		Page 1
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	PUBLIC MEETING REGARDING THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION	
2	OF A LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT FACILITY	
	BY SANDY CREEK LANE, LLC	
3		
4		
5	APRIL 17, 2014	
6		
7	102 WEST ELM STREET	
8	WENONA, ILLINOIS	
9	6:00 P.M.	
10		
11		
12		
	PRESENT:	
13		
	SCOTT FRANK, HEARING OFFICER	
14	ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF	
	AGRICULTURE	
15		
16	WARREN D. GOETSCH, P.E.,	
	ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF	
17	AGRICULTURE	
18		
19	BRAD A. BEAVER, ILLINOIS	
	DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE	
20		
21	NICOLAS RIPPEL, VMC MANAGEMENT	
22		
23	MATT WAGNER, WAGNER CONSULTING	
	AND AGRICULTURE, LLC	
24		

			Page 2
1	I N D E X		
2		PAGE	
3	DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S		
	PRESENTATION BY MR. WARREN GOETSCH	8	
4			
5	SANDY CREEK LANE, LLC PRESENTATION		
	BY NICOLAS RIPPEL, VMC MANAGEMENT	15	
6			
7	MATT WAGNER, WAGNER CONSULTING AND		
	AGRICULTURE PRESENTATION	29	
8			
9	QUESTIONING BY PUBLIC OF PRESENTERS	61-152	
10			
11	ORAL TESTIMONY BY PUBLIC	153-322	
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			
23			
24			

		Page 3
1	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Good	Tage 3
2	evening.	
3	On behalf of Bob Flider, Director of	
4	the Illinois Department of Agriculture, we thank	
5	you very much for the invitation to come to	
6	Marshall County today.	
7	My name is Scott Frank. I am with	
8	the Illinois Department of Agriculture and I will	
9	be serving as the Hearing Officer for tonight's	
10	public informational meeting.	
11	Also with me on behalf of the	
12	Department are Warren Goetsch, Chief of the Bureau	
13	of Environmental Programs and Brad Beaver, Manager	
14	of the Bureau's Livestock Program.	
15	This meeting is being conducted	
16	pursuant to Section 12 of the Livestock Management	
17	Facilities Act. The informational meeting is	
18	being held at the request of the Marshall County	
19	Board and is to afford the members of the public	
20	an opportunity to ask questions and present oral	
21	and written testimony regarding the proposed	
22	construction of a 3,384 animal unit swine	
23	gestation farrowing isolation facility owned by	
24	Sandy Creek Lane, LLC.	

		Page 4
1	My task this evening is to ensure	
2	that this meeting is conducted in an orderly	
3	fashion and to ensure that all comments and	
4	testimony received are entered into the record.	
5	Tonight's meeting is being	
6	transcribed. The transcript of the meeting will	
7	be sent to the Marshall County Board as well as	
8	used by the Department of Agriculture in making	
9	its determination regarding the proposed	
10	construction of this facility.	
11	In order to ensure that we have an	
12	orderly process I will quickly explain how the	
13	meeting will proceed this evening.	
14	First, following my comments Warren	
15	Goetsch will provide an overview of the provisions	
16	of the Livestock Management Facilities Act as it	
17	relates to this particular project, specifically	
18	outlining the current status of the project and	
19	how the process will proceed following this	
20	meeting.	
21	Following Mr. Goetsch,	
22	representatives for the proposed construction	
23	project will be given an opportunity to describe	
24	the project and demonstrate how they believe it	

Page 5 meets siting criteria of the Livestock Management 1 Facilities Act. 3 After their presentation I will open the meeting to questions. Anyone wishing to ask 5 questions of the facility representatives or the Department will be given an opportunity to do so. 6 During the question and answer session I will ask that you state your name and spell your last name 9 for the court reporter. You may then ask your 10 question. Depending upon the number of people who wish to testify in the oral testimony phase of the 11 12 meeting which is right after the question phase, 13 there may need to be a time limit placed on this 14 questioning phase. We will have a microphone set 15 up in the center. We ask that you step up to the 16 microphone to ask your question. 17 Please keep in mind that we are not 18 here this evening to discuss or debate the 19 perceived adequacies or merits of the regulations. 20 The Livestock Management Facilities Act an 21 accompanying rules have been in force for over 15 2.2 years. Some people like them, some people don't. 23 We cannot change anything here in that regard so 24 we will not take the time to get into a discussion

Page 6 about changes. We are here tonight to receive 1 information on this particular livestock facility to determine compliance with the existing regulations. 5 Following the question and answer session I will ask for oral testimony from the 6 public. 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 who wish to provide comments during this oral 11 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 multiple clients will be given a total of 15 18 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 2.2 speakers will not be allowed. If you sign the 23 oral testimony sheet, you may either speak or you 24 You may not give your time to someone may pass.

		Page 7
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	

		Page 8
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	

		Page 9
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	

		Page 10
1	this state.	
2	Now, regarding the current status of	
3	this particular project, the Department received a	
4	formal Notice of Intent to Construct application	
5	for the proposed construction of a swine facility	
6	on February 25th, 2014.	
7	The proposed project is to consist of	
8	the construction of one swine gestation building	
9	measuring 162 feet by 700 feet with a 10-foot deep	
10	under building livestock waste handling facility;	
11	one swine farrowing building, measuring 186 feet	
12	by 487 feet 8 inches with a 2 feet deep under	
13	building livestock waste handling facility; one	
14	wean load out room measuring 18 feet by 44 feet	
15	with a 2-foot deep under building livestock waste	
16	handling facility and one isolation building	
17	measuring 93 feet by 323 feet 10 inches with an	
18	8-foot deep under building livestock waste	
19	handling facility. The project is proposed to be	
20	located approximately 3.4 miles northwest of	
21	Wenona, Illinois in the northeastern portion of	
22	Marshall County.	
23	The application was submitted by	
24	Wagner Consulting and Agriculture, LLC on behalf	

		D 11
1	of Sandy Creek Lane, LLC and VMC Management	Page 11
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 25th 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	

Page 12 1 requesting that a public informational meeting be scheduled regarding the proposal. After further consideration and consultation with the County 3 Board, the Department scheduled this meeting and 5 caused notice of the meeting to be published in the appropriate newspapers. 6 An additional requirement of the Livestock Management Facilities Act deals with the 8 9 design and construction plans of a livestock waste handling facility. The Department has not 10 received a formal submittal of detailed 11 12 engineering design plans and specifications for 13 the proposed project's under building livestock waste handling facility at this time. As such, 14 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 2.2 the Livestock Management Facilities Act. 23 In general, information regarding the 24 following would be appropriate for this evening's

		Page 13
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	
6	control plans, possible impact of the proposed	
7	facility on existing area traffic patterns and	
8	possible impact of the proposed facility on	
9	community growth, tourism and recreation or	
10	economic development of the area.	
11	Copies of the specific criteria were	
12	available on the table with the sign in sheets.	
13	If anyone would like to have a copy of the	
14	criteria but didn't pick one up, if you want to	
15	raise your hand and Brad will make sure that you	
16	receive a copy. Anybody need a copy of the	
17	criteria?	
18	There were two documents, a small one	
19	and a large one. They all say pretty much the	
20	same thing.	
21	Finally, the process that we will be	
22	following or that will be followed after this	
23	evening's meeting is as follows: The County Board	
24	will have up to 30 business days from tonight's	

		Page 14
1	meeting to submit to the Department a nonbinding	
2	recommendation relative to the proposed siting of	
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	
6	County's 30 business day comment period the	
7	Department will have 15 calendar days, or until	
8	June 14, to review all of the information	
9	submitted to date, including the Notice of Intent	
10	to Construct, construction plans, transcripts from	
11	tonight's meeting, the County Board's	
12	recommendation and any other additional	
13	information submitted by the owners at the request	
14	of the Department.	
15	Based on that review the Department	
16	will determine whether the eight siting criteria	
17	have been met.	
18	Once that determination has been	
19	made, the Department will notify both the County	
20	Board and the Applicant of the Department's	
21	decision.	
22	Mr. Hearing Officer, at this time I	
23	would like to submit a complete Notice of Intent	
24	to Construct application and its associated	

		Page 15
1	correspondence file for formal entry into the	
2	record as an exhibit. And I have also included a	
3	copy of the Department's power point presentation	
4	that could also be entered.	
5	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Entered into	
6	the record as Exhibit Number 1 is a copy of the	
7	Notice of Intent to Construct, including	
8	correspondence between the Department and the	
9	Applicant, notices of the public informational	
10	meeting and correspondence with the Marshall	
11	County officials.	
12	Also entered into the record as	
13	Exhibit Number 2 is the Department's power point	
14	presentation.	
15	MR. GOETSCH: This concludes my	
16	formal remarks.	
17	Again, thank you for your attention	
18	and I look forward to your comments regarding this	
19	proposal.	
20	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Thank you,	
21	Mr. Goetsch.	
22	At this time we will hear comments	
23	from the facility.	
24	Before you begin, for those who will	

		Page 16
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.	

		Page 17
1	In fact, it's been a long time since	
2	I have been in this gym. The last time I was in	
3	the gym I was a Toluca Wildcat playing the Wenona	
4	Mustangs. As you all know, Toluca, Wenona,	
5	Minonk, Dana, Rutland no longer exist as a school	
6	district. Consolidated as Fieldcrest. I	
7	eventually did graduate from Fieldcrest High in	
8	1995.	
9	From high school I went on to college	
10	and got my BA in 1999. And for some odd reason I	
11	didn't think four years was long enough so I	
12	thought what the heck, I will do another four	
13	years, and I attended the University of Illinois	
14	College of Veterinary Medicine. That's back when	
15	Chief Illiniwick was still cool.	
16	In 2003 I did graduate with my Doctor	
17	of Veterinary Medicine Degree, and from there I	
18	launched into my veterinary career into the great	
19	state of Iowa.	
20	Even though I live in Iowa now, all	
21	of my immediate family still resides in this area.	
22	My parents still farm outside of Toluca. My	
23	brother Jim lives here in Wenona, my sister Dawn,	
24	Toluca, my brother Todd in Utica. So it is not	

Page 18 unusual for me to return home with my wife and my 1 four children for birthdays, holidays. Toluca Labor Celebration, I have to donate my \$10 every year so I can make it two rounds. And sometimes 5 we come home just to visit. But like I said, I do live in 6 Williamsburg now. Williamsburg is along 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 City and Des Moines, there is a Tanger Outlet Mall 11 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 veterinarian in a mixed animal practice called 16 Veterinary Medical Center. 17 The Veterinary Medical Center was 18 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 2.2 cow/calf vets. We service farms that have 23 anywhere from five cows all of the way up to 5,000 24 And finally we have three swine COWS.

		Page 19
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	
4	finish.	
5	Now, the type of farmer that we serve	
6	with the Veterinary Medical Center is not unlike	
7	many of the farmers in this room. They are crop	
8	farmers. They plant their seed in the spring,	
9	they harvest the corn and soybeans in the fall.	
10	The only difference is that the farmers that we	
11	provide service for, they try to capture extra	
12	value out of that crop they harvest. So instead	
13	of hauling it to elevator, rather they feed it to	
14	their livestock.	
15	Any of you in ag or any other	
16	business knows whenever you try to capture more	
17	value from your product or your service there is	
18	more inherent risk involved. And that is how VMC	
19	Management came into existence.	
20	The veterinary owners of Veterinary	
21	Medical Center are the same owners of VMC	
22	Management.	
23	VMC Management started and VMC	
24	Management is our sow farm management business.	

Page 20 It was started in 1998 when the first sow farm was 1 built. 3 That farm was built as a result of Williamsburg area farmers coming together and 5 believing that if they could pool their resources 6 together they could be more profitable by going together and building a specialized breed to wean sow farm. So in other words, they took a part 10 of their operation and removed it so they could specialize in breeding adult female pigs in order 11 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. So what started in 1998 with one farm 15 16 has turned into what VMC Management is today, 17 using the same farmer investor model, group farmers come together, build a sow farm, hire VMC 18 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 2.2 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

		Page 21
1	employees to care for these pigs on these 12	
2	different farms.	
3	VMC Management has the structure to	
4	manage every aspect of a sow farm, and it begins	
5	with the veterinarians. There are three	
6	veterinarians in VMC Management, including myself.	
7	We have a production manager and supporting office	
8	staff to do payroll, production records, human	
9	resources. And then every farm has a site manager	
10	or what you may consider a general manager. Ed	
11	Siren is my site manager at this farm. He worked	
12	his way up through ranks. He started at a low	
13	entry level position, worked up to breeding	
14	assistant, breeding manager, and six years ago I	
15	hired him for this farm to become my site manager.	
16	The site manager reports directly to	
17	the veterinarian. In the case of Sandy Creek	
18	Lane, that veterinarian is me. That veterinarian	
19	is on the farm every two weeks.	
20	Underneath the site manager we have a	
21	breeding manager and farrowing manager. Breeding	
22	manager is in charge of overseeing, making sure	
23	the adult females are bread and cared for. Then	
24	we have the farrow manager who is in charge of the	

		Page 22
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,	

Page 23 when those cows, when they heard that Gater 1 coming, they knew cookies were coming. You hit the dump, dump boxes and cookies and all and kept on going because there was a stampede after that. I would come back later, clean up the boxes and move on to my next chore. 6 And it's from that experience and the years that have transpired since then that I have 8 observed Mike. Mike, like many farmers, is 10 devoted to the farming profession. He's devoted to his land. Mike is a man who appreciates the 11 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 born out of a relationship. A relationship I had 18 19 no clue back when I worked for Mike in high 20 school. 21 As you can see, Sandy Creek Lane will 2.2 consist of three barns. 23 The first barn is what we call a gilt 24 barn, followed by gestation barn, and then a

Page 24 farrowing barn. The gilt barn, this is where 1 female pigs will be raised from 15 pounds up to 3 300 pounds. There will be 1900 growing females in this barn ranging in that size. These growing 5 females will be the future replacements of our adult females. The second barn is the gestation barn or pregnant sow barn. In this barn adult females 8 9 will be bred. Once bred, their pregnancy will be 10 confirmed with ultrasound examination. And then they will be cared for in this barn for the 11 12 duration of their pregnancy. In this barn 13 approximately 4600 adult females will be housed. 14 And finally the third barn, this is 15 our farrowing barn, this is our birthing barn. This is where adult pregnant females go to have 16 17 babies. Caretakers will monitor the birthing 18 process of every sow and monitor the care of their 19 babies 24 hours a day. The baby pigs will nurse 20 their mother for approximately 23 days, at which 21 time they will be weaned, removed from their 2.2 mother and leave the farm to go to one of the 23 farmers that own the farm to be raised out at 24 their farm.

Page 25 1 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 5 nursing their young. If you talk to a realtor they always 6 say location, location. In my opinion, and I know it will be challenged today, but in my 9 opinion this is a great location. We are no 10 closer than three and a half miles to the nearest community, and that is Wenona. After that there 11 12 is four miles to Lostant, over five to Toluca, 13 seven to Varna, eight and a half to Lake Wildwood. 14 We are far removed from any community. 15 Another way to look at the location, 16 as you know, there are not very many hogs around 17 here. That's good for you. I am not adding even more hogs into a hog dense area. There are no 18 19 hogs here. It is great for the sow farm because 20 the less hog dense an area the less disease 21 transmission there is between farms. Which means 2.2 a healthier sow farm produces a healthier baby 23 pig. Which means a healthier baby pig makes the 24 farmer owner more profitable, more productive.

		Page 26
1	You can see if I were to start at	
2	Sandy Creek Lane and go out in any direction I am	
3	no closer than 8 miles to the next hog farm.	
4	Another big factor to location, you	
5	feed pigs where feed is made. Iowa and Illinois	
6	are big corn states.	
7	Sandy Creek alone will use 210,000	
8	bushel of corn every year. So I know I have got	
9	farmers in here that will say I will sell that for	
10	\$7, I'll sell that for 6.50. We just came out of	
11	some of those times, as you know. Now we are down	
12	at that \$5 range. At \$5, a million dollars of	
13	corn every year.	
14	Then we have job creation at Sandy	
15	Creek Lane. Amazingly enough I have already	
16	received calls. When you get this farm built, I	
17	want an application. I have had local	
18	contractors, electricians, plumbers already call	
19	me about construction of the site.	
20	Like I said, 20 on farm jobs. Site	
21	manager, this is our breeding manager,	
22	farrowing manager. This is one of our farrow	
23	managers. This is Gary Joe. He's been with me	
24	for six years now. He looks like a rough and	

		Page 27
1	tough guy but then he pulls this and hugs a pig.	
2	Again, farrowing caretakers, 24 hour	
3	monitoring. Then there is the jobs that are	
4	associated with Sandy Creek Lane. Feed, grind,	
5	mix and delivery, incorporating the nutrient into	
6	the surrounding cropland.	
7	Twice a week we will have weaner pigs	
8	going out to the farmer owners to raise out in	
9	their own barns.	
10	Then we have got normal landscaping	
11	stuff, snow removal and mowing. All of that stuff	
12	needs to be done.	
13	Now throw in property taxes. You	
14	know, based on property taxes that we pay in Iowa	
15	of similar size farms and I'll add in a	
16	multiplier fact since we are in Illinois we	
17	come up to about \$70,000.	
18	So you take four big things that this	
19	farm will do every year.	
20	We have got corn, 20 on farm jobs,	
21	nutrient application and taxes. Just those four	
22	things alone will contribute \$2 million to the	
23	surrounding area every year.	
24	Now, about seven years ago I took up	

		Page 28
1	a hobby, a backpacking hobby. So every year it	
2	started out just going out two or three days out.	
3	Now we are up to five or seven days out.	
4	Everything you need you put on your back and you	
5	walk miles and miles on end.	
6	It didn't take me long to figure out	
7	there is a back country ethics called leave no	
8	trace.	
9	And as I was preparing tonight that	
10	kept coming back to me. You know, there is a lot	
11	of similarities here between leave no trace and	
12	the eight siting criteria of the Livestock	
13	Facilities Management Act.	
14	I am not going to get in depth of all	
15	of the principles of leave no trace, but I want to	
16	draw some similarities.	
17	First for a backpacker, plan ahead	
18	and prepare.	
19	So what that means is follow the	
20	rules and regulations of the national park or the	
21	wilderness area you are going into. Have a map	
22	and compass. Know your route.	
23	To me that sounds a whole lot like	
24	the Notice of Intent to Construct that we	

		Page 29
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	

		Page 30
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	

		Page 31
1	the eight siting criteria tonight.	
2	Again, my name is Matt Wagner, I'm a	
3	Professional Engineer licensed in the states of	
4	Illinois, Wisconsin and Iowa, and own my own	
5	company called Wagner Consulting and Agriculture.	
6	The purpose of my talk tonight will	
7	be to explain the proposed project, that it meets	
8	the eight siting criteria. I think you all have a	
9	copy of that. Warren talked a little bit about it	
10	as well.	
11	I am going to talk specific verbatim	
12	out of the Livestock Management Facilities Act,	
13	which from this point out in the interest of time	
14	I am going to call it L M F A.	
15	We are also going to talk about the	
16	considerations that influence the site selection	
17	and some of the technology and management we are	
18	going to use to protect the environment. When we	
19	will are all done we will answer any questions you	
20	have relative to the eight siting criteria.	
21	This slide Dr. Rippel already put up	
22	as well. The main point I want to make with this	
23	slide, it gives you an overview where the site is	
24	going to be located. We show the county road	

Page 32 there as well. Mike Salz and his distance has 1 already been up. House is located 681 feet from 3 the farm. Mike is the current property owner of where the sow farm is going to be located. He 5 6 could sell any of the property adjacent to it as long as it met the setback requirement. He chose to put it at this site. I guess the main point I wanted to 10 make, Warren talked about what the setback requirements are for this site. I will talk about 11 12 how that is calculated. But the setbacks required 13 by the LMFA are 1,760 feet. Mike is closer than 14 1,760 feet. Mike chose to sign a waiver of 15 objection. So he is comfortable where this 16 facility is going to be and he signed on that. We 17 have a legal document that he accepts the 18 responsibility to have this farm located here. 19 So I guess what I get from that as 20 the take home message, Mike is not real concerned 21 about where the location of this -- where this 2.2 site will be. And in a minute we will talk about 23 all of the other setbacks as well to show the 24 setback criteria.

		Page 33
1	Just a little project overview. We	
2	talked already quite a bit about this, but the	
3	project itself is a 5,600 sow to breed sow	
4	breed to wean operation that also has 1,960 gilts	
5	and 12,000 piglets.	
6	We will talk a little bit about some	
7	of the modern technology in this farm as part of	
8	the presentation and we are also going to talk in	
9	great depth about the concrete manure storage	
10	structures and how they will meet the eight siting	
11	criteria.	
12	I wanted to show this slide to show a	
13	little bit more how we calculate the actual animal	
14	units and show you what the animal units are.	
15	So we look at swine and whether they	
16	are greater than 55 pounds or less than 55 pounds.	
17	So under the first category there, 7,560, that	
18	includes the 5,600 sows and the gilts as well.	
19	And we multiply by a factor of .4 to get 3,024	
20	animal units.	
21	Then all of the piglets, they are	
22	less than 55 pounds, they have a factor of .03.	
23	We multiply that times .03 and we get 360.	
24	So the total animal units on this	

		Page 34
1	farm and we will be talking about this more a	
2	little later is 3,384.	
3	Just remember that number for a	
4	little later along here.	
5	Okay. So I am referencing that LMFA,	
6	the eight siting criteria, I list the code where	
7	it is located. I am going to read these exactly	
8	so we understand what we are looking at and how we	
9	will meet it.	
10	First siting criteria, if you have	
11	your sheet you can follow along as well, but this	
12	is whether registration and Livestock Waste	
13	Management Plan certification requirements, if	
14	required, are met by the Notice of Intent to	
15	Construct.	
16	So what specifically are the	
17	requirements? What do we have to do?	
18	Again, I am quoting out of the	
19	Livestock Management Facilities Act.	
20	The Livestock Management Facilities	
21	Act says the livestock management facility owner	
22	or operator at a facility of 1,000 or greater	
23	animal units but less than 5,000 animal units	
24	so just a few slides ago we said we are 3,384, so	

		Page 35
1	we fall under this category, this is applicable to	
2	us shall prepare, maintain and implement a	
3	Waste Management Plan and comply with the	
4	following.	
5	Here's what the following is.	
6	Facilities which commence operations or reach or	
7	exceed 1,000 animal units after the effective date	
8	of the part. So we are going to beat that because	
9	we are 3,384. The owner or operator shall	
10	prepare, maintain and implement a Waste Management	
11	Plan within 60 working days after commencing	
12	operations or exceeding the 1,000 animal units.	
13	So if you read the text here, the	
14	requirement is within 60 working days after	
15	commencing operations or exceeding 1,000 animal	
16	units. So we will have a Manure management Plan,	
17	Waste Management Plan prior to there being hogs at	
18	that facility.	
19	It is not completed to date but it	
20	will be completed prior to there being hogs at	
21	that facility.	
22	And this requirement here again	
23	verbatim out of the Livestock Management	
24	Facilities Act, prior to the expiration of the	

Page 36 Waste Management Plan preparation period the owner 1 operator shall submit to the Department a form 3 certifying that a Waste Management Plan has been prepared. And then the form shall also list the 5 animal unit capacity of the facility and location 6 of the plan. It is a one page document. I have a copy right here. And this will have to be filled 8 9 out and submitted to the Illinois Department of 10 Agriculture. Then finally, the Waste Management 11 12 Plan and records of livestock waste disposal shall 13 be kept on file at the facility for a period of 14 three years and shall be available for inspection by the Department personnel during normal business 15 16 hours. 17 So once the plan is completed they will keep it at the facility for a period of three 18 19 years. And if the Department of Ag wants to stop 20 and take a look at it they are welcome to do that. 21 This is my application timeline. 2.2 have a few I guess additional things or things 23 from my side from what Warren had, so I am going 24 to go over this real briefly.

		Page 37
1	The first date when the Notice of	
2	Intent was submitted, as you can see that date is	
3	a little earlier. I am in the northwest part of	
4	the state so I guess it took seven days to get	
5	down here. We submitted it February 18.	
6	On March 3rd the Illinois Department	
7	of Agriculture, which I may call IDOA a little bit	
8	in this presentation, they requested additional	
9	information. So they had a couple of questions on	
10	that application.	
11	So by March 6th we responded to that	
12	additional information request and answered their	
13	questions. And then on the 12th we received their	
14	approval of the Notice of Intent to Construct.	
15	By March 18 one of the	
16	requirements of the Notice of Intent to Construct	
17	is to notify all property owners via certified	
18	mail. So all property owners that map that	
19	Warren had and I'll throw up in a minute but	
20	all property owners in that outer circle, which is	
21	3,520 feet for this facility, were notified via	
22	certified mail and sent the complete Notice of	
23	Intent to Construct application.	
24	And then April 16 we sent revision of	

		Page 38
1	the Notice of Intent to Construct to the Illinois	
2	Department of Agriculture.	
3	What this consisted of, the gestation	
4	barn size was slightly modified. It was	
5	shortened. It is now 162-foot by 700 feet. It	
6	was slightly larger originally, but due to some	
7	changes in feeding and ventilation in the barn we	
8	were able to shorten that barn size. We actually	
9	reduced that barn size, and in doing so the	
10	setback distances all slightly increased just a	
11	little bit.	
12	And then another requirement is a	
13	Certified Livestock Manager. Farm operator must	
14	complete training and pass a written exam every	
15	three years.	
16	So with this facility all managers	
17	Dr. Rippel went over the different breakdown of	
18	management at this farm but all managers will	
19	receive this training and be a Certified Livestock	
20	Manager as well as Mike Salz. Okay.	
21	On to siting criteria number two.	
22	This is one whether the design,	
23	location or proposed operation will protect the	
24	environment by being consistent with the Livestock	

		Page 39
1	Management Facilities Act.	C
2	This is where I am going to talk	
3	quite a bit about the actual structure itself and	
4	how that structure is going to protect the	
5	environment.	
6	So the concrete wall and footings are	
7	designed to meet the Livestock Waste Management	
8	Facilities Act. We will talk specifically about	
9	some things on that.	
10	The first item is going to be water	
11	stops as needed. There will be a slide here that	
12	will follow in a minute and I will talk a little	
13	bit more about all of these.	
14	The second item, appropriately sized	
15	reinforcing steel for a wall and slab design.	
16	We will also have perimeter drain	
17	tile around the exterior of all of the manure	
18	storage structures which will be concrete to	
19	monitor storage structure integrity.	
20	I guess we kind of glanced over this.	
21	I think it is probably fairly well-known but they	
22	are all going to have roofs over. So they will be	
23	covered. We won't have rainwater entering them.	
24	That also helps with odor issues.	

		Page 40
1	We will talk about storage capacity,	
2	which is my last line item, in regards to LMFA	
3	requires 150 days of liquid manure storage	
4	structure for a facility such as this. And we	
5	will have over a year's storage.	
6	So here's a couple of pictures where	
7	I can talk a little bit about the specifics.	
8	If you see the vertical rebars	
9	sticking vertically up, the concrete at the bottom	
10	would be the actual concrete footing for this	
11	particular structure. The black material behind	
12	the rebar is a water stop product.	
13	So any time you have a cold joint	
14	between two different pours you have to put a	
15	water stop product in that seals that joint.	
16	Prior to pouring concrete they put this product in	
17	and then they will make that a water tight seal	
18	right there.	
19	This slide talks about the	
20	reinforcing steel.	
21	I mentioned Midwest Plan Service. So	
22	in our design we use Midwest Plan Service. That	
23	is a design code referenced in the LMFA. Midwest	
24	Plan Service 36 is a rectangular concrete manure	

		Page 41
1	storage structure. And what this code is, it was	
2	developed by 12 university land grants in the	
3	midwest. And basically it's a design standard for	
4	concrete manure storage structures in particular.	
5	They have all kinds of guidance	
6	documents out. They have guidance documents for	
7	beef facilities, for swine facilities, circular	
8	tanks. But like I said, a bunch of land grant	
9	universities developed that. And Midwest Plan	
10	Service has received numerous awards from the	
11	American Society of Agriculture and Biological	
12	Engineers for the work they have done. They have	
13	been around a long time. It is just a code we use	
14	during design.	
15	You see the guys standing around	
16	pouring concrete, but if you look you see the	
17	steel in the ground, you see where the footings	
18	are going to be, the steel is up. My take home	
19	message with this, the reinforcing steel in the	
20	design of this pit will meet or exceed minimum	
21	steel reinforcement.	
22	So the code specifies what that	
23	area's steel is going to be and we are going to be	
24	at or above that minimal steel requirement with	

		Page 42
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	

		Page 43
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.	

		Page 44
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	

Page 45 1 facility minimizes any incompatibility with the surrounding area's character by being located in an area zoned for agriculture where the county has zoning or where the county is not zoned. 5 setback requirements established by the Livestock 6 Management Facilities Act are complied with. So the easy answer to this -- I will have more in a minute, but this site is zoned 8 9 agriculture. That is the easy answer to the first 10 part. The setback requirements, the main 11 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 residence is a quarter of a mile for less than 15 16 1,000 animal units. And then you increase by an 17 additional 220 feet for each 1,000 animal units over that. 18 19 So with this particular facility, 20 since we are 3,384 animal units our occupied 21 residence setback is 1,760 feet. 2.2 So as I mentioned earlier, Mike Salz 23 has signed a waiver. And the next nearest would 24 be to the northeast.

		Page 46
1	Then the next setback requirement	
2	would be a populated place. This is a similar	
3	calculation. You take half a mile as a starting	
4	point for less than 1,000 animal units and then an	
5	additional 440 feet for each 1,000 animal units	
6	above that. So we are at 3,520 feet.	
7	And everyone in that outer ring was	
8	notified via certified mail of the Notice of	
9	Intent to Construct, the complete application.	
10	This is another setback map.	
11	Dr. Rippel and Warren both already talked about	
12	this so I won't go into detail, but there is	
13	another couple setbacks that we have to meet.	
14	The nearest town, we already talked	
15	about that one, has to be greater than 3,520 feet.	
16	So we met that.	
17	The nearest commonplace of assembly	
18	in this instance is Bethany Lutheran Church. It	
19	is greater than 3,520 feet so we meet that	
20	requirement.	
21	And then the nearest nonfarm business	
22	is the airport. And again, that is greater than	
23	3,520 feet. So we meet that requirement as well.	
24	Okay, on to site criteria number	

Page 47 four, whether the facility is located within a 100 1 year floodplain or otherwise environmentally sensitive area defined as an area of karst area or with aquifer material within 5 foot of the bottom 5 of the livestock waste handling facility and whether construction standards set forth in the 6 Notice of Intent to Construction are consistent with the goal of protecting the safety of the 9 area. 10 So I am going to skip to this one. The first thing they talked about was the 100 year 11 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 100 year floodplain, so that is how we reach that 16 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 2.2 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

		Page 48
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	

Page 49 fractured carbonate that is 10 foot or more in 1 thickness, or sand, gravel or sand and gravel as defined in this section such that there is at 3 least 2 feet or more present within a 5 foot section of a soil boring performed with Sections 5 6 506.202 and 506.302 of this part. So here's the soil boring that was performed. I would like to enter into as an 8 9 exhibit when I am done here the complete soil 10 boring report and have that on file. Because there was 24 and we don't have time to go through 11 12 all 24. But they were all consistent at the whole 13 site. 14 So this was done at a depth of 15 foot. We are below 5 foot of the bottom of the 15 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 2.2 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.

		Page 50
1	Slightly classified them different	
2	coming down, but I guess the take home message	
3	here from about a foot all of the way to the	
4	bottom we're in clay material, hard brown clay.	
5	And if you read the lower right-hand side of the	
6	screen, very tough to tough gray silty clay.	
7	Trace sand, moist clay.	
8	The definition I just read of	
9	aquifer, I don't see any sand, I don't see gravel	
10	that meets their definition of 2 foot area in a 5	
11	foot section, nowhere exists. So the aquifer	
12	material does not exist at this site.	
13	Siting criteria number five, whether	
14	the owner and operator has submitted plans for the	
15	operation that minimize the likelihood of any	
16	environmental damage to the surrounding area from	
17	spills, runoff and leaching.	
18	Okay. We are going to talk about	
19	modern applicable technology. This goes into a	
20	couple other siting criteria. You will see this	
21	again. What I like to refer to as best management	
22	practices.	
23	So this picture here shows an example	
24	of what we can do as a best management practice.	

Page 51 This particular picture is a Jamesway honey wagon. 1 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. 5 But the biggest thing with this picture, we are injecting. 6 One of the best management practices we can use is direct application of manure into 8 9 the soil profile. 10 There are other ways to do that. Calibrated flow meters are one great way. 11 12 What we are trying to achieve here on 13 the Manure Management Plan, we are going to look at different fields and we are going to look at 14 15 different agronomic rates, depending on crop 16 rotation, tillage practices, basically the 17 nitrogen phosphorous uptake. So the rates could be different at different fields. And basically 18 19 we need to make sure we are applying at the 20 appropriate rates at different fields. So we need 21 some sort of calibration in place to ensure we are 2.2 applying at the right rates. And flow meters is 23 one way to do that. Another best management 24 practice out there is conservation change to help

		Page 52
1	prevent soil erosion.	
2	The last one we already talked about,	
3	Certified Livestock Manager program. Ensures	
4	personnel are properly trained.	
5	All managers on the site will have	
6	that training. Mike Salz will have that training.	
7	Okay, we already hit on this one, pit	
8	capacity.	
9	We are providing for greater than the	
10	required storage so we LMFA requires 150 days	
11	of storage. We are providing over a year.	
12	And then we already talked about this	
13	as well, perimeter drain tile and monitoring port.	
14	If you look at the soil boring	
15	report and like we said we are not going to go	
16	through the whole thing tonight but you read	
17	the definition, the requirements, the site	
18	technically is not required to install that. We	
19	are going to put that in regardless of whether it	
20	comes back that we have to put that in or not.	
21	We are going to put in the perimeter	
22	drain tile and have a monitoring port.	
23	Okay, odor control. Whether odor	
24	control plans are reasonable and incorporate	

		Page 53
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	

Page 54 am going to refer to this again kind of similar to 1 the manure application side as the toolbox of best 3 management practices that we have available to reduce our odor and emissions. 5 As you can see, there are a couple that are slightly different colors. So if you go 6 in the feed management toolbox there, here are different things we can do on our diets that help with what is coming out the animal basically. 9 10 So some things that VMC currently uses in their diets are corn, soy, DDGS diets, 11 12 phase feeding, amino acids, fats. Basically 13 depending on weather conditions, the phase they 14 are in in production, they can adjust and use any 15 of those as needed or as required. But the main 16 point here, look at what some of these -- the 17 effects we can have by just controlling what we 18 are feeding the animal. We can lower total 19 nitrogen which can in effect lower the ammonia 20 emission -- reduce the amount of phosphorous 21 extruded in the animal. That is critical and that 2.2 affects what we can put in the fields as well. 23 Very -- fewer volatile fatty acids. Also we can 24 control the dust.

		Page 55
1	And the biggest take home message,	
2	which is what we are looking at, is reducing the	
3	odor and emissions.	
4	Tree buffers. Tree buffers will be	
5	added to this farm.	
6	Now, this is just a slide we found on	
7	the internet of some tree growth. These are I	
8	believe fast growing trees. You can show	
9	within three years you can barely even see this	
10	facility.	
11	Trees will be on this farm. There	
12	may be a mix of different types of trees and	
13	species. We will submit a planting plan to the	
14	Illinois Department of Agriculture for approval.	
15	This one I think is a big one. This	
16	boils down to management to me. But each barn	
17	will be pressure washed and sanitized between	
18	every production cycle.	
19	If you have a dirty barn, you have	
20	fans in that barn, you are pulling out particles	
21	in the area that can contribute to odor.	
22	If you keep the barn clean, keep the	
23	fans, that odor is not coming out, its staying in	
24	the pit rather than getting up in the air. The	

Page 56 biggest thing with this, I guess, is to keep those 1 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 5 this one in great depth. We hit on this. The same applicable technology that 6 protects the environment is applicable as odor control. We are no longer -- we are no longer 10 taking side sling and just shooting it out the side. It is going to be injected down in the 11 12 ground. 13 Another management practice for odor control is dead animal disposal. 14 15 With dead animal disposal -- I guess we list two different options that are available 16 17 to us. There is a concrete bin system on the top 18 or a bio bay. Basically an end vessel system. 19 Both of these are acceptable methods 20 for dead animal disposal. The key take home 21 message is to be designed and be constructed in 2.2 accordance with the Illinois Dead Animal Disposal 23 Act is the take home message. It will be one of 24 these two options here.

		Page 57
1	Okay, site criteria number seven,	
2	whether traffic patterns minimize the effects on	
3	existing traffic flows.	
4	So let's take a look at what that	
5	actual traffic is going to be. We are talking	
6	truck traffic now.	
7	So two weaner pig deliveries from the	
8	farm per week. There will be one cull sow	
9	delivery from the farm every week and a half and	
10	six feed deliveries to the farm per week.	
11	If you count that out I am going	
12	to talk about ADT, average daily traffic, here in	
13	a minute. When you say count that out per day	
14	it is approximately 1.2 trucks per day.	
15	We have two routes we are looking at.	
16	This would be right now the main transportation	
17	route. And from this site we have due north on	
18	whether you want to call it Third Road or 2800	
19	East. We turn east on State Route 18 and then go	
20	on 39 wherever we need to go. That's the main	
21	route.	
22	The alternate route is similar except	
23	we are heading and turning due south. And with	
24	this route we are going State Route 17 and again	

		Page 58
1	heading east until we hit 39.	
2	So what is our traffic on these	
3	existing roads? This was pulled off the Illinois	
4	Department of Transportation's website, readily	
5	available to anyone who wants it.	
6	For each of the roads I have the	
7	average daily traffic. So that's the total	
8	traffic, including all vehicles, multi axil, cars.	
9	That's total traffic.	
10	So as you can see, State Route 17	
11	gets a little bit more than State Route 18. And	
12	County Road 2800 is obviously a lot less.	
13	Now, what I wanted to look at, daily	
14	truck traffic, which again is available on the	
15	same website. Because it was a secondary road I	
16	am guessing they probably didn't go that in depth	
17	and break down what the truck and vehicle traffic	
18	is. So I don't have data on that for the county	
19	road. But State Route 18 is 270, State Route 17	
20	is 325.	
21	So basically with this slide we plug	
22	in our 1.2 trucks per day and what is that	
23	increase? You look at the increases, they are all	
24	below 1 percent. The greatest being .6 on the	

		Page 59
1	county road. So that's minimal effect as far as	
2	on the traffic.	
3	Okay, the last slide here I am	
4	almost done whether construction or	
5	modification of a new facility is consistent with	
6	existing community growth, tourism, recreation or	
7	economic development or with specific projects	
8	involving community growth, tourism, recreation or	
9	economic development that have been identified by	
10	government action for development or operation	
11	within one year through compliance with applicable	
12	zoning and setback requirements for populated	
13	areas as required by the Livestock Management	
14	Facilities Act.	
15	So the very last part, I guess we can	
16	cross that out right now if you want to. We have	
17	already talked about the setback requirements. We	
18	met the setback requirements and Illinois	
19	Department Agriculture has approved that. So that	
20	is not really applicable.	
21	So now we are looking at zoning. I	
22	pulled this directly out of the Marshall County	
23	Zoning Ordinance Section 7.1 where it talks about	
24	agriculture.	

		Page 60
1	I am going to read this verbatim,	
2	because I think if you read this you will see what	
3	the goal is in an agriculture area.	
4	The long range goal for agricultural	
5	land use in the county is to preserve the most	
6	valuable of all natural resources. That of	
7	fertile land for agricultural pursuits and to	
8	protect the land best suited for farming for	
9	premature urbanization. Agricultural district	
10	regulations are therefore designed to regulate the	
11	use of land and structures within the areas of the	
12	county where soil and topographic conditions are	
13	best adapted to the pursuit of agriculture and	
14	utilization of other natural land uses and to	
15	provide for low density residential development in	
16	areas where such development is compatible with	
17	agricultural uses.	
18	So as I read this, to me we want to	
19	keep agriculture, we want to preserve the natural	
20	resources.	
21	Dr. Rippel talked a little bit about	
22	the manure, the value of the manure and it being a	
23	natural fertilizer for the ground. And that's	
24	what we want to do here.	

		Page 61
1	The economic side of it Dr. Rippel	
2	talked as well, and I am not going to go over his	
3	numbers, but there is going to be economic growth	
4	as far as jobs, hiring different individuals to do	
5	different items, the economic opportunities,	
6	property taxes. \$2 million was the number that	
7	was on Dr. Rippel's slide. So I guess a lot of	
8	different items here go together to show economic	
9	growth. And then as far as what the goal for	
10	zoning and increase agriculture, if we read this,	
11	we want fertile land and to pursue the use of	
12	natural resources. That's what we are trying to	
13	do here.	
14	So I guess in closing, hopefully	
15	today you had a chance to listen and see why we	
16	think we are meeting the eight siting criteria in	
17	the LMFA. And with that I will take questions.	
18	Before I do that, I guess I want to	
19	enter this in for an exhibit.	
20	Then I guess my powerpoint as an	
21	exhibit as well. Do you want a copy of that?	
22	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: I have a	
23	copy of your presentation here that you supplied	
24	to us earlier.	

		Page 62
1	MR. WAGNER: Okay.	
2	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: So I will	
3	enter into the record as Exhibit Number 3 a	
4	Report of Soils Exploration for the Proposed Hog	
5	Facility done by Wagner Consulting and	
6	Agriculture, LLC.	
7	I will also enter into the record as	
8	Exhibit Number 4, which is a copy of the	
9	powerpoint presentation that was just presented.	
10	We will now open the meeting for any	
11	questions that you may have of the Facility or of	
12	the Illinois Department of Agriculture.	
13	If you have a question that you would	
14	like to ask, please step up to the microphone,	
15	please state your name and spell your last name.	
16	Please indicate to whom you are directing your	
17	question.	
18	I will remind you that this portion	
19	of the meeting is limited to questions only.	
20	After this question and answer session there will	
21	be a session dedicated to public testimony where	
22	you can provide your oral comments.	
23	So please limit this session to	
24	questions only.	

		Page 63
1	MS. CHURNEY: Cheryl Churney,	
2	C-H-U-R-N-E-Y.	
3	First I have some questions for	
4	Mr. Goetsch.	
5	Mr. Goetsch, you mentioned that the	
6	representatives for the applicant had not provided	
7	any formal engineering or design plans. Have they	
8	submitted any informal plans to the department?	
9	MR. GOETSCH: No, they have not.	
10	MS. CHURNEY: Did you say during	
11	your open remarks, I am asking for clarification	
12	here, that you anticipated having construction	
13	plans from the applicant before June 14 of this	
14	year?	
15	MR. GOETSCH: I don't know that I	
16	said that, but the Department will not take a	
17	final action in this in this process until	
18	such time as an applicant would have met all of	
19	the requirements of the statute; one of those	
20	being construction plans and specs. So we won't	
21	be able to take any kind of an action until that	
22	information is provided to us.	
23	MS. CHURNEY: Will there be another	
24	public hearing to allow residents of Marshall	

1	County to comment on those plans when they are	Page 64
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	

Page 65 this same process. The Department would -- they 1 would still be required to meet the other 3 applicable requirements like the construction standards, like the Certified Livestock Manager, Waste Management Plans, all of those things, but 5 there would not be a public information meeting 6 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 the process, is that correct, sir? 11 12 MR. GOETSCH: Yes. 13 MS. CHURNEY: Before approving the 14 application does the Department of Agriculture require evidence of the financial ability of the 15 owners of the facility to ensure proper cleanup 16 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. 2.2 it were an anaerobic lagoon there are financial 23 surety demonstration requirements, but for an 24 under pit or under building manure storage

		Page 66
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	

		Page 67
1	effect.	
2	MS. CHURNEY: Has a memorandum of	
3	that agreement been recorded with the Marshall	
4	County Recorder of Deeds?	
5	MR. WAGNER: I don't think that is	
6	applicable of the eight siting criteria.	
7	MS. CHURNEY: If you don't want to	
8	answer the question say you don't want to answer	
9	the question.	
10	MR. RIPPEL: What was the question	
11	again?	
12	MS. CHURNEY: The question was has a	
13	memorandum of an agreement to purchase the land	
14	been recorded with a Marshall County Recorder of	
15	Deeds?	
16	MR. RIPPEL: No, it has not.	
17	MS. CHURNEY: How much land will be	
18	purchased?	
19	Can you tell me the acreage and the	
20	dimensions?	
21	MR. RIPPEL: It would be a	
22	disservice if I gave you the It is	
23	approximately 17 acres.	
24	MS. CHURNEY: The setback	

		Page 68
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.	

		Page 69
1	MR. WAGNER: So for instance like if	C
2	you look up here for that arc, it is coming from	
3	the nearest corner, which would be right here.	
4	This corner is swinging an arc there.	
5	MS. CHURNEY: Thank you. I	
6	understand now.	
7	Dr. Rippel, can you tell us how many	
8	gallons of waste will be produced per animal unit	
9	each day at the facility?	
10	MR. RIPPEL: I can tell you based on	
11	farms that we currently manage that we will	
12	produce approximately 5 gallons per inventoried	
13	sow per day.	
14	MS. CHURNEY: The informational	
15	letter that you sent to Leslie Smith, and I have	
16	a copy of it if you need to refresh your	
17	recollection, indicated that a waste produced at	
18	that facility will be applied in the spring and	
19	fall to surrounding cropland.	
20	Does that mean Mr. Sals' cropland?	
21	MR. RIPPEL: Mike has exclusive	
22	rights to the nutrient produced by this facility.	
23	So the Manure Management Plan will include what	
24	ground that will be applied on.	

		Page 70
1	MS. CHURNEY: Have you secured	
2	either leases or manure transfer agreements from	
3	any other property owners?	
4	MR. RIPPEL: No.	
5	MS. CHURNEY: Do you intend to?	
6	MR. RIPPEL: No.	
7	MS. CHURNEY: How will you get the	
8	manure to Mr. Sals' land?	
9	MR. RIPPEL: That will either be	
10	most likely through dragline, but that is yet to	
11	be determined.	
12	MS. CHURNEY: Do you need any	
13	easements for those draglines?	
14	MR. RIPPEL: Again, that will depend	
15	on once we put together the Manure Management	
16	Plan and which fields we are going to incorporate	
17	that nutrient to.	
18	MS. CHURNEY: How many investors are	
19	there in the Sandy Creek Lane, LLC?	
20	MR. RIPPEL: Currently there are no	
21	investors because we have to have a permitting	
22	approved before we have any farmer investors	
23	commit to the project.	
24	MS. CHURNEY: You indicated that VMC	

		Page 71
1	is affiliated with 12 other farms. Can you give	C
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	

		Page 72
1	and at the same time we also provide the health	1 age 72
2	and veterinary care for those animals.	
3	MS. CHURNEY: Is VMC Management	
4	Corporation a veterinarian practice?	
5	MR. RIPPEL: No.	
6	MS. CHURNEY: Is VMC Management	
7	Corporation has VMC Management Corporation	
8	applied for a license to operate facility farms	
9	in the state of Iowa?	
10	MR. RIPPEL: I am not aware of the	
11	requirement for that.	
12	MS. CHURNEY: Is VMC Management	
13	corporation an Illinois corporation?	
14	MR. RIPPEL: Yes.	
15	MS. CHURNEY: Who's the registered	
16	agent for VMC Management Corporation in Illinois?	
17	MR. RIPPEL: I believe it would be	
18	Dr. Aljets.	
19	MS. CHURNEY: I understand that	
20	there are to be concrete pits under each	
21	building. How many buildings will there be?	
22	Just the three?	
23	MR. RIPPEL: Three manure containing	
24	structures, correct.	

		Page 73
1	MS. CHURNEY: How deep are those	
2	pits?	
3	MR. RIPPEL: Underneath the gilt	
4	barn will be an 8 foot pit. Underneath the	
5	gestation barn will be a 10 foot pit, and a 2	
6	foot pit underneath the farrowing barn.	
7	MS. CHURNEY: This question is for	
8	Mr. Wagner.	
9	You had another slide, sir, where you	
10	showed the pits being constructed. And I couldn't	
11	tell from the slide there was a crane that was	
12	depicted in the photograph or it was a concrete	
13	truck that was filling the structure with	
14	concrete. Do you know the photograph I am talking	
15	about?	
16	MR. WAGNER: It was a concrete	
17	pumper truck.	
18	MS. CHURNEY: Do you will know how	
19	much that truck weighs?	
20	MR. WAGNER: Not off the top of my	
21	head.	
22	MS. CHURNEY: Do you know how many	
23	of those trucks will be used during the	
24	construction phase of the facility?	

		Page 74
1	MR. WAGNER: No, we haven't	- 1.6-
2	finalized that.	
3	MS. CHURNEY: Do you know how many	
4	loads of gravel and sand will be delivered to the	
5	site to construct the facility?	
6	MR. WAGNER: No.	
7	MS. CHURNEY: Will you be	
8	constructing any roads within the facility	
9	itself, you know, to get from building to	
10	building or to get from the access road?	
11	MR. WAGNER: Yes, obviously.	
12	MS. CHURNEY: Do you know how many	
13	loads of gravel you will need to construct those	
14	roads?	
15	MR. WAGNER: What does this have to	
16	do with the eight siting criteria?	
17	MS. CHURNEY: Related to the traffic	
18	pattern, sir.	
19	Do you know how many loads of gravel	
20	you	
21	MR. WAGNER: No. I could calc it	
22	out but I don't know off the top of my head.	
23	MS. CHURNEY: Will there be a	
24	parking area on the facility?	

		Page 75
1	MR. WAGNER: There will be a spot	1 490 73
2	for vehicles to park their cars, yes.	
3	MS. CHURNEY: I take it that will be	
4	a gravel construction as well?	
5	MR. WAGNER: More than likely.	
6	MS. CHURNEY: Do you know how many	
7	gravel trucks you will need or how many loads of	
8	gravel you will need for the parking area?	
9	MR. WAGNER: No.	
10	MS. CHURNEY: I will clean up I	
11	will get to the end here and ask just a few more	
12	questions.	
13	Do you know Mr. Rippel, you	
14	indicated that there will be \$70,000 worth of	
15	property tax generated from the property. Do you	
16	know how much of that \$70,000 will actually go to	
17	the Evans Township Road and Bridge fund?	
18	MR. RIPPEL: I do not have that	
19	number.	
20	MS. CHURNEY: Would you be surprised	
21	to know that it would be less than \$350 a year?	
22	MR. RIPPEL: I can't comment on	
23	that.	
24	MS. CHURNEY: Okay. Will you be	

		Page 76
1	applying for property tax abatements for the	
2	concrete placement under the building?	
3	MR. RIPPEL: Yes.	
4	MS. CHURNEY: So \$70,000 that you	
5	calculated, does that include the abatement for	
6	those facilities or is that before you take that	
7	property tax abatement?	
8	MR. RIPPEL: That was a pure	
9	estimate so I cannot comment on that.	
10	MS. CHURNEY: And you will be taking	
11	depreciation on the buildings from various years?	
12	MR. RIPPEL: Just like any other	
13	agricultural facility, yes.	
14	MS. CHURNEY: The \$70,000 estimate	
15	will continue to go down year after year?	
16	MR. RIPPEL: I am not an accountant	
17	so I cannot comment on that.	
18	MS. CHURNEY: I'll defer to some	
19	other questioners.	
20	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Yes, let's	
21	let some others ask questions here.	
22	MR. GENTERT: My name is Charles	
23	Gentert, G-E-N-T-E-R-T.	
24	I want to ask one question right now.	

		Page 77
1	They said \$70,000 in tax money only for Marshall	
2	County, not for LaSalle County. One question.	
3	Have any studies been done about the devaluation	
4	of the neighborhood houses around there? Has that	
5	been taken into account, once this hog farm is	
6	built, the devaluation of the nearby houses that	
7	are built around?	
8	MR. RIPPEL: I guess the question	
9	is I guess I am not sure what the question is.	
10	MR. GENTERT: Well, once these hog	
11	farms go up there is a general to people that	
12	lives in the general area, isn't there a	
13	devaluation of the houses?	
14	MR. RIPPEL: What data would you be	
15	pulling that from to justify that statement?	
16	MR. GENTERT: Well, a	
17	MR. RIPPEL: Do you have comparables	
18	to justify that statement?	
19	MR. GENTERT: You want to make	
20	MS. CHURNEY: Point of order, he's	
21	answering questions, not asking questions.	
22	MR. GENTERT: You want me to pull	
23	the data, I will hire an attorney to get all of	
24	the data.	

		Page 78
1	Seems like we are trying to get the	
2	wool pulled over our eyes. Excuse me, I will let	
3	somebody else talk.	
4	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: State your	
5	name.	
6	LESLIE SMITH: Leslie Smith,	
7	S-M-I-T-H.	
8	I have a question for you. We were	
9	speaking about hogs in the area and disease,	
10	things like that. The PED is a very contagious	
11	issue, especially in large confinement facilities.	
12	With the high risk rate of	
13	transmission of PED and other hog diseases and	
14	shipping those hogs by third parties, how can you	
15	ensure that neighboring farms, including Mr. John	
16	Foote, who is right outside your setback area, and	
17	be confident you will not spread these diseases to	
18	his hogs that he has currently on his property?	
19	MR. RIPPEL: First of all, nice to	
20	meet you face-to-face. You called and asked	
21	those questions. I appreciate your phone call.	
22	I was disappointed you didn't come out and take	
23	the tour of the farms with me.	
24	To address your question, I guess I	

		Page 79
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.	

		Page 80
1	LESLIE SMITH: Currently right now I	
2	guess just it being so close and these type of	
3	facilities having such a high rate of PED	
4	compared to traditional farming practices.	
5	MR. RIPPEL: Do you understand what	
6	PED is, ma'am?	
7	LESLIE SMITH: Yes, a diarrhea	
8	disease that the pigs get.	
9	MR. RIPPEL: Do you understand how	
10	<pre>it's transmitted?</pre>	
11	LESLIE SMITH: I do, yes.	
12	MR. RIPPEL: You know, not it is	
13	beyond the scope of this to get into epidemiology	
14	of PED, but it is a disease of pigs that was	
15	first detected this spring or this past	
16	spring. Sorry. First time ever in this country.	
17	And you have an entire naive population of pigs.	
18	I don't know the history of John's pigs. I am	
19	assuming they would be naive, I don't know. But	
20	it has been a challenge to the industry. We will	
21	not be stocking this facility with PED positive	
22	pigs.	
23	LESLIE SMITH: From what I have	
24	read, Iowa has I do believe it was 30 or	

		Page 81
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	

Page 82 have a farm that has a disease we contain it into 1 that farm so we are not taking it back out into 3 the community. Bio security is a big deal in the pig industry. LESLIE SMITH: Can I ask additional 5 questions? 6 HEARING OFFICER FRANK: One more. LESLIE SMITH: Okay. According to 8 9 the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency they 10 have listed on their website best practices for livestock management facilities. One of the 11 12 things they bring up in constructing this 13 facility is that you should not construct these 14 facilities next to surface water or in low lying 15 areas. 16 Sandy Creek Valley clearly violates 17 both of these. 18 How do you explain how you chose this 19 site and disregarded the Illinois EPA siting of 20 these facilities? 21 MR. WAGNER: The current site is a 22 site that meets the requirement of LMFA. It is 23 not right next to the creek. It is in a higher 24 area and we are --

Page 83 1 LESLIE SMITH: That's what I mean, it is uphill of the creek. The reason for having 3 them away from surface bodies, so if there is a runoff, when you are uphill, if there is any type 5 of spill or anything like that, it will run down to the creek. Which is kind of I think their 6 instance of don't put it by surface water. MR. WAGNER: If you would go to flat 9 lying you probably couldn't build it hardly 10 anywhere in the state Illinois because eventually something is going to run into something 11 12 eventually. Plus the site's designs --13 HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Let's move 14 on to the next questioner. 15 State your name and spell it. 16 MIKE PHILLIPS: Mike Phillips, 17 P-H-I-L-I-P-S. 18 Mr. Rippel, according to your 19 presentation this will be the largest facility in 20 service, yet your headquarters -- this will be the 21 farthest away from your headquarters. It will be 2.2 about 150 miles away. How do you intend to 23 provide adequate oversight? 24 MR. RIPPEL: We have, as I described

		Page 84
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	

		Page 85
1	approximately 200 vehicles a day. How many	
2	employees are going to be working at the facility?	
3	MR. WAGNER: Dr. Rippel stated there	
4	would be approximately 20.	
5	MIKE PHILLIPS: So that would be	
6	about 40 trips a day coming in and going out, so	
7	that would actually increase the traffic by	
8	roughly 20 percent instead of .6?	
9	MR. WAGNER: That would be vehicle	
10	traffic. We are talking about truck traffic.	
11	MIKE PHILLIPS: The Livestock	
12	Management Act talks about vehicle traffic.	
13	MR. WAGNER: We can go into detail	
14	discussion on roads but it is	
15	MIKE PHILLIPS: Would you agree that	
16	that is a 20 percent increase in traffic rather	
17	than a .6 percent increase in traffic?	
18	MR. WAGNER: I would have to calc	
19	it. And I think you are assuming	
20	MIKE PHILLIPS: You said 200 cars a	
21	day, 200 trips a day. We have got 20 people	
22	working there. They have to come in and go out,	
23	so that is 40 trips. So I think doing the math	
24	for 40 trips a day compared to current 200	

		Page 86
1	MR. WAGNER: If you are assuming	
2	each one has their own vehicle, sure.	
3	MIKE PHILLIPS: Thank you.	
4	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: State your	
5	name.	
6	FRED HARTENBOWER: My name is Fred	
7	Hartenbower, Mayor from Lostant.	
8	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Please spell	
9	your name.	
10	FRED HARTENBOWER: H-A-R-T-E-N-B-0-W-	
11	E-R.	
12	I have got about three pages for	
13	questions.	
14	First one is do you have a five year	
15	plan on what you intend on doing on this facility?	
16	Any increases in production than what you have	
17	stated tonight?	
18	MR. RIPPEL: No. We have no	
19	intentions of doing doing any increase in size	
20	in this facility.	
21	FRED HARTENBOWER: Okay. Lostant	
22	has a TIF District, Dr. Rippel, just 2 miles away	
23	from your facility. Less than 2 miles away. And	
24	that does put it within the town limits, not the	

		Page 87
1	four to six that you stated.	
2	MR. RIPPEL: Can you explain that,	
3	please?	
4	FRED HARTENBOWER: Excuse me?	
5	MR. RIPPEL: Can you explain that	
6	for me, please?	
7	FRED HARTENBOWER: Lostant increased	
8	since the time you moved to Iowa. A TIF District	
9	is a tax incentive financing. And Lostant has	
10	moved their borders out beyond when you were	
11	living here and playing basketball. We are out	
12	by 18 and 39 at this time.	
13	My question about that is what can we	
14	expect 2 miles away with the smell coming in?	
15	It makes it difficult for us to grow	
16	business in that TIF district if we have that	
17	smell.	
18	MR. RIPPEL: Obviously odor is is	
19	the big concern for tonight.	
20	I will tell you in my opinion if you	
21	drive onto the Sandy Creek Lane site once it is	
22	stocked, or any other farm that we manage, you	
23	will smell pigs when you are on the site. As you	
24	move further away you will smell less and less	

		Page 88
1	than that with the prevailing winds. Two miles	C
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.	

