

1 PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING  
2 REGARDING THE  
3 PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A LIVESTOCK  
4 MANAGEMENT FACILITY  
5 BY  
6 SCOTT HENDRON

7 DATE: September 14, 2016  
8 TIME: 6:00 P.M.

9 LOCATION: Spoon River College Community Outreach  
10 Center  
11 Mid-America National Bank Conference  
12 Hall  
13 2500 E. Jackson Street  
14 Macomb, Illinois

15 TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING

16 REPORTED BY RANDALL W. WELLS  
17 CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER - #0271

18 ORIGINAL

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I N D E X

	<u>Page</u>	<u>Line</u>
1		
2		
3		
4	6	17
5	11	2
6	16	14
7	17	7
8	18	1
9	18	25
10	32	17
11	39	14
12	40	12
13	42	20
14	44	22
15	50	10
16	51	19
17	54	18
18	58	10
19	63	1
20	66	19
21	72	2
22	75	13
23	78	23
24	83	10
25	87	1

1	<i>MICHELLE LANGHOUT</i>	87	24
2	<i>WRITTEN TESTIMONY PHASE</i>	89	13
3	<i>ORAL TESTIMONY PHASE</i>	90	13
4	<i>COLBY HUNT</i>	90	20
5	<i>DAN O'NEILL</i>	93	25
6	<i>KOLETTE HERNDON</i>	98	15
7	<i>LARRY MOORE</i>	100	11
8	<i>HEATHER MCMEEKAN</i>	104	20
9	<i>DAVID BRINT</i>	107	1
10	<i>TASHA BUNTING</i>	109	9
11	<i>KENDELL LITCHFIELD</i>	112	12
12	<i>CLOSING COMMENT SESSION</i>	114	25
13	<i>MR. MUHLENBRUCK</i>	115	9
14	<i>MR. GOETSCH</i>	119	22

EXHIBIT INDEX

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

<u>Exhibit</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Line</u>
Exhibit 1	Complete Notice Of Intent To Construct Application	16	7
Exhibit 2	Department's PowerPoint Presentation	16	12
Exhibit 3	Electronic Version Of Facility's Presentation	39	11
Exhibit 4	Mr. Colby Hunt's Written Testimony	93	18
Exhibit 5	Oral Testimony Sign-In Sheet	114	22
Exhibit 6	Attendance Sign-In Sheet	114	23

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2 **REGARDING THE**  
3 **PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A LIVESTOCK**  
4 **MANAGEMENT FACILITY**  
5 **BY**  
6 **SCOTT HENDRON**

7 **TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING** heard on  
8 the 14th day of September, 2016, at the Spoon River College  
9 Community Outreach Center, MidAmerica National Bank Conference  
10 Hall, 2500 East Jackson Street, in the City of Macomb, State of  
11 Illinois.

12 **A P P E A R A N C E S**

13 Illinois Department of Agriculture  
14 State Fair Grounds  
15 P.O. Box 19281  
16 Springfield, Illinois 62794  
17 By: **John Teefey**  
18 Bureau Chief, Environmental Programs  
19 Hearing Officer

20 Illinois Department of Agriculture  
21 State Fair Grounds  
22 P.O. Box 19281  
23 Springfield, Illinois 62794  
24 By: **Warren D. Goetsch, P.E.**  
25 Deputy Director

26 Illinois Department of Agriculture  
27 State Fair Grounds  
28 P.O. Box 19281  
29 Springfield, Illinois 62794  
30 By: **Brad A. Beaver**  
31 Bureau of Environmental Programs

32 Illinois Department of Agriculture  
33 State Fair Grounds  
34 P.O. Box 19281  
35 Springfield, Illinois 62794  
36 By: **Doug Owens, Manager**

1 **APPLICANT:** *Scott Herndon*

2 **ALSO PRESENT:**

3 Chris J. West  
4 President  
5 Frank & West  
6 Environmental Engineers, Inc.  
7 1032 South 2nd Street  
8 Springfield, Illinois 62704

9 Al Muhlenbruck - TriOak Foods - Relations & Regulatory Manager

10 Nick Biggs - TriOak Foods - Relations Team

11 WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2016

12 MR. TEEFEY: It is six o'clock, so we're going to go  
13 ahead and get started. If you could go ahead and have a seat.  
14 We are going to start this meeting.

15 Before we begin tonight, I would ask that everyone  
16 please turn your cellphones to silent.

17 Thank you very much.

18 Good evening. On behalf of Raymond Poe, Director of  
19 the Illinois Department of Agriculture, we thank you very much  
20 for the invitation to come to McDonough County today.

21 My name is John Teefey. I'm with the Illinois  
22 Department of Agriculture, and I will be serving as the Hearing  
23 Officer for tonight's Public Informational Meeting.

24 Also with me on behalf of the Department are Warren  
25 Goetsch, Deputy Director of the Department; Doug Owens, Manager  
of the Bureau of Livestock Program; and Brad Beaver with the

1 Bureau.

2 This meeting is being conducted pursuant to Section  
3 12 of the Livestock Management Facilities Act.

4 The informational meeting is being held at the  
5 request of the McDonough County Board, and is to afford members  
6 of the public an opportunity to ask questions and present oral  
7 and written testimony regarding the proposed construction of a  
8 new 1,984 animal unit swine finishing facility by Mr. Scott  
9 Herndon.

10 My task this evening is to ensure that this meeting  
11 is conducted in an orderly fashion and to assure that all  
12 comments and testimony received are entered into the record.

13 Tonight's meeting is being transcribed. The  
14 transcript of the meeting will be sent to the McDonough County  
15 Board, as well as used by the Department of Agriculture in making  
16 its determination regarding the proposed construction of this  
17 facility.

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

20 First, following my comments, Warren Goetsch will  
21 provide an overview of the provisions of the Livestock Management  
22 Facilities Act as it relates to this particular project,  
23 specifically outlining the current status of the project and how  
24 the process will proceed following this meeting.

25 Following Mr. Goetsch, representatives for the

1 proposed construction project will be given an opportunity to  
2 describe the project and demonstrate how they believe it meets  
3 the siting criteria of the Livestock Management Facilities Act.

4 After their presentation I will open the meeting to  
5 questions. Anyone wishing to ask questions of the Facility,  
6 representatives, or the Department will be given an opportunity  
7 to do so.

8 During the question and answer session I will ask  
9 that you state your name, spell your last name for the court  
10 reporter. You then may ask your question.

11 Depending on the number of people who wish to testify  
12 in the oral testimony phase of the meeting, which is after the  
13 question phase, there may be a time limit placed on the  
14 questioning phase.

15 Following the question and answer phase, I will then  
16 ask for written testimony. If anyone has written testimony that  
17 is not part of your oral testimony, I will accept it and enter it  
18 into the record from this proceeding.

19 If you have written material that you will be using  
20 as part of your oral testimony, it can be entered into the record  
21 following your oral testimony.

22 Then depending on the amount of time that has elapsed  
23 at this point in the meeting, we may take a short break.

24 Following the written testimony, I will ask for oral  
25 testimony from the public. Sign-in sheets were placed outside of



1 the room in the back. There is one sign-up sheet for attendance  
2 and a second sign-up sheet for testimony.

3 People who wish to provide comments during this oral  
4 testimony phase are asked to sign the oral testimony sheet.  
5 People providing oral comments will be sworn in and will be  
6 subject to questioning from the public.

7 Each person will be given three minutes to provide  
8 his or her comments.

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

13 Deferring time to other speakers will not be allowed.

14 If you sign the oral testimony sheet, you may either  
15 speak, or if you have changed your mind, you may pass. You may  
16 not give your time to someone else.

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

21 The meeting will then conclude with closing comments  
22 from the Facility and the Department of Agriculture.

23 So to summarize the procedure tonight: We will first  
24 have comments from the Department, then comments from the  
25 Facility, questions directed to the Department and the Facility.

1 Please remember to state your name and spell your  
2 last name.

3 Written testimony will then be accepted. Oral  
4 testimony from the public, people will be sworn in, and questions  
5 may be asked following the testimony. And then closing comments.

6 Please also keep in mind that we are not here this  
7 evening to discuss or debate the merits or perceived inadequacies  
8 of the existing regulations or laws. We are here tonight to  
9 receive information on this particular proposed livestock  
10 facility to assist with determining compliance with the existing  
11 regulations.

12 This is a public informational meeting, not a court  
13 proceeding. The purpose is to share information and provide an  
14 opportunity for the Department, members of the county board, and  
15 you, the public, to learn about this proposed facility.

16 Again, we very much appreciate your hospitality for  
17 inviting us here tonight to consider the proposed construction of  
18 the Scott Herndon Swine Finishing Facility.

19 Please remember to confine your comments and  
20 questions to that subject as we continue.

21 Before we move to the Department's remarks, the  
22 Department would like to recognize the presence of the County  
23 Board Chairman of McDonough County, Mr. Scott Schwerer. Thank  
24 you for being here, Mr. Schwerer.

25 I will now turn the proceedings over to Mr. Warren

1 Goetsch for remarks from the Illinois Department Of Agriculture. 06:10:28

2 MR. GOETSCH: Thank you. 06:10:32

3 Good evening. My name is Warren Goetsch. I 06:10:36  
4 currently serve as the Deputy Director of the Illinois Department 06:10:39  
5 Of Agriculture. One of our responsibilities at the Department is 06:10:44  
6 the administration of various provisions of the Livestock 06:10:47  
7 Management Facilities Act. 06:10:53

8 On behalf of the Department, let me welcome you to 06:10:53  
9 this public informational meeting. 06:10:55

10 Before we hear from the proposed Facility's 06:10:57  
11 representatives, I would like to say a few words regarding the 06:11:00  
12 applicable provisions of the Livestock Management Facilities Act 06:11:04  
13 and the current status of this proposed project. 06:11:07

14 The Livestock Management Facilities Act was 06:11:11  
15 originally passed and became law on May 21st of 1996. A little 06:11:14  
16 over twenty years ago. Since that time the Act has been amended 06:11:21  
17 three times: First during the General Assembly's 1997 fall veto 06:11:25  
18 session; second, during the General Assembly's 1999 spring 06:11:30  
19 session; and most recently in the 2007 spring session of the 06:11:34  
20 General Assembly. 06:11:39

21 The Act can be generally described as covering five 06:11:40  
22 major areas. Those being facility design standards, waste 06:11:43  
23 management planning requirements, facility operator training and 06:11:50  
24 testing, anaerobic lagoon financial responsibility demonstration, 06:11:54  
25 and facility setback requirements. 06:11:59

1 Each of these provisions impacts various types of 06:12:03  
2 facilities in different ways, depending upon the size, expressed 06:12:07  
3 in animal units, and whether the proposed facility is considered 06:12:12  
4 as a new facility, a modified facility, or the expansion of an 06:12:16  
5 existing site. 06:12:21

6 The Livestock Management Facility Act's provisions 06:12:23  
7 are quite complicated and specific facility designs and 06:12:26  
8 situations certainly can differ. It is, however, the Department 06:12:30  
9 of Agriculture's intent to always fairly and equitably apply 06:12:35  
10 these requirements to the livestock industry in this state. 06:12:41

11 Now regarding the current status of this particular 06:12:44  
12 proposal. The Department received a formal Notice of Intent to 06:12:49  
13 Construct Application for the proposed construction of a swine 06:12:53  
14 facility on July 13th, 2016. 06:12:57

15 The proposed project is to consist of the 06:13:02  
16 construction of two finishing buildings, each measuring 06:13:05  
17 seventy-one feet two inches by two hundred and eighty-one feet 06:13:10  
18 four inches, with an eight foot deep underbuilding livestock 06:13:14  
19 waste handling facility. 06:13:18

20 The project is proposed to be located approximately 06:13:21  
21 3.2 miles northwest of -- and I'll apologize before I pronounce 06:13:25  
22 it -- Adair? 06:13:31

23 Close enough? 06:13:33

24 Adair? 06:13:33

25 Adair. I never get them right. 06:13:36

1 In eastern McDonough County. 06:13:39

2 The application was submitted by Frank & West 06:13:42  
3 Environmental Engineers on behalf of Scott Herndon of Macomb, 06:13:45  
4 Illinois. 06:13:50

5 The maximum designed capacity of the proposed 06:13:50  
6 facility is 1,984 animal units, or 4,960 head, greater than 06:13:53  
7 fifty-five pounds. 06:14:04

8 As I mentioned earlier, the Department received the 06:14:06  
9 Notice of Intent to Construct application on July 13 and reviewed 06:14:08  
10 it for compliance with the applicable provisions of the Act. 06:14:13

11 On July 27th the Department determined that the 06:14:20  
12 notice was complete and we forwarded then a copy of the completed 06:14:22  
13 application to the McDonough County Board. 06:14:27

14 Notice of that application was also published in the 06:14:30  
15 appropriate newspaper. 06:14:33

16 The design capacity of the proposed facility requires 06:14:35  
17 compliance with a residential setback distance of not less than 06:14:40  
18 1,320 feet, and a populated area setback distance of not less 06:14:46  
19 than 2,640 feet. 06:14:50

20 On August 30th the Department received official 06:14:53  
21 notice from the McDonough County Board requesting that a public 06:14:58  
22 informational meeting be scheduled regarding this proposal. 06:15:01

23 After further consultation with the County Board, the 06:15:06  
24 Department scheduled this meeting and caused notice of the 06:15:09  
25 meeting to be published in the appropriate newspapers. 06:15:13

1 An additional requirement of the Livestock Management  
2 Facilities Act deals with the design and construction plans of a  
3 livestock waste handling facility. The Department has received a  
4 formal submittal of detailed engineering design plans and  
5 specifications for the proposed project's underbuilding livestock  
6 waste handling facility.

7 However, a detailed review of the aforementioned  
8 plans has not been completed at this time. As a result, the  
9 Department is currently unable to comment as to their compliance  
10 with the statutory requirements of the Act.

11 We are here this evening to receive testimony  
12 regarding the proposed livestock management facility's compliance  
13 with eight siting criteria as defined in Section 12, paragraph  
14 (d) of the Livestock Management Facilities Act.

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

24 Copies of the specific criteria were available on the  
25 table with -- or adjacent to the sign-in sheets. If anyone would

1 like to have a copy of the criteria but failed to pick up a copy,  
2 if you would just raise your hand, identify yourself, and we'll  
3 get you a copy.

4           Anyone need a copy of -- okay.

5           Finally, the process that will be followed after this  
6 evening's meeting is as follows: The county board will have up  
7 to thirty business days from today's meeting to submit to the  
8 Department a non-binding recommendation relative to the proposed  
9 siting of this facility. Thus, a recommendation from the  
10 McDonough County Board is due at the Department on or before  
11 October 27th, 2016.

12           After the close of the County's thirty business day  
13 comment period, the Department will have fifteen calendar days,  
14 or until November 11th, to review all of the information  
15 submitted to date, including the notice of intent to construct,  
16 the construction plans, transcripts from this evening's meeting,  
17 the county board's recommendation, and any other additional  
18 information submitted by the owners at the request of the  
19 Department.

20           Based on that review, the Department will determine  
21 whether the eight siting criteria have been met by the file.  
22 Once that determination has been made, the Department will notify  
23 both the county board and the applicant of the final decision.

24           Mr. Hearing Officer, at this time I would like to  
25 submit a complete -- or a copy of the completed Notice of Intent

1 to Construct Application and its associated correspondence file  
2 for formal entry into the record as an exhibit.

3 I also have a copy of the PowerPoint that was just  
4 used as part of my presentation, and a copy of the meeting notes  
5 that I've used for this presentation.

6 MR. TEEFEY: Thank you, Mr. Goetsch.

7 Entered into the record as Exhibit Number 1 is the  
8 Completed Notice of Intent to Construct, including correspondence  
9 between the Department and the Applicant; notices of the public  
10 informational meeting; and correspondence with McDonough County  
11 officials.

12 Also entered into the record as Exhibit Number 2 is  
13 the Department's PowerPoint presentation.

14 At this time we will hear comments from the Facility.

15 Before we begin, for those who will be presenting  
16 information, please state your name and spell your last name for  
17 the court reporter, and then I will swear you all in together.

18 MR. BIGGS: Do you want all of us to state our name  
19 at the same time?

20 MR. TEEFEY: No. One at a time will be good, please.

21 MR. BIGGS: Okay. Nick Biggs, B-i-g-g-s.

22 MR. HERNDON: Scott Herndon, H-e-r-n-d-o-n.

23 MR. MUHLENBRUCK: Al Muhlenbruck,

24 M-u-h-l-e-n-b-r-u-c-k.

25 MR. WEST: Chris West, W-e-s-t.



1 MR. TEEFEY: Will all the representatives who will be  
2 providing testimony please raise your right hand?

3 (Chris West, Al Muhlenbruck, Scott Herndon and Nick  
4 Biggs sworn by the Hearing Officer.)

5 MR. TEEFEY: Thank you. You may proceed with your  
6 testimony.

7 MR. BIGGS: Good evening, everyone. My name is Nick  
8 Biggs. I am an employee of TriOak Foods. We are the company  
9 that is working with Scott on this project.

10 For Scott's -- Scott's presentation we'll have four  
11 parts. You will hear from Scott. You -- and he will introduce  
12 him and his daughters and talk about their plan for their farm.

13 You will hear from Chris West with Frank & West about  
14 the engineering.

15 Thank you. Can you hear better now?

16 Yeah.

17 You'll hear from Chris West with Frank & West  
18 Engineering on the site specifics and the siting criteria.

19 And then Al Muhlenbruck will be having our closing  
20 comments.

21 And then I will also be in the review and I will  
22 review what I see most often, asked questions when I'm dealing  
23 with the public concerning these projects.

24 So to start off we're going to have Scott, the owner  
25 of the farm, make a little comment.

1 MR. HERNDON: I'm Scott Herndon. Since I was nine  
2 years old I would come to my uncle's farm, Hodge Herndon, at  
3 Adair every summer.

4 In 1984 I moved to the Adair community and worked for  
5 a local farmer, Gary Schmalshof.

6 In 1988 I got married to my wife Adrienne. And we  
7 are fourth generation farmers in the Adair community.

8 Adrienne passed away in 2011 with colon cancer. So  
9 this evening I'm joined by my daughters Kolette and Jessica.  
10 Kolette has pursued a career in communications, and Jessica is a  
11 sophomore getting an ag degree here at Western.

12 Just being interested in ag is part of the reason we  
13 are building our barns. We also wanted to diversify and develop  
14 a retirement income with the opportunity for the next generation  
15 to take over.

16 This operation will be run and maintained with pride  
17 in ownership. We will be good neighbors. I've partnered with  
18 TriOak Foods because this is the way they run their business. It  
19 has always been very important to me to be a good neighbor and  
20 have a good relationship and will continue to do so.

21 I would like to thank everyone that showed up tonight  
22 to support me and my girls.

23 Thank you.

24 MR. BIGGS: Now we'll have Chris.

25 MR. WEST: Good evening, everyone. My name is Chris

1 West. I'm with Frank & West Environmental Engineers out of  
2 Springfield.

3 I'm going to go through a presentation that discusses  
4 two topics: One is the site location for the proposed farm, and  
5 the eight siting criteria.

6 So as Mr. Goetsch mentioned earlier -- where's the  
7 pointer at?

8 MR. OWENS: It's the green button at the top.

9 MR. WEST: Gotcha. Okay. There we go.

10 So Macomb, and then Scott's facility, Scott's farm  
11 down here southeast of Macomb.

12 And with north being at the top of the screen there,  
13 this is how the two facilities, two farm buildings would be laid  
14 out with the dimensions.

15 So if we go through the eight siting criteria, again,  
16 as Mr. Goetsch mentioned.

17 Number 1, the registration and certification  
18 requirements.

19 2. The design, location, and operation standards.

20 3. Location compatibility.

21 4. Floodplain and aquifer protection.

22 5. Minimize environmental impact.

23 6. Odor control and reduction.

24 7. Traffic patterns and minimize impacts.

25 And finally, 8, is the facility consistent with the

1 area development.

2 So what I'll do is gone through each one of these  
3 individually and show how the facility will meet that criteria.

4 So the full definition of Siting Criteria 1. So when  
5 we're talking about the -- the first part of Siting Criteria 1,  
6 the registration requirements. As Mr. Goetsch mentioned, the  
7 notice of intent was filed by my office for the farm July 13th of  
8 this year. It was deemed complete. So the setbacks were all met  
9 by the Department of Ag on the 27th of July.

10 Second part of the siting criteria is the Nutrient  
11 Management Plan. And we're going to discuss this Nutrient  
12 Management Plan in several different aspect and how it meets --  
13 because it's involved in more than one of the deciding criteria,  
14 but generally the Livestock Management Facilities Act states that  
15 any facility which exceeds 1,000 animal units but is less than  
16 5,000 shall prepare, maintain and implement a Nutrient Management  
17 Plan within 60 working days after commencing operation.

18 So obviously since it's required, the farm will  
19 prepare, maintain and implement a Comprehensive Nutrient  
20 Management Plan. So one of the important words there is  
21 comprehensive. So we're going basically a step beyond what is  
22 required since what is required is a Nutrient Management Plan. A  
23 comprehensive brings many more aspects into that.

24 The farm will submit to the Department of Ag a  
25 certification form stating that the Nutrient Management Plan has

1 been prepared. The farm will keep that Comprehensive Nutrient  
2 Management Plan, as well as all records of livestock waste  
3 retention, on file at the farm. And the plan will be -- and all  
4 the records will be available to the Department of Ag during any  
5 inspections.

6 So the goal of any Nutrient Management Plan is to  
7 utilize the manure produced by the animals in the farm; to  
8 utilize that manure at approved agronomic loading rates.

9 So basically what that means is we're going to be  
10 using that manure as a fertilizer. So the corn crops, the bean  
11 crops that are going to be grown around the farm, going to be  
12 using that as a fertilizer to meet the needs of that crop in an  
13 environmentally sound fashion.

14 This goal will be accomplished by developing the  
15 Nutrient Management Plan that has the following information: The  
16 total annual manure volume that's produced by the animals.

17 Historically proven yields in all of the fields  
18 within the application areas.

19 Analysis each year of the manure that is produced.

20 Agronomic loading rates from both of those pieces of  
21 information.

22 Land application provisions for setbacks and  
23 incorporation standards.

24 And then documentation of all phases of that plan.

25 So moving on to Siting Criteria 2. Whether the

1 design, location of the proposed operation will protect the  
2 environment by being consistent with the Livestock Management  
3 Facilities Act.

4 So Part 1 of that: Design of concrete structures.  
5 We have a very rigorous set of guidance documents that we are  
6 required to go by from the Act that we utilize to develop and  
7 design each one of these barns.

8 That one of those documents is the MidWest Plan  
9 Service Concrete Manure Storage Handbook. The MidWest Plan  
10 Service is a university based publishing cooperative dedicated  
11 to publishing and disseminating research-based and peer reviewed  
12 publications for concrete specifications, reinforcement  
13 requirements, and waterstop requirements.

