks. |
| 12 | AUDIENCE MEMBER: Why aren't we |
| 13 | having a protest on the city sewer system? |
| 14 | MIKE PHILLIPS: That's not the |
| 15 | issue. |
| 16 | AUDIENCE MEMBER: You are talking |
| 17 | about contaminating the water. |
| 18 | MIKE PHILLIPS: Right now we know |
| 19 | that the city sewer system is not contaminating |
| 20 | Sandy Creek because the most recent testing the |
| 21 | EPA did on Sandy Creek showed very low nutrient |
| 22 | level. |
| 23 | AUDIENCE MEMBER: So when it flooded |
| 24 | last year and a lot of people's places in town |


| 1 | backed up, had raw sewage in their homes, that |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | never got into your creek? |
| 3 | MIKE PHILLIPS: I am not saying it |
| 4 | didn't get into the creek. I am saying this |
| 5 | facility is -- it is their responsibility to keep |
| 6 | their crap out of the creek. |
| 7 | AUDIENCE MEMBER: Absolutely. |
| 8 | Wouldn't it also be the city's? |
| 9 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Let's center |
| 10 | the questions on the facility, please. |
| 11 | Any other questions? |
| 12 | TIM MAIERS: Tim Maiers, |
| 13 | $M-A-I-E-R-S$. |
| 14 | You mentioned the farm didn't have |
| 15 | enough land to apply the manure. How much land do |
| 16 | they need and how do you determine that? |
| 17 | MIKE PHILLIPS: The only way $I$ was |
| 18 | able to determine that, because they have not |
| 19 | filed a Waste Management Plan, there is no way to |
| 20 | actually assess their plan because it doesn't |
| 21 | exist, the best I was able to do is look at the |
| 22 | soil surveys for the area which indicates that |
| 23 | the soils on which they have indicated they are |
| 24 | going to apply this material is not suitable for |


| 1 | application of manure. So it is not suitable for |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | application of manure. |
| 3 | TIM MAIERS: The land that they are |
| 4 | putting it on, do they put any nutrients for crop |
| 5 | production on that land now? |
| 6 | MIKE PHILLIPS: I assume. |
| 7 | TIM MAIERS: Would the soil not be |
| 8 | compatible for that then? |
| 9 | MIKE PHILLIPS: I am going by USDA |
| 10 | soil survey which says not appropriate for |
| 11 | application of manure. Doesn't say not |
| 12 | appropriate for application of fertilizer. It |
| 13 | says specifically not appropriate for application |
| 14 | of manure. |
| 15 | TIM MAIERS: What -- |
| 16 | MIKE PHILLIPS: All I can go by is |
| 17 | what the USDA soil survey says. |
| 18 | If you would like to redo the soil |
| 19 | survey, I suppose you can go talk to the USDA. I |
| 20 | am going by the publicly available documents |
| 21 | because Sandy Creek Lane has not made any |
| 22 | documents available to us and so there is no way |
| 23 | for us to specifically assess their plans which do |
| 24 | not exist. |


| 1 | TIM MAIERS: Do they have any manure |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | at that farm now? |
| 3 | MIKE PHILLIPS: Right now I don't |
| 4 | think there is any livestock on that farm. |
| 5 | TIM MAIERS: How would they do a |
| 6 | manure test on the manure that's not there? |
| 7 | Thank you. |
| 8 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Over here. |
| 9 | DAWN RIPPEL: Dawn Rippel, |
| 10 | $R-I-P-P-E-L$. |
| 11 | What year are the soil samples from |
| 12 | the USDA that you have? |
| 13 | MIKE PHILLIPS: The most recent soil |
| 14 | survey available online. |
| 15 | DAWN RIPPEL: Do you know, is it |
| 16 | within a year, two years, three years, five |
| 17 | years? |
| 18 | MIKE PHILLIPS: I do not know how |
| 19 | frequently they update their soil surveys. |
| 20 | DAWN RIPPEL: Okay. Do you have any |
| 21 | experience -- let he ask you this. Your |
| 22 | hazardous buildings you worked with, what type of |
| 23 | buildings are they? |
| 24 | MIKE PHILLIPS: All kinds of |

1 buildings.
DAWN RIPPEL: Are they agricultural?
MIKE PHILLIPS: No. Let me make
something very clear here. Just because it is
pig waste --
DAWN RIPPEL: Sir, I just asked a
question.
You do not have experience with
agricultural buildings?
MIKE PHILLIPS: I actually do have
experience. I have investigated agricultural
sites.
DAWN RIPPEL: Were they hazardous?
MIKE PHILLIPS: Yes.
DAWN RIPPEL: Where were they?
MIKE PHILLIPS: They were located --
there has been a couple in towns around Illinois
where people --
DAWN RIPPEL: In Marshall County?
MIKE PHILLIPS: Not in Marshall
County.
DAWN RIPPEL: In LaSalle County?
MIKE PHILLIPS: Probably the closest
one was about halfway between here and Decatur.

DAWN RIPPEL: Okay. Do you have any
experience with swine?
MIKE PHILLIPS: I do not have any
experience with swine.
DAWN RIPPEL: Do you have any
experience with agriculture?
MIKE PHILLIPS: Yes. I grew up on a
farm. My family had livestock.
DAWN RIPPEL: What kind of
livestock?
MIKE PHILLIPS: Cattle.
DAWN RIPPEL: How many?
MIKE PHILLIPS: You know, I don't
know. I didn't count them.
DAWN RIPPEL: Are they currently
farming?
Doesn't matter. Don't answer that.
MR. GENTERT: Mike, you are a
geologist -- my name is Charles Gentert,
$\mathrm{G}-\mathrm{E}-\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{T}-\mathrm{E}-\mathrm{R}-\mathrm{T}$.

You are a geologist. What impact
during the fault -- we have earthquakes, tremors
around here frequently and that. Is there a
possibility of let's say a four plus earthquake


1 ammonia around us.

KATE HAGENBUCH: In the fertilizer, not in the ammonia?

MIKE PHILLIPS: Probably some phosphates.

KATE HAGENBUCH: Phosphates and potassium generally?

MIKE PHILLIPS: Yes.

KATE HAGENBUCH: So it is okay to put it on in commercial fertilizer but not okay to put that on in hog manure?

MIKE PHILLIPS: Hog manure and commercial fertilizer are completely different.

KATE HAGENBUCH: Actually, they are not. They are base elements.

MIKE PHILLIPS: So hog waste -- to my understanding hog waste also contains essentially whatever the hog pooped out. So that includes bacteria. Is there bacteria in commercial fertilizer?

KATE HAGENBUCH: It is a chemical foundation, but what you are getting out of it for the nutrients in the soil is potassium and phosphorous and a little bit of nitrogen. So

| 1 | when you are saying those things are horrible for |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | the soil, why is it not a problem looking at |
| 3 | commercial fertilizers? |
| 4 | MIKE PHILLIPS: I said that soil |
| 5 | survey indicates that the application of hog |
| 6 | waste is not appropriate on these soils. |
| 7 | KATE HAGENBUCH: So it is not okay |
| 8 | for the commercial fertilizer either then? |
| 9 | MIKE PHILLIPS: I didn't say that. |
| 10 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Are there |
| 11 | other questions? |
| 12 | NIC ANDERSON: Nic Anderson, N-I-C, |
| 13 | $A-N-D-E-R-S-0-N$. |
| 14 | Mr. Phillips, you talked about the |
| 15 | soil borings weren't enough. |
| 16 | How many soil borings need to be done |
| 17 | out there for your satisfaction? |
| 18 | MIKE PHILLIPS: I would probably |
| 19 | double or triple the number. |
| 20 | The problem -- I am glad you asked |
| 21 | that. The problem with the aquifers in this area, |
| 22 | as probably most well drillers could tell you, |
| 23 | most of us have shallow wells. So they are in the |
| 24 | surficial geological material left behind by the |

    glaciers. Now, generally speaking, that material
    is clay, which is what they found in at least the
    one boring that they were willing to show us.
    The trick in this area is that within
    that clay material there are long, narrow lenses
    of sand and gravel that were left behind by melt
    water in the glacier.
    So the trick for any well driller is
    to hit one of those sand and gravel lenses. And
    they tend to not be very wide. Not more than 10,
    15, 20 feet wide at the most. The streams were
    not that big. They tend to be 2, 3, 4 feet deep.
    But again, not very wide. So it is pretty easy to
    drill in a grid pattern and miss some of those.
    As I am sure some people around here
    who live in the country can attest, when you hire
    a driller to come out on your site, they drill a
    hole, they don't get water, no water. Move over a
    little bit, they drill a hole, they don't get
    water. About the third one, third or forth one,
    they might hit water. This is on a small piece of
    property.
        So if you do a grid pattern there is
    a very easy opportunity to miss one of those sand
    
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1 and gravel lenses.

And the other problem with that is if they intersect it with their basement and that basement leaks, you might not know until it gets to somebody's well. It is very difficult to see.

NIC ANDERSON: My question was how many soil samples do you need out there to be --

MIKE PHILLIPS: I would be more comfortable -- I don't know how many they did and how far apart they were, but $I$ think that -- you know, if you want to talk later about exactly what kind of grid pattern would be appropriate, I would be happy to do that.

NIC ANDERSON: I am asking the question, if they could meet that grid pattern that you propose, or we come up with a solution, you will agree that this farm should go forward?

MIKE PHILLIPS: I wouldn't agree it should go forward. I would say that --

NIC ANDERSON: So it doesn't matter if there is soil sample, that doesn't solve the problem?

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: One person talking at a time.

MIKE PHILLIPS: I did not say that. What I said was that's one of a number of concerns that I had.

So if they could alleviate that one concern, then they might be one step closer.

NIC ANDERSON: But you can't tell me with your expertise how many we should have out there to come up with a solution?

MIKE PHILLIPS: I would have to look at the grid pattern, the size of the building, and we would have to think about how far apart we need to be to ensure we have the best opportunity to --

NIC ANDERSON: If you were provided that assurance you would write off on that portion of the facility?

MIKE PHILLIPS: I might.

NIC ANDERSON: You can't --

MIKE PHILLIPS: I mean --

NIC ANDERSON: If they give you what you ask -- excuse me.

MIKE PHILLIPS: Hang on. He drilled 15 feet. I am not going to guarantee I am going to sign off on something before $I$ see what the

| 1 | actual plan is. Nor would I expect you to or |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | Mr. Rippel to. |
| 3 | NIC ANDERSON: Or the Department |
| 4 | of -- |
| 5 | MIKE PHILLIPS: It would make me |
| 6 | much more comfortable. There are other issues. |
| 7 | For example if -- right now they went down |
| 8 | 15 feet from the ground surface. They are going |
| 9 | to regrade the site. So some of those borings |
| 10 | are not going to be 5 feet below the bottom of |
| 11 | the foundation. They are going to be maybe 2 or |
| 12 | 3 feet -- |
| 13 | NIC ANDERSON: So you don't agree |
| 14 | with the elevation that he's proposing and they |
| 15 | have elevated -- |
| 16 | MIKE PHILLIPS: I am saying he is |
| 17 | going to regrade the site. |
| 18 | NIC ANDERSON: However it is from |
| 19 | the planned bottom of site, like the statute |
| 20 | requires, correct? |
| 21 | MIKE PHILLIPS: What he said was he |
| 22 | drilled borings that were 15 feet deep -- |
| 23 | NIC ANDERSON: Below the planned |
| 24 | bottom of the proposed facility? |

MIKE PHILLIPS: He said they were

5 feet below -- what he said was he drilled holes 15 feet deep, and that because his buildings was going to have a 10 feet basement the bottom of the drill was going to be 5 feet below the bottom of the basement.

NIC ANDERSON: Do you understand the Act requires that you --

MIKE PHILLIPS: I do understand.

NIC ANDERSON: -- test below, 5 feet below the planned bottom of the facility?

MIKE PHILLIPS: I understand.

NIC ANDERSON: If he does not meet that with his soil boings the Department of Agriculture makes the decision that you have not met that requirement, correct?

MIKE PHILLIPS: I understand. I have not seen any of his borings because he just did them.

NIC ANDERSON: So my question to you is if we meet your soil borings schematic of what you like to your standard that you are satisfied with, you would support that phase of the project?

MIKE PHILLIPS: Probably.

NIC ANDERSON: Okay. You can't definitively say if we meet your requirements that you would --

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: We need to move on.

MIKE PHILLIPS: I probably would. That's as good as it gets.

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: We have got a long ways to go here. We need to move along.

Next up. Thank you. Next up is Lisa Phillips.
(Sworn in.)

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Okay.

LISA PHILLIPS: Lisa Phillips,
$\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{I}-\mathrm{L}-\mathrm{L}-\mathrm{I}-\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{S}$.

My name is Lisa Phillips. I just
said that. I am a local resident and member of the community group that has organized an opposition to the Sandy Creek Lane project.

I am also one of the principal authors of the detailed list of concerns.

I am currently a pH.D. at Illinois
State University. And for the past three years my

| 1 | research has focused on the harmful impact of |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | odors on people and communities. |
| 3 | Odor is often treated as a lesser |
| 4 | concern and complaints of foul odor are simply |
| 5 | dismissed as frivolous. |
| 6 | However, the more we learn about the |
| 7 | science of smell and its impact on human health |
| 8 | the more obvious it becomes that smell is a very |
| 9 | important concern. |
| 10 | Last month the Journal of Science |
| 11 | published a study showing that human sense of |
| 12 | smell is much more sensitive than once thought. |
| 13 | Even more sensitive than our senses of sight and |
| 14 | hearing combined. |
| 15 | Our sense of smell is tied directly |
| 16 | to the parts of the brain that control both |
| 17 | thinking and emotion. It directly impacts our |
| 18 | mental and physical health. |
| 19 | For example, the stress from living |
| 20 | with noxious odors increases cortisol levels in |
| 21 | blood, and this impacts long-term diseases such as |
| 22 | cancer, heart problems and psychiatric disorders |
| 23 | like schizophrenia, depression and PTSD. |
| 24 | For children, living near a hog |


| 1 | facility will harm their educational career |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | opportunity as well as their health. |
| 3 | The elderly are also more vulnerable |
| 4 | to toxic fumes because their lung tissue is |
| 5 | delicate and their sense of smell diminished so |
| 6 | they have less ability to detect dangerous |
| 7 | airborne chemicals. |
| 8 | Hog manure has never smelled good. |
| 9 | Its chemical composition is full of toxins. |
| 10 | So when you put almost 20,000 hogs in |
| 11 | three buildings side by side, the meaning of smell |
| 12 | changes exponentially. |
| 13 | The concentration of ammonia, |
| 14 | hydrogen sulfide and others will have major |
| 15 | impacts on local residents' health, especially |
| 16 | children and folks with health concerns. |
| 17 | This site fails to meet Illinois EPA |
| 18 | best management practices for odor control. |
| 19 | They do not have wind breaks around, |
| 20 | buffers around the facility, and they are |
| 21 | obviously not located away from (inaudible) which |
| 22 | traps odors and air pollutants in low lying areas. |
| 23 | The standard for this facility set by |
| 24 | the statue and the Departmental rules uses the |



While our definition of reasonable may not agree with what is proposed by Sandy Creek Lane, the applicants do not currently live near the site, nor is there any indication that they plan to do so.

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Ma'am, you need to conclude.

LISA PHILLIPS: The local residents have a clear stake at health -- in their health and well-being.

In addition, resent research and court rulings clearly indicate that the standard of what is reasonable with respect to odors are becoming more restrictive. It has long been accepted in this country that the right to throw a punch ends at the tip of someone else's nose.

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Miss Phillips --

LISA PHILLIPS: The rights of Sandy Creek, LLC to throw their smells ends at their property line.

Thank you for your attention.

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Are there questions of this witness?

KATE HAGENBUCH: Kate Hagenbuch.
Couple of questions.
I just want to make sure $I$ heard
correctly. My ears aren't working very well.
Could you restate again what you said
about the children being in that environment, it
affects their learning abilities, things like
that?
LISA PHILLIPS: That's correct.
KATE HAGENBUCH: It also affects an
adults ability to learn and focus?
LISA PHILLIPS: Yes.
KATE HAGENBUCH: Okay. So I live on
a farm which is considered a CAFO, which is a
fourth generation family farm owned and operated
solely by family members. My husband grew up on
that farm and has a degree. I also have a
Master's degree. And my children are excelling
in their classes.
So do you continue to tell me that I
am a bad parent for raising my children in that
property, on that --
LISA PHILLIPS: No, that has
nothing --
Okay.
much.
Ethan.
sworn in.