Page 89 You should expect to see radium in the well that 1 you are digging. Is it your intention on putting a reverse osmosis system in there or are you going to feed the piglets radiation water that the EPA has deemed unfit for human consumption? MR. RIPPEL: There will be no 6 reverse osmosis system. 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, so I cannot comment on that. 11 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? MR. RIPPEL: I don't have enough 15 information to answer that question at this 16 17 point. 18 FRED HARTENBOWER: Thank you. 19 NIC ANDERSON: Nic Anderson, N-I-C, 20 A-N-D-E-R-S-O-N. 21 Dr. Rippel, there was a little 2.2 confusion based on -- clarification based on your 23 vet management clinic or your vet management team 24 and the veterinary clinic. The veterinary clinic

		Page 90
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.	

	Page	91
1	NIC ANDERSON: For Mr. Goetsch, some	
2	emphasis was put on the design plans and	
3	compliance. Just for clarity, the farm doesn't	
4	have their plans in, and you made a note of that,	
5	and you haven't received or reviewed those, but	
6	they will have to do that at some point in a	
7	certain amount of time and you will have to	
8	approve those before they even start	
9	construction?	
10	MR. GOETSCH: Yes. The Department	
11	would not take a form or final action in this	
12	process until such time as all of the	
13	requirements are met. One of those being the	
14	submittal of complete construction plans and	
15	specifications.	
16	NIC ANDERSON: So if the plans	
17	weren't in they couldn't even start the	
18	construction at that point?	
19	MR. GOETSCH: That's correct.	
20	NIC ANDERSON: That clarifies that	
21	for me. Thank you.	
22	DAVE LOESER: My name is Dave	
23	Loeser. Last name L-0-E-S-E-R.	
24	My question is in this illustration	

		Page 92
1	where the buildings are going to be there is a	
2	little white area that comes down there. What is	
3	that?	
4	I am	
5	MR. WAGNER: Can you point to it?	
6	DAVE LOESER: Sure.	
7	MR. WAGNER: That's I think Mike	
8	did some field work there and some tiling work	
9	there.	
10	DAVE LOESER: Tile, you said?	
11	MR. WAGNER: Yes. The requirement	
12	for the tile	
13	DAVE LOESER: Do you know what is	
14	tiling? I am a little confused.	
15	MR. WAGNER: To answer your	
16	question state your question again.	
17	DAVE LOESER: What is tile?	
18	MR. WAGNER: Well, there is tile in	
19	the area, and we are required to cap out the	
20	minimum of 50 foot	
21	DAVE LOESER: What's the thing below	
22	it right there, the dark thing? This thing.	
23	MR. WAGNER: Creek.	
24	DAVE LOESER: Creek? What's in a	

		Page 93
1	creek? What's in a creek? What's in a creek?	
2	What's in a creek?	
3	I am asking a forward question.	
4	MR. WAGNER: You know the answer.	
5	DAVE LOESER: Okay. Is it water?	
6	And water flows.	
7	I grew up in Sandy fishing, swimming.	
8	Why is it white?	
9	If you are talking tiling, I see a	
10	lot of roads around there. This is misleading to	
11	me.	
12	Water is depicted you look at	
13	maps, it is dark just like that creek.	
14	Has this been tampered with, this	
15	map? That is just a question.	
16	MR. WAGNER: No.	
17	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Do you have	
18	another question?	
19	DAVE LOESER: I do.	
20	In a case of emergency if something	
21	happens to the facility, what is emergency	
22	protocol? Is there any kind of backup?	
23	I see tanks, I see any kind of	
24	emergency protocol?	

		Page 94
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.	

	Page 95
1	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: State your
2	name.
3	STEVE CLANIN: Steve Clanin,
4	C-L-A-N-I-N.
5	Just for clarification I would like
6	to point out Mr. Anderson is paid to represent the
7	interest
8	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Sir, do you
9	have a question?
10	STEVE CLANIN: Yes, I do, but I
11	would like to point out he's paid to represent
12	the interest of Sandy Lake.
13	My question to Mr. Rippel, you stated
14	20 employees?
15	MR. RIPPEL: Correct.
16	STEVE CLANIN: How many will be full
17	time?
18	MR. RIPPEL: Twenty.
19	STEVE CLANIN: All 20 full time?
20	That seems a little inconsistent with the 12
21	farms and 80 employees and 20 on one.
22	MR. RIPPEL: This is a bigger farm
23	than most of the other farms.
24	STEVE CLANIN: What's the pay scale?

		Page 96
1	MR. RIPPEL: We will have a salary	
2	budget of approximately \$800,000 a year.	
3	STEVE CLANIN: What's that come to	
4	per person?	
5	MR. RIPPEL: We pay based on ability	
6	and the position, so it is hard for me to	
7	specifically say that.	
8	STEVE CLANIN: So will some of these	
9	be minimum wage jobs?	
10	MR. RIPPEL: We don't start anybody	
11	at any of our systems at minimum wage.	
12	STEVE CLANIN: Where do you start?	
13	MR. RIPPEL: Typically if we have	
14	somebody with no experience whatsoever it is in	
15	the 10 to \$11 range.	
16	STEVE CLANIN: Do these job include	
17	health benefits, insurance, retirement?	
18	MR. RIPPEL: Yes, it is required, or	
19	will be required soon after they stop postponing	
20	the Obama Care. We have already	
21	STEVE CLANIN: Will they be all	
22	local people or are you going to hire green	
23	cards?	
24	MR. RIPPEL: We are an equal	

		Page 97
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.	

		Page 98
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	

		Page 99
1	no risk of lethal gases affecting the surrounding	C
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, M-E-N-D-O-L-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	

Page 100 the transcript of tonight's meeting. And it 1 would be available -- it would be subject to the Freedom of Information Act. So yeah, we can make it available. If you would like a copy, we can 5 certainly provide it. 6 MICHAEL MENDOLA: I think perhaps a lot of people in this room would like to have access to it because it is -- a lot of words were said tonight that we don't necessarily remember 9 10 everything that has been said over the course of the evening. Thank you. 11 12 My next question is for Dr. Rippel. 13 Earlier you, in response to another question, you listed or kind of rattled off a 14 whole bunch of diseases that are inherent or 15 16 possible with hogs. Are any of those diseases 17 transferable to human beings? MR. RIPPEL: PED is not, PRRS virus 18 19 is not, erysipelas is not. I know where you are 20 going with this. 21 A few years back they had that H1N1 2.2 influenza virus and that was found in people. 23 MICHAEL MENDOLA: Are there any 24 others?

		Page 101
1	MR. RIPPEL: There are but I am	
2	blanking right now.	
3	MICHAEL MENDOLA: You remember the	
4	ones not transferable but not the ones that are.	
5	I understand.	
6	Also for Dr. Rippel, or perhaps	
7	Mr. Wagner, I am not sure who is the best	
8	recipient of this question. You are going down	
9	1800 feet deep to get water from our aquifer. How	
10	much water from our aquifer are you going to be	
11	using per day or per week?	
12	MR. RIPPEL: We know from our other	
13	managed sow farms that we will use on average	
14	6 gallons per inventoried sow per day. So that	
15	is for everything from drinking, power washing.	
16	All of the water uses on the farm.	
17	If you compare that to what the	
18	average person in Wenona uses 180 gallon per day.	
19	MICHAEL MENDOLA: My last question	
20	is directed to Mr. Wagner. You spent a great	
21	deal of your presentation on odor control.	
22	Do you expect this assemblage to	
23	believe there are not going to be noxious odors	
24	within a short downwind radius or even a longer	

		Page 102
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, C-A-S-O-L-A-R-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?	

		Page 103
1	JAMIE CASOLARI: I live straight	
2	down we call it East Third Road. I don't know	
3	what they call it on the other side. Toward	
4	Route 18.	
5	Yesterday the wind was blowing	
6	directly at my house from where your facility	
7	would be.	
8	MR. RIPPEL: Where would that be?	
9	JAMIE CASOLARI: I don't do maps at	
10	all. I live if you come out of the facility,	
11	drive down north.	
12	MR. RIPPEL: How far north do you	
13	live?	
14	JAMIE CASOLARI: Slightly more than	
15	a mile.	
16	MR. RIPPEL: Slightly more than a	
17	mile. I would be surprised if you being a mile	
18	or more away from this farm in the direct north	
19	direction, I would be surprised if you smell it	
20	at all.	
21	JAMIE CASOLARI: Okay. You would be	
22	surprised now, but if I am not surprised then,	
23	then what happens?	
24	MR. RIPPEL: You know, odor is a	

		Page 104
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?	

	Page 105
1	JAMIE CASOLARI: 1,000, 2,000,
2	3,000.
3	MR. RIPPEL: So if we put 5,000 sows
4	on pasture would you be more appeased, more
5	acceptable to that design?
6	JAMIE CASOLARI: Depending on how
7	much land you use and if you weren't treating
8	them with antibiotics that are going to
9	contaminate my well. If you are doing it in a
10	truly sustainable manner, I would be open to some
11	suggestions.
12	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Do you have
13	another question, ma'am?
14	JAMIE CASOLARI: Yes, I do, and it
15	happens to be for the Department of Agriculture.
16	On November 18, 2003 the American
17	Public Health Association urged federal, state and
18	local governments and public health agencies to
19	impose a moratorium on concentrated animal feed
20	operations until more data on the intendant risks
21	to public health could be collected and the
22	uncertainties resolved.
23	The Department of Ag apparently
24	evidenced by today's proposal ignored the concerns

		Page 106
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	

	Page 107
1	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Could you
2	step up to the microphone?
3	JAMIE CASOLARI: Sorry.
4	That it is a zero output, and you
5	pretty much said there is no chance for leakage
6	through the concrete.
7	MR. RIPPEL: Correct.
8	JAMIE CASOLARI: Okay. I am trying
9	to figure out, because I have a concrete
10	foundation and it has cracks and it leaks. It
11	leaks inward. I am assuming it also leaks
12	outward. But it does leak.
13	NIC ANDERSON: Is it built to LMFA
14	standards?
15	JAMIE CASOLARI: I am wondering
16	where you get your magic concrete that doesn't
17	leak?
18	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Let me
19	interject here, please. Both sides have had
20	their opportunities for applause. Let's dispense
21	with the applause and let's get on with the
22	questions and answers. Thank you.
23	MR. WAGNER: We don't know any
24	history on your particular structure, whether it

		Page 108
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?	

		Page 109
1	MR. RIPPEL: I can tell you out of	
2	our 12 managed farms we have tiles we sample	
3	quarterly, and we have never detected any manure	
4	outside of the manure containment structure.	
5	If we would ever happen to find	
6	manure in those tiles we would have to excavate	
7	around the barn and find the leak and repair it.	
8	JAMIE CASOLARI: Okay.	
9	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Do you have	
10	another question?	
11	JAMIE CASOLARI: Yes, I did. I had	
12	one.	
13	When you were Dr. Rippel, when you	
14	were doing your slide show and you were showing	
15	the pictures of the pigs, the sows, the gilts,	
16	whatever they are in the various stages, I am	
17	assuming those were your children.	
18	MR. RIPPEL: Correct.	
19	JAMIE CASOLARI: They were beautiful	
20	children.	
21	MR. RIPPEL: Thank you. I am very	
22	proud of them.	
23	JAMIE CASOLARI: I would be too. I	
24	love my kids and I am sure you do too.	

		Page 110
1	I found it just a little bit	C
2	misleading, because what I understand, the type of	
3	facility that you are building the pigs haven't	
4	really got quite that much room, and I was under	
5	the impression that you didn't really like to have	
6	outsiders like visitors and such come into it for	
7	fear of disease and contaminants and whatever. So	
8	I am wondering why you chose to show pictures of	
9	your kids playing with pigs? Which I don't really	
10	think what you showed was representative of the	
11	type of facility you are going to have.	
12	Because I could be wrong. I googled it and it	
13	showed pictures of what the inside of these	
14	operations are. And like I said, we had three	
15	members from our group go and tour your farm. And	
16	those pictures were nothing like what I have seen	
17	on the internet, nor were they anything like what	
18	they came back and said the facility was like.	
19	So don't you find that kind of	
20	misleading to make it look like it is a petting	
21	z00?	
22	MR. RIPPEL: I was not trying to	
23	make it look like a petting zoo. I knew this was	
24	going to be an intense meeting. I was trying to	

		Page 111
1	lighten the mood just a bit by showing off my	
2	family. That said, those are actual pictures out	
3	of a facility that we manage. And as I	
4	showed our guests last week, I am very proud of	
5	the pork industry. I will show you whatever you	
6	want to show, but those are actual pictures	
7	inside our managed hog farms.	
8	JAMIE CASOLARI: Okay. I'll take	
9	your word for that. Thank you.	
10	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: State your	
11	name.	
12	TIM SMITH: Tim Smith, S-M-I-T-H.	
13	First question for Dr. Rippel. You	
14	are familiar with those Dutchman air filters,	
15	those smart air filters that are available? I am	
16	just curious if there was any plans to use those	
17	or maybe commit to those?	
18	It's my understanding they can reduce	
19	odor, airborne contaminants by up to 80 percent.	
20	It is really an honest question if	
21	this is going to go forward, and obviously I am	
22	trying to stop it, but if it does go forward, is	
23	there any leeway with you or VMC to maybe work	
24	with the neighbors if that is what it takes to get	

		Page 112
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?	

		Page 113
1	MR. RIPPEL: I would I would	C
2	we would	
3	TIM SMITH: I am not I am not	
4	trying to be combative. It is an honest	
5	question.	
6	MR. RIPPEL: You are asking me to	
7	commit to that plan?	
8	TIM SMITH: Not commit, just be open	
9	to the idea.	
10	MR. RIPPEL: I am open to	
11	investigate any odor control option.	
12	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: We need one	
13	person to speak at a time for the court reporter.	
14	TIM SMITH: I apologize.	
15	On your family farm do you have a	
16	family farm in the area?	
17	MR. RIPPEL: Yes, my folks.	
18	TIM SMITH: Again just wondering,	
19	wouldn't that have been an easier option than	
20	this?	
21	MR. RIPPEL: Actually we looked at	
22	it, but we had actually three different sites	
23	that we were considering, and actually Mike's	
24	site actually met the siting criteria the best.	

		Page 114
1	TIM SMITH: Okay. Mr. Wagner, the	
2	zoning slide you had up, I agree with you it is	
3	an agricultural area, and that's why I guess we	
4	should prefer agriculture over residential	
5	concerns is what you were driving at with that	
6	slide. It also mentioned manure, getting rid of	
7	the waste, doing that in a reasonable way.	
8	If it was discovered that the soil	
9	around the area that you guys want to put this	
10	manure was not the best soil for that as	
11	recommended let's say by the EPA and is soil that	
12	you probably shouldn't be putting manure on, would	
13	that maybe change your guys' outlook on this?	
14	MR. WAGNER: We have to do a Manure	
15	Management Plan and soil tests and that will be	
16	part of the plan.	
17	TIM SMITH: Okay. And if it shows	
18	that you really shouldn't be using the soil	
19	around the farms for manure, would that change?	
20	MR. WAGNER: There are requirements	
21	in that Manure Management Plan as far as	
22	setbacks, and it will be looked at in the Manure	
23	Management Plan.	
24	TIM SMITH: Would it dissuade you,	

		Page 115
1	Mr. Rippel, if you knew that 80 to 90 percent of	-
2	the land in the area wasn't the best for this	
3	type of application?	
4	Would you reconsider the site	
5	possibly?	
6	MR. RIPPEL: We can only apply	
7	nutrient to the land that would be able to take	
8	it. That's all designed through the Manure	
9	Management Plan.	
10	TIM SMITH: Okay. I just had one	
11	last question about the 4,000 PSI concrete that	
12	was a requirement in the building construction.	
13	Something along those lines.	
14	I was wondering if you could explain	
15	that? Something about being certified by the	
16	manufacturer.	
17	MR. WAGNER: That 4,000 PSI is	
18	compressive strength of concrete at 28 days.	
19	Basically if you were to test that, take a	
20	cylinder and break the cylinder and cause it to	
21	fail at 28 days and see what the strength is.	
22	There is a certification form that is	
23	required by Illinois Department of Agriculture	
24	that each load that is coming to the site meets	

		Page 116
1	that criteria.	
2	TIM SMITH: Who does that test?	
3	MR. WAGNER: It is required by the	
4	manufacturer or the concrete plant or the	
5	concrete someone has to sign off on it that is	
6	certifying it.	
7	TIM SMITH: For Mr. Rippel, is your	
8	family involved in producing this concrete or	
9	delivering this concrete to the facility?	
10	MR. RIPPEL: We are working with two	
11	to three different builders working on estimates,	
12	and that has not been determined yet.	
13	TIM SMITH: But it is possible?	
14	MR. RIPPEL: It is possible that	
15	concrete could all concrete is going to come	
16	from the area no matter what happens.	
17	TIM SMITH: But it is possible your	
18	family might be certifying the concrete for a	
19	facility that you are going to manage?	
20	MR. RIPPEL: That hasn't been	
21	determined. Depends on which builder we go with.	
22	TIM SMITH: Thank you.	
23	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Let me ask a	
24	question here. We have I see at least three	

		Page 117
1	people up here to ask questions.	C
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	

		Page 118
1	final drawings yet.	
2	STACIE JAMES: Is there a ditch to	
3	the east that you will be utilizing?	
4	MR. WAGNER: To the lower right you	
5	can see the waterway.	
6	STACIE JAMES: So you will be	
7	basically rounding the storm water around the	
8	facility so it doesn't go through it?	
9	MR. WAGNER: Correct.	
10	STACIE JAMES: Okay. You mentioned	
11	your drain tubing. Can you describe relative to	
12	the floor of each building or the bottom of each	
13	pit where that will be laid?	
14	MR. WAGNER: It will be flush with	
15	the bottom of the footing.	
16	STACIE JAMES: That's the bottom of	
17	the pit?	
18	MR. WAGNER: Correct.	
19	AUDIENCE MEMBER: Just the	
20	perimeter, not the bottom?	
21	STACIE JAMES: What are your plans	
22	for location for discharging your perimeter	
23	drainage?	
24	MR. WAGNER: I guess we haven't	

		Page 119
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?	

		Page 120
1	STACIE JAMES: How do you know	
2	whether there is tile within 50 feet of your	
3	facility?	
4	MR. WAGNER: We have as built	
5	drawings and where the tile was installed. So we	
6	actually have more information than we do on most	
7	facilities.	
8	STACIE JAMES: Does that include	
9	historical tile?	
10	MR. WAGNER: I don't know. I would	
11	have to look at it.	
12	STACIE JAMES: If you look at the	
13	building on the far west side, can you tell me	
14	how many feet that is from the grass waterway?	
15	MR. WAGNER: I couldn't tell you off	
16	the top of my head. I know it is greater than	
17	50.	
18	STACIE JAMES: Does the landowner	
19	own a different site that is not located between	
20	two grass waterways where you could perhaps place	
21	this building instead?	
22	MR. RIPPEL: Yes, we looked at those	
23	sites, and this is the site that met the eight	
24	site criteria the best.	

		Page 121
1	STACIE JAMES: What is your	_
2	estimated total volume of waste produced	
3	annually?	
4	Earlier you gave a figure for sows,	
5	but can you give an estimated total volume for the	
6	facility annually?	
7	MR. RIPPEL: Yes. 5 gallons per sow	
8	produced per day. That would be approximately	
9	10 million gallons a year.	
10	STACIE JAMES: So in addition there	
11	will be waste from the gilts and from piglets?	
12	MR. RIPPEL: That is total. When I	
13	say 6 gallon or 5 gallons produced per	
14	inventory sow, that accounts for all inventoried	
15	animals. That accounts for all animals on the	
16	farm; baby pigs up to adults. When you equate	
17	that to 180 gallons of wastewater produced per	
18	person in town, that's a stark comparison.	
19	STACIE JAMES: How much acreage do	
20	you have of land application minus the required	
21	setbacks?	
22	MR. RIPPEL: Repeat that.	
23	STACIE JAMES: How much land acreage	
24	do you have for application of waste minus the	

		Page 122
1	required setbacks?	C
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	

		Page 123
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 looking at the internet	
24	since I first found out about this a couple of	

		Page 124
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	

		Page 125
1	be a little different than what the floodplain	1 uge 123
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.	

		Page 126
1	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Mr. Foote,	
2	do you have another question?	
3	JOHN FOOTE: Yes, I do.	
4	So you don't really have an answer	
5	for that. I guess that's not a question. It is	
6	just how did they get it and can they look at it	
7	again I guess?	
8	All right. Let's get down to things	
9	that personally affect me and questions I have for	
10	Dr. Rippel.	
11	I understand we are going to have	
12	this is a one truck possibly to me, possibly	
13	bringing bugs or disease from other pig farms,	
14	which they wouldn't go to visit if you	
15	delivered the hogs to a farm and you come back,	
16	you mentioned that you bring it back and you bake	
17	the truck to kill the bugs that are in it, so you	
18	are obviously concerned about that. When these	
19	trucks go by my farm where I do have hogs and I am	
20	within 3800 feet of the facility, I don't have the	
21	bio securities that you are trying to implement.	
22	And that is a good thing that you do have them,	
23	but I guess I am thinking in terms of not only	
24	inside the truck but the waste that the truck	

		Page 127
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.	

	Page 1	28
1	JOHN FOOTE: Okay. I understand	
2	that, but I also understand that I am living	
3	right there.	
4	You want to trade houses?	
5	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Mr. Foote,	
6	this is a question and answer session now. We	
7	will have oral testimony after this.	
8	JOHN FOOTE: Okay. I'll stop with	
9	my testimony.	
10	I want to know what the answers to	
11	the questions are. Is that okay?	
12	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Could you	
13	step up to the microphone, please?	
14	JOHN FOOTE: I thought maybe	
15	somebody turned it off. Maybe turned it down. I	
16	don't blame them.	
17	As I said, I thank Dr. Rippel for	
18	letting me come out. While we were out there I	
19	have to admit that I did observe, and we talked	
20	about it a little bit, the manure being applied as	
21	being injected. And we went out to the site, and	
22	we were kind of running out of time, and a point	
23	which I talked with him about was going up and	
24	down hills. We went to one place where they were	

Page 129 doing just that, going up the hill. And as I was 1 watching -- we did not get out of the car but he 3 did permit me the benefit to watch what was going on. And when it was going up the hill, the manure 5 that was coming out was, as water normally does, was running down the hill inside the trench. But 6 at the bottom of the hill it was kind of running out on the plain, on the flat. 8 9 My question is, what is being done to 10 address that kind of a thing and how often does that happen? 11 12 MR. RIPPEL: That really is a good 13 question, John. Unfortunately we had to rush at 14 the end of our visit last week and I wasn't able 15 to get out -- when I drove further down that road 16 I was where I could see the applicator turn 17 around and go back up that hill that you 18 observed. And what happens is when they turn 19 around, the pump doesn't shut off but you raise 20 the applicator bar, backs up, turns around and 21 drops it again. So what you were seeing at the 2.2 end was actually what was being applied on 23 ground. We come back within 24 hours and 24 incorporate that into the end rows.

		Page 130
1	JOHN FOOTE: That makes me feel	1 4 5 1 3 0
2	good.	
3	One other question and I am going to	
4	stop here.	
5	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Make it a	
6	short question, please.	
7	JOHN FOOTE: I'll try.	
8	I asked about how much ground Mike	
9	had. You said there is various ways it can go.	
10	One of the ways I am assuming he is going to put	
11	it on is with tankers. When he takes that tanker	
12	to some of his south most farms, I assume he'll	
13	use that in the 1200 acres, he will go on a road	
14	which goes right through the middle of my farm in	
15	two places, east/west, north/south. What do we do	
16	to prevent the material that he's hauling from	
17	coming out of the tanker as you were just kind of	
18	describing or falling off of it?	
19	MR. RIPPEL: You know, I guess we	
20	haven't like I said, we haven't determined or	
21	hired an applicator yet so I can't say if it is	
22	going to be through a tether or through tanks.	
23	Through a tether we can apply up to two miles	
24	away from the farm.	

		Page 131
1	JOHN FOOTE: Okay. I appreciate	C
2	your diligent patience. Thank you.	
3	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Next.	
4	JAN BAKEWELL: My name is Jan	
5	Bakewell, B-A-K-E-W-E-L-L. I am Evans Township	
6	Supervisor. And I am going to discuss with you,	
7	ask you questions about the traffic flow.	
8	I ask first of all.	
9	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Could you	
10	speak up a little bit?	
11	JAN BAKEWELL: Surely. Have you	
12	budgeted items for the use of the road during the	
13	construction and during the use of the facility?	
14	MR. RIPPEL: Budgeted items for	
15	what?	
16	JAN BAKEWELL: For helping maintain	
17	the road that I feel will probably be	
18	deteriorating because of the additional use.	
19	MR. RIPPEL: I will answer that in	
20	two parts.	
21	One, we are in current discussions	
22	with the Evans and which is in Marshall	
23	County and then Hope Township, which is in	
24	LaSalle County, road commissioners. The second	

		Page 132
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.	

		Page 133
1	JAN BAKEWELL: Okay. My second	
2	question relates to the application or transfer	
3	of the liquified manure from the farm site to	
4	other fields.	
5	I understand that the plan includes a	
6	hose like a fireman's hose across the top of this	
7	roadway into the other fields. And to me that is	
8	a safety issue for our traffic, of our everyday	
9	traffic for our citizens.	
10	MR. RIPPEL: We will have to obey	
11	again the rules and regulations of the county.	
12	And typically we do not place the dragline over	
13	roads. We will run it through, under the road	
14	through culverts or specialized made culverts for	
15	that purpose.	
16	JAN BAKEWELL: If there is not a	
17	culvert will the facility pay for the culvert to	
18	be placed under the road?	
19	MR. RIPPEL: If we have to get to	
20	that field we will have to construct a passageway	
21	some way.	
22	JAN BAKEWELL: Okay. Thank you for	
23	your time.	
24	WIL HAYES: My name is Wil Hayes,	

1	H-A-Y-E-S. I am with the Marshall County Health	Page 134
2	Department. I have one question I think for the	
3	Department of Agriculture.	
4	There have been a lot of talk about	
5	Sandy Creek and concerns about potential	
6	contamination of the water, of the creek. Is	
7	there any baseline data on what the water quality	
8	of the creek is currently that you guys are aware	
9	of?	
10	MR. GOETSCH: I don't have any	
11	specific knowledge. I am sure that there would	
12	be some kind of baseline information that IEPA	
13	might have.	
14	WIL HAYES: Okay. Just curious.	
15	BRAD LINDSTROM: My name is Brad	
16	Lindstrom, L-I-N-D-S-T-R-O-M.	
17	I have got a couple of questions for	
18	just about everybody here.	
19	Mr. Wagner, how many permits like	
20	this have you helped VMC or I guess Sandy Creek	
21	Lane prepare?	
22	MR. WAGNER: This is my first.	
23	BRAD LINDSTROM: Your first for	
24	them?	

		Page 135
1	MR. WAGNER: Correct.	
2	BRAD LINDSTROM: Are you in any way	
3	a partner with the firm or anything?	
4	MR. WAGNER: No. I work for myself.	
5	BRAD LINDSTROM: Where did you gain	
6	so much knowledge about hog production?	
7	MR. WAGNER: I have been permitting	
8	livestock facilities since 2005.	
9	BRAD LINDSTROM: You help other	
10	livestock facilities get their permits as well?	
11	MR. WAGNER: Correct.	
12	BRAD LINDSTROM: Okay. This is for	
13	Dr. Rippel.	
14	Did you have Nicolas, did you have	
15	three sites that you went to Wagner and said	
16	here's my three sites, take a look at them and see	
17	which would suit best for these criteria, or did	
18	you go to him and say find me three sites that are	
19	the best?	
20	I mean did you do it one way or the	
21	other?	
22	MR. RIPPEL: No, it wasn't it	
23	goes back to those relationships you have. You	
24	see what sites you have to work with and then,	

		Page 136
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	

		Page 137
1	with that	S
2	MR. RIPPEL: Like everything in	
3	life, it's about relationships and that's how you	
4	find your opportunities.	
5	BRAD LINDSTROM: Okay. Thank you.	
6	For the Illinois Department of Agriculture. I am	
7	also on the Marshall County Board. We have all	
8	of the information you have about the deadline we	
9	are expected to vote on this permit?	
10	MR. GOETSCH: Yes. You will have	
11	everything that we have at that time. The	
12	transcript, you will have the transcript. You	
13	will have all of the written testimony, you will	
14	have if they are if we do get any	
15	additional information from the applicants, you	
16	will have all of that.	
17	BRAD LINDSTROM: For instance, right	
18	now we are still waiting for the Manure	
19	Management Plan for one, yes?	
20	MR. GOETSCH: Right.	
21	BRAD LINDSTROM: Would we be privy	
22	to that before we make our decision?	
23	MR. GOETSCH: It depends on whether	
24	it is presented to us or not. The statute in	

		Page 138
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.	
5	BRAD LINDSTROM: So we may well not	
6	have that?	
7	MR. GOETSCH: Right. The	
8	construction plans and specs, we will not be able	
9	to make a final determination without those.	
10	Now, whether or not the facility turns those in	
11	during this time period that you have, that's	
12	really kind of up to them.	
13	BRAD LINDSTROM: Okay. Nicolas,	
14	would you Mr. Wagner, would you be responsible	
15	for that? Would you send those to both of us	
16	simultaneously or you direct them to the Illinois	
17	Department of Agriculture and they send them to	
18	us?	
19	MR. WAGNER: I would submit to	
20	Illinois Department of Agriculture.	
21	BRAD LINDSTROM: Do you think you	
22	would have that done by our May 30 deadline so we	
23	could have those to look at as well? Is that	
24	likely, unlikely?	

	Page 139
1	MR. RIPPEL: Unlikely. Like
2	everything else with this project, everything you
3	do costs money. So until we know we have a
4	permit we really see no need to get past the
5	permitting process to submit that application.
6	BRAD LINDSTROM: What I respect
7	if you don't want to indicate how much it costs.
8	What does this permitting process cost VMC,
9	ballpark?
10	MR. RIPPEL: So this is we are
11	talking about \$25,000.
12	BRAD LINDSTROM: A lot of money.
13	Another question for Mr. Goetsch.
14	So when we get to this level where
15	you are at the permit hearing, how many of these
16	do you approve as the Department of Agriculture in
17	last five years, just a ballpark percentage?
18	MR. GOETSCH: I guess one of the
19	criticisms I will answer it this way. One of
20	the criticisms we always have, we always hear at
21	these hearings is the Department of Agriculture
22	has never denied an application. And the reason
23	why people can say that is they either don't
24	understand the process or they just like to say

		Page 140
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	

		Page 141
1	question I live just a short distance away.	-
2	Maybe mile, mile and a half. Would I be able to	
3	build a large hog facility with this permit being	
4	in place there if I were theoretically wanting to	
5	do that?	
6	Is there a buffer that does the	
7	Department take that into account at all?	
8	MR. GOETSCH: No, there is not a	
9	setback distance from another livestock facility.	
10	BRAD LINDSTROM: Nicolas, would your	
11	firm maybe encourage someone not to put something	
12	so close, or how would you react to that?	
13	MR. RIPPEL: You know, just to use	
14	an example, last year we had one of our managed	
15	sow farms, one mile south of there 36,000	
16	wean/finish basically went up. It actually	
17	was they approached us and told us what they	
18	were going to do. We said, you know, same as	
19	what you asked, several people asked, is there	
20	another site you can put that? If not, well, you	
21	know, okay, good luck to you.	
22	BRAD LINDSTROM: Do you provide	
23	services to any finishing barns at all or are you	
24	mainly in the gestation area?	

		Page 142
1	MR. RIPPEL: So VMC Management	
2	manages 12 sow farms, but as a veterinarian I	
3	work with both sow farms and finishing farms.	
4	BRAD LINDSTROM: You don't have any	
5	currently in Marshall County that you are looking	
6	to site, financing barns?	
7	MR. RIPPEL: No, we do not.	
8	BRAD LINDSTROM: Is it likely	
9	because of transportation costs those will	
10	eventually pop up in that	
11	MR. RIPPEL: It is our wish they	
12	would not because that's what one of the	
13	attractive aspects of this location is. Except	
14	now John just totally crushed my bubble.	
15	BRAD LINDSTROM: You mentioned when	
16	we first met in February and you came down to the	
17	Zoning Department how you wanted to be relatively	
18	far away from other operations. That's why I	
19	ask.	
20	You might be a little disappointed in	
21	if someone moved in relatively close but there is	
22	nothing	
23	MR. RIPPEL: So seven years ago when	
24	we built a farm, within the next three years we	

		Page 143
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, H-O-F-M-A-N-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.	

	Page 14-
1	MR. RIPPEL: It would be about
2	30,000-gallon a day.
3	PATRICIA HOFMANN: Okay. Times
4	seven?
5	MR. RIPPEL: Yes.
6	PATRICIA HOFMANN: In the vicinity
7	of 200,000?
8	MR. RIPPEL: Yes.
9	PATRICIA HOFMANN: I am worried
10	about the fact that this will cause the water
11	tables to lower and then our well to go dry. We
12	are nowhere near being able to afford to drill a
13	new well. So how has this happened in other
14	areas where you have built facilities, similar
15	facilities?
16	MR. RIPPEL: What has happened?
17	PATRICIA HOFMANN: People's wells
18	going dry in area.
19	MR. RIPPEL: No. At this farm we
20	will be drilling a well that is 1700 feet deep.
21	PATRICIA HOFMANN: I know, but won't
22	that lower the water tables?
23	MR. RIPPEL: In speaking with Clint
24	Dendridge, is who we are working with, he has

		Page 145
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	G-0-L-D-E-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	

	Page 146
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, D-U-R-H-A-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

		Page 147
1	between pours you have to put the same sort of	
2	product between pours at construction joints and	
3	control joints. But if you are asking about	
4	tile, no there is not requirement to have tile	
5	underneath.	
6	MARK DURHAM: I am not talking about	
7	the perimeter where the wall meets the slab. I	
8	am talking about the slab itself. Any type of	
9	prevention from this contamination leaching in	
10	the ground below the pit?	
11	MR. WAGNER: You have similar water	
12	stopping in the slab pour.	
13	MARK DURHAM: Like a rubberized	
14	MR. WAGNER: Like I showed it on the	
15	picture. There are multiple products that can be	
16	used. It is a water stop, whether it is PVC	
17	or	
18	MARK DURHAM: But that is just	
19	around the perimeter where the slab meets the	
20	wall?	
21	MR. WAGNER: No, it's in the slab as	
22	well.	
23	MARK DURHAM: So the entire slab is	
24	going to be protected?	

		Page 148
1	MR. WAGNER: At control and	
2	construction joints.	
3	MARK DURHAM: Not the entire slab?	
4	There is no bladder?	
5	MR. WAGNER: Correct. No secondary	
6	containment, if that is what you are asking.	
7	MARK DURHAM: Thank you.	
8	MR. GOETSCH: But I think let me	
9	just add to that. The whole idea of water stops	
10	is either in cold joints where you stop a pour,	
11	you place this material embedded into the one	
12	wall, for example, and then when you pour the	
13	next wall it extends into that, into that new	
14	pour, so that you actually have a seal in the	
15	concrete. In addition to that, the construction	
16	standards require on the floor at specific spots	
17	where you want the floor to crack. In fact you	
18	will actually cut the floor in places so that it	
19	will crack. And prior to pouring the concrete	
20	you have put this material in that location so	
21	that you can ensure that if you do have cracking	
22	it cracks where you have this additional control,	
23	this additional seal.	
24	I don't know if that was clear. But	

		Page 149
1	I guess my point is there are a significant amount	
2	of protections included in the design standards	
3	that we require be included in the construction	
4	plans before they can be approved by the	
5	Department.	
6	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Okay.	
7	DEBBIE CLANIN: My name is Debbie	
8	Clanin, C-L-A-N-I-N.	
9	My question is to Mr. Wagner.	
10	Will barriers be built near the creek	
11	to protect it from spills or leakage? Because I	
12	live on Sandy Creek.	
13	MR. WAGNER: No, that's not our	
14	intent.	
15	DEBBIE CLANIN: No.	
16	Mr. Rippel, are you a member of the	
17	American Association of Swine Veterinarians?	
18	MR. RIPPEL: Correct.	
19	DEBBIE CLANIN: Okay. Do you	
20	consider the American Association of Swine	
21	Veterinarians to be an authoritative source of	
22	information concerning medical issues related to	
23	pigs?	
24	MR. RIPPEL: Yes.	

	Page 150
1	DEBBIE CLANIN: Okay. How much of
2	this meat will be exported?
3	MR. RIPPEL: Specifically from the
4	farm I couldn't state, but as an industry about
5	25 percent.
6	DEBBIE CLANIN: How much? Sorry.
7	MR. RIPPEL: 25 percent.
8	DEBBIE CLANIN: Okay. Thank you.
9	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Are there
10	other questions?
11	DEBBIE CLANIN: My name is Carol
12	Stoens, S-T-O-E-N-S.
13	These facilities may be well built
14	but everything deteriorates over time. What
15	happens when it meets its life expectancy?
16	MR. RIPPEL: Well, I'll use an
17	example. Our oldest managed farm was built in
18	1971. 1750 sows and it is still in production
19	today. We have had other farms that have met
20	their life expectancy for various reasons. And
21	not necessarily facility reasons. And those are
22	sold off or deconstructed.
23	DEBBIE CLANIN: What happens if it
24	closes for any reason?

		Page 151
1	MR. RIPPEL: I guess I am not sure	C
2	how to what your specific question is?	
3	DEBBIE CLANIN: Do you just walk	
4	away and the building remains?	
5	MR. RIPPEL: So, so it is quite a	
6	bit of an investment to build one of those farms,	
7	so you are not just going to walk away. There is	
8	going to be value in the farm even if you say the	
9	worst case scenario and it goes belly up, that	
10	facility has value and somebody else would come	
11	in there and operate it.	
12	DEBBIE CLANIN: Thank you.	
13	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Any other	
14	questions?	
15	MAX RUNKOA: I think these guys	
16	deserve applause to stay through it.	
17	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Sir, do you	
18	have a question?	
19	MAX RUNKOA: Yes. My name is	
20	R-U-N-K-O-A, first name is Max.	
21	I appreciate all of the facts and so	
22	forth, but you folks that was an awful long	
23	explanation about the engineering. But you know,	
24	it's probably you guys got any thoughts you	

		Page 152
1	have got to would care to share with us about	
2	the conditions of this up to now?	
3	I suppose I am improper to even think	
4	of asking you that.	
5	I wondered if you have a top of the	
6	head feeling, but I won't ask it.	
7	I will say to Mr. Wagner that I would	
8	like to this is not a question, it is an	
9	observation.	
10	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: We need	
11	questions right now, please.	
12	MAX RUNKOA: Observations won't	
13	work?	
14	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: You can give	
15	your observations and your opinions at the oral	
16	testimony phase.	
17	MAX RUNKOA: Well, I'll be passed	
18	out by then.	
19	Real quick, I'll call it a question.	
20	You know, I had a feeling this is the first time	
21	you have ever done this, you have got no working	
22	experience at all. I want to remind you plans are	
23	great, but there is a lot of farmers here that	
24	planned to have the corn in the ground by now.	

		Page 153
1	Not so. Exxon Mobile was planning	C
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	

Page 154 your name. We ask that you step forward to the 1 podium. I will ask you or you can give your name and spell your last name for the court reporter. I will then swear you in and you can provide your 5 testimony. You will have three minutes to speak, 6 and you will be subject to questioning afterwards. First on the list is Leslie Smith. (Sworn in.) 10 HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Okay. 11 LESLIE SMITH: My name is Leslie 12 Smith, S-M-I-T-H. I live approximately one mile 13 north of the proposed facility. My husband and I 14 have owned a small business since 1998. And when 15 we were married in 2005 I started working solely 16 for our company. 17 We have done a majority of our work from our home and it is primarily a home based 18 business. 19 20 We moved into our house outside of 21 Lostant in 2009. Both of our families have a long 2.2 history of generations being raised in the area, 23 including myself. We decided it was a great place 24 to raise our boys. Our home has been in my

		Page 155
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	Page 156
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	

		Page 157
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.)	

		Page 158
1	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Okay.	
2	MIKE PHILLIPS: My name is Mike	
3	Phillips, P-H-I-L-L-I-P-S. I am a local	
4	resident. I am a Licensed Professional Geologist	
5	in the State of Illinois and I have over 25 years	
6	experience working as an environmental geologist	
7	for USEPA and Illinois State Geological Survey	
8	and currently Illinois Valley Community College.	
9	I am a member of the community group	
10	that has organized an opposition to this project	
11	and I am one of the principal authors of the	
12	document we will be submitting later.	
13	The proposed livestock management	
14	facility does not meet the eight criteria set	
15	forth in the State of Illinois Livestock	
16	Management Act.	
17	The site lacks a Waste Management	
18	Plan and the stated waste manager has no	
19	experience transporting or applying the material.	
20	In addition, the NRCS soil survey	
21	indicates that in a 5500 acre area, including and	
22	around his farm in LaSalle and Marshall Counties,	
23	87.2 percent of the soils have the lowest possible	
24	rating for the application of manure.	

		Page 159
1	The buildings will obstruct or be	
2	adjacent to the surface water base and will likely	
3	result in pollution of Sandy Creek.	
4	The intermittent streams within and	
5	adjacent to the site are subject to frequent	
6	flooding.	
7	One building will actually block an	
8	intermittent stream.	
9	During a rainstorm the volume of	
10	water in the obstructed stream could easily	
11	overwhelm the diversion system, resulting in	
12	overflow and the contamination of Sandy Creek.	
13	The proposed project is slated to be	
14	built on unstable ground which will lead to the	
15	cracking of foundations. The waste storage	
16	portion of the building will be partially below	
17	the water table and will intersect the shallow	
18	aquifer resulting in the leakage of animal waste	
19	into the aquifer we use for drinking water and	
20	also into Sandy Creek.	
21	The site is located on the Rutland	
22	silty clay two to five percent slope's eroded.	
23	The soil has the worst possible rating for	
24	construction of small commercial buildings as well	

	Page 160
1	as for dwelling in basements. Construction on the
2	slope only enhances the risk of cracked
3	foundations and the loss of containment.
4	The geological material under the
5	site is glacial till, which contains sand and
6	gravel. And this is the primary aquifer for local
7	residential wells and the lenses connected to
8	Sandy Creek.
9	These can easily be missed by the
10	borings that were done in preparation for this
11	site.
12	This site does not meet Illinois
13	EPA's best management practices. It is not
14	located as far as possible from surface water
15	bodies and will not be able to divert rainwater
16	away from where it could be contamination.
17	They do not have sufficient land
18	available for manure application.
19	It appears that Sandy Creek Lane has
20	not taken the time to review the most basic
21	publicly available resources, all of which show
22	that this location is not suitable for
23	construction of this facility or for the land
24	application of animal waste.

		Page 161
1	On Monday of this week they were	
2	drilling test borings. How can we trust them to	
3	understand the environmental impacts of this	
4	project, let alone how to protect the local	
5	environment.	
6	This lack of attention to detail	
7	clearly shows the project is lacking attentive	
8	management before ground has even been broken.	
9	Sandy Creek Lane, LLC will have a	
10	very difficult, if not impossible, task preventing	
11	significant amounts of hog waste from leaving the	
12	site via surface water and groundwater.	
13	The hog waste will affect local	
14	drinking water and impact Sandy Creek and local	
15	ecosystems, downstream residents and visitors and	
16	towns including Henry and Lacon.	
17	Because of the poor site conditions,	
18	this is not a question of if a toxic release will	
19	happen but when it will happen.	
20	Thank you.	
21	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Are there	
22	questions for this witness?	
23	AUDIENCE MEMBER: You are a	
24	geologist?	

		Page 162
1	MIKE PHILLIPS: I am.	
2	AUDIENCE MEMBER: Have you built	
3	buildings before?	
4	MIKE PHILLIPS: I have been involved	
5	in construction. Mostly hazardous waste sites	
6	though, cleaning up the messes other people have	
7	made.	
8	AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Well, you	
9	are saying that the ground is not stable enough	
10	to support the building?	
11	MIKE PHILLIPS: That's correct.	
12	AUDIENCE MEMBER: How do you know	
13	that for sure? When we build buildings we come	
14	in with machines, compactors, we set bases,	
15	footings, things like that that make the	
16	structure solid.	
17	MIKE PHILLIPS: I have been on many	
18	hazardous waste sites where the buildings were	
19	constructed to standard, failed and released	
20	toxic substances into the environment, so I am	
21	very familiar with the result of construction	
22	practices. And no matter how good you build the	
23	building, if the foundational material is not	
24	supportive, and the USEPA soil survey indicates	

		Page 163
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?	

		Page 164
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	

		Page 165
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	

		Page 166
1	four times a year?	C
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	

		Page 167
1	backed up, had raw sewage in their homes, that	1 480 107
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	

		Page 168
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.	

		Page 169
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	

		Page 170
1	buildings.	
2	DAWN RIPPEL: Are they agricultural?	
3	MIKE PHILLIPS: No. Let me make	
4	something very clear here. Just because it is	
5	pig waste	
6	DAWN RIPPEL: Sir, I just asked a	
7	question.	
8	You do not have experience with	
9	agricultural buildings?	
10	MIKE PHILLIPS: I actually do have	
11	experience. I have investigated agricultural	
12	sites.	
13	DAWN RIPPEL: Were they hazardous?	
14	MIKE PHILLIPS: Yes.	
15	DAWN RIPPEL: Where were they?	
16	MIKE PHILLIPS: They were located	
17	there has been a couple in towns around Illinois	
18	where people	
19	DAWN RIPPEL: In Marshall County?	
20	MIKE PHILLIPS: Not in Marshall	
21	County.	
22	DAWN RIPPEL: In LaSalle County?	
23	MIKE PHILLIPS: Probably the closest	
24	one was about halfway between here and Decatur.	

		Page 171
1	DAWN RIPPEL: Okay. Do you have any	
2	experience with swine?	
3	MIKE PHILLIPS: I do not have any	
4	experience with swine.	
5	DAWN RIPPEL: Do you have any	
6	experience with agriculture?	
7	MIKE PHILLIPS: Yes. I grew up on a	
8	farm. My family had livestock.	
9	DAWN RIPPEL: What kind of	
10	livestock?	
11	MIKE PHILLIPS: Cattle.	
12	DAWN RIPPEL: How many?	
13	MIKE PHILLIPS: You know, I don't	
14	know. I didn't count them.	
15	DAWN RIPPEL: Are they currently	
16	farming?	
17	Doesn't matter. Don't answer that.	
18	MR. GENTERT: Mike, you are a	
19	geologist my name is Charles Gentert,	
20	G-E-N-T-E-R-T.	
21	You are a geologist. What impact	
22	during the fault we have earthquakes, tremors	
23	around here frequently and that. Is there a	
24	possibility of let's say a four plus earthquake	

		Page 172
1	around here that could break that foundation?	
2	MIKE PHILLIPS: Well, there was a	
3	4.0 earthquake up by Troy Grove, but to my	
4	knowledge it didn't damage any structures in the	
5	area.	
6	MIKE GENTERT: What happens to like	
7	in the 1800s let's hope we don't get that	
8	MIKE PHILLIPS: It is very difficult	
9	to say.	
10	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Are there	
11	other questions?	
12	KATE HAGENBUCH: Kate Hagenbuch,	
13	H-A-G-E-N-B-U-C-H.	
14	I am curious if this is a largely	
15	agricultural area for cropland generally?	
16	MIKE PHILLIPS: As far as I can	
17	tell.	
18	KATE HAGENBUCH: So there are	
19	farmers in the area that apply commercial	
20	fertilizer?	
21	MIKE PHILLIPS: There are.	
22	KATE HAGENBUCH: They apply what in	
23	those fertilizers? What are the chemicals?	
24	MIKE PHILLIPS: Generally apply	

		Page 173
1	ammonia around us.	
2	KATE HAGENBUCH: In the fertilizer,	
3	not in the ammonia?	
4	MIKE PHILLIPS: Probably some	
5	phosphates.	
6	KATE HAGENBUCH: Phosphates and	
7	potassium generally?	
8	MIKE PHILLIPS: Yes.	
9	KATE HAGENBUCH: So it is okay to	
10	put it on in commercial fertilizer but not okay	
11	to put that on in hog manure?	
12	MIKE PHILLIPS: Hog manure and	
13	commercial fertilizer are completely different.	
14	KATE HAGENBUCH: Actually, they are	
15	not. They are base elements.	
16	MIKE PHILLIPS: So hog waste to	
17	my understanding hog waste also contains	
18	essentially whatever the hog pooped out. So that	
19	includes bacteria. Is there bacteria in	
20	commercial fertilizer?	
21	KATE HAGENBUCH: It is a chemical	
22	foundation, but what you are getting out of it	
23	for the nutrients in the soil is potassium and	
24	phosphorous and a little bit of nitrogen. So	

		Page 174
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-O-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	

Page 175 glaciers. Now, generally speaking, that material 1 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 5 that clay material there are long, narrow lenses 6 of sand and gravel that were left behind by melt water in the glacier. So the trick for any well driller is 9 to hit one of those sand and gravel lenses. 10 they tend to not be very wide. Not more than 10, 15, 20 feet wide at the most. The streams were 11 12 not that big. They tend to be 2, 3, 4 feet deep. 13 But again, not very wide. So it is pretty easy to drill in a grid pattern and miss some of those. 14 As I am sure some people around here 15 16 who live in the country can attest, when you hire 17 a driller to come out on your site, they drill a hole, they don't get water, no water. Move over a 18 19 little bit, they drill a hole, they don't get 20 water. About the third one, third or forth one, 21 they might hit water. This is on a small piece of 22 property. 23 So if you do a grid pattern there is 24 a very easy opportunity to miss one of those sand

		Page 176
1	and gravel lenses.	-
2	And the other problem with that is if	
3	they intersect it with their basement and that	
4	basement leaks, you might not know until it gets	
5	to somebody's well. It is very difficult to see.	
6	NIC ANDERSON: My question was how	
7	many soil samples do you need out there to be	
8	MIKE PHILLIPS: I would be more	
9	comfortable I don't know how many they did and	
10	how far apart they were, but I think that you	
11	know, if you want to talk later about exactly	
12	what kind of grid pattern would be appropriate, I	
13	would be happy to do that.	
14	NIC ANDERSON: I am asking the	
15	question, if they could meet that grid pattern	
16	that you propose, or we come up with a solution,	
17	you will agree that this farm should go forward?	
18	MIKE PHILLIPS: I wouldn't agree it	
19	should go forward. I would say that	
20	NIC ANDERSON: So it doesn't matter	
21	if there is soil sample, that doesn't solve the	
22	problem?	
23	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: One person	
24	talking at a time.	

		Page 177
1	MIKE PHILLIPS: I did not say that.	Tage 177
2	What I said was that's one of a number of	
3	concerns that I had.	
4	So if they could alleviate that one	
5	concern, then they might be one step closer.	
6	NIC ANDERSON: But you can't tell me	
7	with your expertise how many we should have out	
8	there to come up with a solution?	
9	MIKE PHILLIPS: I would have to look	
10	at the grid pattern, the size of the building,	
11	and we would have to think about how far apart we	
12	need to be to ensure we have the best opportunity	
13	to	
14	NIC ANDERSON: If you were provided	
15	that assurance you would write off on that	
16	portion of the facility?	
17	MIKE PHILLIPS: I might.	
18	NIC ANDERSON: You can't	
19	MIKE PHILLIPS: I mean	
20	NIC ANDERSON: If they give you what	
21	you ask excuse me.	
22	MIKE PHILLIPS: Hang on. He drilled	
23	15 feet. I am not going to guarantee I am going	
24	to sign off on something before I see what the	

		Page 178
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?	

		Page 179
1	MIKE PHILLIPS: He said they were	
2	5 feet below what he said was he drilled holes	
3	15 feet deep, and that because his buildings was	
4	going to have a 10 feet basement the bottom of	
5	the drill was going to be 5 feet below the bottom	
6	of the basement.	
7	NIC ANDERSON: Do you understand the	
8	Act requires that you	
9	MIKE PHILLIPS: I do understand.	
10	NIC ANDERSON: test below, 5 feet	
11	below the planned bottom of the facility?	
12	MIKE PHILLIPS: I understand.	
13	NIC ANDERSON: If he does not meet	
14	that with his soil boings the Department of	
15	Agriculture makes the decision that you have not	
16	met that requirement, correct?	
17	MIKE PHILLIPS: I understand. I	
18	have not seen any of his borings because he just	
19	did them.	
20	NIC ANDERSON: So my question to you	
21	is if we meet your soil borings schematic of what	
22	you like to your standard that you are satisfied	
23	with, you would support that phase of the	
24	project?	

		Page 180
1	MIKE PHILLIPS: Probably.	1 age 100
2	NIC ANDERSON: Okay. You can't	
3	definitively say if we meet your requirements	
4	that you would	
5	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: We need to	
6	move on.	
7	MIKE PHILLIPS: I probably would.	
8	That's as good as it gets.	
9	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: We have got	
10	a long ways to go here. We need to move along.	
11	Next up. Thank you. Next up is Lisa	
12	Phillips.	
13	(Sworn in.)	
14	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Okay.	
15	LISA PHILLIPS: Lisa Phillips,	
16	P-H-I-L-I-P-S.	
17	My name is Lisa Phillips. I just	
18	said that. I am a local resident and member of	
19	the community group that has organized an	
20	opposition to the Sandy Creek Lane project.	
21	I am also one of the principal	
22	authors of the detailed list of concerns.	
23	I am currently a pH.D. at Illinois	
24	State University. And for the past three years my	

		Page 181
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	

		Page 182
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	

		Page 183
1	word reasonable. And I quote. It does not	
2	include a definition.	
3	This flexible term was used in	
4	recognition of the fact that what is reasonable	
5	can vary from community to community and will	
6	change over time as technology and our	
7	understanding of the impact of odor on people	
8	improves.	
9	Because we now know that exposure to	
10	the multitude of chemical odorants emitted by a	
11	hog factory damages human health, diminishes	
12	quality of life, lowers property values and	
13	impacts our ability to think clearly, what was	
14	reasonable ten years ago, five years ago, and even	
15	last year, is no longer considered reasonable	
16	today.	
17	It is unreasonable to expose local	
18	residents to the negative health impacts of the	
19	Sandy Creek Lane facility, especially considering	
20	that it will be sited in a valley with no mature	
21	trees to buffer noxious odors and no plan to	
22	address either manure that will be used as	
23	fertilizer or the air pollution the facility	
24	creates.	