14 So the design for this farm will consist of  
15 construction plans for two finishing barns.

16 This kind of gives you an example of what a finishing  
17 barn would look like.

18 And then the inside of that barn. You see the pen  
19 housing.

20 Part 2 of Siting Criteria 2 deals with location. So  
21 we have certain setbacks that we are required to meet for any  
22 livestock facility. Again, Mr. Goetsch mentioned these. We have  
23 an occupied residence and a populated area setback. Both of  
24 those setbacks were met and exceeded and were deemed complete by  
25 the Department of Ag.

1 Part 3 of Siting Criteria 2 is the manager of the 06:29:59  
2 farm will be a certified livestock manager. What that is, 06:30:04  
3 there's a program that's been developed by the Department of Ag 06:30:07  
4 to educate livestock managers on manure management handling and 06:30:10  
5 systems. 06:30:14

6 Any manager of a farm over 1,000 animal units is 06:30:15  
7 required to attend a training course and pass the exam. 06:30:18

8 And then we -- we're talking about operation. I 06:30:23  
9 mentioned the Nutrient Management Plan, the Comprehensive 06:30:26  
10 Nutrient Management Plan was going to be discussed numerous 06:30:30  
11 times. This is another one. This is part of the operation of 06:30:32  
12 the Facility. 06:30:35

13 So the plan will detail all aspects of the operation 06:30:35  
14 at the farm so that all manure applications will be based on the 06:30:39  
15 site specific data. 06:30:43

16 Siting Criteria 3: Location compatibility. 06:30:45

17 So if we look at a map of the state. And these are 06:30:51  
18 -- show the counties that have been zoned. As you can see, the 06:30:55  
19 county is not zoned. So the farm is compatible with the 06:30:59  
20 surrounding area in that the area is a rural agricultural area. 06:31:03  
21 So it fits right in with how the -- the -- all the neighboring 06:31:06  
22 areas are being used. 06:31:10

23 So if we go through the setbacks and the animal unit 06:31:11  
24 calculations. This is how we are required to calculate that. We 06:31:16  
25 have 1,984 animal units. That gives us an occupied residence of 06:31:23

1 setback of 1,320 feet, a quarter of a mile. A populated area  
2 setback of 2,640 feet, or half a mile. And again, those setbacks  
3 have been deemed complete by the Department.

4 Siting Criteria 4. Environmentally sensitive area.  
5 So what we're typically talking about are floodplain and aquifer  
6 areas.

7 So we've got a map here of the -- this is the state  
8 FEMA -- yeah. Yes. Forgot who generates the maps. Showing the  
9 floodplain areas of this portion of the county.

10 So as you can see, this is a hatched area where if  
11 there was to be a floodplain area in this map, that's what it  
12 would look like. It's a gray hatched area.

13 As you can see, there's nothing -- nothing close to  
14 the farm that would show a hundred year floodplain.

15 Karst area. Another definition for a different  
16 environmentally sensitive area. This is an area with a land  
17 surface containing sink holes, springs, disrupted land drainage,  
18 underground systems associated with karstified bedrock.

19 And as -- so, again, there's a state map showing  
20 these hatched areas. That shows the areas of karst within the  
21 state.

22 As you can see, the -- Scott's proposed farm is  
23 nowhere close to any of those karst areas.

24 And that map comes from the Illinois State Geological  
25 Survey.



1 Another portion -- another instance of siting  
2 criteria for environmentally sensitive areas is aquifer material.  
3 That is defined in the Act as sandstone that is five feet or more  
4 in thickness, or fractured carbonate that is ten feet or more in  
5 thickness, or a sand/gravel, or sand and gravel mixture such that  
6 there is at least two feet or more present within any five foot  
7 section of a soil boring.

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8 So what we're required to do is to go out to the farm  
9 location where the -- where the buildings are going to go and  
10 conduct soil borings to look for this material. Anything that  
11 would meet that definition.

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12 So our requirement in the Act is we have to go five  
13 feet below the planned bottom of the building.

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14 So this gives you a general idea of what that boring  
15 would look like. Starting with the ground surface, and then  
16 going to go the bottom, and then an additional five feet.

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17 So on an eight foot barn we would typically find an  
18 eleven foot boring would get to the depth that we are to get to  
19 -- to get to to look for that material.

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20 And just so that we're very clear, there was nothing  
21 anywhere close in any of the borings that would meet that  
22 definition of an aquifer material.

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23 Siting Criteria 5: Minimize Environmental Impact.  
24 So whether the owner or operator has plans for operation that  
25 minimize the likelihood of any environmental damage to the

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1 surrounding areas.

2 A couple of different things that -- that help us  
3 kind of get our -- wrap our minds around what we're -- what we're  
4 trying to talk about here.

5 Proper sizing. The farm is required to have a  
6 minimum of 150 days storage. So five months worth of storage.  
7 That's what's written into the Act.

8 We size these barns so that they'll have in excess of  
9 365 days. So what that does is that greatly lengthens out the  
10 time that you can store that so you can put it on at the exact  
11 opportune moment; so the crops can use the fertilizer the best so  
12 that you don't have to apply in any inclement weather. You don't  
13 have to worry about any of that -- any of that type of issues.

14 This is also a completely closed system. And what I  
15 mean by that, there is nothing from the outside, no rainwater, no  
16 surface water that can come into this barn. So we're only  
17 dealing with the manure. We don't have to worry about something  
18 running over because we get a huge rain. Whatever manure is  
19 produced in the barn stays in the barn until we are ready to take  
20 it out and to put it on a farm field.

21 So I mentioned runoff. Clean water diversions around  
22 the facility, the facility, the farm building itself will be  
23 raised slightly above the surface grade so we don't have to worry  
24 about any water coming into the barn.

25 And the reason that's important is we talk about the

1 days of storage. If we had a facility or a farm building that  
2 was sitting at the ground level and you got a six inch rain and  
3 it rained in there, well, you've greatly decreased potentially  
4 then your storage capacity. We don't have to worry about that in  
5 this design.

6 Leaching. This is another issue that we make certain  
7 we address. The farm buildings are designed to prevent any  
8 release of livestock manure. So we have solid concrete  
9 construction reenforced with minimum Grade 60 steel rebar.

10 Waterstop placed at all joints, whether they're  
11 construction or stoppage joints.

12 So what that means is when we're building this and at  
13 the end of one pour you have a piece of water stop. So that the  
14 next pour surrounds that piece of waterstop. So you have a water  
15 tight seal at that joint.

16 And all surfaces in contact with livestock manure, as  
17 required, and this is concrete, what we're talking about, will  
18 meet the required permeability standards.

19 Siting Criteria 6: Odor Control Or Reduction. The  
20 proposed farm will implement a Comprehensive Odor Control Plan.

21 So a couple of aspects on how we are proposing to --  
22 the farm will -- will do this.

23 Controlled land application of manure. This is  
24 probably the single most important thing that we can do.

25 Routine maintenance, feed management, and location of

1 the facility. All of those play a very important role in an Odor  
2 Control Plan.

3           When I mentioned the controlled application, so Scott  
4 will be applying the manure by injection. So what we're doing is  
5 we're taking that manure, we're not putting it on top of the  
6 ground and letting it soak in. We are actually taking that  
7 manure and putting it under the ground based on nitrogen and  
8 phosphorus loading rates from actual on site data.

9           So the injection minimizes the contact with air. And  
10 it's widely accepted throughout the country as the best available  
11 technology for manure application.

12           All livestock manure will be applied by a custom  
13 applicator. So Scott's going to hire someone. And I think maybe  
14 I just misspoke when I said Scott's going to apply it. Scott's  
15 going to hire someone, a professional that does this for a  
16 living, to come in and apply this manure.

17           So the application equipment will contain safety  
18 controls. Those will include visually monitored continuously at  
19 all times during applications, emergency shut-offs, and  
20 communication between personnel available at all times.

21           So the gentlemen that are running the pumps, the  
22 gentlemen that are in the tractor, and anywhere in between will  
23 be able to communicate if there would -- if there would be a  
24 problem.

25           So going to go through a couple of pictures showing

1 different types of injection equipment.

2           So this is a manure tanker with an injection tool on  
3 the back end of it.

4           And another similar, different tool, but also an  
5 injection piece of equipment.

6           And then a third type, which has a dragline, which  
7 allows us to -- allows the farms to reach maybe different parts  
8 of the field that they couldn't otherwise.

9           As far as continuing on the Odor Control Plan,  
10 Scott's farm has at least 946 acres locally per year available  
11 for manure applications. Again, utilizing local yields. So  
12 we're going to know what each field, what those crops have been  
13 grown, what the yields have been in each field with the soil  
14 types.

15           It is anticipated that the farm would need a minimum  
16 of 425 acres based on a corn/corn rotation in this area.

17           So, you know, what we're saying here is bare minimum  
18 we would need 425 acres. We're going to have more than double  
19 that. More than double that.

20           Odor Control Plan continued. The farm will utilize  
21 regular maintenance to minimize dust originating from the  
22 facility.

23           Regular maintenance will include visual walkthroughs  
24 of the facility to ensure that there are no manure -- there is no  
25 manure buildup above the slatted floor, and walkways, and regular

1 cleaning of the fans to prevent any accumulation of dust. 06:40:52

2           The farm will be thoroughly pressure washed and 06:40:57  
3 sanitized between each production cycle. This minimizes the 06:41:01  
4 amount of odor causing particles that are able to leave the farm 06:41:04  
5 through the fans. 06:41:08

6           By just regular maintenance the farm will ensure that 06:41:09  
7 the buildings' fans operate efficiently, thus minimizing dust 06:41:14  
8 buildup and the loss of -- of those particles which carry odor 06:41:18  
9 from the farm. 06:41:24

10           Regular maintenance is known to reduce odor 06:41:25  
11 concentrations and odor intensity. 06:41:29

12           The farm has also incorporated -- or will 06:41:32  
13 incorporate, excuse me, an animal diet formulated to allow the 06:41:37  
14 most efficient utilization of proteins and nutrients in the feed. 06:41:40  
15 This practice aids in the reduction of overall odors by reducing 06:41:44  
16 excess nutrients excreted by the animals. 06:41:49

17           So basically what we're saying is we're going to -- 06:41:52  
18 the animals are going to have a feed source that allows them to 06:41:55  
19 use as much of the feed as possible; that way there's little 06:41:59  
20 coming out the other end as possible. 06:42:02

21           So we're talking about the -- kind of the last aspect 06:42:05  
22 of an Odor Control Plan. Again, the farm complies and exceeds 06:42:10  
23 all the setbacks established by the Act. 06:42:15

24           The residential setback was exceeded by 520 feet. 06:42:17

25           The populated area setback was exceeded by 14,360 06:42:22

1 feet. So running up on three miles.

06:42:27

2 So just kind of to put this in perspective. The  
3 overall Comprehensive Odor Control Plan will consist of farm  
4 location and maintenance, proper nutrition, and the injection of  
5 manure.

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6 So we've worked with Scott so that Scott will have a  
7 diligently planned and overall odor control strategy by  
8 incorporating numerous odor control technologies and techniques.

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9 The farm will also continue to look for and  
10 incorporate other technologies as they become available.

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06:43:03

11 Traffic patterns. Siting Criteria 7. So, again, we  
12 have a map of the area. And down here at the bottom you can see  
13 where we have the farm. And the planned route for trucks coming  
14 in or -- and/or leaving the farm would be north on 1800 Street  
15 and then back east on Route 136.

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16 So through the Department of Transportation we're  
17 able to get an idea of what kind of traffic patterns there  
18 actually are on those two roads.

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19 1800 Street has a weekly average of twenty-eight  
20 hundred vehicles.

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21 136 has a weekly average of thirty-two thousand two  
22 hundred vehicles.

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06:43:56

23 So what we're talking about is approximately four  
24 trucks weekly coming in and out of the farm. Will consist of  
25 less than fifteen hundredths of a percent on 1800 Street. So

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1 we're comparing the four trucks per week compared to the  
2 twenty-eight hundred that we had in the previous slide.

3 And then you're down to .02 percent on 136.

4 Scott Herndon's farm will comply with the same  
5 seasonal posted roadway limits as all other traffic in the area.

6 Siting Criteria 8: Is the farm consistent with the  
7 area?

8 The farm is consistent with the existing and planned  
9 community development of this rural agricultural area by  
10 demonstrating compliance with both zoning and setbacks.

11 In addition, the farm will meet all requirements of  
12 the Livestock Management Facilities Act.

13 I appreciate the opportunity to show you how the farm  
14 has met each of the 8 siting criteria.

15 Thank you very much.

16 MR. BIGGS: Thank you, Chris.

17 Okay. Again, my name is Nick Biggs and I am a TriOak  
18 employee working with Scott.

19 A little bit of my history, which ties into my  
20 present -- part of my presentation is I was born and raised on a  
21 diverse agriculture farm; livestock, cows, pigs, row crop, sheep.  
22 Okay?

23 I actually started working what I considered in the  
24 swine business back in 1974. That's when I actually got on a  
25 bike and rode a mile to Ed and Wilma Smith's hundred and twenty



1 sow farrow to finish operation and scooped manure up and threw it  
2 in a manure spreader and hauled it out.

3 At that time they were the biggest pig farm in the  
4 neighborhood. A hundred and twenty sows farrow to finish. But  
5 at that same time there were three other farmers within a mile of  
6 my house that had pigs also, not counting there was also several  
7 farmers that had cattle.

8 Most of the pigs -- you know. All four farmers had  
9 confinement farrowing barns. You know. Everywhere from  
10 thirty-two sows to twenty-four sows in the barn. Everything else  
11 was outside. Dry lot. Concrete lot.

12 The industry has changed a lot in the last forty-two  
13 years since then. There are no longer multiple pig farms and  
14 cattle farms on every section of ground. And that is part of the  
15 reason that -- part of my job and Al's job that we handle for the  
16 company is because there are not livestock farms, again, on every  
17 section.

18 We are actually the ones that go out and help answer  
19 the questions about new livestock barns being reintroduced into  
20 neighborhoods. Neighborhoods that may not have had livestock for  
21 a generation now.

22 Okay. There are usually about five key questions  
23 that are asked of me whenever I go out and visit with neighbors.

24 Now the second question I usually get asked is,  
25 "Where is it going to be built and why did you decide to build it

1 there?"

2 Well, working with Scott, and in Scott's case we  
3 looked at different sites. What I do, I come out and I sit down  
4 with Scott and say, "Okay. Where is your ground?"

5 Okay. "What ground do you own?" You know. And we  
6 look at the different parcels. We look at how many neighbors  
7 live around each parcel. We look at who's the closest neighbor.  
8 You know. And what direction is that neighbor. Wind flow. And  
9 also we look at access.

10 Okay. If our trucks have to come into this  
11 particular piece of ground, how are they going to get there?

12 Again, some of these questions actually pertain very  
13 closely to the siting criterias.

14 So we did that with Scott's farm. And the site we  
15 chose was actually the best site for distance from the closest  
16 neighbor, best wind direction for the closest neighbor, had the  
17 least amount of neighbors.

18 And then also it was the best site for Scott to be  
19 able to use the manure on his family owned ground.

20 And then also the access coming off of 136, it's  
21 pretty good access. You got to drive one township road down to  
22 the site.

23 So that's why we chose the site.

24 Third question I usually get is, "What's it going to  
25 do to the roads?"

1 Well, part of what Chris's presentation was, there  
2 are going to be average about four trucks, semi-trucks per week  
3 going in and out of that road.

4 And early in the process of any siting we do we  
5 actually get the local township road commissioner involved. In  
6 this case we actually got the local township road commissioner  
7 involved, and then we also sat down with the county, one of the  
8 county road guys and said, "Okay. Guys, we want to build a barn  
9 here. You tell us how you want to get us from point A to point B  
10 to service our barn."

11 And then once they determine which routes we take,  
12 our truck drivers stick to them and we follow their  
13 recommendations on the routes.

14 Fourth question I usually get asked is, "What's it  
15 going to do to my property values?" I get this asked in Illinois  
16 and Iowa. That question always comes up. Even if the guy is  
17 three miles away and has livestock of his own, he's still saying,  
18 "What's it going to do to my property values?"

19 Okay. And yes, if you look hard enough out there on  
20 the Internet you are going to find studies on both sides of that  
21 issue.

22 Now from my practical experience and Al's practical  
23 experience and discussions with different county assessors, we've  
24 actually asked them, say, "Okay. This study says this. This  
25 study says this. What do you actually see?"

1           And from our experience we see no effect on property  
2 values, no long term effects on property values, unless it's in a  
3 really high dense area, livestock area. And I'll use Sioux  
4 County, Iowa as an example. Extremely high dense area of  
5 livestock.

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6           Now the effect on the property values is actually the  
7 opposite of what some people think it is. Because in those  
8 towns, those small towns in that rural community, all the houses,  
9 the old farmhouses that get bulldozed down, and people, you know,  
10 farm over the top of them, they don't bulldoze those houses down  
11 in those neighborhoods. They go in and remodel them and live in  
12 them because there's young generations coming back to live in  
13 those houses and actually support the rural communities.

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14           So, and this is my opinion, I don't think there is an  
15 effect on property values.

06:52:01  
06:52:07

16           Okay. And in a couple of cases -- well, several  
17 cases, we actually went in and built livestock barns like Scott's  
18 and we've designated closest neighbor, wind direction and all  
19 that stuff, and then we have somebody else come in and build a  
20 brand-new house closer to the barn. So there are living examples  
21 of that.

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22           The fifth question that always comes up in the  
23 conversation is, "What are you going to do with the manure?"

06:52:34  
06:52:37

24           Well, we do have a Comprehensive Nutrient Management  
25 Plan. And the short answer of what are you going to do with the

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06:52:47

1 manure is like Chris says, we're going to grow a lot of corn and  
2 beans.

3 Okay. For every twenty pigs that we produce, those  
4 pigs are going to eat 200-bushels of corn. Okay?

5 And 200-bushels of corn will grow twenty pigs to  
6 market size.

7 Then they will -- of course what comes in the pig has  
8 to come out of the pig. We will take that manure from those  
9 twenty pigs. They will actually produce enough fertilizer to  
10 grow two hundred more bushels of corn.

11 So it is a very sustainable operation. It's been  
12 working for years and years and years. And it is a good  
13 environmental nutrient for us. For the farmers. Okay?

14 And again, like Chris said, a local commercial  
15 applicator will actually come in and inject the manure following  
16 the plan and he will utilize a dragline hose.

17 Okay. Now if you notice, I skipped the first  
18 question I usually get asked. The first question is how big the  
19 site is.

20 Yeah. Odor. Odor. People talk about odor, too.

21 But the first question is, "How big is the site going  
22 to be?"

23 Well, normally -- and that is a very important  
24 question because it affects when and where all the other  
25 questions get answered and gets talked about.

1           If the site was twenty-five hundred head, or a  
2 thousand animal units or less, we wouldn't be sitting here. You  
3 know. Because a facility that size does not require an open  
4 meeting, a public hearing. Okay?

5           So all those questions that we answer with the  
6 neighbors is generally done one-on-one or in small groups out  
7 standing by a pig barn and say, "Okay, guys. This is actually  
8 what we're building. This is what we're doing. This is how it's  
9 operated. This is how it's ran."

10          Okay. Scott and I in talking about his long range  
11 plans and what he wanted to do for his family and for his farm,  
12 it was, "Okay. Need two barns. I want to have two barns."

13          So that means two barns side-by-side. That means we  
14 get to have a meeting. Okay?

15          So we decided Scott had the final say. "Yep, I want  
16 to go through the meeting process." Because like I said, him  
17 being -- him being the responsible neighbor person -- minded  
18 person he is, that was his decision.

19          So he looked me right in the eye, and I don't know if  
20 you know Scott very well, but he always does this little nudge  
21 thing, and he looked me in the eye and nudged my shoulder and  
22 said, "Nick, I want to be straightforward and upfront with  
23 everybody knowing -- telling them what I'm doing and that I am  
24 going to do it right."

25          So that reassured me that he was absolutely the

1 person that we want to partner with in this neighborhood.

06:56:21

2 Okay. So that concludes our presentation. Al will  
3 have closing comments afterwards.

06:56:26

06:56:32

4 So again, thank you for listening to us.

06:56:33

5 MR. TEEFEY: Thank you.

06:56:37

6 Does the Facility have its presentation to enter into  
7 the record?

06:56:39

06:56:43

8 MR. WEST: You have the electronic version.

06:56:44

9 MR. TEEFEY: Okay. The Department has the electronic  
10 version of the Facility's presentation. It will be marked as  
11 Exhibit Number 3.

06:56:46

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12 Entered into the record as Exhibit Number 3 is the  
13 presentation from the Facility and its representatives.

06:56:58

06:57:00

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

06:57:03

06:57:10

16 If you have a question you would like to ask, please  
17 raise your hand, and when called upon, please state your name and  
18 spell your last name.

06:57:14

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19 Please indicate to whom you are directing your  
20 question, either to the Department or to the Facility and its  
21 representatives.

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22 Let me remind you that this portion of the meeting is  
23 limited to questions only.

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24 After this question and answer session, there will be  
25 another session dedicated to public testimony where you can

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1 provide your oral comments. So please limit this session to  
2 questions only.

3 Also, please keep in mind the questions need to  
4 pertain to this particular facility and not to the laws and  
5 regulations as a whole.

6 At this time I would like to ask if there are any  
7 questions.

8 Yes. There's a question over here on the right side  
9 of the room.

10 And please state your name, and spell your last name,  
11 and speak as loudly as possible.

12 MR. ROBERT SMITH: My name is Robert Smith. Last  
13 name is Smith, S-m-i-t-h.

14 My question would be --

15 THE REPORTER: I can't hear him.

16 MR. TEEFEY: We are going to provide -- we have a  
17 lapel microphone that if need be we can take it over.

18 MR. ROBERT SMITH: Okay. Well, my question is like  
19 when they spray the manure, sometimes, you know, if the wind  
20 direction changes, if the wind is heading towards Adair where I  
21 live, will they stop spraying, you know, for that little bit of  
22 period of time?