KATE HAGENBUCH: On that property,
however, we are doing just fine?
LISA PHILLIPS: It is your property.
What I said was the right for
somebody's smell ends at their property line.
And also, Rachel Heard, she is a
cognitive neurobiologist who works specifically
with children and the impact on learning in
classroom environments. This is empirical data.
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Are there
other questions? All right. Thank you very
Next up we have Morgan Phillips.
LISA PHILLIPS: They are going
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Morgan and
Raise your right hand please and be
(Sworn in.)
MORGAN PHILLIPS: Morgan Phillips,
$\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{I}-\mathrm{L}-\mathrm{L}-\mathrm{I}-\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{S}$.
ETHAN PHILLIPS: Ethan Phillips,

| 1 | $\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{I}-\mathrm{L}-\mathrm{L}-\mathrm{I}-\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{S}$. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | MORGAN PHILLIPS: Hello, our nams |
| 3 | are Morgan and -- |
| 4 | ETHAN PHILLIPS: Ethan Phillips. |
| 5 | MORGAN PHILLIPS: We would like to |
| 6 | thank you for letting us give an argument against |
| 7 | the mega hog factory. |
| 8 | We love to go outside where we can |
| 9 | climb trees, ride our bikes and just run around. |
| 10 | If this mega hog factory is put in about mile |
| 11 | upwind of our house we wouldn't be able to go |
| 12 | outside very much at all. |
| 13 | ETHAN PHILLIPS: Mostly during the |
| 14 | summer we don't leave our property. |
| 15 | MORGAN PHILLIPS: On those days we |
| 16 | climb trees, run around, we have fires in our |
| 17 | backyard in the firepit. And sometimes we even |
| 18 | sleep outside. |
| 19 | ETHAN PHILLIPS: Either we sleep in |
| 20 | a tent or sometimes just sleep on top of our |
| 21 | swing sets staring at the stars, looking for the |
| 22 | constellations or just making -- having a mega |
| 23 | hog farm factory about a mile upwind of us would |
| 24 | ruin that. The smell would make us miserable so |



| 1 | heard a mocking bird. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | ETHAN PHILLIPS: A seahawk |
| 3 | (Inaudible) |
| 4 | MORGAN PHILLIPS: We have also seen |
| 5 | really pretty dragonflies as well as (Inaudible) |
| 6 | We would be twice as unhappy if those were not |
| 7 | only -- not get to see them anymore, but also |
| 8 | they eat lots of mosquitoes so there will be more |
| 9 | of those nasty blood suckers. With those come a |
| 10 | greater chance of West Nile disease, and nobody |
| 11 | wants that. Not to mention we get more mosquito |
| 12 | bites, and those are pretty awful too. You just |
| 13 | itch and itch. |
| 14 | ETHAN PHILLIPS: That's only part of |
| 15 | it. We would also be afraid to drink the water |
| 16 | that came out of our tap. Why? There might be |
| 17 | pig poop in our well or (inaudible) |
| 18 | MORGAN PHILLIPS: All of the |
| 19 | antibiotics that are used as preventative |
| 20 | medicine for the pigs would be in the poop too. |
| 21 | That isn't good for us because we don't need |
| 22 | antibiotics unless we are sick. There could even |
| 23 | be germs there that could make us sick. |
| 24 | Pigs are similar enough to humans |


| 1 | that diseases can jump to us. Scary, right? It |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | certainly frightens us. |
| 3 | ETHAN PHILLIPS: We lived in this |
| 4 | house our whole life. So even if we moved away |
| 5 | from all of the potential health problems, we |
| 6 | would be moving away from the only life we have |
| 7 | ever known. |
| 8 | MORGAN PHILLIPS: We wouldn't get to |
| 9 | go to Sandy Creek. |
| 10 | ETHAN PHILLIPS: That is why we |
| 11 | don't want this hog factory to become our new |
| 12 | neighbor. |
| 13 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Thank you. |
| 14 | Any questions for these witnesses? |
| 15 | Thank you very much. |
| 16 | Next up we have Larry Kinzer. |
| 17 | (Sworn in.) |
| 18 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Okay. |
| 19 | LARRY KINZER: My name is Larry |
| 20 | Kinzer, $\mathrm{K}-\mathrm{I}-\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{Z}-\mathrm{E}-\mathrm{R}$. I am a county engineer for |
| 21 | LaSalle County Highway Department. |
| 22 | I am a graduate engineer in 1977 from |
| 23 | the University of Illinois. I have professional |
| 24 | licenses in engineering and land surveying in |

    Illinois. I have 38 years of experience in
    highway and heavy construction, the last 15 of
    which have been as County Engineer for LaSalle
    County.
    I am here tonight to present
    testimony on behalf of Hope Township. The Hope
    Township Highway Commissioner, Ron Judd, asked me
    to work up some costs regarding road improvements
    that may be necessary to accommodate construction
    and traffic from the proposed improvement.
    I have done that in using standard
    motor fuel tax policy and truck tax policy for
    Illinois.
    Using the data available, the
    existing roadway is 19 feet wide. It consists of
    about 8 inches of gravel, tar and chip surface,
    and carries about 200 vehicles a day.
    Using the standard traffic
    distributions by motor fuel taxi \(I\) have calculated
    that we will need to add about 4 or 5 inches of
    asphalt to the roadway to accommodate the truck
    and traffic, the traffic loading.
    Part of that consideration is not
    just the structure capacity of the road but the
    

1 know, in order to keep it in good condition you
2 are going to have to add to the roadway.

We have done in LaSalle County for other developers such as wind farms, pipelines, distribution facilities, we ask the development to enter into a road use agreement. Those include improvements to the roads that they intend to use to increase their load bearing capacity as well as the geometry to accommodate the traffic they will put on road. And they also include escrow and bonding as well as insurance to cover any damage that they do to the road.

The beauty is if they don't do any damage to the road there is no need to use their escrow account.

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Thank you.

Are there questions for this witness?

MR. GOETSCH: You mentioned road use agreements.

LARRY KINZER: Yes.

MR. GOETSCH: How many road use agreements do you have with other farmers in your county?

LARRY KINZER: I don't have any road

| 1 | use agreement with any farmers in the county. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | Farming or an individual owner/operator, we don't |
| 3 | require any road use agreement for that. But as |
| 4 | I said, when developers come in for industry, |
| 5 | then we do ask for a road use agreement. |
| 6 | MR. GOETSCH: Thank you. |
| 7 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Okay. Right |
| 8 | here. |
| 9 | MIKE PHILLIPS: Mike Phillips. |
| 10 | Do you have any such agreement with |
| 11 | Sandy Creek Lane? Do you have a road use |
| 12 | agreement with Sandy Creek Lane? |
| 13 | LARRY KINZER: Well, Sandy Creek is |
| 14 | not in LaSalle County, so no, I do not. |
| 15 | MIKE PHILLIPS: Thank you. |
| 16 | MR. GENTERT: My name is Charles |
| 17 | Gentert. |
| 18 | Now, I have lived the past 50 years |
| 19 | around here. Seems like on these township roads |
| 20 | from like February 1st to May 1st is the freeze |
| 21 | and thaw. There has been weight limitation on |
| 22 | roads. |
| 23 | Will you enforce that in LaSalle |
| 24 | County, in the mile that will go through LaSalle |

1 County in Hope Township?
County in Hope Township?
LARRY KINZER: The County itself
does not have any jurisdiction. It is a Township
road. And Ron Judd is the road authority for the
Township. The road belongs to Hope Township Road
District. And I believe currently he does put a
90 day spring posting on the road.
I can't speak for Ron what criteria
he uses to determine when he should post and
unpost the road, but certainly the law says you
can do a 90 day spring posting.
MR. GENTERT: Okay. And it can be
enforced?
LARRY KINZER: Yes.
MR. GENTERT: Thank you.
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other
questions?
Thank you very much.
Next up we have Tim Smith.
TIM SMITH: I can enter mine
written. It is basically a study for Department
of Agriculture.
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Okay. We
will take that in the next session here. Thank

| 1 | you. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | Stacie James. |
| 3 | (Sworn in.) |
| 4 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Okay. |
| 5 | STACIE JAMES: My name is Stacie |
| 6 | James. I am a water resource and scientist with |
| 7 | Prairie Rivers Network. |
| 8 | Actually I would like to start off |
| 9 | with a compliment, which is rare for me perhaps in |
| 10 | this context, but I thought actually that |
| 11 | Mr. Wagner did a pretty transparent job with his |
| 12 | presentation, so I would like to thank him. I |
| 13 | have been in several of these hearings, and I |
| 14 | think he gave one of the better presentations I |
| 15 | have seen. |
| 16 | Anyway, getting on with my main |
| 17 | comment. The County Board is charged with |
| 18 | deciding whether the eight siting criteria have |
| 19 | been met. |
| 20 | I am concerned that incomplete |
| 21 | information presented today does not allow the |
| 22 | County Board to determine whether siting criteria |
| 23 | number five has been met. |
| 24 | Criteria number five reads, whether |


| 1 | the owner or operator has submitted plans for |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | operations that minimize the likelihood of any |
| 3 | environmental damage to the surrounding area from |
| 4 | the spills, runoff and leaching. |
| 5 | We have been told that approximately |
| 6 | 10 million gallons of waste will be produced but |
| 7 | not the nitrogen or phosphorous content of that |
| 8 | waste. |
| 9 | The applicant does not know the soil |
| 10 | phosphorous of the application fields and does not |
| 11 | know whether nitrogen or phosphorous based rate |
| 12 | will be used. |
| 13 | We also don't know the planned crop |
| 14 | rotation so we don't know the field's nutrient |
| 15 | needs. |
| 16 | Therefore, while we do know that |
| 17 | 1200 acres are available, we don't know whether |
| 18 | that acreage is adequate for applying agronomic |
| 19 | rates without over application. |
| 20 | Subsequently the plans as submitted |
| 21 | at this hearing do not allow the County Board to |
| 22 | determine whether the proposed facility will meet |
| 23 | criteria number five by minimizing the likelihood |
| 24 | of any environmental damage to the surrounding |



| 1 | would ask that question. The purpose of these |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | hearings -- |
| 3 | ANDREW ONCKEN: Have you asked the |
| 4 | applicator? |
| 5 | STACIE JAMES: I don't know who the |
| 6 | applicator would be. I'm not sure that |
| 7 | information was presented today. |
| 8 | ANDREW ONCKEN: Mike Salz. It was |
| 9 | presented today. |
| 10 | STACIE JAMES: Okay. |
| 11 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other |
| 12 | questions? |
| 13 | I see none. |
| 14 | Thank you very much. |
| 15 | Sorry, Mr. Maiers. |
| 16 | TIM MAIERS: Tim Maiers. |
| 17 | What is the statute as far as the |
| 18 | requirements that you have with the Waste |
| 19 | Management Plan for the farm? |
| 20 | STACIE JAMES: Can you explain |
| 21 | further? |
| 22 | TIM MAIERS: What's the requirement |
| 23 | or element, say, that the farm needs to have a |
| 24 | nutrient management -- when they need to have |

        that by?
            STACIE JAMES: They do not have to
        have that plan until after they are in operation.
        However, with this, what the County Board is
        charged with is evaluating these siting criteria.
        And according again to siting criteria number
        five, by the time that the County Board is making
        their decision they need to decide whether the
        owner/operator has submitted plans that will
        minimize runoff and leaching.
    So this presentation today is a
    chance for the applicant to present information on
    what those waste management plans, without being a
    real plan yet, will be.
    TIM MAIERS: Again, \(I\) guess I'll ask
    again if there is manure, typically you test the
    manure for the nitrogen phosphorous in the manure
    and match it to the crop needs to determine if
    you are going to need a nitrogen or phosphorous
    rate base.
    Do you understand that?
    You would test the manure to
    understand what NPK you have in it to match what
    the crop is going to need, correct?
    1

STACIE JAMES: Yes.

TIM MAIERS: So if there is no manure, how do you -- I think part of the rule is once it is commences operation you have manure and you do the test and you have an idea how to draw up that plan, correct?

STACIE JAMES: There is also published standard out there that give estimates of what that waste will be. TIM MAIERS: But again, that information is estimate, or would you rather have the actual information on the farm?

STACIE JAMES: Once the facility is in operation, of course, they should be using those estimates. But to have an initial idea whether or not there is enough land area to actually run a facility, you know, properly apply the waste properly, you have to make an estimate if you have enough acreage from the getgo.

TIM MAIERS: Have you ever written a Manure Management Plan before?

STACIE JAMES: No.

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other
questions?

1

2

I see none.

Thank you very much.

Next we have John Foote. You pass?

JOHN FOOTE: Yes, I pass.

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Rick

Heating. Is Rick Heating here? I do not see him.

Steve Clanin.
(Sworn in.)

STEVE CLANIN: My name is Steve Clanin. My wife and I live right near Cumberland Cemetery.

I would like to just briefly speak to criteria number three and eight of the Facilities Act, incompatibility with surrounding areas' character, community growth, economic development and recreation.

As to the character of the area, our area is a community of homes, family farms with traditional livestock production, recreational properties and historic areas. Industrial hog production just does not fit the character of this area.

Regarding community growth and


| 1 | the north and south an additional 14 or more |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | families will see their property values decline. |
| 3 | As for recreation, this has been the |
| 4 | go to spot for generations. We live next to |
| 5 | Cumberland Cemetery. There is not a day goes by |
| 6 | that we don't see people out sightseeing or |
| 7 | walking in the cemetery. In the warmer months it |
| 8 | is common to see families with kids enjoying the |
| 9 | stream down by the Cumberland bridge. |
| 10 | Sandy Creek Farm, a state licensed |
| 11 | hunting preserve, sponsors events for the likes of |
| 12 | the Cub Scouts of America, Pheasants Forever, |
| 13 | Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and Toluca |
| 14 | Sportsman's Club. The Cub Scouts have had as many |
| 15 | as 50 kids out for a day of fishing and fun in |
| 16 | Sandy Creek. I can't imagine that -- as for this |
| 17 | year, there is a youth hunt scheduled for November |
| 18 | for boys and girls age 12 to 16. Probably 80 to |
| 19 | 100 people will attend that event. |
| 20 | Putting an industrial hog factory |
| 21 | with all of its potential for pollution in the |
| 22 | watershed of Marshall County's most pristine |
| 23 | stream is simply wrong. |
| 24 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: You need to |



| 1 | same standards that you ask of the livestock |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | farm? |
| 3 | STEVE CLANIN: I can't answer that. |
| 4 | I am not a builder. |
| 5 | NIC ANDERSON: So if they wouldn't |
| 6 | meet those requirements, that development that |
| 7 | you are talking about -- |
| 8 | STEVE CLANIN: Are you asking me if |
| 9 | I should tear down my house? |
| 10 | What are you asking? |
| 11 | NIC ANDERSON: If you are not |
| 12 | supposed to build in that area is what I am |
| 13 | asking. |
| 14 | It is suitable for your home but not |
| 15 | livestock farm? That's what I am asking. |
| 16 | STEVE CLANIN: I am sorry, I don't |
| 17 | know how to answer that question. |
| 18 | NIC ANDERSON: Fair enough. |
| 19 | STEVE CLANIN: Seems a little |
| 20 | ridiculous. |
| 21 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Okay. |
| 22 | PETE ROOD: Pete Rood, R-O-O-D. You |
| 23 | said it is a mega farm. What is a farm then? |
| 24 | What is a family farm today? Nobody farms |

180 acres. Nobody farms 160 acres.