		Page 184
1	While our definition of reasonable	
2	may not agree with what is proposed by Sandy Creek	
3	Lane, the applicants do not currently live near	
4	the site, nor is there any indication that they	
5	plan to do so.	
6	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Ma'am, you	
7	need to conclude.	
8	LISA PHILLIPS: The local residents	
9	have a clear stake at health in their health	
10	and well-being.	
11	In addition, resent research and	
12	court rulings clearly indicate that the standard	
13	of what is reasonable with respect to odors are	
14	becoming more restrictive. It has long been	
15	accepted in this country that the right to throw a	
16	punch ends at the tip of someone else's nose.	
17	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Miss	
18	Phillips	
19	LISA PHILLIPS: The rights of Sandy	
20	Creek, LLC to throw their smells ends at their	
21	property line.	
22	Thank you for your attention.	
23	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Are there	
24	questions of this witness?	

		Page 185
1	KATE HAGENBUCH: Kate Hagenbuch.	
2	Couple of questions.	
3	I just want to make sure I heard	
4	correctly. My ears aren't working very well.	
5	Could you restate again what you said	
6	about the children being in that environment, it	
7	affects their learning abilities, things like	
8	that?	
9	LISA PHILLIPS: That's correct.	
10	KATE HAGENBUCH: It also affects an	
11	adults ability to learn and focus?	
12	LISA PHILLIPS: Yes.	
13	KATE HAGENBUCH: Okay. So I live on	
14	a farm which is considered a CAFO, which is a	
15	fourth generation family farm owned and operated	
16	solely by family members. My husband grew up on	
17	that farm and has a degree. I also have a	
18	Master's degree. And my children are excelling	
19	in their classes.	
20	So do you continue to tell me that I	
21	am a bad parent for raising my children in that	
22	property, on that	
23	LISA PHILLIPS: No, that has	
24	nothing	

		Page 186
1	KATE HAGENBUCH: On that property,	
2	however, we are doing just fine?	
3	LISA PHILLIPS: It is your property.	
4	What I said was the right for	
5	somebody's smell ends at their property line.	
6	Okay.	
7	And also, Rachel Heard, she is a	
8	cognitive neurobiologist who works specifically	
9	with children and the impact on learning in	
10	classroom environments. This is empirical data.	
11	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Are there	
12	other questions? All right. Thank you very	
13	much.	
14	Next up we have Morgan Phillips.	
15	LISA PHILLIPS: They are going	
16	together.	
17	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Morgan and	
18	Ethan.	
19	Raise your right hand please and be	
20	sworn in.	
21	(Sworn in.)	
22	MORGAN PHILLIPS: Morgan Phillips,	
23	P-H-I-L-I-P-S.	
24	ETHAN PHILLIPS: Ethan Phillips,	

		Page 187
1	P-H-I-L-I-P-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	

		Page 188
1	we wouldn't want to go outside, not to mention	
2	the chemicals that might make it into the air.	
3	MORGAN PHILLIPS: The days it didn't	
4	smell bad we wouldn't be able to bike because of	
5	increased traffic on East Third Road. What if	
6	you got run over, our parents would say. They	
7	would be right, sadly. Zipping downhill	
8	crouching over the bike handles to see who can go	
9	fastest is gone.	
10	ETHAN PHILLIPS: Even if we could go	
11	biking, it wouldn't be worth it because our	
12	favorite part of the ride wouldn't be fun any	
13	more.	
14	MORGAN PHILLIPS: Sandy Creek	
15	wouldn't be a prime destination for us. It would	
16	be full of poor swine fecal matter, or to put it	
17	simply, pig poop.	
18	All the crawdads, frogs, fish would	
19	be gone. (Inaudible) We wouldn't get to see the	
20	great blue herring again or the blue birds that	
21	greet us when we stop.	
22	ETHAN PHILLIPS: There are so many	
23	blue birds we can hardly believe it.	
24	MORGAN PHILLIPS: One time we even	

		Page 189
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	

	Page 190
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, K-I-N-Z-E-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

		Page 191
1	Illinois. I have 38 years of experience in	-
2	highway and heavy construction, the last 15 of	
3	which have been as County Engineer for LaSalle	
4	County.	
5	I am here tonight to present	
6	testimony on behalf of Hope Township. The Hope	
7	Township Highway Commissioner, Ron Judd, asked me	
8	to work up some costs regarding road improvements	
9	that may be necessary to accommodate construction	
10	and traffic from the proposed improvement.	
11	I have done that in using standard	
12	motor fuel tax policy and truck tax policy for	
13	Illinois.	
14	Using the data available, the	
15	existing roadway is 19 feet wide. It consists of	
16	about 8 inches of gravel, tar and chip surface,	
17	and carries about 200 vehicles a day.	
18	Using the standard traffic	
19	distributions by motor fuel taxi I have calculated	
20	that we will need to add about 4 or 5 inches of	
21	asphalt to the roadway to accommodate the truck	
22	and traffic, the traffic loading.	
23	Part of that consideration is not	
24	just the structure capacity of the road but the	

		Page 192
1	geometry of the road. It is 19 feet wide. Policy	
2	will say you need at least a 22-foot wide surface.	
3	So we are talking about a three foot widening for	
4	the entire roadway, at least in Hope Township.	
5	Additionally, we need to make	
6	improvements at the intersection of Illinois Route	
7	18 and East Third Road for the truck turning	
8	movements.	
9	The estimated cost for the	
10	improvements to the mile road in Hope Township is	
11	\$480,000.	
12	Hope Township's motor fuel tax last	
13	year was \$55,000. And regular motor fuel tax	
14	allocation was \$55,000. Ron will spend	
15	approximately \$70,000 this year just on seal	
16	coating, which is routine maintenance operation to	
17	keep his 43 miles plus of the roadways in good	
18	condition.	
19	So he'll need to add to his motor	
20	fuel tax money some of his own property tax moneys	
21	to be able to meet that obligation for that 70,000	
22	just in routine maintenance.	
23	The road that is out there right now	
24	is in very good condition, and I believe, you	

		Page 193
1	know, in order to keep it in good condition you	ruge 173
2	are going to have to add to the roadway.	
3	We have done in LaSalle County for	
4	other developers such as wind farms, pipelines,	
5	distribution facilities, we ask the development to	
6	enter into a road use agreement. Those include	
7	improvements to the roads that they intend to use	
8	to increase their load bearing capacity as well as	
9	the geometry to accommodate the traffic they will	
10	put on road. And they also include escrow and	
11	bonding as well as insurance to cover any damage	
12	that they do to the road.	
13	The beauty is if they don't do any	
14	damage to the road there is no need to use their	
15	escrow account.	
16	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Thank you.	
17	Are there questions for this witness?	
18	MR. GOETSCH: You mentioned road use	
19	agreements.	
20	LARRY KINZER: Yes.	
21	MR. GOETSCH: How many road use	
22	agreements do you have with other farmers in your	
23	county?	
24	LARRY KINZER: I don't have any road	

		Page 194
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	

		Page 195
1	County in Hope Township?	C
2	LARRY KINZER: The County itself	
3	does not have any jurisdiction. It is a Township	
4	road. And Ron Judd is the road authority for the	
5	Township. The road belongs to Hope Township Road	
6	District. And I believe currently he does put a	
7	90 day spring posting on the road.	
8	I can't speak for Ron what criteria	
9	he uses to determine when he should post and	
10	unpost the road, but certainly the law says you	
11	can do a 90 day spring posting.	
12	MR. GENTERT: Okay. And it can be	
13	enforced?	
14	LARRY KINZER: Yes.	
15	MR. GENTERT: Thank you.	
16	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other	
17	questions?	
18	Thank you very much.	
19	Next up we have Tim Smith.	
20	TIM SMITH: I can enter mine	
21	written. It is basically a study for Department	
22	of Agriculture.	
23	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Okay. We	
24	will take that in the next session here. Thank	

		Page 196
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	

		Page 197
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	

		Page 198
1	area from runoff and leaching.	
2	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Are there	
3	questions for this witness?	
4	DAVID JONES: David Jones,	
5	J-O-N-E-S.	
6	Does the state set standards for how	
7	much manure is allowed to be applied for different	
8	soil types?	
9	STACIE JAMES: They base it mainly	
10	on the soil test phosphorous.	
11	DAVID JONES: Okay. Does somebody	
12	regulate that, come out and check to see if it is	
13	over applied or anything?	
14	STACIE JAMES: Usually not.	
15	DAVID JONES: Thanks.	
16	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other	
17	questions?	
18	ANDREW ONCKEN: Yes. Andrew Oncken,	
19	O-N-C-K-E-N.	
20	For the applicator, who is going to	
21	put the chemical, the manure on, about how much,	
22	where it was going to be, so forth, have you asked	
23	that question before this tonight?	
24	STACIE JAMES: I'm not sure how I	

		Page 199
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	

		Page 200
1	that by?	
2	STACIE JAMES: They do not have to	
3	have that plan until after they are in operation.	
4	However, with this, what the County Board is	
5	charged with is evaluating these siting criteria.	
6	And according again to siting criteria number	
7	five, by the time that the County Board is making	
8	their decision they need to decide whether the	
9	owner/operator has submitted plans that will	
10	minimize runoff and leaching.	
11	So this presentation today is a	
12	chance for the applicant to present information on	
13	what those waste management plans, without being a	
14	real plan yet, will be.	
15	TIM MAIERS: Again, I guess I'll ask	
16	again if there is manure, typically you test the	
17	manure for the nitrogen phosphorous in the manure	
18	and match it to the crop needs to determine if	
19	you are going to need a nitrogen or phosphorous	
20	rate base.	
21	Do you understand that?	
22	You would test the manure to	
23	understand what NPK you have in it to match what	
24	the crop is going to need, correct?	

		Page 201
1	STACIE JAMES: Yes.	
2	TIM MAIERS: So if there is no	
3	manure, how do you I think part of the rule is	
4	once it is commences operation you have manure	
5	and you do the test and you have an idea how to	
6	draw up that plan, correct?	
7	STACIE JAMES: There is also	
8	published standard out there that give estimates	
9	of what that waste will be.	
10	TIM MAIERS: But again, that	
11	information is estimate, or would you rather have	
12	the actual information on the farm?	
13	STACIE JAMES: Once the facility is	
14	in operation, of course, they should be using	
15	those estimates. But to have an initial idea	
16	whether or not there is enough land area to	
17	actually run a facility, you know, properly apply	
18	the waste properly, you have to make an estimate	
19	if you have enough acreage from the getgo.	
20	TIM MAIERS: Have you ever written a	
21	Manure Management Plan before?	
22	STACIE JAMES: No.	
23	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other	
24	questions?	

	Page 202
1	I see none.
2	Thank you very much.
3	Next we have John Foote. You pass?
4	JOHN FOOTE: Yes, I pass.
5	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Rick
6	Heating. Is Rick Heating here? I do not see
7	him.
8	Steve Clanin.
9	(Sworn in.)
10	STEVE CLANIN: My name is Steve
11	Clanin. My wife and I live right near Cumberland
12	Cemetery.
13	I would like to just briefly speak to
14	criteria number three and eight of the Facilities
15	Act, incompatibility with surrounding areas'
16	character, community growth, economic development
17	and recreation.
18	As to the character of the area, our
19	area is a community of homes, family farms with
20	traditional livestock production, recreational
21	properties and historic areas. Industrial hog
22	production just does not fit the character of this
23	area.
24	Regarding community growth and

		Page 203
1	economic development, in the past seven years six	
2	new homes, two cabins were built in the immediate	
3	valley. The potential for more growth in area is	
4	great but I would assume unlikely after Sandy	
5	Creek, LLC is built.	
6	I don't imagine anybody goes to a	
7	realtor and says, hey, can you find me a piece of	
8	property near a hog factory?	
9	Just to the north and east within one	
10	and a half miles of Sandy Creek, LLC four	
11	homeowners have recently made significant	
12	investments in their properties, major restoration	
13	projects and construction of additional	
14	outbuildings. Why would anybody invest more money	
15	in their homes when they know their property	
16	values are going to plumate?	
17	The Kilpatrick study suggests a 50 to	
18	90 percent reduction for nearby residents and a	
19	6.6 decline in values as far as 3 miles away.	
20	Within the 3 miles from Sandy Creek Lane, LLC to	
21	Meridian Road there are 25 homes, four	
22	recreational properties and the two cabins I	
23	mentioned. All of those values will decline.	
24	Within the 2 miles upstream and to	

		Page 204
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	

		Page 205
1	conclude.	
2	STEVE CLANIN: Just a second,	
3	please.	
4	Choosing this site in the vastness of	
5	Illinois shows a total lack of judgment on the	
6	part of the out of state developers of the Sandy	
7	Creek Lane, Limited Liability Corporation.	
8	Thank you.	
9	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Are there	
10	questions for this witness?	
11	NIC ANDERSON: Nic Anderson, N-I-C,	
12	A-N-D-E-R-S-O-N.	
13	Mr. Clanin, are you in the same group	
14	as Mr. Phillips?	
15	STEVE CLANIN: Yes.	
16	NIC ANDERSON: I am not sure if you	
17	come together he talked about soil	
18	productivity fit to build, fit to put soil	
19	borings and those types of things. We had a	
20	discussion about that. So the building and	
21	expansions you are talking about on Sandy Creek,	
22	are those building sites acceptable to build on	
23	or have you looked into that on I know there	
24	is a lot of houses there. Do they meet those	

	Page 20	6
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	

		Page 207
1	80 acres. Nobody farms 160 acres.	
2	STEVE CLANIN: That's not my problem	
3	how many acres you farm. 20,000 pigs under a	
4	roof is a factory.	
5	PETE ROOD: No. In 1979 a unit was	
6	built by Amboy. We heard the same thing, going	
7	to pollute the water and everything else. I have	
8	been managing that unit since 1982. We have	
9	neighbors in front of us. And probably ten, 15	
10	years ago they built a new log cabin house	
11	overlooking my lagoon. They said if the farm	
12	smelled we wouldn't have done that. They put a	
13	barn in the front yard near the road, put the new	
14	house near the back of the property which is near	
15	my lagoon. I am	
16	STEVE CLANIN: Where are they today?	
17	PETE ROOD: They have retired and	
18	moved to Missouri. No, they wanted to move to	
19	Missouri. That was their goal. He was they	
20	moved down there. That was fine. No, we	
21	never	
22	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Do you have	
23	a question?	
24	PETE ROOD: I just wondered what	

		Page 208
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?	

		Page 209
1	GERALD HUNTER: Gerald Hunter,	C
2	H-U-N-T-E-R. I am the attorney for Hope	
3	Township. I have been asked to appear here on	
4	behalf of Hope Township by the Supervisor and by	
5	Ron Judd, the Road Commissioner.	
6	You have heard Mr. Kinzer said, and I	
7	incorporate all of that into my representations	
8	with the additional matter that we do not believe	
9	that Section 7 of the Act has been complied with.	
10	We believe that the construction of	
11	this facility most likely is going to damage our	
12	road.	
13	However, what we have done is we have	
14	talked to Mr. Kinzer and he has informed us that	
15	the jurisdictional determination of what a road	
16	limitation will be is something that the County	
17	will do. And they are going to assess that. But	
18	it is assessed at the request of the Township.	
19	So we are just letting the proposed	
20	construction people know that what is going to	
21	happen is we are going to we are going to	
22	conduct an investigation and research to determine	
23	what the road limits are. And most likely we are	
24	going to impose a 12 month road limit and of	

		Page 210
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	

		Page 211
1	what the roads and routes were.	
2	Now that we have got those things we	
3	are going to conduct the study. And it is for not	
4	only the construction and the completion but the	
5	preconstruction. When we estimate what those	
6	concrete facilities will or concrete trucks	
7	will be producing, we think it is going to do	
8	substantial damage to our road. But again, if it	
9	turns out to be that the testing will show that we	
10	are wrong, so be it.	
11	One of the things that we have	
12	proposed is what Mr. Kinzer said, and that was	
13	participation by the developers into paying for	
14	the cost of improvement of the road.	
15	If that was to happen then all that	
16	we are concerned about is protection of the road.	
17	So again, that's where we are at.	
18	That's what we are going to do. And what we would	
19	do is expect to enforce that through police	
20	action.	
21	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Are there	
22	questions for this witness? Yes.	
23	DAVID JONES: David Jones. As far	
24	as the construction end of it, I can see where	

		Page 212
1	there could be some limitations put in, but with	
2	these hogs being shipped out of state would that	
3	not be considered interstate commerce?	
4	GERALD HUNTER: You know, you might	
5	be right. But we have jurisdiction on our road,	
6	and if that is going to be construed to be	
7	interstate commerce I think we are going to have	
8	a lot of help in defending that action.	
9	DAVID JONES: I drive a truck for	
10	the State of Illinois and pursuant to interstate	
11	commerce there has to be 5 miles of access	
12	provided for pickups and deliveries.	
13	Would Illinois law trump your post on	
14	the road?	
15	GERALD HUNTER: I don't think so. I	
16	think that we have jurisdiction to limit the	
17	construction of this is nothing more than a	
18	gravel road that has got oil and chip on it.	
19	DAVID JONES: I understand that. I	
20	live in the area.	
21	GERALD HUNTER: That's going to be	
22	destroyed by	
23	DAVID JONES: What's the difference	
24	of an 80,000-pound truck hauling hogs than a load	

		Page 213
1	of corn going out that happens daily out there?	
2	GERALD HUNTER: You know, all I can	
3	tell you is we are going to do the study, and if	
4	the study shows that the road cannot take the	
5	weight, we are going to impose restrictions.	
6	That's all I can tell you.	
7	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other	
8	questions?	
9	LEVI HARMS: Levi Harms, H-A-R-M-S.	
10	So if you are going to enforce this	
11	for this construction, are you going to enforce	
12	this for farmers with this huge machinery or let	
13	them slide by, considering the Road Commissioner	
14	is also a farmer?	
15	DAVID JONES: We are going to we	
16	are going to put in a weight restriction that	
17	will be compatible with the road.	
18	LEVI HARMS: All right. So	
19	GERALD HUNTER: And we will enforce	
20	it.	
21	LEVI HARMS: Is it going to be	
22	enforced for farm machinery? Construction	
23	machinery for the Township, do they have to abide	
24	by this?	

		Page 214
1	GERALD HUNTER: I would hope so.	
2	LEVI HARMS: Thank you.	
3	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Someone	
4	else?	
5	JIM RIPPEL: Jim Rippel,	
6	R-I-P-P-E-L.	
7	So if this finds out or if this turns	
8	out to be where restrictions on the road, all	
9	of the residents in your township will have to	
10	find a way of getting the garbage to town?	
11	GERALD HUNTER: You know, there are	
12	exclusion and exceptions, Jim.	
13	JIM RIPPEL: Exceptions, exceptions,	
14	okay, that's fine.	
15	So nobody is going to be able to	
16	construct a house anywhere in your township,	
17	because trucks have to bring in the equipment to	
18	construct the house?	
19	GERALD HUNTER: You know, the thing	
20	we are doing right now is I don't even know	
21	what the limit is going to be.	
22	JIM RIPPEL: I mean if you are going	
23	to enforce it just for this, you have got to	
24	enforce it for everybody. You can't just pick	

		Page 215
1	one person.	-
2	GERALD HUNTER: If that's what	
3	happens, it will be the Board's decision.	
4	JIM RIPPEL: Okay.	
5	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other	
6	questions?	
7	Down here in front.	
8	LESLIE SMITH: I am a Hope Township	
9	resident. I live on Third Road. This is kind of	
10	a question/comment. I for the first time today	
11	got my garbage in six weeks. So I understand	
12	that the roads do get posted and no one can come	
13	down. Some winters I have gone up to almost	
14	eight weeks without garbage service.	
15	So I am asking you, I guess since I	
16	have to ask a question, will this be enforced even	
17	if the road limits aren't changed and they are the	
18	way they are now, I don't get garbage for up to	
19	eight weeks, even if it doesn't change, is that	
20	road still going to be posted for eight weeks	
21	whether it is changed or not?	
22	GERALD HUNTER: Again, that's a Road	
23	Commissioner's decision. I don't think that it	
24	would change.	

	Page 216
1	LESLIE SMITH: So they would
2	still it would still be posted?
3	GERALD HUNTER: It would still be
4	posted I am thinking.
5	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other
6	questions?
7	Thank you very much.
8	Next is John Lauf.
9	(Sworn in.)
10	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: State your
11	name.
12	JOHN LAUF: My name is John Lauf. I
13	am the Evans Township Road Commissioner, and I am
14	talking to you tonight because 2800 Road is my
15	township road which provides access to the
16	proposed site.
17	I want to read to you a cost estimate
18	for improvements required for 2800 Road to meet an
19	all weather 80,000 pound road suitable for the
20	proposed Sandy Creek Lane, LLC livestock
21	operation.
22	The current road has a published
23	average daily traffic count of 200 vehicles. Per
24	the typical IDOT distribution it is assumed that

		Page 217
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	

Page 218 the cost of these improvements to be \$483,000. 1 Based on the existing conditions, which are similar for the two townships, and based on the fact that the traffic will be the same, I 5 recommend that the same improvements for 6 Marshall -- for Evans Township. The estimated cost of my seven-tenths of a mile road would be 8 \$330,000. Marshall County Engineering will be 10 happy to assist us in further negotiations on a road use agreement with the developer. 11 12 As time progresses we will want to 13 make sure that the road is videotaped and assessed 14 prior to construction. As you know, all loads 15 will have to -- will need to comply with the legal weight limits and obtain permits for overweight 16 loads. 17 18 Our request of Ron Judd and myself is 19 that it gets implemented into the paperwork and 20 permits that 2800 Road from Route 18 and south to 21 the proposed site be updated to an 80,000 pound 2.2 road. 23 We also request that in the 24 construction permit there be an agreement that

		Page 219
1	they agree to maintain the same route from Route	
2	18 south to the site and back out with all	
3	construction vehicles.	
4	Thank you.	
5	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Are there	
6	questions of this witness?	
7	AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you. The	
8	applicant's map had two avenues of egress.	
9	Closest being from there through your	
10	seven-tenths of a mile, through the mile of Hope	
11	Township to Highway 18.	
12	Now they also said they can possibly	
13	go south from their place down 2800 to Highway 17	
14	and gain access to interstate service there.	
15	If they decide to do that, will there	
16	have to be a new bridge crossing Sandy Creek right	
17	below Evans Road? And if they are going to do	
18	that then you are going to have a whole lot more	
19	than seven-tenths of a mile to take care of here.	
20	And there is just going to be a whole lot more	
21	work in the distance and the material and the	
22	cost.	
23	Has that been taken into anybody's	
24	consideration?	

		Page 220
1	JOHN LAUF: That's a good question.	
2	I wasn't aware of an additional route or an	
3	alternative route until today when I met down at	
4	the Marshall County Highway Engineering	
5	Department. Back in February the only route that	
6	was discussed was off of Route 18 coming a mile	
7	across Hope Township and seven-tenths of a mile	
8	onto Evans Township. I was never aware of an	
9	alternative route until today.	
10	AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you very	
11	much.	
12	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other	
13	questions?	
14	STEVE CLANIN: Steve Clanin.	
15	John, just on that same note, would	
16	you then recommend if they are going to propose	
17	two routes that they also bring from Sandy Creek	
18	Lane, LLC south all of the way to 17 up to the	
19	is it 80,000 pound road?	
20	JOHN LAUF: Correct.	
21	STEVE CLANIN: Thank you.	
22	JOHN LAUF: Our whole difference in	
23	the usage of that road from farm use currently	
24	right now to this use and that's the reason we	

Page 221 use the terms all weather road -- is the farmers 1 today apply -- Mike Salz, who is on the site that 3 the proposed farm is going to go, has been a very good steward. Calls me regularly whenever he's 5 going to haul grain off of his farm and discusses it. In the summertime if he is going to haul 6 grain off of his farm he tells me what farm he's 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 They report to me when they are going to do something. We are able to address the problem so 14 15 it doesn't become a problem. But the hog situation, the difference 16 17 with that as regard what I have now, is the hogs have to eat every day. So the feed trucks are 18 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 2.2 are currently using the roads. 23 STEVE CLANIN: So if they want to go 24 south it will be an all weather road?

		Page 222
1	JOHN LAUF: That's what we would	
2	request if that was to happen.	
3	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other	
4	questions?	
5	LEVI HARMS: Levi Harms, H-A-R-M-S.	
6	So how do you know these feed trucks	
7	and the livestock haulers aren't compliant with	
8	the road laws like you say the farmers are?	
9	JOHN LAUF: Well, what we are	
10	stating is the all weather road, the farmers	
11	currently comply with our February 1st to May 1st	
12	restrictions. A lot of times the weather turns	
13	nice, we lift them early. It happened this year.	
14	We lifted our road limits last Monday.	
15	So my statement on compliance is we	
16	work together during those periods. When we have	
17	got a good hard freeze and they want to haul out	
18	for a day or two, we allow it. We work back and	
19	forth. It is a lot of communication.	
20	LEVI HARMS: So are you saying	
21	Mr. Rippel wanting to raise pigs is not a farm?	
22	JOHN LAUF: I am not saying that. I	
23	am saying Mr. Rippel wants to use this road every	
24	day of the year. This road was not designed for	

		Page 223
1	that weight every day of the year.	1 age 223
2	LEVI HARMS: All right. Thank you.	
3	JOHN LAUF: Yes, sir.	
4	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Any other	
5	questions?	
6	Thank you very much.	
7	JOHN LAUF: Would you like the	
8	presentation of those, of what we would request	
9	for the inches of pavement and also the widening	
10	of the road? Would you want that fact sheet?	
11	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Yes, you can	
12	enter that as evidence in the written testimony	
13	phase.	
14	JOHN LAUF: Thank you.	
15	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Next we have	
16	Jamie Casolari.	
17	(Sworn in.)	
18	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: State your	
19	name.	
20	JAMIE CASOLARI: My name is Jamie	
21	Casolari, C-A-S-O-L-A-R-I.	
22	My family and I are lifelong	
23	residents and have lived approximately a mile and	
24	a half from the proposed factory site for the last	

Page 224 30 years. My children are the fifth generation to 1 live in my family home. It is my belief that the 3 CAFO proposal falls short of meeting the criteria set forth in point eight. 5 Our home, which has been in my family since the early 1930s, was renovated in 2010/2011 6 at a cost of approximately \$80,000. Our property will be greatly devalued if this proposed hog 8 9 factory is built. That will be a huge economic 10 blow to my family. In addition to extensive home 11 12 remodel, we have spent the past 30 years designing 13 an outdoor living space with stencils, concrete sidewalks and patio, water features, extensive 14 15 raised gardens, multiple flagstone patios, 16 capstone gardens, outdoor furniture, fire pits, 17 hundreds of perennials, plants, hostas, bulbs. We have also planted more than 100 trees and shrubs 18 19 on our property. 20 We are currently working towards 21 certification for being a backyard wildlife 2.2 habitat and butterfly sanctuary. Outdoor living 23 and gardening is our passion. Our life revolves 24 around the time spent in the fresh open air which

		Page 225
1	we currently enjoy sunup to sundown three seasons	
2	of the year.	
3	My gardens have had many visitors	
4	over the years. Some from as far away as Mexico	
5	City. They always remark upon the peaceful	
6	atmosphere and many flower gardens I have.	
7	Our quality of life here will be	
8	forever tainted if this proposal is granted.	
9	The outdoor living space that we have	
10	devoted 30 years to creating will be unusable to	
11	the extent it will permeate this area.	
12	We also enjoy the great many benefits	
13	of living within walking distance of the Big	
14	Sandy.	
15	In fact, I took second place in a	
16	national contest sponsored by Shell with a photo	
17	taken at Sandy Creek Valley.	
18	When I married and moved to my great	
19	grandparent's farmhouse, my husband and I rode our	
20	bikes on the country roads to the Sandy on a daily	
21	basis. I have pushed my babies in strollers and	
22	pulled them in wagons to enjoy the creek. We	
23	would walk to teach them in a fun manner to be	
24	good stewards of the earth.	

		Page 226
1	We instilled in them the necessity of	
2	preserving the pristine environment for future	
3	generations.	
4	As my kids grew they continued to	
5	ride their bikes down to the creek to meet	
6	friends, fish, skip rocks and enjoy clean beauty	
7	and serenity.	
8	The township road in connecting Evans	
9	Road, which forms what we call Sandy Creek Valley,	
10	is where my husband and I most often ride our	
11	motorcycle. We go out for our nightly drive, drop	
12	in on neighbors and just enjoy the simple	
13	pleasures of living in the country near gorgeous	
14	tranquil farms, the creek, Cumberland Cemetery,	
15	clean fresh air, abundant wildlife and bright	
16	starry skis best enjoyed around the fire pit.	
17	There is a caring family life	
18	relationship here that was irrefutably proven as	
19	we pulled together, rebuilt and repaired after the	
20	2010 tornado, 2013 flooding, and this winter's	
21	many blizzards.	
22	This LLC CAFO in no way represents or	
23	protects our way of life in this mixed use farming	
24	community. We are a neighborhood and a close knit	

	Page 227
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?

		Page 228
1	KATE HAGENBUCH: Kate Hagenbuch,	C
2	H-A-G-E-N-B-U-C-H.	
3	Short and sweet, if this was a farm	
4	family farm from this community, born and	
5	raised in here for several generations, would we	
6	all be sitting here tonight?	
7	JAMIE CASOLARI: I was under the	
8	impression that Nicolas Rippel was from this area	
9	for several generations.	
10	I don't have a problem with him being	
11	from the area.	
12	I have a problem with the type of	
13	facility. The area that it's going to be	
14	located I live directly across Route 18. Where	
15	we walk and exercise and ride our bikes and stuff	
16	would be right going in front of the factory.	
17	I don't in my opinion, I don't	
18	want to do that.	
19	I am entitled to my opinion just like	
20	you are entitled to yours.	
21	KATE HAGENBUCH: I appreciate that.	
22	Yeah, I guess I am asking if it was,	
23	say, this other gentleman I forget his name off	
24	the top of my head whose property the farm was	

		Page 229
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.	

	Pa	ige 230
1	Thank you.	
2	Next we have Rick Casolari.	
3	(Sworn in.)	
4	RICK CASOLARI: My name is Rick	
5	Casolari. I too live about a mile and a half	
6	from this proposed facility. I understand that	
7	one of the factors considered by the Department	
8	of Agriculture is whether the construction of the	
9	new livestock facility is consistent with the	
10	existing community growth and economic	
11	development.	
12	Factory farms like proposed Sandy	
13	Creek facility decrease the market values of	
14	nearby properties.	
15	As a result, the proposed Sandy Creek	
16	facility is contrary to the existent community	
17	growth and economic development.	
18	I would now like to present some	
19	examples in support of my remarks.	
20	First in DeWitt County, Illinois the	
21	Board of Review lowered the property assessments	
22	for more than 20 people that live within 2 miles	
23	of the factory farm's 7400 sows.	
24	Property value assessments were	

		Page 231
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	

		Page 232
1	decreased by 12 and a half percent for homes	C
2	within one-quarter of a mile of a hog farm.	
3	In a property tax assessment case it	
4	is proper for the local County's Supervisor of	
5	Assessments and Board of Review to take into	
6	account information about the assessments of	
7	similar properties near factory farms.	
8	The time limits imposed tonight only	
9	give me time to present these three examples, but	
10	these three examples from Illinois demonstrate	
11	that hog facilities like the proposed Sandy Creek	
12	facility decrease the values of neighboring	
13	properties.	
14	The Sandy Creek hog facility is not	
15	consistent with community growth in and out of the	
16	community. It is the opposite. It will have a	
17	negative effect on the economic development in	
18	Evans Township in Marshall County.	
19	Thank you for your consideration.	
20	I do have three articles marked as	
21	exhibits to present as part of the record of this	
22	proceeding.	
23	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Thank you.	
24	Are there questions for this witness?	

		Page 233
1	I see none.	
2	Thank you.	
3	Next up we have Isaiah Roberts.	
4	(Sworn in.)	
5	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: State your	
6	name.	
7	ISAIAH ROBERTS: Isaiah Roberts.	
8	First name I-S-A-I-A-H, last name Roberts,	
9	R-O-B-E-R-T-S.	
10	Well, to start off, I am a resident	
11	of Sandy Creek. I have lived there my entire	
12	life. So have my siblings and family. With all	
13	of my siblings taking off, one of the reasons why	
14	we still own the house is one day I would like to	
15	purchase it and plan to live there and raise my	
16	own family and I have loved it.	
17	The eighth factor relevant to the	
18	Department of Agriculture is the one that I would	
19	like to talk to you about tonight, which has to	
20	deal with the community growth and economic	
21	development.	
22	The reason I bring this up is in	
23	light of the current epidemic of Porcine Epidemic	
24	Diarrhea, PED, which if you remember was mentioned	

		Page 234
1	earlier in some conversations.	
2	The things that I bring forth are in	
3	a recent report issued in just November of 2013 by	
4	the American Association of Swine Veterinarians it	
5	reports that PED is a viral disease which quoting,	
6	"results in outbreaks of severe diarrhea,	
7	vomiting, high morbidity, often 100 percent, and	
8	variable mortality as high as 100 percent in young	
9	pigs."	
10	The United States Department of	
11	Agriculture Center of Veterinary Biologists Notice	
12	Number 14-02 states that PEDV is the most serious	
13	in neonatal piglets where morbidity and mortality	
14	can be 80 to 100 percent.	
15	The United States DA confirmed PED in	
16	an Iowa swine herd on May 17, 2013. At least 211	
17	cases of PED been reported in Illinois.	
18	According to the American Association	
19	of Swine Veterinarians, the number of states	
20	reported to the National Animal Health Laboratory	
21	Network as having at least one confirmed case of	
22	PED now stands at 28.	
23	We are aware, however, that cases	
24	have also been diagnosed in Vermont and Virginia,	

		Page 235
1	bringing the actual state count to 30.	
2	This is an undate made on April 9,	
3	2014, reporting results for the week of March 30,	
4	2014.	
5	This means that a deadly and highly	
6	infectious virus has spread from one state in	
7	May of 2013 to 30 states by March of 2014. A	
8	period of less than just one year.	
9	With morbidity and mortality rates as	
10	high as 80 to 100 percent it means that almost all	
11	of the pigs at a facility can be killed by this	
12	virus.	
13	According to the American Association	
14	of Swine Veterinarians research has identified	
15	transportation and points of swine concentration	
16	to be the key sites of virus contamination. The	
17	American Association of Swine Veterinarians also	
18	maintains spreadsheet to highlight animal movement	
19	regulations implemented by some states relative to	
20	PED exposure.	
21	Information about Sandy Creek	
22	facility distributed by VMC states there will be	
23	two weaner pig deliveries a week and one cull sow	
24	delivery per week. This means there is continuous	

		Page 236
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	

		Page 237
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.	
6	MIKE HAAG: It only affects these	
7	facilities for about two weeks and then they go	
8	back to full production.	
9	ISAIAH ROBERTS: That's great.	
10	MIKE HAAG: It should not shut down	
11	a facility.	
12	ISAIAH ROBERTS: I didn't say that	
13	it will shut down. I do think it has an economic	
14	effect.	
15	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Questions?	
16	LEVI HARMS: Levi Harms, H-A-R-M-S.	
17	Do you realize you don't need these hogs coming	
18	into this area to get PEDV? You can have it on	
19	you right now.	
20	ISAIAH ROBERTS: Yes.	
21	LEVI HARMS: Just making sure you	
22	understood that.	
23	ISAIAH ROBERTS: Yes.	
24	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other	

		Page 238
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	D-U-R-H-A-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.	

		Page 239
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	

		Page 240
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.	

		Page 241
1	I am a longtime member of the	
2	Illinois Spawn Bass Alliance. We held our	
3	Illinois meeting first Illinois meeting fishing	
4	Big Sandy many years ago. Today our Illinois	
5	chapter has hundreds of members who oppose this	
6	hog factory.	
7	Thank you for your time.	
8	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Are there	
9	questions for this witness?	
10	MARK DURHAM: One more comment.	
11	Save our Sandy.	
12	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Thank you	
13	very much.	
14	Next up is Dennis Fitzgerald.	
15	DENNIS FITZGERALD: I am going to	
16	pass. I am not feeling well.	
17	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Okay. Thank	
18	you. Diane Fitzgerald.	
19	(Sworn in.)	
20	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: State your	
21	name.	
22	DIANE FITZGERALD: I am Diane	
23	Fitzgerald, F-I-T-Z-G-E-R-A-L-D. I'll try to	
24	keep this brief because we have been here a long	

		Page 242
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.	

		Page 243
1	I believe we are losing rural America	
2	as we know it and cherish it and as many of us	
3	remember it.	
4	I realize some of us here are not old	
5	enough to remember what it was like. For those of	
6	us that are older, could you imagine taking your	
7	children or your grandchildren to a facility as	
8	the proposed one is? I can't imagine. It is	
9	nothing like your grandparent's farm. It is no	
10	place for a child to build memories.	
11	I am not sure it would even be safe,	
12	so I kind of had some reservations about some of	
13	the pictures that were presented earlier with the	
14	children on this farm.	
15	I don't think we really addressed	
16	MRSA this evening and there are I don't have	
17	any statistics with me but it seems to be a	
18	current concern.	
19	I'll wrap this up. I think simply	
20	God in his infinite wisdom gifted each of you with	
21	a nose to help you safeguard yourself on a	
22	personal and basic level. It helps you to gauge	
23	what is probably safe and what is probably not.	
24	And I think we should follow our noses.	

		Page 244
1	I am sorry, I believe this proposed	
2	site is a factory and not a farm and I think it's	
3	inconsistent with the area and the quality of life	
4	we have come to know.	
5	Clean air and a clean, healthy	
6	environment should not be infringed upon.	
7	Thank you.	
8	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Questions	
9	for this witness? I see none.	
10	Thank you very much.	
11	Next we have Ellen Sinco.	
12	ELLEN SINCO: I am passing.	
13	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Ellen	
14	passes.	
15	Lois Steil.	
16	(Sworn in.)	
17	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: State and	
18	spell your name.	
19	LOIS STEIL: My name is Lois Steil,	
20	S-T-E-I-L. I reside at 2621 County Road 1250	
21	North, Magnolia.	
22	I have lived in the area for many	
23	years. I am concerned that flooding from Sandy	
24	Creek might have a negative effect on the proposed	

	Page	245
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	

		Page 246
1	name.	
2	JARED OLESEN: I'm Dr. Jared Olesen,	
3	O-L-E-S-E-N. I live in Tonica.	
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.	

		Page 247
1	Last year a study published in the	
2	Journal of American Medical Association found the	
3	highest likelihood of MRSA infection was found in	
4	population near fields where hog sewage was	
5	applied.	
6	In other words, the closer you are to	
7	hog slurry fields the more MRSA you see.	
8	As I understand it, pumping of hog	
9	sewage on the surrounding fields is precisely the	
10	plan here.	
11	In separate studies the Journal of	
12	the American Medical Association finds that	
13	airborne MRSA is yet another serious risk. It can	
14	get into the air in hospitals or it can be	
15	aerosolized from fields with slurry on them.	
16	Does this community really want the	
17	source of airborne MRSA near a cookie factory or	
18	ravioli factory?	
19	Resent studies find that over	
20	20 percent and up to 45 percent of farm workers	
21	are MRSA carriers. The rates of MRSA within one	
22	mile nearly triple.	
23	So when farm workers or nearby	
24	residents get MRSA where do you think they go? IV	

		Page 248
1	Hospital, Ottawa, Bloomington, Peoria.	
2	A 2010 study found MRSA is mainly	
3	spread in population centers by patients coming	
4	into contact with other patients in hospitals.	
5	It's how MRSA comes to town.	
6	You ask the promoters of these	
7	facilities about MRSA and they say we only use	
8	antibiotics when absolutely necessary or when we	
9	have a veterinarian on hand to manage the hog's	
10	health. We are at a point now where those efforts	
11	offer little help. The problem is that MRSA	
12	evolved in livestock, it jumped to humans, mutated	
13	there to spread more easily in the human	
14	population and then jumped back to livestock.	
15	This means the hogs are now getting it from nearby	
16	humans. The CAFOS act like amplifiers for the	
17	existing MRSA in the surrounding communities,	
18	making it more likely you will end up with a batch	
19	of sick workers or residents in your hospitals.	
20	We don't need an amplifier for deadly	
21	bacteria in our communities, and I strongly	
22	encourage the Board and Department to deny Sandy	
23	Creek Land Commission to operate here.	
24	I do have a document to submit.	

		Page 249
1	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Are there	
2	questions for this witness?	
3	DEB CLANIN: My name is Deb Clanin.	
4	You had mentioned you mentioned the two	
5	factories that we currently have here in Marshall	
6	County. Both factories, as we all know, employ a	
7	total of 800 people. With the air pollution,	
8	what will that do to these factories, to the food	
9	and the cookies that are produced at these	
10	factories?	
11	JARED OLESEN: I can't speak in	
12	certainties. I only speak to the increase of	
13	risk. I do know the risk is substantial.	
14	DEB CLANIN: Will this affect people	
15	with current health conditions that live out	
16	there?	
17	JARED OLESEN: MRSA is a	
18	particularly high risk for people with	
19	compromised immune systems.	
20	DEB CLANIN: Thank you.	
21	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other	
22	questions?	
23	JOSH MERDIAN: My name is Josh	
24	Merdian, M-E-R-D-I-A-N.	

	Page 250
1	Can you please tell us how many cases
2	of MRSA have transferred from livestock to humans?
3	JARED OLESEN: Have transferred from
4	livestock?
5	JOSH MERDIAN: Correct.
6	JARED OLESEN: The number? You want
7	a specific number?
8	JOSH MERDIAN: The number.
9	JARED OLESEN: Really?
10	JOSH MERDIAN: Yes.
11	DAWN RIPPEL: Are there documented
12	cases around here?
13	JARED OLESEN: Absolutely.
14	DAWN RIPPEL: How many?
15	JARED OLESEN: You want a specific
16	number of cases?
17	DAWN RIPPEL: If you tell us there
18	are some, yes. I don't know so I would like to
19	know.
20	JARED OLESEN: Look, this is a
21	classic intimidation tactic by people like
22	DAWN RIPPEL: I am not trying to.
23	JARED OLESEN: Asking me for a
24	specific number? You know what, I can guarantee

	Page 251
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

		Page 252
1	know.	
2	DAWN RIPPEL: Son of a gun, it is	
3	because I may be a carrier and you don't know it.	
4	Could that be true?	
5	JARED OLESEN: Absolutely that's	
6	true.	
7	DAWN RIPPEL: There could be MRSA	
8	here and there are no hogs, correct?	
9	JARED OLESEN: I told you that CAFOs	
10	act as amplifiers.	
11	DAWN RIPPEL: Can you tell me what	
12	CAFO is?	
13	JARED OLESEN: Concentrated animal	
14	feeding operation.	
15	DAWN RIPPEL: Which is what?	
16	Because I thought we were talking	
17	about a hog farm made up of farmers.	
18	JARED OLESEN: Oh, please.	
19	DAWN RIPPEL: Son of a gun, I really	
20	did.	
21	So because you guys coined off the	
22	internet CAFO, but Sandy Creek LLC is saying it is	
23	a farm. So go back	
24	JARED OLESEN: Would you say that	

	Page 253
1	12,000 hogs in three buildings is concentrated?
2	DAWN RIPPEL: I would say they are
3	confined.
4	How many cookies do we make in the
5	cookie factory? How many
6	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Folks, we
7	are getting a little off track here.
8	DAWN RIPPEL: To be clear, I can get
9	MRSA from somebody in here?
10	JARED OLESEN: Absolutely.
11	DAWN RIPPEL: Okay.
12	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Any other
13	questions?
14	Excuse me, ma'am, I don't believe you
15	stated your name.
16	DAWN RIPPEL: Dawn Rippel.
17	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Thank you.
18	Other questions? I see none.
19	Thank you.
20	Next we have Mike Haag.
21	(Sworn in.)
22	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: State your
23	name and spell your last name.
24	MIKE HAAG: Mike Haag, H-A-A-G.

Page 254 It's been a long night. I guess I feel really 1 privileged to be able to stand before you today 3 because I have been pretty much born and raised right in a hog farm. I take it quite personal to see these kind of criticisms. We have 1200 sows 5 in Livingston County. I am the third generation 6 brought up on this farm. About 100 feet from the 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 to go to church tonight. They are supposed to 11 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. 16 oldest daughter is graduating high school this year, valedictorian, 4.2 grade point average on a 17 4 point scale. And her goal is to be in ag 18 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. 2.2 Anyway, I will go on. 23 I am here as a board member of the 24 Illinois Pork Producers. I got involved in this

		Page 255
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.	
24	My comments I guess are specifically	

		Page 256
1	I am too pork producers are very much aware	
2	that the environment that we live in it's where	
3	I raise my family, we fish on our creek, we still	
4	do. Amazing since we have had hogs there since	
5	the early 1970s. This farm has met all of the	
6	guidelines of the Illinois EPA. Much better than	
7	when things were done 30 years ago. There was no	
8	guidelines. People just did it by the way they	
9	did it.	
10	I know I got off topic a little bit	
11	but I would like to urge the Marshall County Board	
12	and the Department of Agriculture to approve this	
13	hog farm. And thank you for the opportunity. I	
14	will recognize any questions.	
15	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Questions	
16	for this witness?	
17	DAWN RIPPEL: Mike, do you sit on a	
18	council or do you work with the diocese in any	
19	way?	
20	MIKE HAAG: The Catholic diocese?	
21	DAWN RIPPEL: Yes.	
22	MIKE HAAG: Yes, I am on the	
23	rural the farmers group for the diocese of	
24	Peoria, yes.	

		Page 257
1	DAWN RIPPEL: What does that	1 age 237
2	involve?	
3	MIKE HAAG: We have been trying to	
4	figure ways to bringing more church and more God,	
5	more religious aspects to all of agriculture and	
6	include them within the diocese.	
7	DAWN RIPPEL: Thank you.	
8	MARSELLA MYERS: Marsella Myers.	
9	I notice there has been a little	
10	group here that is here to chastise the one that's	
11	got testimony here. I disagree with that tactic.	
12	And you are I assume that you are here for the	
13	hog farm. And you say you have a creek or	
14	something that you fish in. How far is that from	
15	your farm? Is it just 100 feet from the Sandy	
16	Creek like it is with this development?	
17	MIKE HAAG: The farm where my dad	
18	lives is probably 150 foot downstream from	
19	where yes, he lives there and the hog farm is	
20	about 200 feet from there and the creek is about	
21	another 200 feet down and another one half mile	
22	between us.	
23	MARSELLA MYERS: So you are saying	
24	that it is a lot farther away than Sandy Creek is	

		Page 258
1	to this facility?	
2	MIKE HAAG: We have a zero tolerance	
3	for discharge so it doesn't matter how far away	
4	it is. If there is a zero discharge there is a	
5	zero discharge.	
6	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other	
7	questions?	
8	MR. GENTERT: Yes. You guys keep	
9	saying zero discharge. Is there any of these	
10	I call them hog factories has there been	
11	discharge or citation from the EPA on any of them	
12	through let's say the United States?	
13	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: State your	
14	name.	
15	MR. GENTERT: Charles Gentert.	
16	Has there been an EPA citing has	
17	there been citations given through the United	
18	States on you say zero discharge but	
19	MIKE HAAG: If there is a discharge	
20	there is a penalty.	
21	MR. GENTERT: But you guys keep on	
22	asking for facts.	
23	How many citations has there been?	
24	MIKE HAAG: We would have to get the	

		Page 259
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	

	Page 260
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

		Page 261
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.	
9	LESLIE SMITH: Right and that's	
10	the problem I think.	
11	MIKE HAAG: It is all in the	
12	management and who is doing it.	
13	LESLIE SMITH: We don't get to see	
14	those plans until it is built. How do we know	
15	that they are doing it right?	
16	MIKE HAAG: I think you did get to	
17	go visit other facilities where they were in	
18	operation and you did see how they were doing it	
19	there. I mean you did get to go there.	
20	LESLIE SMITH: A group did go there,	
21	but that doesn't mean that's how this facility is	
22	going to be run.	
23	MIKE HAAG: I don't think in any	
24	business in the United States right now, anybody	

	1	Page 262
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.	
5	LESLIE SMITH: Well, there are a lot	
6	of problems with these facilities and a lot of	
7	them do have spills and ruin Panther Creek I	
8	believe just had a big spill into it. And they	
9	are still going and building them. So	
10	MIKE HAAG: I bet that one isn't.	
11	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other	
12	questions?	
13	JEFF PETERSON: Jeff Peterson. You	
14	keep saying zero discharge.	
15	Most of Mike's fields are all grid	
16	tiled. Grid tiling is designed to take water away	
17	fast. So if you knife this manure in and you get	
18	a good rainstorm, where is that going to go?	
19	You can't tell me some of it ain't	
20	going to make it through the tile on the creek.	
21	MIKE HAAG: I am not an agronomist,	
22	but it is filtered. It is filtered.	
23	JEFF PETERSON: Filtered where? If	
24	it is knifed in it is going through	

		Page 263
1	MIKE HAAG: Filtered through the	
2	feet of soil before it gets to that tile.	
3	It is applied 6 to 8 inches deep and	
4	it has got to go down 4 or 5 feet to get to that	
5	tile. And it is filtered. And actually, like I	
6	said I had am not an agronomist, but hog manure or	
7	hog waste nutrients actually bind with the soil	
8	JEFF PETERSON: How can you	
9	guarantee zero discharge?	
10	MIKE HAAG: A discharge is an	
11	intentional release.	
12	JEFF PETERSON: Okay. How can you	
13	tell me it is not going to	
14	MIKE HAAG: It is a release that	
15	is it is different than application. You are	
16	talking about application. That is not a	
17	discharge.	
18	JEFF PETERSON: Okay. So after it	
19	is applicated, where is it going to go?	
20	MIKE HAAG: It is going to stay in	
21	the soil just like any fertilizer.	
22	JEFF PETERSON: In a grid tile field	
23	that is designed to get rid of the water as fast	
24	as you can, if you get heavy rain right after an	

		Page 264
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.	
2.2	STEVE CLANIN: They have a this	
23	one is a document labeled Environmental and	
24	Health Problems in Livestock Production.	

	Page 265
1	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Do you have
2	a question for the witness?
3	STEVE CLANIN: Yes. I was just
4	asking him he's invoking the church, I was
5	asking if he is aware of the Catholic Church's
6	position on CAFOs, yes or no?
7	MIKE HAAG: No, I was not aware of
8	it.
9	STEVE CLANIN: I'll give you a copy.
10	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other
11	questions?
12	MARK DURHAM: Mark Durham.
13	One question about your facility.
14	How does it compare construction wise to what they
15	are proposing to build out here? As far as your
16	waste management handling, are you using open pits
17	or do you have like a bladder system underneath
18	your
19	MIKE HAAG: We have lagoons.
20	MARK DURHAM: You have open lagoons?
21	MIKE HAAG: Yes.
22	MARK DURHAM: Is there like a
23	bladder system in those or open to the air?
24	MIKE HAAG: Clay. No, clay.

		Page 266
1	MARK DURHAM: Clay lined?	
2	MIKE HAAG: Yes.	
3	MARK DURHAM: Okay. Thank you.	
4	MIKE HAAG: The technology has been	
5	way ahead of that. We have really improved I	
6	think.	
7	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Thank you	
8	very much.	
9	Next we have Jennifer Peterson.	
10	JENNIFER PETERSON: I pass. Thank	
11	you.	
12	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Jennifer	
13	Peterson passes.	
14	Jamie Janssen.	
15	JAMIE JANSSEN: Pass.	
16	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Miss Janssen	
17	passes.	
18	Jan Bakewell?	
19	JAN BAKEWELL: Pass.	
20	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Jan Bakewell	
21	passes.	
22	Brad Lindstrom?	
23	(Sworn in.)	
24	BRAD LINDSTROM: I just have a	

		Page 267
1	couple of quick comments. They might blend into	C
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	

		Page 268
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	

Page 269 1 highways. It would cause fewer problems with the locals along the creek. Cause fewer problems for 3 the hog farm when people come back and say you damage my road. We are an all weather road, 5 that's not a problem. You are going to pollute the stream. I am 5 miles away, not a problem. 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, most of our neighbors who live in the country now 11 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 them a little bit. I really do. Because it is 16 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 2.2 all over the place. Well, now they are in 23 confined areas. 24 I like hog farming. I like how hogs

		Page 270
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, C-H-R-I-S, G-O-L-D-E-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	

		Page 271
1	environmental organization Sierra Club. Our motto	
2	is to protect the environment for our families and	
3	for our future.	
4	We stand with the citizens in	
5	Marshall and LaSalle Counties and surrounding	
6	areas who oppose the proposed Sandy Creek Lane,	
7	LLC factory hog operation.	
8	Heart of Illinois Group Sierra Club	
9	has over 900 members in central Illinois,	
10	including members in Marshall and LaSalle	
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.	
14	We ask the Illinois Department of	
15	Agriculture to deny approval for the Sandy Creek	
16	Lane, LLC.	
17	This large confined animal feeding	
18	operation is too great of a risk to the area	
19	environment. We have serious concerns regarding	
20	land application of the huge amount of animal	
21	waste from this proposed factory.	
22	We do not see adequate regulation and	
23	enforcement of land application of animal factory	
24	manure by any of our state agencies.	

		Page 272
1	Land application should not be	
2	approved as the only manure disposal for a	
3	facility with what appears to be well over 20,000	
4	animals.	
5	There is a clear danger to Sandy	
6	Creek and downstream public use of water from this	
7	creek. Sandy Creek discharges into the Illinois	
8	River, which is already impaired in downstream	
9	sections from animal waste contaminants.	
10	Our state and federal governments	
11	have spent huge amounts on cleaning up the	
12	Illinois River. If the Sandy Creek Lane, LLC	
13	animal factory is approved, more pollution will	
14	definitely be entering into creek system and	
15	Illinois River.	
16	Pollutants such as nitrogen,	
17	phosphorus, pathogens, heavy metals, hormones,	
18	antibiotics from animal waste and ammonia will be	
19	added loads to the tributary to the Illinois	
20	River.	
21	The location of this facility with	
22	such clear contamination risk to Sandy Creek must	
23	not be approved.	
24	This is not an appropriate location	

		Page 273
1	for the large confinement facility.	_
2	There are also serious public health	
3	impacts of this proposed animal factory. Ammonia	
4	and hydrogen sulfide which are released into the	
5	air from animal waste are known causes of	
6	breathing problems and upper respiratory system	
7	damages to humans. Dust and noxious odors from	
8	this facility will happen and cannot be guaranteed	
9	to be adequately controlled.	
10	We are concerned about the potential	
11	spread of antibiotic resistant infections and that	
12	workers could be potential carriers of swine	
13	influenza strains.	
14	Attached to our comment letter is a	
15	listing of health risks inherent to living near a	
16	confined animal feeding operation and will be	
17	submitted for your record.	
18	We ask the Illinois Department of	
19	Agriculture to deny Sandy Creek Lane, LLC.	
20	Sincerely, Joyce Blumenshine, Chair.	
21	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Are there	
22	questions for this witness?	
23	I see none. Thank you.	
24	Next we have Diana Wroczynski.	

	Page 274
1	DIANA WROCZYNSKI: Diana Wroczynski,
2	W-R-0-C-Z-Y-N-S-K-I, $D-I-A-N-A$.
3	(Sworn in.)
4	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Okay.
5	DIANA WROCZYNSKI: Everybody has
6	said pretty much everything I wanted to say.
7	I am an R.N. I work at Peoria at St.
8	Francis.
9	The health concerns really bother me.
10	But mostly I am kind of representing our family
11	because we have lived out here for a long time. I
12	have been here all of my life. My mom moved here
13	in 1950 and raised seven children on the farm.
14	And I am speaking to number eight that this is
15	going to change the way that we live.
16	We played in the creek all of the
17	time. We still do, our kids do, our grandkids do.
18	Fishing, canoeing, kayaking, swimming. You have
19	heard it all before. It is practically the way of
20	life when you live out here. Hunting for shells
21	and rocks and tadpoles. When we grew up we had
22	neighborhood fish fries and senior skip days down
23	in the timber. Cub Scouts and Boys Scouts camped
24	out. People from the surrounding towns came and

		Page 275
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?	