23 MR. TEEFEY: Is this question directed towards the  
24 Facility?

25 MR. ROBERT SMITH: Oh. The Facility, yes.



1 MR. BIGGS: Okay. When you say sprayed, we're not  
2 spraying. It will be injected. 06:59:12  
06:59:17

3 Spraying, I see that as spraying on top. It will -- 06:59:19  
4 and one thing about the umbilical cord, actually the pump goes 06:59:25  
5 into the pit, and goes out of the pump into a hose, and goes 06:59:31  
6 through the hose to an applicator on the tractor, and then goes 06:59:35  
7 straight through the hose through the applicator into the ground. 06:59:39  
8 So there should not be any spraying. 06:59:43

9 MR. ROBERT SMITH: Okay. 06:59:48

10 MR. BIGGS: But, but when they do application, you 06:59:50  
11 know, there will be more odor than normal. And, you know, I 06:59:52  
12 can't say they're going to stop, because it all -- farming is a 06:59:57  
13 very time sensitive thing. Manure application is a very time 07:00:02  
14 sensitive thing. 07:00:06

15 If it's getting late in the season and the wind's 07:00:08  
16 coming from the north/northwest or -- yeah -- towards Adair, you 07:00:10  
17 know, they're probably going to keep applying. 07:00:17

18 And the thing is the sooner they get done, the sooner 07:00:20  
19 the agitation goes away with the disk, the sooner the smell goes 07:00:24  
20 away. 07:00:29

21 MR. ROBERT SMITH: Basic thing, they're not going to 07:00:30  
22 show any consideration to the town. 07:00:32

23 MR. BIGGS: Well, Adair is three miles away? 07:00:35

24 MR. ROBERT SMITH: Yeah. It's three miles away. 07:00:41

25 MR. BIGGS: Okay. I would be very surprised if even 07:00:44

1 on an application day, the wind conditions and humidity and  
2 everything would have to be pretty much right for you to smell it  
3 in Adair at three miles away.

4 MR. ROBERT SMITH: Well, yeah.

5 MR. BIGGS: Yeah.

6 MR. ROBERT SMITH: I hope so. Thank you.

7 MR. BIGGS: Yeah. Now a little follow-up on that,  
8 sir. If, and I know this happens, is we actually talk to our  
9 growers and say, "Guys, let's not spray -- let's not spread  
10 manure come Thanksgiving weekend. You know? When we know family  
11 gatherings and everything is going on."

12 It's like, "Guys, be considerate. If you know your  
13 neighbor is having a wedding and they're having a party out  
14 there, don't be spreading manure whenever the wedding on the  
15 weekend. Go ahead and wait."

16 That's being neighborly and being considerate.

17 MR. ROBERT SMITH: Thank you.

18 MR. BIGGS: You're welcome.

19 MR. TEEFEY: Question back in the middle.

20 MR. NICK ANDERSON: Nick Anderson, A-n-d-e-r-s-o-n.

21 Nick, for the benefit of the people here tonight, so  
22 when you apply on the ground, typically there's an impact odor,  
23 but how long does it take to dissipate or what's your experience  
24 with manure application when that goes out there?

25 What does -- what kind of time does it take to

1 dissipate?

2 MR. BIGGS: Again, it depends on weather conditions  
3 and everything. Ideally, if I could have my manure applied in  
4 the morning in that day and then I get a nice gentle half inch  
5 rain that night, the next day you're not going to be smelling any  
6 manure.

7 But generally with manure application injected,  
8 especially with the umbilical cord, it's twenty-four to  
9 forty-eight hours.

10 And I've done this myself. I've had neighbors call  
11 and say, "Hey, this guy's spreading manure."

12 I said, "Okay. I'll be out there tomorrow."

13 I go out there tomorrow and I'm driving right through  
14 the field and I'm going, "Okay."

15 And the neighbor comes by and says, "Well, it smelled  
16 yesterday."

17 And I said, "Yep, it probably did. It probably  
18 smelled good yesterday."

19 So twenty-four, forty-eight hours. Again, depends on  
20 weather conditions.

21 MR. NICK ANDERSON: A follow-up question.

22 MR. BIGGS: And soil conditions.

23 MR. NICK ANDERSON: Either Chris or you can speak to  
24 this. So when we talk about the manure that's stored, and  
25 there's a volume of that, and I -- say I raise 200-bushel corn,

1 how much manure -- you know. You talked about rainfall, but how  
2 many gallons, or what is the equivalent of rainfall, the manure  
3 that goes out on a field for 200-bushel corn, based on your  
4 experience of what MP and KR in that?

5 MR. WEST: Oh, you're -- an acre inch is about twenty  
6 -- about twenty-two to twenty-four. Yes. In mid 20's a thousand  
7 gallons.

8 MR. BIGGS: Okay. An acre inch, twenty, twenty  
9 thousand gallons per acre, okay, in the manure application plan  
10 some of these fields are ranging in that -- between -- the lowest  
11 I saw was 177-bushel per acre. The highest I saw was 230 some  
12 bushel per acre.

13 So the most I saw on the plan was 6,500 gallons per  
14 acre, which would be probably a third of an inch.

15 MR. NICK ANDERSON: Okay. Thank you.

16 MR. BIGGS: Yeah. And keep in mind when we're  
17 talking about water, that manure, you know, when you're looking  
18 at a thousand gallons of manure, this wean to finish manure,  
19 there's only probably about three percent of solids in there and  
20 the other ninety-seven percent is water.

21 MR. TEEFEY: We'll go here. Black shirt and hat.

22 MR. DICK MARCOTT: My name is Dick Marcott,  
23 M-a-r-c-o-t-t. I have a question for the Facility's people.

24 What -- what does this bring to our county in terms  
25 of benefits?

1 MR. BIGGS: You want to take that one? 07:05:05

2 MR. MUHLENBRUCK: Each one of these buildings will 07:05:07  
3 generate about \$9,000 in property taxes. For the site, \$18,000 07:05:12  
4 property taxes to McDonough County. 07:05:17

5 In a little while I'll testify in terms of how many 07:05:20  
6 employees there are, but there's university research that shows 07:05:23  
7 that dollars that are generated through agriculture circulate 07:05:29  
8 within a community seven times before they leave. And -- and 07:05:33  
9 we're going to talk a little bit later. 07:05:37

10 You're going to see that this is one of the better 07:05:38  
11 economic development plans that you can put out here in a rural 07:05:41  
12 agricultural area. 07:05:45

13 MR. BIGGS: Okay. And then to follow that up. 07:05:47

14 Okay. Not -- the project is going to be more than a 07:05:49  
15 million dollars. Okay? 07:05:55

16 The concrete is going to be purchased from a local 07:05:57  
17 concrete supplier, which means there's going to be a lot of 07:06:02  
18 concrete drivers hauling a lot of concrete. 07:06:06

19 The -- 07:06:08

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Can you use the microphone, 07:06:13  
21 please? 07:06:15

22 MR. BIGGS: Sorry. 07:06:16

23 The -- the rock haulers. You know. It's going to be 07:06:17  
24 a local quarry. Local truck drivers are going to get the benefit 07:06:19  
25 of that. 07:06:23

1 The pig barn will -- this pig barn will use a whole  
2 lot of LP gas. And they'll be between fifteen and twenty  
3 thousand dollars worth of LP purchased from a local supplier  
4 every year.

5 Electric bill. There will be about fifteen to twenty  
6 thousand dollars worth of electricity used from the local REC or  
7 through your power company. So that's another part.

8 Any supplies will be purchased locally.

9 Then you start looking at the benefits of what TriOak  
10 actually pays Scott as far as payments and, you know, local -- I  
11 mean, he's going to turn right around and put that back into the  
12 community.

13 Then Al's going to talk a little bit later about and  
14 get into, okay, you got to feed the pigs. And there's a whole  
15 lot of corn and beans used. And McDonough County grows a whole  
16 lot of corn and beans.

17 MR. DICK MARCOTT: Okay. Thank you.

18 MR. BIGGS: Thank you.

19 MR. TEEFEY: Question over there in the black shirt.

20 MS. HEATHER McMEEKAN: My name is Heather McMeekan.

21 It's M-c-M-e-e-k-a-n.

22 Okay. Regards to the water usage. How many gallons  
23 of water are currently used a day by the facility?

24 MR. BIGGS: Okay. Currently today zero. It's not  
25 built.

1           Yeah. But on -- on an average, on the highest  
2 consumption day, that will be mature pigs, heat of the summer,  
3 July, a hundred and fifteen degrees, it would be about three  
4 gallons per head. So close to -- so you're talking fifteen  
5 thousand gallons of water on the worst day. Maximum consumption.

6           Okay?

7           So it's going to average probably a gallon and a half  
8 a day. So roughly seventy-five hundred gallons a day.

9           MS. HEATHER McMEEKAN: Okay. What is the source of  
10 that water?

11          MR. BIGGS: Actually, it's a deep well. We have  
12 another barn out in that area, and they have a well that  
13 produces, you know, two hundred gallons a minute. So it will be  
14 a deep well situation.

15          MS. HEATHER McMEEKAN: In times of drought is there  
16 any plan to help scale back activity at the farm if the  
17 neighbors' wells start drying up?

18          MR. BIGGS: Well, when -- good question. I deal with  
19 some well professionals over at Wellman, Iowa who dig a lot of  
20 wells. And I've asked them the question, I said, "Okay. If we  
21 have a well here, how much distance do we have to go to not  
22 affect that well?"

23          The answer they always give me is a hundred and fifty  
24 feet. If you get more than a hundred and fifty feet from this  
25 well to that well, that well's not going to affect this well over

1 here. That's from the well professionals.

07:09:45

2 So when I look at the closest neighbor being eighteen  
3 hundred and some feet away, I -- I don't think that's going to be  
4 an issue even in a severe drought on a deep well.

07:09:49

07:09:54

07:09:58

5 MS. HEATHER MCMEEKAN: Okay. In regards to spreading  
6 of the nutrients. And those will be on the fields. And does the  
7 same water source for the facility and the residents get water  
8 from what runs underneath those --

07:10:02

07:10:04

07:10:10

07:10:16

9 MR. BIGGS: The fields?

07:10:16

10 MS. HEATHER MCMEEKAN: -- the residential water?

07:10:19

11 MR. BIGGS: Yeah. Yeah. Yep. The field right  
12 around the facility will be applied on just like, you know, the  
13 other fields.

07:10:20

07:10:23

07:10:28

14 MS. HEATHER MCMEEKAN: And am I to understand that  
15 the rock that runs underneath that area is porous limestone?

07:10:30

07:10:31

16 MR. WEST: No. No.

07:10:37

17 Sorry. Couldn't see you.

07:10:39

18 No. That was the definition of what -- that karst  
19 area. There's nothing there that would -- that would be  
20 considered karst.

07:10:41

07:10:44

07:10:47

21 MR. BIGGS: Right.

07:10:49

22 MR. WEST: Because we showed the map with kind of the  
23 hatched areas on the western side of Illinois. We're a couple of  
24 counties away from that. So there was nothing in the soil  
25 borings that found anything like that.

07:10:50

07:10:53

07:10:56

07:10:59



1 MS. HEATHER MCMEEKAN: Now if there is contamination  
2 from say MRSA, antibiotic resistance, in the manure itself and  
3 it's spread over fields, which it's in a dry time and that dust  
4 is carried on the wind to residential areas with vulnerable  
5 populations, does that present a health risk?

07:11:01  
07:11:05  
07:11:12  
07:11:18  
07:11:22

6 MR. BIGGS: Well, ma'am, I'm not qualified to answer  
7 that question. And I -- I look at a question like that, that's  
8 where we're actually getting off of the criteria and you're  
9 getting into a totally different subject there that I -- I don't  
10 know for sure if that's what we're talking about here in the  
11 meeting.

07:11:25  
07:11:27  
07:11:33  
07:11:36  
07:11:41  
07:11:44

12 MS. HEATHER MCMEEKAN: Okay. That is a concern for  
13 lot of -- a lot of CAFO's, is that an increase in antibiotic  
14 resistance in --

07:11:45  
07:11:47  
07:11:56

15 MR. TEEFEY: Yes, ma'am. Ma'am, you'll have a chance  
16 to testify later --

07:11:56  
07:11:57

17 MS. HEATHER MCMEEKAN: Oh, okay.

07:11:57

18 MR. TEEFEY: -- if you want to do that. Let's do one  
19 -- if you have one more question, you may ask one more question  
20 and then we're going to move onto someone else.

07:11:57  
07:11:59  
07:12:01

21 MS. HEATHER MCMEEKAN: How many years will the  
22 facility run as -- as CAFO's?

07:12:04  
07:12:04

23 MR. BIGGS: Right now when we're constructing these  
24 facilities we're looking at a life expectancy of thirty to forty  
25 years.

07:12:10  
07:12:12  
07:12:16

1 MS. HEATHER McMEEKAN: Thirty to forty years. 07:12:16

2 MR. BIGGS: Of course, it all depends on how the 07:12:18

3 farmer takes care of them. It's just like you give two kids a 07:12:21

4 brand-new car: One of them might tear it up in five years and 07:12:24

5 the other one might make it into an antique classic. 07:12:27

6 MR. TEEFEY: Okay. Thank you, ma'am. We're going to 07:12:30

7 move onto someone else. Thank you. 07:12:32

8 Does anyone else have any other questions? 07:12:33

9 The red shirt in the back. 07:12:35

10 MR. DAVID MURPHY: My name is David Murphy, 07:12:40

11 M-u-r-p-h-y. 07:12:40

12 I may have misunderstood you. I used to run a 1066. 07:12:41

13 MR. BIGGS: Oh, yes. 07:12:41

14 MR. DAVID MURPHY: Did you say that in your Nutrient 07:12:54

15 Management Plan that you do not have a Nutrient Management plan 07:12:56

16 right now? 07:12:59

17 MR. BIGGS: No. We do. 07:13:01

18 MR. DAVID MURPHY: Okay. I misunderstood. I thought 07:13:03

19 you said you to have one within sixty days. 07:13:05

20 MR. BIGGS: That was part of Chris's presentation. 07:13:08

21 MR. WEST: That -- that is the rule; that you have to 07:13:10

22 have one within sixty days. So what I said was they're going to 07:13:12

23 meet or exceed that rule. So they do have -- 07:13:14

24 MR. DAVID MURPHY: But you do not have one now? 07:13:16

25 MR. WEST: No. That's right here. 07:13:17

1 MR. DAVID MURPHY: You do have one. 07:13:19  
2 MR. WEST: Yes. 07:13:19  
3 MR. DAVID MURPHY: Thank you. 07:13:20  
4 My second question involves the borings that you did. 07:13:20  
5 I'm assuming you have done the borings? 07:13:26  
6 MR. WEST: Yes. 07:13:28  
7 MR. DAVID MURPHY: And you found nothing in the 07:13:29  
8 hydrology below that would adversely effect where the unit is 07:13:34  
9 going to be going? 07:13:37  
10 MR. WEST: No. 07:13:38  
11 MR. DAVID MURPHY: Okay. I have one more question, 07:13:39  
12 if I can. 07:13:41  
13 Is there any plans, do you have any plan for more 07:13:42  
14 facilities on that same area? 07:13:45  
15 MR. BIGGS: No. No. 07:13:47  
16 MR. DAVID MURPHY: Okay. Thank you very much. 07:13:50  
17 MR. TEEFEY: All right. Thank you. 07:13:51  
18 Next question here in the white shirt. 07:13:53  
19 MR. ERIC MOE: My name is Eric Moe, M-o-e. 07:13:57  
20 This is directed to the Department of Agriculture. 07:14:06  
21 During construction who monitors that the specifications are 07:14:10  
22 substantially adhered to? And how is this documented? And what 07:14:14  
23 type of tests are performed? 07:14:20  
24 MR. GOETSCH: The Department under the provisions of 07:14:25  
25 the Livestock Management Facilities Act are to -- are required to 07:14:27

1 visit the site a minimum of three times: Once after the  
2 application is received to confirm setback, at least once during  
3 construction, and then at least once after construction but  
4 before the facility has been placed into service.

5 We have made the one site visit to confirm that the  
6 setbacks were being adhered to. We will -- if this facility were  
7 to be approved, we will make a minimum of at least one site  
8 inspection during construction. Usually during the concrete  
9 construction part of the facility. In many cases we'll make  
10 multiple visits.

11 The Applicant would be required to take pictures  
12 during the various phases of construction so that we can see  
13 whether the waterstops were put in appropriately, whether the  
14 reinforcement, the steel reinforcement was appropriate as it was  
15 -- or was displayed in the drawings.

16 If we find any deficiency -- oh. We also require  
17 certifications from the concrete supplier to confirm that the  
18 concrete was as per the specifications in the -- in the rule.

19 And then during that construction -- or that  
20 inspection after construction, if we see any visual signs of any  
21 problems, we require the facility to make those corrections.

22 There have been cases in the past we actually  
23 required a facility to make corrections. That has been as little  
24 as some additional caulking or some additional concrete work to I  
25 think the worst case that we've seen in the twenty years of the

1 law we actually had a facility install an additional floor in a  
2 pit because of some additional cracking that was not allowed.

3 So we take it very seriously. And we make multiple  
4 inspections. And if we see problems we require that those  
5 problems are appropriately corrected before a facility is ever  
6 allowed to be placed into service.

7 MR. ERIC MOE: Thank you. I have one more question,  
8 and it's like a four part question, to the producer.

9 Are the fields where the manure will be applied, are  
10 they tiled?

11 MR. HERNDON: Yeah. Yeah. They're tiled.

12 MR. ERIC MOE: And what was the depth of application  
13 of the -- of the applicator?

14 MR. BIGGS: Usually the injection will be four to six  
15 inches.

16 MR. ERIC MOE: Okay. Then is there a chance that the  
17 manure can go into the field tile?

18 MR. BIGGS: When you ask that question, we're  
19 substituting the manure for commercial fertilizer, so you could  
20 ask that same question of any commercial fertilizer that we put  
21 out there on the field as well that's incorporated.

22 MR. ERIC MOE: Okay. So -- so then my final part of  
23 the question: Will there be any kind of monitoring and -- and  
24 I'm speaking for the watershed. The quality of the water and the  
25 watershed.

1 Will there be any kind of monitoring that is done to 07:18:05  
2 make sure that at the outlets of the tiles that the water quality 07:18:08  
3 is -- is not damaged? 07:18:14

4 MR. BIGGS: Yeah. Sure. 07:18:17

5 MR. WEST: If you don't mind, I will jump in here. 07:18:17

6 Part of the rule that's in place now, the Illinois 07:18:20  
7 EPA actually requires exactly what you're just talking about. So 07:18:24  
8 before application you would -- you would find any of those 07:18:29  
9 outlets. You would see if there's any water running, if there's 07:18:33  
10 not. 07:18:37

11 But you would document exactly what's going on at the 07:18:37  
12 time during application and for twenty-four hours afterwards. So 07:18:41  
13 you continue that monitoring just to see if something has 07:18:45  
14 occurred. 07:18:48

15 So -- so I think maybe that does answer your 07:18:49  
16 question. That actually is required under the current law. 07:18:53

17 MR. TEEFEY: Question in the back? 07:18:59

18 MR. RICHARD CHAMBERLAIN: Richard Chamberlain, 07:18:59  
19 C-h-a-m-b-e-r-l-a-i-n. 07:18:59

20 I have a couple of questions for the Department of 07:19:18  
21 Agriculture. The dragline application is going to be used for 07:19:21  
22 the application of fertilizer? 07:19:30

23 MR. BIGGS: Yes, sir. Yes. 07:19:33

24 MR. RICHARD CHAMBERLAIN: It seems like that might be 07:19:35  
25 a weak point in this process. How often -- give me stats on how 07:19:36

1 often there's a spill related to the use of that dragline. 07:19:41

2 MR. BIGGS: Actually, when you look at the manure 07:19:46  
3 applications, I would much rather have a dragline system set up, 07:19:48  
4 umbilical cord is what we call it, versus tanks. Because you 07:19:53  
5 basically are rolling hoses out and connecting them and going 07:19:58  
6 from point A to point B. 07:20:03

7 And the manure is pumped in that hose to the tractor 07:20:05  
8 versus stirring the pit, loading it in a drop stand, which causes 07:20:13  
9 odors, drop it in the tank. Then you get in the tank. Drive the 07:20:19  
10 tractor, or whatever, down the road. Cars. Accidents. All that 07:20:23  
11 stuff. Drivers. You know. 07:20:30

12 The guy out in the field is going to have a lot less 07:20:33  
13 wrecks than the guy driving down the road. 07:20:35

14 So to me I think it's a safer method and -- 07:20:37

15 MR. RICHARD CHAMBERLAIN: That's the process. 07:20:41

16 Do you have any stats I asked you? Do you have any 07:20:42  
17 specifics about -- 07:20:42

18 MR. BIGGS: We've used this system a long time. 07:20:42

19 Yeah. 07:20:42

20 MR. RICHARD CHAMBERLAIN: So what are your statistics 07:20:52  
21 on whether -- on spills? 07:20:53

22 MR. WEST: I can't give you any exact statistics. 07:20:55

23 What I can do, tell you is my company works with farmers 07:20:57

24 throughout the entire state, and Indiana and Missouri as well. 07:21:01

25 It's extremely rare. Less than one per year for all the farmers 07:21:06

1 that I work with has what you're talking about. 07:21:10

2 So I can't tell you it's ten percent, one percent, .3 07:21:13  
3 percent. But it's extremely rare that we have an instance where 07:21:17  
4 a hose ruptures or something like that. 07:21:22

5 MR. RICHARD CHAMBERLAIN: I understand. 07:21:25

6 You mentioned that there's an emergency shutoff 07:21:26  
7 valve. So I assuming that this is something that happens 07:21:29  
8 occasionally, otherwise you wouldn't have an emergency shutoff 07:21:31  
9 valve. 07:21:35

10 MR. WEST: Well, you plan for the worst, and then if 07:21:36  
11 -- if you never use it, then great. But it's there in case 07:21:37  
12 something were to happen. 07:21:40

13 MR. RICHARD CHAMBERLAIN: Question for the Department 07:21:42  
14 of Agriculture. 07:21:43

15 Is there any setback requirements on the application 07:21:44  
16 of the fertilizer, manure, on land that's not owned by, or upon 07:21:47  
17 land owned by Scott, or land that he might be utilizing for the 07:21:52  
18 application of the manure? 07:21:57

19 MR. GOETSCH: They are a series of setback 07:21:58  
20 requirements for application, depending upon the setting itself. 07:22:02  
21 It could be from -- you know. There's an application setback. A 07:22:08  
22 surface application setback for a residence. There are setbacks 07:22:14  
23 for waterways. There are setbacks for wells. 07:22:19

24 So there are a series of setbacks that where you 07:22:23  
25 can't apply. And those will be documented in their, or required 07:22:27



1 to be documented in their management plan.

2           They'll have field maps that will have, or they're  
3 required to I should say, have those no application zones  
4 identified in each field if -- you know -- if there's a well  
5 there, if there's a neighbor's house there, if there's a  
6 waterway. There are certain areas that are excluded from  
7 application, yes.

8           MR. RICHARD CHAMBERLAIN: But in the Livestock  
9 Resource Act there's -- the Act we're talking about today --  
10 there's no setback required listed as far as application of the  
11 manure? As you have a quarter mile setback for a house. You --  
12 you could spray manure, what, two hundred feet from somebody's  
13 house and that would be okay?

14           MR. GOETSCH: No. There -- are we still talking to  
15 me?

16           MR. BIGGS: Yeah. Go ahead.

17           MR. RICHARD CHAMBERLAIN: Yeah. I'm talking to you.  
18 Yes.

19           MR. GOETSCH: Yeah. There -- well, there isn't --  
20 there is a -- it's actually under the Environmental Protection  
21 Act. There is a setback for applying next to an occupied  
22 residence. You can apply up to the property line as long as it  
23 is incorporated within twenty-four hours.