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Do you have
a question?
PETE ROOD: I just wondered what --

| 1 | I wondered what a mega a farm was in his |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | description and just wanted that. |
| 3 | So you know, what is the mega a farm? |
| 4 | 500 sows was big in '79. This is big today. Five |
| 5 | years from now you will look back and they will be |
| 6 | building 10,000 sow units because you can't make |
| 7 | it on small numbers anymore. |
| 8 | STEVE CLANIN: I don't believe that. |
| 9 | That is a discussion for economics or -- |
| 10 | PETE ROOD: Well, I am on this side |
| 11 | of it so that's where it is coming from. |
| 12 | STEVE CLANIN: No kidding. |
| 13 | PETE ROOD: Thank you. |
| 14 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Okay. I see |
| 15 | no other questions. Thank you very much. |
| 16 | Next we have Jerry Hunter. |
| 17 | (Sworn in.) |
| 18 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: State your |
| 19 | name. |
| 20 | GERALD HUNTER: I am the Township |
| 21 | attorney for Hope Township. I have been asked |
| 22 | to -- |
| 23 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Mr. Hunter, |
| 24 | can you state your name? |

## MIDWEST LITIGATION SERVICES

GERALD HUNTER: Gerald Hunter, $\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{U}-\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{T}-\mathrm{E}-\mathrm{R}$. I am the attorney for Hope Township. I have been asked to appear here on behalf of Hope Township by the Supervisor and by Ron Judd, the Road Commissioner.

You have heard Mr. Kinzer said, and I incorporate all of that into my representations with the additional matter that we do not believe that Section 7 of the Act has been complied with.

We believe that the construction of this facility most likely is going to damage our road.

However, what we have done is we have talked to Mr. Kinzer and he has informed us that the jurisdictional determination of what a road limitation will be is something that the County will do. And they are going to assess that. But it is assessed at the request of the Township.

So we are just letting the proposed construction people know that what is going to happen is we are going to -- we are going to conduct an investigation and research to determine what the road limits are. And most likely we are going to impose a 12 month road limit and of

| 1 | course another limit that would be for springtime. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | If you are going to ask me what the |
| 3 | limits are, I can't tell you. |
| 4 | I can tell you that we are in the |
| 5 | process of doing that. And if it is done we will |
| 6 | impose it by ordinance and we will enforce it. We |
| 7 | have a cooperation agreement with Lostant. Their |
| 8 | police officers will come out and police that. |
| 9 | And we intend to incorporate that as far as part |
| 10 | of our process. |
| 11 | We want to protect our -- fortunately |
| 12 | when the presentation was made there was an |
| 13 | alternative road that went through Marshall |
| 14 | County, and perhaps that is a simple solution for |
| 15 | what is here. Although I think from talking to |
| 16 | the folks from Evans Township that we could expect |
| 17 | that something similar is going to happen with |
| 18 | respect to that. |
| 19 | If you are going to ask me why are we |
| 20 | coming out at this at this time, I am going tell |
| 21 | you until about four days ago I had no knowledge, |
| 22 | nor did the Township really have any knowledge |
| 23 | that this was going to happen. |
| 24 | We came today purposely to confirm |

1 what the roads and routes were.

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    Now that we have got those things we
    are going to conduct the study. And it is for not
    only the construction and the completion but the
    preconstruction. When we estimate what those
    concrete facilities will -- or concrete trucks
    will be producing, we think it is going to do
    substantial damage to our road. But again, if it
    turns out to be that the testing will show that we
    are wrong, so be it.
        One of the things that we have
    proposed is what Mr. Kinzer said, and that was
    participation by the developers into paying for
    the cost of improvement of the road.
    If that was to happen then all that
    we are concerned about is protection of the road.
    So again, that's where we are at.
    That's what we are going to do. And what we would
    do is expect to enforce that through police
    action.
        HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Are there
    questions for this witness? Yes.
    DAVID JONES: David Jones. As far
    as the construction end of it, I can see where
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1 there could be some limitations put in, but with 2 these hogs being shipped out of state would that not be considered interstate commerce?

GERALD HUNTER: You know, you might be right. But we have jurisdiction on our road, and if that is going to be construed to be interstate commerce $I$ think we are going to have a lot of help in defending that action.

DAVID JONES: I drive a truck for the State of Illinois and pursuant to interstate commerce there has to be 5 miles of access provided for pickups and deliveries.

Would Illinois law trump your post on the road?

GERALD HUNTER: I don't think so. I think that we have jurisdiction to limit the construction of -- this is nothing more than a gravel road that has got oil and chip on it.

DAVID JONES: I understand that. I live in the area.

GERALD HUNTER: That's going to be destroyed by --

DAVID JONES: What's the difference of an 80,000-pound truck hauling hogs than a load

1 of corn going out that happens daily out there?

GERALD HUNTER: You know, all I can tell you is we are going to do the study, and if the study shows that the road cannot take the weight, we are going to impose restrictions. That's all $I$ can tell you.

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other questions?

LEVI HARMS: Levi Harms, H-A-R-M-S. So if you are going to enforce this for this construction, are you going to enforce this for farmers with this huge machinery or let them slide by, considering the Road Commissioner is also a farmer? DAVID JONES: We are going to -- we are going to put in a weight restriction that will be compatible with the road. LEVI HARMS: All right. So -GERALD HUNTER: And we will enforce it.

LEVI HARMS: Is it going to be enforced for farm machinery? Construction machinery for the Township, do they have to abide by this?

GERALD HUNTER: I would hope so. LEVI HARMS: Thank you. HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Someone else?

JIM RIPPEL: Jim Rippel,
$R-I-P-P-E-L$.
So if this finds out or if this turns
out to be where -- restrictions on the road, all
of the residents in your township will have to
find a way of getting the garbage to town?
GERALD HUNTER: You know, there are
exclusion and exceptions, Jim.
JIM RIPPEL: Exceptions, exceptions,
okay, that's fine.
So nobody is going to be able to
construct a house anywhere in your township,
because trucks have to bring in the equipment to
construct the house?
GERALD HUNTER: You know, the thing
we are doing right now is -- I don't even know
what the limit is going to be.
JIM RIPPEL: I mean if you are going
to enforce it just for this, you have got to
enforce it for everybody. You can't just pick


LESLIE SMITH: So they would

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    still -- it would still be posted?
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GERALD HUNTER: It would still be posted I am thinking.

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other questions?

Thank you very much.

Next is John Lauf.
(Sworn in.)

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: State your name.

JOHN LAUF: My name is John Lauf. I am the Evans Township Road Commissioner, and I am talking to you tonight because 2800 Road is my township road which provides access to the proposed site.

I want to read to you a cost estimate for improvements required for 2800 Road to meet an all weather 80,000 pound road suitable for the proposed Sandy Creek Lane, LLC livestock operation.

The current road has a published average daily traffic count of 200 vehicles. Per the typical IDOT distribution it is assumed that

| 1 | there are currently ten multiple unit trucks using |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | the road per day. |
| 3 | According to Sandy Creek Lane |
| 4 | information, nine additional multiple unit trucks |
| 5 | per week will be added to the current traffic. |
| 6 | The traffic pattern for the facility will be to |
| 7 | the north, which will impact seven-tenths of a |
| 8 | mile of Evans Township road and one mile of Hope |
| 9 | Township road in LaSalle County. The existing |
| 10 | road both in LaSalle and Marshall County is in |
| 11 | good condition. The good condition is the result |
| 12 | of the existing traffic and the fact that the |
| 13 | current weight restrictions, 70 percent between |
| 14 | February 1st and May 1st, are being complied with |
| 15 | by the local residents and farmers. |
| 16 | The LaSalle County Engineering |
| 17 | Department has prepared a scope of work and cost |
| 18 | estimate for improvements required for the Hope |
| 19 | Township section. Which we are proposing one and |
| 20 | a half foot of widening on each side of the |
| 21 | current 19 foot road surface, 4.25 inches of hot |
| 22 | mix asphalt binder, and one and a half inches of |
| 23 | hot mix asphalt surface course, two foot aggregate |
| 24 | shoulders and pavement marking. The estimate for |




JOHN LAUF: That's a good question. I wasn't aware of an additional route or an alternative route until today when $I$ met down at the Marshall County Highway Engineering Department. Back in February the only route that was discussed was off of Route 18 coming a mile across Hope Township and seven-tenths of a mile onto Evans Township. I was never aware of an alternative route until today. AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you very much.

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other questions?

STEVE CLANIN: Steve Clanin. John, just on that same note, would you then recommend if they are going to propose two routes that they also bring from Sandy Creek Lane, LLC south all of the way to 17 up to the -is it 80,000 pound road?

JOHN LAUF: Correct.

STEVE CLANIN: Thank you.

JOHN LAUF: Our whole difference in the usage of that road from farm use currently right now to this use -- and that's the reason we

| 1 | use the terms all weather road -- is the farmers |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | today apply -- Mike Salz, who is on the site that |
| 3 | the proposed farm is going to go, has been a very |
| 4 | good steward. Calls me regularly whenever he's |
| 5 | going to haul grain off of his farm and discusses |
| 6 | it. In the summertime if he is going to haul |
| 7 | grain off of his farm he tells me what farm he's |
| 8 | going to haul off of so I can go out and inspect |
| 9 | if I need to chip that area where he's turning |
| 10 | out onto my roadway. We do it. |
| 11 | I have got a great response from a |
| 12 | lot of the farmers in Evans Township who do the |
| 13 | same. They report to me when they are going to do |
| 14 | something. We are able to address the problem so |
| 15 | it doesn't become a problem. |
| 16 | But the hog situation, the difference |
| 17 | with that as regard what I have now, is the hogs |
| 18 | have to eat every day. So the feed trucks are |
| 19 | going to run every day. They have to haul out |
| 20 | with the hogs being a certain weight. They don't |
| 21 | have the ability to wait as the farmers do that |
| 22 | are currently using the roads. |
| 23 | STEVE CLANIN: So if they want to go |
| 24 | south it will be an all weather road? |

JOHN LAUF: That's what we would
request if that was to happen.
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other questions?

LEVI HARMS: Levi Harms, H-A-R-M-S. So how do you know these feed trucks and the livestock haulers aren't compliant with the road laws like you say the farmers are?

JOHN LAUF: Well, what we are
stating is the all weather road, the farmers currently comply with our February 1st to May 1st restrictions. A lot of times the weather turns nice, we lift them early. It happened this year. We lifted our road limits last Monday. So my statement on compliance is we work together during those periods. When we have got a good hard freeze and they want to haul out for a day or two, we allow it. We work back and forth. It is a lot of communication. LEVI HARMS: So are you saying Mr. Rippel wanting to raise pigs is not a farm? JOHN LAUF: I am not saying that. I am saying Mr. Rippel wants to use this road every day of the year. This road was not designed for
(Sworn in.)

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: State your name.

JAMIE CASOLARI: My name is Jamie Casolari, $C-A-S-O-L-A-R-I$.

My family and I are lifelong residents and have lived approximately a mile and a half from the proposed factory site for the last
30 years. My children are the fifth generation to
live in my family home. It is my belief that the
CAFO proposal falls short of meeting the criteria
set forth in point eight.
Our home, which has been in my family
since the early 1930s, was renovated in 2010/2011
at a cost of approximately $\$ 80,000$. Our property
will be greatly devalued if this proposed hog
factory is built. That will be a huge economic
blow to my family.
In addition to extensive home
remodel, we have spent the past 30 years designing
an outdoor living space with stencils, concrete
sidewalks and patio, water features, extensive
raised gardens, multiple flagstone patios,
capstone gardens, outdoor furniture, fire pits,
hundreds of perennials, plants, hostas, bulbs. We
have also planted more than 100 trees and shrubs
on our property.
We are currently working towards
certification for being a backyard wildlife
habitat and butterfly sanctuary. Outdoor living
and gardening is our passion. Our life revolves
around the time spent in the fresh open air which

1 we currently enjoy sunup to sundown three seasons

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    of the year.
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My gardens have had many visitors
over the years. Some from as far away as Mexico City. They always remark upon the peaceful atmosphere and many flower gardens I have. Our quality of life here will be forever tainted if this proposal is granted. The outdoor living space that we have devoted 30 years to creating will be unusable to the extent it will permeate this area.

We also enjoy the great many benefits of living within walking distance of the Big Sandy.

In fact, I took second place in a national contest sponsored by Shell with a photo taken at Sandy Creek Valley.

When I married and moved to my great grandparent's farmhouse, my husband and I rode our bikes on the country roads to the Sandy on a daily basis. I have pushed my babies in strollers and pulled them in wagons to enjoy the creek. We would walk to teach them in a fun manner to be good stewards of the earth. preserving the pristine environment for future generations.

We instilled in them the necessity of

As my kids grew they continued to ride their bikes down to the creek to meet friends, fish, skip rocks and enjoy clean beauty and serenity.

The township road in connecting Evans Road, which forms what we call Sandy Creek Valley, is where my husband and I most often ride our motorcycle. We go out for our nightly drive, drop in on neighbors and just enjoy the simple pleasures of living in the country near gorgeous tranquil farms, the creek, Cumberland Cemetery, clean fresh air, abundant wildlife and bright starry skis best enjoyed around the fire pit.

There is a caring family life relationship here that was irrefutably proven as we pulled together, rebuilt and repaired after the 2010 tornado, 2013 flooding, and this winter's many blizzards.

This LLC CAFO in no way represents or protects our way of life in this mixed use farming community. We are a neighborhood and a close knit

| 1 | community intermingled with family farms, hunting |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | preserves, fishing holes, meadows and other |
| 3 | national treasures. |
| 4 | We are not an industrial park. |
| 5 | The proposed facility is most |
| 6 | definitely not consistent with the community |
| 7 | growth, tourism, recreation or economic |
| 8 | development of this local and treasured green |
| 9 | space. |
| 10 | This proposal did not even close -- |
| 11 | does not even come close to meeting criteria eight |
| 12 | guidelines in my opinion. |
| 13 | In conclusion, I think Theodore |
| 14 | Roosevelt said it best. Here is your country, |
| 15 | cherish these natural wonders, cherish the natural |
| 16 | sources, cherish the history and romance as a |
| 17 | sacrad heritage for your children and your |
| 18 | children's children. Do not let selfish men or |
| 19 | greedy interests skin your country of its beauty, |
| 20 | its riches or its romance. |
| 21 | Thank you. |
| 22 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Are there |
| 23 | questions for this witness? |
| 24 | Any questions? |

    Any questions?
    | KATE HAGENBUCH: Kate Hagenbuch, |
| :---: |
| $\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{A}-\mathrm{G}-\mathrm{E}-\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{B}-\mathrm{U}-\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}$ <br> Short and sweet, if this was a farm |
|  |  |
|  |
|  |
| all be sitting here tonight? |
| JAMIE CASOLARI: I was under the |
| impression that Nicolas Rippel was from this area |
| for several generations. |
| I don't have a problem with him being |
| from the area. |
| I have a problem with the type of |
| facility. The area that it's going to be |
| located -- I live directly across Route 18. Where |
| we walk and exercise and ride our bikes and stuff |
| would be right going in front of the factory. |
| I don't -- in my opinion, I don't |
| want to do that. |
| I am entitled to my opinion just like |
| you are entitled to yours. |
| KATE HAGENBUCH: I appreciate that. |
| Yeah, I guess I am asking if it was, |
| say, this other gentleman -- I forget his name off |
| the top of my head -- whose property the farm was |


| 1 | going on, if it was him and he was living right |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | there, would that be different to you? Because |
| 3 | this is how it is -- he's not owning it, that's my |
| 4 | point. If he was the owner and he was there -- I |
| 5 | mean I live on my farm and I don't understand I |
| 6 | guess what -- |
| 7 | JAMIE CASOLARI: My problem is with |
| 8 | the type of facility they are proposing. |
| 9 | KATE HAGENBUCH: Can you answer, |
| 10 | because nobody else has been able to answer it, |
| 11 | what is a factory farm? |
| 12 | AUDIENCE MEMBER: Where they mass |
| 13 | produce pigs. |
| 14 | KATE HAGENBUCH: I guess I am still |
| 15 | waiting for this answer. |
| 16 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Are there |
| 17 | other questions? |
| 18 | KATE HAGENBUCH: I have 9600. |
| 19 | AUDIENCE MEMBER: Where do you live? |
| 20 | KATE HAGENBUCH: Utica. |
| 21 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: The |
| 22 | questions are directed up here, please. |
| 23 | Are there questions for this witness? |
| 24 | Thank you. |

Thank you.

Next we have Rick Casolari.
(Sworn in.)