		Page 276
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	

		Page 277
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.	
6	The other thing for the County Board	
7	is the 303 D List, Illinois EPA Impaired Waters.	
8	Sandy Creek is on that impaired list. We	
9	understand municipalities and people live along	
10	that creek. A lot of times that creek, the reason	
11	we sited there was there was water and there was	
12	easy disposal. And I will give you caution, if	
13	you read through this document you can go right	
14	to the EPA's page and pick that up if you want to	
15	online but for Sandy Creek it is a medium code	
16	under EPA under 303. However, it is high in fecal	
17	chloroform, phosphorous and dissolved oxygen. And	
18	the statement under medium classification under	
19	303 says you should not swim, you should not	
20	drink.	
21	We understand that municipalities use	
22	that water. They discharge and I brought some	
23	documents also with that. But if you would look	
24	at this document and also if you go online you can	

		Page 278
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	

		Page 279
1	your information.	-
2	And the last document I will when	
3	we do the document portion, Jim Sacia, retired	
4	Representative up in northern Illinois, provided a	
5	document for you to read with his experience with	
6	CAFOs and farms up in his neck of the woods and	
7	also a document of I'll let you read it as it	
8	is submitted.	
9	Are there any questions?	
10	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Questions of	
11	this witness?	
12	MARK DURHAM: Mark Durham.	
13	I would just like to ask you, sir,	
14	how many documented cases of fishkills related to	
15	human waste have you got from Big Sandy Creek?	
16	NIC ANDERSON: Actually the one I	
17	looked at was back in 1990. There was some	
18	contamination. Unfortunately, the EPA's records	
19	don't address all of that. I tried to	
20	MARK DURHAM: So you don't have any?	
21	NIC ANDERSON: I don't.	
22	MARK DURHAM: How about hog related	
23	fishkills on Big Sandy?	
24	NIC ANDERSON: I am not aware of	

		Page 280
1	any.	
2	MARK DURHAM: There have been in the	
3	1970s.	
4	NIC ANDERSON: I don't have that	
5	documentation.	
6	MARK DURHAM: The IDNR does and it	
7	is public information, so perhaps look that up.	
8	NIC ANDERSON: That's something you	
9	should provide to the Board.	
10	MARK DURHAM: Yep. Thank you.	
11	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other	
12	questions?	
13	STEVE CLANIN: Steve Clanin.	
14	Just to clarify, you said Wenona has	
15	a what to discharge?	
16	NIC ANDERSON: An NPDS permit to	
17	discharge contaminants. And actually they have	
18	to remove about 85 percent of solids. So there	
19	is 15 percent solids that get released.	
20	STEVE CLANIN: So your argument is	
21	what, two wrongs make a right?	
22	NIC ANDERSON: No. I stated that	
23	our goal as the hog farm is not to impact that	
24	stream.	

		Page 281
1	I think I said that earlier.	C
2	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other	
3	questions?	
4	MR. GENTERT: My name is Charles	
5	Gentert, G-E-N-T-E-R-T. I own a farm	
6	approximately 2 miles roughly from this site. I	
7	talked to you the other day on the phone. And if	
8	this operation is going to be up to snuff and	
9	everything you ain't concerned about the	
10	residents that live down there.	
11	As a matter of fact, when I brought	
12	up the roads, you quote told me that we would be	
13	paid \$50,000 taxes.	
14	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Do you have	
15	a question?	
16	MR. GENTERT: I am getting to that.	
17	Question I did have, I told you I pay	
18	taxes in LaSalle County. That will have no effect	
19	on the road.	
20	I want to know who employs you? The	
21	State of Illinois?	
22	NIC ANDERSON: Let me check here, I	
23	am not sure I had that in my presentation.	
24	MR. GENTERT: Okay. Who employs	

		Page 282
1	you?	
2	NIC ANDERSON: I work with the	
3	Illinois Livestock Development Group.	
4	MR. GENTERT: Okay. On my tax	
5	dollars. I also pay in Indiana. I got a long	
6	way to go to get back. My tax dollars.	
7	Are you supposed to represent all of	
8	the farmers in general or just a select few?	
9	NIC ANDERSON: Actually I am out in	
10	the marketplace. I work with small ten cow	
11	herds	
12	MR. GENTERT: Why do you try to lead	
13	the wool over my eyes?	
14	NIC ANDERSON: What wool is that?	
15	MR. GENTERT: Well, like you offered	
16	me free manure. I don't need any manure. I need	
17	my farm to stay in the family farm name for	
18	generations to come. One hundred plus more	
19	years. I don't need any manure. You offered me	
20	free manure basically.	
21	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Do you have	
22	a question?	
23	MR. GENTERT: Didn't you?	
24	NIC ANDERSON: I don't have any	

		Page 283
1	manure myself.	
2	MR. GENTERT: Well, didn't you over	
3	the phone say don't you want the free manure?	
4	NIC ANDERSON: I recall our	
5	conversation. I had a real tough time I don't	
6	recall that question.	
7	MR. GENTERT: You don't recall it	
8	now? Or you don't recall this question probably	
9	so you asked me. Maybe Marshall County should	
10	pass a law only they have to be residents in	
11	Marshall County to farm there. Do you recall	
12	that?	
13	NIC ANDERSON: I think I gave you a	
14	scenario	
15	MR. GENTERT: Okay, a scenario.	
16	NIC ANDERSON: to prohibit one	
17	farm should you prohibit other farms?	
18	MR. GENTERT: Right. Seems like you	
19	are representing one farm.	
20	And I want to speak I have got to	
21	get going, got to get back to Indiana and go work	
22	because of jobs and that. I just hope the	
23	Department of Agriculture takes into consideration	
24	the impact it will have on this community when	

		Page 284
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	

		Page 285
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	

Page 286 present well. They like to produce. And I would 1 say I don't think I know a one of them that wants to sit through that scrutiny. And maybe it is deserved, maybe it is not. 5 Our goal from the group that I work with and working with not only pork industry but 6 the livestock industry in the State of Illinois is to inform them of what they have to do to follow 9 the regulations. 10 We don't tolerate nonconformance. Pollution and environmental challenges that are 11 12 out there, we have a philosophy that I grew up is 13 we have got to leave that place better than when 14 we came on it. 15 Most farmers have that philosophy. Mother nature affects us like it affects any city 16 17 or anybody out there that has to deal with waste. 18 I would urge you to go talk to your 19 communities, people that handle waste. It is an 20 ongoing challenge. It is for us too. 21 BRAD LINDSTROM: When we find out 22 who Sandy Creek starts to sign up as investors, 23 is it possible to find out who these people are 24 and what their record is?

		Page 287
1	NIC ANDERSON: I don't have control	
2	over that. I would suggest you get to know your	
3	neighbors. I will it is kind of a silver	
4	lining that it is unbelievable how this	
5	happens. I didn't know much about Marshall	
6	County, but I have met a lot of really good	
7	people up here and it has given me an experience	
8	to know more about the County and the people	
9	working here. And I have known Williamsburg Vet	
10	for a long time but I never new Nicolas.	
11	I will tell you this has forced you	
12	to meet your neighbors. Good, bad or indifferent.	
13	Why wasn't that created before?	
14	Somebody tell me?	
15	BRAD LINDSTROM: You knew me when I	
16	had hair, Nic.	
17	NIC ANDERSON: I am not sure you had	
18	hair back then.	
19	BRAD LINDSTROM: I did. It was	
20	awesome hair.	
21	AUDIENCE MEMBER: They are from	
22	Iowa, we are not neighbors.	
23	NIC ANDERSON: We are all Americans,	
24	we are all neighbors.	

		Page 288
1	JOHN FOOTE: It is good to see so	C
2	much concern.	
3	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: State your	
4	name, please.	
5	JOHN FOOTE: My question to you,	
6	restraining it to a question, why does it seem to	
7	be so impossible to make the suggestion that Brad	
8	just had about working together and finding a	
9	place?	
10	I went out, and looked and it appears	
11	to me there is lots of places. It is going to be	
12	more difficult to make it happen I am probably	
13	pretty sure of that, but where you could	
14	NIC ANDERSON: Let me explain that a	
15	little bit. I know where you are coming from.	
16	We see that in a lot of places we go.	
17	Fortunately I was glad that you could	
18	go and you had an open mind to do that and you	
19	were of a nature that it was important.	
20	Unfortunately, the internet is a	
21	great thing out there and to all of you in this	
22	community I am a bad guy, I don't care about	
23	anything. Look out for that guy, he's evil. So	
24	it creates this catalyst. That cooperation we	

		Page 289
1	offered to come talk to some neighbors to talk	
2	about the issue. It is uncomfortable and	
3	emotional. No more than this. However, it was	
4	refused. So that catalyst John was good enough	
5	to go on that trip and some other neighbors. We	
6	want you to see what it is. We want to be	
7	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	
10	in the State of Illinois from my knowledge base	
11	there are about 29,000 pork producers in the	
12	state. Less than .4 percent of them had a	
13	violation on their farm.	
14	You take any other industry and look	
15	at that percentage. That is pretty good.	
16	We want to go to zero. But if your	
17	tolerance of odor or smell or a big farm down the	
18	road is zero, that's unattainable. And it's got	
19	to be more than zero.	
20	JOHN FOOTE: But I was a farmer, a	
21	hog farmer for a while. I raised cattle, I had	
22	20 cow, purebred Angus that I raised the calves	
23	from, but I still come back to the question to	
24	you, why can't this be a peaceful coexistence	

		Page 290
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 Ts and dot some Is.	
24	And there is a point there where you go forward	

		Page 291
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	

		Page 292
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.	

		Page 293
1	Another one	
2	NIC ANDERSON: I need to look at	
3	that.	
4	MIKE PHILLIPS: Yes. Be good for	
5	you to become familiar with that.	
6	NIC ANDERSON: Sure would.	
7	MIKE PHILLIPS: Another one is don't	
8	be close to a waterway. This is about 1500 feet	
9	from a waterway.	
10	So my question to you is I drive	
11	around, I see some of these hog confinement	
12	facilities, they are on flat ground, they are away	
13	from waterways. Don't you think that would be a	
14	better approach, is to try to identify some places	
15	that actually meet those best management practices	
16	first, then go talk to those property owners, find	
17	some that might be more amenable to having a hog	
18	farm in a place that already meets the best	
19	management practices? Don't you think that would	
20	be a better approach?	
21	NIC ANDERSON: Actually that's one	
22	of the things that I do on folks that want to	
23	have livestock in their area. I sort some of	
24	that out. But it goes back to who wants it, who	

		Page 294
1	doesn't and who wants to take some of that risk	
2	and who wants to sit through a process like this.	
3	You can say if you knew earlier ahead	
4	of time maybe you could have helped out or found a	
5	better site and then it goes to another area and	
6	those people don't want it there. For whatever	
7	reason the challenge becomes, whether internet	
8	is good or bad, you have been used in a process to	
9	an end game from somebody influencing out the	
10	outside. And you might say the same thing of me	
11	of working with Nicolas that I am using some	
12	system to help him.	
13	I will tell you a lot of the	
14	information and I saw the information on the	
15	hog farms down in North Carolina. Those have no	
16	relationship to this other than hogs because they	
17	have outside lagoons. They don't have an LMFA for	
18	design and construction standards. Illinois is	
19	the only state that has this.	
20	What happens maybe we won't raise	
21	livestock here in this state and we will raise it	
22	in another state that has lesser regulations or	
23	society pressures. But my guess is it will leave	
24	the United States because pork production,	

		Page 295
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	

		Page 296
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	

		Page 297
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	

	Page 298
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,

		Page 299
1	F-E-C-H-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	

		Page 300
1	soybeans. Expanded production of pork will	C
2	increase the supply available to consumers, thus	
3	making pork more affordable.	
4	Thank you for this chance to lend our	
5	support to a project that will become an asset to	
6	our agricultural community.	
7	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Are there	
8	questions for this witness?	
9	JOHN FOOTE: My question to you	
10	is first I make a statement. I am an Illinois	
11	Farm Bureau member. Does my opinion matter to	
12	the people that you are making the decision about	
13	this?	
14	ROBERT FECHT: Our board interviewed	
15	Dr. Nicolas Rippel and	
16	JOHN FOOTE: What about John Foote	
17	and all of the other Farm Bureau members out	
18	here?	
19	ROBERT FECHT: We are following the	
20	policies that Marshall/Putnam Farm Bureau and	
21	other counties. Go to an annual meeting and we	
22	discuss and we support agriculture. We are an	
23	agricultural association and support the	
24	expansion of agriculture, whether it be livestock	

		Page 301
1	or grain systems. We need your input.	C
2	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Sir?	
3	MR. GENTERT: Charles Gentert.	
4	You said you support agriculture.	
5	Well, I have been hearing comments unfortunately	
6	because work in the state of Indiana comments	
7	both hear me out. Charlie don't even live	
8	here. Well, I pay Illinois taxes. Well, that's	
9	just those people that build those fancy houses on	
10	Sandy Creek.	
11	Well, there was a meeting I went to	
12	last Friday night. Close to half of the people	
13	were farmers or farm owners in that meeting.	
14	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Sir, I	
15	really need a question. I need a question.	
16	MR. GENTERT: The question is, if	
17	you represent the farmers, how about the farmers	
18	that are opposed to it, how are you representing	
19	them?	
20	ROBERT FECHT: When we go to	
21	represent the farmers, we have to take the	
22	policies that we have established over the past	
23	history. And the promotion of agriculture and	
24	the production of food, fuel and fiber, livestock	

		Page 302
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.	

		Page 303
1	I guess my only question to you is,	
2	if we are getting down to decision making time	
3	here, would it not be prudent for the Farm Bureau	
4	to include the County Board who is going to have	
5	to vote on this in short order to be involved in	
6	this?	
7	We have spoken with Nicolas, myself	
8	and a few other members, but certainly not the	
9	entire Board. I think it would clear up a lot of	
10	things if he is able to make a presentation to the	
11	entire Board and be able to be asked questions.	
12	I realize you want to give an	
13	endorsement to the Farm Bureau, but we are going	
14	to have to stick some hands up in the air and say	
15	yea or nay. And I think at this point some of us	
16	are woefully under informed right now, and I would	
17	have liked to have been included in that.	
18	ROBERT FECHT: It was a short notice	
19	meeting, Brad.	
20	BRAD LINDSTROM: I understand that.	
21	I am just asking	
22	ROBERT FECHT: We did get a quorum	
23	available and the quorum passed the resolution.	
24	BRAD LINDSTROM: Thank you.	

		Page 304
1	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other	
2	questions?	
3	MIKE PHILLIPS: Mike Phillips.	
4	Is Nicolas Rippel a member of the	
5	Marshall County Farm Bureau?	
6	ROBERT FECHT: No, he's not. He's	
7	from Iowa. He can't be a member.	
8	MIKE PHILLIPS: Did you talk to any	
9	other Farm Bureau members who might live in the	
10	area that is impacted by this before you made	
11	your decision?	
12	ROBERT FECHT: Just the	
13	representatives that are on the Board.	
14	MIKE PHILLIPS: Thank you.	
15	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other	
16	questions?	
17	KATE HAGENBUCH: Kate Hagenubch.	
18	Can anybody be a member of Farm	
19	Bureau?	
20	ROBERT FECHT: You have several	
21	different classifications, but farmers or end	
22	members, and they have to have \$2,500 gross	
23	receipts from farming.	
24	KATE HAGENBUCH: Once you have met	

		Page 305
1	those requirements you pay your dues, can you	
2	come to meetings and make your voice known?	
3	ROBERT FECHT: Yes.	
4	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Okay.	
5	Mr. Foote.	
6	JOHN FOOTE: I have to ask a	
7	question, but always a couple of quick comments	
8	on something I suppose	
9	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Make them	
10	very quick.	
11	JOHN FOOTE: Very quickly. How can	
12	I after I go through all of this still think that	
13	America is the greatest country in the world and	
14	that we all watch out for each other?	
15	I still think it is the greatest	
16	country in the world, but boy, come on.	
17	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other	
18	questions for this witness?	
19	Thank you very much. Next we have	
20	Josh Merdian.	
21	JOSH MERDIAN: Pass.	
22	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Jonathan	
23	Downey.	
24	(Sworn in.)	

	Page 306
1	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: State your
2	name and spell it.
3	JONATHAN DOWNEY: Jonathan Downey,
4	D-O-W-N-E-Y.
5	My prepared statement I wrote I have
6	good evening, Mr. Chairman. I will say good
7	morning, Mr. Chairman.
8	My name is Jonathan Downey. I am a
9	livestock and grain producer from Putnam County.
10	I am here tonight to support animal agriculture.
11	A facility such as this provides a
12	market for our grain, for our corn and soybeans,
13	my neighbor's corn and soybeans, Illinois' corn
14	and soybeans.
15	It makes sense to place the livestock
16	near their food source and recycle the nutrients
17	back onto the soil.
18	This farm allows for the domestic
19	consumption of our crops, which in turn grows our
20	local economy.
21	A farm of this size contributes to
22	our local economy by creating jobs and providing
23	taxes for our township, counties and schools.
24	After speaking with Dr. Rippel I feel

	Page 307
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.
4	Thank you for your time and
5	attention.
6	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Are there
7	questions for this witness? Any questions?
8	I see none. Thank you.
9	Next we have Paul Jeschke.
10	(Sworn in.)
11	PAUL JESCHKE: Paul Jeschke,
12	J-E-S-C-H-K-E. Good evening or good morning.
13	My name is Paul Jeschke. I am a
14	grain farmer from over in southwest Grundy County.
15	I am a 1975 graduate of the University of Illinois
16	with a degree of agricultural science.
17	In addition to farming I also
18	presently serve on the Illinois Corn Marketing
19	Board representing District Five.
20	I have cut out many of my comments.
21	But basically I am here tonight also to support
22	animal agriculture.
23	One of my jobs on the Corn Marketing
24	Board is to try and enhance and improve the use of

		Page 308
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	

		Page 309
1	resolution to some of the conflicts that are here	
2	tonight.	
3	There are many valid concerns that	
4	have been expressed. And I share a lot of your	
5	concerns and I empathize with you, but I also know	
6	that progress creating more jobs in Illinois is	
7	something that is deeply needed. We are a very,	
8	very, very poor state when it comes to creating a	
9	business climate environment. There is a reason	
10	we are the second worst employment rate in the	
11	whole country.	
12	So anyway, thank you very much.	
13	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Are there	
14	questions for this witness?	
15	Mr. Foote.	
16	JOHN FOOTE: I have too been to	
17	overseas places and seen it and watched the farms	
18	too.	
19	I have one question. Wouldn't it be	
20	possible to reach your objectives and do what you	
21	want to do or what you want to have happen and do	
22	it in a manner that is considering everybody that	
23	is involved and find a site that is better than	
24	this one?	

	Page 310
1	PAUL JESCHKE: I am not educated
2	enough on the other alternative sites to know.
3	Sorry.
4	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Other
5	questions?
6	MR. GENTERT: Charles Gentert.
7	You say you are a farmer. How many
8	hog factories are there in Grundy County?
9	PAUL JESCHKE: Two.
10	MR. GENTERT: Two. Any near your
11	house?
12	PAUL JESCHKE: It would be about
13	6 miles.
14	MR. GENTERT: Okay. 6 miles. A lot
15	of us is downwind from it.
16	Thank you.
17	AUDIENCE MEMBER: I thought you were
18	from Indiana.
19	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Another
20	question?
21	DIANA WROCZYNSKI: I want to ask
22	Diana Wroczynski.
23	The people that are standing up and
24	they are for it, I am hearing what you are saying,

		Page 311
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	

		Page 312
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	

Page 313 1 Freeman. I am a resident of Lostant, Illinois. I am on the LaSalle County Board. I have been 3 privileged to serve the LaSalle County Board for 16 years and the residents a Hope, Richland, Osage, Groveland, Eden, and now Eagle Townships. 5 6 This is a very emotional issue. When I first moved into Lostant almost 40 years now -- I am going to be 60 years 8 9 old this year. Where did the time go? I moved 10 into a little home right next to a small farm next to our house. The neighbors asked me to sign a 11 12 petition to help get rid of that farm. My answer 13 to them was it was here before me, so I couldn't 14 sign that. 15 But now you have to think, you are moving a big farm operation into neighbors that 16 have been there their whole life. And I 17 18 understand how they feel. 19 I think there are several flaws in 20 the system. 21 I am not an expert on all of the 2.2 things that some of the people presented here 23 tonight, but I do think there are some flaws on 24 the way this was set.

Page 314 1 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 5 have to expand their boundaries outside to try and grow the community. I commend them for that. I 6 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 9 10 grow our community. We are struggling. It is a good development plan. And the day that they 11 12 bring somebody out to that corner of 39 and 18, my 13 fear is there is going to be a strong odor from 14 this farm. And anybody that is going to put a 15 restaurant or gas station or any kind of complex 16 at that corner will say we are not going to put people into this. 17 There is a lot of fear, and I do 18 19 believe it can be sited. We have got a perfect 20 example in LaSalle County. We didn't have to have 21 a hearing. They did it right. Their neighbors 2.2 were on board and they to my knowledge have no 23 complaints whatsoever from their neighbors. And 24 they do an excellent job and I commend them for

Page 315 1 that. But I think the siting problem here 3 is what the problem is. It is not the hog farm, it is where we are placing it. And I think number 5 eight is a strong reason for against this because 6 of the placement of our development we have in LaSalle County. One of the problems -- and I will 9 address it with the General Assembly -- when we 10 have a siting like this so close to a county line, we are not involved. And it affects almost all of 11 12 LaSalle County residents with what could happen. 13 Now these are all ifs and buts. And somebody said ifs and buts and candies and nuts --14 15 but they are legitimate possibilities and that 16 could really cause some economic development 17 problems for an already stressed area of our 18 county. 19 I would really hope we could work 20 together, get a better site for this. And I love 21 pork, I really do, and I think we have a place for 2.2 it. And I really would hope that we could work 23 together and come together and have a good place 24 for this to site.

		Page 316
1	Thank you.	
2	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Are there	
3	questions for this witness?	
4	I see none.	
5	Thank you.	
6	Next we have Cheryl Churney.	
7	(Sworn in.)	
8	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Will you be	
9	speaking as a citizen or as an attorney for	
10	multiple clients?	
11	MS. CHURNEY: I am speaking as an	
12	attorney on behalf of multiple clients.	
13	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Okay. Are	
14	you going to state your clients, the names of	
15	your	
16	MS. CHURNEY: Sure. I am here	
17	representing Leslie Smith, Robert Clanin, Jamie	
18	Casolari, Mr. and Mrs. Steve and Peggy Goulding	
19	and Mr. Steve Clanin.	
20	(Sworn in.)	
21	MS. CHURNEY: The court reporter has	
22	the spelling of my name. I will skip that.	
23	I want to echo something that	
24	Mr. Freeman just said about the process that	

Page 317 brings us all here tonight. And I will be 1 introducing into the record that a request was made on behalf of my clients to postpone this hearing to give us more time to better prepare. 5 There was very short notice and we were unable to secure and arrange for the appearance of expert 6 witnesses, especially with regard to appraisal issues, tourism issues, historical issues, economic issues and health issues. And that is 10 detrimental to the Department of Agriculture's consideration of the eight criteria and 11 12 detrimental to the Marshall County Board as they 13 try to figure out all of these eight criteria because we have not had sufficient time to present 14 good evidence or best evidence. 15 16 I do want to comment on the tax revenue to be generated by this facility. And I 17 will enter into the record the tax bill for 18 19 Mr. Salz' property where this is to be sited. 20 This is the tax bill for 2012 taxes paid in 2013. 21 The property is currently assessed at \$60,687. The tax rate for the Evans Township Road District 2.2 23 for last year was .46315. So it generated \$281.07 24 in real estate taxes for the Evans Township Road

		Page 318
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	

		Page 319
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	
4	facility. Mr. Rippel informed me that the exhaust	
5	air would not be treated. All of us that were	
6	here earlier this evening heard the question by	
7	Mr. Tim Smith to Dr. Rippel about the odor control	
8	plans and Dr. Rippel testified in front of all of	
9	us that they would not be using some of the	
10	highest and better technologies available for odor	
11	control.	
12	The fact of the matter is that VCM	
13	and Sandy Creek Lane have not been forthcoming in	
14	their presentation here tonight.	
15	Frequently, all too frequently, the	
16	answers to questions were that will be in the	
17	plans, that will be in the plans, that will be in	
18	the plans.	
19	We have not had an opportunity to	
20	review and be a part of those plans to see if all	
21	of the concerns raised by the citizens here	
22	tonight will be addressed, and more importantly if	
23	the eight siting criteria will be satisfied.	
24	There are many, many unknowns.	

		Page 320
1	Not only have they been less than	
2	forthcoming about their plans, they have been	
3	completely unforthcoming about their track record.	
4	I am struck by Dr. Rippel's use of	
5	the phrase leave no trace. By not telling us	
6	about any of the other farms he's involved with	
7	he's left no track record. So we don't have an	
8	opportunity to see if in fact the 12 other farms	
9	in which he is involved are run in a proper	
10	manner. We have got no information about them at	
11	all.	
12	And I encourage Dr. Rippel to release	
13	the names of the 12 farms which he is involved in.	
14	Now, we do know that the plans	
15	presented, to the extent we have plans, do not	
16	satisfy the siting criteria.	
17	The Waste Management Plan will not	
18	work because the soils in this area are not	
19	appropriate for the spreading of manure.	
20	We know there has not even been a	
21	Manure Management Plan even developed.	
22	Dr. James or pardon me, I don't	
23	think she is a doctor but Miss James testified	
24	significantly about the water issues and the	

		Page 321
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	

		Page 322
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	

		Page 323
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	

		Page 324
1	Number 8 are some questions from Fred Hartenbower,	
2	Mayor of Lostant.	
3	Entered into the record as Exhibit	
4	Number 9 is the letter from the Sierra Club with a	
5	list of health risks.	
6	Entered into the record as Exhibit	
7	Number 10 are written statements from the Phillips	
8	family.	
9	Entered into the record as Exhibit	
10	Number 11 is an article from Nature.	
11	Exhibit Number 12 is information from	
12	Rick Casolari dealing with property values. There	
13	are three articles in Exhibit 12.	
14	Entered into the record as Exhibit 13	
15	is a document entitled Understanding Concentrated	
16	Animal Feeding Operations and Their Impact on	
17	Communities from Randy Freeman.	
18	Entered into the record as Exhibit	
19	Number 14 is a photograph from Lois Steil of the	
20	flood from spring of 2013, flood on Sandy Creek.	
21	Entered into the record as Exhibit 15	
22	are the references from Isaiah Roberts dealing	
23	with Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea Virus.	
24	MS. CHURNEY: Let the record reflect	

		Page 325
1	there are four articles, I believe.	1 uge 323
2	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: Entered into	
3	the record as Exhibit Number 16 are documents	
4	from Steve Clanin dealing with rural life. All	
5	documents from National Rural Life.	
6	Entered into the record at Exhibit	
7	Number 17 is a letter from Myers, Berry, O'Conor &	
8	Churney requesting a reschedule of the hearing.	
9	It is addressed to the Department of Agriculture.	
10	Entered into the record as Exhibit 18	
11	is a response from the Illinois Department of	
12	Agriculture.	
13	Entered into the record as Exhibit	
14	Number 19 is tax information for Michael Salz.	
15	Entered into the record as Exhibit 20	
16	is an affidavit of Steven Goulding.	
17	Entered into the record as Exhibit 21	
18	is Position Paper of Property Owners Objecting to	
19	Proposed Sandy Creek Lane Facility.	
20	MS. CHURNEY: Number 22 will be a	
21	binder of 22 articles and other documentation in	
22	support of the position paper.	
23	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: That's	
24	Number 22.	

	Page 326
1	Entered into the record as Exhibit
2	Number 23
3	MS. CHURNEY: Petition in opposition
4	to the proposed facility.
5	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: All right.
6	Thank you.
7	Also entered into the record as
8	Exhibit Number 24 are the Oral Testimony sign in
9	sheets.
10	Also entered into the record as
11	Exhibit Number 25 are the Attendance sign in
12	sheets for tonight's meeting. Okay.
13	Are there any closing comments from
14	the Facility?
15	Are there any closing comments from
16	the Department?
17	MR. GOETSCH: Drive home safely.
18	
19	HEARING OFFICER FRANK: This
20	concludes the public information meeting.
21	As I mentioned earlier, a copy of the
22	transcript will be provided to the County Board.
23	For those desiring a copy, talk to the court
24	reporter.

		Page 327
1	Thank you for your attendance	
2	tonight.	
3	This public informational meeting is	
4	hereby closed.	
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20		
21	(Public meeting concluded.)	
22		
23		
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		Page 328
1	CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER	
2		
3	I, LORRAINE McCREIGHT, an Illinois	
4	Certified Shorthand Reporter, do hereby certify	
5	that the testimony that appears in the	
6	foregoing transcript was taken by me to the	
7	best of my ability, and thereafter reduced to	
8	typewriting under my direction; that I am	
9	neither counsel for, nor related to, nor	
10	employed by any of the parties to the action in	
11	which this public meeting was taken; and	
12	further, that I am not a relative or employee	
13	of any attorney or counsel employed by the	
14	parties hereto; nor financially or otherwise	
15	interested in the outcome of this action.	
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21	C.S.R.	
22	LORRAINE K. McCREIGHT	
	C.S.R. License Number 084-003070	
23		
24		

abide 213:23 abilities 185:7 ability 65:15 96:5 97:2 182:6	141:7 193:15 232:6 314:2 accountant 76:16 accounts 121:14 121:15 accurate 312:16 achieve 51:12	adapt 255:16 adapted 60:13 adapting 255:20 add 27:15 30:12 148:9 191:20 192:19 193:2	admiration 308:14 admit 128:19 admitting 318:21	ago 21:14 27:24 34:24 102:3 124:1 142:23 183:14,14
abatement 76:5,7 abatements 76:1 abide 213:23 abilities 185:7 ability 65:15 96:5 97:2 182:6	121:15 121:16 121:15 121:16 121:16 121:16	adapting 255:20 add 27:15 30:12 148:9 191:20	admit 128:19 admitting 318:21	34:24 102:3 124:1 142:23
abatements 76:1 abide 213:23 abilities 185:7 ability 65:15 96:5 97:2 182:6	121:14 121:15 121:16 121:16 121:16 121:17	adapting 255:20 add 27:15 30:12 148:9 191:20	admitting 318:21	
abide 213:23 abilities 185:7 ability 65:15 96:5 97:2 182:6	121:15 accurate 312:16 achieve 51:12	148:9 191:20	C	183.14 14
abilities 185:7 ability 65:15 96:5 97:2 182:6	accurate 312:16 achieve 51:12			100.17,17
ability 65:15 96:5 97:2 182:6	achieve 51:12	192:19 193:2	ADT 57:12	207:10 210:21
96:5 97:2 182:6 a			adult 20:11	241:4 256:7
70.5 71.2 102.0		242:3 276:10	21:23 22:1 24:6	269:13 290:15
183:13 185:11 a	cids 54:12,23	added 55:5 157:5	24:8,13,16 25:4	291:15 297:2
	icre 158:21	217:5 272:19	adults 121:16	302:21
able 38:8 63:21	creage 67:19	adding 25:17	185:11	agree 85:15
115:7 129:14	121:19,23	addition 112:9	adventure	114:2 176:17
138:8 141:2	197:18 201:19	117:5 121:10	242:18	176:18 178:13
	cres 67:23 122:3	148:15 158:20	advice 106:18,19	184:2 219:1
160:15 163:4	127:14 130:13	184:11 224:11	advised 64:14	298:13
167:18,21	197:17 207:1,1	307:17	aerial 117:11,16	agreement 66:24
187:11 188:4	207:3	additional 12:7	125:12,18	67:3,13 193:6
192:21 214:15 a	act 3:17 4:16 5:2	14:12 36:22	aerosolized	194:1,3,5,10,12
221:14 229:10	5:20 8:13,19,22	37:8,12 45:17	247:15	210:7 218:11
254:2 298:10	8:23 9:5 11:11	46:5 82:5	affect 53:6,13,16	218:24
303:10,11	12:8,17,22	131:18 137:15	126:9 145:7	agreements 70:2
absolutely	16:13 28:13	140:18 148:22	161:13 249:14	193:19,22
163:12,20	31:12 34:19,21	148:23 203:13	295:3	agricultural 60:4
165:10 167:7	35:24 39:1,8	204:1 209:8	affidavit 318:22	60:7,9,17 76:13
239:12 248:8	45:6 47:19	217:4 220:2	319:1 325:16	114:3 170:2,9
250:13 251:12	48:23 56:23	Additionally	affiliated 71:1	170:11 172:15
251:15,21	59:14 64:20	192:5	affluent 88:15	299:20 300:6
252:5 253:10	84:19 85:12	address 30:9	afford 3:19	300:23 307:16
abundant 30:11	100:3 124:12	78:24 97:19	144:12	agriculture 1:14
226:15	158:16 179:8	124:4 129:10	affordable 30:12	1:17,19,23 2:7
accept 157:19	202:15 209:9	183:22 221:14	300:3	3:4,8 4:8 7:13
323:10	248:16 252:10	242:2 279:19	afraid 189:15	8:5,9 10:24
acceptable 56:19	276:14,21	315:9	ag 19:15 29:3	29:8 30:16 31:5
105:5 146:1	277:1,3 284:13	addressed 102:9	36:19 105:23	36:10 37:7 38:2
205:22	299:19 322:24	242:2 243:15	254:14,18,19	41:11 44:11,17
accepted 7:9	action 59:10	319:22 325:9	254:21 269:8	44:19 45:3,9
184:15	63:17,21 91:11	adequacies 5:19	269:18	55:14 59:19,24
accepts 32:17	99:5 211:20	adequate 83:23	age 204:18	60:3,13,19
access 74:10	212:8 328:10	197:18 271:22	296:18	61:10 62:6,12
100:8 136:2	328:15	adequately 273:9	agencies 105:18	64:9 65:14 66:3
	active 156:5	adhere 307:1	271:24	98:10 105:15
219:14 a	actively 132:10	adjacent 32:6	Agency 47:15	114:4 115:23
	ectivity 155:23	159:2,5	82:9	134:3 137:6
accommodate	actual 33:13 39:3	adjust 54:14	agent 72:16	138:17,20
191:9,21 193:9	40:10 57:5	administer 106:8	aggregate 217:23	139:16,21
accompanying	111:2,6 178:1	106:16	aggressively	143:2 171:6
5:21	201:12 235:1	administration	299:11	179:15 195:22
	Act's 9:19	8:11	agitation 156:12	230:8 233:18
				1

	1	1	1	1
234:11 236:23	allowed 6:22	91:1,16,20 95:6	animals 72:2	anymore 189:7
254:20 256:12	198:7	107:13 174:12	121:15,15	208:7 269:14
257:5 267:22	allowing 123:10	174:12 176:6	255:13 261:6	anytime 269:10
270:23 271:15	allows 306:18	176:14,20	272:4 275:14	anyway 196:16
273:19 276:5	alternate 57:22	177:6,14,18,20	275:20 307:3	254:22 309:12
276:13 283:23	alternative	178:3,13,18,23	312:8	apart 176:10
299:5 300:22	210:13 220:3,9	179:7,10,13,20	animosity 291:3	177:11
300:24 301:4	310:2	180:2 205:11	annual 300:21	APHA 106:1
301:23 306:10	altogether	205:11,16	annually 121:3,6	apologize 113:14
307:22 322:17	240:12	206:5,11,18	246:7	apparently
322:23 325:9	Alyssa 296:2,3	276:2,4,4	answer 5:7 6:5	105:23
325:12	amazing 254:9	279:16,21,24	31:19 45:7,9	appear 125:4
Agriculture's 2:3	256:4	280:4,8,16,22	62:20 67:8,8	209:3
292:12 317:10	Amazingly 26:15	281:22 282:2,9	68:2 89:16	appearance
agronomic 51:15	29:13	282:14,24	92:15 93:4	317:6
197:18	Amboy 207:6	283:4,13,16	106:6,20 108:1	appears 117:16
agronomist	amenable 293:17	284:19 287:1	108:3 122:19	125:6,9 160:19
262:21 263:6	amended 8:24	287:17,23	122:22 124:11	272:3 288:10
ahead 28:17	amendments 9:3	288:14 289:8	126:4 128:6	328:5
266:5 291:10	America 204:12	290:5,22	131:19 132:2	appeased 105:4
294:3	243:1 305:13	291:16,24	139:19 140:14	applause 107:20
ain't 259:5	American 41:11	292:4,11,17	140:16 171:17	107:21 151:16
262:19 281:9	105:16 149:17	293:2,6,21	206:3,17 229:9	applicable 8:18
air 55:24 56:3	149:20 234:4	Andrew 198:18	229:10,15	11:10 35:1
97:9,9 98:3,5	234:18 235:13	198:18 199:3,8	290:6 313:12	50:19 56:6,7
111:14,15	235:17 236:3	Angus 289:22	answered 37:12	59:11,20 65:3
182:22 183:23	247:2,12	animal 3:22 9:14	answering 77:21	67:6 127:18
188:2 224:24	Americans	11:4 18:16,20	answers 107:22	applicant 14:20
226:15 244:5	287:23	33:13,14,20,24	128:10 319:16	15:9 63:6,13,18
247:14 249:7	amino 54:12	34:23,23 35:7	antibiotic 273:11	197:9 200:12
251:23 265:23	ammonia 54:19	35:12,15 36:5	antibiotics 105:8	318:12
271:13 273:5	173:1,3 182:13	45:13,13,16,17	189:19,22	applicants
297:19,21	272:18 273:3	45:20 46:4,5	246:8 248:8	137:15 184:3
303:14 319:3,5	amount 54:20	53:13 54:9,18	272:18 311:16	applicant's 219:8
airborne 111:19	64:19 91:7	54:21 56:14,15	312:5,8,11	applicated
182:7 247:13	149:1 240:6	56:20,22 69:8	anticipated	263:19
247:17	271:20 308:19	71:19 105:19	63:12	application 10:4
airport 46:22	314:4	159:18 160:24	anti-animal	10:23 11:9,14
alignment 299:9	amounts 155:17	234:20 235:18	275:15	11:16 14:24
Aljets 72:18	161:11 272:11	246:14 252:13	anybody 13:16	26:17 27:21
alleviate 177:4	amplifier 248:20	260:5,9,13	94:5,22 96:10	36:21 37:10,23
Alliance 241:2	amplifiers	271:17,20,23	99:8 203:6,14	46:9 51:8 54:2
allocation 192:14	248:16 252:10	272:9,13,18	259:14 261:24	65:14 66:3
allow 30:5 63:24	anaerobic 9:9	273:3,5,16	262:2 286:17	115:3 121:20
84:14 88:15	65:22	275:16 276:21	304:18 314:14	121:24 122:7
196:21 197:21	Anderson 89:19	306:10 307:22	anybody's	122:16 133:2
222:18	89:19 90:4,13	312:12 324:16	219:23	139:5,22
		1	1	ı

MIDWEST LITIGATION SERVICES Phone: 1.800.280.3376

140:17 158:24	51:20 168:10	77:12 78:9,16	325:21	105:17 149:17
160:18,24	168:12,13	81:13 82:24	asked 6:12,19 7:3	149:20 234:4
168:1,2,11,12	174:6 176:12	92:2,19 112:16	78:20 130:8	234:18 235:13
168:13 174:5	272:24 320:19	112:19 113:16	141:19,19	235:17 236:3
197:10,19	appropriately	114:3,9 115:2	170:6 174:20	247:2,12
263:15,16	39:14 106:13	116:16 141:24	191:7 198:22	300:23
264:1 271:20	approval 37:14	144:18 145:2	199:3 208:21	assume 130:12
271:23 272:1	55:14 271:15	154:22 155:20	209:3 255:9	168:6 203:4
323:1	approve 91:8	155:23 156:3	283:9 303:11	257:12
applications	139:16 256:12	156:24 157:2	313:11 319:1	assumed 216:24
140:6	approved 59:19	158:21 166:3	asking 63:11	assuming 80:19
applicator	70:22 106:10	167:22 172:5	71:4 77:21 93:3	85:19 86:1
129:16,20	140:5 149:4	172:15,19	108:23 113:6	107:11 109:17
130:21 198:20	272:2,13,23	174:21 175:4	147:3 148:6	130:10
199:4,6	314:9	197:3 198:1	152:4 176:14	assurance 177:15
applied 69:18,24	approving 65:13	201:16 202:18	206:8,10,13,15	atmosphere
72:8 128:20	66:2	202:19,23	215:15 228:22	225:6
129:22 198:7	approximately	203:3 206:12	250:23 258:22	attached 99:24
198:13 247:5	10:20 24:13,20	212:20 221:9	265:4,5 303:21	273:14
263:3	25:3 57:14	225:11 228:8	aspect 21:4 84:5	attack 290:3
applies 29:7 30:6	67:23 69:12	228:11,13	aspects 142:13	attend 204:19
apply 9:23 64:8	85:1,4 88:8	236:18 237:18	257:5	attendance 6:10
66:11 94:16	96:2 117:14	244:3,22 245:6	asphalt 191:21	326:11 327:1
115:6 130:23	121:8 122:2	268:19 270:24	217:22,23	attended 16:23
167:15,24	140:4,6 154:12	271:18 275:11	assemblage	17:13
172:19,22,24	192:15 197:5	278:8 293:23	101:22	attention 15:17
201:17 221:2	223:23 224:7	294:5 296:23	assembly 46:17	161:6 184:22
applying 23:14	281:6	297:1 298:14	106:9 315:9	307:5
51:19,22 76:1	April 1:5 37:24	298:15 304:10	Assembly's 9:1,2	attentive 161:7
156:13 158:19	235:2	315:17 320:18	assess 167:20	attest 175:16
197:18 261:6	aquifer 47:4	322:1	168:23 209:17	attorney 77:23
appraisal 317:7	48:19,21,23	areas 9:6 13:5	assessed 209:18	208:21 209:2
appreciate 7:20	49:19 50:9,11	48:3 59:13	218:13 317:21	316:9,12
78:21 81:14	101:9,10	60:11,16 82:15	assessment	328:13
123:14 131:1	159:18,19	144:14 182:22	231:24 232:3	attractive 142:13
151:21 228:21	160:6	202:15,21	318:4	AUDIENCE
308:23	aquifers 174:21	240:12 269:23	assessments	118:19 161:23
appreciated	arc 69:2,4	271:6 275:20	230:21,24	162:2,8,12
124:2	arcs 68:9	area's 13:3 41:23	231:3,6,9,19	163:2,12,20
appreciates	area 11:21 13:7	45:2	232:5,6	164:1,5,8,15,24
23:11 299:3	13:10 17:21	argument 187:6	asset 300:5	165:4,8,11,16
approach 293:14	20:4 25:18,20	280:20	assist 218:10	165:24 166:6
293:20	27:23 28:21	arrange 317:6	assistant 21:14	166:12,16,23
approached	29:8,11,12 45:3	article 231:20	associated 14:24	167:7 219:7
141:17 245:3	47:3,3,3,9,21	324:10	27:4 123:16	220:10 229:12
appropriate	50:10,16 55:21	articles 232:20	236:1	229:19 287:21
11:17 12:6,24	60:3 74:24 75:8	324:13 325:1	association	310:17
		-	-	-

MIDWEST LITIGATION SERVICES Phone: 1.800.280.3376

				<u> </u>
authoritative	20:20 22:12,13	139:17	140:21 141:16	believing 20:5
149:21	23:5,19 28:4,7	bar 42:1 129:20	195:21 282:20	belly 151:9
authority 195:4	28:10 29:15,24	barely 55:9	307:21	belonging 102:15
authors 158:11	43:14,23 45:12	barn 22:1,19	basis 165:20	belongs 195:5
180:22	48:18 49:21	23:23,24,24	225:21 295:11	benefit 129:3
available 13:12	52:20 79:20	24:1,1,4,7,7,8,8	basket 90:24	155:21 156:3
36:14 54:3	81:16,23 82:2	24:11,12,14,15	basketball 87:11	benefits 96:17
56:16 58:5,14	100:21 110:18	24:15 25:3 38:4	bass 240:21	156:8 157:1
99:20 100:2,4	125:12,12	38:7,8,9 53:11	241:2	225:12
111:15 136:22	126:15,16	53:17,18 55:16	batch 248:18	Berry 325:7
160:18,21	127:10 129:17	55:19,20,22	bay 56:18	best 50:21,24
168:20,22	129:23 135:23	73:4,5,6 90:19	beam 42:14	51:7,23 54:2
169:14 191:14	140:17 207:14	109:7 207:13	beams 42:7,13	60:8,13 82:10
197:17 300:2	208:5 219:2	barns 23:22 27:9	bearing 193:8	101:7 113:24
303:23 318:20	220:5 222:18	90:21 112:6,8	beat 35:8	114:10 115:2
319:10	237:8 248:14	141:23 142:6	beautiful 109:19	117:14 120:24
avenues 219:8	252:23 261:6	143:1	297:1 298:15	135:17,19
average 57:12	269:3 279:17	barrier 146:23	beauty 193:13	136:4,13
58:7 101:13,18	282:6 283:21	barriers 149:10	226:6 227:19	160:13 167:21
216:23 254:17	287:18 289:23	base 44:1 45:14	Beaver 1:19 3:13	177:12 182:18
avoid 65:10	293:24 306:17	123:21 159:2	becoming 184:14	226:16 227:14
156:15	322:14	163:3,22	beef 41:7 42:10	255:3 292:9,21
awards 41:10	backed 167:1	173:15 198:9	beginning 68:4	292:23 293:15
aware 72:10	background 79:4	200:20 289:10	140:4	293:18 317:15
112:3 134:8	269:13 285:14	based 14:15	begins 21:4	321:2 328:7
156:11 165:11	backpacker	27:14 69:10	behalf 3:3,11	bet 239:1 262:10
165:14 220:2,8	28:17	89:22,22 90:19	6:17,20 8:14	Bethany 46:18
234:23 256:1	backpacking	96:5 97:1 122:9	10:24 191:6	better 68:1
264:14 265:5,7	28:1	122:15 124:6	209:4 238:14	125:20 163:17
279:24	backs 129:20	136:21 143:22	299:2 316:12	196:14 256:6
awesome 287:20	backup 93:22	154:18 155:3	317:3	268:20,23
awful 151:22	backyard 187:17	157:12 197:11	beings 100:17	286:13 291:23
189:12	224:21	218:2,3	belief 224:2	292:1,4 293:14
axil 58:8	bacteria 173:19	baseline 134:7,12	believe 4:24 55:8	293:20 294:5
A-N-D-E-R-S	173:19 248:21	basement 163:19	72:17 80:24	298:16 308:1
89:20 205:12	bad 185:21 188:4	176:3,4 179:4,6	88:11 101:23	309:23 315:20
A-N-D-E-R-S	287:12 288:22	basements 160:1	106:23 112:2,5	317:4 319:10
174:13	289:8 294:8	163:10	119:3,6 132:15	beyond 80:13
B	bake 81:18	bases 162:14	163:3,13,16,22	87:10
BA 17:10	126:16	basic 160:20	188:23 192:24	big 26:4,6 27:18
babies 24:17,19	bakery 22:18	243:22 292:13	195:6 208:8	53:17 55:15
225:21	Bakewell 131:4,5	basically 41:3	209:8,10 243:1	82:3 87:19
baby 20:12,12	131:11,16	43:16 48:12	244:1 253:14	175:12 208:4,4
24:19 25:22,23	132:4,14 133:1	51:16,18 54:9	260:5 261:7	225:13 238:15
121:16	133:16,22	54:12 56:18	262:8 278:10	238:19 239:5
back 17:14 20:13	266:18,19,20	58:21 115:19	299:20 314:19	239:10 240:3
MUCK 17.17 20.13	ballpark 139:9	117:18 118:7	325:1	240:12,17
	•	•	•	•

MIDWEST LITIGATION SERVICES Phone: 1.800.280.3376

	1	1	1	1
241:4 260:21	265:17,23	books 259:7	290:18 302:18	brown 49:22
262:8 267:2	blame 128:16	borders 87:10	302:18,23	50:4
269:19 279:15	blanking 101:2	boring 49:5,7,10	303:19,20,24	bubble 142:14
279:23 289:17	blatant 106:1	52:14 175:3	Brad's 291:21	bucket 321:14
295:4 313:16	blend 267:1	borings 48:7,11	brain 181:16	budget 96:2
bigger 90:22	bliss 242:16	160:10 161:2	bread 21:23	budgeted 131:12
95:22 125:6	blizzards 226:21	174:15,16	break 22:22	131:14 321:16
biggest 42:19	block 159:7	178:9,22	58:17 115:20	buffer 102:10,19
51:5 55:1 56:1	blood 181:21	179:18,21	153:14,15	112:8 141:6
bike 188:4,8	189:9	205:19	172:1	183:21
242:17	Bloomington	born 23:18 228:4	breakdown	buffers 53:21
bikes 187:9	248:1	254:3	38:17	55:4,4 182:20
225:20 226:5	blow 224:10	bother 274:9	breaks 182:19	bugs 126:13,17
228:15	blowing 103:5	bottom 40:9 47:4	276:15	build 20:18
biking 188:11	blue 188:20,20	49:15 50:4	breathing 273:6	29:11 83:9
275:7	188:23	84:15 106:11	bred 24:9,9	141:3 151:6
bill 317:18,20	Blumenshine	118:12,15,16	breed 20:7 33:3,4	162:13,22
bin 56:17	273:20	118:20 129:7	breeding 20:11	164:2 205:18
bind 263:7	board 3:19 4:7	164:21 166:4	21:13,14,21,21	205:22 206:12
binder 217:22	11:15,24 12:4	178:10,19,24	26:21	243:10 255:21
325:21	13:23 14:4,20	179:4,5,11	breeze 297:22	265:15 298:14
bio 56:18 81:17	137:7 196:17	bought 297:2	bridge 75:17	301:9
81:18 82:3	196:22 197:21	boundaries	204:9 219:16	builder 116:21
126:21	200:4,7 230:21	314:5	318:1,6,8	206:4
Biological 41:11	232:5 248:22	box 47:13 81:22	brief 241:24	builders 116:11
biologist 239:9	254:23 256:11	boxes 22:20,21	briefly 36:24	building 10:8,10
239:14	267:17,19	22:23 23:3,5	202:13	10:11,13,15,16
Biologists 234:11	276:5,6,7,17	boy 104:9 305:16	bright 226:15	10:18 12:13
bird 189:1	277:6 280:9	boys 154:24	bring 20:13 44:4	20:7 29:8,9,10
birds 188:20,23	299:6 300:14	204:18 274:23	44:5 81:16,20	42:9 65:24
birth 22:1	302:6 303:4,9	Brad 1:19 3:13	82:12 126:16	72:21 74:9,10
birthdays 18:2	303:11 304:13	13:15 134:15	214:17 220:17	76:2 110:3
birthing 22:1	307:19,24	134:15,23	233:22 234:2	115:12 117:15
24:15,17 25:3	313:2,3 314:22	135:2,5,9,12	236:17,21	118:12 120:13
bit 31:9 33:2,6,13	317:12 322:18	136:5,11,17,24	314:12	120:21 143:18
37:7 38:11 39:3	322:24 326:22	137:5,17,21	bringing 126:13	151:4 159:7,16
39:13 40:7	Board's 14:11	138:5,13,21	235:1 257:4	162:10,23
58:11 60:21	215:3	139:6,12 140:8	brings 43:22	177:10 205:20
110:1 111:1	Bob 3:3 302:19	140:20,24	317:1	205:22 208:6
128:20 131:10	bodies 83:3	141:10,22	broke 255:14	237:4 261:4
151:6 173:24	160:15	142:4,8,15	268:8	262:4,9 302:21
175:19 256:10	body 239:24	143:4 266:22	broken 161:8	buildings 48:9
269:16 288:15	boils 55:16	266:24 267:7,7	brother 17:23,24	68:19 72:21
bites 189:12	boings 179:14	270:12 276:11	brought 254:7	76:11 92:1
black 40:11	bonding 193:11	284:4,4 285:15	259:21 264:12	117:12 159:1
125:13	bonfires 297:9	286:21 287:15	276:12 277:22	159:24 162:3
bladder 148:4	297:17	287:19 288:7	281:11 296:17	162:13,18
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

	ı	ı	ı	ı
169:22,23	buy 297:6	canary 239:21	cases 97:18	cement 145:14
170:1,9 179:3	B-A-K-E-W-E	cancer 181:22	234:17,23	cemetery 202:12
182:11 253:1	131:5	candies 315:14	240:9,10 250:1	204:5,7 226:14
319:3		canoeing 274:18	250:12,16	center 5:15 18:17
buildup 97:7	C	cap 92:19 119:14	279:14	18:18 19:6,21
156:13	cabin 207:10	capable 321:7	Casey's 79:19	71:19,21 167:9
built 20:2,3 22:9	cabins 203:2,22	capacity 11:3,18	Casolari 102:6,7	234:11 246:4
26:16 64:6	CAFO 185:14	36:5 40:1 52:8	102:23 103:1,9	centers 248:3
66:20 77:6,7	224:3 226:22	191:24 193:8	103:14,21	central 271:9
107:13 108:1	252:12,22	capital 308:19	104:2,17,22	297:19,21
120:4 124:8,10	260:2,3,3,4,10	capstone 224:16	105:1,6,14	certain 64:19,22
140:5 142:24	260:12,17,18	capture 19:11,16	106:17,21	66:13 91:7
144:14 149:10	319:2	car 129:2	107:3,8,15	221:20
150:13,17	CAFOs 156:2	carbonate 47:22	108:3,8,11,20	certainly 9:20
155:2,10,24	231:22 246:15	49:1	109:8,11,19,23	98:10 100:5
156:10 159:14	246:19 248:16	cards 96:23	111:8 223:16	125:6 190:2
162:2 163:5,17	252:9 264:16	care 18:20 21:1	223:20,21	195:10 303:8
164:4 203:2,5	265:6 279:6	24:18 72:2	228:7 229:7	certainties
207:6,10 224:9	calc 74:21 85:18	96:20 152:1	230:2,4,5	249:12
245:4 259:19	calculate 33:13	219:19 288:22	316:18 324:12	CERTIFICATE
261:1,14 275:1	calculated 32:12	295:24	cat 29:15	328:1
bulbs 224:17	68:24 76:5	cared 21:23	catalyst 288:24	certification
bulk 308:11,12	191:19	24:11	289:4	34:13 99:4
bullseye 153:7	calculation 46:3	career 17:18	category 33:17	115:22 224:21
bunch 41:8	68:3	182:1	35:1	certifications
100:15	calculations 68:1	caretakers 22:4	Catholic 256:20	155:7
Bureau 3:12 8:8	143:22 276:23	24:17 27:2	264:12,15	certified 37:17
299:3,3,6,10,15	calendar 14:7	caring 226:17	265:5	37:22 38:13,19
300:11,17,20	Calibrated 51:11	Carol 150:11	cats 18:21	44:14 46:8 52:3
302:21 303:3	calibration 51:21	296:8	cattle 171:11	65:4 99:3
303:13 304:5,9	call 7:6 23:23	Carolina 124:18	242:13,22	115:15 328:4
304:19	26:18 31:14	294:15	289:21	certify 328:4
Bureau's 3:14	37:7 43:13	carp 239:1	cause 97:10	certifying 36:3
bushel 26:8	57:18 66:4	carrier 251:10	115:20 144:10	116:6,18
business 13:24	78:21 103:2,3	252:3	145:5 156:13	Chair 273:20
14:6 19:16,24	124:24 152:19	carriers 247:21	240:23 269:1,2	Chairman 306:6
36:15 46:21	153:24 226:9	273:12	315:16	306:7
87:16 154:14	258:10	carries 191:17	caused 12:5	challenge 80:20
154:19 155:3,4	called 18:16 28:7	carrying 308:10	64:23 311:15	285:6,7 286:20
155:5,6,12	31:5 78:20	308:11	311:20	294:7
157:2,10,11,13	145:17 238:15	cars 58:8 75:2	causes 273:5	challenged 25:8
261:24 285:13	calls 26:16 221:4 calves 289:22	85:20	causing 312:5,11	challenges 278:8
295:2 309:9		case 21:17 93:20	caution 277:12	286:11
businesses 155:8	camp 29:4 camped 274:23	97:14 99:20	CDC 157:7 246:4	chance 61:15
155:20,23	camped 274:23 campout 242:20	138:1 151:9	Celebration 18:3	81:12 107:5
buts 315:13,14	campout 242.20 camps 267:15	164:11 232:3	celebrations	146:3,6 189:10
butterfly 224:22	camps 207.13	234:21	156:9	200:12 300:4
	1	1	1	·