24           So what these folks are proposing where they're  
25 injecting, you could apply up to the property line adjacent to a

1 home because it is being injected, unless they have a well or any  
2 other excluded area, then that setback would cause you to not be  
3 able to apply in that area adjacent to that home.

4 MR. RICHARD CHAMBERLAIN: One last question.  
5 Scott, where is your house in relation to the  
6 facility?

7 MR. HERNDON: Probably nine miles away.

8 MR. TEEFEY: Thank you.  
9 Question in the back in the middle.

10 MR. NICK ANDERSON: Nick Anderson, A-n-d-e-r-s-o-n.

11 For the Department. And just for some clarity, I  
12 know this is new to a lot of folks, so the Department is in  
13 charge of the design criteria, the building, the process, has  
14 something to do with the livestock management training, but can  
15 you kind of explain the relationship of how EPA knows about this  
16 or that process?

17 And even though the manure application isn't in the  
18 Livestock Management Facilities with the building side of it,  
19 where does that pick up with EPA?

20 Or kind of give us that link of when you hand that  
21 off, or who has the responsibility, and what rules do they follow  
22 if they -- if they're not in the Act.

23 MR. GOETSCH: Okay. As I mentioned I think earlier,  
24 the Livestock Management Facilities Act was passed a little over  
25 twenty years ago. At the time it was being debated, the thought

1 was there really are no requirements that -- that livestock  
2 producers have to comply with prior to, you know, building a  
3 building, starting to produce. And really the only regulatory  
4 requirements were if they got into trouble; they had a spill,  
5 they had a release.

6 And at that point the provisions of the Environmental  
7 Protection Act, the Illinois Environmental Protection Act would  
8 kick in.

9 And the thought was that we need -- we were doing a  
10 disservice, I think, to the agricultural industry by not having  
11 some kind of preemptive requirements that perhaps would keep  
12 facilities and keep producers from -- from, you know, falling  
13 into trouble by giving them a set of guidelines or a set of  
14 requirements that if they adhered to it would hopefully ensure  
15 that they wouldn't get into problems.

16 And so that's really where the Livestock Management  
17 Facilities Act came from. That's where the design standards were  
18 -- were developed. That's where the setbacks came in. The  
19 educational requirements.

20 But the Act, the way it is set up is the majority of  
21 the requirements of the Act are administered by the Illinois  
22 Department of Agriculture.

23 The Livestock Management Facilities Act does not  
24 replace any of the requirements for livestock producers under the  
25 Illinois Environmental Protection Act. The intent of the LMFA is

1 to help producers site, build, and operate facilities that will  
2 be in compliance and will be able to be operated in such a way as  
3 they would not have future problems in terms of compliance with  
4 the Environmental Protection Act.

5 The Department of Agriculture was charged with the  
6 administration of the LMFA, except for a couple of manure spill  
7 reporting requirements that do automatically go to IEPA.

8 We're required to ensure compliance with all of these  
9 upfront things; and then after a facility is placed into service,  
10 they are subject to compliance with the Illinois Environmental  
11 Protection Act.

12 If they have a release, if they have some kind of  
13 operational problem, then IEPA, through their enforcement process  
14 with the Illinois Attorney General, take care of those issues.

15 There are a couple of other reoccurring charges that  
16 we have at the Department. We are required to continue the  
17 education and training of producers through the Certified  
18 Livestock Manager Program that was mentioned earlier.

19 If a facility is proposing to use an anaerobic  
20 lagoon, then we have an annual inspection that we're required to  
21 perform and we do. We don't have a lot of anaerobic lagoons  
22 built in Illinois anymore. But those that are, have been built  
23 in the last twenty years, we do continue to inspect those and  
24 ensure compliance.

25 And then we work very closely with IEPA on if we do

1 see a problem or if they've had a problem. 07:28:39

2 One example would be there was a design flaw a few 07:28:43  
3 years ago on a facility, on facilities that were being built that 07:28:45  
4 had a pipe penetration to a -- to a manure storage structure 07:28:50  
5 wall. That was identified by part of the design criteria in the 07:28:57  
6 statute. We worked with IEPA and came up with a fix. And then 07:29:01  
7 that change has been made to the statute to make sure that it 07:29:07  
8 doesn't have that problem again. 07:29:09

9 So it really is a joint program between the 07:29:11  
10 Department of Agriculture and the Illinois Environmental 07:29:16  
11 Protection Agency when it comes to the regulation of the 07:29:19  
12 livestock industry in this state. 07:29:21

13 MR. NICK ANDERSON: So those definitions of setbacks 07:29:23  
14 from wells, water, bodies, is really the Environmental Protection 07:29:25  
15 Act that their manure plan? 07:29:30

16 MR. GOETSCH: Well, there are -- there are both. 07:29:34  
17 There are setback requirements in the regulations under the LMFA 07:29:35  
18 as they relate to waste management plans that we require. 07:29:42

19 There is also a federal program called the 07:29:45  
20 Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Regulations. The CAFO 07:29:49  
21 rules that you may have heard of. And they have specific 07:29:55  
22 requirements for the utilization of manure, waste management 07:30:00  
23 planning. 07:30:04

24 You also have under the federal government, through 07:30:05  
25 NRCS, you have Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans that you 07:30:07

1 can work with FSA and NRCS to have developed. 07:30:13

2 Our challenge has always been between these three or 07:30:19  
3 four agencies making sure that producers only have to do one plan 07:30:22  
4 that meets all those requirements. And that's usually why 07:30:28  
5 producers like this one is proposing to use a Comprehensive 07:30:31  
6 Nutrient Management Plan that's consistent with the requirements 07:30:37  
7 of NRCS, which then are also consistent with the requirements in 07:30:39  
8 the LMFA, as well as the Illinois Environmental Protection Act. 07:30:43

9 MR. NICK ANDERSON: Thank you. 07:30:49

10 MR. GOETSCH: I'm sorry. That was kind of an 07:30:50  
11 alphabet soup. 07:30:53

12 MR. MUHLENBRUCK: If I may, I would like to interject 07:30:54  
13 one thing here. 07:30:55

14 The State of Illinois' EPA also comes to these 07:30:56  
15 facilities and provides inspection services. And we've been 07:30:59  
16 involved with -- on -- with several of those inspection services 07:31:02  
17 with our growers. 07:31:08

18 They come out. They -- they check the facility. 07:31:08  
19 They check the manure management plans. And they audit them to 07:31:09  
20 make sure the right amount of manure is going on the acres. 07:31:13

21 And -- and so it's not like once these facilities are 07:31:17  
22 done there's no more oversight, because there is by the state and 07:31:19  
23 there's also through TriOak. 07:31:24

24 MR. TEEFEY: All right. There's a question over 07:31:26  
25 there in the red shirt. 07:31:27

1 MS. SANDY SMITH: Hi. Sandy Smith. Adair.

07:31:36

2 S-m-i-t-h.

07:31:36

3 One question to the agriculture people. One -- just  
4 refresh my memory. How far apart are hog confinements right now?

07:31:43

07:31:48

5 We have a hog confinement just on the south side of  
6 136 right now.

07:31:51

07:31:57

7 And is this one being built on the north side of 136?

07:31:58

8 And how far apart is that?

07:32:02

9 And my second question is to the producers. What  
10 kind of -- we're worrying about the manure, and we're worrying  
11 about the water, and we're worrying about everything but the  
12 pigs.

07:32:04

07:32:07

07:32:11

07:32:15

13 How are we managing the welfare and care of the pigs  
14 before they go to slaughter, unfortunately?

07:32:16

07:32:19

15 MR. GOETSCH: Well, I'm not -- the first part of your  
16 question, I think that was to us?

07:32:24

07:32:27

17 MS. SANDY SMITH: Yes.

07:32:29

18 MR. GOETSCH: Is that right?

07:32:29

19 Well, that goes to the definition of a livestock  
20 management facility and a livestock waste handling facility. And  
21 really what it amounts to is if -- if the facilities are owned by  
22 the same entity they have to be separated by at least a quarter  
23 of a mile for them to be considered separate sites.

07:32:29

07:32:34

07:32:37

07:32:44

07:32:48

24 If they were -- if they are located within a quarter  
25 of a mile of each other under the same ownership, they can be --

07:32:52

07:32:55

1 they would be considered one site.

07:33:00

2 If they are separate ownership, then they are  
3 separate sites.

07:33:02

07:33:07

4 So you could have a father and a son. You could have  
5 an uncle and a cousin. You could have totally unrelated people.

07:33:07

07:33:10

6 But if -- if the ownership is different, then they  
7 are separate sites.

07:33:16

07:33:20

8 If the ownership is the same, they have to be  
9 separated by more than a quarter of a mile to be considered  
10 separate sites.

07:33:21

07:33:24

07:33:27

11 MS. SANDY SMITH: So you're saying that the two  
12 facilities are owned by two different people; therefore, they  
13 meet the requirements of being the right amount of miles away,  
14 apart?

07:33:29

07:33:31

07:33:34

07:33:39

15 MR. GOETSCH: I'm not -- I'm not aware of the other  
16 site that you are talking about. I was at the site, the proposed  
17 site today. And I apologize, I did not -- I was not aware that  
18 there was a second facility. So I am not sure what you're  
19 talking about.

07:33:40

07:33:41

07:33:44

07:33:50

07:33:54

20 MR. BIGGS: Want me to answer that?

07:33:55

21 MS. SANDY SMITH: Okay. Go ahead.

07:33:56

22 MR. BIGGS: Ma'am?

07:33:57

23 Ma'am, actually that second facility you're talking  
24 about is owned by a totally different farmer. And it is actually  
25 probably between three-quarters and a mile away from where this

07:33:59

07:34:01

07:34:06



1 one is going to be built.

2 MS. SANDY SMITH: And about the welfare of the pigs.  
3 How is that being managed?

4 MR. MUHLENBRUCK: Hard to see here, but animal  
5 welfare is something that we take as a company incredibly with --  
6 with a -- we lose sleep worrying about animal welfare issues.

7 We've set up training systems within the company  
8 where one of two people goes out and they'll work with Scott and  
9 will train him in terms of what is expected in terms of keeping  
10 the pigs healthy and happy.

11 Then the next step is Scott will go through, and all  
12 the caretakers, what's called the Pork Quality Assurance Plus  
13 Program. The Pork Quality Assurance Plus Program deals with  
14 antibiotics, how they're injected, their records, so that we know  
15 which pigs got treated on what day for what disease.

16 Our corporate veterinarians work with local  
17 veterinarians to oversee the process so that none of this is  
18 given if it's not needed.

19 And -- and then we have a -- an auditing system  
20 internally that goes and does spot checks. And that -- that  
21 audit then, or that person, is overseeing: Number one, the  
22 grower; and number two, our field staff who are out there on a  
23 regular basis helping to make sure that everything is being done  
24 right.

25 In addition to that, the swine industry has come up

1 with what's called a common industry audit. And what we found  
2 was there were -- there were some people that were trying to pat  
3 themselves on the back saying, you know, they were better than  
4 everybody else.

5 Well, at the end of the day the industry needed some  
6 consistency.

7 So TriOak has trained all of its production people,  
8 all of the staff in terms of what you have to do to comply with  
9 the audit, all the recordkeeping.

10 And then we had third party investigators or auditors  
11 come in and spot check. They'll say, hey, we're going to this  
12 site and away they go. And every site that TriOak has had has  
13 passed with one hundred percent.

14 So it is something we take very seriously.

15 MS. SANDY SMITH: Thank you.

16 MR. TEEFEY: Thank you.

17 Question in the back?

18 MS. MICHELLE LANGHOUT: Hello. Good evening. My  
19 name is Michelle Langhout. I'm a reporter with --

20 THE REPORTER: I can't understand you. You're too --

21 MR. TEEFEY: Yeah. Slow down, if you could, please.

22 MS. MICHELLE LANGHOUT: My name is Michelle Langhout.  
23 I'm a reporter with the McDonough County Voice.

24 MR. TEEFEY: Can you spell your last name?

25 MS. MICHELLE LANGHOUT: Sure. L-a-n-g-h-o-u-t.

1 MR. BIGGS: Ma'am? 07:37:08

2 MS. MICHELLE LANGHOUT: Yes. 07:37:08

3 MR. BIGGS: Could you slow down a little bit? 07:37:09

4 MS. MICHELLE LANGHOUT: I apologize for that. Yes. 07:37:15

5 I have a couple of questions related to the siting 07:37:20

6 criteria. 07:37:23

7 In number 2 -- yes. Number 2. "The design, 07:37:26

8 location, or proposed operation will protect the environment by 07:37:32

9 being consistent with the Livestock Management Facilities Act." 07:37:36

10 I have a question about the operation. You mentioned 07:37:40

11 -- you mentioned -- I think this might want to go -- this is 07:37:44

12 actually probably for both the industry and for the Department. 07:37:46

13 I understand that the Department has inspectors to 07:37:52

14 look at the facility, to check the facility, is that correct? 07:38:00

15 Okay. How many inspectors do you have for the state? 07:38:03

16 MR. GOETSCH: I believe right now we have six. 07:38:12

17 MS. MICHELLE LANGHOUT: Okay. How many facilities 07:38:15

18 are there in the state? 07:38:16

19 MR. GOETSCH: At any one time I believe we probably 07:38:22

20 have a hundred to a hundred and twenty. Maybe as many as a 07:38:29

21 hundred and fifty projects in a year that we have to oversee. So 07:38:34

22 at any one time we probably have a couple of dozen that are -- 07:38:38

23 something is going on with. 07:38:46

24 MS. MICHELLE LANGHOUT: Okay. When you do your -- 07:38:49

25 excuse me. When you do your inspections, do you announce before 07:38:52

1 you come out?

07:38:56

2 MR. GOETSCH: Not necessarily. I mean, we do try and  
3 adhere to a certain amount of biosecurity issues because we don't  
4 want to -- you know. We can't go to two or three active  
5 facilities in a day.

07:38:59

07:39:02

07:39:09

07:39:13

6 If -- if it's a completely virgin site, like this one  
7 is proposed to be, we could possibly hit it when we were coming  
8 from another one, but because of biosecurity issues we're limited  
9 sometimes on the -- on how many facilities that we could visit in  
10 a week.

07:39:16

07:39:19

07:39:23

07:39:28

07:39:33

11 MS. MICHELLE LANGHOUT: I guess a better question  
12 would be: Do you ever do any unannounced visits?

07:39:34

07:39:36

13 MR. GOETSCH: Yes.

07:39:40

14 MS. MICHELLE LANGHOUT: Okay. For the -- for the  
15 industry: Do you -- do you monitor compliance with your two  
16 programs, your PQA and your TQA?

07:39:41

07:39:42

07:39:46

17 MR. GOETSCH: Yes.

07:39:46

18 MS. MICHELLE LANGHOUT: The PQA is your -- your  
19 quality assurance related to the medications, et cetera, that you  
20 give, is that right?

07:39:49

07:39:53

07:39:59

21 MR. MUHLENBRUCK: Actually, PQA encompasses animal  
22 well-being, euthanasia, feed and feed medications, recordkeeping.

07:39:59

07:40:03

23 Help me, Nick. There's ten.

07:40:10

24 Ventilation. Making sure that the air and the fans  
25 and inlets are all working properly.

07:40:15

07:40:18

1           It is designed to make sure -- environment. Manure  
2 application. MMP are things that round out the ten. 07:40:21

3           That is to ensure that all the people who are working 07:40:26  
4 with those pigs on those sites have the training and that they 07:40:30  
5 are consistent with the company's and the industry standards. 07:40:33  
6 07:40:36

7           It would take what is in the Livestock Management 07:40:41  
8 Facilities Act to a much higher level. 07:40:45

9           MS. MICHELLE LANGHOUT: And the TQA? 07:40:47

10          MR. MUHLENBRUCK: TQA is for transportation. You 07:40:50  
11 know, a number of years ago when people were hauling, you know, 07:40:55  
12 twenty pigs into a buying station and then they laid in the 07:41:00  
13 buying station under a wet mister for an hour or two before they 07:41:03  
14 got on a semi before they went to a plant to get harvested, that 07:41:07  
15 was all pretty laid back, or normal -- or easy activity, I should 07:41:10  
16 say, for pigs. 07:41:14

17          Now at the facilities we're hauling these pigs in 07:41:15  
18 semis, so that requires training for the people that load the 07:41:17  
19 pigs so that they know how many pigs to try and move at one time. 07:41:21

20          It reduces or restricts the amount of physical force, 07:41:26  
21 if you will, pushing the pigs. 07:41:34

22          And it's designed to make sure that those pigs all 07:41:37  
23 live to get to the packing plant. 07:41:40

24          MS. MICHELLE LANGHOUT: And I'm sorry. I didn't 07:41:45  
25 catch your name either. 07:41:46

26          MR. MUHLENBRUCK: Al Muhlenbruck. 07:41:47

1 MS. MICHELLE LANGHOUT: Al Muhlenbruck? 07:41:47

2 Thank you. What veterinarian service do you use? 07:41:51

3 MR. MUHLENBRUCK: You're getting into the trenches 07:41:58

4 and I can't answer that. Our -- our head veterinarian is a 07:41:59

5 veterinarian associated with Iowa State University. 07:42:05

6 And then he works with -- with a panel of 07:42:08

7 veterinarians, actually, when they're starting to work on some of 07:42:11

8 these problem issues that -- when PED came up we went to as high 07:42:14

9 a level of knowledge as we could possibly find. 07:42:19

10 And then he will call veterinarians in the areas if 07:42:21

11 he's not available, you know, just to go out and take a look at a 07:42:25

12 group of pigs and send whatever samples that need to be mailed 07:42:31

13 in. 07:42:36

14 MS. MICHELLE LANGHOUT: One final question. How many 07:42:38

15 people do you have overseeing your site? 07:42:39

16 I'm sorry. Let me back that up. 07:42:44

17 You mentioned that you have people who check for 07:42:46

18 compliance, is that right? 07:42:49

19 MR. MUHLENBRUCK: Yes. 07:42:51

20 MS. MICHELLE LANGHOUT: Okay. How many facilities do 07:42:55

21 you have to check and how many personnel do you have to do that? 07:42:58

22 MR. MUHLENBRUCK: We've got -- 07:43:04

23 MR. BIGGS: You've got to include our individual 07:43:07

24 growers on that. Each one of those is responsible. 07:43:10

25 MR. MUHLENBRUCK: Each one of the growers is 07:43:11

1 responsible for their set of pigs. Each one of those growers or  
2 each one of those sites has been assigned a fieldman,  
3 fieldperson. We've got a lot of ladies working for us, too. And  
4 it's their charge then to help get these pigs started.

5           You know, Nick talked about the water consumption.  
6 These pigs are going to go in there weighing twelve pounds.  
7 Little babies. So, you know, in those first early stages we have  
8 our staff teach folks how to find out which are the pigs that are  
9 at risk, which pigs need to be moved to a hospital pen.

10           In addition then to the field staff we've got  
11 regional staff. And those are the people that probably have the  
12 most communication between the corporate vet and what's happening  
13 in the field.

14           And the line of communication is if Scott has a  
15 problem with a set of pigs and our grower -- and our fieldman  
16 isn't supposed to be there for a couple of days, he picks up the  
17 phone and he says, "Hey, Joe. Something isn't right."

18           So Joe goes out and Joe may take a look at a few pigs  
19 and say, "You're right. Something isn't right." And immediately  
20 the phone chain starts.

21           You know. It's our goal the -- the quicker we can  
22 get on the situation, the better it is obviously for the pigs,  
23 but it's also better for all the people involved.

24           MR. TEEFEY: All right. Thank you.

25           Any other questions?

1 In the blue shirt? 07:44:36

2 MR. DANA WALKER: Dana Walker, W-a-l-k-e-r. And I am 07:44:46  
3 the President of Environmentally Concerned Citizens and the La 07:44:46  
4 Moine River Ecosystem Partnership, but I'm not speaking for them; 07:44:55  
5 just for myself tonight. 07:44:56

6 I have a question for Mr. West. And -- can you hear 07:44:58  
7 me? 07:45:01

8 MR. WEST: Yep. I can hear you, sir. 07:45:01

9 MR. DANA WALKER: Yes. I wrote waste management 07:45:04  
10 plans for the U.S. Department of Agriculture in the 1980's, 07:45:06  
11 granted that's thirty years ago, but my calculations come up to 07:45:09  
12 about five times the number of acres to apply manure to as what 07:45:14  
13 you quoted, the 425. 07:45:19

14 So my question would be: How many years are you 07:45:21  
15 figuring on before you exceed the phosphorus test level of 300 in 07:45:25  
16 your manure application? 07:45:33

17 MR. WEST: Well, I -- it depends on which number 07:45:34  
18 you're looking at. So -- and I saw your eyes light up during the 07:45:37  
19 presentation and -- and you and I have had this conversation 07:45:41  
20 before. 07:45:44

21 If -- one of the numbers that I quoted was 425 acres. 07:45:47  
22 And I said if you -- the very, very minimum. So that is the 07:45:51  
23 maximum amount of phosphorus buildup that you can have by law. 07:45:57  
24 That's what that would include. 07:46:02

25 So this plan is written both to the Department of Ag 07:46:05



1 requirements, the EPA requirements, and I believe the company  
2 that you're -- the organization you used to work for, the NRCS.

3 So if we're looking at the amount of acres that's  
4 available, we're not talking about buildup of phosphorous.

5 So you talked about in the 80's. A lot of things  
6 have changed as far as both -- the nutrient analysis of a -- of a  
7 gallon of manure has changed significantly in just the last ten  
8 years, let alone going back forty years, almost forty years.

9 The crop yields have changed significantly.

10 So I think we're talking about a different era  
11 altogether. So the numbers that I quoted are absolutely correct  
12 and more than easily sustainable.

13 MR. DANA WALKER: Let me see if I heard you right.  
14 You say there is no buildup of phosphorous under your plan?

15 MR. WEST: No. There -- there is enough acres so  
16 there would not be any. Correct. There's enough acres available  
17 out there so that there wouldn't necessarily have to be any  
18 buildup of phosphorus.

19 MR. MUHLENBRUCK: Can I interject one thing?

20 I've got as much gray hair as you have. And when I  
21 look back at my history, I -- I started in field sales back in  
22 the mid 70's after college and then I came to work for TriOak in  
23 the 80's.