RICK CASOLARI: My name is Rick
Casolari. I too live about a mile and a half
from this proposed facility. I understand that
one of the factors considered by the Department
of Agriculture is whether the construction of the
new livestock facility is consistent with the
existing community growth and economic
development.
Factory farms like proposed Sandy
Creek facility decrease the market values of
nearby properties.
As a result, the proposed Sandy Creek
facility is contrary to the existent community
growth and economic development.
I would now like to present some
examples in support of my remarks.
First in DeWitt County, Illinois the
Board of Review lowered the property assessments
for more than 20 people that live within 2 miles
of the factory farm's 7400 sows.
Property value assessments were

| 1 | lowered by 30 percent for neighbors living within |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | one and a half miles of the facility and |
| 3 | 10 percent reduction in property assessments from |
| 4 | neighbors living within 2 miles of the facility. |
| 5 | The fact that DeWitt County lowered |
| 6 | assessments for these property values, property |
| 7 | owners, was reported in the Journal Star May 1998. |
| 8 | Second, in September 2001 in Clark |
| 9 | County, Illinois, property tax assessments were |
| 10 | lowered for 50 residential homes located near an |
| 11 | industry hog farm as follows: 30 percent |
| 12 | reduction for homes within one-half mile, |
| 13 | 25 percent reduction for homes within |
| 14 | three-quarters of a mile, 20 percent reduction for |
| 15 | homes within one mile and 15 percent within one |
| 16 | and a quarter miles. 10 percent within one and a |
| 17 | half miles. |
| 18 | The fact that Clark County lowered |
| 19 | property tax assessments is recorded in the |
| 20 | scholarly article written by William J. Wierda |
| 21 | entitled The Evidence for Property Devaluation Due |
| 22 | To Proximity To CAFOs. |
| 23 | Third, in 2012 in Ogle County, |
| 24 | Illinois, the property tax assessment was |

1 decreased by 12 and a half percent for homes
2 within one-quarter of a mile of a hog farm.

The Sandy Creek hog facility is not consistent with community growth in and out of the community. It is the opposite. It will have a negative effect on the economic development in Evans Township in Marshall County.

Thank you for your consideration.
I do have three articles marked as
exhibits to present as part of the record of this proceeding.

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Thank you.

Are there questions for this witness?

1

2

I see none.

Thank you.

Next up we have Isaiah Roberts.
(Sworn in.)

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: State your name.

ISAIAH ROBERTS: Isaiah Roberts.
First name I-S-A-I-A-H, last name Roberts,
$R-O-B-E-R-T-S$.
Well, to start off, I am a resident
of Sandy Creek. I have lived there my entire
life. So have my siblings and family. With all
of my siblings taking off, one of the reasons why
we still own the house is one day I would like to
purchase it and plan to live there and raise my
own family and I have loved it.

The eighth factor relevant to the
Department of Agriculture is the one that $I$ would
like to talk to you about tonight, which has to
deal with the community growth and economic
development.
The reason $I$ bring this up is in
light of the current epidemic of Porcine Epidemic
Diarrhea, PED, which if you remember was mentioned


1 bringing the actual state count to 30 .
This is an undate made on April 9,
2014, reporting results for the week of March 30,
2014.
This means that a deadly and highly
infectious virus has spread from one state in
May of 2013 to 30 states by March of 2014. A
period of less than just one year.
With morbidity and mortality rates as
high as 80 to 100 percent it means that almost all
of the pigs at a facility can be killed by this
virus.
According to the American Association
of Swine Veterinarians research has identified
transportation and points of swine concentration
to be the key sites of virus contamination. The
American Association of Swine Veterinarians also
maintains spreadsheet to highlight animal movement
regulations implemented by some states relative to
PED exposure.
Information about Sandy Creek
facility distributed by VMC states there will be
two weaner pig deliveries a week and one cull sow
delivery per week. This means there is continuous

| 1 | transportation of pigs associated with this |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | facility. |
| 3 | As noted by the American Association |
| 4 | of Swine Veterinarians, transportation is a key |
| 5 | site of the PED contamination. |
| 6 | I do have these documents which I |
| 7 | will be entering into evidence for the record. |
| 8 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Thank you. |
| 9 | Are there questions for this witness? |
| 10 | MIKE HAAG: Mike Haag, H-A-A-G. |
| 11 | Does PEDV have any relevance to humans at all? |
| 12 | ISAIAH ROBERTS: To humans, no it |
| 13 | does not. |
| 14 | MIKE HAAG: So what difference does |
| 15 | this testimony mean? |
| 16 | ISAIAH ROBERTS: The reason why I |
| 17 | bring this up is because there are residents in |
| 18 | our area within us that do currently have hogs, |
| 19 | that would like to start hogs. I mean, I know |
| 20 | that our home place we have at one point in time. |
| 21 | But also I bring this up, like I said, for the |
| 22 | eighth point which is considered relevant to the |
| 23 | Department of Agriculture due to the economic |
| 24 | sustainability of this facility with the recent |

1 increase, just hoping that with them raising
2 neonatal piglets, with there being transportation
3 just, if a facility like this, if it was to
4 close, just the economic effect that building it
5 and closing would have.

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Questions?

LEVI HARMS: Levi Harms, H-A-R-M-S. Do you realize you don't need these hogs coming into this area to get PEDV? You can have it on you right now.

ISAIAH ROBERTS: Yes.

LEVI HARMS: Just making sure you understood that.

ISAIAH ROBERTS: Yes.

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other

| 1 | questions? I see none. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | Thank you. |
| 3 | ISAIAH ROBERTS: Thank you very |
| 4 | much. |
| 5 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Next we have |
| 6 | Mark Durham. |
| 7 | (Sworn in.) |
| 8 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: State your |
| 9 | name. |
| 10 | MARK DURHAM: My name is Mark |
| 11 | $\mathrm{D}-\mathrm{U}-\mathrm{R}-\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{A}-\mathrm{M}$. |
| 12 | I'll cut this short. I have got some |
| 13 | facts here that $I$ want to enter into about the |
| 14 | quality of Sandy Creek. Speaking on behalf of the |
| 15 | voice -- the ecosystem called the Big Sandy Creek, |
| 16 | the following information was provided from the |
| 17 | IDNR Division of Fisheries. |
| 18 | They conducted six fish survey |
| 19 | studies on Big Sandy between 1991 and 2006. |
| 20 | I personally took part in several of |
| 21 | these surveys. |
| 22 | The data composite is as follows: |
| 23 | Forty-five fish types were found, of which 40 |
| 24 | native species were identified and one nonnative. |


| 1 | I bet you can guess. European carp. Not |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | surprisingly. |
| 3 | The most comparable streams in |
| 4 | Illinois would have -- they found 40 native |
| 5 | species. Most streams that compare to Big Sandy |
| 6 | would probably have 20 to 25 species in them, |
| 7 | native species. The stream has been given an IBI |
| 8 | rating of 59. A rating of 60 being excellent. |
| 9 | According to the IDNR biologist I spoke with, most |
| 10 | streams in Illinois comparable to this size of Big |
| 11 | Sandy would rate an IBI score of 40 to 50. So |
| 12 | having 40 native species is absolutely incredible. |
| 13 | I am quoting Karen, IDNR fish |
| 14 | biologist. Five of the 40 native fish found in |
| 15 | the survey were considered positive indicator |
| 16 | species that have been listed on the DNR's |
| 17 | Illinois Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Plan |
| 18 | and Strategy as species in the greatest need of |
| 19 | conservation. |
| 20 | You can think of them as the |
| 21 | proverbial canary in the coal mine. These fish |
| 22 | only thrive and survive in exceptionally clean, |
| 23 | clear environmental conditionings with proper |
| 24 | gradiant flow, quality rock and sandy stream body |


| 1 | composition and overhead covering provide a cool |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | water temperature. All of these features exist on |
| 3 | Big Sandy and are conducive to the optimum quality |
| 4 | and environment of the fish's ultimate survival. |
| 5 | Tilt the stream's delicate dome a |
| 6 | slight amount, even say something like too much |
| 7 | hog manure in the water, and many of these fish |
| 8 | species would likely be sick and could die. We |
| 9 | have seen in many cases around -- as we have seen |
| 10 | in many cases around the state and country. |
| 11 | We fear some of these fish could |
| 12 | vanish in the areas of Big Sandy altogether, |
| 13 | depending the severity and duration of the |
| 14 | contamination. |
| 15 | We are most worried about runoff and |
| 16 | the ground contamination and the field tile |
| 17 | leaching into the Big Sandy. |
| 18 | One of the most important species on |
| 19 | the list and on the species of greatest need of |
| 20 | conservation and most important to our local |
| 21 | recreation is the small mouth bass. Its survival |
| 22 | and habitat protection has been a lifelong crusade |
| 23 | of mine and whose cause is most near and dear to |
| 24 | my heart because of fisherman. |

I am a longtime member of the Illinois Spawn Bass Alliance. We held our
Illinois meeting -- first Illinois meeting fishing
Big Sandy many years ago. Today our Illinois
chapter has hundreds of members who oppose this
hog factory.
Thank you for your time.
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Are there
questions for this witness?
MARK DURHAM: One more comment.
Save our Sandy.
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Thank you
very much.
Next up is Dennis Fitzgerald.
DENNIS FITZGERALD: I am going to
pass. I am not feeling well.
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Okay. Thank
you. Diane Fitzgerald.
(Sworn in.)
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: State your
DIANE FITZGERALD: I am Diane
Fitzgerald, $\mathrm{F}-\mathrm{I}-\mathrm{T}-\mathrm{Z}-\mathrm{G}-\mathrm{E}-\mathrm{R}-\mathrm{A}-\mathrm{L}-\mathrm{D}$. I'll try to
keep this brief because we have been here a long

| 1 | time and I think most of these -- what I am going |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | to address has already been addressed. I would |
| 3 | just like to add to it in reference to number |
| 4 | eight. |
| 5 | My family, myself, my husband and |
| 6 | daughter, live just north of Mike Salz, northeast. |
| 7 | My great grandparents farmed to the north in |
| 8 | Dimmitt Township, so farming is close to my heart. |
| 9 | When we moved here we were seeking a |
| 10 | return to rural life. Rural life as most people |
| 11 | think of it, or I thought they did. |
| 12 | The Salz family, Millie, Wilford and |
| 13 | Mike, had cattle when we moved here. And we |
| 14 | expected a family farm operation and we enjoyed |
| 15 | the pastural sights, the sounds and even the |
| 16 | smells. We expected and had rural scenic bliss. |
| 17 | Every family walk or bike ride to |
| 18 | Sandy Creek was a wildlife sighting adventure that |
| 19 | never disappointed. My daughter and her friends |
| 20 | could have campout sleepovers in the yard. They |
| 21 | might hear an owl at night, they might here |
| 22 | cattle. |
| 23 | We had family farms, not factories |
| 24 | around us. |

I believe we are losing rural America as we know it and cherish it and as many of us remember it.

I realize some of us here are not old enough to remember what it was like. For those of us that are older, could you imagine taking your children or your grandchildren to a facility as the proposed one is? I can't imagine. It is nothing like your grandparent's farm. It is no place for a child to build memories.

I am not sure it would even be safe, so I kind of had some reservations about some of the pictures that were presented earlier with the children on this farm.

I don't think we really addressed MRSA this evening and there are -- I don't have any statistics with me but it seems to be a current concern.

I'll wrap this up. I think simply God in his infinite wisdom gifted each of you with a nose to help you safeguard yourself on a personal and basic level. It helps you to gauge what is probably safe and what is probably not. And I think we should follow our noses.

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    I am sorry, I believe this proposed
    site is a factory and not a farm and I think it's
    inconsistent with the area and the quality of life
    we have come to know.
    Clean air and a clean, healthy
    environment should not be infringed upon.
    Thank you.
    HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Questions
    for this witness? I see none.
            Thank you very much.
            Next we have Ellen Sinco.
            ELLEN SINCO: I am passing.
            HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Ellen
        passes.
            Lois Steil.
            (Sworn in.)
            HEARING OFFICER FRANK: State and
    spell your name.
    LOIS STEIL: My name is Lois Steil,
    S-T-E-I-L. I reside at 2621 County Road 1250
    North, Magnolia.
    I have lived in the area for many
    years. I am concerned that flooding from Sandy
    Creek might have a negative effect on the proposed
```

| 1 | facility and the surrounding environment. Just |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | last year Sandy Creek flooded and the floodwaters |
| 3 | approached the land where the facility is proposed |
| 4 | to be built. |
| 5 | I have a photograph showing last |
| 6 | year's flooding in the area of the proposed hog |
| 7 | facility and I would like it marked as a hearing |
| 8 | exhibit. |
| 9 | Thank you. |
| 10 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Thank you. |
| 11 | Are there questions for this witness? I see |
| 12 | none. |
| 13 | Thank you. I'll take that in the |
| 14 | next session here. |
| 15 | LOIS STEIL: Okay. |
| 16 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Next we have |
| 17 | Fred Hartenbower. |
| 18 | FRED HARTENBOWER: I have a written |
| 19 | statement to give. Nothing now. |
| 20 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: All right. |
| 21 | Thank you. |
| 22 | Jared Olesen. |
| 23 | (Sworn in.) |
| 24 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: State your |


| 1 | name. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | JARED OLESEN: I'm Dr. Jared Olesen, |
| 3 | $0-L-E-S-E-N . \quad I \quad l i v e ~ i n ~ T o n i c a . ~$ |
| 4 | The United States CDC, the Center for |
| 5 | Disease Control, says that nearly 100,000 people |
| 6 | have been hospitalized, 18,000 people have now |
| 7 | been killed annually from skin infections |
| 8 | resistant to all antibiotics, commonly referred to |
| 9 | as MRSA. |
| 10 | The rise in infections has been so |
| 11 | sudden that MRSA has been studied exhaustively |
| 12 | during the last four years. |
| 13 | The conclusions of these studies are |
| 14 | inescapable. Concentrated animal feeding |
| 15 | operations, CAFOs, are driving -- are one of the |
| 16 | primary drivers of the MRSA epidemic in the United |
| 17 | States. |
| 18 | While hog farming has a rich history |
| 19 | in the midwest, CAFOs are a fundamentally new |
| 20 | thing showing up around the country throughout the |
| 21 | late 1970s and '80s and especially during the late |
| 22 | 1990s. |
| 23 | Coincidentally rates of MRSA in the |
| 24 | United States begin to rise shortly thereafter. |

Last year a study published in the Journal of American Medical Association found the highest likelihood of MRSA infection was found in population near fields where hog sewage was applied.

In other words, the closer you are to hog slurry fields the more MRSA you see.

As $I$ understand it, pumping of hog sewage on the surrounding fields is precisely the plan here.

In separate studies the Journal of the American Medical Association finds that airborne MRSA is yet another serious risk. It can get into the air in hospitals or it can be aerosolized from fields with slurry on them.

Does this community really want the source of airborne MRSA near a cookie factory or ravioli factory?

Resent studies find that over 20 percent and up to 45 percent of farm workers are MRSA carriers. The rates of MRSA within one mile nearly triple.

So when farm workers or nearby
residents get MRSA where do you think they go? IV

1 Hospital, Ottawa, Bloomington, Peoria.

A 2010 study found MRSA is mainly spread in population centers by patients coming into contact with other patients in hospitals. It's how MRSA comes to town.

You ask the promoters of these facilities about MRSA and they say we only use antibiotics when absolutely necessary or when we have a veterinarian on hand to manage the hog's health. We are at a point now where those efforts offer little help. The problem is that MRSA evolved in livestock, it jumped to humans, mutated there to spread more easily in the human population and then jumped back to livestock. This means the hogs are now getting it from nearby humans. The CAFOS act like amplifiers for the existing MRSA in the surrounding communities, making it more likely you will end up with a batch of sick workers or residents in your hospitals.

We don't need an amplifier for deadly bacteria in our communities, and I strongly encourage the Board and Department to deny Sandy Creek Land Commission to operate here.

I do have a document to submit.

PUBLIC MEETING 4/17/2014

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Are there
questions for this witness?
DEB CLANIN: My name is Deb Clanin.
You had mentioned -- you mentioned the two
factories that we currently have here in Marshall
County. Both factories, as we all know, employ a
total of 800 people. With the air pollution,
what will that do to these factories, to the food
and the cookies that are produced at these
factories?
JARED OLESEN: I can't speak in
certainties. I only speak to the increase of
risk. I do know the risk is substantial.
DEB CLANIN: Will this affect people
with current health conditions that live out
there?
JARED OLESEN: MRSA is a
particularly high risk for people with
compromised immune systems.
DEB CLANIN: Thank you.
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other
questions?
JOSH MERDIAN: My name is Josh
Merdian, $\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{E}-\mathrm{R}-\mathrm{D}-\mathrm{I}-\mathrm{A}-\mathrm{N}$.

Can you please tell us how many cases
of MRSA have transferred from livestock to humans?
JARED OLESEN: Have transferred from
livestock?
JOSH MERDIAN: Correct.
JARED OLESEN: The number? You want
a specific number?
JOSH MERDIAN: The number.
JARED OLESEN: Really?
JOSH MERDIAN: Yes.
DAWN RIPPEL: Are there documented
cases around here?
JARED OLESEN: Absolutely.
DAWN RIPPEL: How many?
JARED OLESEN: You want a specific
number of cases?
DAWN RIPPEL: If you tell us there
are some, yes. I don't know so I would like to
know.
JARED OLESEN: Look, this is a
classic intimidation tactic by people like --
DAWN RIPPEL: I am not trying to.
JARED OLESEN: Asking me for a
specific number? You know what, I can guarantee

| 1 | you there will be probably three or four more |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | tonight. |
| 3 | Do you want me to count per second? |
| 4 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Mr. Olesen, |
| 5 | just say you don't know. |
| 6 | JARED OLESEN: I do not know. |
| 7 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Any other |
| 8 | questions? |
| 9 | Way over there. |
| 10 | DAWN RIPPEL: Can you be a carrier |
| 11 | of MRSA without getting MRSA? |
| 12 | JARED OLESEN: Absolutely. |
| 13 | DAWN RIPPEL: Can you get MRSA from |
| 14 | person to person? |
| 15 | JARED OLESEN: Absolutely. |
| 16 | DAWN RIPPEL: Is MRSA high in |
| 17 | nursing homes? |
| 18 | JARED OLESEN: Yes. |
| 19 | DAWN RIPPEL: Is MRSA high in |
| 20 | hospitals? |
| 21 | JARED OLESEN: Absolutely. |
| 22 | DAWN RIPPEL: So is MRSA currently |
| 23 | in the air here? |
| 24 | JARED OLESEN: Now that I don't |

1 know.
DAWN RIPPEL: Son of a gun, it is
because I may be a carrier and you don't know it.
Could that be true?
JARED OLESEN: Absolutely that's
true.
DAWN RIPPEL: There could be MRSA
here and there are no hogs, correct?
JARED OLESEN: I told you that CAFOs
act as amplifiers.
DAWN RIPPEL: Can you tell me what
CAFO is?
JARED OLESEN: Concentrated animal
feeding operation.
DAWN RIPPEL: Which is what?
Because I thought we were talking
about a hog farm made up of farmers.
JARED OLESEN: Oh, please.
DAWN RIPPEL: Son of a gun, I really
did.
So because you guys coined off the
internet CAFO, but Sandy Creek LLC is saying it is
a farm. So go back --
JARED OLESEN: Would you say that

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    12,000 hogs in three buildings is concentrated?
        DAWN RIPPEL: I would say they are
    confined.
        How many cookies do we make in the
    cookie factory? How many --
        HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Folks, we
    are getting a little off track here.
        DAWN RIPPEL: To be clear, I can get
    MRSA from somebody in here?
        JARED OLESEN: Absolutely.
        DAWN RIPPEL: Okay.
            HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Any other
    questions?
        Excuse me, ma'am, I don't believe you
    stated your name.
        DAWN RIPPEL: Dawn Rippel.
        HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Thank you.
        Other questions? I see none.
        Thank you.
        Next we have Mike Haag.
        (Sworn in.)
        HEARING OFFICER FRANK: State your
        name and spell your last name.
    MIKE HAAG: Mike Haag, H-A-A-G.
```