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	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	1	1
change 5:23	109:20 156:18	citations 258:17	304:21	closes 150:24
51:24 106:15	181:24 182:16	258:23	classified 50:1	closest 170:23
114:13,19	185:6,18,21	citing 258:16	64:23	219:9 254:8
183:6 215:19	186:9 224:1	citizen 316:9	classroom	closing 7:12,19
215:24 268:4	227:17,18	citizens 133:9	186:10	61:14 237:5
274:15	243:7,14	271:4 319:21	clay 49:22 50:4,4	326:13,15
changed 215:17	274:13 311:16	city 18:8,9,11	50:6,7 159:22	closure 66:11,14
215:21 297:16	312:11	89:9 98:20 99:8	175:2,5 265:24	Club 204:14
changes 6:1 38:7	children's 227:18	166:13,19	265:24 266:1	270:20,23
182:12 255:8	chip 191:16	225:5 286:16	clean 23:5 53:18	271:1,8 324:4
chapter 241:5	212:18 221:9	city's 167:8	55:22 75:10	clue 23:19
character 13:3	chloroform	civil 124:3	226:6,15	coal 239:21
45:2 202:16,18	277:17	claim 165:22	239:22 244:5,5	coating 192:16
202:22	choice 268:17	Clanin 95:3,3,10	cleaning 53:17	code 34:6 40:23
characteristics	Choosing 205:4	95:16,19,24	112:7 162:6	41:1,13,22
292:14	chore 23:6	96:3,8,12,16,21	272:11	277:15
charge 21:22,24	chores 22:16	97:3 149:7,8,15	cleanup 65:16	coexist 268:13
charged 106:16	chose 32:7,14	149:19 150:1,6	clear 148:24	coexistence
196:17 200:5	82:18 110:8	150:8,11,23	170:4 184:9	289:24
Charles 76:22	Chris 145:10,10	151:3,12 202:8	239:23 253:8	cognitive 186:8
171:19 194:16	145:21 146:3,9	202:10,11	272:5,22 303:9	Coincidentally
258:15 281:4	270:14,16,16	205:2,13,15	clearly 82:16	246:23
301:3 310:6	church 46:18	206:3,8,16,19	161:7 183:13	coined 252:21
312:19	254:11 257:4	207:2,16 208:8	184:12	cold 40:13
Charlie 301:7	264:12 265:4	208:12 220:14	client 71:5,15	148:10 285:17
chastise 257:10	Church's 265:5	220:14,21	clients 6:18,19	311:18
chat 136:14	Churney 16:16	221:23 249:3,3	155:4,15	collapse 43:18
cheap 295:15	63:1,1,10,23	249:14,20	316:10,12,14	collected 105:21
check 198:12	64:5,12 65:9,13	264:10,10,19	317:3	college 17:9,14
281:22	66:2,16,22 67:2	264:22 265:3,9	climate 309:9	158:8
chemical 173:21	67:7,12,17,24	280:13,13,20	climb 187:9,16	colors 54:6
182:9 183:10	68:10,14,21	302:4,4,12	clinic 71:13,17	columns 42:13
198:21	69:5,14 70:1,5	316:17,19	89:23,24,24	42:16
chemicals 165:12	70:7,12,18,24	325:4	Clint 144:23	combative 113:4
172:23 182:7	71:7,10,16 72:3	clarification	close 14:5 80:2	combined 181:14
188:2	72:6,12,15,19	63:11 89:22	97:11 102:18	come 3:5 18:5
Chenoa 297:16	73:1,7,18,22	95:5	127:19 141:12	20:18 23:5
cherish 227:15	74:3,7,12,17,23	clarifies 90:4	142:21 226:24	27:17 48:1
227:15,16	75:3,6,10,20,24	91:20	227:10,11	78:22 85:22
243:2	76:4,10,14,18	clarify 280:14	237:4 242:8	96:3 103:10
Cheryl 63:1	77:20 316:6,11	clarity 91:3	268:18 293:8	104:7 110:6
296:9 316:6	316:16,21	Clark 231:8,18	301:12 315:10	116:15 125:3
Chief 3:12 8:8	324:24 325:8	classes 185:19	closed 66:6,7	126:15 128:18
17:15	325:20 326:3	classic 250:21	327:4	129:23 151:10
child 243:10	circle 37:20 68:9	classification	closer 25:10 26:3	155:14 162:13
children 18:2	circular 41:7	277:18	32:13 177:5	175:17 176:16
98:23 109:17	citation 258:11	classifications	247:6 268:24	177:8 189:9
	I	l	l ————————————————————————————————————	l

	1	1	1	1
194:4 198:12	255:5,24 260:1	156:6 158:8,9	completely	149:22 318:13
205:17 210:8	267:1 301:5,6	180:19 183:5,5	173:13 320:3	321:4
215:12 227:11	305:7 307:20	202:16,19,24	completion 211:4	concerns 30:9,9
244:4 269:3,13	323:22 326:13	226:24 227:1,6	complex 314:15	105:24 106:4,5
282:18 285:1	326:15	228:4 230:10	compliance 6:3	114:5 134:5
289:1,23	commerce 212:3	230:16 232:15	11:10,19 12:16	177:3 180:22
290:20 291:14	212:7,11	232:16 233:20	12:20 59:11	182:16 267:20
291:18,21	commercial	247:16 267:11	91:3 222:15	268:3 271:19
296:23 305:2	159:24 172:19	267:14,16	compliant 222:7	274:9 290:1
305:16 315:23	173:10,13,20	283:24 288:22	complicated 9:19	309:3,5 311:7
322:14	174:3,8 264:6,7	290:10,19	complied 45:6	319:21 321:1
comes 52:20 92:2	Commission	291:22 295:11	209:9 217:14	322:21
248:5 269:10	248:23	300:6 314:6,10	compliment	conclude 7:11
309:8	Commissioner	321:24 322:14	196:9	184:7 205:1
comfortable	191:7 209:5	community's	comply 35:3	concluded
32:15 176:9	213:13 216:13	18:21	218:15 222:11	327:21
178:6 307:1	323:20	compactors	295:7	concludes 15:15
coming 20:4 23:2	commissioners	162:14	composite	323:8 326:20
23:2 28:10 50:2	131:24	company 31:5	238:22	conclusion
53:13 54:9	Commissioner's	154:16	composition	227:13
55:23 69:2	215:23	comparable	182:9 240:1	conclusions
79:20 85:6	commit 70:23	239:3,10	Comprehensive	246:13
87:14 115:24	111:17 113:7,8	comparables	239:17	concrete 33:9
129:5 130:17	Committee	77:17	compressive	39:6,18 40:9,10
156:22 208:11	270:19	compare 101:17	115:18	40:16,24 41:4
210:20 220:6	commodities	239:5 265:14	compromised	41:16 42:12
237:17 248:3	299:24	compared 80:4	249:19	43:5 44:8,12
288:15	common 204:8	85:24	concentrate	56:17 68:20
commence 35:6	259:4	comparison	117:17	72:20 73:12,14
commences	commonly 246:8	121:18	concentrated	73:16 76:2
201:4	commonplace	compass 28:22	105:19 246:14	107:6,9,16
commencing	46:17	compatible 60:16		108:4,11
35:11,15	communicate	168:8 213:17	324:15	115:11,18
commend 314:6	30:8	275:9	concentration	116:4,5,8,9,15
314:24	communication	compete 255:22	182:13 235:15	116:15,18
comment 12:15	222:19 290:12	competitive	concern 81:15,15	146:14,18
14:6 64:1 75:22	communities	295:15	87:19 177:5	148:15,19
76:9,17 84:12	94:15 98:21	complaints 181:4	181:4,9 243:18	163:21 164:3,5
89:11 196:17	181:2 248:17	314:23	288:2	164:7 211:6,6
241:10 270:21	248:21 286:19	complete 11:13	concerned 32:20	224:13
273:14 317:16	324:17	14:23 37:22	112:19 126:18	condition 192:18
commented	community 13:9	38:14 46:9 49:9	143:19,20	192:24 193:1
102:3	25:11,14 59:6,8	91:14	196:20 211:16	217:11,11
comments 4:3,14	82:3 99:2	completed 11:14	244:23 271:11	conditionings
6:11,13,17 7:12	104:10 106:2	29:1 35:19,20	273:10 281:9	239:23
7:15,16,19 8:1	112:15,17	36:17 48:8	298:6,7,9	conditions 54:13
15:18,22 62:22	143:2 155:21	140:7 276:22	concerning	60:12 152:2
15.10,22 02.22	1 13.2 133.21	110.7 270.22	- Concorning	00.12 132.2

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	 I		I	ı
161:17 218:2	219:24 232:19	construction 1:1	272:9 280:17	318:17,19
249:15	283:23 317:11	3:22 4:10,22	contaminate	319:7,11
conducive 240:3	322:9	7:22 10:5,8	105:9	controlled 42:15
conduct 155:12	considerations	12:9 14:10	contaminated	273:9
209:22 211:3	31:16	26:19 44:15,18	79:18 275:2,4	controlling 54:17
conducted 3:15	considered 9:16	47:6,7 59:4	contaminating	117:18
4:2 155:4	64:19 136:11	63:12,20 65:3	166:17,19	conversation
238:18	183:15 185:14	73:24 75:4 91:9	contamination	283:5 290:8
conduit 43:6,15	212:3 230:7	91:14,18	134:6 147:9	conversations
Conference	236:22 239:15	115:12 131:13	159:12 160:16	234:1
264:15	260:9,24	138:8 146:6	235:16 236:5	cookie 22:22
confident 78:17	322:16	147:2 148:2,15	240:14,16	247:17 253:5
299:18	considering	149:3 159:24	272:22 279:18	cookies 22:17
confine 7:24	113:23 183:19	160:1,23 162:5	content 197:7	23:2,3 249:9
confined 253:3	213:13 309:22	162:21 191:2,9	contest 225:16	253:4
260:14 269:23	consist 10:7	203:13 209:10	context 196:10	cool 17:15 240:1
271:17 273:16	23:22	209:20 211:4	continue 8:2	cooperation
275:20	consisted 38:3	211:24 212:17	76:15 112:21	210:7 288:24
confinement	consistent 38:24	213:11,22	185:20 262:4	coordinates
78:11 98:6	47:7 49:12 59:5	218:14,24	275:2 285:13	119:12
273:1 292:10	227:6 230:9	219:3 230:8	298:10	coordinator
293:11	232:15 255:18	265:14 294:18	continued 106:15	254:19
confirm 210:24	321:24	321:8	226:4	COPD 156:19
confirmed 24:10	consistently	construed 212:6	continuous	Copies 13:11
234:15,21	262:3	consultation 12:3	235:24	copy 11:14 13:13
conflicts 309:1	consists 191:15	Consulting 1:23	contract 155:8	13:16,16 15:3,6
confused 92:14	Consolidated	2:7 10:24 31:5	contractors	31:9 36:8 61:21
confusion 89:22	17:6	62:5	26:18	61:23 62:8
connected 160:7	constant 81:12	consumers 157:1	contrary 230:16	69:16 100:4
165:18	112:7	255:18 300:2	322:2	265:9 326:21
connecting 226:8	constellations	consumption	contribute 27:22	326:23
conscientious	187:22	89:5 306:19	55:21	corn 19:9 26:6,8
307:2	construct 10:4	contact 79:17	contributed	26:13 27:20
conservation	11:9 14:10,24	248:4	156:3	54:11 152:24
51:24 239:17	15:7 28:24	contagious 78:10	contributes	213:1 270:1
239:19 240:20	34:15 37:14,16	contain 82:1	306:21	299:24 306:12
conservative	37:23 38:1 46:9	contained 94:13	contributing	306:13,13
276:24	74:5,13 82:13	containers	155:22	307:18,23
consider 7:22	133:20 214:16	308:10,11	control 13:6 30:7	308:1,4,12
21:10 112:24	214:18 276:14	containing 72:23	52:23,24 53:7	corner 48:2 69:3
149:20 261:2	constructed	containment	53:22 54:24	69:4 314:12,16
considerable	42:11 48:10	109:4 148:6	56:8,14 98:17	corporation 11:2
314:4	56:21 73:10	160:3 164:20	101:21 112:22	71:17 72:4,7,7
considerate	84:17 124:14	contains 160:5	113:11 147:3	72:13,13,16
29:22	162:19	173:17	148:1,22	205:7
consideration	constructing	contaminants	181:16 182:18	correct 65:11
12:3 191:23	74:8 82:12	110:7 111:19	246:5 287:1	71:9 72:24 88:8
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	I

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T				_
88:9 90:3,11	counts 132:21	50:20 51:4 54:5	creation 26:14	272:22 273:19
91:19 95:15	county 3:6,18 4:7	123:24 134:17	credit 308:17	274:16 275:2
99:10 104:2	10:22 11:15,24	170:17 185:2	creek 1:2 2:5	277:8,10,10,15
107:7 109:18	12:3 13:23 14:4	267:1 305:7	3:24 7:23 11:1	278:7,10,10,17
118:9,18 135:1	14:11,19 15:11	course 100:10	16:11,15 21:17	278:19 279:15
135:11 146:21	31:24 45:3,4	155:5 201:14	22:5,6,9 23:17	286:22 296:23
148:5 149:18	58:12,18 59:1	210:1 217:23	23:21 26:2,7,15	299:8 301:10
162:11 163:9	59:22 60:5,12	318:9	27:4 30:6,22	319:13 324:20
165:23 178:20	64:1,7,14 67:4	court 5:9 16:2	47:13 64:8	325:19
179:16 185:9	67:14 77:2,2	30:20 113:13	66:19 70:19	criteria 5:1 12:21
200:24 201:6	84:24 131:23	154:3 184:12	79:23 82:16,23	13:11,14,17
220:20 250:5	131:24 132:9	316:21 326:23	83:2,6 87:21	14:16 16:12
252:8	133:11 134:1	cover 193:11	92:23,24 93:1,1	28:12 29:2,20
correctly 145:13	137:7 142:5	covered 39:23	93:1,2,13 94:16	30:18 31:1,8,20
185:4	170:19,21,22	covering 9:6	134:5,6,8,20	32:24 33:11
correspondence	190:20,21	240:1	149:10,12	34:6,10 38:21
15:1,8,10	191:3,4 193:3	cow 282:10	159:3,12,20	42:24 44:23
cortisol 181:20	193:23 194:1	289:22	160:8,19 161:9	46:24 48:14
cost 139:8 192:9	194:14,24	cows 18:23,24	161:14 164:22	50:13,20 57:1
211:14 216:17	195:1,2 196:17	22:18 23:1	165:1,5,7 166:8	61:16 67:6
217:17 218:1,7	196:22 197:21	cow/calf 18:22	166:20,21	74:16 90:16
219:22 224:7	200:4,7 209:16	22:14	167:2,4,6	113:24 116:1
295:2,6,14	210:14 217:9	crack 146:19	168:21 180:20	120:24 135:17
costly 295:2	217:10,16	148:17,19	183:19 184:2	136:18 158:14
costs 139:3,7	218:9 220:4	163:10 164:9	184:20 188:14	195:8 196:18
142:9 191:8	230:20 231:5,9	164:11,11,14	190:9 194:11	196:22,24
council 256:18	231:18,23	164:19,21	194:12,13	197:23 200:5,6
counsel 6:17	232:18 244:20	cracked 160:2	203:5,10,20	202:14 224:3
328:9,13	249:6 254:6	cracking 148:21	204:10,16	227:11 260:11
count 57:11,13	256:11 259:24	159:15	205:7,21	317:11,13
171:14 216:23	267:17 268:22	cracks 107:10	216:20 217:3	318:13,14,15
235:1 251:3	276:5,6,7,17	108:12 146:18	219:16 220:17	318:17 319:23
counted 84:23	277:6 281:18	148:22 164:4,6	225:17,22	320:16 322:9
counter 322:4	283:9,11 287:6	164:7,16,17	226:5,9,14	322:16
counties 158:22	287:8 303:4	166:5,11	230:13,15	criterion 321:19
271:5,11	304:5 306:9	crane 73:11	232:11,14	321:21
278:23,24	307:14 310:8	crap 167:6	233:11 235:21	critical 54:21
300:21 306:23	313:2,3 314:3	crawdads 188:18	238:14,15	criticisms 139:19
country 28:7	314:20 315:7	crazy 267:18,23	242:18 244:24	139:20 254:5
29:15,24 80:16	315:10,12,18	268:12	245:2 248:23	crop 19:7,12
175:16 184:15	317:12 322:17	create 68:4	252:22 255:6	22:14 23:16
225:20 226:13	322:24 323:19	created 285:21	256:3 257:13	51:15 168:4
227:14,19	326:22	287:13	257:16,20,24	197:13 200:18
240:10 246:20	County's 14:6	creates 183:24	262:7,20 267:4	200:24
269:11 296:19	204:22 232:4	288:24 291:2	267:9,12 269:2	cropland 27:6
305:13,16	couple 37:9 40:6	creating 225:10	271:6,15 272:6	69:19,20
309:11	42:8 46:13	306:22 309:6,8	272:7,7,12,14	156:13 172:15
	l	l	l	l

			I	
261:7	cycle 55:18	242:19 254:16	187:15 188:3	Deeds 67:4,15
crops 306:19	cylinder 115:20	297:8,11	210:21 274:22	deemed 89:5
cross 59:16	115:20	daughters	DDGS 54:11	deep 10:9,12,15
146:16 290:23	C-A-S-O-L-A	254:10,12	dead 56:14,15,20	10:18 44:3 73:1
crossing 219:16	102:7 223:21	Dave 91:22,22	56:22	88:22 101:9
crouching 188:8	C-H-R-I-S	92:6,10,13,17	deadline 137:8	112:6 144:20
crusade 240:22	270:17	92:21,24 93:5	138:22	145:4 175:12
crushed 142:14	C-H-U-R-N-E-Y	93:19 94:5,10	deadly 235:5	178:22 179:3
crux 136:5	63:2	94:20	248:20	263:3
Cub 204:12,14	C-L-A-N-I-N	David 198:4,4,11	deal 82:3 101:21	deeper 30:17
274:23	95:4 149:8	198:15 211:23	233:20 286:17	deeply 309:7
cull 57:8 235:23	C.S.R 328:21,22	211:23 212:9	308:14,17	defending 212:8
culvert 133:17,17		212:19,23	dealing 324:12	defer 76:18
culverts 133:14	D	213:15	324:22 325:4	Deferring 6:21
133:14	D 1:16 2:1 12:21	Dawn 17:23	deals 12:8	define 136:12
Cumberland	277:7	169:9,9,15,20	dear 240:23	defined 47:3 49:3
202:11 204:5,9	DA 234:15	170:2,6,13,15	Deb 249:3,3,14	124:24
226:14	dad 257:17 268:7	170:19,22	249:20	defining 125:7
curiosity 312:3	daily 22:16 57:12	171:1,5,9,12,15	debate 5:18	definitely 227:6
curious 111:16	58:7,13 156:16	250:11,14,17	Debbie 149:7,7	272:14
134:14 172:14	213:1 216:23	250:22 251:10	149:15,19	definition 48:18
current 4:18 8:20	225:20 275:13	251:13,16,19	150:1,6,8,11,23	50:8,10 52:17
9:5 10:2 32:4	damage 50:16	251:22 252:2,7	151:3,12	64:20 104:20
53:2 79:12	172:4 193:11	252:11,15,19	Decatur 170:24	183:2 184:1
82:21 85:24	193:14 197:3	253:2,8,11,16	decide 200:8	260:3
90:19 131:21	197:24 209:11	253:16 256:17	219:15	definitively
136:7 216:22	211:8 269:4	256:21 257:1,7	decided 154:23	180:3
217:5,13,21	318:16	day 14:6 24:19	deciding 196:18	degree 17:17
233:23 243:18	damages 183:11	57:13,14 58:22	decision 14:21	185:17,18
249:15	273:7	69:9,13 85:1,6	137:22 179:15	307:16
currently 8:7 9:3	damn 290:4	85:21,21,24	200:8 215:3,23	delicate 182:5
12:15 20:22	Dana 17:5	101:11,14,18	276:18 299:13	240:5
22:8 54:10	danger 272:5	121:8 144:2	300:12 302:12	delivered 74:4
69:11 70:20	dangerous	191:17 195:7	303:2 304:11	126:15
78:18 80:1 81:7	156:14 182:6	195:11 204:5	decisions 314:2	deliveries 57:7
134:8 142:5	dark 49:22 92:22	204:15 217:2	deck 157:23	57:10 212:12
145:3 156:18	93:13	221:18,19	decline 203:19,23	235:23
158:8 171:15	dart 136:9	222:18,24	204:2	delivering 25:4
180:23 184:3	data 58:18 77:14	223:1 233:14	Decommissioni	116:9
195:6 217:1	77:23,24	281:7 314:11	66:5	delivery 27:5
220:23 221:22	105:20 132:24	days 13:24 14:7	deconstructed	57:9 235:24
222:11 224:20	134:7 186:10	24:20 28:2,3	150:22	demand 299:23
225:1 236:18	191:14 238:22	35:11,14 37:4	decrease 156:1	demonstrate
249:5 251:22	311:3	40:3 44:14	230:13 232:12	4:24 232:10
299:16 317:21	date 14:9 35:7,19	52:10 108:15	322:5	demonstration
cut 148:18	37:1,2 302:22	108:15 115:18	decreased 232:1	9:10 65:23
238:12 307:20	daughter 242:6	115:21 138:4	dedicated 62:21	Dendridge
	<u></u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

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144:24	182:24	318:14	77:6,13 231:21	51:14,15,18,18
denied 139:22	departments	designed 12:21	devalued 224:8	51:20 54:6,8
Dennis 241:14,15	98:21	39:7 56:21	develop 314:9	55:12 56:16
dense 25:18,20	Department's	60:10 94:12	developed 41:2,9	61:4,5,8 68:18
density 60:15	9:22 14:20 15:3	108:18,21	320:21	113:22 116:11
deny 104:15	15:13	112:6 115:8	developer 218:11	117:10 120:19
248:22 271:15	depend 64:17	222:24 262:16	developers 193:4	125:1 127:5
273:19 322:24	70:14	263:23	194:4 205:6	145:19,23
department 1:14	depending 5:10	designing 224:12	211:13 267:9	173:13 198:7
1:16,19 2:3 3:4	9:14 51:15	designs 9:20	development	229:2 263:15
3:8,12 4:8 5:6	54:13 105:6	83:12	13:10 59:7,9,10	304:21 311:10
7:13,16,17 8:5	240:13	desiring 326:23	60:15,16 193:5	311:11,11,18
8:9,11,14 10:3	depends 65:7	destination	202:16 203:1	differently
11:8,12,23 12:4	116:21 137:23	188:15	206:6 227:8	292:19
12:10,15 14:1,4	164:15	destroyed 212:22	230:11,17	difficult 87:15
14:7,14,15,19	depicted 73:12	detail 42:4 46:12	232:17 233:21	161:10 172:8
15:8 29:3 36:2	93:12	85:13 161:6	257:16 282:3	176:5 288:12
36:9,15,19 37:6	depletion 143:20	detailed 12:11	314:11 315:6	diffuse 112:10
38:2 44:10,17	depreciation	132:22 180:22	315:16 322:4	dig 29:15
44:19 55:14	76:11	detect 84:14	devoted 23:10,10	digging 89:2
58:4 59:19	depression	182:6	225:10	diligent 131:2
62:12 63:8,16	181:23	detected 80:15	DeWitt 230:20	dimensions
64:2,8,15 65:1	depth 28:14 33:9	109:3 166:5	231:5	67:20
65:14 66:3	49:14,23 56:5	deter 285:8	diagnosed	diminished 182:5
91:10 98:14	58:16 88:11,15	deteriorates	234:24	diminishes
105:15,23	Des 18:11	150:14	Diana 273:24	183:11
115:23 132:21	describe 4:23	deteriorating	274:1,1,5	Dimmitt 242:8
134:2,3 137:6	117:22 118:11	131:18	310:21,22	diocese 256:18
138:17,20	119:8	determination	311:9,23	256:20,23
139:16,21	described 9:6	4:9 14:18 138:9	Diane 241:18,22	257:6 264:12
140:12 141:7	22:6 83:24	209:15	241:22	dip 44:7
142:17 149:5	94:18	determine 6:3	diarrhea 80:7	direct 51:8
178:3 179:14	describing	14:16 48:12	233:24 234:6	103:18 127:12
190:21 195:21	123:18 130:18	119:16,20	324:23	138:16 156:21
217:17 220:5	description	167:16,18	die 240:8	267:21
230:7 233:18	208:2	195:9 196:22	dies 140:19	directed 7:17
234:10 236:23	deserve 151:16	197:22 200:18	diets 54:8,11,11	101:20 229:22
248:22 256:12	308:17	209:22	differ 9:21	directing 62:16
270:22 271:14	deserved 286:4	determined	difference 19:10	94:4
273:18 276:5	design 9:7 11:3	11:13 70:11	212:23 220:22	direction 18:13
276:13 283:23	11:18 12:9,12	116:12,21	221:16 236:14	26:2 103:19
292:12 299:4	38:22 39:15	130:20	259:22 260:16	328:8
317:10 322:17	40:22,23 41:3	determining	260:21 261:8	directly 21:16
322:23 323:19	41:14,20 42:21	119:8	different 9:13	48:22 59:22
325:9,11	63:7 91:2 105:5	detrimental	20:24 21:2	84:2,3 103:6
326:16	149:2 155:9 294:18 295:7	317:10,12 devaluation 77:3	38:17 40:14 42:24 50:1	123:8 125:14
Departmental	294.10 293.7	uevaiuauoii //:3	42.24 30.1	181:15,17
		-	-	-

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220.14	diamagal 26.12	250:11 279:14	72:18 85:3	driven 322:10
228:14 Director 3:3	disposal 36:12	documents 13:18	86:22 89:21	driven 322.10 drivers 246:16
Directors 299:7	56:14,15,20,22 272:2 277:12	41:6,6 168:20	100:12 101:6	
dirty 55:19	Dispose 29:13	168:22 236:6	100.12 101.0	driving 114:5 246:15
disagree 257:11	disregard 106:1	276:16 277:23	111:13 123:9	drop 226:11
C		325:3,5	126:10 128:17	321:13
disappointed 78:22 142:20	disregarded 82:19	*		
78:22 142:20 242:19	disservice 67:22	dog 260:20	135:13 246:2 300:15 306:24	drops 129:21
· -		dogs 18:21 260:21		drove 22:15
discharge 94:14	dissolved 277:17		318:3,23 319:7	129:15 290:18
119:4 258:3,4,5	dissuade 114:24	doing 38:9 85:23	319:8 320:4,12	dry 144:11,18
258:9,11,18,19	distance 11:20,21	86:15,19,19	320:22 321:17	due 14:4 38:6
259:2 262:14	32:1 84:8 141:1	104:9 105:9	322:11,14	57:17,23
263:9,10,17	141:9 219:21	109:14 114:7	dragline 51:4	231:21 236:23
277:22 278:4	225:13	124:2 129:1	70:10 133:12	dues 305:1
278:19 280:15	distances 38:10	146:7 186:2	draglines 70:13	dump 23:3,3
280:17	distributed	210:5 214:20	dragonflies	durable 29:5
discharges 272:7	235:22	254:21 261:3	189:5	duration 24:12
discharging	distribution	261:12,15,18	drain 39:16 43:2	240:13
118:22	193:5 216:24	262:1,3 268:8	43:3,24 52:13	Durham 146:11
disclosure	distributions	268:11 284:15	52:22 84:14	146:12 147:6
132:11	191:19	285:8	94:23 108:9	147:13,18,23
discovered 114:8	district 16:23	doings 311:20	118:11 267:13	148:3,7 238:6
discuss 5:18	17:6 60:9 86:22	dollars 26:12	drainage 118:23	238:10 241:10
131:6 300:22	87:8,16 157:11	282:5,6 308:19	267:13	265:12,12,20
discussed 220:6	195:6 307:19	dome 240:5	drains 47:22	265:22 266:1,3
296:10	314:8 317:22	domestic 306:18	Drake 98:9	279:12,12,20
discusses 221:5	ditch 118:2	donate 18:3	draw 28:16	279:22 280:2,6
discussion 5:24	267:13	dot 290:23	29:22 201:6	280:10
85:14 153:18	diversion 159:11	double 174:19	drawings 118:1	dust 53:19 54:24
205:20 208:9	divert 160:15	Downey 305:23	120:5	273:7
discussions 124:3	Division 238:17	306:3,3,8	drill 144:12	Dutchman
131:21	DNR's 239:16	downhill 188:7	175:14,17,19	111:14
disease 25:20	doctor 17:16	downs 295:13	179:5	DVM 299:14
78:9 79:11,14	308:15 320:23	downstream	drilled 177:22	dwelling 160:1
80:8,14 81:16	doctor's 71:4	161:15 257:18	178:22 179:2	D-I-A-N-A 274:2
81:19,23 82:1	document 32:17	272:6,8	driller 175:8,17	D-O-W-N-E-Y
110:7 126:13	36:7 157:5	downtown 29:9,9	drillers 174:22	306:4
189:10 234:5	158:12 248:24	29:10	drilling 88:6	D-U-R-H-A-M
246:5	264:23 277:5	downwind 98:7	144:20 161:2	146:12 238:11
diseases 78:13,17	277:13,24	101:24 102:1	drink 189:15	
79:16 100:15	278:15,18,20	123:8 310:15	277:20	E
100:16 181:21	279:2,3,5,7	dozen 22:23	drinking 101:15	E 2:1
190:1	324:15	268:22	159:19 161:14	Eagle 313:5
disinfect 81:22	documentation	Dr 16:6 31:21	drive 87:21	earlier 11:7 37:3
dismissed 181:5	280:5 325:21	38:17 46:11	103:11 212:9	45:22 61:24
disorders 181:22	documented	60:21 61:1,7	226:11 293:10	100:13 119:15
dispense 107:20	44:16 97:17	66:18 69:7	326:17	121:4 234:1
dispense 107.20	11.10 /1.11	00.10 07.7	320.17	

MIDWEST LITIGATION SERVICES Phone: 1.800.280.3376

	1	<u> </u>	1	I
243:13 281:1	ecosystem 238:15	182:3	encourage	195:20 223:12
294:3 319:6	ecosystems	elected 106:13	141:11 248:22	238:13 264:20
326:21	161:15	electricians	299:11 320:12	317:18
early 222:13	Ed 21:10	26:18	endeavors	entered 4:4 7:9
224:6 256:5	Eden 313:5	element 199:23	299:21	15:4,5,12
259:19	edge 68:12,19	elements 173:15	endorsement	323:13,16,21
ears 185:4	educated 259:6	elevated 178:15	303:13	323:24 324:3,6
earth 225:24	298:5 310:1	elevation 178:14	ends 184:16,20	324:9,14,18,21
earthquake	education 254:19	elevator 19:13	186:5	325:2,6,10,13
171:24 172:3	educational	eligible 122:3	enforce 194:23	325:15,17
earthquakes	182:1	Elk 204:13	210:6 211:19	326:1,7,10
171:22	effect 54:19 59:1	Ellen 244:11,12	213:10,11,19	entering 39:23
easements 70:13	67:1 97:14	244:13	214:23,24	81:24 236:7
easier 113:19	232:17 237:4	ELM 1:7	enforced 195:13	272:14
easiest 106:6	237:14 244:24	eloquently	213:22 215:16	entertaining
easily 159:10	281:18	322:20	enforcement	155:16
160:9 248:13	effective 35:7	else's 184:16	271:23	entire 64:21
east 57:19,19	effects 54:17 57:2	embedded	engineer 30:17	80:17 147:23
58:1 103:2	effort 104:4	148:11	31:3 146:14	148:3 192:4
117:15,21,23	efforts 248:10	emergency 47:14	163:24 164:2	233:11 303:9
118:3 132:13	eggs 90:24	93:20,21,24	190:20,22	303:11 312:9
132:24 165:2	egress 219:8	94:8 99:4	191:3	entitled 228:19
188:5 192:7	eight 12:20 14:16	emission 54:20	engineering	228:20 231:21
203:9	16:11 18:19	emissions 54:4	12:12 63:7	324:15
eastern 20:23	25:13 28:12	55:3 98:11	151:23 155:7	entrepreneurs
east/west 130:15	29:20 30:17	emitted 183:10	190:24 217:16	308:21
easy 45:7,9	31:1,8,20 33:10	emotion 181:17	218:9 220:4	entry 15:1 21:13
175:13,24	34:6 44:2 47:23	emotional 104:1	Engineers 41:12	enveloped 43:11
277:12	61:16 67:6	289:3 313:6	enhance 307:24	environment
eat 189:8 221:18	74:16 117:4	empathize 309:5	enhancement	31:18 38:24
270:1	120:23 158:14	emphasis 91:2	299:12	39:5 42:15 56:7
echo 316:23	196:18 202:14	empirical 186:10	enhances 160:2	161:5 162:20
economic 13:10	215:14,19,20	employ 249:6	enjoy 225:1,12	185:6 226:2
59:7,9 61:1,3,5	224:4 227:11	308:6	225:22 226:6	240:4 244:6
61:8 155:11,23	242:4 274:14	employed 328:10	226:12	245:1 256:2
156:2 202:16	315:5 317:11	328:13	enjoyed 226:16	271:2,19 307:3
203:1 224:9	317:13 319:23	employee 328:12	242:14	309:9
227:7 230:10	321:21 322:9	employees 21:1	enjoying 204:8	environmental
230:17 232:17	322:15	85:2 95:14,21	enormous 255:8	3:13 8:8 50:16
233:20 236:23	eighth 233:17	99:3	ensure 4:1,3,11	65:17 66:8 82:9
237:4,13	236:22	employer 97:1	51:21 65:16	158:6 161:3
315:16 317:9	either 6:23 25:4	employment	78:15 148:21	197:3,24
322:4	42:1 70:2,9	309:10	177:12	239:23 264:23
economics 208:9	99:21 139:23	employs 281:20	Ensures 52:3	271:1 286:11
economy 277:2	148:10 174:8	281:24	enter 49:8 61:19	295:14 318:16
299:20 306:20	183:22 187:19	enacted 124:13	62:3,7 117:19	environmentally
306:22	elderly 156:19	277:1	164:20 193:6	47:2
	<u> </u>	l	<u> </u>	1

		<u> </u>	l	<u> </u>
environments	121:5 192:9	everyday 133:8	exhibit 15:2,6,13	experience 23:7
186:10	218:6	evidence 65:15	49:9 61:19,21	30:3,4 96:14
EPA 82:19 89:5	estimates 116:11	66:4 223:12	62:3,8 157:5	152:22 153:9
114:11 165:19	201:8,15	231:21 236:7	245:8 318:22	158:6,19
166:21 182:17	Ethan 186:18,24	317:15,15	323:14,14,16	169:21 170:8
256:6 258:11	186:24 187:4,4	evidenced 105:24	323:21,24	170:11 171:2,4
258:16 259:1	187:13,19	evil 288:23	324:3,6,9,11,13	171:6 191:1
277:7,16 278:1	188:10,22	evolved 248:12	324:14,18,21	279:5 285:9
EPA's 160:13	189:2,14 190:3	254:15	325:3,6,10,13	287:7
277:14 279:18	190:10	exactly 34:7	325:15,17	expert 313:21
292:9	ethics 28:7	176:11	326:1,8,11	317:6
epidemic 233:23	European 239:1	exam 38:14	exhibited 321:6	expertise 177:7
233:23 246:16	evacuation 97:14	examination	exhibits 232:21	311:14
324:23	97:20 98:13,16	24:10	323:3	expiration 35:24
epidemiology	98:22	example 50:23	exist 17:5 50:12	explain 4:12 31:7
80:13	evaluate 112:22	141:14 148:12	167:21 168:24	82:18 87:2,5
equal 96:24	evaluating 200:5	150:17 178:7	240:2 290:11	115:14 199:20
equate 121:16	Evans 64:6 75:17	181:19 255:19	existence 19:19	288:14
equipment 79:19	131:5,22 132:6	314:20	278:9	explanation
214:17	210:16 216:13	examples 230:19	existent 230:16	151:23
equitably 9:23	217:8 218:6	232:9,10	existing 6:3 9:17	Exploration 62:4
equivalent 89:14	219:17 220:8	excavate 109:6	13:7 57:3 58:3	exponentially
eroded 159:22	221:12 226:8	exceed 35:7	59:6 119:8	182:12
erosion 52:1	232:18 317:22	41:20 42:5	191:15 217:9	exported 150:2
erysipelas 79:22	317:24 318:6	exceeding 35:12	217:12 218:2	exporting 308:7
100:19	323:20	35:15	230:10 248:17	exports 308:5
escrow 193:10,15	evening 3:2 4:1	excellent 239:8	277:4 321:7,24	expose 183:17
especially 78:11	4:13 5:18 8:6	314:24	exists 42:2 50:11	exposure 183:9
132:6 182:15	12:18 16:9	excelling 185:18	expand 64:9,12	235:20
183:19 246:21	99:15 100:11	exceptionally	262:1 314:5	expressed 9:14
269:9 278:17	243:16 302:11	239:22	Expanded 300:1	309:4
317:7	306:6 307:12	exceptions	expanding 90:15	extends 148:13
essentially	319:6 321:3,22	214:12,13,13	expansion 9:17	extensive 224:11
173:18	evening's 12:24	excess 321:10	64:18,18,22,23	224:14
established 18:19	13:23	excited 16:10	65:8,9 90:8,9	extensively
45:5 66:15	event 65:17	exclusion 214:12	90:11 300:24	321:22
301:22	204:19	exclusive 69:21	expansions	extent 225:11
establishing	events 204:11	excuse 78:2 87:4	205:21	320:15
104:4	eventually 17:7	143:6 177:21	expect 87:14 88:2	exterior 39:17
estate 66:20,23	83:10,12 140:5	253:14 267:5	89:1 101:22	43:4
317:24 318:3,4	140:19,22	295:17	153:8 178:1	extra 19:11
318:7	142:10 164:8	executed 66:22	210:16 211:19	extruded 54:21
estimate 76:9,14	everybody	Executive 270:18	expectancy	Exxon 153:1,5
201:11,18	104:14 132:3	exercise 228:15	150:15,20	eyes 78:2 282:13
211:5 216:17	134:18 214:24	exhaust 319:3,4	expected 137:9	E-N-S 296:8
217:18,24	255:14 274:5	exhaustively	242:14,16	E-R 86:11
estimated 121:2	309:22	246:11	expense 268:16	
I				

		ı	I	ı
$oldsymbol{F}$	55:10 59:5 62:5	259:17 260:7,8	failed 162:19	177:11 199:17
F 31:14	62:11 64:5,9,13	261:21 265:13	fails 108:5,16,24	203:19 210:9
fabric 43:13	64:20,24 65:16	272:3,21 273:1	182:17	211:23 225:4
face 284:9	65:18,20 66:5	273:8 306:11	failure 166:5	257:14 258:3
face-to-face	66:11,14,20	308:16 317:17	fair 153:5 206:18	265:15 321:12
78:20 284:17	68:8 69:9,18,22	318:5,15,23	fairly 9:23 39:21	farm 16:22 17:22
facilities 3:17	72:8 73:24 74:5	319:4 321:9,20	125:10,11	19:24 20:1,3,8
4:16 5:2,20	74:8,24 76:13	321:23 322:8	fall 9:1 19:9 35:1	20:15,18,19,21
8:12,19,21 9:13	79:9,11,14	322:22 325:19	69:19 145:6	21:4,9,11,15,19
9:18 12:8,22	80:21 82:13	326:4,14	falling 130:18	22:10 24:22,23
16:12 28:13	83:19 85:2	facility's 8:17	163:7,9	24:24 25:19,22
31:12 34:19,20	86:15,20,23	12:20	falls 224:3	26:3,16,20
35:6,24 39:1,8	93:21 94:13	fact 17:1 27:16	familiar 111:14	27:19,20 29:8,9
41:7,7 45:6	97:12 102:1,13	64:14 127:15	162:21 292:8	29:10,11 30:24
47:19 48:23	102:18 103:6	144:10 148:17	292:15,17	32:3,5,18 33:7
59:14 71:8 76:6	103:10 106:23	183:4 217:12	293:5	34:1 38:13,18
78:11 80:3 81:1	108:16 110:3	218:4 223:10	families 30:14	55:5,11 57:8,9
82:11,14,20	110:11,18	225:15 231:5	154:21 204:2,8	57:10 71:24,24
84:19 94:12	111:3 116:9,19	231:18 278:5	271:2	77:5 79:15
97:8 120:7	117:19 118:8	281:11 295:17	family 17:21	81:20,22,23,24
124:8,12,14	120:3 121:6	296:17 312:12	30:13,13 97:23	82:1,2 84:1,3
135:8,10	123:9,18	319:12 320:8	102:17,20	87:22 90:15,18
144:14,15	126:20 131:13	321:13	104:5,13,18	90:22 91:3
150:13 193:5	133:17 138:2	factor 26:4 33:19	111:2 113:15	95:22 98:4 99:5
202:14 211:6	138:10 141:3,9	33:22 233:17	113:16 116:8	99:7 101:16
232:11 237:7	150:21 151:10	factories 242:23	116:18 143:18	102:15 103:18
248:7 261:17	154:13 155:10	249:5,6,8,10	155:1 171:8	104:6,18
262:6 277:3	155:14,24	258:10 310:8	185:15,16	110:15 113:15
292:10,15	156:10 158:14	factors 230:7	202:19 206:24	113:16 121:16
293:12 299:19	160:23 163:14	factory 104:19	223:22 224:2,5	126:15,19
302:8,9	163:23 165:19	104:21 183:11	224:10 226:17	127:18 130:14
facility 1:2 3:23	165:21 167:5	187:7,10,23	227:1 228:4	130:24 133:3
4:10 5:5 6:2	167:10 177:16	190:11 203:8	233:12,16	136:10,18
7:12,16,17,23	178:24 179:11	204:20 207:4	242:5,12,14,17	142:24 144:19
9:7,8,10,15,16	182:1,20,23	223:24 224:9	242:23 256:3	150:4,17 151:8
9:16,20 10:5,10	183:19,23	228:16 229:11	274:10 282:17	158:22 167:14
10:13,16,19	197:22 201:13	230:12,23	296:20 297:7	169:2,4 171:8
11:4,19 12:10	201:17 209:11	232:7 241:6	324:8	176:17 185:14
12:14 13:3,4,7	217:6 227:5	244:2 247:17	fan 53:19	185:15,17
13:8 14:3 15:23	228:13 229:8	247:18 253:5	fancy 301:9	187:23 199:19
32:16 34:21,22	230:6,9,13,16	255:11 271:7	fans 55:20,23	199:23 201:12
35:18,21 36:5	231:2,4 232:12	271:21,23	far 25:14 59:1	204:10 206:2
36:13,18 37:21	232:14 235:11	272:13 273:3	61:4,9 98:3	206:15,23,23
38:16 40:4	235:22 236:2	facts 151:21	103:12 114:21	206:24 207:3
42:10 44:21	236:24 237:3	238:13 258:22	117:15 120:13	207:11 208:1,3
45:1,19 47:1,5	237:11 243:7	fail 108:22	142:18 160:14	213:22 220:23
47:15 48:4	245:1,3,7 258:1	115:21	172:16 176:10	221:3,5,7,7
77.13 70.7	, ,		l	1

	_	_		
222:21 228:3,4	19:10 20:4,18	255:23 269:19	feed 19:13 22:17	fertilize 29:16
228:24 229:5	20:24 23:9	278:23 279:6	26:5,5 27:4	fertilizer 23:12
229:11 231:11	24:23 26:9	283:17 285:13	53:12,24 54:7	23:12,14 29:17
232:2 242:14	152:23 172:19	294:15 295:4	57:10 89:4	60:23 168:12
243:9,14 244:2	193:22 194:1	295:12 299:16	105:19 221:18	172:20 173:2
247:20,23	213:12 217:15	307:2 309:17	222:6 308:2	173:10,13,20
252:17,23	221:1,12,21	320:6,8,13	feeding 38:7	174:8 183:23
254:4,7,15	222:8,10	farm's 230:23	53:12 54:12,18	263:21 264:4,5
255:6,10,10,11	252:17 255:21	farrow 19:3	246:14 252:14	264:5,6
255:19,22	256:23 269:12	21:24 26:22	271:17 273:16	fertilizers 172:23
256:5,13	269:14 282:8	farrowing 3:23	276:21 308:7	174:3 264:7
257:13,15,17	284:10,21,22	10:11 21:21	324:16	fewer 54:23
257:19 259:18	285:24 286:15	24:1,15 26:22	feel 79:7,10	269:1,2
267:3,8 268:6	295:8 296:22	27:2 73:6	106:14 127:17	fiber 301:24
269:3,13 270:5	301:13,17,17	farther 257:24	127:21 130:1	field 92:8 133:20
274:13 275:15	301:21 304:21	268:24 269:17	131:17 254:1	240:16 263:22
278:3,12,14	farmhouse	farthest 83:21	270:4 275:9	Fieldcrest 17:6,7
280:23 281:5	225:19	fashion 4:3	297:23 306:24	fields 51:14,18
282:17,17	farming 23:10	285:13	313:18	51:20 54:22
283:11,17,19	29:11 60:8 80:4	fast 55:8 262:17	feeling 79:14	70:16 122:8
285:11,11	123:16 171:16	263:23	152:6,20	133:4,7 197:10
289:13,17	194:2 226:23	fastest 188:9	241:16	247:4,7,9,15
293:18 295:5	242:8 246:18	fats 54:12	feet 10:9,9,11,12	262:15
297:14,16,24	269:24 275:17	fatty 54:23	10:12,14,14,17	field's 197:14
298:2,14 299:2	290:10 295:11	fault 171:22	10:17 11:20,22	fifth 224:1
299:3,6,8,10,15	304:23 307:17	favorite 188:12	22:10 32:2,13	figure 28:6 107:9
299:18,22	farms 18:22	fear 110:7 240:11	32:14 37:21	121:4 257:4
300:11,17,20	20:13,22,23	314:13,18	38:5 45:17,21	260:11 317:13
301:13 302:21	21:2 25:21	feasible 90:17,17	46:5,6,15,19,23	figured 136:2,3
303:3,13 304:5	27:15 69:11	features 224:14	49:4 88:8 101:9	143:23
304:9,18	71:1,2,14 72:8	240:2	119:17 120:2	file 15:1 36:13
306:18,21	77:11 78:15,23	February 10:6	120:14 123:8	49:10 99:19
313:10,12,16	81:6,16,21	11:9 37:5	126:20 143:19	filed 98:13,20
314:14 315:3	95:21,23 97:22	142:16 194:20	144:20 175:11	167:19 276:20
farmed 22:15	97:24 99:2	217:14 220:5	175:12 177:23	fill 90:21
242:7	101:13 104:13	222:11	178:8,10,12,22	filled 36:8
farmer 19:3,5	104:18 109:2	fecal 188:16	179:2,3,4,5,10	filling 73:13
20:17 25:2,24	111:7 114:19	277:16	191:15 192:1	filtered 262:22
27:8 70:22	122:3 126:13	Fecht 298:20,24	254:7 257:15	262:22,23
71:24 90:20	130:12 141:15	298:24 300:14	257:20,21	263:1,5
123:15 127:15	142:2,3,3	300:19 301:20	263:2,4 293:8	filters 111:14,15
213:14 259:23	150:19 151:6	302:10,14,20	female 20:11	final 29:21 63:17
267:16 284:20	193:4 202:19	303:18,22	24:2	91:11 118:1
285:20 289:20	206:24 207:1	304:6,12,20	females 21:23	138:9
289:21 307:14	226:14 227:1	305:3	22:1 24:3,5,6,8	finalized 74:2
310:7	230:12 232:7	federal 47:14	24:13,16 25:4	117:24 119:1
farmers 19:2,7,8	242:23 255:16	105:17 272:10	fertile 60:7 61:11	finally 13:21
	•			1

	1	1	1	1
18:24 24:14	151:20 152:20	flooding 159:6	foot 44:3 47:4	151:22 158:15
30:10 36:11	154:8 215:10	226:20 244:23	48:24 49:1,4,15	175:20 198:22
321:21 323:8	230:20 233:8	245:6	49:15,24 50:3	222:19 224:4
financial 9:9	241:3 293:16	floodplain 29:12	50:10,11 73:4,5	234:2 290:2
65:15,22 66:12	300:10 313:7	47:2,12,16	73:6 92:20	311:19
112:18	fish 188:18 226:6	124:24 125:1,4	192:3 217:20	forthcoming
financially	238:18,23	125:5,23	217:21,23	319:13 320:2
328:14	239:13,14,21	floodplains 13:5	257:18	fortunately
financing 87:9	240:7,11 256:3	floods 125:19	Foote 78:16	210:11 288:17
142:6	257:14 274:22	165:16	123:3,3,7,15	Forty-five
find 68:22 89:12	Fisheries 238:17	floodwaters	124:16 125:17	238:23
109:5,7 110:19	fisherman	245:2	126:1,3 127:7	forward 15:18
135:18 137:4	240:24	floor 118:12	127:22 128:1,5	93:3 111:21,22
203:7 214:10	fishes 267:15	146:24 148:16	128:8,14 130:1	154:1 176:17
247:19 268:20	fishing 93:7	148:17,18	130:7 131:1	176:19 254:21
268:22 278:1	204:15 227:2	flow 51:2,11,22	202:3,4 288:1,5	285:5 290:23
286:21,23	241:3 274:18	117:17 131:7	289:20 290:13	290:24
291:23 293:16	fishkills 279:14	132:6 239:24	291:4,8 300:9	forwarded 11:14
296:19 298:13	279:23	flower 225:6	300:16,16	Fosdyck 296:2,3
309:23	fish's 240:4	flows 57:3 93:6	305:5,6,11	foul 181:4
finding 288:8	fit 90:23 202:22	165:4 166:7	309:15,16	found 55:6 81:9
finds 214:7	205:18,18	flush 118:14	Foote's 291:20	100:22 110:1
247:12	Fitzgerald	focus 185:11	footing 40:10	123:24 175:2
fine 186:2 207:20	241:14,15,18	focused 117:11	42:12 118:15	238:23 239:4
214:14 264:21	241:22,23	181:1	163:22	239:14 247:2,3
finish 19:4	five 9:6 18:23	folks 113:17	footings 39:6	248:2 292:1
finishing 141:23	19:2 25:12 28:3	151:22 182:16	41:17 162:15	294:4
142:3 143:1	48:16 50:13	210:16 253:6	forbid 123:22	foundation
fire 98:13,20	86:14 104:5	293:22 295:16	force 5:21	107:10 163:13
224:16 226:16	139:17 143:9	295:22	forced 156:24	166:4,4 172:1
fireman's 133:6	159:22 163:18	follow 28:19	270:5 287:11	173:22 178:11
firepit 187:17	164:12 169:16	34:11 39:12	foregoing 328:6	204:13
fires 187:16	183:14 196:23	243:24 286:8	foreign 308:4	foundational
firm 135:3	196:24 197:23	299:19	foresee 98:2	162:23
141:11	200:7 208:4	followed 13:22	forever 204:12	foundations
first 4:14 8:24	239:14 307:19	23:24	225:8	159:15 160:3
20:1 23:23	318:16	following 4:14,19	forget 228:23	four 8:24 17:11
28:17 33:17	flagstone 224:15	4:21 6:5 7:7	form 7:9 36:2,4	17:12 18:2
34:10 37:1	flat 83:8 129:8	12:24 13:22	91:11 115:22	25:12 27:18,21
39:10 44:12	293:12 296:21	35:4,5 238:16	165:7	47:1 48:14 87:1
45:9 47:11 63:3	298:14	300:19	formal 10:4	136:13 143:9
68:11 78:19	flaws 313:19,23	follows 13:23	12:11 15:1,16	166:1 171:24
80:15,16 86:14	flexible 183:3	231:11 238:22	63:7	203:10,21
94:11 99:17	Flider 3:3	270:21	formed 68:9	210:21 246:12
111:13 123:24	flood 324:20,20	Follow-up 98:8	forms 226:9	251:1 299:17
131:8 134:22	flooded 166:23	food 30:12 249:8	forth 29:2,20	325:1
134:23 142:16	245:2	301:24 306:16	47:6 124:19	fourth 185:15
	l .	I	I	l

	ı	1	1	ı
fraction 269:20	233:5 236:8	323:18,19	299:1	generations
fractured 49:1	237:15,24	324:17	F-I-T-Z-G-E-R	154:22 204:4
Francis 274:8	238:5,8 241:8	freeze 194:20	241:23	226:3 228:5,9
Frank 1:13 3:1,7	241:12,17,20	222:17	F-O-O-T-E	269:13 282:18
15:5,20 16:7	244:8,13,17	frequent 159:5	123:7	Gentert 76:22,23
61:22 62:2	245:10,16,20	frequently		77:10,16,19,22
76:20 78:4 82:7	245:24 249:1	169:19 171:23	G	171:18,19
83:13 86:4,8	249:21 251:4,7	319:15,15	gain 135:5	172:6 194:16
93:17 94:3 95:1	253:6,12,17,22	fresh 224:24	219:14	194:17 195:12
95:8 99:13	256:15 258:6	226:15	gallon 101:18	195:15 258:8
105:12 107:1	258:13 259:9	Friday 301:12	121:13	258:15,15,21
107:18 109:9	262:11 264:8	friend 297:15	gallons 69:8,12	259:3,11 281:4
111:10 113:12	265:1,10 266:7	friends 226:6	101:14 121:7,9	281:5,16,24
116:23 123:2,5	266:12,16,20	242:19 267:21	121:13,17	282:4,12,15,23
126:1 127:22	267:5 270:9,13	268:1	143:23,24	283:2,7,15,18
128:5,12 130:5	273:21 274:4	fries 274:22	163:19 164:13	301:3,3,16
131:3,9 143:6	275:23 279:10	frightens 190:2	197:6	310:6,6,10,14
146:10 149:6	280:11 281:2	frivolous 181:5	game 294:9	312:19,20
150:9 151:13	281:14 282:21	frogs 188:18	garbage 214:10	gentleman
151:17 152:10	284:2 288:3	front 207:9,13	215:11,14,18	228:23 270:10
152:14 153:2	291:6 295:22	215:7 228:16	gardening	gentleman's
153:11,21	296:6,11	319:8	224:23	16:17
154:10 157:8	298:17,22	fuel 191:12,19	gardens 224:15	gentlemen 143:5
157:14,17,22	300:7 301:2,14	192:12,13,20	224:16 225:3,6	geological 145:1
158:1 161:21	302:2,15 304:1	301:24	Gary 26:23	158:7 160:4
167:9 169:8	304:15 305:4,9	full 95:16,19	gas 97:19 314:15	174:24
172:10 174:10	305:17,22	182:9 188:16	gases 97:7,8 99:1	geologist 158:4,6
176:23 180:5,9	306:1 307:6	237:8 268:19	155:13 156:11	161:24 171:19
180:14 184:6	309:13 310:4	fumes 182:4	156:14	171:21
184:17,23	310:19 312:17	fun 188:12	Gater 22:19,23	geometry 192:1
186:11,17	312:21 316:2,8	204:15 225:23	23:1	193:9
190:13,18	316:13 323:5	fund 75:17 318:1	gauge 243:22	Gerald 208:20
193:16 194:7	323:13 325:2	318:6,8	general 8:24 9:2	209:1,1 212:4
195:16,23	325:23 326:5	fundamentally	12:23 16:14	212:15,21
196:4 198:2,16	326:19	246:19	21:10 77:11,12	213:2,19 214:1
199:11 201:23	Fred 86:6,6,10	funds 66:6	84:1 106:9	214:11,19
202:5 204:24	86:21 87:4,7	321:16	282:8 315:9	215:2,22 216:3
205:9 206:21	88:4,10,21	furniture 224:16	generally 9:5	germs 189:23
207:22 208:14	89:12,18	further 12:2	172:15,24	gestation 3:23
208:18,23	245:17,18	65:10 87:24	173:7 175:1	10:8 23:24 24:7
211:21 213:7	314:8 324:1	129:15 199:21	generate 318:7,9	38:3 73:5
214:3 215:5	free 282:16,20	218:10 264:8	generated 75:15	141:24
216:5,10 219:5	283:3	328:12	317:17,23	getgo 201:19
220:12 222:3	Freedom 100:3	future 24:5 64:9	321:9	getting 53:19
223:4,11,15,18	Freeman 312:22	64:13 226:2	generation 104:5	55:24 90:24
227:22 229:16	312:24 313:1	271:3 278:14	185:15 224:1	114:6 123:17
229:21 232:23	316:24 323:15	F-E-C-H-T	254:6	132:20 173:22
	l	1	I	l