24 But back then a typical pig had to eat four pounds of  
25 feed to put on a pound of gain.

1 Today, two and a half pounds of feed puts on a pound  
2 of gain. 07:47:37

3 Back then none of the phosphorus that was in the corn  
4 and beans was available to that pig. Since we now have enzymes  
5 that we can add to the diet, we don't put nearly the amount of  
6 phosphorus in the feed that we used to. 07:47:42  
07:47:46  
07:47:51

7 And back then we used to change the feed three, maybe  
8 four times between the time the pig was weaned and the day we  
9 sold him. Today he gets nine diets. That's because we don't  
10 want to waste money on extra nutrients that just go right through  
11 him. 07:47:55  
07:47:57  
07:48:00  
07:48:03  
07:48:07

12 MR. DANA WALKER: Yeah. I still want to nail this  
13 down. Are you telling me that if you went and test out there now  
14 at 60 and you apply all this manure on the 425 acres of land the  
15 P1 test will not go up? 07:48:11  
07:48:12  
07:48:14  
07:48:17  
07:48:22

16 MR. WEST: No. That's exactly not what I did say. 07:48:24

17 I said if we looked at the very minimum, there would  
18 be a buildup that -- that would be allowed by the current  
19 regulations. 07:48:27  
07:48:32  
07:48:35

20 If you utilized the very minimum amount of acres that  
21 I said in the presentation, there would be a buildup of  
22 phosphorus. That is allowable by the regulations. 07:48:36  
07:48:38  
07:48:42

23 What I -- what I said after that was there's more  
24 than enough acres out there that would be available to use to  
25 apply this manure so that there would not be a buildup of 07:48:46  
07:48:49  
07:48:53

1 phosphorus.

2 MR. DANA WALKER: So you would be putting on more --  
3 you -- you would use more acres than 425 is what you're saying.

4 MR. WEST: I said yes. Yes. So that's what I said.  
5 The very minimum that that -- that would be.

6 So what I was trying to get across is this is how  
7 many we could use. This is how many we have available. So more  
8 than double the amount of acres that we would need by current  
9 regulations.

10 MR. TEEFEY: Thank you.

11 Any other questions?

12 Black shirt?

13 MR. JEROME ANDERSON: Hi. My name is Jerome  
14 Anderson, A-n-d-e-r-s-o-n. A couple of questions.

15 First one for the Department. Could you explain  
16 about the rules and regulations that apply to facilities that are  
17 already in place as far as expansion, what notifications, what  
18 permits are required at that time, what the flexibility is for  
19 operators with that kind of expansion?

20 MR. GOETSCH: If a facility -- well, in terms of --  
21 in terms of expansion, a facility that truly is characterized by  
22 expansion, they're already in existence, they're expanding,  
23 they're expanding but they're not expanding enough that they're  
24 now characterized as a totally new facility, and that's where you  
25 get into the fifty percent of the fixed capital cost of a

1 comparable entirely new facility.

2           Okay. Let me -- let me start over.

3           You can expand a facility as long as you do not  
4 expand it beyond fifty percent of the fixed capital cost of a  
5 comparable entirely new facility. If your expansion is less than  
6 that, then you are an expansion.

7           All you would have to do is file a notice of intent  
8 to construct that discloses all this information, file your  
9 construction plans and specifications, adhere to the -- all the  
10 other parts of the statute, but you would not have to -- you  
11 would not be subject to additional setback compliances other than  
12 the -- I can't think of the exact term. You have to be closer to  
13 the -- your existing facility than you are to a neighbor. That's  
14 called the maximum feasible location requirement. And there  
15 would be no additional notifications.

16           If you exceed that fifty percent of the fixed capital  
17 cost of a comparable entirely new facility, you are deemed to be  
18 a new facility. Like you weren't there at all and you're  
19 building it all from new, you have to do all the same filings.

20           But if you're above a thousand animal units you have  
21 to notify the county board, you have to send copies to your  
22 neighbors, all of those things.

23           So what it boils down to is if you are an expansion  
24 under the definitions in the statute, you don't have to comply  
25 with additional setbacks and you don't have to provide additional

1 notices. You just are -- you just have to comply with the  
2 construction standards, the notice of intent to construct, those  
3 kind of things.

4 MR. JEROME ANDERSON: Okay. Next question is posed  
5 to the operators.

6 What's the estimated weight of your trucks, feed  
7 trucks, animal trucks going up and down the road there on 136?

8 MR. BIGGS: When loaded, you know, we're looking at  
9 seventy-two to -- sorry.

10 When loaded we're looking at seventy-two thousand to  
11 eighty thousand pounds.

12 MR. JEROME ANDERSON: Next question also for you.  
13 What are your plans for processing euthanized animals, let's say  
14 sick animals that have to be put down?

15 MR. BIGGS: Actually, we're going to utilize the  
16 compost facility.

17 MR. JEROME ANDERSON: That would be inside or  
18 outside?

19 MR. BIGGS: Outside. It will be an outside compost  
20 facility.

21 MR. JEROME ANDERSON: Could you explain a little bit  
22 how that works?

23 MR. BIGGS: How that works is basically you utilize  
24 organic material, preferably sawdust. You -- and this is put on  
25 a -- it will be a concrete facility. Basically concrete poured

1 walls.

2           Then you actually put the animals in there. You put  
3 a layer of sawdust or other carbon material in there. You bed  
4 the animals in it. And then you cover up the animals with ten --  
5 ten inches to a foot of compost.

6           And what that does, I don't know how many farmers are  
7 here, but what compost does is very similar to baling wet hay.  
8 And if you bail wet alfalfa hay or any wet hay it will start to  
9 heat.

10           And the exact same thing happens whenever you put a  
11 pig in between two blankets of compost material. With the  
12 moisture from the pig and the moisture in the sawdust and that  
13 closed area, it will actually -- basically slow cooks the pig.  
14 The compost will get up to be about a hundred and forty-five  
15 degrees, which if you look at your crock pot, you know, that's  
16 not too much warmer than the crock pot.

17           But it basically slow cooks the animal and it  
18 decomposes. That's what it does. It decomposes.

19           MR. JEROME ANDERSON: This will be on the premises?

20           MR. BIGGS: Yes, it will be on the premises. Yep.

21           MR. TEEFEY: Thank you.

22           Question in the back row?

23           MR. LARRY MOORE: Larry Moore, M-o-o-r-e.

24           The amount of acres that you're talking about using  
25 for the manure, I believe Scott's only got a hundred acres there

1 where he owns. I was curious where he's going to obtain the  
2 additional acres.

3 MR. BIGGS: We're going to have additional acres from  
4 a neighbor.

5 MR. LARRY MOORE: Is that secured in writing?

6 MR. BIGGS: Yes.

7 MR. LARRY MOORE: Okay. I've got a residence that's  
8 about a mile and a half northwest of the current barn that's  
9 there, and they have troubles the whole time, but sometimes in  
10 the evening they can't raise their windows because of the odor.

11 Is there something not being done at that barn that  
12 should be done, or is that just part of being around a hog barn?

13 MR. BIGGS: There are certain times of the day, of  
14 the year, and when you're talking about usually high humidity,  
15 low air movement, and there is no stirring going on of the air,  
16 yeah, there could possibly be odors. Yeah.

17 And the facility you are talking about is actually  
18 one of our very good producers. They do everything we ask them  
19 to do they do in writing.

20 So they clean the facility. And, yeah, if you're  
21 smelling it, yeah, that is one of the side effects of having a  
22 pig barn in your neighborhood.

23 MR. LARRY MOORE: Currently the family that lives  
24 there has a nine year old daughter that has migraine headaches  
25 and has to use an inhaler.

1           If those symptoms get worse with the barns, with  
2 every building you build in that area, you increase the exposure  
3 because of the change of the wind direction, maybe blowing from  
4 one one day, the other one the next day.

5           Who would be responsible for that?

6           MR. BIGGS: Don't have a good answer for you on that  
7 one.

8           MR. LARRY MOORE: That's --

9           MR. BIGGS: You know, I look at that -- I look at  
10 migraines and I -- I've heard the argument before. You know.  
11 I've had a health challenged relative or whatever. My sympathy  
12 goes out to them.

13           I look at, you know, a mile and a half away, and  
14 you're saying the pig barn causes the health challenge?

15           I -- I guess I would debate that.

16           MR. LARRY MOORE: Well, I mean, I'm not saying that  
17 that's what's causing it now, but I'm saying if the symptoms get  
18 worse and they come back, that that's what causing it, who would  
19 be responsible?

20           MR. BIGGS: The thing is you're asking me a question  
21 I can't answer because we could not build a pig barn and the  
22 symptoms get worse. And then what are you going to blame it on?

23           MR. TEEFEY: Mr. Moore, do you have any questions  
24 about this particular facility?

25           MR. LARRY MOORE: The facility they're proposing?



1 MR. TEEFEY: Correct. 07:57:51

2 MR. LARRY MOORE: That -- that was my question. 07:57:52

3 MR. TEEFEY: Okay. 07:57:53

4 MR. LARRY MOORE: That's my concern is with -- with 07:57:55  
5 the additional barns in the area, you know, you're only talking a 07:57:57  
6 mile apart, you're increasing exposure to the neighborhood to 07:58:01  
7 these odors and health concerns. I'm just looking out for this 07:58:07  
8 family. 07:58:13

9 MR. TEEFEY: Again, do you have any further 07:58:13  
10 questions? 07:58:15

11 MR. MUHLENBRUCK: I've got a statement I would like 07:58:16  
12 to make along those lines. 07:58:18

13 Back in the early 90's when a lot of these 07:58:19  
14 confinement units started popping up around the country, there's 07:58:22  
15 a gentleman by the name of Dr. Kendall Thu at the University of 07:58:26  
16 Iowa that was bound and determined that he was going to prove 07:58:29  
17 that all of these livestock facilities were the root of all the 07:58:32  
18 illness in the country. 07:58:35

19 To make a long story short, six years later he found 07:58:36  
20 nothing and he's no longer at the University of Iowa. 07:58:39

21 MR. LARRY MOORE: If -- if we take -- get appraisals 07:58:46  
22 on property now and appraisals two years from now and it comes 07:58:48  
23 back there has been a decrease in property values, is that -- I 07:58:54  
24 know you said you have -- it doesn't always turn out that way, 07:59:00  
25 but -- 07:59:05

1 MR. BIGGS: Well, sir, right now if the price of corn  
2 and beans stay where they're at, I can almost guarantee you that  
3 your property's not going to be worth what it is today two years  
4 down the road. Okay?

5 There's a lot of things that affects property values  
6 other than a livestock facility in the neighborhood. And it's  
7 not just whether or not there's a livestock -- a farmer building  
8 a pig barn is not the only influence on your property values.  
9 There's a lot of other things that have a whole lot more.

10 You look at the U.S. economy. You know. Who's going  
11 to win the election? You know. That's going to affect property  
12 values out in a rural neighborhood like yours, you know, more  
13 than a pig barn being built on Scott's farm.

14 MR. LARRY MOORE: I would disagree with you.

15 MR. BIGGS: That's the great thing about America.

16 MR. LARRY MOORE: That's my --

17 MR. TEEFEY: You'll have an opportunity to give that  
18 testimony later if you so feel.

19 If you have one more question.

20 MR. LARRY MOORE: I got one more question.

21 MR. TEEFEY: You may do one more question.

22 MR. LARRY MOORE: If this meeting here tonight was on  
23 Scott's want to have this and this is part of -- why did I have  
24 to get seventy-five signatures to get this approved and get this  
25 going?

1                   Why did the county board vote not to have it? 08:00:29

2                   MR. TEEFEY: I don't think that is a question that is 08:00:33  
3 at the -- that can be answered at this particular meeting. It's 08:00:34  
4 not the point of this meeting. 08:00:38

5                   Thank you. 08:00:39

6                   Yes. That's a question that maybe the county board 08:00:44  
7 could answer at a different time. 08:00:46

8                   All right. I saw a -- question back there in the 08:00:48  
9 red. 08:00:48

10                  MR. DAVID MURPHY: David Murphy again. 08:00:57

11                  Since it appears that basically you are going to be 08:01:01  
12 managing the facility, have you ever been cited by the EPA; and 08:01:03  
13 if so, for what? 08:01:08

14                  MR. BIGGS: Yes, we have. 08:01:13

15                  MR. DAVID MURPHY: And what was the adjudication? 08:01:17

16                  MR. BIGGS: And when Warren mentioned the -- how they 08:01:20  
17 worked with the EPA and changed the building structure where the 08:01:24  
18 waterline was running through the pit, that was actually a common 08:01:28  
19 practice in construction, and unfortunately it was one of our 08:01:32  
20 facilities, one of our growers. 08:01:36

21                  I was actually the one that walked along the barn and 08:01:38  
22 go, "Oh, my God. You know. We've got a problem." 08:01:41

23                  I was the one that picked up the phone and called the 08:01:46  
24 EPA and said, "Eric, this is Nick Biggs. We got a problem. 08:01:49  
25 We're dealing with it this way." 08:01:56

1 So, yeah, there were repercussions to that and there  
2 were solutions. You know. We knew the industry had a problem  
3 when we saw this. And that design has been fixed. They no  
4 longer take the waterline through the -- through the pit wall and  
5 go up under the office. The waterline comes up on the outside.

6 So it was a problem. We addressed it.

7 And same way. Same way. If we ever have a problem,  
8 if there's an accident happens, yeah, we're the ones that stand  
9 up and say, hey, guys, here's the problem. This happened.

10 And the thing is, manure spills, for example. They  
11 do happen. We do have -- we actually educate our growers. Okay.  
12 If this happens, if that tank rolls over in the ditch, very first  
13 thing you do, block up the ditch.

14 So we have processes involved.

15 MR. DAVID MURPHY: Absolutely. I just wanted to know  
16 how many times you've been cited, how many facilities. I mean, I  
17 realize how many facilities you've got.

18 MR. BIGGS: We have a lot of facilities.

19 MR. MUHLENBRUCK: We weren't really cited. It was  
20 the grower.

21 MR. BIGGS: Yeah. We -- yeah, that's true. We  
22 weren't really cited. It was the grower that was actually cited.  
23 But we're their partner, so we take ownership as well.

24 MR. MUHLENBRUCK: In addition to that, following the  
25 instance that Nick was talking about, we hired a concrete expert

1 who serves on our staff. And in addition to the Department of Ag  
2 inspections on these construction projects, Dave Blankenbach is  
3 his name, he is out there checking and making sure the rebar's  
4 right, that the --

5 MR. BIGGS: Probably every other day.

6 MR. MUHLENBRUCK: That all of the construction is  
7 right.

8 Also, when you start talking about these issues, the  
9 emergency management plans are part of the PQA. So when these  
10 new farmers, or new growers start, they fill out, "Okay. Who do  
11 I notify if a pig gets sick? Who do I notify if there's an  
12 environmental issue?"

13 It gets right down to --

14 MR. BIGGS: Who do I notify if I need a trackhoe, a  
15 backhoe? All of that.

16 MR. DAVID MURPHY: My question is real simple. How  
17 many times have you been cited in the last five years?

18 MR. BIGGS: In the last five years?

19 MR. DAVID MURPHY: Yeah.

20 MR. MUHLENBRUCK: I don't believe any.

21 MR. BIGGS: I don't think any.

22 MR. DAVID MURPHY: Okay. Thank you.

23 MR. BIGGS: Yeah. I guess I didn't hear the five  
24 years, the last five years part.

25 MR. TEEFEY: We are going to go ahead and take a ten

1 minute break. I realize there are still some questions. We've  
2 been going at it for about two hours now.

3 We're going to take a ten minute break and we will  
4 come back and we will continue the question and answer session of  
5 this meeting.

6 So we will -- looks like it's about 8:03. We will  
7 say let's come back here at 8:13 and reconvene with our question  
8 and answer session.

9 (A recess was taken.).

10 MR. TEEFEY: If you would go ahead and find your seat  
11 we're going to get started here very shortly. It's 8:20. So we  
12 would like you to find a seat so we can get started. I know we  
13 have a few more questions.

14 Okay. We are back on the record. It is 8:20. I  
15 know that we have a few more questions.

16 We also have about thirteen people signed up to give  
17 oral testimony. So we would like to get through the question  
18 session. We want to take all -- any questions you have, but if  
19 we could kind of get the questions out of the way, that would be  
20 great.

21 So if you have any burning questions we will take  
22 those now and continue our question session.

23 There in the black shirt.

24 MS. HEATHER McMEEKAN: This is just a really --

25 THE REPORTER: I need a name, ma'am.

1 MS. HEATHER McMEEKAN: Oh, sorry. Heather McMeekan  
2 again. M-c-M-e-e-k-a-n.

3 If the Bernedotte CAFO is approved --

4 THE REPORTER: I'm sorry. If the what?

5 MS. HEATHER McMEEKAN: Bernedotte.  
6 B-e-r-n-e-d-o-t-t-e.

7 MR. TEEFEY: And is that the -- are you referring to  
8 the livestock facility that's in question at this particular  
9 hearing?

10 MS. HEATHER McMEEKAN: Well, I just -- because  
11 they're on the other side of Adair on the east side, I just  
12 wondered how many miles between these two CAFO's, this one and  
13 that one, would end up being.

14 MR. TEEFEY: It is a question for the Department.

15 MS. HEATHER McMEEKAN: Whoever can answer.

16 MR. BIGGS: I don't know about the Bernedotte -- or  
17 Bernedotte facility. So I don't know.

18 MR. GOETSCH: Sorry. I don't believe that we're able  
19 to answer that question.

20 MS. HEATHER McMEEKAN: I understand.

21 MR. TEEFEY: Okay. Thank you.

22 Any other questions?

23 Yes.

24 MS. MICHELLE LANGHOUT: Michelle Langhout with the  
25 McDonough County Voice.

1 A question is about the power washing. Especially  
2 with your vehicles after you transport the hogs for slaughter  
3 you have to power wash your vehicles afterwards.

4 The question -- I guess it would be probably the  
5 Facility or -- yeah, the Facility.

6 How is the wastewater from that process managed?

7 MR. MUHLENBRUCK: We use a lot of independent  
8 truckers. We've also got a few market hog trucks of our own.

9 We -- we wash our trucks in a -- basically it's a  
10 truck wash. We've got a crew that takes care of that. They're  
11 washed and disinfected.

12 The wastewater for that goes into our municipal  
13 sewage treatment center. And a lot of the independent truck  
14 drivers -- or truckers, they're going to commercial facilities  
15 where the same type of thing would happen.

16 MR. BIGGS: Our truck wash is actually in Oakville.

17 MR. MUHLENBRUCK: In Oakville, Iowa.

18 MS. MICHELLE LANGHOUT: So -- so the -- after the  
19 hogs are offloaded, then the trucks are -- they are not washed at  
20 that location; they are -- they are --

21 MR. BIGGS: No.

22 MS. MICHELLE LANGHOUT: -- they are relocated?

23 MR. BIGGS: And the only hogs that would be offloaded  
24 would actually be the little bitty baby pigs when they first come  
25 in. And then everything else is going out.



1 MR. MUHLENBRUCK: To harvest. 08:24:55

2 MR. BIGGS: To the packing plants. 08:24:57

3 MS. MICHELLE LANGHOUT: Okay. I just -- I just 08:24:59  
4 wanted to know about if the trucks could be on the -- on the road 08:25:00  
5 empty but with manure in them. 08:25:05

6 MR. MUHLENBRUCK: They will be between the packing 08:25:07  
7 plant or the pig facility and the truck wash. Absolutely. 08:25:09

8 MS. MICHELLE LANGHOUT: Okay. And I just wanted to 08:25:13  
9 verify I understood. 08:25:14

10 Okay. Thank you. 08:25:16

11 MR. TEEFEY: Okay. Thank you. 08:25:16

12 Any other questions? 08:25:17

13 Okay. We are now moving onto the written testimony 08:25:21  
14 phase of tonight's public meeting. 08:25:27

15 If you have written testimony that is not referred to 08:25:29  
16 in your oral testimony, I will now accept it and enter it into 08:25:32  
17 the record. 08:25:38

18 If you have written testimony that you will be 08:25:38  
19 referencing during their oral testimony, it can be entered into 08:25:40  
20 the record after your oral testimony. 08:25:43

21 Does anyone have written testimony that they would 08:25:48  
22 like to enter into tonight's record? 08:25:51

23 All right. I have the sign-up sheets in front of me 08:25:57  
24 from the oral testimony sheets that were in the back of the room 08:26:02  
25 listing the people who wish to provide oral testimony at 08:26:06

1 tonight's meeting. 08:26:10

2 I will call the names of those who wish to testify. 08:26:10  
3 When called upon, please step up to the microphone, state your 08:26:14  
4 name, and spell your last name for the court reporter. I will 08:26:18  
5 then swear you in. 08:26:22

6 Remember, during this time you will have three 08:26:24  
7 minutes to speak. 08:26:28

8 If you are an attorney representing clients you will 08:26:30  
9 have the opportunity to speak for ten minutes. 08:26:32

10 At this time I would like to ask if there are any 08:26:35  
11 attorneys who wish to testify on behalf of their clients. 08:26:37

12 All right. I will now read down the line of people 08:26:47  
13 who have signed up to give oral testimony. 08:26:52

14 Colby Hunt. Do you still wish to give oral 08:26:55  
15 testimony? 08:27:06

16 MR. COLBY HUNT: Yes. 08:27:07

17 MR. TEEFEY: Okay. We have the mic set up here at 08:27:07  
18 the stand. If you would like to give oral testimony we would ask 08:27:10  
19 that you come up to the mic stand. 08:27:12

20 MR. COLBY HUNT: Colby Hunt, H-u-n-t. 08:27:28

21 MR. TEEFEY: Mr. Hunt, would you please raise your 08:27:28  
22 right hand? 08:27:31

23 COLBY HUNT, 08:27:31  
24 having been sworn by the Hearing Officer, testified: 08:27:31

25 MR. COLBY HUNT: Good evening. Thanks for having me. 08:27:44

1 My name is Colby Hunt. I'm the President of McDonough County  
2 Farm Bureau

3 I would like to thank you for this opportunity to  
4 speak tonight on the subject of livestock expansion in our  
5 county.

6 McDonough County Farm Bureau supports all aspects of  
7 agriculture, including the development of livestock farms.

8 Our position concurs with the Illinois Farm Bureau  
9 policy by encouraging growth and enhancement of the livestock  
10 industry throughout the state. Animal agriculture plays a vital  
11 role in the economies of Illinois. In particular, our county.

12 Today's farms have changed over the course of a few  
13 decades, just as our homes and our businesses have evolved  
14 through the years.

15 Although the size of farms have grown, the values we  
16 hold dear are just as strong as they were generations ago. We  
17 want safe food, protection for our environment, and quality care  
18 for animals.