| 1 | It's been a long night. I guess I feel really |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | privileged to be able to stand before you today |
| 3 | because I have been pretty much born and raised |
| 4 | right in a hog farm. I take it quite personal to |
| 5 | see these kind of criticisms. We have 1200 sows |
| 6 | in Livingston County. I am the third generation |
| 7 | brought up on this farm. About 100 feet from the |
| 8 | closest hogs we have picnics, we have parties. |
| 9 | It is amazing but we have lived through it. My |
| 10 | daughters -- I wish they were here but they had |
| 11 | to go to church tonight. They are supposed to |
| 12 | serve. My daughters love to tell the story. |
| 13 | They love to talk to people and talk about modern |
| 14 | ag and talk about the story of the modern swine |
| 15 | farm and how it's evolved over the years. My |
| 16 | oldest daughter is graduating high school this |
| 17 | year, valedictorian, 4.2 grade point average on a |
| 18 | 4 point scale. And her goal is to be in ag |
| 19 | education and be an ag literacy coordinator and |
| 20 | tell the story of agriculture, tell the story of |
| 21 | modern ag. I look forward to her doing that. |
| 22 | Anyway, I will go on. |
| 23 | I am here as a board member of the |
| 24 | Illinois Pork Producers. I got involved in this |


| 1 | organization because I like to tell my story and I |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | like to talk about pork producers. I think we are |
| 3 | one of the best group of people in the United |
| 4 | States. |
| 5 | I would like to offer these comments |
| 6 | in support of proposed Sandy Creek farm. |
| 7 | The pork industry has undergone |
| 8 | enormous changes over the last few years. I have |
| 9 | actually talked to legislators and I asked them |
| 10 | what a large hog farm is and what a mega farm is, |
| 11 | what a factory farm is. I've had people tell me |
| 12 | it is people that raise large quantities of |
| 13 | animals. |
| 14 | Everybody else is broke. There was |
| 15 | no other way to survive in the last 20 years than |
| 16 | to adapt and overcome and modernize our farms and |
| 17 | improve technology to raise good quality, safe, |
| 18 | consistent pork for consumers like myself and you. |
| 19 | This proposed farm is an example of |
| 20 | one of the ways that we are adapting to survive. |
| 21 | Small farmers go together and build a |
| 22 | large farm so they can compete with other large |
| 23 | farms. |

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    My comments I guess are specifically
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1 I am too -- pork producers are very much aware

2 that the environment that we live in -- it's where

MIKE HAAG: The Catholic diocese?

DAWN RIPPEL: Yes.

MIKE HAAG: Yes, $I$ am on the
rural -- the farmers group for the diocese of Peoria, yes.

DAWN RIPPEL: What does that

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    involve?
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MIKE HAAG: We have been trying to figure ways to bringing more church and more God, more religious aspects to all of agriculture and include them within the diocese.

DAWN RIPPEL: Thank you.

MARSELLA MYERS: Marsella Myers.
I notice there has been a little group here that is here to chastise the one that's got testimony here. I disagree with that tactic. And you are -- I assume that you are here for the hog farm. And you say you have a creek or something that you fish in. How far is that from your farm? Is it just 100 feet from the Sandy Creek like it is with this development? MIKE HAAG: The farm where my dad lives is probably 150 foot downstream from where -- yes, he lives there and the hog farm is about 200 feet from there and the creek is about another 200 feet down and another one half mile between us.

MARSELLA MYERS: So you are saying
that it is a lot farther away than Sandy Creek is


| 1 | EPA here. I can't tell you. If there is a |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | discharge -- |
| 3 | MR. GENTERT: The point I am getting |
| 4 | at, I mean these are just common people, they |
| 5 | ain't stupid, trying to do research on their |
| 6 | thing. Some of them are well educated but they |
| 7 | go and read books on the internet, get the -- you |
| 8 | guys sit up here and try to intimidate them. |
| 9 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Sir, do you |
| 10 | have a question? |
| 11 | MR. GENTERT: No, sorry. Thank you |
| 12 | for your time. |
| 13 | MIKE HAAG: I am not trying to |
| 14 | intimidate anybody. Just telling my story. |
| 15 | LESLIE SMITH: I have a question. |
| 16 | You said -- how many head of swine did you say |
| 17 | you had at your facility? |
| 18 | MIKE HAAG: 1200 sows on my farm. |
| 19 | It was built in the early seventies. |
| 20 | LESLIE SMITH: Okay. That's getting |
| 21 | to my question. You know, it has been brought up |
| 22 | here that there is no difference between you, a |
| 23 | very small farmer, and the operation that is |
| 24 | going to be going in in Marshall County here, but |


| 1 | I don't know, you know, people have made comments |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | about the word CAFO. Do you know what the |
| 3 | definition of a CAFO is? A large CAFO? |
| 4 | MIKE HAAG: Large CAFO is 5,000 |
| 5 | animal units I believe. |
| 6 | LESLIE SMITH: Okay. And is the |
| 7 | facility that's going -- well, actually no, it's |
| 8 | not. It is over 2500. This facility has over |
| 9 | 2500 animal units, so it is considered a large |
| 10 | CAFO for anyone who is wondering. |
| 11 | There are not many criteria to figure |
| 12 | out what a large CAFO is. It is pretty much if |
| 13 | you have over 2500 animal units and you are |
| 14 | confined. |
| 15 | So do you think there is no |
| 16 | difference between you having 1200 sows, which |
| 17 | isn't a large CAFO, than someone having as they |
| 18 | say 5600 sows, which is a large CAFO? |
| 19 | I mean that's a -- I mean that's like |
| 20 | saying I have one dog or I have, you know, 15 |
| 21 | dogs. Like there is a big difference between 1200 |
| 22 | sows and 5600 sows also. |
| 23 | MIKE HAAG: It is more modern. Yes, |
| 24 | it is a larger operation. Ours was considered |

1 huge when we were built in the 1970s. I mean
2 today I would not consider it -- as long as the 3 people that are operating this are doing what is 4 right and they are building things by the 5 standards, they are handling the nutrients from 6 these animals and applying it back to the
7 cropland, I don't believe there is any
8 difference, no.

1 that is not doing things right does not expand
2 and grow. I don't know anybody that is

3 consistently doing things wrong that gets to

4 continue building and going on.

16 tiled. Grid tiling is designed to take water away
17 fast. So if you knife this manure in and you get a good rainstorm, where is that going to go?

You can't tell me some of it ain't going to make it through the tile on the creek.

MIKE HAAG: I am not an agronomist, but it is filtered. It is filtered.

JEFF PETERSON: Filtered where? If
it is knifed in it is going through --

MIKE HAAG: Filtered through the
feet of soil before it gets to that tile.
It is applied 6 to 8 inches deep and
it has got to go down 4 or 5 feet to get to that
tile. And it is filtered. And actually, like I
said I had am not an agronomist, but hog manure or
hog waste nutrients actually bind with the soil --
JEFF PETERSON: How can you
guarantee zero discharge?
MIKE HAAG: A discharge is an
intentional release.
JEFF PETERSON: Okay. How can you
tell me it is not going to --
MIKE HAAG: It is a release that
is -- it is different than application. You are
talking about application. That is not a
discharge.
JEFF PETERSON: Okay. So after it
is applicated, where is it going to go?
MIKE HAAG: It is going to stay in
the soil just like any fertilizer.
JEFF PETERSON: In a grid tile field
that is designed to get rid of the water as fast
as you can, if you get heavy rain right after an

| 1 | application nothing is going to make it into the |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | tile in the grid? |
| 3 | MIKE HAAG: No more than any |
| 4 | fertilizer. I mean it is the same as any other |
| 5 | fertilizer. I mean all fertilizer -- this is the |
| 6 | problem with all commercial fertilizer too, there |
| 7 | is some leaching from all commercial fertilizers. |
| 8 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Further |
| 9 | questions? |
| 10 | STEVE CLANIN: Steve Clanin. |
| 11 | I think it was Miss Rippel who |
| 12 | brought up the diocese, the Catholic Church. You |
| 13 | also mentioned it. |
| 14 | Are you aware of the National |
| 15 | Catholic Rural Life Conference and their stand on |
| 16 | CAFOs? |
| 17 | MIKE HAAG: I realize they have a |
| 18 | stance on it, yes. |
| 19 | STEVE CLANIN: They do. I have it |
| 20 | right here and I will enter it. |
| 21 | MIKE HAAG: That's fine. |
| 22 | STEVE CLANIN: They have a -- this |
| 23 | one is a document labeled Environmental and |
| 24 | Health Problems in Livestock Production. |

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Do you have

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    a question for the witness?
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    STEVE CLANIN: Yes. I was just
    asking him -- he's invoking the church, I was
    asking if he is aware of the Catholic Church's
    position on CAFOs, yes or no?
    MIKE HAAG: No, I was not aware of
    it.
    STEVE CLANIN: I'll give you a copy.
    HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other
    questions?
    MARK DURHAM: Mark Durham.
    One question about your facility.
    How does it compare construction wise to what they
    are proposing to build out here? As far as your
    waste management handling, are you using open pits
    or do you have like a bladder system underneath
    your --
    MIKE HAAG: We have lagoons.
    MARK DURHAM: You have open lagoons?
    MIKE HAAG: Yes.
    MARK DURHAM: Is there like a
    bladder system in those or open to the air?
    MIKE HAAG: Clay. No, clay.
    1

2

MARK DURHAM: Clay lined?

MIKE HAAG: Yes.

MARK DURHAM: Okay. Thank you.

MIKE HAAG: The technology has been
way ahead of that. We have really improved I think.

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Thank you
very much.
Next we have Jennifer Peterson.

JENNIFER PETERSON: I pass. Thank you.

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Jennifer

Peterson passes.

Jamie Janssen.

JAMIE JANSSEN: Pass.

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Miss Janssen passes.

Jan Bakewell?

JAN BAKEWELL: Pass.

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Jan Bakewell
passes.

Brad Lindstrom?
(Sworn in.)

BRAD LINDSTROM: I just have a

| 1 | couple of quick comments. They might blend into |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | one big one. |
| 3 | I think in the proposed hog farm here |
| 4 | of Sandy Creek, LLC -- |
| 5 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Excuse me, |
| 6 | did you state your name? |
| 7 | BRAD LINDSTROM: Brad Lindstrom. |
| 8 | I think in the proposed hog farm here |
| 9 | of Sandy Creek, LLC some developers may have |
| 10 | overseen something of a relatively small but |
| 11 | pretty tight community you see here along the |
| 12 | Sandy Creek. I would say this is not some |
| 13 | drainage ditch or rural stream that we might drain |
| 14 | tile into. There is a community that hunts and |
| 15 | fishes and camps. And I live just north of there. |
| 16 | I am a farmer in the community and I am also a |
| 17 | Marshall County Board member. I want to make sure |
| 18 | I am speaking for my crazy self, not for the rest |
| 19 | of the Board. |
| 20 | But these people's concerns are real. |
| 21 | And I want to direct this to a lot of my friends |
| 22 | in agriculture. |
| 23 | These are not, you know, crazy nut |
| 24 | jobs. This isn't PETA, this isn't the Human |


| 1 | Society. These are my neighbors and friends. I |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | would like people to listen to them and understand |
| 3 | they have real concerns here. They don't want |
| 4 | their life to change overnight. They are worried |
| 5 | it will. |
| 6 | I grew up on a hog farm. We raised |
| 7 | hogs until I was 13, until my dad got smart enough |
| 8 | to realize we were going broke doing it and |
| 9 | haven't done it since. |
| 10 | Some of you have obviously really |
| 11 | thrived doing it and that's great. |
| 12 | I have this very crazy idea that we |
| 13 | can coexist. I really do. |
| 14 | But I think in this heart of hearts, |
| 15 | when we look at this -- and Nicolas went to some |
| 16 | real length and expense to site this thing -- I |
| 17 | really think all in all this is a poor choice of |
| 18 | siting. I just think it is too close to a very |
| 19 | sensitive area full of people who love it. I |
| 20 | think you could find a better spot. |
| 21 | If we left tomorrow and went on a |
| 22 | tour of the county we could probably find a dozen |
| 23 | spots that would be better suited for raising hogs |
| 24 | farther away from streams, closer to state |


| 1 | highways. It would cause fewer problems with the |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | locals along the creek. Cause fewer problems for |
| 3 | the hog farm when people come back and say you |
| 4 | damage my road. We are an all weather road, |
| 5 | that's not a problem. |
| 6 | You are going to pollute the stream. |
| 7 | I am 5 miles away, not a problem. |
| 8 | Seems as though in ag we have this |
| 9 | idea, especially with hogs, it is hogs anywhere, |
| 10 | anytime, anyhow. And when push comes to shove, |
| 11 | most of our neighbors who live in the country now |
| 12 | aren't farmers. They are rural residents who |
| 13 | maybe come from a farm background generations ago |
| 14 | but they are not farmers anymore. |
| 15 | I think we need to learn to work with |
| 16 | them a little bit. I really do. Because it is |
| 17 | going to go a lot farther for us. Because our |
| 18 | numbers are tingling. Everyone in ag knows that. |
| 19 | That's why these farms are so big. There is a |
| 20 | fraction of us. There used to be just as many |
| 21 | hogs raised, they were just raised in little spots |
| 22 | all over the place. Well, now they are in |
| 23 | confined areas. |
| 24 | I like hog farming. I like how hogs |


| 1 | taste. I like how they eat my corn. I like that |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | part. |
| 3 | What I want is to make sure their |
| 4 | wishes are met, they don't feel like it is being |
| 5 | forced on them. And the hog farm has rights too |
| 6 | and they can raise their hogs. This can happen. |
| 7 | Both people can get their way here. I know I |
| 8 | sound like a politician but I really mean that. |
| 9 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Are there |
| 10 | questions for this gentleman? |
| 11 | I see none. |
| 12 | BRAD LINDSTROM: Thank you. |
| 13 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Next we have |
| 14 | Chris Golden. |
| 15 | (Sworn in.) |
| 16 | CHRIS GOLDEN: My name is Chris |
| 17 | Golden, $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{R}-\mathrm{I}-\mathrm{S}, \mathrm{G}-\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{L}-\mathrm{D}-\mathrm{E}-\mathrm{N}$. |
| 18 | I am a member of the Executive |
| 19 | Committee of the Heart of Illinois group of the |
| 20 | Sierra Club. |
| 21 | Our group's comment is as follows: |
| 22 | To members of the Illinois Department of |
| 23 | Agriculture, Heart of Illinois Group Sierra Club |
| 24 | is the local area group for the nationwide |