MIDWEST LITIGATION SERVICES Phone: 1.800.280.3376

196:16 214:10	118:8 124:19	Goetsch 1:16 2:3	128:23 129:1,3	297:23 303:4
248:15 251:11	126:14,19	3:12 4:15,21	129:4 130:3,10	303:13 308:18
253:7 259:3,20	129:17 130:9	8:4,6,7 15:15	130:22 131:6	313:8 314:13
281:16 285:18	130:13 135:18	15:21 63:4,5,9	136:10,20	314:14,16
303:2	136:9,14	63:15 64:3,10	141:18 143:10	316:14 318:24
gifted 243:20	144:11 153:24	64:16 65:12,19	143:17 144:18	321:11
gilt 23:23 24:1	165:17 168:16	66:9 90:8 91:1	146:15 147:24	Golden 145:10
73:3	168:19 176:17	91:10,19 99:17	151:7,8 153:12	145:10,21
gilts 33:4,18	176:19 180:10	99:22 106:6,19	153:13,14	146:3,9 270:14
109:15 121:11	187:8,11 188:1	134:10 137:10	163:4,14,23	270:16,17
girls 204:18	188:8,10 190:9	137:20,23	167:24 168:9	good 3:1 8:6 16:9
give 6:24 16:14	194:24 204:4	138:7 139:13	168:20 177:23	25:17 53:21
22:1 71:1,5	219:13 221:3,8	139:18 140:10	177:23 178:8	99:15 104:9
81:17 121:5	221:23 226:11	140:22 141:8	178:10,11,17	126:22 127:17
136:17 140:17	237:7 247:24	148:8 193:18	179:4,5 186:15	127:21 129:12
152:14 154:2	252:23 254:11	193:21 194:6	193:2 198:20	130:2 141:21
177:20 187:6	254:22 255:21	326:17	198:22 200:19	162:22 163:1
201:8 232:9	259:7 261:17	going 16:19 20:6	200:24 203:16	180:8 182:8
245:19 265:9	261:19,20	23:4 27:8 28:2	207:6 209:11	189:21 192:17
277:12 303:12	262:18 263:4	28:14,21 30:24	209:17,20,21	192:24 193:1
308:22 317:4	263:19 269:17	31:11,14,15,18	209:21,24	217:11,11
given 4:23 5:6	277:13,24	31:24 32:5,16	210:2,17,19,20	220:1 221:4
6:16,18 53:2	278:1 282:6	33:8 34:7 35:8	210:23 211:3,7	222:17 225:24
112:16 239:7	283:21 285:4	36:23 39:2,4,10	211:18 212:6,7	255:17 262:18
258:17 287:7	285:19 286:18	39:22 41:18,23	212:21 213:1,3	285:11,18
gives 31:23 104:7	288:16,18	41:23 42:3,5,21	213:5,10,11,15	287:6,12 288:1
giving 71:15	289:5,16	42:22 43:17	213:16,21	289:4,15 290:5
glacial 160:5	290:12,24	44:1 47:10	214:15,21,22	293:4 294:8
glacier 175:7	291:10 293:16	48:10,17 50:18	215:20 219:17	295:13 296:20
glaciers 175:1	297:18 298:13	51:13,14 52:15	219:18,20	297:15 306:6,6
glad 174:20	299:7 300:21	52:19,21 53:4	220:16 221:3,5	307:12,12
288:17 322:13	301:20 305:12	53:14,20 54:1	221:6,8,13,19	314:11 315:23
glanced 39:20	308:5,15 313:9 318:2 321:11	56:4,11 57:5,11	228:13,16	317:15
go 18:13 22:16 22:19,20 24:16	goal 47:8 60:3,4	57:24 60:1 61:2 61:3 70:16 71:4	229:1 241:15 242:1 259:24	goods 308:10 googled 110:12
24:22 26:2	61:9 207:19	79:19 81:3,3,5	259:24 260:7	gorgeous 226:13
29:24 36:24	254:18 278:13	81:12 83:11	261:22 262:4,9	0 0
43:16,23 45:12	280:23 286:5	84:6,10 85:2,6	261:22 262:4,9	gotten 276:7 Goulding 316:18
46:12 48:18	goats 275:14	88:7 89:4 92:1	262:18,20,24 263:13,19,20	318:22 325:16
49:11 52:15	God 243:20	96:22 100:20	264:1 268:8	Goulding's 319:1
54:6 57:19,20	257:4	101:8,10,23	269:6,17	government
58:16 61:2,8	goes 50:19 94:24	105:8 108:13	274:15 275:1	59:10
75:16 76:15	130:14 135:23	110:11,24	274.13 273.1 276:10 281:8	governments
77:11 83:8	151:9 165:15	111:21 116:15	283:21 284:9	105:18 272:10
85:13,22 90:22	203:6 204:5	116:19 119:13	284:15,18	Governor 106:10
110:15 111:21	276:10 293:24	119:13 126:11	285:5 288:11	GPS 119:12
111:22 116:21	294:5	127:1,5,8	290:2 292:7	grab 44:5,7
	->			,,
-				

	<u> </u>		·	
grade 16:24	33:16 34:22	group's 270:21	guessing 58:16	185:10,13
254:17	46:15,19,22	grout 42:17	guests 111:4	186:1 228:1,1
gradiant 239:24	52:9 120:16	Grove 172:3	guidance 41:5,6	228:21 229:9
graduate 17:7,16	189:10	Groveland 313:5	guidelines	229:14,18,20
190:22 307:15	greatest 58:24	grow 87:15	227:12 256:6,8	304:17,24
graduating	239:18 240:19	102:19 262:2	gun 252:2,19	Hagenubch
254:16	305:13,15	314:6,10	guy 27:1 288:22	304:17
graduation	greatly 81:13	growers 285:11	288:23 289:8	hair 287:16,18
297:10	224:8	growing 24:3,4	guys 41:15 81:11	287:20
grain 16:22	greedy 227:19	55:8 275:16	114:9,13 134:8	half 22:7,23
221:5,7 301:1	green 96:22	grown 299:24	151:15,24	25:10,13 46:3
306:9,12	227:8	grows 306:19	252:21 258:8	57:9 98:6 141:2
307:14	greet 188:21	growth 13:9 55:7	258:21 259:8	143:11 203:10
grandchildren	grew 16:21 93:7	59:6,8 61:3,9	284:14	217:20,22
243:7	171:7 185:16	202:16,24	gym 17:2,3	223:24 230:5
grandkids	226:4 268:6	203:3 227:7	gymnasium	231:2,17 232:1
274:17	274:21 275:15	230:10,17	104:15	257:21 301:12
grandparents	285:17 286:12	232:15 233:20	G-E-N-T-E-R-T	halfway 170:24
242:7	311:7,12	299:11 321:24	76:23 171:20	hand 13:15 16:5
grandparent's	grid 175:14,23	Grundy 307:14	281:5	186:19 248:9
225:19 243:9	176:12,15	310:8	G-0-L-D-E-N	handle 286:19
grant 41:8	177:10 262:15	guarantee	145:11 270:17	handles 188:8
granted 225:8	262:16 263:22	102:12 146:18		handling 10:10
grants 41:2	264:2	177:23 250:24	Н	10:13,16,19
grass 119:4	grind 27:4	263:9 308:20	H 16:21	12:10,14 47:5
120:14,20	gross 304:22	guaranteed	Haag 236:10,10	261:5 265:16
gravel 43:11 49:2	ground 41:17	273:8	236:14 237:6	321:8
49:2 50:9 74:4	43:22 44:6	guess 32:9,19	237:10 253:20	hands 303:14
74:13,19 75:4,7	56:12 60:23	36:22 37:4	253:24,24	311:19
75:8 160:6	69:24 129:23	39:20 42:7,22	256:20,22	Hang 177:22
175:6,9 176:1	130:8 146:20	43:16,19 50:2	257:3,17 258:2	happen 94:9,13
191:16 212:18	147:10 152:24	56:1,15 59:15	258:19,24	109:5 129:11
gray 50:6	159:14 161:8	61:7,14,18,20	259:13,18	161:19,19
great 17:18 25:9	162:9 163:7,10	77:8,9 78:24	260:4,23	209:21 210:17
25:19 33:9 42:4	178:8 240:16	79:5 80:2 106:7	261:11,16,23	210:23 211:15
51:11 56:5	293:12	114:3 118:24	262:10,21	222:2 270:6
79:23 84:5	groundwater	119:22 125:14	263:1,10,14,20	273:8 278:6
101:20 152:23	161:12 166:10	126:5,7,23	264:3,17,21	288:12 309:21
154:23 188:20	271:12	127:13 130:19	265:7,19,21,24	315:12
203:4 221:11	group 20:17	134:20 139:18	266:2,4	happened 144:13
225:12,18	110:15 158:9	149:1 151:1	habitat 224:22	144:16 222:13
237:9 242:7	180:19 205:13	200:15 215:15	240:22	284:12 290:17
268:11 271:18	255:3 256:23	228:22 229:6	Hagenbuch	296:23
275:8 284:17	257:10 261:20	229:14 239:1	172:12,12,18	happening 88:18
288:21 308:14	270:19,23,24	254:1 255:24	172:22 173:2,6	88:20 312:14
308:17	271:8 282:3	294:23 296:3	173:9,14,21	happens 93:21
greater 11:5	286:5 323:14	303:1	174:7 185:1,1	97:15 103:23
	l	1	l	l

MIDWEST LITIGATION SERVICES
Phone: 1.800.280.3376

			-	
105:15 116:16	heading 57:23	151:13,17	281:14 282:21	herd 79:21,21
129:18 143:3	58:1	152:10,14	284:2 288:3	234:16
150:15,23	headquarters	153:2,11,21	291:6 295:22	herds 282:11
172:6 213:1	83:20,21	154:10 157:8	296:6,11	hereto 328:14
215:3 278:2	health 72:1 96:17	157:14,17,22	298:17,22	heritage 227:17
287:5 294:20	97:10,15	158:1 161:21	300:7 301:2,5	herring 188:20
295:6	105:17,18,21	167:9 169:8	301:14 302:2	hey 203:7 284:18
happy 176:13	106:1 134:1	172:10 174:10	302:15 304:1	he'll 130:12
218:10	181:7,18 182:2	176:23 180:5,9	304:15 305:4,9	192:19
hard 47:12 49:21	182:15,16	180:14 181:14	305:17,22	Hi 312:24
50:4 96:6	183:11,18	184:6,17,23	306:1 307:6	high 16:24 17:7,9
124:11 222:17	184:9,9 190:5	186:11,17	309:13 310:4	22:13,23 23:19
314:7	234:20 248:10	190:13,18	310:19,24	78:12 80:3
harm 182:1	249:15 264:24	193:16 194:7	312:17,21	234:7,8 235:10
271:12	271:12 273:2	195:16,23	314:21 316:2,8	249:18 251:16
harmful 181:1	273:15 274:9	196:4 197:21	316:13 317:4	251:19 254:16
Harms 157:10,16	275:19 311:2	198:2,16	323:5,13 325:2	277:16
157:16 213:9,9	317:9 324:5	199:11 201:23	325:8,23 326:5	higher 82:23
213:18,21	healthier 25:22	202:5 204:24	326:19	highest 122:6
214:2 222:5,5	25:22,23	205:9 206:21	hearings 139:21	247:3 319:10
222:20 223:2	healthy 244:5	207:22 208:14	196:13 199:2	highlight 235:18
237:16,16,21	hear 8:16 15:22	208:18,23	heart 181:22	highly 235:5
Hartenbower	94:6 139:20	211:21 213:7	240:24 242:8	highway 84:24
86:6,7,10,21	242:21 301:7	214:3 215:5	268:14 270:19	190:21 191:2,7
87:4,7 88:4,10	311:1,24	216:5,10 219:5	270:23 271:8	219:11,13
88:21 89:12,18	heard 23:1 185:3	220:12 222:3	290:3	220:4 323:19
245:17,18	186:7 189:1	223:4,11,15,18	hearts 268:14	highways 269:1
314:8 324:1	207:6 209:6	227:22 229:16	Heating 202:6,6	hill 129:1,4,6,7
harvest 19:9,12	274:19 275:6	229:21 232:23	heaven 123:22	129:17 297:22
haul 221:5,6,8,19	319:6	233:5 236:8	heavy 191:2	hills 128:24
222:17	hearing 1:13 3:1	237:15,24	263:24 272:17	hilly 296:24
haulers 222:7	3:9 14:22 15:5	238:5,8 241:8	heck 17:12	hinder 156:2
hauling 19:13	15:20 16:7	241:12,17,20	held 3:18 153:19	hire 20:18 77:23
130:16 212:24	61:22 62:2	244:8,13,17	241:2	96:22 97:1
hay 22:20	63:24 76:20	245:7,10,16,20	Hello 187:2	175:16
Hayes 133:24,24	78:4 82:7 83:13	245:24 249:1	help 30:23 51:24	hired 21:15
134:14	86:4,8 93:17	249:21 251:4,7	53:6 54:8 112:1	30:22 130:21
hazardous 162:5	94:3 95:1,8	253:6,12,17,22	135:9 212:8	hiring 61:4
162:18 169:22	99:13 105:12	256:15 258:6	243:21 248:11	historic 202:21
170:13	107:1,18 109:9	258:13 259:9	294:12 313:12	historical 120:9
hazards 66:8	111:10 113:12	262:11 264:8	314:7	317:8 322:2
298:6	116:23 123:2,5	265:1,10 266:7	helped 134:20	history 80:18
head 11:5,6	126:1 127:22	266:12,16,20	291:23 294:4	88:17,19
73:21 74:22	128:5,12 130:5	267:5 270:9,13	helping 131:16	107:24 154:22
120:16 122:12	131:3,9 139:15	273:21 274:4	helps 39:24	227:16 246:18
152:6 228:24	143:6 146:10	275:23 279:10	112:10 243:22	301:23 hit 23:2 52:7 56:5
259:16	149:6 150:9	280:11 281:2	Henry 161:16	hit 23:2 52:7 56:5
			•	•

58:1 119:13 100:16 1	26:15 209:2,4 214:1	272:11	H-U-N-T-E-R
153:7 175:9,21 126:19 1	82:10 215:8 217:8,18	hugs 27:1	209:2
hobby 28:1,1 212:2,24	219:10 220:7	human 21:8 89:5	H1N1 100:21
Hofmann 143:14 221:17,2	0 283:22 284:5	100:17 181:7	
143:16 144:3,6 236:18,1	9 308:24 313:4	181:11 183:11	I
144:9,17,21 237:17 2	48:15 315:19,22	248:13 267:24	IBI 239:7,11
145:5,9 252:8 25	3:1 318:10	278:6,9 279:15	idea 42:11 43:6
hog 16:22 25:18 254:8 25	6:4 hopefully 61:14	humans 189:24	43:15 81:17
25:20 26:3 42:9 268:7,23	269:9 276:9	236:11,12	98:14 113:9
62:4 77:5,10 269:9,21	,24 hoping 237:1	248:12,16	125:20 148:9
78:13 81:9 98:5 270:6 28	4:20 hormones 272:17	250:2 273:7	201:5,15
102:13 111:7 285:15 2	94:16 horrible 174:1	278:11	268:12 269:9
135:6 136:18 hog's 248:	9 horses 275:13	hundred 282:18	identified 59:9
141:3 161:11 hold 163:4	hose 133:6,6	hundreds 224:17	235:14 238:24
161:13 164:13 hole 29:15	Hospital 248:1	241:5 297:11	identify 293:14
173:11,12,16 175:18,1	_	hunt 204:17	IDNR 47:23
173:17,18 holes 43:13	8 179:2 hospitalized	Hunter 208:16	238:17 239:9
174:5 181:24 227:2	246:6	208:20,23	239:13 280:6
182:8 183:11 holidays 1	8:2 hospitals 247:14	209:1,1 212:4	323:23
187:7,10,23 home 18:1	,5 248:4,19	212:15,21	IDOT 216:24
190:11 202:21 32:20 41	:18 251:20	213:2,19 214:1	ID0A 37:7
203:8 204:20 42:23 50	:2 55:1 hostas 224:17	214:11,19	IEPA 134:12
221:16 224:8 56:20,23	94:22 hot 217:21,23	215:2,22 216:3	ifs 315:13,14
231:11 232:2 104:4 15	4:18 hour 27:2 143:10	321:3	ignored 105:24
232:11,14 154:18,2	4 153:12	hunting 204:11	Illiniwick 17:15
240:7 241:6 155:3,5,1	3,15 hours 24:19	227:1 274:20	Illinois 1:8,14,16
245:6 246:18 155:20 1	56:19 36:16 123:23	hunts 267:14	1:19 3:4,8 8:4,9
247:4,7,8 156:23 1	57:12 123:23,23	hurts 295:10	10:21 17:13
252:17 254:4 206:14 2	24:2,5 129:23	husband 154:13	26:5 27:16 31:4
255:10 256:13 224:11 2	36:20 house 22:10 25:3	185:16 225:19	36:9 37:6 38:1
257:13,19 297:6 30	8:6 32:2 103:6	226:10 242:5	44:10,17,18
258:10 263:6,7 313:10 3	26:17 154:20 163:15	husband's 155:1	47:23,23 55:14
267:3,8 268:6 homeown	ers 163:17,18	hydrogen 182:14	56:22 58:3
269:3,24 270:5 203:11	187:11 190:4	273:4	59:18 62:12
271:7 278:3,11 homes 167	:1 206:9 207:10	H-A-A-G 236:10	72:13,16 81:6,7
278:14 279:22 202:19 2	03:2 207:14 214:16	253:24	82:9,19 83:10
280:23 284:9 203:15,2	1 214:18 233:14	H-A-G-E-N-B	106:9 115:23
284:15,19 231:10,1	2,13 297:20,20,21	172:13 228:2	137:6 138:16
285:11,20 231:15 2	32:1 310:11 313:11	H-A-R-M-S	138:20 158:5,7
289:8,21 292:9 251:17 3	22:6 housed 24:13	157:16 213:9	158:8,15
293:11,17 honest 111	:20 houses 77:4,6,13	222:5 237:16	160:12 170:17
294:15 299:8 113:4	128:4 163:6,7,9	H-A-R-T-E-N	180:23 182:17
299:22 310:8 honey 51:1	163:21 205:24	86:10	190:23 191:1
315:3 hope 131:2	301:9	H-A-Y-E-S	191:13 192:6
hogs 25:16,18,19 172:7 19	1:6,6 huge 47:24	134:1	205:5 212:10
35:17,20 44:22 192:4,10	,12 213:12 224:9	H-O-F-M-A-N	212:13 230:20
78:9,14,18 195:1,5 2	208:21 261:1 271:20	143:16	231:9,24
i l	ĺ		Ī

			1	
232:10 234:17	implemented	183:2 193:6,10	283:21 301:6	37:12 63:22
239:4,10,17	218:19 235:19	257:6 303:4	310:18	65:6 71:6,11,15
241:2,3,3,4	implications	included 15:2	indicate 7:5	89:16 100:3
254:24 256:6	311:2	122:4,17 132:7	62:16 89:10	120:6 132:23
270:19,22,23	important 84:5	149:2,3 303:17	139:7 184:12	134:12 137:8
271:8,9,14	106:4 181:9	includes 33:18	indicated 69:17	137:15 140:18
272:7,12,15,19	240:18,20	65:21 133:5	70:24 75:14	149:22 196:21
273:18 276:20	288:19 302:24	173:19	167:23 321:17	199:7 200:12
277:2,7 278:17	importantly	including 14:9	indicates 158:21	201:11,12
279:4 281:21	319:22	15:7 19:1 21:6	162:24 167:22	217:4 232:6
282:3 286:7	impose 105:19	58:8 78:15	174:5	235:21 238:16
289:10 292:8	209:24 210:6	102:14 154:23	indication 184:4	278:1 279:1
294:18 299:10	213:5	158:21 161:16	indicator 239:15	280:7 294:14
299:12 300:10	imposed 232:8	271:10 299:24	indifferent	294:14 318:11
301:8 306:13	impossible	323:3	287:12	320:10 323:22
307:15,18	155:14 161:10	incompatibility	individual 194:2	324:11 325:14
309:6 313:1	288:7	45:1 202:15	individuals 61:4	326:20
325:11 328:3	impression 110:5	incomplete	induced 104:3	informational
illustration 91:24	228:8 312:6	196:20	industrial 202:21	3:10,17 8:15
image 117:16	improper 152:3	inconsistent	204:20 227:4	12:1 15:9 69:14
imagery 125:12	improve 255:17	95:20 244:3	industry 9:24	327:3
imagine 203:6	307:24	incorporate	80:20 82:4	informed 209:14
204:16 243:6,8	improved 266:5	29:16 52:24	111:5 150:4	303:16 319:4
immediate 17:21	improvement	70:16 94:16	194:4 231:11	infrastructure
48:5 203:2	191:10 211:14	129:24 209:7	255:7 286:6,7	277:2 321:5,7
immune 249:19	improvements	210:9	289:8,14	infringed 244:6
impact 13:2,6,8	191:8 192:6,10	incorporating	299:12	inherent 19:18
104:8 155:11	193:7 216:18	27:5	inescapable	100:15 273:15
161:14 171:21	217:18 218:1,5	incorporation	246:14	initial 140:21
181:1,7 183:7	321:11,16	122:4	infancy 290:16	201:15
186:9 217:7	improves 183:8	increase 45:16	infect 79:21	initiation 276:14
275:13,18	improving	58:23 61:10	infection 247:3	injected 56:11
278:11 280:23	155:18	84:23 85:7,16	infections 246:7	128:21
283:24 284:1	inaudible 182:21	85:17 86:19	246:10 273:11	injecting 51:2,6
290:9 307:2	188:19 189:3,5	193:8 237:1	infectious 235:6	156:17
324:16	189:17	249:12 299:23	infinite 243:20	innovative 53:1
impacted 278:9	incentive 87:9	300:2	influence 31:16	input 65:10
304:10	inches 10:12,17	increased 38:10	289:7	299:5 301:1
impacts 9:12	29:15 163:21	81:13 87:7	influencing	inside 97:7
161:3 181:17	191:16,20	188:5	294:9	110:13 111:7
181:21 182:15	217:21,22	increases 58:23	influenza 100:22	126:24 129:6
183:13,18	223:9 263:3	86:16 181:20	273:13	inspect 221:8
273:3	incidence 127:8	increasing	inform 286:8	inspection 36:14
impaired 272:8	incident 65:17	155:21	informal 63:8	inspections 44:20
277:7,8	include 69:23	incredible	information 6:2	install 52:18
implement 35:2	76:5 96:16	239:12	12:23 13:1 14:8	installation 43:9
35:10 126:21	120:8 125:23	Indiana 282:5	14:13 16:1 37:9	43:10
L	1	1	1	!

installed 119:10	intersection	inward 107:11	122:6,11,14,19	311:6,13
119:11 120:5	192:6	Iowa 11:2 17:19	122:24 196:2,5	312:15
instance 46:18	interstate 18:8,9	17:20 18:8,9,10	196:6 198:9,14	Jim 17:23 214:5
69:1 83:7	18:10 212:3,7	20:23 26:5	198:24 199:5	214:5,12,13,22
137:17	212:10 219:14	27:14 31:4 71:8	199:10,20	215:4 279:3
instilled 226:1	interviewed	72:9 80:24 81:4	200:2 201:1,7	job 26:14 96:16
insurance 96:17	300:14	81:6,8 87:8	201:13,22	196:11 314:24
193:11	intimidate 259:8	98:11 102:15	320:22,23	jobs 26:20 27:3
integrated 53:5	259:14	124:19 234:16	Jamesway 51:1	27:20 61:4 96:9
integrity 39:19	intimidation	287:22 304:7	Jamie 102:6,6,23	267:24 283:22
intend 70:5	250:21	irrefutably	103:1,9,14,21	306:22 307:23
83:22 86:15	intro 71:18	226:18	104:2,17,22	308:6,22 309:6
88:6 193:7	introducing	Isaiah 233:3,7,7	105:1,6,14	Joe 26:23
210:9 318:20	317:2	236:12,16	106:17,21	jogging 275:7
intendant 105:20	inventoried	237:9,12,20,23	107:3,8,15	John 78:15 79:1
intense 110:24	69:12 101:14	238:3 324:22	108:3,8,11,20	79:19 123:3,3,7
intent 10:4 11:8	121:14	isolation 3:23	109:8,11,19,23	123:15 124:16
14:9,23 15:7	inventory 121:14	10:16	111:8 223:16	125:17 126:3
28:24 34:14	invest 203:14	issue 78:11 97:22	223:20,20	127:7 128:1,8
37:2,14,16,23	invested 155:17	102:9 133:8	228:7 229:7	128:14 129:13
38:1 46:9 47:7	investigate	166:15 289:2	266:14,15	130:1,7 131:1
149:14 276:13	113:11	313:6	316:17	142:14 202:3,4
intention 9:23	investigated	issued 234:3	Jan 131:4,4,11	216:8,12,12
89:2 112:12	170:11	issues 39:24	131:16 132:4	220:1,15,20,22
intentional 94:18	investigation	106:12,12	132:14 133:1	222:1,9,22
263:11	209:22	149:22 178:6	133:16,22	223:3,7,14
intentions 86:19	investment 151:6	311:21 317:8,8	266:18,19,20	288:1,5 289:4
interest 31:13	299:23	317:8,9,9	Janssen 266:14	289:20 290:13
95:7,12	investments	320:24	266:15,16	291:4,8 300:9
interested 328:15	155:20 203:12	itch 189:13,13	Jared 245:22	300:16,16
interesting 22:11	299:21	item 39:10,14	246:2,2 249:11	305:6,11
124:16	investor 20:17	40:2 48:20	249:17 250:3,6	309:16
interests 227:19	90:20	items 61:5,8	250:9,13,15,20	John's 80:18
interject 107:19	investors 70:18	131:12,14	250:23 251:6	joint 40:13,15
intermingled	70:21,22	295:24	251:12,15,18	145:20
227:1	286:22	IV 247:24	251:21,24	joints 147:2,3
intermittent	invitation 3:5	I-S-A-I-A-H	252:5,9,13,18	148:2,10
159:4,8	invite 155:15	233:8	252:24 253:10	Jonathan 305:22
internet 55:7	inviting 7:21	т	Jeff 262:13,13,23	306:3,3,8
110:17 123:22	invoking 265:4	<u>J</u>	263:8,12,18,22	Jones 198:4,4,11
123:23 124:7,9	involve 257:2	J 231:20	Jennifer 266:9	198:15 211:23
252:22 259:7	involved 19:18	James 117:7,7,22	266:10,12	211:23 212:9
288:20 294:7	116:8 162:4	118:2,6,10,16	jeopardy 97:24	212:19,23
interpreted	254:24 303:5	118:21 119:3,7	Jerry 208:16	213:15
140:12	309:23 315:11	119:16,20	Jeschke 307:9,11	Josh 249:23,23
intersect 159:17	320:6,9,13	120:1,8,12,18	307:11,13	250:5,8,10
176:3	involving 59:8	121:1,10,19,23	310:1,9,12	305:20,21
	<u> </u>	ı	<u> </u>	ı

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Journal 98:10	kept 23:3 28:10	25:8,16 26:8,11	267:23 270:7	67:13,17 70:8
181:10 231:7	36:13	27:14 28:10,22	275:11 276:6	94:2 105:7
247:2,11	key 56:20 235:16	29:1 30:8 63:15	281:20 286:2	112:9,10 115:2
Joyce 273:20	236:4	68:21 71:3	287:2,5,8	115:7 121:20
Judd 191:7 195:4	kidding 208:12	73:14,18,22	288:15 297:7,8	121:23 136:22
209:5 218:18	kids 29:14 97:11	74:3,9,12,19,22	297:13,13,18	136:23 160:17
judgment 205:5	109:24 110:9	75:6,13,16,21	297:23,24	160:23 167:15
jump 190:1	204:8,15 226:4	79:3 80:12,18	298:4,7,11,15	167:15 168:3,5
jumped 248:12	274:17 297:3	80:19 81:18	309:5 310:2	190:24 201:16
248:14	kill 126:17	88:17,19 90:24	312:15,16	245:3 248:23
junctions 145:15	killed 235:11	92:13 93:4	318:18,19	271:20,23
June 14:8 63:13	246:7	98:19,21 99:9	320:14,20	272:1 296:22
junior 16:24	Kilpatrick	100:19 101:12	knowledge	landowner
22:13	203:17	103:2,24	134:11 135:6	120:18 136:7
jurisdiction	kind 39:20 42:8	107:23 119:24	172:4 210:21	136:14
195:3 212:5,16	43:2 54:1 63:21	120:1,10,16	210:22 289:10	landscaping
jurisdictional	65:21 83:6	122:11,14,23	314:22	27:10
209:15	88:13 93:22,23	123:11 124:18	knowledgeably	land's 122:7
justify 77:15,18	98:14,15,21	125:8,22	322:20	Lane 1:2 2:5 3:24
J-E-S-C-H-K-E	99:7 100:14	128:10 130:19	known 190:7	7:23 11:1 16:11
307:12	110:19 128:22	132:2 136:1	273:5 287:9	16:15 21:18
J-O-N-E-S 198:5	129:7,10	139:3 141:13	305:2	22:5,6,9 23:17
	130:17 134:12	141:18,21	knows 19:16	23:21 26:2,15
K	138:12 145:13	144:21 146:15	136:21 269:18	27:4 30:6,22
K 328:22	146:22 165:22	148:24 151:23	K-I-N-Z-E-R	64:8 70:19
Karen 239:13	171:9 176:12	152:20 162:12	190:20	79:23 87:21
karst 29:12 47:3	215:9 243:12	164:21 165:23		134:21 160:19
47:19,21,22	254:5 274:10	166:18 169:15	<u>L</u>	161:9 168:21
48:4,5	275:16 278:5	169:18 171:13	L 31:14	180:20 183:19
Kate 172:12,12	287:3 295:17	171:14 176:4,9	labeled 264:23	184:3 194:11
172:18,22	312:12 314:15	176:11 183:9	Labor 18:3	194:12 203:20
173:2,6,9,14,21	kinds 41:5	193:1 197:9,11	Laboratory	205:7 216:20
174:7 185:1,1	169:24	197:13,14,16	234:20	217:3 220:18
185:10,13	Kinzer 190:16,19	197:17 199:5	lack 161:6 205:5	271:6,16
186:1 228:1,1	190:20 193:20	201:17 203:15	318:11	272:12 273:19
228:21 229:9	193:24 194:13	205:23 206:17	lacking 161:7	299:8 319:13
229:14,18,20	195:2,14 209:6	208:3 209:20	lacks 158:17	325:19
304:17,17,24	209:14 211:12	212:4 213:2	Lacon 161:16	large 13:19 20:12
kayaking 274:18	321:3	214:11,19,20	lagoon 9:9 65:22	78:11 141:3
keep 5:17 7:2	knew 23:2	218:14 222:6	207:11,15	155:17 255:10
36:18 55:22,22	110:23 115:1	236:19 243:2	lagoons 265:19	255:12,22,22
56:1 60:19	287:15 294:3	244:4 249:6,13	265:20 294:17	260:3,4,9,12,17
167:5 192:17	knife 262:17	250:18,19,24	laid 118:13	260:18 271:17
193:1 241:24	knifed 262:24	251:5,6 252:1,3	Lake 25:13 95:12	273:1 296:21
258:8,21	knifing 51:3	256:10 259:21	land 22:7 23:11	297:10 308:19
262:14 295:13	knit 226:24	260:1,1,2,20	41:2,8 60:5,7,8	largely 172:14
308:6	know 17:4 22:11	261:14 262:2	60:11,14 61:11	322:1
	l		<u> </u>	<u> </u>

	<u> </u>			
larger 38:6	leaks 107:10,11	187:6 209:19	lighten 111:1	Lisa 97:4,4 98:8
260:24	107:11 108:12	let's 57:4 76:20	liked 303:17	99:6,11 157:23
largest 83:19	108:16 176:4	83:13 84:21	likelihood 50:15	180:11,15,15
Larry 190:16,19	learn 181:6	107:20,21	197:2,23 247:3	180:17 184:8
190:19 193:20	185:11 269:15	114:11 126:8	likes 204:11	184:19 185:9
193:24 194:13	learned 298:4	127:12 167:9	limit 5:13 62:23	185:12,23
195:2,14	learning 185:7	171:24 172:7	155:12 209:24	186:3,15
LaSalle 77:2	186:9	258:12 295:10	210:1 212:16	list 34:6 36:4
131:24 158:22	leases 70:2	level 21:13 64:22	214:21	56:16 71:5
170:22 190:21	leave 24:22 28:7	139:14 166:22	limitation 194:21	153:24 154:8
191:3 193:3	28:11,15	243:22	209:16	180:22 240:19
194:14,23,24	156:24 187:14	levels 156:14	limitations 212:1	277:7,8 296:2
217:9,10,16	286:13 294:23	181:20	295:18	302:8 324:5
271:5,10	320:5	Levi 157:10,16	limited 62:19	listed 47:18,22
281:18 313:2,3	leaving 53:20	157:16 213:9,9	205:7	82:10 100:14
314:20 315:7	161:11	213:18,21	limits 86:24	239:16
315:12	leeway 111:23	214:2 222:5,5	209:23 210:3	listen 61:15
late 246:21,21	left 104:5 174:24	222:20 223:2	215:17 218:16	268:2
276:7	175:6 268:21	237:16,16,21	222:14 232:8	listing 153:23
lately 94:1	320:7	Liability 205:7	Lindstrom	273:15
Lauf 216:8,12,12	legal 6:17 32:17	library 156:8	134:15,16,23	literacy 254:19
220:1,20,22	218:15	license 72:8	135:2,5,9,12	litters 285:18
222:1,9,22	legislators 255:9	285:23 328:22	136:5,11,17,24	little 22:22 31:9
223:3,7,14	legitimate 315:15	licensed 31:3	137:5,17,21	33:1,6,13 34:2
321:4	lend 300:4	71:7 158:4	138:5,13,21	34:4 37:3,7
launched 17:18	length 268:16	204:10	139:6,12 140:8	38:11 39:12
law 8:22 98:10	lenses 160:7	licenses 190:24	140:20,24	40:7 47:12 48:1
106:8,8,15,16	175:5,9 176:1	lies 314:2	141:10,22	49:21 58:11
195:10 212:13	Leslie 69:15 78:6	life 104:8 137:3	142:4,8,15	60:21 89:21
283:10 291:14	78:6 79:2,7	150:15,20	143:4 266:22	92:2,14 94:21
laws 132:3 222:8	80:1,7,11,23	183:12 190:4,6	266:24 267:7,7	95:20 110:1
lay 112:9,10	81:10 82:5,8	224:23 225:7	270:12 276:12	125:1,6,16,22
leach 146:19	83:1 154:8,11	226:17,23	284:4,4 286:21	128:20 131:10
leaching 50:17	154:11 157:12	233:12 242:10	287:15,19	142:20 163:17
147:9 197:4	157:21 215:8	242:10 244:3	296:16 302:17	173:24 175:19
198:1 200:10	216:1 259:15	264:15 268:4	302:18,18,23	206:19 248:11
240:17 264:7	259:20 260:6	274:12,20	303:20,24	253:7 256:10
lead 159:14	261:9,13,20	274.12,20	line 40:2 106:11	257:9 269:16
282:12	262:5 312:2,2	295:17 298:10	123:17 184:21	269:21 288:15
leak 88:16	316:17		186:5 315:10	313:10
107:12,17	lesser 181:3	313:17 325:4,5	lined 266:1	live 17:20 18:6
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		lifelong 223:22		
109:7 146:4	294:22	240:22	lines 115:13	102:21 103:1
164:18 166:10	lethal 99:1	lifestyle 297:17	lining 145:14	103:10,13
leakage 84:14	letter 69:15	lift 222:13	287:4	123:4,7 141:1
107:5 149:11	273:14 323:17	lifted 222:14	liquid 40:3	143:17 149:12
159:18	324:4 325:7	light 81:21	108:15	154:12 165:13
leaking 108:5	letting 128:18	233:23 290:20	liquified 133:3	175:16 184:3
	1	1	1	•

185:13 202:11	277:3 278:23	119:11 155:8	56:9 101:24	Lostant 25:12
204:4 212:20	282:3 286:7	155:19 156:6,8	183:15	86:7,21 87:7,9
215:9 224:2	293:23 294:21	158:3 160:6	longtime 241:1	88:11 154:21
228:14 229:5	295:1 299:12	161:4,13,14	long-term 181:21	210:7 313:1,7
229:19 230:5	299:19 300:24	180:18 182:15	271:11	314:1 324:2
230:22 233:15	301:24 306:9	183:17 184:8	look 15:18 18:12	lot 28:10,23
242:6 246:3	306:15 308:2,7	217:15 227:8	25:15 33:15	29:18 58:12
249:15 256:2	311:8	232:4 240:20	36:20 41:16	61:7 84:11
267:15 269:11	living 87:11	270:24 306:20	42:4 43:11	93:10 100:7,8
274:15,20	104:13,16	306:22	47:20 48:17	104:4 123:19
275:5,8 277:9	124:21,23	locally 299:24	49:20 51:13,14	123:20 124:13
281:10 297:5	128:2 156:19	locals 269:2	52:14 53:4	127:23 134:4
297:22 301:7	181:19,24	located 10:20	54:16 57:4	139:12 152:23
304:9	224:13,22	13:4 31:24 32:2	58:13,23 69:2	153:8 156:7
lived 190:3	225:9,13	32:5,18 34:7	93:12 94:23	166:24 205:24
194:18 223:23	226:13 229:1	45:2 47:1,15	110:20,23	212:8 219:18
233:11 244:22	231:1,4 273:15	48:4 120:19	117:13,15	219:20 221:12
254:9 274:11	297:24 298:1	159:21 160:14	120:11,12	222:12,19
lives 17:23 77:12	Livingston 254:6	170:16 182:21	124:18 126:6	257:24 262:5,6
102:17 257:18	llamas 275:13	228:14 231:10	127:8 135:16	267:21 269:17
257:19 275:19	LLC 1:2,23 2:5	location 25:7,7,7	138:23 167:21	277:10 285:10
297:15	3:24 10:24 11:1	25:9,15 26:4	177:9 208:5	287:6 288:16
livestock 1:2 3:14	62:6 70:19	32:21 36:5	250:20 254:21	290:2 294:13
3:16 4:16 5:1	161:9 184:20	38:23 44:24	268:15 277:23	296:24 297:17
5:20 6:2 8:12	203:5,10,20	118:22 142:13	278:20 280:7	298:5,5 303:9
8:19,21 9:18,24	216:20 220:18	148:20 160:22	288:23 289:14	308:5,22 309:4
10:10,13,15,18	226:22 252:22	272:21,24	293:2	310:14 311:14
12:8,9,13,19,22	267:4,9 271:7	291:23 292:1,5	looked 113:21	311:20 314:18
16:12 19:14	271:16 272:12	locked 297:20	114:22 120:22	lots 98:11 108:20
28:12 31:12	273:19 299:8	Loeser 91:22,23	123:11 125:18	189:8 288:11
34:12,19,20,21	LMFA 32:13	92:6,10,13,17	136:1 205:23	297:9
35:23 36:12	34:5 40:2,23	92:21,24 93:5	279:17 288:10	love 29:14 109:24
38:13,19,24	42:20 52:10	93:19 94:5,10	290:19 296:20	187:8 254:12
39:7 45:5 47:5	61:17 82:22	94:20	looking 34:8	254:13 268:19
47:19 48:22	107:13 108:1	log 207:10	49:18 55:2	275:6,14
52:3 59:13 65:4	140:4 146:1	Lois 244:15,19	57:15 59:21	297:22 315:20
68:7 79:12	294:17 307:1	244:19 245:15	104:13 123:23	loved 233:16
82:11 84:18	load 10:14 22:23	324:19	124:7 125:5	296:24
85:11 124:12	44:14 115:24	long 17:1,11 28:6	132:18 142:5	lovely 278:8
135:8,10 141:9	193:8 212:24	32:7 41:13 60:4	174:2 187:21	low 21:12 60:15
158:13,15	loading 191:22	151:22 154:21	looks 26:24	82:14 166:21
169:4 171:8,10	loads 74:4,13,19	175:5 180:10	123:19	182:22
202:20 206:1	75:7 218:14,17	184:14 241:24	LORRAINE	lower 48:2 50:5
206:15 216:20	272:19	254:1 261:2	328:3,22	54:18,19 118:4
222:7 230:9	local 26:17 94:14	274:11 282:5	losing 243:1	144:11,22
248:12,14	96:22 98:20	287:10 295:11	loss 160:3	lowered 230:21
250:2,4 264:24	99:8 105:18	longer 17:5 56:9	lost 157:3 276:8	231:1,5,10,18
	•	•	•	•

	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
lowers 183:12	malfunction	167:19 182:18	168:1,2,11,14	married 154:15
lowest 158:23	156:12	199:19,24	169:1,6,6	225:18 297:12
luck 141:21	Mall 18:11	200:13 201:21	173:11,12	Marsella 257:8,8
lucky 164:19,20	man 23:11	261:12 265:16	182:8 183:22	257:23
lung 182:4	manage 21:4	292:9,22,24	198:7,21	Marshall 3:6,18
Lutheran 46:18	69:11 87:22	293:15,19	200:16,17,17	4:7 10:22 11:15
lying 82:14 83:9	111:3 116:19	299:19 318:14	200:22 201:3,4	11:24 14:4
182:22	248:9 278:4,4	320:17,21	201:21 240:7	15:10 59:22
L-I-N-D-S-T-R	302:8	manager 3:13	262:17 263:6	63:24 64:7,14
134:16	managed 97:22	21:7,9,10,11,14	271:24 272:2	67:3,14 77:1
L-0-E-S-E-R	101:13 109:2	21:15,16,20,21	278:4 282:16	131:22 134:1
91:23	111:7 141:14	21:21,22,24	282:16,19,20	137:7 142:5
	150:17 299:16	26:21,21,22	283:1,3 320:19	158:22 170:19
M	management 1:2	38:13,20 52:3	320:21	170:20 204:22
M 31:14	1:21 2:5 3:16	65:4 84:1,2	map 28:21 37:18	210:13 217:10
machinery	4:16 5:1,20	158:18	46:10 47:15,20	218:6,9 220:4
213:12,22,23	8:12,19,21 9:7	managers 26:23	47:23,23,24,24	232:18 249:5
machines 162:14	9:18 11:1 12:8	38:16,18 52:5	48:1,2 93:15	256:11 259:24
magic 107:16	12:20,22 13:1	manages 20:22	94:20,22	267:17 271:5
Magnolia 244:21	16:13,15 19:19	142:2	125:15 136:9	271:10 283:9
Maiers 167:12,12	19:22,23,24,24	managing 207:8	219:8	283:11 287:5
168:3,7,15	20:16,19,21	manner 105:10	maps 93:13	304:5 314:3
169:1,5 199:15	21:3,6 28:13	225:23 309:22	103:9 119:12	317:12 322:17
199:16,16,22	29:19 31:12,17	320:10	125:18	322:24
200:15 201:2	34:13,19,20,21	manufacturer	March 11:12,23	Marshall/Putn
201:10,20	35:3,10,16,17	44:15 115:16	37:6,11,15	299:2,6,15
296:4,5,7	35:23 36:1,3,11	116:4	235:3,7	300:20 323:18
mail 37:18,22	38:18 39:1,7	manure 13:1	Mark 146:11,11	mass 97:19
46:8	45:6 47:14,19	29:19 33:9	147:6,13,18,23	104:22,23
main 31:22 32:9	48:23 50:21,24	35:16 39:17	148:3,7 238:6	229:12
45:11 54:15	51:7,13,23 53:5	40:3,24 41:4	238:10,10	Master's 185:18
57:16,20	53:9,9,12,24	43:5 44:1 49:16	241:10 265:12	match 200:18,23
132:19 196:16	54:3,7 55:16	51:8,13 53:15	265:12,20,22	material 40:11
maintain 35:2,10	56:13 59:13	53:16 54:2	266:1,3 279:12	43:12,13,14
131:16 219:1	65:5,21 68:8	60:22,22 65:24	279:12,20,22	47:4 48:19,21
maintains 235:18	69:23 70:15	68:13,20 69:23	280:2,6,10	48:23 49:19
maintenance	71:16,22,23,23	70:2,8,15 72:23	marked 232:20	50:4,12 130:16
155:9 192:16	72:3,6,7,12,16	94:17 108:15	245:7	145:14,16
192:22	82:11 84:18	109:3,4,6 114:6	market 20:14	146:4 148:11
major 9:1,6	85:12 89:23,23	114:10,12,14	79:20 230:13	148:20 158:19
182:14 203:12	90:1 102:15	114:19,21,22	285:19 295:13	160:4 162:23
majority 102:12	114:15,21,23	115:8 122:5,18	306:12	167:24 174:24
154:17	115:9 122:5,18	127:16,19	Marketing	175:1,5 219:21
making 4:8 21:22	124:12 137:19	128:20 129:4	307:18,23	math 85:23
187:22 200:7	138:2 142:1	133:3 137:18	marketplace	Matt 1:23 2:7
237:21 248:18	158:13,16,17	156:16 158:24	282:10	30:16,21 31:2
300:3,12 303:2	160:13 161:8	160:18 167:15	marking 217:24	matter 116:16
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

	·	·	1	
156:2 162:22	149:22 247:2	187:22 206:23	326:21	Mike 22:8,12,14
171:17 176:20	247:12	208:1,3 255:10	Merdian 249:23	22:19 23:9,9,11
188:16 209:8	medicine 17:14	melt 175:6	249:24 250:5,8	23:19 32:1,4,13
258:3 281:11	17:17 189:20	member 118:19	250:10 305:20	32:14,20 38:20
300:11 319:12	medium 277:15	149:16 158:9	305:21	45:22 52:6
matters 53:19	277:18	161:23 162:2,8	Meridian 203:21	69:21 83:16,16
mature 183:20	meet 16:11 30:4	162:12 163:2	merit 123:19	84:4,9,13,21
Max 151:15,19	33:10 34:9 39:7	163:12,20	merits 5:19	85:5,11,15,20
151:20 152:12	41:20 42:5	164:1,5,8,15,24	mesh 42:1	86:3 92:7 122:3
152:17 153:4	46:13,19,23	165:4,8,11,16	message 32:20	124:1,2 127:14
maximum 11:3	65:2 78:20	165:24 166:6	41:19 50:2 55:1	127:16 130:8
Mayor 86:7	124:9 140:13	166:12,16,23	56:21,23	157:23 158:2,2
324:2	140:15 158:14	167:7 180:18	messages 42:23	162:1,4,11,17
ma'am 80:6	160:12 176:15	219:7 220:10	messes 162:6	163:8,16,24
104:21 105:13	179:13,21	229:12,19	met 14:17 32:7	164:3,7,10,17
184:6 253:14	180:3 182:17	241:1 254:23	34:14 46:16	165:2,6,10,14
McCREIGHT	192:21 197:22	267:17 270:18	59:18 63:18	165:18 166:2,9
328:3,22	205:24 206:6	287:21 300:11	91:13 113:24	166:14,18
meadows 227:2	216:18 226:5	304:4,7,18	120:23 142:16	167:3,17 168:6
mean 69:20 83:1	287:12 293:15	310:17	150:19 179:16	168:9,16 169:3
108:22 112:9	302:19	members 3:19	196:19,23	169:13,18,24
125:7 127:9	meeting 1:1 3:10	110:15 185:16	220:3 256:5	170:3,10,14,16
135:20 140:10	3:15,17 4:2,5,6	241:5 270:22	270:4 287:6	170:20,23
143:2 146:17	4:13,20 5:4,12	271:9,10 276:7	302:5 304:24	171:3,7,11,13
177:19 214:22	7:11 8:15 12:1	300:17 303:8	metals 272:17	171:18 172:2,6
229:5 236:15	12:4,5 13:1,23	304:9,22	meter 51:2	172:8,16,21,24
236:19 259:4	14:1,11 15:10	322:24	meters 51:11,22	173:4,8,12,16
260:19,19	29:2 48:14	memorandum	method 119:8	174:4,9,18
261:1,19,21	61:16 62:10,19	67:2,13	methods 56:19	176:8,18 177:1
264:4,5 270:8	65:6 100:1	memories 243:10	Mexico 225:4	177:9,17,19,22
284:14 291:11	110:24 224:3	275:1	Michael 99:15,16	178:5,16,21
296:18 297:17	227:11 241:3,3	men 227:18	100:6,23 101:3	179:1,9,12,17
311:10 322:15	299:14 300:21	Mendola 99:15	101:19 102:5	180:1,7 194:9,9
meaning 182:11	301:11,13	99:16 100:6,23	325:14	194:15 199:8
means 25:21,23	303:19 318:12	101:3,19 102:5	microphone 5:14	221:2 236:10
28:19 48:23	326:12,20	mental 181:18	5:16 30:16	236:10,14
235:5,10,24	327:3,21	mention 188:1	62:14 107:2	237:6,10 242:6
248:15	328:11	189:11	128:13	242:13 253:20
measures 108:7	meetings 155:4	mentioned 11:7	middle 22:21	253:24,24
108:13	305:2	40:21 45:22	130:14	256:17,20,22
measuring 10:9	meets 5:1 31:7	63:5 90:10	midnight 295:23	257:3,17 258:2
10:11,14,17	42:20 50:10	99:18 114:6	midwest 40:21	258:19,24
meat 150:2 308:8	82:22 115:24	118:10 126:16	40:22,23 41:3,9	259:13,18
meats 302:1	147:7,19	142:15 167:14	42:4,20 146:1	260:4,23
medical 18:17,18	150:15 293:18	193:18 203:23	246:19	261:11,16,23
19:6,21 71:19	322:15	233:24 249:4,4	mighty 30:12	262:10,21
71:21 106:4,5	mega 187:7,10	264:13 302:5	migraines 104:3	263:1,10,14,20
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	I

	•		<u> </u>	•
264:3,17,21	296:9	moist 50:7	Mountain 204:13	M-A-I-E-R-S
265:7,19,21,24	mines 163:5	mom 274:12	mouth 240:21	167:13
266:2,4 291:12	minimal 41:24	moms 297:4	move 23:6 83:13	M-E-N-D-O-L-A
291:12,17	44:13 59:1	Monday 161:1	87:24 143:13	99:16
292:2,6,13,20	minimize 50:15	222:14	175:18 180:6	M-E-R-D-I-A-N
293:4,7 304:3,3	57:2 197:2	money 77:1	180:10 207:18	249:24
304:8,14	200:10 318:16	84:11 139:3,12	290:22 295:19	
322:11	minimizes 45:1	155:18 192:20	295:20 296:1	N
Mike's 22:10	minimizing	203:14 295:14	moved 87:8,10	N 2:1
113:23 262:15	197:23	314:4	142:21 154:20	naive 80:17,19
mile 18:13 45:15	minimum 41:20	moneys 192:20	190:4 207:18	name 3:7 5:8,8
46:3 98:6,7	92:20 96:9,11	monitor 24:17,18	207:20 225:18	7:6 8:7 16:1,2
103:15,17,17	Minonk 17:5	39:19 166:3	242:9,13	16:17,20 31:2
141:2,2,15	minor 9:3	290:1	274:12 313:7,9	62:15,15 76:22
143:1 154:12	minus 121:20,24	monitored	movement	78:5 79:22
187:10,23	minute 32:22	165:21,24	235:18	83:15 86:5,6,9
192:10 194:24	37:19 39:12	166:7	movements	91:22,23 95:2
217:8,8 218:7	45:8 53:23	monitoring 27:3	192:8	97:4 99:14,16
219:10,10,19	57:13 153:15	43:21 52:13,22	moving 81:11	102:6 111:11
220:6,7 223:23	minutes 6:16,19	monitors 165:19	190:6 313:16	123:6 131:4
230:5 231:12	102:3 153:12	month 181:10	mowing 27:11	133:24 134:15
231:14,15	154:5	209:24	MRSA 243:16	146:11 149:7
232:2 247:22	miserable 187:24	months 204:7	246:9,11,16,23	150:11 151:19
257:21	misleading 93:10	mood 111:1	247:3,7,13,17	151:20 154:1,2
miles 10:20 16:22	110:2,20	moratorium	247:21,21,24	154:3,11
18:9 22:7 25:10	missed 160:9	105:19	248:2,5,7,11,17	157:15 158:2
25:12 26:3 28:5	Missouri 207:18	morbidity 234:7	249:17 250:2	171:19 180:17
28:5 83:22	207:19	234:13 235:9	251:11,11,13	190:19 194:16
86:22,23 87:14	mistook 291:16	Morgan 186:14	251:16,19,22	196:5 202:10
88:1 130:23	mix 27:5 55:12	186:17,22,22	252:7 253:9	208:19,24
192:17 203:10	217:22,23	187:2,3,5,15	multi 58:8	216:11,12 223:19,20
203:19,20,24	mixed 18:16	188:3,14,24	multiple 6:18	228:23 230:4
212:11 230:22	71:19 226:23	189:4,18 190:8	53:5 68:6	233:6,8,8 238:9
231:2,4,16,17	Mobile 153:1,5	morning 306:7	147:15 217:1,4	238:10 241:21
269:7 281:6	mocking 189:1	307:12	224:15 316:10	244:18,19
310:13,14	model 20:17,21	mortality 234:8	316:12	244:18,19 246:1 249:3,23
Millie 242:12	modern 33:7	234:13 235:9	multiplier 27:16	253:15,23,23
million 26:12	50:19 254:13	mosquito 189:11	multiply 33:19	258:14 267:6
27:22 61:6	254:14,21	mosquitoes	33:23 318:5	270:16 281:4
121:9 163:19	260:23	189:8	multitude 183:10	282:17 288:4
164:13 197:6	modernize	mother 24:20,22	municipalities	298:23 306:2,8
277:1 millions 308:19	255:16 modification	286:16 motor 191:12,19	277:9,21 278:16	307:13 316:22
mind 5:17 7:2	59:5	,		names 6:20 71:2
288:18	39:3 modified 9:16	192:12,13,19	Mustangs 17:4 mutated 248:12	316:14 320:13
mine 195:20	38:4	motorcycle 226:11	Myers 257:8,8,23	nams 187:2
239:21 240:23	38:4 Moines 18:11	motto 271:1	325:7	narrow 175:5
239.21 240.23	141011165 10.11	1110110 4 / 1 . 1	343.1	

		1		
nasty 189:9	74:13 75:7,8	313:11,16	288:14 289:8	northwest 10:20
national 28:20	97:8 106:12,14	314:21,23	290:5,22	22:7 37:3
225:16 227:3	113:12 139:4	322:19	291:16,24	north/south
234:20 264:14	143:13 152:10	neighbor's	292:4,11,17	130:15
325:5	153:15 167:16	306:13	293:2,6,21	nose 184:16
nationwide	174:16 176:7	neither 328:9	nice 78:19 222:13	243:21
270:24	177:12 180:5	neonatal 234:13	295:21	noses 243:24
native 238:24	180:10 184:7	237:2	Nicolas 1:21 2:5	note 91:4 220:15
239:4,7,12,14	189:21 191:20	network 155:6	16:18,21	noted 236:3
natural 23:12,12	192:2,5,19	196:7 234:21	135:14 138:13	notes 276:9
23:14 60:6,14	193:14 199:24	neurobiologist	141:10 228:8	notice 10:4 11:8
60:19,23 61:12	200:8,19,24	186:8	268:15 284:19	11:13,16,24
112:9,10	204:24 218:15	never 22:11	287:10 294:11	12:5 14:9,23
227:15,15	221:9 237:17	97:22 109:3	299:14 300:15	15:7 28:24
nature 112:16	239:18 240:19	139:22 140:7	302:19 303:7	34:14 37:1,14
286:16 288:19	248:20 269:15	167:2 182:8	304:4	37:16,22 38:1
324:10	282:16,16,19	207:21 220:8	night 242:21	46:8 47:7
nay 303:15	293:2 296:1	242:19 287:10	254:1 301:12	234:11 257:9
near 144:12	301:1,15,15	new 9:16 59:5	nightly 226:11	276:13 303:18
149:10 181:24	308:22	64:20,24	Nile 189:10	317:5
184:3 202:11	needed 39:11	144:13 148:13	nine 217:4	notices 15:9
203:8 207:13	54:15 309:7	190:11 203:2	nitrogen 51:17	276:19
207:14,14	needs 27:12	207:10,13	54:19 122:15	notification
226:13 231:10	106:3 197:15	219:16 230:9	173:24 197:7	90:10 97:13
232:7 240:23	199:23 200:18	246:19 277:2	197:11 200:17	notified 37:21
247:4,17	negative 183:18	287:10	200:19 272:16	46:8 64:7 98:15
273:15 297:15	232:17 244:24	newspaper 11:17	nonbinding 14:1	notify 14:19
306:16 310:10	284:1	newspapers 12:6	nonconformance	37:17
311:7	negatively 104:8	Nic 89:19,19 90:4		November
nearby 77:6	negotiations	90:13 91:1,16	nonfarm 46:21	105:16 204:17
203:18 230:14	218:10	91:20 107:13	nonnative 238:24	234:3
247:23 248:15	neighbor 190:12	174:12,12	normal 27:10	noxious 97:7,19
nearest 25:10	neighborhood	176:6,14,20	36:15	101:23 102:16
45:23 46:14,17	77:4 226:24	177:6,14,18,20	normally 129:5	155:13 156:11
46:21 68:7 69:3	274:22 275:10	178:3,13,18,23	north 18:12	181:20 183:21
nearly 246:5	neighboring	179:7,10,13,20	57:17 103:11	273:7
247:22	78:15 232:12	180:2 205:11	103:12,18	NPDS 278:18
necessarily 100:9	322:3,6	205:11,16	124:18 154:13	280:16
150:21	neighbors 30:8	206:5,11,18	203:9 204:1	NPK 200:23
necessary 191:9	97:16 99:8	276:2,4,4	217:7 242:6,7	NRCS 158:20
248:8	111:24 156:7	279:16,21,24	244:21 267:15	number 5:10
necessity 226:1	207:9 226:12	280:4,8,16,22	294:15	15:6,13 34:3
neck 279:6	231:1,4 268:1	281:22 282:2,9	northeast 45:24	38:21 42:24
need 5:13 13:16	269:11 275:11	282:14,24	242:6	44:23 45:13
28:4 47:20	287:3,12,22,24	283:4,13,16	northeastern	46:24 48:14,16
51:19,20 57:20	289:1,5 290:15	284:5,19 287:1	10:21	50:13 57:1 61:6
69:16 70:12	291:15 297:10	287:16,17,23	northern 279:4	62:3,8 75:19
	ı	ı	ı	I