19 Agriculture, whether crops or livestock, is an  
20 important part of McDonough County and its economy. According to  
21 the 2015 Illinois Agriculture Economic Contribution Study,  
22 livestock production in McDonough County contributes thirty-five  
23 million in the local economy and provides a hundred and twenty  
24 jobs. Livestock farms provide an important market for grain.  
25 Hogs in McDonough County consume more than 850,000 bushels of

1 corn and over 250,000 bushels of beans on an annual basis. 08:29:15

2 Bringing more livestock production in McDonough 08:29:21  
3 County allows new generations to move back to the farm, something 08:29:24  
4 many of us in agriculture work towards each day. The 08:29:30  
5 opportunities available to newer farmers are sometimes limited, 08:29:34  
6 but those in the livestock industry -- or those -- but an 08:29:38  
7 expanding livestock industry allows those interested a place in 08:29:44  
8 the industry. 08:29:48

9 We understand that there's some people that are 08:29:50  
10 uncomfortable with how hog farms -- or how hogs are produced 08:29:52  
11 today, but we are quick to make a stand with this simple thought: 08:29:58  
12 We in production agriculture have never and will never lose sight 08:30:02  
13 of the values that have faithfully guided Illinois farmers to 08:30:07  
14 produce safe products, provide quality animal care, and to 08:30:10  
15 protect our air, land, and water. 08:30:15

16 On behalf of the McDonough County Farm Bureau, I 08:30:19  
17 would like to thank you for allowing me to speak tonight. 08:30:21

18 MR. TEEFEY: Thank you, Mr. Hunt. 08:30:25

19 Do you have your oral testimony on a piece of paper 08:30:26  
20 that may be admitted? 08:30:28

21 MR. COLBY HUNT: Yeah, I do. And I have it 08:30:30  
22 digitally, too. 08:30:32

23 MR. TEEFEY: Okay. Are there any questions for Hr. 08:30:32  
24 Hunt? 08:30:34

25 Yes. In the back. 08:30:37

1 MR. RICHARD CHAMBERLAIN: You said there's a hundred  
2 and twenty --

3 THE REPORTER: Name, sir?

4 MR. RICHARD CHAMBERLAIN: Richard Chamberlain,  
5 C-h-a-m-b-e-r-l-a-i-n.

6 You said there's a hundred and twenty jobs  
7 agriculture creates in the county. It sounds like that should be  
8 a lot more.

08:30:48

08:30:52

08:30:53

08:30:54

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08:31:02

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08:31:41

08:31:41

08:31:55

9 MR. COLBY HUNT: I mean, that's -- those are the --  
10 the facts that the Illinois Agriculture Contribution Study has  
11 that I referenced.

12 MR. RICHARD CHAMBERLAIN: Seems very light.

13 MR. COLBY HUNT: Yeah.

14 Oh. Yeah. It might have been specific to livestock.  
15 That's what -- yeah. Livestock production in McDonough County.

16 MR. RICHARD CHAMBERLAIN: That's still not very many.

17 MR. TEEFEY: All right. At this time I would like to  
18 mark Mr. Hunt's testimony as Exhibit Number 4 and enter it into  
19 the record.

20 Thank you, Hr. Hunt.

21 MR. COLBY HUNT: Thank you.

22 MR. TEEFEY: Dan O'Neill has signed up next to give  
23 testimony.

24 THE REPORTER: Sir, how is O'Neill spelled?

25 MR. DAN O'NEILL: O-N-e-i-l-l. Dan O'Neill.

1 MR. TEEFEY: Mr. O'Neill, would you raise your right  
2 hand? 08:31:56  
08:31:58

3 DAN O'NEILL, 08:31:59  
4 having been sworn by the Hearing Officer, testified: 08:32:04

5 MR. TEEFEY: Okay. 08:32:04

6 MR. DAN O'NEILL: Thanks for listening to me. I'm an 08:32:07  
7 independent businessman that's been around the area for 08:32:09  
8 thirty-five years, and I'm sure some of you think it's about 08:32:11  
9 thirty-four too long. 08:32:14

10 Beside that. Anyway, I really enjoy the Livestock 08:32:16  
11 Management Facility Act where it starts off with a safe, clean 08:32:19  
12 environment, as well as the right of livestock farmers to earn a 08:32:24  
13 living. 08:32:26

14 It concludes animal agriculture is important in the 08:32:26  
15 Illinois economy and should be maintained, but farmers have a 08:32:29  
16 responsibility to be good neighbors. 08:32:33

17 There's not a better man walking the face of the 08:32:34  
18 earth than Scotty Herndon when it comes to being a good neighbor. 08:32:37  
19 Okay? 08:32:37

20 Those of you that are familiar with him, I don't have 08:32:41  
21 to say anymore. We're good there. 08:32:44

22 I'm going to speak a little bit about TriOaks. We do 08:32:46  
23 business with TriOaks in the grain business. They buy our raw 08:32:50  
24 materials -- not ours. They buy the raw materials that farmers 08:32:54  
25 produce in this area, and in turn put them back into feed, put 08:32:58

1 them back into our local economy.

08:33:09

2 They have invested greatly in their facility in  
3 Bushnell. They've expanded it. They're putting money back into  
4 the local economy and that's what it's about.

08:33:05

08:33:10

08:33:14

5 All of us want the local economy to thrive.  
6 Agriculture is a huge, huge part of this economy, whether anybody  
7 wants to recognize that or not.

08:33:17

08:33:20

08:33:25

8 I'm a glass half full guy. This thing is good for  
9 our area. Everybody's benefited that's connected with  
10 agriculture from this.

08:33:26

08:33:32

08:33:36

11 The hog market has been very positive. Seven, eight  
12 years ago, maybe ten years ago, I remember a gentleman sitting in  
13 our office wondering what they could do to get the next  
14 generation back into the area, to keep the kids on the farm, if  
15 you will.

08:33:38

08:33:42

08:33:45

08:33:50

08:33:53

16 Well, TriOaks came up with a solution. They've  
17 instituted this. There's families sitting in this room. They've  
18 all done a real good job of managing these facilities. They've  
19 all done a real good job of working with TriOaks and keeping this  
20 next generation on the farm. And that's great for the area. We  
21 need all of that that we can possibly get. It's sustainable  
22 agriculture and they've done a good job.

08:33:55

08:33:58

08:34:03

08:34:07

08:34:11

08:34:14

08:34:18

23 I cannot address everything. I do know on the TQA,  
24 the Transport Quality Assurance, they do a wonderful job. Those  
25 guys are educated and they -- you just don't have -- they don't

08:34:19

08:34:23

08:34:28

1 do any business with any knuckleheads. They've got quality  
2 people from the ground all the way up. And anybody you talk to  
3 will tell you that same thing.

4 A lot of these -- not a lot of them. Some of these  
5 people have already committed or have already finished their  
6 original lease, if you will, or agreement with TriOaks, and what  
7 have they done? They've agreed to extend.

8 Now you wouldn't go in there and extend those  
9 agreements if it wasn't for your good and it wasn't for everybody  
10 else's good. And I mean, I think that makes a big difference all  
11 the way across the board.

12 So I'm probably -- I'd like to talk some, but I'm  
13 probably past my three minutes.

14 MR. TEEFEY: Thank you, Mr. O'Neill.

15 Are there any questions for Mr. O'Neill?

16 Yes. In the back.

17 MR. MARC OTT: Marc Ott. M-a-r-c O-t-t.

18 Yes, Mr. O'Neill. I appreciate what you're saying.  
19 I think it's good for business and good for the business  
20 community.

21 I don't really believe that TriOaks is coming to  
22 McDonough County to bring the kids back to the farm. I think  
23 it's --

24 MR. TEEFEY: Do you have a question, sir?

25 MR. MARC OTT: I suppose it's more of a comment than



1 a question. 08:35:49

2 MR. TEEFEY: Okay. This -- the opportunity right now 08:35:49  
3 is just for questions for the person who signed up to give oral 08:35:51  
4 testimony. 08:35:54

5 MR. MARC OTT: Okay. 08:35:55

6 MR. TEEFEY: Thank you. 08:35:56

7 MR. MARC OTT: You're welcome. 08:35:57

8 MR. TEEFEY: Any other questions for Mr. O'Neill? 08:35:57  
9 Yes, sir. 08:36:00

10 MR. ANDY RIGGINS: Andy Riggins, R-i-g-g-i-n-s. 08:36:08

11 Could you point out those individuals that have been 08:36:08  
12 brought back to the family that you know of in this room right 08:36:10  
13 now, please? 08:36:12

14 MR. DAN O'NEILL: Well, I am not -- I can, but I've 08:36:13  
15 not spoken to them individually, so I don't know -- I mean, I 08:36:16  
16 would be more than happy to recognize them if it's -- if it's 08:36:18  
17 allowable for -- I mean, we've got your family, obviously, that 08:36:22  
18 would be one of them. And there's -- there's other ones in here, 08:36:25  
19 too. And I haven't spoken to them, so I don't know if they want 08:36:30  
20 to be recognized. I'll give them that. 08:36:33

21 One other thing that I did not mention that I would 08:36:38  
22 like to -- that I would really like to mention is that I'm a big 08:36:41  
23 guy at giving back. I do a lot. I'm not tooting my own horn. I 08:36:46  
24 like giving back to the community. 08:36:53

25 The community has been tremendously good to me and 08:36:54

1 the business that I work in.

2 TriOaks has given back. They have yet to deny me  
3 when I have asked them for something; to contribute to the  
4 community in the form of a charitable contribution, in the form  
5 of pork chops, in the form of anything.

6 I think a lot of you know that you go asking for  
7 stuff from people you don't -- you don't always get a yes.

8 Which it's pretty easy to get a yes from these folks.

9 MR. TEEFEY: Any other questions for Mr. O'Neill?

10 Thank you, Mr. O'Neill.

11 MR. DAN O'NEILL: Thank you.

12 MR. TEEFEY: Kolette Herndon?

13 Could you state your name and spell your last name,  
14 please?

15 MS. KOLETTE HERNDON: I'm Kolette Herndon. I'm the  
16 oldest daughter of Scott Herndon. H-e-r-n-d-o-n.

17 MR. TEEFEY: Would you raise your right hand?

18 MS. KOLETTE HERNDON: Yes.

19 Oh.

20 MR. TEEFEY: Your other right.

21 Do you swear or affirm --

22 MS. KOLETTE HERNDON: I'm off to a great start.

23 KOLETTE HERNDON,  
24 having been sworn by the Hearing Officer, testified:

25 MR. TEEFEY: Thank you.

1 MS. KOLETTE HERNDON: So I want to go on the record 08:38:12  
2 as not being a professional in the hog industry. I am not going 08:38:15  
3 to speak to that, but I can go on the record of having testimony 08:38:20  
4 for the leader of this, my father. 08:38:24

5 My dad is the hardest working man I have ever met. 08:38:29  
6 And he has taught me what the value of a dollar is. 08:38:33

7 He gives back to the community. He is an active 08:38:38  
8 member in the community. And he is loved by his community. He 08:38:41  
9 is down-home country as it gets. 08:38:46

10 I grew up riding a combine for fun. Jumped on the 08:38:48  
11 hay bales for fun. Surprises were accidentally putting your 08:38:52  
12 hands on the electric fence. You know. That was my life. 08:38:57

13 This can't get more country. And where we are in 08:39:02  
14 this community is country and it's agriculture. 08:39:06

15 And I want to go on the record of being very pro ag. 08:39:09  
16 And I am in full support. 08:39:14

17 I may not know everything. I learned just as much as 08:39:15  
18 anyone in this room tonight. I'm learning, too. 08:39:20

19 But I can give the best testimony up here for the man 08:39:22  
20 that will be the genuine, sincere, loving person. Has been 08:39:27  
21 through hell and back. 08:39:35

22 And this is our livelihood. That's what it comes 08:39:36  
23 down to. 08:39:42

24 That's it. 08:39:44

25 MR. TEEFEY: Thank you, Miss Herndon. 08:39:44

1 Any questions for Miss Herndon? 08:39:46  
2 Thank you. 08:39:49  
3 MR. TEEFEY: Larry Moore? 08:39:54  
4 MR. LARRY MOORE: I'll pass. 08:39:59  
5 MR. TEEFEY: Okay. 08:40:00  
6 MR. LARRY MOORE: I -- I won't pass. I'll go up. 08:40:02  
7 MR. TEEFEY: Okay. 08:40:04  
8 MR. LARRY MOORE: I'll use my right hand. 08:40:18  
9 MR. TEEFEY: Okay. Could you go ahead and state your  
10 name? 08:40:18  
11 MR. LARRY MOORE: Larry Moore, M-o-o-r-e. 08:40:18  
12 LARRY MOORE, 08:40:23  
13 having been sworn by the Hearing Officer, testified: 08:40:27  
14 MR. TEEFEY: Thank you. 08:40:27  
15 MR. LARRY MOORE: My name is Larry Moore. I moved to 08:40:30  
16 New Salem Township thirty-two years ago. My family, as well 08:40:34  
17 Scott's, have had family tragedies and we've watched the 08:40:37  
18 community come together and lift us up and give us support. And 08:40:40  
19 we both know what that's all like. 08:40:45  
20 I will not tell you anything except good things about 08:40:47  
21 Scott Herndon. He's been a friend of mine for a number of years. 08:40:51  
22 I went to the county board meeting. The county board 08:40:56  
23 voted not to have this informational meeting. So what was said 08:40:59  
24 about Scott wanting to have it, he may have wanted to have it, 08:41:03  
25 but it wasn't going to happen unless we -- we circulated 08:41:06

1 petitions to get enough signatures to put this together.

2 I felt like I owed my community the right to have  
3 this meeting, so I helped circulate the petitions to get the  
4 information out there, what was going on inside the community.

5 I never got one single signature that wasn't involved  
6 in the immediate area. I went to the affected people and asked  
7 them what their opinion was and they all signed the petition.

8 The biggest concern was the fact that Scott lives  
9 nine miles away from the proposed building site and is not going  
10 to have to endure the odors and the discomfort of this in the  
11 evenings when everybody else is going to have to close their  
12 windows and endure it.

13 And I'm -- I don't think Scott's doing this on --  
14 with any malice or anything like that. I think just the  
15 circumstance.

16 But it's created an issue to me with the fact that  
17 any property owner, whether they live in the State of Illinois or  
18 wherever, can come to McDonough County and put up a hog barn.

19 So the communities around McDonough County can be  
20 directly affected by this and have nothing to do or say about it.  
21 And that was -- that was my concern. That was me trying to look  
22 out for my community.

23 I'm in favor of hog barns. Most of them that I know  
24 they've built are outside their home. They work in them every  
25 day. And I got a lot of respect for them people that share in --

1 in the bad side of a hog barn. 08:42:53

2 You know, I'm more than willing to share in it with 08:42:56  
3 them if they share in it with me. 08:42:59

4 But for somebody to build something nine miles away 08:43:02  
5 from their home and be able to go home and not have to be around 08:43:05  
6 it, that was my concern. 08:43:08

7 And then I got thinking about it. And I've got 08:43:10  
8 landlords that live in Michigan. There's nothing that says they 08:43:12  
9 can't come down and say, "We're going to put up hog barns in 08:43:16  
10 partnership with TriOaks." That's what my concern is. 08:43:20

11 So I -- I have nothing except good to say about 08:43:24  
12 Scott. I know a lot of the guys got hog barns. They're good 08:43:27  
13 people. There's no doubt in my mind that they're good people, 08:43:30  
14 but this is something I think that the county needs to address, 08:43:35  
15 the fact that these things can pop up anywhere. 08:43:39

16 MR. TEEFEY: Thank you, Mr. Moore. 08:43:42

17 Are there any questions for Mr. Moore? 08:43:43

18 Yes. 08:43:46

19 MR. NICK ANDERSON: Nick Anderson, A-n-d-e-r-s-o-n. 08:43:48

20 Larry, you talked about Scott should maybe put this 08:43:48  
21 at his homeplace, but did you understand in the presentation 08:43:51  
22 tonight that he cannot meet the requirements of the Act at his 08:43:57  
23 homeplace? 08:44:00

24 MR. LARRY MOORE: I know that he's got more acres of 08:44:02  
25 his own there than where -- than where he's building it. I'm not 08:44:05

1 sure which neighbors --

08:44:07

2 MR. NICK ANDERSON: So Larry, I guess the question is  
3 do you understand that -- that Scott cannot build at his  
4 homeplace because he cannot meet the requirements of the Act?

08:44:11

08:44:12

08:44:15

5 Do you understand that?

08:44:18

6 So he's prohibited from building at his homeplace  
7 because he can't meet the requirements of the Act.

08:44:21

08:44:25

8 MR. LARRY MOORE: He doesn't have the 425 acres at  
9 the building site.

08:44:28

08:44:30

10 MR. NICK ANDERSON: You want him to build it at his  
11 homeplace, correct?

08:44:35

08:44:36

12 MR. LARRY MOORE: Right.

08:44:37

13 MR. NICK ANDERSON: So the Act will not let him do  
14 that.

08:44:38

08:44:40

15 Do you understand that?

08:44:40

16 MR. LARRY MOORE: Okay.

08:44:41

17 MR. NICK ANDERSON: Okay. That's all I need to know,  
18 if you understand it.

08:44:42

08:44:43

19 Thank you.

08:44:44

20 MR. LARRY MOORE: I am just saying that this could  
21 happen anywhere.

08:44:45

08:44:46

22 MR. NICK ANDERSON: You want him to build at his  
23 home --

08:44:49

08:44:49

24 MR. TEEFEY: I think -- I think we got the question.

08:44:49

25 Were there any --

08:44:52

1 MR. LARRY MOORE: I understand. I understand. But  
2 my point -- my point is is that anybody that owns property in  
3 McDonough County can come in and put up hog barns. Whether they  
4 -- whether -- they don't have to live there.

5 MR. NICK ANDERSON: If --

6 MR. TEEFEY: I think -- I think we understand the  
7 question and answer.

8 Are there any other questions for Mr. Moore?

9 All right. Thank you, Mr. Moore.

10 MR. LARRY MOORE: Thank you.

11 MR. TEEFEY: Jerome Anderson?

12 MR. JEROME ANDERSON: I will pass.

13 MR. TEEFEY: Heather -- is it McMeekian?

14 MS. HEATHER McMEEKAN: McMeekan.

15 MR. TEEFEY: McMeekan?

16 MS. HEATHER McMEEKAN: Bad handwriting.

17 MR. TEEFEY: Could you state your name and spell your  
18 last name? It know it's been spelled on the record before,  
19 but --

20 MS. HEATHER McMEEKAN: Heather McMeekan,  
21 M-c-M-e-e-k-a-n.

22 HEATHER McMEEKAN,  
23 having been sworn by the Hearing Officer, testified:

24 MR. TEEFEY: Thank you.

25 MS. HEATHER McMEEKAN: Okay. People keep mentioning



1 bringing families back to the -- to small farms or families back  
2 to their farms, but overwhelmingly with concentrated farms like  
3 this the families don't usually live on that farm.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You're wrong.

5 MR. TEEFEY: No. We're -- we're not going to have  
6 any interruptions right now. She signed up to testify and she'll  
7 be given the opportunity to testify.

8 MS. HEATHER McMEEKAN: I'm talking about  
9 overwhelmingly throughout the United States where these farms are  
10 they're not often bringing the family back to the farm to live  
11 there. Often the property passes to somebody else once that  
12 family is done. And then you don't have any guarantees that the  
13 next people who come in and buy that will adhere to the same  
14 standards.

15 Now the Illinois EPA has been cited by the U.S. EPA  
16 for not adequately doing their job in monitoring and remediating  
17 problems. And so they are tasked now with ensuring that the  
18 Illinois EPA does their job.

19 When someone wants to put up these operations and --  
20 and it's obvious that this family loves their community, loves  
21 their neighbors, cares very deeply about doing the right thing,  
22 but as -- these operations do cause the neighbors to take on all  
23 the risk that are carried on with these farms for very little of  
24 the profit or benefit.

25 And 136 is a corridor where many WIU students drive

1 through. And I do have concerns about what effect the smell  
2 would have on their impressions when investigating coming here  
3 for Discover Western whether or not they wish to attend.

4 There are health concerns that are well documented  
5 for people. The fans do pump hydrogen sulfide into the air. And  
6 surrounding neighbors at other residential areas have documented  
7 increased headaches, respiratory problems, and decreased quality  
8 of life for those who have to live within the smell, whether they  
9 learn to adjust to it or not.

10 Safe water can only be given away once. The air that  
11 goes over our lands, the soil that covers them, the water that  
12 runs underneath is part of our commonwealth. And I really do  
13 think that risk to it deserves very careful weighing of the risks  
14 versus the benefits.

15 Thank you.

16 MR. TEEFEY: Thank you. Are there any questions?  
17 And please limit it to two questions per Mr. -- Mrs. McMeekan.

18 I apologize.

19 Any questions?

20 All right. Thank you very much.

21 David Murphy was signed up to testify. He has  
22 passed.

23 David Brint?

24 Would you please state your name and spell your last  
25 name for the record, please?

1 MR. DAVID BRINT: David Brint. B-r-i-n-t. 08:49:06

2 MR. TEEFEY: Mr. Brint, would you please raise your 08:49:09  
3 right hand? 08:49:09

4 DAVID BRINT, 08:49:09  
5 having been sworn by the Hearing Officer, testified: 08:49:09

6 MR. TEEFEY: Thank you. 08:49:09

7 MR. DAVID BRINT: I want to briefly talk about TriOak 08:49:19  
8 and what they do for our area. 08:49:22

9 I live north of Bushnell. Half mile out of Walnut 08:49:25  
10 Grove. My wife's family is -- where we live on the farm, she -- 08:49:29  
11 my kids, if they continue to come to the farm, will be fifth 08:49:34  
12 generation on the farm. 08:49:38

13 TriOaks has nine full-time positions at that facility 08:49:39  
14 in Bushnell that uses sixty semi loads of corn weekly and twenty 08:49:42  
15 loads of soybean meal that are purchased weekly to supply the 08:49:49  
16 Bushnell mill. That equals sixty thousand bushels of corn per 08:49:52  
17 week and over three million bushels a year. 08:49:56

18 To equate that, that's a barge load of corn every 08:49:59  
19 week that does not go down the Illinois River and creates an 08:50:01  
20 opportunity for producers here in McDonough County. 08:50:05

21 TriOaks Foods has also taken and helped in 08:50:05  
22 fundraising awareness. Dan talked about numerous non-profit 08:50:10  
23 organizations, including the Lions Club, Rotary Club, Kiwanis, 08:50:13  
24 veterans groups, and the Macomb Agri-Science Association, and the 08:50:18  
25 Bushnell 4th of July Committee. They've given money, pork chops, 08:50:21

1 whatever the community has needed.

2           TriOaks, whenever hosting a company event, spends  
3 their money locally, whether it's the Bushnell locker, at  
4 Ludlum's, Hy-Vee. Wherever they need supplies they stay in this  
5 county.

6           They also buy office supplies from local stores in  
7 Bushnell. I know that for a fact because they bought from my  
8 wife's company.

9           TriOaks also has placed Schuld/Bushnell on a list of  
10 approved suppliers for bids, so that creates more jobs in our  
11 community.

12           TriOaks also uses local businesses to provide  
13 services on their fleet of vehicles, which keeps truck shops in  
14 Bushnell and McDonough County going.

15           They also buy their fuel locally, which I'm guessing  
16 is coming from our co-op.

17           TriOaks utilizes local contractors for capital  
18 improvements on the mill whenever possible, and they encourage  
19 their staff and growers to be involved and support charitable  
20 organizations and in kind involvement with membership and  
21 assistance.

22           TriOak is a good corporate citizen. One thing that  
23 I'm excited about TriOak, I've got two kids that are just in  
24 junior high. One of them, maybe both of them, might come back to  
25 the farm, and they give me opportunity to let them come back to

1 the farm. Nobody else does.