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    1 environmental organization Sierra Club. Our motto
    2 is to protect the environment for our families and
    3 for our future.
11 Counties, and we are concerned about the long-term
12 harm to public health, to surface and groundwater
13 and to air quality from this project.
    We ask the Illinois Department of
    Agriculture to deny approval for the Sandy Creek
    Lane, LLC.
    This large confined animal feeding
    operation is too great of a risk to the area
    environment. We have serious concerns regarding
    land application of the huge amount of animal
    waste from this proposed factory.
    We do not see adequate regulation and
    enforcement of land application of animal factory
    manure by any of our state agencies.
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Land application should not be approved as the only manure disposal for a facility with what appears to be well over 20,000 animals.

There is a clear danger to Sandy Creek and downstream public use of water from this creek. Sandy Creek discharges into the Illinois River, which is already impaired in downstream sections from animal waste contaminants.

Our state and federal governments have spent huge amounts on cleaning up the Illinois River. If the Sandy Creek Lane, LLC animal factory is approved, more pollution will definitely be entering into creek system and Illinois River.

Pollutants such as nitrogen, phosphorus, pathogens, heavy metals, hormones, antibiotics from animal waste and ammonia will be added loads to the tributary to the Illinois River.

The location of this facility with such clear contamination risk to Sandy Creek must not be approved.

This is not an appropriate location

Page

DIANA WROCZYNSKI: Diana Wroczynski,
W-R-O-C-Z-Y-N-S-K-I, D-I-A-N-A.
(Sworn in.)
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Okay.
DIANA WROCZYNSKI: Everybody has
said pretty much everything I wanted to say.
I am an R.N. I work at Peoria at St.
Francis.
The health concerns really bother me.
But mostly $I$ am kind of representing our family
because we have lived out here for a long time. I
have been here all of my life. My mom moved here
in 1950 and raised seven children on the farm.
And I am speaking to number eight that this is
going to change the way that we live.
We played in the creek all of the
time. We still do, our kids do, our grandkids do.
Fishing, canoeing, kayaking, swimming. You have
heard it all before. It is practically the way of
life when you live out here. Hunting for shells
and rocks and tadpoles. When we grew up we had
neighborhood fish fries and senior skip days down
in the timber. Cub Scouts and Boys Scouts camped
out. People from the surrounding towns came and

| 1 | built memories. And I don't see how that is going |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | to continue if the creek gets contaminated or even |
| 3 | if people just think there is a possibility it |
| 4 | will be contaminated. |
| 5 | Just we live out here. What you have |
| 6 | heard before. We love it. We are out on the |
| 7 | roads all of time biking, walking, jogging, |
| 8 | running and it is just a great place to live. I |
| 9 | don't feel like this is compatible with what we |
| 10 | have out here, which is a neighborhood. It is not |
| 11 | just a rural area. We are neighbors. We know |
| 12 | each other. We do things together. And it will |
| 13 | impact our daily life. We have horses, llamas, |
| 14 | goats, peacocks. We love animals. We are not |
| 15 | anti-animal. I grew up on a farm. We had every |
| 16 | kind of animal growing up. We are not against |
| 17 | farming. |
| 18 | What we are against is the impact on |
| 19 | our lives and our health that raising so many |
| 20 | animals in small confined areas and their waste |
| 21 | products can have on us. |
| 22 | That's all. |
| 23 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Thank you. |
| 24 | Are there questions for this witness? |


| 1 | I see none. Thank you. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | Next we have Nic Anderson. |
| 3 | (Sworn in.) |
| 4 | NIC ANDERSON: Nic Anderson. Thank |
| 5 | you, Department of Agriculture, the County Board. |
| 6 | And speaking of the County Board, I know it's |
| 7 | gotten late, how many County Board members are |
| 8 | still here? We have lost a few of them. |
| 9 | Hopefully you will take some notes and when this |
| 10 | goes -- I am going to add some papers into |
| 11 | testimony. I think some of the things Brad |
| 12 | Lindstrom brought up -- I got a report from the |
| 13 | Department of Agriculture on Notice of Intent to |
| 14 | Construct since the initiation of the Act. It |
| 15 | breaks it out by species, size. And just in |
| 16 | summary -- and I will turn this in for documents |
| 17 | that you can secure for the County Board |
| 18 | decision. |
| 19 | There have been over 17,000 notices |
| 20 | filed in the State of Illinois since '96 for |
| 21 | animal feeding operations under this Act. There |
| 22 | have been 1270 completed. |
| 23 | When I do some rough calculations, |
| 24 | and I like to be conservative on that, since this |

1 Act was enacted there have been over $\$ 800$ million

2 of infrastructure for Illinois economy through new

3 livestock facilities through the Act. That's

4 besides what is already existing and operating.
5 So $I$ will turn this in as a document.
The other thing for the County Board
is the 303 D List, Illinois EPA Impaired Waters.
Sandy Creek is on that impaired list. We
understand municipalities and people live along
that creek. A lot of times that creek, the reason
we sited there was there was water and there was
easy disposal. And I will give you caution, if
you read through this document -- you can go right
to the EPA's page and pick that up if you want to
online -- but for Sandy Creek it is a medium code
under EPA under 303. However, it is high in fecal
chloroform, phosphorous and dissolved oxygen. And
the statement under medium classification under
303 says you should not swim, you should not
drink.
We understand that municipalities use
that water. They discharge -- and I brought some
documents also with that. But if you would look
at this document and also if you go online you can

| 1 | go to EPA and find that information. We |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | understand that happens. |
| 3 | The role of the hog farm is not to |
| 4 | discharge and manage manure and manage odor the |
| 5 | right way. However, it is kind of a fact of life |
| 6 | with human waste that those things happen. |
| 7 | And I have seen Sandy Creek. It is a |
| 8 | lovely area. But we have some challenges that are |
| 9 | impacted by human existence up and down that |
| 10 | creek. Whether you believe in the creek or not, |
| 11 | humans impact that. And it is not from the hog |
| 12 | farm today. |
| 13 | And our goal is not that it is from |
| 14 | the hog farm in the future. |
| 15 | The other document -- and I will say |
| 16 | that all of the municipalities out there in |
| 17 | Illinois, but especially on Sandy Creek, and I |
| 18 | have a document, the NPDS permit, Wenona has a |
| 19 | permit to discharge into the creek. And please |
| 20 | take a look at that document and also their |
| 21 | permit. |
| 22 | There is also some stats on |
| 23 | surrounding counties on how many livestock farms |
| 24 | have been in surrounding counties around you for |

1 your information.

And the last document I will -- when we do the document portion, Jim Sacia, retired Representative up in northern Illinois, provided a document for you to read with his experience with CAFOs and farms up in his neck of the woods and also a document of -- I'll let you read it as it is submitted.

Are there any questions?
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Questions of this witness?

MARK DURHAM: Mark Durham.
I would just like to ask you, sir, how many documented cases of fishkills related to human waste have you got from Big Sandy Creek?

NIC ANDERSON: Actually the one I
looked at was back in 1990. There was some contamination. Unfortunately, the EPA's records don't address all of that. I tried to --

MARK DURHAM: So you don't have any?
NIC ANDERSON: I don't.
MARK DURHAM: How about hog related
fishkills on Big Sandy?
NIC ANDERSON: I am not aware of

1 any.

STEVE CLANIN: Steve Clanin.

Just to clarify, you said Wenona has a what to discharge?

NIC ANDERSON: An NPDS permit to
discharge contaminants. And actually they have to remove about 85 percent of solids. So there is 15 percent solids that get released.

STEVE CLANIN: So your argument is what, two wrongs make a right?

NIC ANDERSON: No. I stated that our goal as the hog farm is not to impact that stream.

I think I said that earlier. HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other questions?

MR. GENTERT: My name is Charles Gentert, $G-E-N-T-E-R-T . \quad I$ own a farm approximately 2 miles roughly from this site. I talked to you the other day on the phone. And if this operation is going to be up to snuff and everything -- you ain't concerned about the residents that live down there.

As a matter of fact, when $I$ brought up the roads, you quote told me that we would be paid $\$ 50,000$ taxes.

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Do you have a question?

MR. GENTERT: I am getting to that.
Question I did have, I told you I pay taxes in LaSalle County. That will have no effect on the road.

I want to know who employs you? The State of Illinois?

NIC ANDERSON: Let me check here, I am not sure I had that in my presentation.

MR. GENTERT: Okay. Who employs
you?
NIC ANDERSON: I work with the
Illinois Livestock Development Group.
MR. GENTERT: Okay. On my tax
dollars. I also pay in Indiana. I got a long
way to go to get back. My tax dollars.
Are you supposed to represent all of
the farmers in general or just a select few?
NIC ANDERSON: Actually $I$ am out in
the marketplace. I work with small ten cow
herds --
MR. GENTERT: Why do you try to lead
the wool over my eyes?
NIC ANDERSON: What wool is that?
MR. GENTERT: Well, like you offered
me free manure. I don't need any manure. I need
my farm to stay in the family farm name for
generations to come. One hundred plus more
years. I don't need any manure. You offered me
free manure basically.
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Do you have
a question?
MR. GENTERT: Didn't you?
NIC ANDERSON: I don't have any

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1 manure myself.

MR. GENTERT: Well, didn't you over the phone say don't you want the free manure?

NIC ANDERSON: I recall our
conversation. I had a real tough time -- I don't recall that question.

MR. GENTERT: You don't recall it now? Or you don't recall this question probably so you asked me. Maybe Marshall County should pass a law only they have to be residents in Marshall County to farm there. Do you recall that?

NIC ANDERSON: I think I gave you a
scenario --

MR. GENTERT: Okay, a scenario.

NIC ANDERSON: -- to prohibit one
farm should you prohibit other farms?

MR. GENTERT: Right. Seems like you are representing one farm.

And I want to speak -- I have got to get going, got to get back to Indiana and go work because of jobs and that. I just hope the Department of Agriculture takes into consideration the impact it will have on this community when

| 1 | they take the vote, the negative impact. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other |
| 3 | questions for this witness? |
| 4 | BRAD LINDSTROM: Brad Lindstrom. |
| 5 | Nic, I have got a question. I hope |
| 6 | you understand this. |
| 7 | Why is this process so spread out as |
| 8 | to where -- I think what these people like to do |
| 9 | is face the people that are going to be the hog |
| 10 | farmers is what I think they would like to do. |
| 11 | And that's not even an option here. |
| 12 | Is that something that happened in |
| 13 | the past before the Act you are referring to? |
| 14 | I mean I would like to have the guys |
| 15 | who are going to be doing the hog producing |
| 16 | sitting here next to you. You have represented |
| 17 | them, that is great, but face-to-face ask |
| 18 | questions, hey, what are you going to do for us? |
| 19 | NIC ANDERSON: Nicolas is that hog |
| 20 | farmer. They raise hogs, they are in pork |
| 21 | production, they are farmers, they work with |
| 22 | farmers. |
| 23 | Their situation -- and this is where |
| 24 | these systems have gone now. If there is not a |


| 1 | permit for me to come in and operate, you are |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | providing that service for me, there is no reason |
| 3 | for them to sign up. |
| 4 | I will tell you if it doesn't go |
| 5 | forward, they are not going to be there. And if |
| 6 | there is -- there is a challenge out there and |
| 7 | they think there is too much challenge, they will |
| 8 | probably deter some people from doing it. |
| 9 | But the experience that they have and |
| 10 | the track record that they have, they have a lot |
| 11 | of good farm, hog farm growers that rely on them |
| 12 | for that service. It is a way for them to stay in |
| 13 | business, continue on their farms in a fashion |
| 14 | that takes -- I can't remember your background |
| 15 | there, Brad, on raising hogs, but specializing in |
| 16 | sow production and pig production, that was one of |
| 17 | our struggles as I grew up. Cold winters, pigs |
| 18 | outside, getting good litters and having pigs to |
| 19 | go to market, if somebody can provide that to me |
| 20 | as a hog farmer, that is why that system is |
| 21 | created. |
| 22 | And I will tell you, whether it is a |
| 23 | license to operate or whatever it might be, |
| 24 | farmers are not public speakers, they don't |


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NIC ANDERSON: I don't have control
over that. I would suggest you get to know your
neighbors. I will -- it is kind of a silver
lining that -- it is unbelievable how this
happens. I didn't know much about Marshall
County, but $I$ have met a lot of really good
people up here and it has given me an experience
to know more about the County and the people
working here. And I have known Williamsburg Vet
for a long time but I never new Nicolas.
I will tell you this has forced you
to meet your neighbors. Good, bad or indifferent.
Why wasn't that created before?
Somebody tell me?
BRAD LINDSTROM: You knew me when I
had hair, Nic.
NIC ANDERSON: I am not sure you had
hair back then.
BRAD LINDSTROM: I did. It was
awesome hair.
AUDIENCE MEMBER: They are from
Iowa, we are not neighbors.
NIC ANDERSON: We are all Americans,
we are all neighbors.

JOHN FOOTE: It is good to see so much concern.

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: State your name, please.

JOHN FOOTE: My question to you, restraining it to a question, why does it seem to be so impossible to make the suggestion that Brad just had about working together and finding a place?

I went out, and looked and it appears to me there is lots of places. It is going to be more difficult to make it happen I am probably pretty sure of that, but where you could --

NIC ANDERSON: Let me explain that a little bit. I know where you are coming from. We see that in a lot of places we go.

Fortunately I was glad that you could go and you had an open mind to do that and you were of a nature that it was important.