104:23 132:5	104:17	255:5	223:4,11,15,18	50:18 52:7,23
174:19 177:2	objectives 309:20	offered 282:15	227:22 229:16	53:23 57:1 59:3
196:23,24	obligation	282:19 289:1	229:21 232:23	62:1 68:10
197:23 200:6	192:21	323:11	233:5 236:8	75:24 82:8 84:9
202:14 234:12	observation	office 21:7 71:4	237:15,24	86:21 88:21
234:19 242:3	152:9	Officer 1:13 3:1	238:5,8 241:8	93:5 97:3 98:8
250:6,7,8,16,24	observations	3:9 14:22 15:5	241:12,17,20	99:12 102:5
274:14 314:1	152:12,15	15:20 16:7	244:8,13,17	103:21 107:8
315:4 318:13	observe 128:19	61:22 62:2	245:10,16,20	108:20 109:8
318:14,15,17	observed 23:9	76:20 78:4 82:7	245:24 249:1	111:8 114:1,17
323:2,14,17,22	129:18	83:13 86:4,8	249:21 251:4,7	115:10 118:10
324:1,4,7,10,11	obstruct 159:1	93:17 94:3 95:1	253:6,12,17,22	128:1,8,11
324:19 325:3,7	obstructed	95:8 99:13	256:15 258:6	131:1 133:1,22
325:14,20,24	159:10	105:12 107:1	258:13 259:9	134:14 135:12
326:2,8,11	obtain 218:16	107:18 109:9	262:11 264:8	137:5 138:13
328:22	obvious 181:8	111:10 113:12	265:1,10 266:7	140:24 141:21
numbers 20:12	obviously 58:12	116:23 123:2,5	266:12,16,20	143:10 144:3
22:4 61:3	74:11 87:18	126:1 127:22	267:5 270:9,13	145:9 146:10
132:11,15	111:21 119:2	128:5,12 130:5	273:21 274:4	149:6,19 150:1
208:7 269:18	126:18 182:21	131:3,9 143:6	275:23 279:10	150:8 153:21
318:2	268:10	146:10 149:6	280:11 281:2	154:10 157:21
numerous 41:10	occupied 45:14	150:9 151:13	281:14 282:21	158:1 162:8
43:20	45:20 68:17	151:17 152:10	284:2 288:3	169:20 171:1
nurse 24:19	occur 84:9	152:14 153:2	291:6 295:22	173:9,10 174:7
nursing 25:5	odd 17:10	153:11,21	296:6,11	180:2,14
251:17	odor 13:5 30:7	154:10 157:8	298:17,22	185:13 186:6
nut 267:23	39:24 52:23,23	157:14,17,22	300:7 301:2,14	190:18 194:7
nutrient 27:5,21	53:1,7,13,21	158:1 161:21	302:2,15 304:1	195:12,23
53:8,9 69:22	54:4 55:3,21,23	167:9 169:8	304:15 305:4,9	196:4 198:11
70:17 94:19	56:7,13 87:18	172:10 174:10	305:17,22	199:10 206:21
115:7 122:10	98:17 101:21	176:23 180:5,9	306:1 307:6	208:14 214:14
166:21 197:14	102:3,4,9,16	180:14 184:6	309:13 310:4	215:4 241:17
199:24	103:24 111:19	184:17,23	310:19 312:17	245:15 253:11
nutrients 53:14	112:11,22	186:11,17	312:21 316:2,8	259:20 260:6
168:4 173:23	113:11 181:3,4	190:13,18	316:13 323:5	263:12,18
261:5 263:7	182:18 183:7	193:16 194:7	323:13 325:2	266:3 274:4
306:16	278:4 289:17	195:16,23	325:23 326:5	281:24 282:4
nuts 315:14	314:13 318:17	196:4 198:2,16	326:19	283:15 291:4
N-I-C 89:19	318:19 319:7	199:11 201:23	officers 210:8	296:6 305:4
174:12 205:11	319:10	202:5 204:24	official 99:24	310:14 312:18
0	odorants 183:10	205:9 206:21	officials 15:11	316:13 326:12
	odors 101:23	207:22 208:14	Ogle 231:23	old 243:4 313:9
Obama 96:20	102:20 155:13	208:18,23	Oh 252:18	older 243:6
obey 132:3 133:10	181:2,20	211:21 213:7	oil 212:18	oldest 150:17
Objecting 325:18	182:22 183:21	214:3 215:5	okay 30:21 34:5	254:16
objection 32:15	184:13 273:7	216:5,10 219:5	38:20 44:23	ole 104:9
objection 32.13	offer 248:11	220:12 222:3	46:24 48:6	Olesen 245:22
	ı	ı	I	1

246:2,2 249:11	273:16 281:8	order 4:11 16:10	overflow 159:12	277:14
249:17 250:3,6	313:16 318:15	20:11 77:20	overhead 112:7	pages 86:12
250:9,13,15,20	operations 35:6	193:1 303:5	240:1	paid 95:6,11
250:23 251:4,6	35:12,15	orderly 4:2,12	overlooking	281:13 317:20
251:12,15,18	105:20 110:14	ordinance 59:23	207:11	Panther 262:7
251:21,24	142:18 197:2	210:6	overnight 268:4	paper 7:9 323:4
252:5,9,13,18	246:15 276:21	organization	overseas 308:11	325:18,22
252:24 253:10	324:16	255:1 271:1	309:17	papers 276:10
once 14:18 24:9	operator 9:8	organized 158:10	overseeing 21:22	paperwork
36:17 70:15	34:22 35:9 36:2	180:19	overseen 267:10	218:19
77:5,10 87:21	38:13 50:14	originally 8:22	oversight 83:23	Paragraph 12:21
181:12 201:4	119:11 197:1	38:6	overuse 312:10	pardon 320:22
201:13 304:24	opinion 25:7,9	originate 165:1	overusing 311:16	parent 185:21
Oncken 198:18	87:20 104:19	Osage 313:5	312:4	parents 17:22
198:18 199:3,8	227:12 228:17	osmosis 89:3,7	overview 4:15	188:6 311:15
ones 101:4,4	228:19 300:11	89:14	16:14 31:23	312:4
125:10	308:17 311:14	other's 290:1	33:1	park 28:20 75:2
one's 163:6	311:22	Ottawa 248:1	overweight	227:4
one-half 231:12	opinions 152:15	outbreaks 234:6	218:16	parking 74:24
one-quarter	opportunities	outbuildings	overwhelm	75:8
232:2	61:5 107:20	203:14	159:11	part 20:9 33:7
ongoing 286:20	137:4	outcome 328:15	owl 242:21	35:8 37:3 45:10
321:8	opportunity 3:20	outdoor 155:15	owned 3:23	48:15 49:6
online 169:14	4:23 5:6 97:1	224:13,16,22	20:24 22:8	59:15 66:12
277:15,24	175:24 177:12	225:9	154:14 185:15	88:5 99:3,19,23
open 5:3 62:10	182:2 256:13	outer 37:20 46:7	owner 25:24 32:4	114:16 132:1,1
63:11 105:10	299:4 308:3	68:12,19	34:21 35:9 36:1	188:12 189:14
112:20 113:8	319:19 320:8	outflow 165:22	50:14 197:1	191:23 201:3
113:10 224:24	oppose 241:5	165:23	229:4	205:6 210:9
265:16,20,23	271:6	Outlet 18:11	owners 14:13	232:21 238:20
288:18 297:21	opposed 301:18	outlining 4:18	19:20,21 25:2	270:2 319:20
operate 72:8	opposite 232:16	outlook 114:13	27:8 37:17,18	partially 159:16
151:11 248:23	opposition	output 106:24	37:20 65:16	participation
285:1,23	158:10 180:20	107:4	70:3 71:20,24	211:13
operated 185:15	326:3	outside 16:22	231:7 293:16	particles 55:20
operating 164:2	optimum 240:3	17:22 78:16	301:13 325:18	56:2
261:3 277:4	option 66:23	98:3 109:4	owner/operator	particular 4:17
operation 20:10	113:11,19	145:14 154:20	64:7 194:2	6:2 10:3 40:11
22:14 33:4	284:11	166:3 187:8,12	200:9	41:4 43:8,10
38:23 50:15	options 56:16,24	187:18 188:1	owning 229:3	45:19 51:1
59:10 84:6	oral 2:11 3:20	285:18 289:7	oxygen 277:17	53:19 107:24
192:16 200:3	5:11 6:6,11,12	294:10,17	O'Conor 325:7	125:9 138:1
201:4,14	6:13,23 7:4,7	297:18,18	O-N-C-K-E-N	165:21
216:21 242:14	7:17 62:22	314:3,5	198:19	particularly
252:14 259:23	128:7 143:12	outsiders 110:6	P	249:18
260:24 261:18	152:15 153:24	outward 107:12	page 2:2 36:7	parties 78:14
271:7,18	323:8 326:8	overcome 255:16	page 2.2 30.7	254:8 297:9,10
	1	1	1	1

MIDWEST LITIGATION SERVICES Phone: 1.800.280.3376

		I		I
297:18 328:10	patterned 119:19	256:8 259:4	147:7,19	petting 110:20,23
328:14	patterns 13:7	260:1 261:3	period 14:6 36:1	phase 5:11,12,14
partner 135:3	57:2 321:4	268:2,19 269:3	36:13,18	6:12 54:12,13
partners 299:17	Paul 307:9,11,11	270:7 274:24	138:11 235:8	73:24 152:16
308:16	307:13 310:1,9	275:3 277:9	periodic 44:19	153:14 157:20
parts 131:20	310:12 311:6	284:8,9 285:8	periods 222:16	179:23 223:13
181:16	311:13 312:15	286:19,23	permeate 225:11	Pheasants
party 30:4 79:10	pavement 217:24	287:7,8 291:19	permission 94:14	204:12
pass 6:24 7:6	223:9	291:22 294:6	permit 129:3	Phillips 83:16,16
30:15 38:14	pay 27:14 95:24	295:23 296:17	137:9 139:4,15	84:4,13,21 85:5
202:3,4 241:16	96:5 133:17	297:11 300:12	140:21,23	85:11,15,20
266:10,15,19	281:17 282:5	301:9,12 308:7	141:3 218:24	86:3 97:4,5
283:10 296:5	301:8 305:1	308:14,21	278:18,19,21	98:8 99:6,11
305:21 312:20	paying 211:13	310:23 312:9	280:16 285:1	157:23,23
passageway	payroll 21:8	313:22 314:17	permits 134:19	158:2,3 162:1,4
133:20	peaceful 225:5	people's 144:17	135:10 218:16	162:11,17
passed 8:22	289:24	166:24 267:20	218:20	163:8,16,24
79:11 152:17	peacocks 275:14	Peoria 248:1	permitting 30:23	164:3,7,10,17
303:23 314:7	PED 78:10,13	256:24 274:7	70:21 135:7	165:2,6,10,14
passes 244:14	79:21 80:3,6,14	perceived 5:19	139:5,8	165:18 166:2,9
266:13,17,21	80:21 81:2,7	percent 58:24	person 6:15	166:14,18
296:7,11	100:18 233:24	81:1 85:8,16,17	81:24 96:4	167:3,17 168:6
passing 244:12	234:5,15,17,22	111:19 115:1	101:18 113:13	168:9,16 169:3
passion 224:23	235:20 236:5	140:4,6 150:5,7	121:18 127:16	169:13,18,24
passionately	PEDV 234:12	158:23 159:22	176:23 215:1	170:3,10,14,16
322:20	236:11 237:18	203:18 217:13	251:14,14	170:20,23
pastural 242:15	Peggy 316:18	231:1,3,11,13	personal 104:1	171:3,7,11,13
pasture 22:18,24	pen 42:18	231:14,15,16	243:22 254:4	172:2,8,16,21
105:4	penalty 258:20	232:1 234:7,8	322:10	172:24 173:4,8
path 117:17	people 5:10,22	234:14 235:10	personally 126:9	173:12,16
156:21	5:22 6:10,13	247:20,20	238:20	174:4,9,14,18
pathogens	30:1,2 77:11	280:18,19	personnel 36:15	176:8,18 177:1
272:17	79:19 85:21	289:12	52:4	177:9,17,19,22
patience 131:2	96:22 100:7,22	percentage	persons 6:20	178:5,16,21
patients 248:3,4	102:12 112:14	139:17 289:15	person's 97:2	179:1,9,12,17
patio 224:14	117:1 123:10	perennials	pertaining	180:1,7,12,15
patios 224:15	127:23 139:23	224:17	146:14	180:15,17
Patricia 143:14	141:19 143:8	perfect 314:19	PETA 267:24	184:8,18,19
143:16 144:3,6	143:12 153:23	perforated 43:4	Pete 206:22,22	185:9,12,23
144:9,17,21	162:6 170:18	43:8	207:5,17,24	186:3,14,15,22
145:5,9	175:15 181:2	performed 48:7	208:10,13	186:22,24,24
Patrick 323:17	183:7 204:6,19	48:11 49:5,8	Peterson 262:13	187:2,4,4,5,13
323:18	209:20 230:22	perimeter 39:16	262:13,23	187:15,19
pattern 74:18	242:10 246:5,6	43:2,3,24 52:13	263:8,12,18,22	188:3,10,14,22
175:14,23	249:7,14,18	52:21 84:14,19	266:9,10,13	188:24 189:2,4
176:12,15	250:21 254:13	118:20,22	petition 313:12	189:14,18
177:10 217:6	255:3,11,12	146:16,21	326:3	190:3,8,10
	ı	I	<u> </u>	I

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	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
194:9,9,15	235:23 285:16	306:15 315:21	planning 9:8	plumate 203:16
205:14 291:12	297:14,16	315:23	13:2 99:7 153:1	plumbers 26:18
291:12,17	298:1,14	placed 5:13 6:8	321:17	plus 83:12
292:2,6,13,20	piglets 22:2 33:5	43:4,8 133:18	plans 12:9,12	163:23 171:24
293:4,7 304:3,3	33:21 89:4	138:3	13:6 14:10 30:7	192:17 282:18
304:8,14 324:7	121:11 234:13	placement 76:2	50:14 52:24	podium 154:2
philosophy	237:2	315:6	63:7,8,13,20	point 15:3,13
286:12,15	pigs 19:2 20:11	places 127:2,21	64:1 65:5 90:11	31:13,22 32:9
phone 78:21	20:12,13,20	130:15 148:18	90:14 91:2,4,14	42:19 43:19
281:7 283:3	21:1 23:13,15	166:24 288:11	91:16 97:14	46:4 54:16 68:3
phosphates	24:2,19 25:1	288:16 293:14	98:17 111:16	68:5,17,23
173:5,6	26:5 27:7 79:1	298:16 309:17	112:22 117:18	77:20 89:17
phosphorous	79:4,9,20 80:8	placing 315:4	118:21 138:8	91:6,18 92:5
51:17 54:20	80:14,17,18,22	plain 125:21	149:4 152:22	95:6,11 102:24
122:7 173:24	81:3 87:23	129:8	153:6,7,9	125:17 127:12
197:7,10,11	109:15 110:3,9	plainly 321:6	168:23 197:1	128:22 149:1
198:10 200:17	121:16 149:23	plan 28:17 29:19	197:20 200:9	153:6 163:11
200:19 277:17	189:20,24	34:13 35:3,11	200:13 261:14	224:4 229:4
phosphorus	207:3 222:21	35:16,17 36:1,3	318:16,17,19	236:20,22
122:15 272:17	229:13 234:9	36:6,12,17	319:8,17,17,18	248:10 254:17
photo 44:16	235:11 236:1	40:21,22,24	319:20 320:2	254:18 259:3
225:16	285:17,18	41:9 42:4,20	320:14,15	290:7,24 291:9
photograph	pig's 106:4	51:13 55:13	plant 19:8 116:4	291:20 303:15
73:12,14 245:5	pipe 43:4,8	64:3 65:21 66:5	165:9,15	points 42:8 68:7
324:19	pipelines 193:4	69:23 70:16	planted 224:18	94:24 235:15
phrase 320:5	pit 41:20 52:7	86:15 97:20	planting 55:13	police 210:8,8
physical 181:18	55:24 56:2	98:13,16,22	plants 224:17	211:19
pH.D 180:23	65:24 73:4,5,6	99:5 108:23	plastic 145:16,21	policies 300:20
pick 13:14 127:1	112:6 118:13	113:7 114:15	played 274:16	301:22
214:24 277:14	118:17 146:20	114:16,21,23	playing 17:3	policy 191:12,12
pickups 212:12	147:10 226:16	115:9 122:5,18	87:11 110:9	192:1 299:10
picnics 254:8	pits 72:20 73:2	133:5 137:19	please 5:17 7:2	polite 30:4
picture 50:23	73:10 224:16	138:2 146:2	7:24 16:1,5,17	politician 270:8
51:1,5 147:15	265:16	158:18 167:19	62:14,15,16,23	pollutants
pictures 40:6	place 30:7 43:12	167:20 178:1	68:24 86:8 87:3	182:22 272:16
97:23 102:11	46:2 51:21 66:6	183:21 184:5	87:6 107:19	pollute 207:7
109:15 110:8	97:20 98:13,16	199:19 200:3	117:10 119:7	269:6
110:13,16	98:18 108:7	200:14 201:6	122:19 128:13	polluters 289:9
111:2,6 243:13	120:20 128:24	201:21 233:15	130:6 143:7	pollution 159:3
piece 175:21	133:12 141:4	239:17 247:10	152:11 153:3	183:23 204:21
203:7	148:11 154:23	296:14 314:11	167:10 186:19	249:7 272:13
pieces 53:6	219:13 225:15	318:14 320:17	205:3 229:22	286:11
pig 25:23,23 27:1	236:20 243:10	320:21	250:1 252:18	pool 20:5
57:7 79:3,15,16	269:22 275:8	planned 152:24	278:19 288:4	poop 188:17
79:16 82:4	286:13 288:9	178:19,23	pleasures 226:13	189:17,20
126:13 170:5	293:18 296:19	179:11 197:13	plug 58:21	pooped 173:18
188:17 189:17	296:20 297:5	322:8	plugging 43:18	poor 161:17
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	1
188:16 268:17	216:2,4	precisely 247:9	preserving 226:2	174:22 180:1,7
309:8	posting 195:7,11	preconstruction	pressure 55:17	204:18 207:9
pop 142:10	postpone 317:3	211:5	pressures 294:23	239:6 243:23
populated 11:21	postponing 96:19	prefer 114:4	pretty 13:19 29:6	243:23 251:1
46:2 59:12	potassium 173:7	pregnancy 24:9	107:5 175:13	257:18 268:22
population 80:17	173:23	24:12	189:5,12	283:8 285:8
247:4 248:3,14	potential 13:2	pregnant 24:8,16	196:11 254:3	288:12
Porcine 233:23	90:14 134:5	premature 60:9	260:12 267:11	problem 174:2
324:23	190:5 203:3	preparation 36:1	274:6 288:13	174:20,21
pork 111:5	204:21 273:10	160:10	289:15	176:2,22 207:2
254:24 255:2,7	273:12	prepare 28:18	prevailing 88:1	221:14,15
255:18 256:1	pound 216:19	35:2,10 134:21	156:21	228:10,12
284:20 286:6	218:21 220:19	317:4	prevent 52:1	229:7 248:11
289:11 294:24	pounds 11:5,6	prepared 36:4	81:19,23	261:10 264:6
300:1,3 315:21	24:2,3 33:16,16	217:17 306:5	130:16	269:5,7 295:10
port 43:21 52:13	33:22	preparing 28:9	preventative	315:2,3
52:22 108:10	pour 42:12	present 1:12 3:20	189:19	problems 124:9
portion 10:21	147:12 148:10	49:4 191:5	preventing	181:22 190:5
62:18 159:16	148:12,14	200:12 230:18	161:10	262:6 264:24
177:16 279:3	pouring 40:16	232:9,21 286:1	prevention 147:9	269:1,2 273:6
portray 104:9	41:16 148:19	317:14 323:3	previous 124:8	315:8,17
pose 79:23	pours 40:14	presentation 2:3	primarily 154:18	procedure 7:14
position 21:13	147:1,2	2:5,7 5:3 15:3	primary 160:6	proceed 4:13,19
96:6 265:6	power 15:3,13	15:14 33:8 37:8	246:16	16:8 117:6
323:3 325:18	101:15 104:15	61:23 62:9	prime 188:15	proceeding 7:10
325:22	powerpoint	83:19 99:19,23	principal 29:4	232:22
positive 80:21	61:20 62:9	101:21 102:9	158:11 180:21	proceedings 8:3
81:2 239:15	99:19,23	132:5 196:12	principle 29:21	299:5
possibilities 90:7	302:11	200:11 210:12	principles 28:15	process 4:12,19
315:15	practically	223:8 281:23	prior 35:17,20,24	13:21 24:18
possibility	274:19	303:10 319:14	40:16 84:1	30:23 63:17
112:20 171:24	practice 18:16,19	presentations	124:14 148:19	64:21 65:1,7,11
275:3	50:24 51:24	196:14	156:12 218:14	66:15 90:10
possible 13:6,8	56:13 71:20	presented 62:9	299:13	91:12 99:4
100:16 112:14	72:4	137:24 196:21	priority 302:1	139:5,8,24
116:13,14,17	practices 50:22	199:7,9 243:13	pristine 204:22	210:5,10 284:7
158:23 159:23	51:7,16 54:3	311:4 313:22	226:2	291:1,1,2,18
160:14 286:23	80:4 82:10	318:12 320:15	privileged 254:2	294:2,8 308:13
291:8 309:20	94:17 160:13	323:1	313:3	308:18 316:24
possibly 56:3	162:22 182:18	PRESENTERS	privy 137:21	produce 20:12
64:16 115:5	292:9,22,24	2:9	probable 127:8	69:12 156:11
126:12,12	293:15,19	presenting 16:1,5	probably 39:21	229:13 286:1
219:12	295:14	66:8	49:21 58:16	295:16
post 195:9	Prairie 196:7	presently 307:18	83:9 114:12	produced 23:13
212:13	precast 42:14	preserve 60:5,19	127:18 131:17	23:14 69:8,17
posted 99:5,6	precautionary	204:11	151:24 170:23	69:22 121:2,8
215:12,20	108:6	preserves 227:2	173:4 174:18	121:13,17
	I	I	I	I

197:6 249:9	10:3,7,19 31:7	15:19 105:24	protects 56:7	63:24 65:6,10
producer 306:9	33:1,3 44:18	132:7 224:3	226:23	71:10 97:10
producers	70:23 139:2	225:8 227:10	protest 166:13	99:21 105:17
254:24 255:2	140:19 158:10	322:7	protocol 93:22	105:18,21
256:1 289:11	159:13 161:4,7	propose 176:16	93:24	271:12 272:6
produces 25:22	179:24 180:20	220:16	proud 109:22	273:2 280:7
producing 81:9	271:13 300:5	proposed 1:1	111:4	285:24 326:20
116:8 211:7	projects 59:7	3:21 4:9,22	proven 226:18	327:3,21
284:15	140:3 203:13	7:22 8:16,20	proverbial	328:11
product 19:17	project's 12:13	9:15 10:5,7,19	239:21	publicly 160:21
40:12,15,16	promoters 248:6	11:4,18 12:13	proves 312:12	168:20
81:21 147:2	promotion	12:19 13:2,4,6	provide 4:15	published 11:17
production 21:7	301:23	13:8 14:2 30:24	6:11,16 19:1,11	12:5 181:11
21:8 23:16	proper 65:16	31:7 38:23	43:15 60:15	201:8 216:22
54:14 55:18	232:4 239:23	49:16 62:4	62:22 71:13,22	247:1
86:16 90:22	320:9	64:17,22 65:7	71:23 72:1	pull 77:22
104:22,24	properly 29:13	154:13 158:13	83:23 100:5	pulled 56:3 58:3
135:6 150:18	52:4 66:7	159:13 178:24	141:22 143:12	59:22 78:2
168:5 202:20	201:17,18	184:2 191:10	153:23 154:4	225:22 226:19
202:22 237:8	properties	197:22 209:19	240:1 280:9	pulling 55:20
264:24 284:21	202:21 203:12	211:12 216:16	285:19 302:7	77:15
285:16,16	203:22 230:14	216:20 218:21	provided 63:6,22	pulls 27:1
294:24 295:1	232:7,13 322:3	221:3 223:24	155:6 177:14	pump 129:19
300:1 301:24	property 27:13	224:8 227:5	212:12 238:16	145:1
productive 25:24	27:14 32:4,6	230:6,12,15	279:4 299:4	pumper 73:17
productivity	37:17,18,20	232:11 243:8	326:22	pumping 247:8
205:18	61:6 68:15 70:3	244:1,24 245:3	provides 90:1	punch 184:16
products 145:19	75:15,15 76:1,7	245:6 255:6,19	216:15 306:11	purchase 66:23
145:24,24	78:18 155:18	267:3,8 271:6	providing 6:13	67:13 233:15
147:15 275:21	155:21,22	271:21 273:3	52:9,11 285:2	purchased 66:19
profession 23:10	156:1 175:22	319:2 321:23	306:22	67:18
professional 31:3	183:12 184:21	325:19 326:4	provisions 4:15	pure 76:8
158:4 190:23	185:22 186:1,3	proposing	8:12,18 9:12,19	purebred 289:22
profile 51:9	186:5 187:14	178:14 217:19	11:11 12:16	purpose 31:6
profitable 20:6	192:20 203:8	229:8 265:15	proximity 97:11	133:15 199:1
25:24	203:15 204:2	protect 31:18	231:22	purposely 210:24
program 3:14	207:14 224:7	38:23 39:4 60:8	PRRS 100:18	pursuant 3:16
52:3	224:19 228:24	97:15 98:22	prudent 303:3	212:10
Programs 3:13	230:21,24	102:20 149:11	PSI 44:14 115:11	pursue 61:11
8:8	231:3,6,6,9,19	161:4 210:11	115:17	pursuit 60:13
progress 309:6	231:21,24	271:2	psychiatric	pursuits 60:7
progresses	232:3 293:16	protected 147:24	181:22	push 269:10
218:12	297:2,12 298:8	protecting 47:8	PTSD 181:23	pushed 225:21
prohibit 283:16	317:19,21	protection 82:9	public 1:1 2:9,11	295:9
283:17	322:5 324:12	211:16 240:22	3:10,19 6:7,15	put 28:4 31:21
project 4:17,18	325:18	protections	7:18 8:15 12:1	32:8 40:14,16
4:23,24 8:20	proposal 12:2	149:2	15:9 62:21	43:14 52:19,20
	l	l	l 	l

	•	-	1	·
52:21 54:22	quarter 45:15	300:9 301:15	237:15 238:1	radius 68:4,23,24
70:15 83:7	231:16	301:15,16	241:9 244:8	101:24 102:1
86:24 89:13	quarterly 109:3	303:1 305:7	245:11 249:2	296:21
91:2 97:24	question 5:7,10	309:19 310:20	249:22 251:8	radiuses 68:18
104:3 105:3	5:12,16 6:5	319:6	253:13,18	rain 263:24
112:1 114:9	62:13,17,20	questioned	256:14,15	rainstorm 159:9
125:11 127:14	64:11 67:8,9,10	299:15 321:15	258:7 262:12	262:18
130:10 136:10	67:12 68:2 73:7	questioner 83:14	264:9 265:11	rainwater 39:23
140:2 141:11	76:24 77:2,8,9	questioners	270:10 273:22	160:15
141:20 146:15	78:8,24 79:5	76:19	275:24 279:9	raise 13:15 16:5
147:1 148:20	84:22 87:13	questioning 2:9	279:10 280:12	20:14 27:8
157:11 163:18	88:4,22 89:16	5:14 6:15 154:6	281:3 284:3,18	129:19 154:24
168:4 173:10	91:24 92:16,16	questions 3:20	298:18 300:8	186:19 222:21
173:11 182:10	93:3,15,18 94:4	5:4,5 7:3,16 8:1	302:3,16	233:15 255:12
187:10 188:16	94:7 95:9,13	31:19 37:9,13	303:11 304:2	255:17 256:3
193:10 195:6	97:5 98:9 99:17	61:17 62:11,19	304:16 305:18	270:6 284:20
198:21 205:18	100:12,14	62:24 63:3	307:7,7 309:14	294:20,21
207:12,13	101:8,19	66:17 75:12	310:5 312:18	296:20 297:7
212:1 213:16	104:12 105:13	76:21 77:21,21	316:3 319:16	raised 24:2,23
292:14,22	108:2 109:10	78:21 82:6	323:5 324:1	154:22 224:15
297:19 311:19	111:13,20	86:13 106:22	question/com	228:5 254:3
314:14,16	113:5 115:11	107:22 117:1,3	215:10	268:6 269:21
Putnam 306:9	116:24 119:23	117:8 122:20	quick 106:21	269:21 274:13
putting 89:2	122:21 123:12	123:21 126:9	146:13 152:19	289:21,22
114:12 127:19	124:5,22 126:2	127:24 128:11	267:1 291:7	297:3 298:12
168:4 204:20	126:5 127:11	131:7 134:17	305:7,10	319:21
308:18	128:6 129:9,13	140:15,16	quickly 4:12	raising 185:21
puzzle 53:6	130:3,6 132:1	143:9,11	68:22 143:13	237:1 268:23
PVC 145:24	133:2 134:2	150:10 151:14	305:11	275:19 285:15
147:16	139:13 141:1	152:11 153:13	quite 9:19 22:21	Randy 312:22,24
P-H-I-L-L-I-P-S	143:15 146:13	157:9,18	33:2 39:3	312:24 323:15
83:17 97:5	149:9 151:2,18	161:22 167:10	102:17 110:4	323:17,19
158:3 180:16	152:8,19 153:3	167:11 172:11	124:3 151:5	324:17
186:23 187:1	161:18 170:7	174:11 184:24	254:4	range 26:12 60:4
P.E 1:16	176:6,15	185:2 186:12	quorum 303:22	96:15
P.M 1:9	179:20 198:23	190:14 193:17	303:23	ranging 24:4
Q	199:1 206:17	195:17 198:3	quote 183:1	ranks 21:12
quality 89:9 98:3	207:23 215:16	198:17 199:12	281:12 318:24	rare 196:9
98:5 104:8	220:1 259:10	201:24 205:10	quoting 34:18	rarely 153:7
134:7 183:12	259:15,21	208:15 211:22	234:5 239:13	rate 78:12 80:3
225:7 238:14	265:2,13	213:8 215:6	R	81:12 197:11
239:24 240:3	281:15,17	216:6 219:6	Rachel 186:7	200:20 239:11
244:3 255:17	282:22 283:6,8	220:13 222:4	rack 22:20	309:10 317:22
271:13 298:9	284:5 288:5,6	223:5 227:23	radiation 89:4	318:5
298:11	289:23 290:5	227:24 229:17	radium 88:24	rates 51:15,17,20
quantities 255:12	290:13 291:5	229:22,23	89:1,10,13	51:22 122:16
quantities 233.12	292:6,7 293:10	232:24 236:9	07.1,10,13	197:19 235:9
L	<u>'</u>	•	•	•

			•	
246:23 247:21	315:19,21,22	291:10	324:22	133:2
rating 158:24	realtor 25:6	record 4:4 7:10	referencing 34:5	relation 102:22
159:23 239:8,8	203:7	15:2,6,12 30:20	referred 246:8	relationship
rattled 100:14	reason 17:10	62:3,7 99:24	referring 284:13	23:18,18 136:6
ravioli 247:18	29:24 83:2	153:18 232:21	reflect 324:24	136:21 226:18
raw 167:1	139:22 150:24	236:7 273:17	refresh 69:16	294:16 322:10
reach 35:6 47:16	220:24 233:22	285:10 286:24	refrigerated	322:11
309:20	236:16 277:10	299:7 317:2,18	308:10	relationships
react 141:12	285:2 294:7	320:3,7 323:14	refused 289:4	135:23 137:3
read 34:7 35:13	309:9 312:13	323:16,21,24	regard 5:23	relative 14:2
50:5,8 52:16	315:5	324:3,6,9,14,18	221:17 317:7	31:20 118:11
60:1,2,18 61:10	reasonable 52:24	324:21,24	regarding 1:1	235:19 328:12
80:24 97:6	53:1 114:7	325:3,6,10,13	3:21 4:9 7:3	relatively 142:17
216:17 259:7	183:1,4,14,15	325:15,17	8:18 10:2 12:2	142:21 267:10
277:13 279:5,7	184:1,13 290:8	326:1,7,10	12:19,23 13:1	release 94:19
292:19 312:7	reasons 150:20	recorded 67:3,14	15:18 191:8	161:18 263:11
readily 58:4	150:21 233:13	231:19	202:24 271:19	263:14 320:12
reads 196:24	322:21	Recorder 67:4,14	regardless 52:19	released 97:8,9
real 32:20 36:24	reassess 291:11	records 21:8	regards 40:2	162:19 273:4
53:11 66:19,23	rebar 40:12	36:12 279:18	registered 72:15	280:19
143:13 152:19	163:23	302:8	registration	releases 97:19
200:14 267:20	rebars 40:8	recreation 13:9	34:12	relevance 236:11
268:3,16 283:5	rebuild 23:15	59:6,8 202:17	regrade 178:9,17	relevant 233:17
317:24 318:3,3	rebuilt 226:19	204:3 227:7	regular 165:20	236:22
318:7	recall 132:17	240:21	192:13	religious 257:5
realize 79:1,4	283:4,6,7,8,11	recreational	regularly 221:4	rely 285:11
102:8 123:12	receipts 304:23	202:20 203:22	regulate 60:10	remains 151:4
237:17 243:4	receive 6:1 12:18	322:3	198:12	remark 225:5
264:17 268:8	13:16 38:19	rectangular	regulated 295:5	remarks 8:4
303:12	received 4:4 10:3	40:24	regulation	15:16 63:11
really 23:17	11:8,24 12:11	recycle 306:16	271:22 295:7	230:19
59:20 94:5	26:16 37:13	redirected	regulations 5:19	remember 7:24
110:4,5,9	41:10 64:2 91:5	117:20	6:4 28:20 29:1	34:3 100:9
111:20 114:18	140:3,7 157:1	redo 168:18	60:10 133:11	101:3 132:15
126:4 129:12	recipient 101:8	reduce 54:4,20	136:1 235:19	233:24 243:3,5
136:6 138:12	recognition	111:18	286:9 294:22	285:14 302:22
139:4 189:5	183:4	reduced 38:9	295:3,10,13	remind 62:18
210:22 243:15	recognize 256:14	328:7	reinforcement	152:22
247:16 250:9	recollection	reducing 55:2	41:21	remodel 224:12
252:19 254:1	69:17	reduction 53:1	reinforcing	removal 27:11
266:5 268:10	recommend	203:18 231:3	39:15 40:20	remove 88:24
268:13,17	218:5 220:16	231:12,13,14	41:19 42:1	280:18
269:16 270:8	recommendation	refer 50:21 54:1	reject 22:17	removed 20:10
274:9 287:6	14:2,3,12	reference 48:2	related 74:17	24:21 25:14
296:1 297:24	recommended	242:3	149:22 279:14	removing 156:15
298:3 301:15	114:11	referenced 40:23	279:22 328:9	renovated 224:6
302:23 315:16	reconsider 115:4	references	relates 4:17	renovating
	l	l	l	l

	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
155:18	requested 37:8	235:14 259:5	responsibility	Richland 313:4
renovation	requesting 12:1	researched 145:1	9:10 32:18	Rick 202:5,6
155:19	325:8	311:5	167:5	230:2,4,4
repair 109:7	require 47:24	resent 184:11	responsible 84:2	324:12
repaired 226:19	65:15 66:4	247:19	138:14	rid 114:6 127:3
repeat 64:21	138:1 148:16	reservations	rest 145:6 267:18	263:23 313:12
119:23 121:22	149:3 194:3	243:12	restate 64:10	ride 187:9 188:12
replacements	321:10	reside 244:20	185:5	226:5,10
24:5	required 32:12	residence 45:15	restaurant	228:15 242:17
report 49:10	34:14 43:7 44:6	45:21 68:17	314:15	ridiculous
52:15 62:4	44:10 52:10,18	resident 158:4	restoration	206:20
221:13 234:3	54:15 59:13	180:18 215:9	203:12	right 5:12 16:5
276:12	65:2 92:19	233:10 313:1	restraining 288:6	36:8 40:18
reported 231:7	96:18,19	residential 11:19	restriction	51:22 57:16
234:17,20	115:23 116:3	60:15 114:4	213:16	59:16 69:3
reporter 5:9 16:2	121:20 122:1	145:3 160:7	restrictions	76:24 78:16
113:13 154:3	216:18 217:18	231:10 322:1	213:5 214:8	80:1 82:23
316:21 326:24	requirement	residents 63:24	217:13 222:12	90:12 92:22
328:1,4	12:7 32:7 35:14	64:6,13 106:2	restrictive	94:24 101:2
reporting 235:3	35:22 38:12	161:15 182:15	184:14	104:7,16 118:4
reports 21:16	41:24 42:2 46:1	183:18 184:8	result 20:3 159:3	122:24 126:8
84:3 234:5	46:20,23 47:17	203:18 214:9	162:21 217:11	128:3 130:14
represent 95:6	66:13 72:11	217:15 223:23	230:15 299:21	137:17,20
95:11 282:7	82:22 92:11	236:17 247:24	resulting 159:11	138:7 152:11
301:17,21	115:12 147:4	248:19 269:12	159:18	153:5 157:20
representations	179:16 199:22	281:10 283:10	results 89:9	166:18 169:3
209:7	requirements 9:8	313:4 315:12	234:6 235:3	178:7 184:15
representative	9:11,24 32:11	resides 17:21	retired 207:17	186:4,12,19
110:10 279:4	34:13,17 37:16	resistant 246:8	279:3	188:7 190:1
representatives	42:6 44:9 45:5	273:11	retirement 96:17	192:23 194:7
4:22 5:5 8:17	45:11 52:17	resolution	return 18:1	202:11 212:5
16:4 63:6	59:12,17,18	303:23 309:1	242:10	213:18 214:20
102:14 106:13	63:19 65:3,20	resolved 105:22	returns 81:20	219:16 220:24
304:13	65:23 66:1,9,10	resource 196:6	revenue 317:17	223:2 228:16
represented	66:14 91:13	resources 20:5	318:7,10	229:1 237:19
284:16	114:20 124:10	21:9 60:6,20	reverse 89:3,7,14	245:20 254:4
representing	124:15 140:13	61:12 160:21	review 14:8,15	261:4,9,15,24
274:10 283:19	140:16 180:3	respect 139:6	140:21 160:20	262:1 263:24
301:18 307:19	199:18 206:6	184:13 210:18	230:21 232:5	264:20 277:13
316:17	305:1	respiratory	319:20	278:5 280:21
represents	requires 11:19	273:6	reviewed 11:10	283:18 291:1
226:22	40:3 52:10	responded 37:11	91:5	297:14 303:16
request 3:18	178:20 179:8	response 94:8	revision 9:2	311:21 313:10
14:13 37:12	reschedule 325:8	100:13 140:18	37:24	314:21 326:5
209:18 218:18	research 97:18	221:11 325:11	revolves 224:23	rights 69:22
218:23 222:2	125:16 181:1	responsibilities	rich 246:18	184:19 270:5
223:8 317:2	184:11 209:22	8:10	riches 227:20	right-hand 49:22
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

	I		I	I
ring 46:7	131:14,19	risks 105:20	74:14 85:14	Roosevelt 227:14
Rippel 1:21 2:5	133:10,19	273:15 324:5	93:10 132:6,10	rotation 51:16
16:6,9,18,18,21	135:13,22	River 272:8,12	132:20 133:13	197:14
31:21 38:17	136:8,16,20	272:15,20	193:7 194:19	rough 26:24
46:11 60:21	137:2 139:1,10	Rivers 196:7	194:22 211:1	143:21 276:23
61:1 66:18,21	141:13 142:1,7	road 31:24 57:18	215:12 221:22	roughly 85:8
66:24 67:10,16	142:11,23	58:12,15,19	225:20 275:7	123:8 281:6
67:21 69:7,10	144:1,5,8,16,19	59:1 74:10	281:12	rounding 118:7
69:21 70:4,6,9	144:23 145:7	75:17 102:23	roadway 133:7	rounds 18:4
70:14,20 71:3,9	149:16,18,24	103:2 127:2,6	191:15,21	route 28:22
71:12,18 72:5	150:3,7,16	127:10 129:15	192:4 193:2	57:17,19,21,22
72:10,14,17,23	151:1,5 169:9,9	130:13 131:12	221:10	57:24,24 58:10
73:3 75:13,18	169:15,20	131:17,24	roadways 192:17	58:11,19,19
75:22 76:3,8,12	170:2,6,13,15	132:2,9,9,13,14	Robert 298:20,24	103:4 132:8,8
76:16 77:8,14	170:19,22	133:13,18	298:24 300:14	132:16,16
77:17 78:19	171:1,5,9,12,15	136:2 188:5	300:19 301:20	136:15 192:6
79:3,13 80:5,9	178:2 214:5,5	191:8,24 192:1	302:10,14,20	218:20 219:1,1
80:12 81:5,14	214:13,22	192:7,10,23	303:18,22	220:2,3,5,6,9
83:18,24 85:3	215:4 222:21	193:6,10,12,14	304:6,12,20	228:14
86:18,22 87:2,5	222:23 228:8	193:18,21,24	305:3 316:17	routes 57:15
87:18 88:9,19	250:11,14,17	194:3,5,11	Roberts 233:3,7	132:19 211:1
89:6,15,21 90:3	250:22 251:10	195:4,4,5,5,7	233:7,8 236:12	220:17
90:12,18 94:7	251:13,16,19	195:10 203:21	236:16 237:9	routine 192:16
94:11 95:13,15	251:22 252:2,7	207:13 209:5	237:12,20,23	192:22
95:18,22 96:1,5	252:11,15,19	209:12,15,23	238:3 296:12	rows 129:24
96:10,13,18,24	253:2,8,11,16	209:24 210:13	296:14 324:22	rubberized
97:21 98:24	253:16 256:17	211:8,14,16	robust 299:20	146:22 147:13
99:10 100:12	256:21 257:1,7	212:5,14,18	rock 239:24	ruin 30:2,3
100:18 101:1,6	264:11 299:14	213:4,13,17	rocks 47:22	187:24 262:7
101:12 102:2,8	300:15 302:5,7	214:8 215:9,17	226:6 274:21	rule 201:3
102:21,24	304:4 306:24	215:20,22	Rocky 204:13	rules 5:21 28:20
103:8,12,16,24	318:3,23 319:2	216:13,14,15	rode 225:19	29:1 133:11
104:11,20,23	319:4,7,8	216:18,19,22	role 278:3	182:24
105:3 107:7	320:12 321:17	217:2,8,9,10,21	romance 227:16	rulings 184:12
109:1,13,18,21	322:14	218:7,11,13,20	227:20	run 20:19 71:24
110:22 111:13	Rippel's 61:7	218:22 219:17	Ron 191:7	81:21 83:5,11
112:2,21 113:1	320:4 322:11	220:19,23	192:14 195:4,8	133:13 187:9
113:6,10,17,21	rise 246:10,24	221:1,24 222:8	209:5 218:18	187:16 188:6
115:1,6 116:7	riser 44:6	222:10,14,23	Rood 206:22,22	201:17 221:19
116:10,14,20	risk 19:18 78:12	222:24 223:10	207:5,17,24	261:22 320:9
120:22 121:7	79:23 97:10	226:8,9 244:20	208:10,13	RUNKOA
121:12,22	99:1 156:20	269:4,4 281:19	roof 112:7 207:4	151:15,19
122:2,9,12,17	160:2 163:1	289:18 297:23	roofs 39:22	152:12,17
122:21 123:9	247:13 249:13	317:22,24	room 6:9 10:14	153:4
123:14 126:10	249:13,18	318:6 321:11	19:7 100:7	running 128:22
127:4 128:17	271:18 272:22	321:16	102:13 110:4	129:6,7 275:8
129:12 130:19	294:1 308:20	roads 58:3,6 74:8	153:23	runoff 50:17
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	ı	I
83:4 197:4	samples 89:10	242:18 244:23	204:17	secured 70:1
198:1 200:10	169:11 176:7	245:2 248:22	schematic 179:21	securities 126:21
240:15	sampling 43:21	252:22 255:6	schizophrenia	security 81:17,18
rural 106:2 143:2	108:9	257:15,24	181:23	82:3
242:10,10,16	sanctuary 224:22	267:4,9,12	scholarly 231:20	see 23:21 26:1
243:1 256:23	sand 49:2,2 50:7	271:6,15 272:5	school 16:23,24	37:2 40:8 41:15
264:15 267:13	50:9 74:4 160:5	272:7,12,22	17:5,9 22:13	41:16,17 42:14
269:12 275:11	175:6,9,24	273:19 277:8	23:20 156:8	47:12,13,20
325:4,5	sandstone 48:24	277:15 278:7	254:16	48:3,10 49:21
rush 129:13	sandy 1:2 2:5	278:17 279:15	schools 306:23	50:9,9,20 54:5
Rutland 17:5	3:24 7:22 11:1	279:23 286:22	science 181:7,10	55:9 58:10 60:2
159:21	16:11,15 21:17	296:23 299:8	307:16	61:15 79:22
R-I-P-P-E-L	22:5,5,9 23:17	301:10 319:13	scientist 196:6	84:21 89:1 93:9
16:21 169:10	23:21 26:2,7,14	324:20 325:19	scope 80:13 90:7	93:23,23 97:23
214:6	27:4 30:6,22	sanitation 53:18	217:17	115:21 116:24
R-O-B-E-R-T-S	47:13 64:8	sanitized 55:17	score 239:11	117:4,16 118:5
233:9	66:19 70:19	Saskatchewan	Scott 1:13 3:7	124:17 129:16
R-O-O-D 206:22	79:23 82:16	98:4	Scouts 204:12,14	135:16,24
R-U-N-K-O-A	87:21 93:7	satisfaction	274:23,23	136:14 139:4
151:20	94:15 95:12	174:17	screen 50:6	157:18 176:5
R.N 274:7	124:21 125:20	satisfied 179:22	scrutiny 286:3	177:24 188:8
<u>S</u>	127:20 134:5	319:23	seahawk 189:2	188:19 189:7
	134:20 149:12	satisfy 320:16	seal 40:17 42:17	198:12 199:13
Sacia 279:3	159:3,12,20	Save 241:11	145:18,19	202:1,6 204:2,6
sacrad 227:17	160:8,19 161:9	saw 290:19	148:14,23	204:8 208:14
sad 298:3	161:14 164:22	294:14	192:15	211:24 233:1
sadly 188:7	165:1,5,7 166:8	saying 99:9	seals 40:15	238:1 244:9
safe 30:11 79:7	166:20,21	112:14 162:9	seasons 225:1	245:11 247:7
79:10 243:11 243:23 255:17	168:21 180:20	167:3,4 174:1	second 9:1 24:7	253:18 254:5
safeguard 243:21	183:19 184:2	178:16 222:20	39:14 43:24	261:13,18
safely 326:17	184:19 188:14	222:22,23	47:18 48:17	267:11 270:11
safety 47:8 106:2	190:9 194:11	252:22 257:23	131:24 132:1	271:22 273:23
133:8 298:6	194:12,13	258:9 260:20	133:1 143:7	275:1 276:1
302:8	203:4,10,20	262:14 310:24	205:2 225:15	288:1,16 289:6
salary 96:1	204:10,16	says 34:21	231:8 251:3	293:11 298:18
Sals 69:20 70:8	205:6,21	168:10,13,17	309:10	307:8 308:4,9
Salz 22:8 32:1	216:20 217:3	195:10 203:7	secondary 58:15	316:4 319:20
38:20 45:22	219:16 220:17	246:5 277:19	132:20 148:5	320:8 323:7
52:6 68:15 84:6	225:14,17,20	292:21	section 3:16	seed 19:8
199:8 221:2	226:9 230:12	scale 48:1 95:24	12:21 49:3,5	seeing 125:24
242:6,12	230:15 232:11	254:18	50:11 59:23	129:21
317:19 322:12	232:14 233:11	Scan 94:23	98:17 209:9	seeking 242:9
325:14	235:21 238:14	Scary 190:1	217:19	seen 89:8 110:16
sample 44:5,7	238:15,19	scenario 151:9	sections 49:5	124:23 179:18
89:8 109:2	239:5,11,24	283:14,15	272:9	189:4 196:15
176:21	240:3,12,17	scenic 242:16	secure 276:17 317:6	240:9,9 278:7
170.21	241:4,11	scheduled 12:2,4	317:0	309:17
	•	•	•	•

MIDWEST LITIGATION SERVICES Phone: 1.800.280.3376

	1	1	1	1
select 282:8	set 5:14 29:2,19	Shell 225:16	36:23 49:22	188:17 204:23
selection 31:16	47:6 158:14	shells 274:20	50:5 54:2 56:10	243:19
self 267:18	162:14 182:23	shipped 212:2	56:11 61:1	simultaneously
selfish 227:18	198:6 224:4	shipping 78:14	84:16 103:3	138:16
self-explanatory	291:14,18	ships 308:10	120:13 153:22	Sincerely 273:20
29:6	313:24	shooting 56:10	164:19 182:11	Sinco 244:11,12
sell 26:9,10 32:6	setback 9:10	short 101:24	182:11 208:10	single 312:7
136:22	11:20,21 32:7	130:6 141:1	217:20 312:1	sir 65:11 66:16
senators 106:14	32:10,24 38:10	224:3 228:3	sides 107:19	73:9 74:18 95:8
send 25:2 102:14	45:5,11,14,21	238:12 303:5	sidewalks 224:14	151:17 170:6
138:15,17	46:1,10 59:12	303:18 317:5	sidewall 108:12	223:3 259:9
senior 22:13	59:17,18 67:24	shorten 38:8	Sierra 270:20,23	279:13 301:2
274:22	68:3,23 78:16	shortened 38:5	271:1,8 324:4	301:14
sense 181:11,15	84:7,10 141:9	Shorthand 328:4	sight 181:13	Siren 21:11
182:5 306:15	setbacks 32:12	shortly 246:24	sighting 242:18	sister 17:23
308:6	32:23 46:13	shoulders 217:24	sights 242:15	sit 42:16 256:17
senses 181:13	114:22 121:21	shove 269:10	sightseeing 204:6	259:8 286:3
sensitive 13:5	122:1 136:2	show 16:10 19:2	sign 6:8,12,22	294:2 297:20
47:3 112:16	sets 187:21	31:24 32:23	7:4 13:12 32:14	site 9:17 21:9,11
181:12,13	seven 25:13	33:12,12,14	44:21 84:7	21:15,16,20
268:19	27:24 28:3 37:4	55:8 61:8 97:2	116:5 153:22	26:19,20 31:16
sent 4:7 37:22,24	57:1 142:23	109:14 110:8	177:24 285:3	31:23 32:8,11
69:15	144:4 203:1	111:5,6 160:21	286:22 313:11	32:22 44:20
separate 247:11	274:13	175:3 211:9	313:14 326:8	45:8 46:24 48:8
September 231:8	seventies 259:19	showed 73:10	326:11	48:12,13 49:13
serenity 226:7	seven-tenths	98:5 102:10,10	signed 7:5 32:16	49:24 50:12
serious 155:11	217:7 218:7	110:10,13	45:23	52:5,17 53:20
234:12 247:13	219:10,19	111:4 147:14	significant 149:1	57:1,17 66:7,7
271:19 273:2	220:7	166:21	161:11 203:11	74:5 82:19,21
serve 8:7 19:5	severe 234:6	shower 81:22	323:2	82:22 84:1
254:12 307:18	severity 240:13	showing 109:14	significantly	87:21,23
313:3	sewage 167:1	111:1 181:11	320:24	102:22 113:24
service 18:22	247:4,9	245:5 246:20	silty 50:6 159:22	115:4,24 119:9
19:2,11,17	sewar 166:9,11	shows 42:9 43:3	silver 287:3	119:13 120:19
40:21,22,24	sewer 165:9	43:7,20,24	similar 27:15	120:23,24
41:10 42:5,20	166:7,13,19	50:23 68:22	42:10 46:2	123:11 128:21
71:14 83:20	shallow 143:19	114:17 123:19	53:11 54:1	133:3 136:4
138:3 146:2	145:4 159:17	161:7 164:22	57:22 124:10	141:20 142:6
215:14 219:14	174:23	205:5 213:4	144:14 147:11	158:17 159:5
285:2,12	share 152:1	shrubs 224:18	189:24 210:17	159:21 160:5
services 90:1	309:4	shut 129:19	218:3 232:7	160:11,12
141:23 157:2	sheet 6:9,10,13	237:10,13	292:12	161:12,17
serving 3:9	6:23 7:4 34:11	siblings 233:12	similarities 28:11	175:17 178:9
session 5:7 6:6	223:10	233:13	28:16 29:22	178:17,19
9:1,3 62:20,21	sheets 6:8 13:12	sick 189:22,23	simple 210:14	182:17 184:4
62:23 128:6	153:22 326:9	240:8 248:19	226:12	205:4 216:16
195:24 245:14	326:12	side 6:9 18:12	simply 181:4	218:21 219:2
	l ————————————————————————————————————	<u>I</u>	<u>I</u>	I

221:2 223:24	88:14 90:6,7	240:21 255:21	114:8,10,11,15	310:3
236:5 244:2	177:10 239:10	259:23 267:10	114:18 122:7	sort 51:21 147:1
268:16 281:6	276:15 306:21	275:20 282:10	122:10 158:20	164:9 293:23
294:5 308:16	sized 39:14 90:18	313:10	159:23 162:24	sound 270:8
309:23 315:20	sizes 90:19	smaller 295:8,12	167:22 168:7	sounds 28:23
315:24 322:15	skin 227:19	smart 111:15	168:10,17,18	29:18 242:15
322:22	246:7	268:7	169:11,13,19	source 47:21
sited 136:19	skip 47:10 226:6	smell 87:14,17,23	173:23 174:2,4	149:21 247:17
183:20 277:11	274:22 316:22	87:24 88:2	174:15,16	306:16
314:19 317:19	skis 226:16	103:19 181:7,8	176:7,21	sources 227:16
sites 90:19,21	slab 39:15	181:12,15	179:14,21	south 18:13
113:22 120:23	146:17,24	182:5,11 186:5	197:9 198:8,10	47:14 57:23
135:15,16,18	147:7,8,12,19	187:24 188:4	205:17,18	119:1 130:12
135:24 136:13	147:21,23	289:17	263:2,7,21	141:15 156:22
162:5,18	148:3	smelled 182:8	306:17	204:1 218:20
170:12 205:22	slated 159:13	207:12	soils 62:4 158:23	219:2,13
235:16 310:2	slats 42:7,13,16	smells 184:20	167:23 174:6	220:18 221:24
site's 83:12	sleep 187:18,19	242:16	320:18	southwest 307:14
siting 5:1 12:20	187:20	Smith 69:15 78:6	sold 150:22	sow 19:24 20:1,8
14:2,16 16:12	sleepovers	78:6 79:2,7	solely 154:15	20:18,22,23
28:12 29:2,20	242:20	80:1,7,11,23	155:1 185:16	21:4 24:8,18
30:18 31:1,8,20	slide 30:10 31:21	81:10 82:5,8	solid 162:16	25:19,22 30:24
33:10 34:6,10	31:23 33:12	83:1 111:12,12	solids 280:18,19	32:5 33:3,3
38:21 42:24	39:11 40:19	112:13,23	solution 176:16	57:8 69:13
44:23 50:13,20	42:3,19 43:23	113:3,8,14,18	177:8 210:14	71:23,24 90:2
61:16 67:6	53:9,10 55:6	114:1,17,24	solve 176:21	101:13,14
74:16 82:19	58:21 59:3 61:7	115:10 116:2,7	295:10	121:7,14
113:24 196:18	68:22 73:9,11	116:13,17,22	somebody 78:3	136:10 141:15
196:22 200:5,6	109:14 114:2,6	154:8,11,12	96:14 124:17	142:2,3 143:23
268:18 315:2	117:11,13	157:12,21	127:9 128:15	208:6 235:23
315:10 319:23	213:13	195:19,20	151:10 198:11 253:9 285:19	285:16
320:16 322:9	slides 34:24	215:8 216:1		sows 19:2,3 20:22 33:18
322:16 sits 42:15	slight 240:6	259:15,20	287:14 290:3 294:9 311:24	105:3 109:15
sitting 228:6	slightly 38:4,6,10 50:1 54:6	260:6 261:9,13 261:20 262:5	314:12 315:14	103:3 109:13
284:16 314:8	103:14,16	312:2,2 316:17	somebody's	208:4 230:23
situation 221:16	318:7	319:7	176:5 186:5	254:5 259:18
284:23	sling 56:10	sniffle 311:17	someone's	260:16,18,22
situations 9:20	Sloan 323:17,18	snine 311:17 snow 27:11	164:22	260:10,18,22
six 21:14 26:24	slope 127:20	snuff 281:8	son 252:2,19	soy 54:11
57:10 87:1	160:2	society 41:11	297:6 298:10	soybean 308:5
117:4 203:1	slope's 159:22	268:1 294:23	son's 296:18	soybeans 19:9
215:11 238:18	slurry 247:7,15	sock 43:13,17	soon 96:19	300:1 306:12
318:17	small 13:18	soil 23:13,15,15	sorry 80:16	306:13,14
size 9:14 24:4	18:20 154:14	48:7,11,13 49:5	107:3 150:6	308:12
27:15 38:4,8,9	156:18 159:24	49:7,9 51:9	199:15 206:16	space 224:13
65:7 86:19	175:21 208:7	52:1,14 60:12	244:1 259:11	225:9 227:9
-		Í		

spanned 94:21	62:15 83:15	119:16,20	28:2 154:15	states 26:6 31:3
Spawn 241:2	86:8 123:5	120:1,8,12,18	starting 46:3	81:9 234:10,12
speak 6:23	154:3 244:18	121:1,10,19,23	68:2,16	234:15,19
113:13 131:10	253:23 306:2	122:6,11,14,19	starts 53:11	235:7,19,22
154:5 195:8	spelling 316:22	122:24 196:2,5	286:22	246:4,17,24
202:13 249:11	spend 156:7	196:5 198:9,14	state 5:8 6:19	255:4 258:12
249:12 283:20	192:14	198:24 199:5	10:1 16:1 17:19	258:18 261:24
speakers 6:22	spending 88:23	199:10,20	37:4 53:2 57:19	294:24 299:10
285:24	spent 101:20	200:2 201:1,7	57:24 58:10,11	312:8
speaking 6:17,21	123:22 224:12	201:13,22	58:19,19 62:15	stating 222:10
78:9 144:23	224:24 272:11	stacked 22:20	71:8 72:9 78:4	station 314:15
175:1 238:14	314:3	staff 21:8	83:10,15 86:4	statistics 243:17
267:18 274:14	spill 83:5 94:9	stages 109:16	92:16 95:1	stats 278:22
276:6 296:15	262:8	stake 184:9	99:13 105:17	statue 182:24
306:24 316:9	spillage 88:14	stale 22:21	111:10 132:9	status 4:18 8:20
316:11	spills 50:17 94:12	stampede 23:4	150:4 157:14	10:2
specialize 20:11	149:11 197:4	stance 264:18	158:5,7,15	statute 63:19
specialized 20:7	262:7	stand 254:2	180:24 198:6	65:20 66:10,11
20:19 133:14	spoke 239:9	264:15 271:4	204:10 205:6	66:15 137:24
specializing	spoken 303:7	standard 41:3	208:18,24	140:11,12
285:15	322:20	162:19 179:22	212:2,10	178:19 199:17
species 55:13	sponsored	182:23 184:12	216:10 223:18	292:18,20
238:24 239:5,6	225:16	191:11,18	233:5 235:1,6	statutory 12:16
239:7,12,16,18	sponsors 204:11	201:8	238:8 240:10	stay 151:16
240:8,18,19	Sportsman's	standards 9:7	241:20 244:17	263:20 282:17
276:15	204:14	47:6 65:4	245:24 253:22	285:12
specific 9:20	spot 75:1 204:4	107:14 146:6	258:13 267:6	staying 55:23
13:11 31:11	268:20	148:16 149:2	268:24 271:24	steel 39:15 40:20
44:9 48:3 59:7	spots 148:16	198:6 206:1	272:10 276:20	41:17,18,19,21
104:1 134:11	268:23 269:21	261:5 294:18	281:21 286:7	41:23,24 42:6
148:16 151:2	spread 78:17	295:7	288:3 289:10	Steil 244:15,19
250:7,15,24	235:6 248:3,13	standing 41:15	289:12 294:19	244:19 245:15
specifically 4:17	273:11 284:7	310:23	294:21,22	324:19
34:16 39:8 96:7	295:6	stands 234:22	298:22 301:6	stencils 224:13
132:13 150:3	spreading 320:19	star 48:4,16	306:1 309:8	step 5:15 30:5
168:13,23	spreadsheet	231:7	316:14	62:14 107:2
186:8 255:24	235:18	staring 187:21	stated 85:3 86:17	128:13 154:1
specification	spring 9:2 19:8	stark 121:18	87:1 95:13	177:5
44:8	69:18 80:15,16	starry 226:16	156:1 157:6	sterilized 311:18
specifications	195:7,11	stars 187:21	158:18 253:15	Steve 95:3,3,10
12:12 91:15	324:20	start 26:1 90:23	280:22	95:16,19,24
specifics 40:7	springtime 210:1	91:8,17 96:10	statement 77:15	96:3,8,12,16,21
64:17	St 274:7	96:12 132:19	77:18 222:15	97:3 202:8,10
specifies 41:22	stable 162:9	136:24 196:8	245:19 277:18	202:10 205:2
47:20	Stacie 117:7,7,22	233:10 236:19	300:10 306:5	205:15 206:3,8
specs 63:20 138:8	118:2,6,10,16	started 19:23	312:4,16	206:16,19
spell 5:8 16:2	118:21 119:3,7	20:1,15 21:12	statements 324:7	207:2,16 208:8
- F	,			