08:51:30

2 Thank you.

08:51:32

3 MR. TEEFEY: Thank you, Mr. Brint.

08:51:33

4 Are there any questions for Mr. Brint?

08:51:34

5 Thank you.

08:51:38

6 And I'm not exactly sure the pronunciation of the

08:51:43

7 first name. I'm just going to say Miss Bunting from Emington,

08:51:46

8 Illinois.

08:51:49

9 MS. TASHA BUNTING: Tasha Bunting.

10 MR. TEEFEY: Tasha. Okay. I should have been able  
11 to get that one.

12 Please spell your last name.

13 MS. TASHA BUNTING: B-u-n-t-i-n-g.

14 TASHA BUNTING,

15 having been sworn by the Hearing Officer, testified:

16 MS. TASHA BUNTING: Good evening. My name is Tasha  
17 Bunting. I am a mother, farmer, and livestock industry  
18 professional.

08:52:21

08:52:23

08:52:27

19 I was raised caring for cows and crops on a  
20 centennial farm. And today my husband and I are raising our  
21 children on a farm in Livingston County.

08:52:28

08:52:33

08:52:35

22 Two of our neighbors have hog farms. One a half a  
23 mile away, and the other much larger farm is about two miles from  
24 our house.

08:52:37

08:52:41

08:52:44

25 The Livestock Management Facilities Act provides a

08:52:46

1 balanced approach to protect the environment and allow farmers  
2 the ability to raise livestock on our farms.

3           The LMFA sets forth a list of siting criteria which  
4 must be met before any livestock farm is constructed or expanded  
5 at a specific location. The same guidelines are applied to every  
6 farmer in Illinois seeking to develop a livestock facility, those  
7 who are looking to diversify, young farmers joining into their  
8 family business, and farmers who have joined together to create a  
9 new enterprise.

10           The LMFA provides state wide standards which ensure  
11 all farmers in Illinois are sited consistently.

12           To guarantee these standards are met and maintained,  
13 IUA physically inspections each site before, during, and after  
14 construction.

15           Though new technologies, increased efficiencies,  
16 environmental stewardship and animal care have certainly changed  
17 the look of our farms through the years, the values and  
18 dedication to agriculture remains the same and 98 percent of the  
19 farms in Illinois are maintained and owned by Illinois farm  
20 families.

21           These farm families work hard to provide safe food,  
22 protect our environment, and provide quality care to our animals.

23           Livestock farms provide an important market for  
24 grain, they help farmers in the area by providing additional  
25 demands, and support prices for corn and soybeans.

1 Restricting livestock farms in McDonough County will  
2 mean less economic development and fewer markets for local farm  
3 crops.

4 The farm will help create property tax revenue for  
5 the county and many other units of local government.

6 Everyone gathered here tonight came to learn more  
7 about this facility. Certainly modern hog farms have gotten  
8 larger and more sophisticated, yet the vast majority in Illinois  
9 operate without disrupting neighbors or community each year.

10 The most recent EPA inspection report shows that less  
11 than one hundred percent of hogs farms in Illinois have an odor  
12 or water pollution violation.

13 Pig farms and all farmers are committed to using the  
14 latest technology to form environmental practices that protect  
15 our natural resources and reduce our impact on the environment in  
16 Illinois.

17 The pork industry has been quite successful for  
18 caring for their animals, the environment, and their neighbors.

19 Thank you.

20 MR. TEEFEY: Thank you, Miss Bunting.

21 Are there any questions for Miss Bunting?

22 Question over here.

23 MS. MICHELLE LANGHOUT: Michelle Langhout, McDonough  
24 County Voice.

25 Miss Bunting, you said you're a livestock industry

1 professional, is that correct?

08:55:40

2 MS. TASHA BUNTING: Yes.

08:55:41

3 MS. MICHELLE LANGHOUT: Who do you work for?

08:55:42

4 MS. TASHA BUNTING: I -- my husband and I live on a  
5 farm. We own cattle, a few show pigs, and sheep. And I just  
6 joined the Illinois Farm Bureau in the livestock area.

08:55:43

08:55:46

08:55:52

7 MS. MICHELLE LANGHOUT: Okay. Thank you.

08:55:55

8 MS. TASHA BUNTING: You're welcome.

08:55:58

9 MR. TEEFEY: Thank you.

08:55:58

10 Kendell Litchfield?

08:56:04

11 Please state your first and last name.

08:56:16

12 MR. KENDELL LITCHFIELD: Kendell Litchfield.

08:56:18

13 L-i-t-c-h-f-i-e-l-d.

08:56:18

14 MR. TEEFEY: Please raise your right hand.

08:56:19

15 KENDELL LITCHFIELD,

08:56:21

16 having been sworn by the Hearing Officer, testified:

08:56:21

17 MR. TEEFEY: Thank you.

08:56:21

18 MR. KENDELL LITCHFIELD: I am a grain farmer. I  
19 live about seven miles south of here. And I signed the petition  
20 to have this meeting because I think as farmers that we don't do  
21 enough to educate consumers, and that would include ourselves,  
22 because we produce it when we're also consumers.

08:56:31

08:56:32

08:56:36

08:56:41

08:56:45

23 So I think this has been extremely educational. And  
24 Scott, I think you should be commended because you were upfront  
25 about doing this and it probably brought this meeting on. But I

08:56:48

08:56:52

08:56:56



1 thank you for that. We're not all going to agree, but we've had  
2 a chance to come here and learn.

08:57:01

08:57:05

3           Again, I'm a grain farmer. I have -- don't have any  
4 hogs, but I have some hog buildings close to me. There's a  
5 facility that is north and west of me that I farm just north of  
6 that facility. I drive by that facility many, many times  
7 throughout the year. That facility since it's been built it's  
8 been kept up. I can't even tell you how good it's been kept from  
9 the time it was built until today. I can take you out there  
10 today, and wouldn't matter today, next week, the week after, it's  
11 -- it's better than I keep my yard. The building's not rundown.

08:57:08

08:57:11

08:57:15

08:57:19

08:57:23

08:57:27

08:57:32

08:57:35

08:57:39

12           There was an article published in a local paper. I  
13 felt the timing was interesting. And the portrayals of these  
14 buildings was completely opposite from what I seen in real life  
15 because I see this building all the time. The road goes right by  
16 it, so I get a close view of it.

08:57:44

08:57:47

08:57:51

08:57:54

08:58:00

17           There's other buildings we've all seen. They're kept  
18 very nice.

08:58:02

08:58:06

19           So I don't know the goings on in the buildings, I'm  
20 not going to pretend that I do, but just the outside appearance  
21 of the buildings should tell you a lot; that the people that have  
22 them care for them and they're committed.

08:58:06

08:58:10

08:58:14

08:58:19

23           Other than that, again, we as producers, I produce  
24 grain, people produce livestock, we're passionate about what we  
25 do. We're very concerned about the consumer because we're also

08:58:20

08:58:24

08:58:29

1 consumers. So we want it to be done well.

08:58:38

2 We're good stewards. We have some of the best farm  
3 ground in the world right here outside our door. We're good at  
4 farming it. There's no reason why we shouldn't have hogs here.

08:58:40

08:58:43

08:58:47

5 And when you have an individual like Scott willing to  
6 take this on and roll the dice, but this is a big, big deal for  
7 an individual, and I think we should support that.

08:58:50

08:58:54

08:58:58

8 MR. TEEFEY: Thank you.

08:59:00

9 Are there any questions for Mr. Litchfield?

08:59:01

10 Thank you.

08:59:03

11 Dana Walker?

08:59:12

12 MR. DANA WALKER: I pass.

08:59:12

13 MR. TEEFEY: Thank you.

08:59:13

14 Nick Anderson?

08:59:16

15 MR. NICK ANDERSON: I pass.

08:59:18

16 MR. TEEFEY: All right. Thank you.

08:59:18

17 Those are all the names that were currently signed up  
18 to give oral testimony.

08:59:23

08:59:26

19 Is there anyone else in the room who wishes to give  
20 oral testimony?

08:59:27

08:59:29

21 Thank you. I am going to enter into the record as  
22 Exhibit Number 5 the Oral Testimony Sign-in Sheet.

08:59:33

08:59:37

23 I will also enter into the record as Exhibit Number 6  
24 the Attendance Sign-In Sheet.

08:59:47

08:59:52

25 This brings us to the closing comment section of

09:00:01

1 tonight's meeting.

2 Are there any closing remarks from the Facility or  
3 its representatives?

4 Yes, sir.

5 MR. MUHLENBRUCK: My name is Al Muhlenbruck As you  
6 all know, I work for TriOaks Foods and I'm very close to  
7 celebrating my 28th anniversary with the company.

8 MR. TEEFEY: Will you state your name?

9 MR. MUHLENBRUCK: Al Muhlenbruck.

10 M-u-h-l-e-n-b-r-u-c-k.

11 MR. TEEFEY: Thank you.

12 MR. MUHLENBRUCK: Okay. I've been with the company  
13 for twenty-eight years, and through those twenty-eight years I've  
14 seen a multitude of change.

15 We've had some folks here that have testified that  
16 these projects maybe don't -- maybe don't work and, you know, if  
17 they're not there to bring the next generation on board.

18 I'm going to back up a little bit and talk about some  
19 people that started putting these facilities up in the late 80's.

20 Actually, I'm going to back up a little farther and  
21 talk about the -- how we got started in this business.

22 How many people remember the farm crisis of the 80's?

23 How many people lost their farms during those years?

24 Well, a handful of them that didn't lose their farms  
25 had swine facilities. And they were independent producers,

1 farrow to finish. And we were in the feed business. We sold  
2 those folks feed. Bill sitting here, he and I were a couple of  
3 the company's salesmen.

4 And the crisis hit. Some of the lenders went out and  
5 said, "Guys, if you sell those pigs, take that cash, shore up  
6 your balance sheet, you'll be able to stay on the farm."

7 Well, not only did that affect them, but it affected  
8 us. They came to us and said, "Is there any way we can work  
9 together?"

10 So TriOak, Oakville Feed & Grain at that point in  
11 time, started going out and we bought feeder pigs. We bought  
12 feeder pigs from folks that didn't have the facilities to finish  
13 their own. We bought pigs from the sale barn.

14 Wasn't long, because we had a good set of books, we  
15 found out that's not sustainable. We didn't have any control of  
16 the health. We didn't have any control of the flow.

17 So in 1989 we started a gilt lease program. So we  
18 were taking back cross gilts, leasing them out to some of these  
19 farmers. They'd farrow the pigs. The gilts would come back to  
20 us. We would dry them up and send them to harvest.

21 And it hit us, "You know, maybe we can take those  
22 animals and we farrow them one more time ourselves."

23 So we started farrowing seven hundred and fifty sows  
24 in A-frames. And we were able to go two years at over twenty  
25 pigs per sow per year, which is quite a feat when you think you

1 can only farrow for nine months in Iowa. The rest of the time  
2 it's too cold.

3 But again, we learned that we were inefficient. So  
4 we in about 1991 put our first sows under roof and we started  
5 looking for folks to contract feed.

6 Today we still have pigs in barns that were built in  
7 the 70's that may only hold three hundred head, and we've got  
8 pigs in state of the art facilities like Scott and his family are  
9 going to put up.

10 A couple of numbers that I would like to share with  
11 you. Currently we have forty-five full-time employees here in  
12 the State of Illinois. Our payroll is in excess of 2.2 million.

13 In addition to the payroll, we provide a full line of  
14 benefits to our staff. I mean, our staff and their families are  
15 important to us. If they're not happy, this thing comes crashing  
16 down.

17 In addition to that, we've got fifty-eight sites like  
18 Scott is putting up, and those fifty-eight sites have got us  
19 writing out checks annually for 6.6 million dollars.

20 And a comment was made earlier about repeat  
21 contracts. We've had very little attrition. I think that the  
22 attrition rate at TriOaks has been less than one percent over the  
23 past twenty years. And a lot of that attrition is because some  
24 of the facilities and the guys got a little bit tired.

25 Universities tell us that dollars that are created

1 through agriculture in the local area, those dollars move six  
2 times, six to seven times before they leave.

3 So not only are we writing out checks for 6.6 million  
4 dollars per contract payment, we've also got about twenty million  
5 dollars, and these dollars would be accrued back to the core  
6 value of corn and beans, this doesn't include any processor  
7 profits or margins or anything else, twenty million dollars worth  
8 of commodities are moving through that mill.

9 Now think about that in terms of jobs, trucks, gas,  
10 the people that go to the convenience stores. These are real  
11 dollars. This is real economic development. And it's done in an  
12 environmentally sound way.

13 Without the success of our production partners, the  
14 folks that are in this room, we wouldn't be successful either.  
15 And it's one of our priorities to make sure that they are treated  
16 right.

17 And then finally, I'm just going to talk about the  
18 media statement. Our media statement's pretty simple, folks.  
19 Everybody's seen the papers. They've read the articles that were  
20 printed by the Chicago Tribune. And Nick and I were actually  
21 involved in some of the interviews leading up to that.

22 They used a grand total of fifteen seconds of our  
23 comments. The rest of the stuff was pretty much all derived by  
24 activists.

25 Our mission -- or our media statement is simple. If

1 you guys want to learn more than what you've learned tonight,  
2 give Nick or myself a call. We will arrange a tour. The place  
3 to discuss all of this stuff isn't -- isn't here. And it darn  
4 sure isn't over the Internet, and the radio, and television, and  
5 places. It's on the farm. And we have nothing to hide. We  
6 would be glad to take you out. Just give us a call.

09:05:31  
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09:05:41  
09:05:45  
09:05:50

7 And I want to thank everybody. This is going to  
8 sound a little bit strange, but at the end of the day these  
9 meetings have been very good for us and for our company. It  
10 gives us a chance to review our practices, take ahold -- you hold  
11 up the mirror and you say, "You know what? Can you do better?"

09:05:53  
09:05:56  
09:06:00  
09:06:04  
09:06:09

12 It's also been very good in term of educating folks.  
13 It's brought a lot of really good prospects to our doors.

09:06:12  
09:06:17

14 And believe it or not, there's a lot of people that  
15 in the past have stood up and said, you know, these are bad,  
16 they're terrible, there's going to be a lot of odor. Within a  
17 couple of years they've got a barn of their own. And I think  
18 that speaks volumes.

09:06:20  
09:06:22  
09:06:25  
09:06:29  
09:06:31

19 Thank you.

09:06:32

20 MR. TEEFEY: Thank you.

09:06:35

21 Are there any closing remarks from the Department?

09:06:36

22 MR. GOETSCH: I would just like to say that on behalf  
23 of the Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Environmental  
24 Programs, I would like to thank you for your precip --  
25 precipitation?

09:06:40  
09:06:43  
09:06:46  
09:06:46

1 Your participation. We had plenty of precipitation  
2 this year.

3 In the --

4 MS. KOLETTE HERNDON: Right hand. Right hand.

5 MR. TEEFEY: Yes:

6 MR. GOETSCH: Right hand.

7 I'm sure that the McDonough County Board, as well as  
8 the Department of Agriculture, will appreciate your input and  
9 your comments and will consider them first at the board level as  
10 they determine their recommendation to the Department, and then  
11 certainly as we finalize the review of this application.

12 We certainly appreciate your attendance this evening  
13 and we wish you a safe trip home after the meeting is over.

14 Thank you all very much.

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

16 As I mentioned earlier, a copy of tonight's  
17 transcript will be provided to the county board. For others  
18 desiring, a copy of the transcript will be available by  
19 contacting the court reporter.

20 Thank you for your attendance tonight. And I just  
21 wanted to give you my appreciation for the cordial, respectful  
22 nature of this hearing. It doesn't always happen. And it's  
23 greatly appreciated. So thank you very much.

24 This Public Informational Meeting is hereby closed.

25 \* \* \*



C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Randall W. Wells, Certified Shorthand Reporter,  
Certified Court Reporter, do hereby certify that the proceedings  
had in the matter set forth in the caption page hereon were  
reported in shorthand by me, afterwards transcribed, and the  
foregoing is a true and complete transcript of said shorthand  
notes.

*Randall W. Wells*  
Randall W. Wells, CCR 0271

Date: October 8, 2016





11:16  
America [1] - 82:15  
amount [13] - 8:22,  
30:4, 34:17, 62:20,  
64:13, 68:3, 69:19,  
72:23, 73:3, 74:5,  
74:20, 75:8, 78:24  
amounts [1] -  
63:21  
anaerobic [3] -  
11:24, 60:19, 60:21  
analysis [2] -  
21:19, 73:6  
ANDERSON [22] -  
42:20, 43:21,  
43:23, 44:15,  
58:10, 61:13, 62:9,  
75:13, 77:4, 77:12,  
77:17, 77:21,  
78:19, 102:19,  
103:2, 103:10,  
103:13, 103:17,  
103:22, 104:5,  
104:12, 114:15  
Anderson [6] -  
42:20, 58:10,  
75:14, 102:19,  
104:11, 114:14  
ANDY [1] - 97:10  
Andy [1] - 97:10  
Animal [1] - 61:20  
animal [19] - 7:8,  
12:3, 13:6, 20:15,  
23:6, 23:23, 23:25,  
30:13, 38:2, 65:4,  
65:6, 68:21, 76:20,  
77:7, 78:17, 91:10,  
92:14, 94:14,  
110:16  
animals [13] - 21:7,  
21:16, 30:16,  
30:18, 77:13,  
77:14, 78:2, 78:4,  
91:18, 110:22,  
111:18, 116:22  
anniversary [1] -  
115:7  
announce [1] -  
67:25  
annual [3] - 21:16,  
60:20, 92:1  
annually [1] -  
117:19  
answer [19] - 8:8,  
8:15, 33:18, 36:25,  
38:5, 39:24, 47:23,  
49:6, 54:15, 64:20,  
70:4, 80:6, 80:21,  
83:7, 86:4, 86:8,  
87:15, 87:19, 104:7

answered [2] -  
37:25, 83:3  
antibiotic [2] -  
49:2, 49:13  
antibiotics [1] -  
65:14  
anticipated [1] -  
29:15  
antique [1] - 50:5  
apart [4] - 63:4,  
63:8, 64:14, 81:6  
apologize [4] -  
12:21, 64:17, 67:4,  
106:18  
appearance [1] -  
113:20  
applicable [2] -  
11:12, 13:10  
APPLICANT [1] -  
6:1  
applicant [1] -  
15:23  
Applicant [2] -  
16:9, 52:11  
Application [3] -  
4:5, 12:13, 16:1  
application [34] -  
13:2, 13:9, 13:13,  
13:14, 21:18,  
21:22, 27:23, 28:3,  
28:11, 28:17,  
41:10, 41:13, 42:1,  
42:24, 43:7, 44:9,  
52:2, 53:12, 54:8,  
54:12, 54:21,  
54:22, 56:15,  
56:18, 56:20,  
56:21, 56:22, 57:3,  
57:7, 57:10, 58:17,  
69:2, 72:16, 120:11  
applications [4] -  
23:14, 28:19,  
29:11, 55:3  
applicator [5] -  
28:13, 37:15, 41:6,  
41:7, 53:13  
applied [5] - 28:12,  
43:3, 48:12, 53:9,  
110:5  
apply [13] - 12:9,  
26:12, 28:14,  
28:16, 42:22,  
56:25, 57:22,  
57:25, 58:3, 72:12,  
74:14, 74:25, 75:16  
applying [3] - 28:4,  
41:17, 57:21  
appraisals [2] -  
81:21, 81:22  
appreciate [5] -

10:16, 32:13,  
96:18, 120:8,  
120:12  
appreciated [1] -  
120:23  
appreciation [1] -  
120:21  
approach [1] -  
110:1  
appropriate [4] -  
13:15, 13:25,  
14:16, 52:14  
appropriately [2] -  
52:13, 53:5  
approved [5] -  
21:8, 52:7, 82:24,  
87:3, 108:10  
aquifer [4] - 19:21,  
24:5, 25:2, 25:22  
area [45] - 13:18,  
14:21, 14:23, 20:1,  
22:23, 23:20, 24:1,  
24:4, 24:10, 24:11,  
24:12, 24:15,  
24:16, 29:16,  
30:25, 31:12, 32:5,  
32:7, 32:9, 36:3,  
36:4, 45:12, 47:12,  
48:15, 48:19,  
51:14, 58:2, 58:3,  
78:13, 80:2, 81:5,  
94:7, 94:25, 95:9,  
95:14, 95:20,  
101:6, 107:8,  
110:24, 112:6,  
118:1  
area's [1] - 14:18  
areas [16] - 11:22,  
14:19, 21:18,  
23:22, 24:6, 24:9,  
24:20, 24:23, 25:2,  
26:1, 48:23, 49:4,  
57:6, 70:10, 106:6  
argument [1] -  
80:10  
arrange [1] - 119:2  
art [1] - 117:8  
article [1] - 113:12  
articles [1] -  
118:19  
aspect [2] - 20:12,  
30:21  
aspects [4] -  
20:23, 23:13,  
27:21, 91:6  
Assembly [1] -  
11:20  
Assembly's [2] -  
11:17, 11:18  
assessors [1] -

35:23  
assigned [1] - 71:2  
assist [1] - 10:10  
assistance [1] -  
108:21  
associated [3] -  
16:1, 24:18, 70:5  
Association [1] -  
107:24  
assuming [2] -  
51:5, 56:7  
Assurance [3] -  
65:12, 65:13, 95:24  
assurance [1] -  
68:19  
assure [1] - 7:11  
attend [2] - 23:7,  
106:3  
Attendance [2] -  
4:13, 114:24  
attendance [3] -  
9:1, 120:12, 120:20  
Attorney [1] -  
60:14  
attorney [1] - 90:8  
attorneys [1] -  
90:11  
attrition [3] -  
117:21, 117:22,  
117:23  
audit [4] - 62:19,  
65:21, 66:1, 66:9  
auditing [1] - 65:19  
auditors [1] - 66:10  
August [1] - 13:20  
automatically [1] -  
60:7  
available [14] -  
14:24, 21:4, 28:10,  
28:20, 29:10,  
31:10, 70:11, 73:4,  
73:16, 74:4, 74:24,  
75:7, 92:5, 120:18  
average [5] -  
31:19, 31:21, 35:2,  
47:1, 47:7  
aware [2] - 64:15,  
64:17  
awareness [1] -  
107:22

## B

B-e-r-n-e-d-o-t-t-e  
[1] - 87:6  
B-i-g-g-s [1] -  
16:21  
B-r-i-n-t [1] - 107:1  
B-u-n-t-i-n-g [1] -