Unfortunately, the internet is a great thing out there and to all of you in this community I am a bad guy, I don't care about anything. Look out for that guy, he's evil. So it creates this catalyst. That cooperation -- we

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    1 offered to come talk to some neighbors to talk
    2 ~ a b o u t ~ t h e ~ i s s u e . ~ I t ~ i s ~ u n c o m f o r t a b l e ~ a n d ~
    3 emotional. No more than this. However, it was
    4 refused. So that catalyst -- John was good enough
    5 \text { to go on that trip and some other neighbors. We}
    6 want you to see what it is. We want to be
    7 \text { transparent. But whatever that outside influence}
    8 is, Nic Anderson is a bad guy, the hog industry
    9 stinks, they are all polluters. I will tell you
        in the State of Illinois from my knowledge base
        there are about 29,000 pork producers in the
        state. Less than .4 percent of them had a
        violation on their farm.
    You take any other industry and look
        at that percentage. That is pretty good.
    We want to go to zero. But if your
        tolerance of odor or smell or a big farm down the
        road is zero, that's unattainable. And it's got
        to be more than zero.
    JOHN FOOTE: But I was a farmer, a
        hog farmer for a while. I raised cattle, I had
        20 cow, purebred Angus that I raised the calves
        from, but I still come back to the question to
        you, why can't this be a peaceful coexistence
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| 1 | where we monitor each other's concerns and so |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | forth without going into it in a lot -- without |
| 3 | somebody having a heart attack over the whole |
| 4 | damn thing? |
| 5 | NIC ANDERSON: Good question. I |
| 6 | don't have an answer. |
| 7 | We want to try to get to that point |
| 8 | but there has got to be reasonable conversation. |
| 9 | If you are -- if there is zero impact |
| 10 | from any farming community out there, if that's |
| 11 | the tolerance, it does not exist and the |
| 12 | communication cannot go on. |
| 13 | JOHN FOOTE: The other question, and |
| 14 | you said it, nobody wanted to talk. Nobody came |
| 15 | to me or any of my neighbors a year ago when this |
| 16 | had to be in its infancy. |
| 17 | Had that happened, the things that |
| 18 | Brad is talking about, the things that I drove |
| 19 | around the community and looked and saw, would |
| 20 | have come to light and maybe this could have been |
| 21 | done before now. |
| 22 | NIC ANDERSON: Well, you cannot move |
| 23 | forward until you cross some T s and dot some Is. |
| 24 | And there is a point there where you go forward |


| 1 | with the process. Whether the process is right |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | or not, that's -- that process also creates |
| 3 | animosity out there. |
| 4 | JOHN FOOTE: Okay. One last |
| 5 | question here. |
| 6 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Make it |
| 7 | quick. |
| 8 | JOHN FOOTE: If this is possible, |
| 9 | why can't -- if at this point you say maybe this |
| 10 | is the time to reconsider and go ahead and |
| 11 | reassess this? I'm in. I mean $I$ am done. |
| 12 | MIKE PHILLIPS: Mike Phillips. |
| 13 | You just said that because of the way |
| 14 | the law is set up there was no way to come and |
| 15 | talk to some of the neighbors a year ago? |
| 16 | NIC ANDERSON: You mistook me there. |
| 17 | MIKE PHILLIPS: You said the way the |
| 18 | process is set up you can't come and talk to |
| 19 | people. |
| 20 | I think Mr. Foote's point is valid, |
| 21 | as is Brad's, which is if you would have come |
| 22 | around and talked to the people in the community |
| 23 | we might have helped you find a better location. |
| 24 | NIC ANDERSON: Let me ask you, would |


| 1 | you have found a better location? |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | MIKE PHILLIPS: Yes, because there |
| 3 | are two ways -- |
| 4 | NIC ANDERSON: Do you have a better |
| 5 | location now? |
| 6 | MIKE PHILLIPS: I have a question. |
| 7 | He's going to say ask a question. |
| 8 | Are you familiar with the Illinois |
| 9 | EPA's best management practices for hog |
| 10 | confinement facilities? |
| 11 | NIC ANDERSON: Yes. They are very |
| 12 | similar to the Department of Agriculture's. |
| 13 | MIKE PHILLIPS: One of those basic |
| 14 | characteristics is that you shouldn't put one of |
| 15 | these facilities in a valley. Are you familiar |
| 16 | with that? |
| 17 | NIC ANDERSON: I am not familiar |
| 18 | with that statute. |
| 19 | Does it read something differently? |
| 20 | MIKE PHILLIPS: It's not a statute. |
| 21 | It's on their website. Says these are the best |
| 22 | management practices. One of those is don't put |
| 23 | it in a valley. That's one of the best |
| 24 | management practices. |

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Another one --

NIC ANDERSON: I need to look at that.

MIKE PHILLIPS: Yes. Be good for
you to become familiar with that.

NIC ANDERSON: Sure would.

MIKE PHILLIPS: Another one is don't be close to a waterway. This is about 1500 feet from a waterway.

So my question to you is -- I drive around, I see some of these hog confinement facilities, they are on flat ground, they are away from waterways. Don't you think that would be a better approach, is to try to identify some places that actually meet those best management practices first, then go talk to those property owners, find some that might be more amenable to having a hog farm in a place that already meets the best management practices? Don't you think that would be a better approach?

NIC ANDERSON: Actually that's one of the things that $I$ do on folks that want to have livestock in their area. I sort some of that out. But it goes back to who wants it, who

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| 1 | livestock production somewhere else is less |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | costly, less cost to do business, and the |
| 3 | regulations don't affect it. |
| 4 | And I will tell you that big farms |
| 5 | are regulated just like any other farm. And what |
| 6 | happens is if I can spread the cost of that |
| 7 | regulation to comply with my design standards, all |
| 8 | of those types of things -- smaller farmers get |
| 9 | pushed out because they can't. So more |
| 10 | regulations, let's solve this problem, even hurts |
| 11 | the farming community more on a long term basis |
| 12 | because smaller farms can't sustain the ups and |
| 13 | downs in that market and keep regulations and good |
| 14 | environmental practices. They cost money. They |
| 15 | are not cheap because we are in a competitive |
| 16 | world. There are folks that produce -- it is not |
| 17 | an excuse it is just kind of a fact of life -- |
| 18 | that don't have these limitations on them. I |
| 19 | think we all want to move that way, but we would |
| 20 | like the whole world to move that way. That is a |
| 21 | nice thing to think about. |
| 22 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Folks, it is |
| 23 | almost midnight and we still have 11 people to |
| 24 | testify and some other items to take care of here |


| 1 | so we really need to move along here. Thank you. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | Next on the list is Alyssa Fosdyck. |
| 3 | Is Alyssa Fosdyck here? I guess she's not here. |
| 4 | Tim Maiers? |
| 5 | TIM MAIERS: Pass. |
| 6 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Okay. |
| 7 | Mr. Maiers passes. |
| 8 | Carol Stoens? S-T something E-N-S. |
| 9 | CHERYL STOENS: Most of mine have |
| 10 | been discussed. |
| 11 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: She passes. |
| 12 | Susan Roberts. |
| 13 | (Sworn in.) |
| 14 | SUSAN ROBERTS: Well, I didn't plan |
| 15 | on speaking. But like so many of you have said, |
| 16 | I could say the same thing. Mr. Lindstrom |
| 17 | brought up the fact that there is people like me. |
| 18 | I mean when $I$ was about my son's age I wanted to |
| 19 | find a place in the country that was, would be a |
| 20 | good place to raise my family. We looked in a |
| 21 | large radius and there was flat -- nothing |
| 22 | against you farmers -- but ugly land. And we |
| 23 | happened to come across the Sandy Creek area and |
| 24 | we just loved it. It was hilly, there were a lot |


| 1 | of trees. It was just a beautiful area. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | So 29 years ago we bought property |
| 3 | and raised our kids there and did all of the |
| 4 | things that so many of the moms talked about. And |
| 5 | it's been a wonderful place to live. And as my |
| 6 | son said, he would now like to buy the home and |
| 7 | raise his family there. I don't know if he still |
| 8 | will. You know my daughter wants -- we had -- we |
| 9 | have had lots of parties and bonfires like all of |
| 10 | our neighbors. Large graduation parties with |
| 11 | hundreds of people. My daughter talks about |
| 12 | wanting to get married on our property. And I |
| 13 | think, you know, I don't know how that would be |
| 14 | with a pig farm right there. |
| 15 | I have a good friend who lives near |
| 16 | Chenoa and a pig farm went in there and it changed |
| 17 | a lot of their lifestyle. I mean the bonfires |
| 18 | outside, the parties outside. I know when I go |
| 19 | there they have had to put central air in their |
| 20 | house and they sit in their house locked up. I |
| 21 | don't have central air in my house. I open my |
| 22 | windows, I live on a hill, I love the breeze. Am |
| 23 | I going to feel that way down the road? You know, |
| 24 | they don't really like living by the farm. I know |


| 1 | some of you have said you like living by a pig |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | farm. |
| 3 | It just makes me really sad. |
| 4 | I just -- you know I have learned a |
| 5 | lot tonight. I have been educated about a lot of |
| 6 | the safety hazards. I am concerned about them. |
| 7 | You know, I am concerned about my |
| 8 | property values. |
| 9 | I am concerned about just my quality |
| 10 | of life and if my son will be able to continue |
| 11 | and, you know, have the same quality that he was |
| 12 | raised with. |
| 13 | And so I agree that I -- go find some |
| 14 | of that flat ugly area to build a pig farm. You |
| 15 | know, it is a beautiful area and I just think that |
| 16 | there has got to be better places. |
| 17 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Are there |
| 18 | questions for this witness? I see none. |
| 19 | Thank you. |
| 20 | Next we have Robert Fecht. |
| 21 | (Sworn in.) |
| 22 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: State your |
| 23 | name. |
| 24 | ROBERT FECHT: Robert Fecht, |

## MIDWEST LITIGATION SERVICES

| 1 | $\mathrm{F}-\mathrm{E}-\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{T}$. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | On behalf of Marshall/Putnam Farm |
| 3 | Bureau, the Farm Bureau appreciates the |
| 4 | opportunity provided by the Department of |
| 5 | Agriculture to have input at these proceedings. |
| 6 | Marshall/Putnam Farm Bureau Board of |
| 7 | Directors would like to go on record supporting |
| 8 | the Sandy Creek Lane, LLC hog farm. |
| 9 | This is in alignment with the |
| 10 | Illinois Farm Bureau Policy which states we will |
| 11 | aggressively work to encourage the growth and |
| 12 | enhancement of the livestock industry in Illinois. |
| 13 | Prior to this decision being made we |
| 14 | had a meeting with Nicolas Rippel, DVM, at the |
| 15 | Marshall/Putnam Farm Bureau. We questioned him on |
| 16 | the farms that are currently managed by him and |
| 17 | four other veterinarian partners. |
| 18 | We are confident that this farm will |
| 19 | follow the Livestock Management Facilities Act. |
| 20 | We believe that a robust agricultural economy is a |
| 21 | result of investments and endeavors such as this |
| 22 | hog farm. |
| 23 | This investment will increase demand |
| 24 | for locally grown commodities, including corn and |



1 or grain systems. We need your input.
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Sir?
MR. GENTERT: Charles Gentert.
You said you support agriculture.
Well, I have been hearing comments unfortunately
because work -- in the state of Indiana comments
both -- hear me out. Charlie don't even live
here. Well, $I$ pay Illinois taxes. Well, that's
just those people that build those fancy houses on
Sandy Creek.
Well, there was a meeting I went to
last Friday night. Close to half of the people
were farmers or farm owners in that meeting.
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Sir, I
really need a question. I need a question.
MR. GENTERT: The question is, if
you represent the farmers, how about the farmers
that are opposed to it, how are you representing
them?
ROBERT FECHT: When we go to
represent the farmers, we have to take the
policies that we have established over the past
history. And the promotion of agriculture and
the production of food, fuel and fiber, livestock

| 1 | for meats, that is our priority. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other |
| 3 | questions? |
| 4 | STEVE CLANIN: Steve Clanin. |
| 5 | You mentioned you met with Mr. Rippel |
| 6 | and -- your Board did. |
| 7 | Did Mr. Rippel provide you with a |
| 8 | list of facilities they manage and safety records |
| 9 | on those facilities? |
| 10 | ROBERT FECHT: Not any more than you |
| 11 | had this evening on the powerpoint. |
| 12 | STEVE CLANIN: You made a decision |
| 13 | to support them on that? |
| 14 | ROBERT FECHT: Yes. |
| 15 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other |
| 16 | questions? |
| 17 | Mr. Lindstrom. |
| 18 | BRAD LINDSTROM: Brad Lindstrom. |
| 19 | Bob, when did you meet with Nicolas? |
| 20 | ROBERT FECHT: It was about three |
| 21 | weeks ago at the Farm Bureau building. I can't |
| 22 | remember the date. |
| 23 | BRAD LINDSTROM: That's not really |
| 24 | that important. |

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I guess my only question to you is,
    if we are getting down to decision making time
    here, would it not be prudent for the Farm Bureau
    to include the County Board who is going to have
    to vote on this in short order to be involved in
    this?
    We have spoken with Nicolas, myself
    and a few other members, but certainly not the
    entire Board. I think it would clear up a lot of
    things if he is able to make a presentation to the
    entire Board and be able to be asked questions.
    I realize you want to give an
    endorsement to the Farm Bureau, but we are going
    to have to stick some hands up in the air and say
    yea or nay. And I think at this point some of us
    are woefully under informed right now, and I would
    have liked to have been included in that.
    ROBERT FECHT: It was a short notice
        meeting, Brad.
        BRAD LINDSTROM: I understand that.
        I am just asking --
        ROBERT FECHT: We did get a quorum
        available and the quorum passed the resolution.
        BRAD LINDSTROM: Thank you.
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HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other
questions?
MIKE PHILLIPS: Mike Phillips.
Is Nicolas Rippel a member of the
Marshall County Farm Bureau?
ROBERT FECHT: No, he's not. He's
from Iowa. He can't be a member.
MIKE PHILLIPS: Did you talk to any
other Farm Bureau members who might live in the
area that is impacted by this before you made
your decision?
ROBERT FECHT: Just the
representatives that are on the Board.
MIKE PHILLIPS: Thank you.
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other
questions?
KATE HAGENBUCH: Kate Hagenubch.
Can anybody be a member of Farm
Bureau?
ROBERT FECHT: You have several
different classifications, but farmers or end
members, and they have to have $\$ 2,500$ gross
receipts from farming.
KATE HAGENBUCH: Once you have met

1 those requirements you pay your dues, can you

2 come to meetings and make your voice known?
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Okay.
Mr. Foote.
JOHN FOOTE: I have to ask a
question, but always a couple of quick comments
on something I suppose --
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Make them
very quick.
JOHN FOOTE: Very quickly. How can
I after I go through all of this still think that
America is the greatest country in the world and
that we all watch out for each other?
I still think it is the greatest
country in the world, but boy, come on.
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other
questions for this witness?
Thank you very much. Next we have
Josh Merdian.
JOSH MERDIAN: Pass.
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Jonathan
Downey.
(Sworn in.)

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: State your name and spell it.

JONATHAN DOWNEY: Jonathan Downey, $\mathrm{D}-\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{W}-\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{E}-\mathrm{Y}$.

My prepared statement $I$ wrote $I$ have good evening, Mr. Chairman. I will say good morning, Mr. Chairman.

My name is Jonathan Downey. I am a livestock and grain producer from Putnam County. I am here tonight to support animal agriculture.

A facility such as this provides a market for our grain, for our corn and soybeans, my neighbor's corn and soybeans, Illinois' corn and soybeans.

It makes sense to place the livestock near their food source and recycle the nutrients back onto the soil.

This farm allows for the domestic consumption of our crops, which in turn grows our local economy.

A farm of this size contributes to our local economy by creating jobs and providing taxes for our township, counties and schools.