208:12 220:14	269:6 280:24	248:2	273:4	288:13 293:6
220:14,21	streams 159:4	stuff 27:11,11	summarize 7:14	316:16
221:23 264:10	175:11 239:3,5	127:15 228:15	summary 276:16	Surely 131:11
264:10,19,22	239:10 268:24	311:18	summer 22:16	surety 65:23
265:3,9 280:13	stream's 240:5	stupid 259:5	187:14	surface 82:14
280:13,20	Streator 163:5,9	subject 6:14 8:1	summertime	83:3,7 159:2
302:4,4,12	STREET 1:7	100:2 154:6	221:6	160:14 161:12
316:18,19	strength 44:13	159:5	sun 104:3	178:8 191:16
325:4	44:13 115:18	submit 14:1,23	sundown 225:1	192:2 217:21
Steven 325:16	115:21	36:2 55:13	sunup 225:1	217:23 271:12
steward 221:4	stress 181:19	138:19 139:5	superbugs	surfaces 29:5
stewards 225:24	stressed 315:17	157:4 248:24	311:10,15	surficial 174:24
stick 303:14	strollers 225:21	submittal 12:11	312:6	surprised 75:20
sticking 40:9	strong 314:13	91:14	Supervisor 131:6	103:17,19,22
stinks 289:9	315:5	submitted 10:23	209:4 232:4	103:22 166:11
stocked 44:21	strongly 248:21	14:9,13 36:9	supplied 61:23	surprisingly
87:22	struck 320:4	37:2,5 44:16	supply 30:13	239:2
stocking 80:21	structure 21:3	50:14 63:8	300:2	surrounding
Stoens 150:12	23:15 39:3,4,19	197:1,20 200:9	support 112:18	13:3 27:6,23
296:8,9	40:4,11 41:1	273:17 279:8	157:5 162:10	45:2 50:16
stop 36:19 40:12	43:5 48:13	submitting	179:23 230:19	69:19 99:1
40:15 43:16,17	49:16 66:1	158:12	255:6 300:5,22	197:3,24
96:19 111:22	68:20 73:13	Subsequently	300:23 301:4	202:15 245:1
128:8 130:4	84:15,20	197:20	302:13 306:10	247:9 248:17
145:18 147:16	107:24 108:5	substances	307:21 325:22	271:5 274:24
148:10 188:21	108:19 109:4	162:20	supported 157:7	278:23,24
stopping 147:12	112:6 162:16	substantial 211:8	supporting 21:7	survey 158:7,20
stops 39:11 148:9	164:18 191:24	249:13	299:7	162:24 168:10
storage 33:9	structured 65:10	success 308:20	supportive	168:17,19
39:18,19 40:1,3	structures 33:10	suckers 189:9	162:24	169:14 174:5
40:5 41:1,4	39:18 41:4 44:2	sudden 246:11	suppose 152:3	238:18 239:15
42:22 43:5 44:2	60:11 68:13	suffer 104:3	168:19 305:8	surveying 190:24
49:16 52:10,11	72:24 164:4	sufficient 66:6	supposed 102:18	surveys 145:1
65:24 68:13	172:4	160:17 317:14	123:12 206:12	167:22 169:19
108:18 159:15	struggles 285:17	suggest 287:2	254:11 282:7	238:21
storm 117:17,18	struggling	suggestion	supposedly 102:8	survival 240:4,21
118:7	314:10	125:18 288:7	sure 13:15 21:22	survive 239:22
story 254:12,14	studied 246:11	suggestions	51:19 66:7 77:9	255:15,20
254:20,20	studies 77:3	105:11	86:2 92:6 101:7	Susan 296:12,14
255:1 259:14	156:1 238:19	suggests 203:17	109:24 134:11	sustain 295:12
straight 103:1	246:13 247:11	suit 135:17	151:1 162:13	sustainability
strains 273:13	247:19	suitable 160:22	175:15 185:3	236:24
strategy 53:22	study 98:4 102:4	167:24 168:1	198:24 199:6	sustainable
239:18	124:17 157:6	206:14 216:19	205:16 218:13	105:10
stream 159:8,10	181:11 195:21	suited 60:8	237:21 243:11	swear 16:3 154:4
204:9,23 239:7	203:17 211:3	268:23 322:22	267:17 270:3	sweet 228:3
239:24 267:13	213:3,4 247:1	sulfide 182:14	281:23 287:17	swim 277:19
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	I

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	1	1	1	1
swimming 93:7	244:20	39:2,8,12 40:1	task 4:1 161:10	289:9 294:13
274:18	S-T-O-E-N-S	40:7 42:3,24	taste 270:1	295:4
swine 3:22 7:23	150:12	45:12 50:18	tasty 30:12	telling 259:14
10:5,8,11 11:5		53:14,22 56:4	tax 75:15 76:1,7	320:5
11:6 18:24	T	57:12 78:3 90:6	77:1 87:9	tells 221:7
33:15 41:7	table 13:12 145:6	90:7 134:4	191:12,12	temperature
149:17,20	145:8 159:17	168:19 176:11	192:12,13,20	240:2
171:2,4 188:16	tables 144:11,22	233:19 254:13	192:20 231:9	ten 44:2 88:23
234:4,16,19	tactic 250:21	254:13,14	231:19,24	153:15 183:14
235:14,15,17	257:11	255:2 286:18	232:3 282:4,6	207:9 217:1
236:4 254:14	tadpoles 274:21	289:1,1 290:14	317:16,18,20	282:10
259:16 273:12	tail 22:24	291:15,18	317:22 318:5	tend 175:10,12
swing 68:17	tainted 225:8	293:16 304:8	325:14	tent 187:20
187:21	take 5:24 18:20	326:23	taxes 27:13,14,21	term 183:3
swinging 69:4	20:20 27:18	talked 31:9 32:10	61:6 155:22	295:11
switch 117:10	28:6 30:17	33:2 46:11,14	156:1 281:13	terms 126:23
sworn 6:14 16:6	32:20 36:20	47:11 48:20	281:18 301:8	221:1
154:9 157:24	41:18 42:23	52:2,12 53:8,24	306:23 317:20	test 115:19 116:2
180:13 186:20	46:3 49:20 50:2	59:17 60:21	317:24 318:3	122:7,10 145:2
186:21 190:17	55:1 56:20,23	61:2 90:8 124:6	taxi 191:19	161:2 169:6
196:3 202:9	57:4 61:17	127:9 128:19	teach 225:23	179:10 198:10
208:17 216:9	63:16,21 75:3	128:23 174:14	team 89:23 90:2	200:16,22
223:17 230:3	76:6 78:22 90:9	205:17 209:14	tear 206:9	201:5
233:4 238:7	91:11 97:23	255:9 281:7	technically 52:18	testified 319:8
241:19 244:16	106:12 111:8	291:22 297:4	technologies 51:4	320:23
245:23 253:21	115:7,19	321:22	53:2,3 319:10	testify 5:11
266:23 270:15	119:14 135:16	talking 34:1 57:5	technology 31:17	295:24
274:3 276:3	141:7 153:14	73:14 85:10	33:7 50:19 56:6	testimony 2:11
296:13 298:21	163:1 195:24	93:9 132:12	112:4 183:6	3:21 4:4 5:11
305:24 307:10	213:4 219:19	139:11 147:6,8	255:17 266:4	6:6,10,12,13,23
312:23 316:7	232:5 245:13	153:9 166:16	318:20	7:4,7,8,8,18,18
316:20	254:4 262:16	176:24 192:3	tell 16:19 22:24	12:19 16:5
system 53:5	276:9 278:20	205:21 206:7	67:19 69:7,10	62:21 128:7,9
56:17,18 89:3,7	284:1 289:14	210:15 216:14	73:11 87:20	137:13 143:12
89:14 159:11	294:1 295:24	252:16 263:16	97:21 109:1	152:16 153:24
166:7,9,11,13	301:21	290:18	120:13,15	154:5 157:20
166:19 265:17	taken 42:10 77:5	talks 40:19 44:24	140:13 172:17	165:20 191:6
265:23 272:14	160:20 219:23	59:23 85:12	174:22 177:6	223:12 236:15
273:6 285:20	225:17 314:1	297:11	185:20 210:3,4	257:11 276:11
294:12 313:20	328:6,11	tampered 93:14	210:20 213:3,6	321:2,6 323:9
systems 96:11	takes 20:24	Tanger 18:11	250:1,17	323:10,11
249:19 284:24	102:19 111:24	tanker 130:11,17	252:11 254:12	326:8 328:5
301:1	130:11 283:23	tankers 130:11	254:20,20	testing 9:9 43:6
S-M-I-T-H 78:7	285:14	tanks 41:8 93:23	255:1,11 259:1	81:1 122:10
111:12 154:12	talk 25:6 30:24	130:22	262:19 263:13	166:20 211:9
S-T 296:8	31:6,11,15	tap 189:16	285:4,22	tests 114:15
S-T-E-I-L	32:11,22 33:6,8	tar 191:16	287:11,14	tether 130:22,23
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

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text 35:13	309:12 310:16	90:10 92:7	22:12 128:14	147:4,4 240:16
TGE 79:22	312:18 316:1,5	100:6 102:2	181:12 196:10	262:20 263:2,5
thank 3:4 15:17	323:7 326:6	110:10 117:8	242:11 252:16	263:22 264:2
15:20 30:19	327:1	125:22 134:2	310:17	267:14
66:16 69:5 86:3	Thanks 198:15	138:3,21 148:8	thoughts 123:21	tiled 262:16
89:18 91:21	thaw 194:21	151:15 152:3	151:24	tiles 109:2,6
100:11 102:5	Theodore 227:13	153:4,13 169:4	three 6:16 18:21	tiling 92:8,14
106:17 107:22	theoretically	176:10 177:11	18:24 21:5 22:6	93:9 262:16
109:21 111:9	141:4	183:13 196:14	23:22 25:10	till 160:5
116:22 122:24	thickness 48:24	201:3 210:15	28:2 36:14,18	tillage 51:16
123:9 128:17	49:2	211:7 212:7,15	38:15 44:23	Tilt 240:5
131:2 133:22	thing 13:20	212:16 215:23	48:9 55:9 72:22	Tim 111:12,12
137:5 143:4	44:12 45:12	227:13 237:13	72:23 86:12	112:13,23
145:9 146:9	47:11,18 51:5	239:20 242:1	102:11,19	113:3,8,14,18
148:7 150:8	52:16 56:1	242:11 243:15	110:14 113:22	114:1,17,24
151:12 153:11	92:21,22,22	243:19,24	116:11,24	115:10 116:2,7
157:18 161:20	104:1 124:4	244:2 247:24	117:5 135:15	116:13,17,22
169:7 180:11	125:13 126:22	255:2 260:15	135:16,18	167:12,12
184:22 186:12	127:7 129:10	261:10,16,23	136:12 142:24	168:3,7,15
187:6 190:13	207:6 214:19	264:11 266:6	143:1 154:5	169:1,5 195:19
190:15 193:16	246:20 259:6	267:3,8 268:14	169:16 180:24	195:20 199:16
194:6,15	268:16 277:6	268:17,18,20	182:11 192:3	199:16,22
195:15,18,24	288:21 290:4	269:15 275:3	202:14 225:1	200:15 201:2
196:12 199:14	294:10 295:21	276:11 281:1	232:9,10,20	201:10,20
202:2 205:8	296:16	283:13 284:8	251:1 253:1	296:4,5 319:7
208:13,15	things 27:18,22	284:10 285:7	302:20 324:13	timber 274:23
214:2 216:7	36:22,22 39:9	286:2 291:20	three-quarters	time 5:13,24 6:21
219:4,7 220:10	44:9 54:8,10	293:13,19	140:20 231:14	6:24 8:23 12:14
220:21 223:2,6	65:5 78:10	295:19,21	thresholds 66:12	14:22 15:22
223:14 227:21	82:12 108:21	297:13 298:15	thrive 239:22	17:1,2 22:15
229:24 230:1	112:1 123:20	303:9,15	thrived 268:11	24:21 31:13
232:19,23	126:8 162:15	305:12,15	throw 27:13	40:13 41:13
233:2 236:8	164:2 174:1	308:1,22 312:5	37:19 127:3	49:11 63:18
238:2,3 241:7	185:7 205:19	312:10 313:15	136:9 184:15	72:1 80:16 87:8
241:12,17	211:2,11 234:2	313:19,23	184:20	87:12 91:7,12
244:7,10 245:9	256:7 261:4	315:2,4,21	tied 181:15	95:17,19
245:10,13,21	262:1,3 275:12	320:23 321:2	TIF 86:22 87:8	112:11 113:13
249:20 253:17	276:11 278:6	321:18 322:10	87:16 314:7	125:12 128:22
253:19 256:13	290:17,18	thinking 126:23	tight 40:17 42:18	133:23 137:11
257:7 259:11	293:22 295:8	181:17 216:4	108:19 267:11	138:11 150:14
266:3,7,10	297:4 303:10	third 24:14 57:18	tile 39:17 43:2,3	152:20 156:6,7
270:12 273:23	311:11 313:22	78:14 79:9	43:24 52:13,22	160:20 163:11
275:23 276:1,4	think 17:11 31:8	103:2 175:20	84:14 92:10,12	176:24 183:6
280:10 296:1	39:21 55:15	175:20 188:5	92:17,18 108:9	188:24 200:7
298:19 300:4	60:2 61:16 67:5	192:7 215:9	119:9,11,17,18	210:20 215:10
303:24 304:14	81:10 83:6	231:23 254:6	119:19 120:2,5	218:12 224:24
305:19 307:4,8	85:19,23 90:8	thought 17:12	120:9 146:17	232:8,9 236:20
L	I	I	I	I

241:7 242:1	52:16 86:17	156:9 165:13	85:16,17	traps 182:22
259:12 274:11	87:19 100:9	166:24 214:10	127:10 131:7	travel 18:10 29:4
274:17 275:7	191:5 198:23	248:5	132:5,19,20,24	127:10
283:5 287:10	216:14 228:6	towns 161:16	133:8,9 188:5	traveling 308:4
291:10 294:4	232:8 233:19	163:4 170:17	191:10,18,22	treasured 227:8
303:2 307:4	251:2 254:11	274:24	191:22 193:9	treasures 227:3
311:17,17,19	298:5 306:10	township 64:6	216:23 217:5,6	treat 319:2
313:9 317:4,14	307:21 309:2	75:17 131:5,23	217:12 218:4	treated 181:3
323:12	313:23 317:1	132:6,10 191:6	321:4,5,8,9	319:5
timeline 36:21	318:12 319:14	191:7 192:4,10	trail 30:5	treating 105:7
times 8:24 26:11	319:22 322:19	194:19 195:1,3	trailers 79:18	treatment 53:15
33:23 144:3	323:9 327:2	195:5,5 208:20	81:19	53:16 165:15
166:1 222:12	tonight's 3:9 4:5	208:21 209:3,4	trained 52:4	165:19 307:3
277:10	13:24 14:11	209:18 210:16	training 9:8	tree 53:21 55:4,4
tingling 269:18	100:1 326:12	210:22 213:23	38:14,19 52:6,6	55:7 102:10
tip 184:16	toolbox 54:2,7	214:9,16 215:8	155:6	112:8
tissue 182:4	top 42:15,16 44:4	216:13,15	tranquil 226:14	trees 55:8,11,12
today 3:6 16:10	44:6 56:17	217:8,9,19	transcribed 4:6	102:11 183:21
20:16 25:8	73:20 74:22	218:6 219:11	transcript 4:6	187:9,16
42:23 61:15	120:16 122:12	220:7,8 221:12	100:1 137:12	224:18 297:1
150:19 183:16	133:6 152:5	226:8 232:18	137:12 326:22	tremors 171:22
196:21 199:7,9	164:11 187:20	242:8 306:23	328:6	trench 129:6
200:11 206:24	228:24	317:22,24	transcripts 14:10	tributaries 94:15
207:16 208:4	topic 256:10	318:6,10	transfer 70:2	165:7
210:24 215:10	topographic	323:20	133:2	tributary 272:19
220:3,9 221:2	60:12	townships 218:3	transferable	trick 175:4,8
241:4 254:2	topsoil 49:22,24	313:5	100:17 101:4	tried 123:20
261:2 278:12	tornado 226:20	Township's	transferred	279:19
today's 105:24	tornadoes 94:1	192:12	250:2,3	trip 289:5
Todd 17:24	total 6:18 33:24	town's 166:7	transmission	triple 174:19
told 141:17 197:5	48:11 54:18	toxic 161:18	25:21 78:13	247:22
252:9 281:12	58:7,9 121:2,5	162:20 182:4	81:19	trips 85:6,21,23
281:17	121:12 132:20	toxins 182:9	transmit 79:15	85:24
tolerance 258:2	205:5 249:7	trace 28:8,11,15	79:18	trouble 98:1,2
289:17 290:11	totally 94:13	50:7 320:5	transmitted	Troy 172:3
tolerate 286:10	142:14	track 253:7	79:16 80:10	truck 22:15 57:6
Toluca 16:22,23	tough 27:1 50:6,6	285:10 320:3,7	transparent	58:14,17 73:13
16:24,24 17:3,4	283:5	tract 136:23	196:11 289:7	73:17,19 85:10
17:22,24 18:2	tour 78:23	trade 128:4	transpired 23:8	126:12,17,24
25:12 29:10	110:15 268:22	traditional 80:4	transportation	126:24 132:19
88:11 204:13	319:1	202:20	57:16 132:21	132:23 191:12
tomorrow	toured 318:22	traffic 13:7 57:2	142:9 235:15	191:21 192:7
268:21 Taning 246:2	tourism 13:9	57:3,5,6,12	236:1,4 237:2	212:9,24
Tonica 246:3	59:6,8 227:7	58:2,7,8,9,14	Transportatio	trucks 57:14
tonight 6:1 7:15	317:8 322:2	58:17 59:2	58:4	58:22 73:23
7:21 28:9 29:7	town 22:18 46:14	74:17 84:23	transporting	75:7 126:19
31:1,6 43:1	86:24 121:18	85:7,10,10,12	79:8 158:19	211:6 214:17
		1	•	•

MIDWEST LITIGATION SERVICES Phone: 1.800.280.3376

222:6 true 68:8 252:4,6 truly 105:10 trump 212:13 trust 161:2 217 try 19:11,16 130:7 140:14 241:23 259:8 282:12 290:7 293:14 307:24 308:16 314:5 317:13 trying 48:12 51:12 61:12 78:1 88:24 107:8 110:22 110:24 111:22 110:24 111:22 1169	0:15,23 1:20 132:7 5:18 156:18 0:22 169:16 3:2,22 7:23 218:3 0:8 220:17 2:18 235:23 7:7 249:4 0:21 292:3 0:9,10 3:14 19:5 80:2 4 97:13 0:2,11 112:3 2:3 115:3 5:13 147:8	uncomfortable 289:2 undate 235:2 undergone 255:7 underneath 21:20 22:3,4 73:3,4,6 146:17 147:5 265:17 understand 34:8 69:6 72:19 80:5 80:9 88:7 98:12 101:5 110:2 112:13 126:11 128:1,2 133:5 139:24 145:12 156:16 161:3 179:7,9,12,17	34:23,23 35:7 35:12,16 45:13 45:14,16,17,20 46:4,5 90:2 208:6 260:5,9 260:13 universities 41:9 university 17:13 41:2 98:4 180:24 190:23 307:15 unknowns 319:24 unpost 195:10 unreasonable 183:17	150:16 159:19 193:6,7,14,18 193:21 194:1,3 194:5,11 218:11 220:23 220:24 221:1 222:23 226:23 248:7 272:6 277:21 307:24 312:8 318:20 320:4 322:3 USEPA 158:7 162:24 uses 54:11 60:14 60:17 101:16 101:18 182:24
true 68:8 252:4,6 truly 105:10 trump 212:13 trust 161:2 217 try 19:11,16 130:7 140:14 241:23 259:8 282:12 290:7 293:14 307:24 308:16 314:5 317:13 trying 48:12 51:12 61:12 78:1 88:24 107:8 110:22 110:24 111:22 110:24 111:22 1169	5:18 156:18 6:22 169:16 6:22 2 7:23 218:3 6:8 220:17 6:18 235:23 7:7 249:4 6:21 292:3 6:9,10 6:14 19:5 80:2 4 97:13 6:2,11 112:3 6:3 115:3 6:13 147:8 6:22 228:12	undate 235:2 undergone 255:7 underneath 21:20 22:3,4 73:3,4,6 146:17 147:5 265:17 understand 34:8 69:6 72:19 80:5 80:9 88:7 98:12 101:5 110:2 112:13 126:11 128:1,2 133:5 139:24 145:12 156:16 161:3 179:7,9,12,17	45:14,16,17,20 46:4,5 90:2 208:6 260:5,9 260:13 universities 41:9 university 17:13 41:2 98:4 180:24 190:23 307:15 unknowns 319:24 unpost 195:10 unreasonable	193:21 194:1,3 194:5,11 218:11 220:23 220:24 221:1 222:23 226:23 248:7 272:6 277:21 307:24 312:8 318:20 320:4 322:3 USEPA 158:7 162:24 uses 54:11 60:14 60:17 101:16
truly 105:10 159 trump 212:13 203 trust 161:2 217 try 19:11,16 219 130:7 140:14 222 241:23 259:8 237 282:12 290:7 280 293:14 307:24 310 308:16 314:5 318 317:13 type trying 48:12 83: 78:1 88:24 112 107:8 110:22 125 110:24 111:22 169 113:4 126:21 229	9:22 169:16 8:2,22 7:23 218:3 9:8 220:17 2:18 235:23 7:7 249:4 9:21 292:3 9:9,10 8:14 19:5 80:2 4 97:13 9:2,11 112:3 2:3 115:3 5:13 147:8 9:22 228:12	undergone 255:7 underneath 21:20 22:3,4 73:3,4,6 146:17 147:5 265:17 understand 34:8 69:6 72:19 80:5 80:9 88:7 98:12 101:5 110:2 112:13 126:11 128:1,2 133:5 139:24 145:12 156:16 161:3 179:7,9,12,17	46:4,5 90:2 208:6 260:5,9 260:13 universities 41:9 university 17:13 41:2 98:4 180:24 190:23 307:15 unknowns 319:24 unpost 195:10 unreasonable	194:5,11 218:11 220:23 220:24 221:1 222:23 226:23 248:7 272:6 277:21 307:24 312:8 318:20 320:4 322:3 USEPA 158:7 162:24 uses 54:11 60:14 60:17 101:16
trump 212:13 203 trust 161:2 217 try 19:11,16 219 130:7 140:14 222 241:23 259:8 237 282:12 290:7 280 293:14 307:24 310 308:16 314:5 318 317:13 type trying 48:12 83: 51:12 61:12 110 78:1 88:24 112 10:24 111:22 169 113:4 126:21 229	3:2,22 7:23 218:3 9:8 220:17 2:18 235:23 7:7 249:4 9:21 292:3 9:9,10 3:14 19:5 80:2 4 97:13 9:2,11 112:3 2:3 115:3 5:13 147:8 9:22 228:12	underneath 21:20 22:3,4 73:3,4,6 146:17 147:5 265:17 understand 34:8 69:6 72:19 80:5 80:9 88:7 98:12 101:5 110:2 112:13 126:11 128:1,2 133:5 139:24 145:12 156:16 161:3 179:7,9,12,17	208:6 260:5,9 260:13 universities 41:9 university 17:13 41:2 98:4 180:24 190:23 307:15 unknowns 319:24 unpost 195:10 unreasonable	218:11 220:23 220:24 221:1 222:23 226:23 248:7 272:6 277:21 307:24 312:8 318:20 320:4 322:3 USEPA 158:7 162:24 uses 54:11 60:14 60:17 101:16
trust 161:2 217 try 19:11,16 219 130:7 140:14 222 241:23 259:8 237 282:12 290:7 280 293:14 307:24 310 308:16 314:5 318 317:13 type trying 48:12 83: 51:12 61:12 110 78:1 88:24 112 10:24 111:22 169 113:4 126:21 229	7:23 218:3 9:8 220:17 2:18 235:23 7:7 249:4 0:21 292:3 0:9,10 3:14 19:5 80:2 4 97:13 0:2,11 112:3 2:3 115:3 5:13 147:8 0:22 228:12	21:20 22:3,4 73:3,4,6 146:17 147:5 265:17 understand 34:8 69:6 72:19 80:5 80:9 88:7 98:12 101:5 110:2 112:13 126:11 128:1,2 133:5 139:24 145:12 156:16 161:3 179:7,9,12,17	260:13 universities 41:9 university 17:13 41:2 98:4 180:24 190:23 307:15 unknowns 319:24 unpost 195:10 unreasonable	220:24 221:1 222:23 226:23 248:7 272:6 277:21 307:24 312:8 318:20 320:4 322:3 USEPA 158:7 162:24 uses 54:11 60:14 60:17 101:16
try 19:11,16 219 130:7 140:14 222 241:23 259:8 237 282:12 290:7 280 293:14 307:24 310 308:16 314:5 318 317:13 type trying 48:12 83: 51:12 61:12 110 78:1 88:24 112 10:24 111:22 169 113:4 126:21 229	9:8 220:17 2:18 235:23 7:7 249:4 9:21 292:3 9:9,10 8:14 19:5 80:2 4 97:13 9:2,11 112:3 2:3 115:3 5:13 147:8 9:22 228:12	73:3,4,6 146:17 147:5 265:17 understand 34:8 69:6 72:19 80:5 80:9 88:7 98:12 101:5 110:2 112:13 126:11 128:1,2 133:5 139:24 145:12 156:16 161:3 179:7,9,12,17	universities 41:9 university 17:13 41:2 98:4 180:24 190:23 307:15 unknowns 319:24 unpost 195:10 unreasonable	222:23 226:23 248:7 272:6 277:21 307:24 312:8 318:20 320:4 322:3 USEPA 158:7 162:24 uses 54:11 60:14 60:17 101:16
130:7 140:14 241:23 259:8 282:12 290:7 293:14 307:24 308:16 314:5 317:13 trying 48:12 51:12 61:12 78:1 88:24 107:8 110:22 110:24 111:22 113:4 126:21 222 223 237 222 223 237 237 237 237 237	2:18 235:23 7:7 249:4 0:21 292:3 0:9,10 3:14 19:5 80:2 4 97:13 0:2,11 112:3 2:3 115:3 5:13 147:8 0:22 228:12	147:5 265:17 understand 34:8 69:6 72:19 80:5 80:9 88:7 98:12 101:5 110:2 112:13 126:11 128:1,2 133:5 139:24 145:12 156:16 161:3 179:7,9,12,17	university 17:13 41:2 98:4 180:24 190:23 307:15 unknowns 319:24 unpost 195:10 unreasonable	248:7 272:6 277:21 307:24 312:8 318:20 320:4 322:3 USEPA 158:7 162:24 uses 54:11 60:14 60:17 101:16
241:23 259:8 282:12 290:7 293:14 307:24 308:16 314:5 317:13 trying 48:12 51:12 61:12 78:1 88:24 107:8 110:22 110:24 111:22 113:4 126:21 280 237 240 250 270 280 280 318 318 318 419 410 410 410 410 410 410 410 410	7:7 249:4 0:21 292:3 0:9,10 3:14 19:5 80:2 4 97:13 0:2,11 112:3 2:3 115:3 5:13 147:8 0:22 228:12	understand 34:8 69:6 72:19 80:5 80:9 88:7 98:12 101:5 110:2 112:13 126:11 128:1,2 133:5 139:24 145:12 156:16 161:3 179:7,9,12,17	41:2 98:4 180:24 190:23 307:15 unknowns 319:24 unpost 195:10 unreasonable	277:21 307:24 312:8 318:20 320:4 322:3 USEPA 158:7 162:24 uses 54:11 60:14 60:17 101:16
282:12 290:7 293:14 307:24 308:16 314:5 317:13 trying 48:12 51:12 61:12 78:1 88:24 107:8 110:22 110:24 111:22 113:4 126:21 280 280 310 310 310 310 310 310 310 310 310 31	0:21 292:3 0:9,10 3:14 19:5 80:2 4 97:13 0:2,11 112:3 2:3 115:3 5:13 147:8 0:22 228:12	69:6 72:19 80:5 80:9 88:7 98:12 101:5 110:2 112:13 126:11 128:1,2 133:5 139:24 145:12 156:16 161:3 179:7,9,12,17	180:24 190:23 307:15 unknowns 319:24 unpost 195:10 unreasonable	312:8 318:20 320:4 322:3 USEPA 158:7 162:24 uses 54:11 60:14 60:17 101:16
293:14 307:24 308:16 314:5 317:13 trying 48:12 51:12 61:12 78:1 88:24 107:8 110:22 110:24 111:22 113:4 126:21	0:9,10 3:14 19:5 80:2 4 97:13 0:2,11 112:3 2:3 115:3 5:13 147:8 0:22 228:12	80:9 88:7 98:12 101:5 110:2 112:13 126:11 128:1,2 133:5 139:24 145:12 156:16 161:3 179:7,9,12,17	307:15 unknowns 319:24 unpost 195:10 unreasonable	320:4 322:3 USEPA 158:7 162:24 uses 54:11 60:14 60:17 101:16
308:16 314:5 317:13 trying 48:12 51:12 61:12 78:1 88:24 107:8 110:22 110:24 111:22 113:4 126:21	3:14 19:5 80:2 4 97:13 0:2,11 112:3 2:3 115:3 5:13 147:8 0:22 228:12	101:5 110:2 112:13 126:11 128:1,2 133:5 139:24 145:12 156:16 161:3 179:7,9,12,17	unknowns 319:24 unpost 195:10 unreasonable	USEPA 158:7 162:24 uses 54:11 60:14 60:17 101:16
317:13 type trying 48:12 83:- 51:12 61:12 110 78:1 88:24 112 107:8 110:22 125 110:24 111:22 169 113:4 126:21 229	19:5 80:2 4 97:13 0:2,11 112:3 2:3 115:3 5:13 147:8 0:22 228:12	112:13 126:11 128:1,2 133:5 139:24 145:12 156:16 161:3 179:7,9,12,17	319:24 unpost 195:10 unreasonable	162:24 uses 54:11 60:14 60:17 101:16
trying 48:12 83:4 51:12 61:12 110:24 111:22 110:24 111:22 113:4 126:21 83:4 83:4 83:4 83:4 83:4 83:4 83:4 83:4	4 97:13 0:2,11 112:3 2:3 115:3 5:13 147:8 0:22 228:12	128:1,2 133:5 139:24 145:12 156:16 161:3 179:7,9,12,17	unpost 195:10 unreasonable	uses 54:11 60:14 60:17 101:16
51:12 61:12 110 78:1 88:24 112 107:8 110:22 125 110:24 111:22 169 113:4 126:21 229	0:2,11 112:3 2:3 115:3 5:13 147:8 0:22 228:12	139:24 145:12 156:16 161:3 179:7,9,12,17	unreasonable	60:17 101:16
78:1 88:24 112 107:8 110:22 125 110:24 111:22 169 113:4 126:21 229	2:3 115:3 5:13 147:8 9:22 228:12	156:16 161:3 179:7,9,12,17		
107:8 110:22 125 110:24 111:22 169 113:4 126:21 229	5:13 147:8 9:22 228:12	179:7,9,12,17	183:17	101.18 182.24
110:24 111:22 169 113:4 126:21 229	9:22 228:12	, , ,		101.10 102.24
113:4 126:21 229			unsafe 156:23	195:9 312:9
	1.0	200:21,23	unstable 159:14	usually 125:10
106 10 070 06	1.0	212:19 215:11	unusable 225:10	198:14
136:12 250:22 types	9:13 55:12	229:5 230:6	unusual 18:1	Utica 17:24
257:3 259:5,13 198	3:8 205:19	247:8 268:2	update 169:19	229:20
Ts 290:23 238	3:23 295:8	277:9,21 278:2	updated 125:10	utilization 60:14
tubing 118:11 types	writing	284:6 303:20	125:11 218:21	utilizing 118:3
turn 8:3 57:19 328	3:8	313:18	uphill 83:2,4	UV 81:21
129:16,18 typic	al 42:9	understanding	upper 273:6	
276:16 277:5	20 216:24	111:18 173:17	ups 295:12	V
306:19 typic	eally 44:5	183:7 324:15	upstream 203:24	valedictorian
turned 20:16 96:	13 133:12	understood	uptake 51:17	254:17
128:15,15 200):16	237:22	upwind 98:5,6	valid 291:20
turning 57:23		unfit 89:5	187:11,23	309:3
192:7 221:9	U	unforthcoming	urbanization	valley 82:16
turns 129:20 ugly	296:22	320:3	60:9	158:8 183:20
130.10 211.7	3:14	unfortunately	urge 256:11	203:3 225:17
214:7 222:12 ultim	nate 240:4	129:13 279:18	286:18 322:23	226:9 292:15
c11c, / > c . 1 c	nately	288:20 301:5	urged 105:17	292:23
twice 27:7 156:17 140	0:15	unhappy 189:6	usage 220:23	valuable 60:6
107.0	sound 24:10	unique 81:8	312:12	value 19:12,17
1110 7.5 15.10	ole 12:15	unit 3:22 36:5	USDA 168:9,17	23:12 60:22
18:4,20 21:19 317		51:3 69:8 207:5	168:19 169:12	151:8,10
28:2 38:21 unat t	tainable	207:8 217:1,4	use 26:7 31:18	230:24
10.11 12.21	9:18	United 234:10,15	40:22 41:13	values 183:12
11.2 30.10,21	elievable	246:4,16,24	51:8 54:14 60:5	203:16,19,23
57:7,15 88:1,5		255:3 258:12	60:11 61:11	204:2 230:13
97:11 102:11 unbe	elievably	258:17 261:24	101:13 105:7	231:6 232:12
	2:13	294:24	111:16 130:13	298:8 322:5
116:10 119:4 unce	rtainties	units 9:15 11:4	131:12,13,18	324:12
	5:22	33:14,14,20,24	132:2 141:13	vanish 240:12

MIDWEST LITIGATION SERVICES Phone: 1.800.280.3376

	1	1	1	1
variable 234:8	veto 9:1	W	walk 28:5 151:3	33:12 49:17
various 8:11 9:13	vets 18:20,22	wage 96:9,11	151:7 225:23	58:13 142:17
22:3 76:11	vice 132:16	Wagner 1:23,23	228:15 242:17	207:18 208:2
109:16 130:9	vicinity 48:6	2:7,7 10:24	walking 204:7	274:6 290:14
150:20	144:6	16:6 30:16,20	225:13 275:7	296:18 311:24
Varna 25:13	videotaped	30:21 31:2,5	wall 39:6,15	wanting 141:4
29:10	218:13	62:1,5 66:18	147:7,20	222:21 297:12
vary 183:5	view 117:11	67:5 68:1,6,12	148:12,13	wants 36:19 58:5
vastness 205:4	violates 82:16	68:16 69:1 73:8	walls 42:3,12	106:3 189:11
VCM 319:12	violation 289:13	73:16,20 74:1,6	want 13:14 26:17	222:23 286:2
vehicle 58:17	viral 234:5	74:11,15,21	28:15 30:2,3,7	293:24 294:1,2
85:9,12 86:2	virgin 43:14	75:1,5,9 82:21	31:22 42:7	297:8
127:5	Virginia 234:24	83:8 84:4,12,13	45:12 48:18	warmer 204:7
vehicles 58:8	virus 100:18,22	84:17,22 85:3,9	53:15 57:18	warrants 321:19
75:2 85:1	235:6,12,16	85:13,18 86:1	59:16 60:18,19	Warren 1:16 2:3
191:17 216:23	324:23	92:5,7,11,15,18	60:24 61:11,18	3:12 4:14 8:4,7
219:3	visit 18:5 126:14	92:23 93:4,16	61:21 64:12	31:9 32:10
vehicular 127:9	129:14 155:5	101:7,20 102:2	67:7,8 76:24	36:23 37:19
ventilation 38:7	261:17	107:23 108:6,9	77:19,22 81:16	46:11
156:12	visited 124:1	107.23 108.0,5	98:12 111:6	wash 81:18
verbatim 31:11	visitors 29:23	114:14,20	114:9 119:24	washed 55:17
35:23 60:1	110:6 161:15	115:17 116:3	123:9,12,17	washing 101:15
Vermont 234:24	225:3	117:9,20,24	127:23 128:4	wasn't 115:2
versa 132:17	VMC 1:21 2:5	117.9,20,24	128:10 136:18	129:14 135:22
vertical 40:8	11:1 16:14	118:24 119:6	139:7 143:8,12	220:2 287:13
vertically 40:9	19:18,21,23,23	119:10,18,22	148:17 152:22	waste 9:7 10:10
vessel 56:18	20:16,18,21	120:4,10,15	153:6,23	10:13,15,18
vet 18:19 89:23	21:3,6 54:10	120:4,10,13	176:11 185:3	12:9,14 29:13
89:23 287:9	70:24 71:16,21	124:11,23	188:1 190:11	34:12 35:3,10
veterinarian	71:22 72:3,6,7	125:8 132:12	210:11 216:17	35:17 36:1,3,11
18:16 21:17,18	72:12,16	132:18 134:19	218:12 221:23	36:12 39:7 47:5
21:18 71:20	102:15 111:23	134:22 135:1,4	222:17 223:10	65:5,21 68:7
72:4 142:2	134:20 139:8	135:7,11,15	228:18 238:13	69:8,17 114:7
248:9 299:17	142:1 235:22	138:14,19	247:16 250:6	121:2,11,24
veterinarians	voice 238:15	145:12,17,23	250:15 251:3	126:24 138:1
19:1 21:5,6	305:2	146:5,24	267:17,21	156:13 158:17
149:17,21	volatile 54:23	147:11,14,21	268:3 270:3	158:18 159:15
234:4,19	volume 121:2,5	148:1,5 149:9	277:14 281:20	159:18 160:24
235:14,17	159:9	149:13 152:7	283:3,20 289:6	161:11,13
236:4	volunteer 157:2	196:11	289:6,16 290:7	162:5,18
veterinary 17:14	volunteering	wagon 51:1	293:22 294:6	163:19 164:13
17:17,18 18:17	156:5,7	wagons 225:22	295:19 303:12	164:18,19
18:18 19:6,20	vomiting 234:7	wait 221:21	309:21,21	165:12 167:19
19:20 71:13,13	vote 137:9 284:1	waiting 137:18	310:21 311:1	170:5 173:16
71:17,19,21	303:5 321:19	229:15	314:9 316:23	173:17 174:6
72:2 89:24,24	vulnerable 182:3	waiver 32:14	317:16	197:6,8 199:18
90:1 234:11		45:23 84:7,10	wanted 32:9	200:13 201:9
		75.25 07.7,10		

MIDWEST LITIGATION SERVICES Phone: 1.800.280.3376

201:18 263:7	120:20 293:13	235:24	175:10,11,13	236:9 241:9
265:16 271:21	way 18:23 21:12	weeks 21:19	191:15 192:1,2	244:9 245:11
272:9,18 273:5	25:15 50:3	124:1 215:11	widening 192:3	249:2 256:16
275:20 278:6	51:11,23 112:5	215:14,19,20	217:20 223:9	265:2 273:22
279:15 286:17	114:7 133:21	237:7 302:21	Wierda 231:20	275:24 279:11
286:19 318:13	135:2,20	weighs 73:19	wife 18:1 202:11	284:3 298:18
320:17	139:19 140:1,2	weight 194:21	Wil 133:24,24	300:8 305:18
wastewater	140:10,11	213:5,16	134:14	307:7 309:14
121:17	156:15 163:23	217:13 218:16	Wildcat 17:3	316:3 323:6
watch 94:23	167:17,19	221:20 223:1	wilderness 28:21	witnesses 190:14
129:3 305:14	168:22 214:10	welcome 8:15	29:16	317:7
watched 309:17	215:18 220:18	36:20	wildlife 224:21	woefully 303:16
watching 129:2	226:22,23	wells 88:23,24	226:15 239:17	woman 156:19
308:13	251:9 255:15	144:17 145:2,3	242:18	wonder 132:4
water 39:10	256:8,19 266:5	145:4 160:7	Wildwood 25:13	wondered 152:5
40:12,15,17	270:7 274:15	174:23	Wilford 242:12	207:24 208:1
43:6,16,19	274:19 278:5	well-being	William 231:20	wonderful 297:5
82:14 83:7 89:4	282:6 285:12	184:10	Williamsburg	322:13
89:8,9,10 93:5	291:13,14,17	well-known	11:2 18:7,7,8	wondering
93:6,12 101:9	295:19,20	39:21	18:14,15 20:4	107:15 110:8
101:10,16	297:23 308:1	Wenona 1:8	287:9	113:18 115:14
108:19 117:17	313:24	10:21 17:3,4,23	willing 84:7	260:10
117:19 118:7	ways 9:13 43:20	22:7 25:11 29:9	175:3 308:15	wonders 227:15
129:5 134:6,7	51:10 130:9,10	88:12 89:9	wind 102:19	woods 279:6
143:20,24	180:10 255:20	101:18 165:8	103:5 156:22	wool 78:2 282:13
144:10,22	257:4 292:3	278:18 280:14	182:19 193:4	282:14
145:1,6,8,18	wean 10:14 20:7	went 16:23,24	windows 297:22	word 111:9
147:11,16	25:1 33:4	17:9 38:17	winds 88:1	183:1 260:2
148:9 159:2,10	weaned 24:21	123:10 128:21	winters 215:13	words 8:18 20:9
159:17,19	weaner 27:7 57:7	128:24 132:8,9	285:17	100:8 247:6
160:14 161:12	235:23	135:15 136:15	winter's 226:20	work 41:12
161:14 166:17	wean/finish	141:16 178:7	wire 42:1	44:16 92:8,8
175:7,18,18,20	141:16	210:13 268:15	Wisconsin 31:4	97:2 111:23
175:21 189:15	weather 54:13	268:21 288:10	wisdom 243:20	112:17 135:4
196:6 207:7	216:19 221:1	297:16 301:11	wise 265:14	135:24 142:3
224:14 240:2,7	221:24 222:10	weren't 22:21	wish 5:11 6:11	152:13 154:17
262:16 263:23	222:12 269:4	91:17 105:7	7:3 142:11	155:8,9 191:8
272:6 277:11	web 155:9	174:15	254:10	217:17 219:21
277:22 320:24	website 58:4,15	west 1:7 18:9	wishes 270:4	222:16,18
waterproofing	82:10 99:21	120:13 189:10	wishing 5:4	256:18 269:15
146:16	132:22 292:21	we're 50:4	withdrawn 140:9	274:7 282:2,10
Waters 277:7	week 25:1 27:7	whatsoever	witness 157:9	283:21 284:21
watershed	48:8 57:8,9,10	96:14 314:23	161:22 184:24	286:5 299:11
204:22	90:21 101:11	wheels 127:1	193:17 198:3	301:6 315:19
waterway 118:5	111:4 129:14	white 92:2 93:8	205:10 211:22	315:22 320:18
120:14 293:8,9	143:24 161:1	125:13	219:6 227:23	worked 21:11,13
waterways 119:5	217:5 235:3,23	wide 156:9	229:23 232:24	23:19 169:22
	•	•		

MIDWEST LITIGATION SERVICES Phone: 1.800.280.3376

	•		•	
314:7	223:12 231:20	313:9 317:23	142:17	105:1
workers 247:20	245:18 318:21	years 5:22 17:11	zoo 110:21,23	1,760 11:20
247:23 248:19	323:3,10,11	17:13 21:14		32:13,14 45:21
273:12	324:7	22:13 23:8,16	\$	1,960 33:4
working 22:12	Wroczynski	26:24 27:24	\$10 18:3	1.2 57:14 58:22
35:11,14 85:2	273:24 274:1,1	36:14,19 38:15	\$11 96:15	10 10:17 49:1
85:22 112:14	274:5 310:21	55:9 76:11	\$2 27:22 61:6	73:5 96:15
116:10,11	310:22 311:9	88:24 100:21	\$2,500 304:22	121:9 163:19
144:24 152:21	311:23	102:11,11,19	\$25,000 139:11	164:13 175:10
154:15 158:6	wrong 110:12	123:16,16	\$281.07 317:23	179:4 197:6
185:4 224:20	204:23 211:10	124:22 125:19	\$324 318:7	231:3,16 324:7
286:6 287:9	262:3	125:24 139:17	\$325 321:11	10,000 208:6
288:8 294:11	wrongs 280:21	142:23,24	\$330,000 218:8	10-foot 10:9
works 136:15	wrote 306:5	158:5 169:16	\$350 75:21	100 29:12 47:1
186:8	W-A-G-N-E-R	169:16,17	\$480,000 192:11	47:11,16
world 30:14	30:21	180:24 183:14	\$483,000 218:1	125:22,23
295:16,20	W-R-0-C-Z-Y	183:14 191:1	\$5 26:12,12	204:19 224:18
305:13,16	274:2	194:18 203:1	\$50,000 281:13	234:7,8,14
311:11 312:9		207:10 208:5	\$55,000 192:13	235:10 254:7
worried 97:10	X	224:1,12 225:4	192:14	257:15
144:9 240:15	X 2:1	225:10 241:4	\$60,687 317:21	100,000 246:5
268:4 312:1	Y	244:23 246:12	\$7 26:10	1000 25:4
worry 81:11		254:15 255:8	\$70,000 27:17	102 1:7
311:3,12	yard 207:13	255:15 256:7	75:14,16 76:4	11 295:23 324:10
worst 151:9	242:20	282:19 297:2	76:14 77:1	12 3:16 11:12
159:23 309:10	yea 303:15	313:4,8,8	192:15 318:4	12:21 20:22,23
worth 75:14	yeah 100:3	year's 40:5 42:22	\$80,000 224:7	21:1 41:2 71:1
188:11	228:22	108:18 245:6	\$800 277:1	71:2 95:20
wouldn't 48:1	year 18:4 26:8,13	Yep 280:10	\$800,000 96:2	109:2 142:2
64:24 113:19	27:19,23 28:1	Yesterday 103:5	\$900,000 321:10	204:18 209:24
126:14 127:4	29:12 47:2,11	young 25:5 234:8	0	232:1 320:8,13
127:18 166:10	47:16 52:11 59:11 63:14	youth 204:17	0-L-E-S-E-N	324:11,13
167:8 176:18	75:21 76:15,15		246:3	12th 37:13
187:11 188:1,4	81:2 86:14 96:2	Z	0.9 49:23	12,000 11:5 33:5
188:11,12,15	121:9 125:5,22	zero 49:23	0.9 49.23 03 33:22,23	253:1
188:19 190:8	125:23 141:14	106:24 107:4	084-003070	1200 122:3
206:5 207:12	156:17,21	165:22 258:2,4	328:22	127:14 130:13
309:19	166:1,24	258:5,9,18	320.22	197:17 254:5
wrap 243:19	169:11,16	262:14 263:9	1	259:18 260:16
write 106:7	183:15 192:13	289:16,18,19	1 15:6 58:24	260:21
177:15	192:15 204:17	290:9	1st 194:20,20	1250 244:20
writing 44:15	222:13,24	Zipping 188:7	217:14,14	1270 276:22
written 3:21 7:8	223:1 225:2	zone 102:10	222:11,11	13 268:7 324:14
7:8,18 38:14	235:8 245:2	zoned 45:3,4,8 zoning 45:4	1,000 34:22 35:7	14 14:8 63:13
106:8 137:13	247:1 254:17	59:12,21,23	35:12,15 45:16	204:1 324:19
140:11 157:19	290:15 291:15	61:10 114:2	45:17 46:4,5	14-02 234:12
195:21 201:20	2,0.10 2,1.10	01.10 114.2	Í	15 2:5 5:21 6:18
	1	! 	1	1

	I	I	I	I
14:7 24:2 49:14	1970s 246:21	2005 135:8 146:8	3	40 81:1 85:6,23
88:23 175:11	256:5 261:1	154:15	3 62:3 175:12	85:24 124:21
177:23 178:8	280:3	2006 238:19	178:12 203:19	125:5,24
178:22 179:3	1971 150:18	2007 9:4	203:20	153:12 238:23
191:2 207:9	1972 18:19	2009 9:4 154:21	3rd 37:6	239:4,11,12,14
231:15 260:20	1975 307:15	2010 226:20	3,000 105:2	313:8
280:19 324:21	1977 190:22	248:2	3,024 33:19	43 192:17
150 40:3 52:10	1979 207:5	2010/2011 224:6	3,384 3:22 11:4	44 10:14
83:22 108:15	1982 207:8	2012 231:23	34:2,24 35:9	440 46:5
257:18	1990 279:17	317:20	45:13,20	45 247:20
1500 293:8	1990s 246:22	2013 226:20	3,520 11:22	4600 24:13
153-322 2:11	1991 238:19	234:3,16 235:7	37:21 46:6,15	46315 317:23
16 37:24 42:14	1995 17:8	317:20 324:20	46:19,23	48 143:11
204:18 313:4	1996 8:23 124:13	2014 1:5 10:6	3.4 10:20	487 10:12
325:3	1997 9:1	11:23 14:5	30 13:24 14:5,6	
160 207:1	1998 20:1,15	235:3,4,7	80:24 138:22	5
162 10:9	154:14 231:7	21 325:17	224:1,12	5 47:4 48:24 49:4
162-foot 38:5	1999 9:2 17:10	21st 8:23	225:10 231:1	49:15 50:10
17 1:5 57:24		210,000 26:7	231:11 235:1,3	69:12 121:7,13
58:10,19 67:23	2	211 234:16	235:7 256:7	178:10 179:2,5
132:8,16	2 10:12 15:13	22 325:20,21,24	30,000-gallon	179:10 191:20
219:13 220:18	16:22 49:4	22-foot 192:2	144:2	212:11 263:4
234:16 325:7	50:10 73:5	220 45:17	300 24:3	269:7 323:14
17,000 276:19	86:22,23 87:14	23 24:20 326:2	303 277:7,16,19	5,000 18:23
1700 144:20	175:12 178:11	24 24:19 27:2	31st 11:23	34:23 105:3
1750 150:18	203:24 230:22	48:11 49:11,12	323 10:17	260:4
18 10:14 37:5,15	231:4 281:6	129:23 326:8	325 58:20	5,600 33:3,18
57:19 58:11,19	2,000 105:1	25 18:9 140:6	36 40:24	50 92:20 119:17
87:12 103:4	2-foot 10:15	150:5,7 158:5	36,000 141:15	120:2,17
105:16 132:8	20 26:20 27:20	203:21 231:13	360 33:23	194:18 203:17
132:16 192:7	85:4,8,16,21	239:6 326:11	38 191:1	204:15 231:10
218:20 219:2	95:14,19,21	25th 10:6 11:9	3800 123:8	239:11
219:11 220:6	175:11 230:22	2500 25:1 260:8	126:20	500 208:4
228:14 314:12	231:14 239:6	260:9,13	39 57:20 58:1	506.202 49:6
325:10	247:20 255:15	26 140:6	87:12 143:17	506.302 49:6
18,000 246:6	289:22 325:15	2621 244:20	314:12	55 11:5,6 33:16
180 101:18	20,000 182:10	27,000 20:22	317.12	33:16,22
108:15 121:17	207:3 272:3	270 58:19	4	5500 158:21
1800 88:8 101:9	200 85:1,20,21,24	28 44:14 115:18	4 33:19 62:8	5600 260:18,22
1800s 172:7	132:15 191:17	115:21 234:22	175:12 191:20	59 239:8
186 10:11	216:23 257:20	2800 57:18 58:12	254:18 263:4	
19 191:15 192:1	257:21	84:24 132:13	289:12	6
217:21 325:14	200,000 143:24	132:24 216:14	4,000 44:14	6 29:15 58:24
1900 24:3	144:7	216:18 218:20	115:11,17	85:8,17 98:17
1919 155:1	2001 231:8	219:13	4.0 172:3	101:14 121:13
1930s 224:6	2003 17:16	29 2:7 297:2	4.2 254:17	143:23 163:21
1950 274:13	105:16	29,000 289:11	4.25 217:21	263:3 310:13

310:14 323:17	90 115:1 195:7			
6th 37:11	195:11 203:18			
6,000 19:3	900 271:9			
6.50 26:10	93 10:17			
6.6 203:19	96 276:20			
6:00 1:9	9600 229:18			
60 35:11,14				
123:15,16				
138:3 239:8				
313:8				
61-152 2:9				
681 22:10 32:2				
7				
7 209:9 323:22				
7,560 11:4 33:17				
7.1 59:23				
70 143:19 217:13				
70,000 192:21				
700 10:9 38:5				
72 20:24				
74 140:4				
7400 230:23				
79 208:4				
8				
8 2:3 10:12 26:3				
29:15 73:4				
163:21 191:16				
263:3 324:1				
8-foot 10:18				
80 18:8,10,10				
20:24 95:21				
111:19 115:1				
204:18 207:1				
234:14 235:10				
80s 246:21				
80,000 216:19				
218:21 220:19				
80,000-pound				
212:24				
800 249:7				
85 280:18				
87.2 158:23				
9				
9 235:2 324:4				
/	I	Ī	1	Ī