After speaking with Dr. Rippel I feel

1 comfortable that he will adhere to the LMFA and be

2 conscientious of the farms' impact on the

3 environment and the treatment of their animals.

```
5 attention.
    attention.
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    comfortable that he will adhere to the LMFA and be
    conscientious of the farms' impact on the
    environment and the treatment of their animals.
    Thank you for your time and
    HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Are there
    questions for this witness? Any questions?
    I see none. Thank you.
    Next we have Paul Jeschke.
    (Sworn in.)
    PAUL JESCHKE: Paul Jeschke,
    J-E-S-C-H-K-E. Good evening or good morning.
    My name is Paul Jeschke. I am a
    grain farmer from over in southwest Grundy County.
    I am a 1975 graduate of the University of Illinois
    with a degree of agricultural science.
    In addition to farming I also
    presently serve on the Illinois Corn Marketing
    Board representing District Five.
    I have cut out many of my comments.
        But basically I am here tonight also to support
        animal agriculture.
    One of my jobs on the Corn Marketing
    Board is to try and enhance and improve the use of
    | 1 | corn. And I think there is no better way to do |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | that than to feed it to livestock. |
| 3 | I've had the opportunity to do some |
| 4 | foreign traveling and see where some of our corn |
| 5 | and soybean exports go, but it seems to make a lot |
| 6 | more sense to keep those jobs at home and employ |
| 7 | people in feeding the livestock and exporting the |
| 8 | meat. |
| 9 | So I would much rather see |
| 10 | refrigerated ships and containers carrying goods |
| 11 | overseas rather than bulk containers carrying the |
| 12 | bulk soybeans and corn. |
| 13 | After watching this whole process I |
| 14 | have a great deal of admiration for people like |
| 15 | the doctor that are willing to go through this to |
| 16 | try to site a facility. He and his partners |
| 17 | deserve a great deal of credit in my opinion for |
| 18 | again going through the process but also putting |
| 19 | the large amount of millions of dollars in capital |
| 20 | at risk. There is no guarantee of success here. |
| 21 | But it is people like these entrepreneurs that |
| 22 | give a lot of us jobs, and I think we need to |
| 23 | appreciate that. |
| 24 | And I hope there can be some |



PAUL JESCHKE: I am not educated
enough on the other alternative sites to know.
Sorry.
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other
questions?
MR. GENTERT: Charles Gentert.
You say you are a farmer. How many
hog factories are there in Grundy County?
PAUL JESCHKE: Two.
MR. GENTERT: Two. Any near your
house?
PAUL JESCHKE: It would be about
6 miles.
MR. GENTERT: Okay. 6 miles. A lot
of us is downwind from it.
Thank you.
AUDIENCE MEMBER: I thought you were
from Indiana.
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Another
question?
DIANA WROCZYNSKI: I want to ask --
Diana Wroczynski.
The people that are standing up and
they are for it, $I$ am hearing what you are saying,

| 1 | but I want to hear what you have to say about the |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | health implications. |
| 3 | Do you worry at all about the data |
| 4 | that's been presented and that is out there? |
| 5 | Have you researched it? |
| 6 | PAUL JESCHKE: No. I don't have |
| 7 | near the concerns that you do. I grew up with |
| 8 | livestock and -- |
| 9 | DIANA WROCZYNSKI: That is |
| 10 | different. I mean we have these superbugs now. |
| 11 | It ask a different world. Different things to |
| 12 | worry about than when you grew up. |
| 13 | PAUL JESCHKE: It is. But I don't |
| 14 | have any expertise, but my opinion is a lot of |
| 15 | the superbugs are caused by we parents that have |
| 16 | been overusing antibiotics with our children |
| 17 | every time they get a sniffle, every time they |
| 18 | get a cold, the sterilized different stuff you |
| 19 | put on your hands all of the time and so forth. |
| 20 | There is a lot of our own doings caused some of |
| 21 | the issues. You could be right, but that's my |
| 22 | opinion. |
| 23 | DIANA WROCZYNSKI: I just -- just |
| 24 | wanted to hear what somebody had to say on the |


| 1 | other side because you don't seem too worried. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | LESLIE SMITH: Leslie Smith. |
| 3 | I have just a curiosity out of your |
| 4 | last statement here that parents are overusing |
| 5 | antibiotics and you think that is causing |
| 6 | superbugs, because I am under the impression -- |
| 7 | and if you read anything about it -- some single |
| 8 | states use more antibiotics on their animals than |
| 9 | the entire world uses on people. |
| 10 | So I would be -- if you think overuse |
| 11 | of antibiotics in children may be causing it, that |
| 12 | just kind of proves the fact that animal usage |
| 13 | would be unbelievably more of the reason why it is |
| 14 | happening. |
| 15 | PAUL JESCHKE: I don't know if that |
| 16 | is an accurate statement or not. I don't know. |
| 17 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other |
| 18 | questions? Thank you very much. Okay. |
| 19 | Next we have Charles Gentert. |
| 20 | MR. GENTERT: I will pass. |
| 21 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Next we have |
| 22 | Randy Freeman. |
| 23 | (Sworn in.) |
| 24 | RANDY FREEMAN: Hi, I am Randy |

1 Freeman. I am a resident of Lostant, Illinois.
I am on the LaSalle County Board. I have been
privileged to serve the LaSalle County Board for
16 years and the residents a Hope, Richland,
Osage, Groveland, Eden, and now Eagle Townships.
This is a very emotional issue.
When I first moved into Lostant
almost 40 years now -- I am going to be 60 years
old this year. Where did the time go? I moved
into a little home right next to a small farm next
to our house. The neighbors asked me to sign a
petition to help get rid of that farm. My answer
to them was it was here before me, so I couldn't
sign that.
But now you have to think, you are
moving a big farm operation into neighbors that
have been there their whole life. And I
understand how they feel.
I think there are several flaws in
the system.
I am not an expert on all of the
things that some of the people presented here
tonight, but I do think there are some flaws on
the way this was set.

Number one, Lostant is not taken into account in any of these decisions because it lies outside of Marshall County. They have spent a considerable amount of money that they did not have to expand their boundaries outside to try and grow the community. I commend them for that. I worked hard to help them get passed a TIF District. Fred Hartenbower is sitting here, and he got that approved. They want to develop and grow our community. We are struggling. It is a good development plan. And the day that they bring somebody out to that corner of 39 and 18, my fear is there is going to be a strong odor from this farm. And anybody that is going to put a restaurant or gas station or any kind of complex at that corner will say we are not going to put people into this.

There is a lot of fear, and I do believe it can be sited. We have got a perfect example in LaSalle County. We didn't have to have a hearing. They did it right. Their neighbors were on board and they to my knowledge have no complaints whatsoever from their neighbors. And they do an excellent job and I commend them for

1
2
that.
But I think the siting problem here
is what the problem is. It is not the hog farm,
it is where we are placing it. And I think number
eight is a strong reason for against this because
of the placement of our development we have in
LaSalle County.
One of the problems -- and I will
address it with the General Assembly -- when we
have a siting like this so close to a county line,
we are not involved. And it affects almost all of
LaSalle County residents with what could happen.
Now these are all ifs and buts. And
somebody said ifs and buts and candies and nuts --
but they are legitimate possibilities and that
could really cause some economic development
problems for an already stressed area of our
county.
I would really hope we could work
together, get a better site for this. And I love
pork, $I$ really do, and $I$ think we have a place for
it. And I really would hope that we could work
together and come together and have a good place
for this to site.

1

Thank you.
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Are there questions for this witness?

I see none.

Thank you.
Next we have Cheryl Churney.
(Sworn in.)

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Will you be speaking as a citizen or as an attorney for multiple clients?

MS. CHURNEY: I am speaking as an attorney on behalf of multiple clients.

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Okay. Are you going to state your clients, the names of your --

MS. CHURNEY: Sure. I am here representing Leslie Smith, Robert Clanin, Jamie Casolari, Mr. and Mrs. Steve and Peggy Goulding and Mr. Steve Clanin.
(Sworn in.)

MS. CHURNEY: The court reporter has
the spelling of my name. I will skip that.
I want to echo something that

Mr. Freeman just said about the process that
1 brings us all here tonight. And I will be
2 introducing into the record that a request was 3 made on behalf of my clients to postpone this 4 hearing to give us more time to better prepare.
5 There was very short notice and we were unable to
6 secure and arrange for the appearance of expert
7 witnesses, especially with regard to appraisal
8 issues, tourism issues, historical issues,
9 economic issues and health issues. And that is

17 revenue to be generated by this facility. And I
detrimental to the Marshall County Board as they
try to figure out all of these eight criteria
because we have not had sufficient time to present
good evidence or best evidence.
I do want to comment on the tax
revenue to be generated by this facility. And I
will enter into the record the tax bill for
Mr. Salz' property where this is to be sited.
This is the tax bill for 2012 taxes paid in 2013.
The property is currently assessed at $\$ 60,687$.
The tax rate for the Evans Township Road District
for last year was . 46315. So it generated $\$ 281.07$
in real estate taxes for the Evans Township Road

| 1 | and Bridge Fund. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | If you go with the numbers from |
| 3 | Dr. Rippel, that real estate taxes or the real |
| 4 | estate assessment would be \$70,000 for this |
| 5 | facility. You multiply that by the tax rate for |
| 6 | Evans Township Road and Bridge Fund, it would |
| 7 | generate slightly over \$324 in real estate revenue |
| 8 | for the bridge fund. |
| 9 | Of course, it would not generate any |
| 10 | revenue for Hope Township. |
| 11 | There has been a lack of information |
| 12 | at this meeting tonight presented by the applicant |
| 13 | concerning criteria number one, the Waste |
| 14 | Management Plan; criteria number two, the design |
| 15 | and operation of the facility; criteria number |
| 16 | five, the plans to minimize environmental damage; |
| 17 | and criteria number six, the odor control plans. |
| 18 | Now, we do know something about the |
| 19 | odor control plans and we do know that they do not |
| 20 | intend to use the most available technology. |
| 21 | We will be admitting as a written |
| 22 | exhibit an affidavit from Mr. Goulding who toured |
| 23 | the facility with Dr. Rippel. |
| 24 | I am going to quote from |

1 Mr. Goulding's affidavit. During the tour I asked

2 Mr. Rippel if the proposed CAFO would treat the 3 exhaust air from the buildings which make up the facility. Mr. Rippel informed me that the exhaust air would not be treated. All of us that were here earlier this evening heard the question by Mr. Tim Smith to Dr. Rippel about the odor control plans and Dr. Rippel testified in front of all of us that they would not be using some of the highest and better technologies available for odor control.

The fact of the matter is that VCM and Sandy Creek Lane have not been forthcoming in their presentation here tonight.

Frequently, all too frequently, the answers to questions were that will be in the plans, that will be in the plans, that will be in the plans.

We have not had an opportunity to review and be a part of those plans to see if all of the concerns raised by the citizens here tonight will be addressed, and more importantly if the eight siting criteria will be satisfied.

There are many, many unknowns.

Not only have they been less than forthcoming about their plans, they have been completely unforthcoming about their track record.

I am struck by Dr. Rippel's use of the phrase leave no trace. By not telling us about any of the other farms he's involved with he's left no track record. So we don't have an opportunity to see if in fact the 12 other farms in which he is involved are run in a proper manner. We have got no information about them at all.

And I encourage Dr. Rippel to release the names of the 12 farms which he is involved in.

Now, we do know that the plans presented, to the extent we have plans, do not satisfy the siting criteria.

The Waste Management Plan will not work because the soils in this area are not appropriate for the spreading of manure.

We know there has not even been a Manure Management Plan even developed.

Dr. James -- or pardon me, I don't think she is a doctor -- but Miss James testified significantly about the water issues and the

| 1 | concerns there. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | I think the best testimony this |
| 3 | evening came from Mr. Kinzer, Mr. Hunter and |
| 4 | Mr. Lauf concerning the traffic patterns and the |
| 5 | traffic infrastructure. |
| 6 | And their testimony plainly exhibited |
| 7 | that existing infrastructure is not capable of |
| 8 | handling the construction traffic or the ongoing |
| 9 | traffic generated by this facility. |
| 10 | It will require in excess of $\$ 900,000$ |
| 11 | of road improvements. That \$325 isn't going to go |
| 12 | far. |
| 13 | In fact, it is not a drop in the |
| 14 | bucket. |
| 15 | When questioned about whether there |
| 16 | are budgeted funds for road improvements in their |
| 17 | planning, Dr. Rippel indicated that he didn't |
| 18 | think that there were. |
| 19 | That criterion alone warrants a vote |
| 20 | against this facility. |
| 21 | Finally, criterion eight has been |
| 22 | talked about extensively this evening. |
| 23 | This facility as proposed is not |
| 24 | consistent with the existing community growth in |


| 1 | this area which has been largely residential. It |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | is contrary to tourism and historical and |
| 3 | recreational use of the neighboring properties and |
| 4 | it is counter to economic development. |
| 5 | It will decrease the property values |
| 6 | for these neighboring homes. |
| 7 | It seems to me that the proposal for |
| 8 | the facility has been planned not taking into |
| 9 | consideration the eight siting criteria but was |
| 10 | driven by a personal relationship. I think those |
| 11 | are Dr. Rippel's -- I had a relationship with Mike |
| 12 | Salz. |
| 13 | That is wonderful and I am glad that |
| 14 | Dr. Rippel has come back to this community, but |
| 15 | that doesn't mean that this site meets the eight |
| 16 | siting criteria that should be considered by the |
| 17 | Department of Agriculture and the Marshall County |
| 18 | Board. |
| 19 | Your neighbors here tonight have |
| 20 | spoken eloquently, passionately and knowledgeably |
| 21 | about their concerns and the many, many reasons |
| 22 | why this facility is not suited for this site, and |
| 23 | I urge the Department of Agriculture and the |
| 24 | Marshall County Board members to act to deny the |


| 1 | application as presented. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | I do have a significant number of |
| 3 | exhibits to present, including a written position |
| 4 | paper. |
| 5 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Questions |
| 6 | for this witness? |
| 7 | I see none. Thank you. |
| 8 | Well, this finally concludes the oral |
| 9 | testimony tonight. |
| 10 | I will now accept written testimony. |
| 11 | Is there any written testimony to be offered at |
| 12 | this time? |
| 13 | HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Entered into |
| 14 | the record as Exhibit Number 5 is a group exhibit |
| 15 | from Mr. Randy Freeman. |
| 16 | Entered into the record as Exhibit |
| 17 | Number 6 is a letter from Patrick Sloan and Randy |
| 18 | Freeman. Patrick Sloan from the Marshall/Putnam |
| 19 | County Highway Department to Randy Freeman, |
| 20 | Commissioner of Evans Township. |
| 21 | Entered into the record as Exhibit |
| 22 | Number 7 are some comments and information from |
| 23 | IDNR. |
| 24 | Entered into the record as Exhibit |

## MIDWEST LITIGATION SERVICES

1 Number 8 are some questions from Fred Hartenbower,
2 Mayor of Lostant.

Entered into the record as Exhibit Number 9 is the letter from the Sierra Club with a list of health risks.

Entered into the record as Exhibit

Number 10 are written statements from the Phillips family.

Entered into the record as Exhibit Number 11 is an article from Nature.

Exhibit Number 12 is information from Rick Casolari dealing with property values. There are three articles in Exhibit 12.

Entered into the record as Exhibit 13
is a document entitled Understanding Concentrated
Animal Feeding Operations and Their Impact on
Communities from Randy Freeman.

Entered into the record as Exhibit

Number 14 is a photograph from Lois Steil of the flood from spring of 2013, flood on Sandy Creek.

Entered into the record as Exhibit 15
are the references from Isaiah Roberts dealing
with Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea Virus.

MS. CHURNEY: Let the record reflect

1 there are four articles, I believe.
there are four articles, I believe.

HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Entered into
the record as Exhibit Number 16 are documents
from Steve Clanin dealing with rural life. All
documents from National Rural Life.
Entered into the record at Exhibit
Number 17 is a letter from Myers, Berry, O'Conor \&
Churney requesting a reschedule of the hearing.
It is addressed to the Department of Agriculture.
Entered into the record as Exhibit 18
is a response from the Illinois Department of
Agriculture.
Entered into the record as Exhibit
Number 19 is tax information for Michael Salz.
Entered into the record as Exhibit 20
is an affidavit of Steven Goulding.
Entered into the record as Exhibit 21
is Position Paper of Property Owners Objecting to
Proposed Sandy Creek Lane Facility.
MS. CHURNEY: Number 22 will be a
binder of 22 articles and other documentation in
support of the position paper.
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: That's
Number 22.
Entered into the record as Exhibit
Number 23 --
MS. CHURNEY: Petition in opposition
to the proposed facility.
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: All right.
Thank you.
Also entered into the record as
Exhibit Number 24 are the Oral Testimony sign in
sheets.
Also entered into the record as
Exhibit Number 25 are the Attendance sign in
sheets for tonight's meeting. Okay.
Are there any closing comments from
the Facility?
Are there any closing comments from
the Department?
MR. GOETSCH: Drive home safely.
HEARING OFFICER FRANK: This
concludes the public information meeting.
As I mentioned earlier, a copy of the
transcript will be provided to the County Board.
For those desiring a copy, talk to the court
reporter.
Thank you for your attendance
This public informational meeting is

CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I, LORRAINE McCREIGHT, an Illinois
Certified Shorthand Reporter, do hereby certify
that the testimony that appears in the
foregoing transcript was taken by me to the best of my ability, and thereafter reduced to typewriting under my direction; that I am neither counsel for, nor related to, nor employed by any of the parties to the action in which this public meeting was taken; and further, that $I$ am not a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel employed by the parties hereto; nor financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of this action.

PUBLIC MEETING $\quad \mathbf{4} / \mathbf{1 7 / 2 0 1 4}$

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