109:13  
babies [1] - 71:7  
baby [1] - 88:24  
backhoe [1] -  
85:15  
bad [3] - 102:1,  
104:16, 119:15  
bail [1] - 78:8  
balance [1] - 116:6  
balanced [1] -  
110:1  
bales [1] - 99:11  
baling [1] - 78:7  
Bank [1] - 5:7  
bare [1] - 29:17  
barge [1] - 107:18  
barn [27] - 22:17,  
22:18, 25:17,  
26:16, 26:19,  
26:24, 33:10, 35:8,  
35:10, 36:20, 38:7,  
46:1, 47:12, 79:8,  
79:11, 79:12,  
79:22, 80:14,  
80:21, 82:8, 82:13,  
83:21, 101:18,  
102:1, 119:17  
barns [17] - 18:13,  
22:7, 22:15, 26:8,  
33:9, 33:19, 36:17,  
38:12, 38:13, 80:1,  
81:5, 101:23,  
102:9, 102:12,  
104:3, 117:6  
based [7] - 15:20,  
22:10, 22:11,  
23:14, 28:7, 29:16,  
44:3  
basic [1] - 41:21  
basis [2] - 65:23,  
92:1  
bean [1] - 21:10  
beans [7] - 37:2,  
46:15, 46:16, 74:4,  
82:2, 92:1, 118:6  
Beaver [2] - 5:20,  
6:25  
bed [1] - 78:3  
bedrock [1] - 24:18  
behalf [9] - 6:17,  
6:23, 9:9, 9:11,  
11:8, 13:3, 90:11,  
92:16, 119:22  
below [2] - 25:13,  
51:8  
benefit [3] - 42:21,  
45:24, 105:24  
benefited [1] - 95:9  
benefits [4] -  
44:25, 46:9,

106:14, 117:14  
Bernedotte [4] -  
87:3, 87:5, 87:16,  
87:17  
beside [1] - 94:10  
best [7] - 26:11,  
28:10, 34:15,  
34:16, 34:18,  
99:19, 114:2  
better [9] - 17:15,  
45:10, 66:3, 68:11,  
71:22, 71:23,  
94:17, 113:11,  
119:11  
between [14] -  
16:9, 28:20, 28:22,  
30:3, 44:10, 46:2,  
61:9, 62:2, 64:25,  
71:12, 74:8, 78:11,  
87:12, 89:6  
beyond [2] - 20:21,  
76:4  
bids [1] - 108:10  
big [6] - 37:18,  
37:21, 96:10,  
97:22, 114:6  
biggest [2] - 33:3,  
101:8  
BIGGS [72] - 16:18,  
16:21, 17:7, 18:24,  
32:16, 41:1, 41:10,  
41:23, 41:25, 42:5,  
42:7, 42:18, 43:2,  
43:22, 44:8, 44:16,  
45:1, 45:13, 45:22,  
46:18, 46:24,  
47:11, 47:18, 48:9,  
48:11, 48:21, 49:6,  
49:23, 50:2, 50:13,  
50:17, 50:20,  
51:15, 53:14,  
53:18, 54:4, 54:23,  
55:2, 55:18, 57:16,  
64:20, 64:22, 67:1,  
67:3, 70:23, 77:8,  
77:15, 77:19,  
77:23, 78:20, 79:3,  
79:6, 79:13, 80:6,  
80:9, 80:20, 82:1,  
82:15, 83:14,  
83:16, 84:18,  
84:21, 85:5, 85:14,  
85:18, 85:21,  
85:23, 87:16,  
88:16, 88:21,  
88:23, 89:2  
Biggs [6] - 6:7,  
16:21, 17:4, 17:8,  
32:17, 83:24  
bike [1] - 32:25

**bill** [1] - 46:5  
**Bill** [1] - 116:2  
**binding** [1] - 15:8  
**biosecurity** [2] - 68:3, 68:8  
**bit** [10] - 32:19, 40:21, 45:9, 46:13, 67:3, 77:21, 94:22, 115:18, 117:24, 119:8  
**bitty** [1] - 88:24  
**black** [4] - 44:21, 46:19, 75:12, 86:23  
**blame** [1] - 80:22  
**Blankenbach** [1] - 85:2  
**blankets** [1] - 78:11  
**block** [1] - 84:13  
**blowing** [1] - 80:3  
**blue** [1] - 72:1  
**Board** [8] - 7:5, 7:15, 10:23, 13:13, 13:21, 13:23, 15:10, 120:7  
**board** [12] - 10:14, 15:6, 15:23, 76:21, 83:1, 83:6, 96:11, 100:22, 115:17, 120:9, 120:17  
**board's** [1] - 15:17  
**bodies** [1] - 61:14  
**boils** [1] - 76:23  
**books** [1] - 116:14  
**boring** [3] - 25:7, 25:14, 25:18  
**borings** [5] - 25:10, 25:21, 48:25, 51:4, 51:5  
**born** [1] - 32:20  
**bottom** [3] - 25:13, 25:16, 31:12  
**bought** [4] - 108:7, 116:11, 116:13  
**bound** [1] - 81:16  
**Box** [4] - 5:12, 5:16, 5:19, 5:23  
**Brad** [2] - 5:20, 6:25  
**brand** [2] - 36:20, 50:4  
**brand-new** [2] - 36:20, 50:4  
**break** [3] - 8:23, 86:1, 86:3  
**briefly** [1] - 107:7  
**bring** [3] - 44:24, 96:22, 115:17  
**bringing** [3] - 92:2, 105:1, 105:10

**brings** [2] - 20:23, 114:25  
**Brint** [5] - 106:23, 107:1, 107:2, 109:3, 109:4  
**BRINT** [3] - 107:1, 107:4, 107:7  
**brought** [3] - 97:12, 112:25, 119:13  
**build** [10] - 33:25, 35:8, 36:19, 60:1, 80:2, 80:21, 102:4, 103:3, 103:10, 103:22  
**building** [19] - 18:13, 25:13, 26:22, 27:1, 27:12, 38:8, 58:13, 58:18, 59:2, 59:3, 76:19, 80:2, 82:7, 83:17, 101:9, 102:25, 103:6, 103:9, 113:15  
**building's** [1] - 113:11  
**buildings** [10] - 12:16, 19:13, 25:9, 27:7, 45:2, 113:4, 113:14, 113:17, 113:19, 113:21  
**buildings'** [1] - 30:7  
**buildup** [9] - 29:25, 30:8, 72:23, 73:4, 73:14, 73:18, 74:18, 74:21, 74:25  
**built** [13] - 33:25, 36:17, 46:25, 60:22, 61:3, 63:7, 65:1, 82:13, 101:24, 113:7, 113:9, 117:6  
**bulldoze** [1] - 36:10  
**bulldozed** [1] - 36:9  
**Bunting** [6] - 109:7, 109:9, 109:17, 111:20, 111:21, 111:25  
**BUNTING** [7] - 109:9, 109:13, 109:14, 109:16, 112:2, 112:4, 112:8  
**Bureau** [10] - 5:13, 5:21, 6:25, 7:1, 91:2, 91:6, 91:8, 92:16, 112:6, 119:23

**burning** [1] - 86:21  
**bushel** [1] - 44:12  
**bushels** [5] - 37:10, 91:25, 92:1, 107:16, 107:17  
**Bushnell** [8] - 95:3, 107:9, 107:14, 107:16, 107:25, 108:3, 108:7, 108:14  
**business** [13] - 15:7, 15:12, 18:18, 32:24, 94:23, 96:1, 96:19, 98:1, 110:8, 115:21, 116:1  
**businesses** [2] - 91:13, 108:12  
**businessman** [1] - 94:7  
**button** [1] - 19:8  
**buy** [5] - 94:23, 94:24, 105:13, 108:6, 108:15  
**buying** [2] - 69:11, 69:12  
**BY** [1] - 5:3

## C

**C-h-a-m-b-e-r-l-a-i-n** [2] - 54:19, 93:5  
**CAFO** [2] - 61:20, 87:3  
**CAFO's** [3] - 49:13, 49:22, 87:12  
**calculate** [1] - 23:24  
**calculations** [2] - 23:24, 72:11  
**calendar** [1] - 15:13  
**cancer** [1] - 18:8  
**capacity** [3] - 13:5, 13:16, 27:4  
**capital** [4] - 75:25, 76:4, 76:16, 108:17  
**car** [1] - 50:4  
**carbon** [1] - 78:3  
**carbonate** [1] - 25:4  
**care** [9] - 50:3, 60:14, 63:13, 88:10, 91:17, 92:14, 110:16, 110:22, 113:22  
**career** [1] - 18:10  
**careful** [1] - 106:13  
**cares** [1] - 105:21  
**caretakers** [1] -

65:12  
**caring** [2] - 109:19, 111:18  
**carried** [2] - 49:4, 105:23  
**carry** [1] - 30:8  
**cars** [1] - 55:10  
**case** [4] - 34:2, 35:6, 52:25, 56:11  
**cases** [4] - 36:16, 36:17, 52:9, 52:22  
**cash** [1] - 116:5  
**catch** [1] - 69:24  
**cattle** [3] - 33:7, 33:14, 112:5  
**caulking** [1] - 52:24  
**caused** [1] - 13:24  
**causes** [2] - 55:8, 80:14  
**causing** [3] - 30:4, 80:17, 80:18  
**celebrating** [1] - 115:7  
**cellphones** [1] - 6:15  
**centennial** [1] - 109:20  
**center** [1] - 88:13  
**Center** [1] - 5:7  
**certain** [5] - 22:21, 27:6, 57:6, 68:3, 79:13  
**certainly** [5] - 12:8, 110:16, 111:7, 120:11, 120:12  
**certification** [2] - 19:17, 20:25  
**certifications** [1] - 52:17  
**certified** [1] - 23:2  
**Certified** [1] - 60:17  
**cetera** [1] - 68:19  
**chain** [1] - 71:20  
**Chairman** [1] - 10:23  
**challenge** [2] - 62:2, 80:14  
**challenged** [1] - 80:11  
**CHAMBERLAIN** [13] - 54:18, 54:24, 55:15, 55:20, 56:5, 56:13, 57:8, 57:17, 58:4, 93:1, 93:4, 93:12, 93:16  
**Chamberlain** [2] - 54:18, 93:4  
**chance** [4] - 49:15,

53:16, 113:2, 119:10  
**change** [4] - 61:7, 74:7, 80:3, 115:14  
**changed** [8] - 9:15, 33:12, 73:6, 73:7, 73:9, 83:17, 91:12, 110:16  
**changes** [1] - 40:20  
**character** [1] - 14:18  
**characterized** [2] - 75:21, 75:24  
**charge** [2] - 58:13, 71:4  
**charged** [1] - 60:5  
**charges** [1] - 60:15  
**charitable** [2] - 98:4, 108:19  
**check** [6] - 62:18, 62:19, 66:11, 67:14, 70:17, 70:21  
**checking** [1] - 85:3  
**checks** [3] - 65:20, 117:19, 118:3  
**Chicago** [1] - 118:20  
**Chief** [1] - 5:13  
**children** [1] - 109:21  
**chops** [2] - 98:5, 107:25  
**chose** [2] - 34:15, 34:23  
**chris** [1] - 16:25  
**Chris** [10] - 6:3, 17:3, 17:13, 17:17, 18:24, 18:25, 32:16, 37:1, 37:14, 43:23  
**Chris's** [2] - 35:1, 50:20  
**circulate** [2] - 45:7, 101:3  
**circulated** [1] - 100:25  
**circumstance** [1] - 101:15  
**cited** [7] - 83:12, 84:16, 84:19, 84:22, 85:17, 105:15  
**citizen** [1] - 108:22  
**Citizens** [1] - 72:3  
**City** [1] - 5:8  
**clarity** [1] - 58:11  
**classic** [1] - 50:5  
**clean** [3] - 26:21, 79:20, 94:11

**cleaning** [1] - 30:1  
**clear** [1] - 25:20  
**clients** [4] - 9:9, 9:10, 90:8, 90:11  
**close** [10] - 12:23, 15:12, 24:13, 24:23, 25:21, 47:4, 101:11, 113:4, 113:16, 115:6  
**closed** [3] - 26:14, 78:13, 120:24  
**closely** [2] - 34:13, 60:25  
**closer** [2] - 36:20, 76:12  
**closest** [5] - 34:7, 34:15, 34:16, 36:18, 48:2  
**closing** [7] - 9:21, 10:5, 17:19, 39:3, 114:25, 115:2, 119:21  
**Club** [2] - 107:23  
**co** [1] - 108:16  
**co-op** [1] - 108:16  
**Colby** [4] - 4:10, 90:14, 90:20, 91:1  
**COLBY** [8] - 90:16, 90:20, 90:23, 90:25, 92:21, 93:9, 93:13, 93:21  
**cold** [1] - 117:2  
**college** [1] - 73:22  
**College** [1] - 5:6  
**colon** [1] - 18:8  
**combine** [1] - 99:10  
**coming** [11] - 26:24, 30:20, 31:13, 31:24, 34:20, 36:12, 41:16, 68:7, 96:21, 106:2, 108:16  
**commencing** [1] - 20:17  
**commended** [1] - 112:24  
**comment** [6] - 14:9, 15:13, 17:25, 96:25, 114:25, 117:20  
**comments** [16] - 7:12, 7:20, 9:3, 9:5, 9:8, 9:21, 9:24, 10:5, 10:19, 16:14, 17:20, 39:3, 40:1, 118:23, 120:9  
**commercial** [4] - 37:14, 53:19, 53:20, 88:14

**commissioner** [2] - 35:5, 35:6  
**committed** [3] - 96:5, 111:13, 113:22  
**Committee** [1] - 107:25  
**commodities** [1] - 118:8  
**common** [2] - 66:1, 83:18  
**commonwealth** [1] - 106:12  
**communicate** [1] - 28:23  
**communication** [3] - 28:20, 71:12, 71:14  
**communications** [1] - 18:10  
**communities** [2] - 36:13, 101:19  
**Community** [1] - 5:7  
**community** [23] - 14:22, 18:4, 18:7, 32:9, 36:8, 45:8, 46:12, 96:20, 97:24, 97:25, 98:4, 99:7, 99:8, 99:14, 100:18, 101:2, 101:4, 101:22, 105:20, 108:1, 108:11, 111:9  
**company** [12] - 17:8, 33:16, 46:7, 55:23, 65:5, 65:7, 73:1, 108:2, 108:8, 115:7, 115:12, 119:9  
**company's** [2] - 69:5, 116:3  
**comparable** [3] - 76:1, 76:5, 76:17  
**compared** [1] - 32:1  
**comparing** [1] - 32:1  
**compatibility** [2] - 19:20, 23:16  
**compatible** [1] - 23:19  
**Complete** [1] - 4:4  
**complete** [5] - 13:12, 15:25, 20:8, 22:24, 24:3  
**Completed** [1] - 16:8  
**completed** [3] - 13:12, 14:8, 15:25

**completely** [3] - 26:14, 68:6, 113:14  
**compliance** [13] - 10:10, 13:10, 13:17, 14:9, 14:12, 32:10, 60:2, 60:3, 60:8, 60:10, 60:24, 68:15, 70:18  
**compliances** [1] - 76:11  
**complicated** [1] - 12:7  
**complies** [1] - 30:22  
**comply** [5] - 32:4, 59:2, 66:8, 76:24, 77:1  
**compost** [6] - 77:16, 77:19, 78:5, 78:7, 78:11, 78:14  
**Comprehensive** [8] - 20:19, 21:1, 23:9, 27:20, 31:3, 36:24, 61:25, 62:5  
**comprehensive** [2] - 20:21, 20:23  
**concentrated** [1] - 105:2  
**Concentrated** [1] - 61:20  
**concentrations** [1] - 30:11  
**concern** [6] - 49:12, 81:4, 101:8, 101:21, 102:6, 102:10  
**Concerned** [1] - 72:3  
**concerned** [1] - 113:25  
**concerning** [1] - 17:23  
**concerns** [3] - 81:7, 106:1, 106:4  
**conclude** [1] - 9:21  
**concludes** [2] - 39:2, 94:14  
**concrete** [16] - 22:4, 22:12, 27:8, 27:17, 33:11, 45:16, 45:17, 45:18, 52:8, 52:17, 52:18, 52:24, 77:25, 84:25  
**Concrete** [1] - 22:9  
**concurr** [1] - 91:8  
**conditions** [4] - 42:1, 43:2, 43:20, 43:22  
**conduct** [1] - 25:10

**conducted** [2] - 7:2, 7:11  
**Conference** [1] - 5:7  
**confine** [1] - 10:19  
**confinement** [3] - 33:9, 63:5, 81:14  
**confinements** [1] - 63:4  
**confirm** [3] - 52:2, 52:5, 52:17  
**connected** [1] - 95:9  
**connecting** [1] - 55:5  
**consider** [2] - 10:17, 120:9  
**considerate** [2] - 42:12, 42:16  
**consideration** [1] - 41:22  
**considered** [6] - 12:3, 32:23, 48:20, 63:23, 64:1, 64:9  
**consist** [4] - 12:15, 22:14, 31:3, 31:24  
**consistency** [1] - 66:6  
**consistent** [8] - 19:25, 22:2, 32:6, 32:8, 62:6, 62:7, 67:9, 69:5  
**consistently** [1] - 110:11  
**Construct** [5] - 4:5, 12:13, 13:9, 16:1, 16:8  
**construct** [3] - 15:15, 76:8, 77:2  
**constructed** [1] - 110:4  
**constructing** [1] - 49:23  
**CONSTRUCTION** [1] - 5:2  
**construction** [25] - 7:7, 7:16, 8:1, 10:17, 12:13, 12:16, 14:2, 15:16, 22:15, 27:9, 27:11, 51:21, 52:3, 52:8, 52:9, 52:12, 52:19, 52:20, 76:9, 77:2, 83:19, 85:2, 85:6, 110:14  
**consultation** [1] - 13:23  
**consume** [1] - 91:25  
**consumer** [1] -

113:25  
**consumers** [3] - 112:21, 112:22, 114:1  
**consumption** [3] - 47:2, 47:5, 71:5  
**contact** [2] - 27:16, 28:9  
**contacting** [1] - 120:19  
**contain** [1] - 28:17  
**containing** [1] - 24:17  
**contamination** [1] - 49:1  
**continue** [9] - 10:20, 18:20, 31:9, 54:13, 60:16, 60:23, 86:4, 86:22, 107:11  
**continued** [1] - 29:20  
**continuing** [1] - 29:9  
**continuously** [1] - 28:18  
**contract** [2] - 117:5, 118:4  
**contractors** [1] - 108:17  
**contracts** [1] - 117:21  
**contribute** [1] - 98:3  
**contributes** [1] - 91:22  
**contribution** [1] - 98:4  
**Contribution** [2] - 91:21, 93:10  
**Control** [7] - 27:19, 27:20, 28:2, 29:9, 29:20, 30:22, 31:3  
**control** [6] - 14:20, 19:23, 31:7, 31:8, 116:15, 116:16  
**controlled** [2] - 27:23, 28:3  
**controls** [1] - 28:18  
**convenience** [1] - 118:10  
**conversation** [2] - 36:23, 72:19  
**cooks** [2] - 78:13, 78:17  
**cooperative** [1] - 22:10  
**copies** [2] - 14:24, 76:21  
**copy** [10] - 13:12,

15:1, 15:3, 15:4, 15:25, 16:3, 16:4, 120:16, 120:18  
**cord** [3] - 41:4, 43:8, 55:4  
**cordial** [1] - 120:21  
**core** [1] - 118:5  
**corn** [17] - 21:10, 37:1, 37:4, 37:5, 37:10, 43:25, 44:3, 46:15, 46:16, 74:3, 82:1, 92:1, 107:14, 107:16, 107:18, 110:25, 118:6  
**corn/corn** [1] - 29:16  
**corporate** [3] - 65:16, 71:12, 108:22  
**correct** [6] - 67:14, 73:11, 73:16, 81:1, 103:11, 112:1  
**corrected** [1] - 53:5  
**corrections** [2] - 52:21, 52:23  
**correspondence** [3] - 16:1, 16:8, 16:10  
**corridor** [1] - 105:25  
**cost** [3] - 75:25, 76:4, 76:17  
**counsel** [1] - 9:9  
**counties** [2] - 23:18, 48:24  
**counting** [1] - 33:6  
**country** [6] - 28:10, 81:14, 81:18, 99:9, 99:13, 99:14  
**County** [34] - 6:19, 7:5, 7:14, 10:22, 10:23, 13:1, 13:13, 13:21, 13:23, 15:10, 16:10, 36:4, 45:4, 46:15, 66:23, 87:25, 91:1, 91:6, 91:20, 91:22, 91:25, 92:3, 92:16, 93:15, 96:22, 101:18, 101:19, 104:3, 107:20, 108:14, 109:21, 111:1, 111:24, 120:7  
**county** [22] - 10:14, 15:6, 15:17, 15:23, 23:19, 24:9, 35:7, 35:8, 35:23, 44:24, 76:21, 83:1,

83:6, 91:5, 91:11, 93:7, 100:22, 102:14, 108:5, 111:5, 120:17  
**County's** [1] - 15:12  
**couple** [15] - 26:2, 27:21, 28:25, 36:16, 48:23, 54:20, 60:6, 60:15, 67:5, 67:22, 71:16, 75:14, 116:2, 117:10, 119:17  
**course** [4] - 23:7, 37:7, 50:2, 91:12  
**court** [5] - 8:9, 10:12, 16:17, 90:4, 120:19  
**cousin** [1] - 64:5  
**cover** [1] - 78:4  
**covering** [1] - 11:21  
**covers** [1] - 106:11  
**cows** [2] - 32:21, 109:19  
**cracking** [1] - 53:2  
**crashing** [1] - 117:15  
**create** [2] - 110:8, 111:4  
**created** [2] - 101:16, 117:25  
**creates** [3] - 93:7, 107:19, 108:10  
**crew** [1] - 88:10  
**crisis** [2] - 115:22, 116:4  
**Criteria** [11] - 20:4, 20:5, 21:25, 22:20, 23:1, 23:16, 24:4, 25:23, 27:19, 31:11, 32:6  
**criteria** [18] - 8:3, 14:13, 14:24, 15:1, 15:21, 17:18, 19:5, 19:15, 20:3, 20:10, 20:13, 25:2, 32:14, 49:8, 58:13, 61:5, 67:6, 110:3  
**crierias** [1] - 34:13  
**crook** [2] - 78:15, 78:16  
**crop** [3] - 21:12, 32:21, 73:9  
**crops** [7] - 21:10, 21:11, 26:11, 29:12, 91:19, 109:19, 111:3  
**cross** [1] - 116:18  
**curious** [1] - 79:1

current [7] - 7:23,  
11:13, 12:11,  
54:16, 74:18, 75:8,  
79:8  
custom [1] - 28:12  
cycle [1] - 30:3

## D

dad [1] - 99:5  
damage [1] - 25:25  
damaged [1] - 54:3  
Dan [3] - 93:22,  
93:25, 107:22  
DAN [5] - 93:25,  
94:3, 94:6, 97:14,  
98:11  
DANA [6] - 72:2,  
72:9, 73:13, 74:12,  
75:2, 114:12  
Dana [2] - 72:2,  
114:11  
darn [1] - 119:3  
data [2] - 23:15,  
28:8  
date [1] - 15:15  
daughter [2] -  
79:24, 98:16  
daughters [2] -  
17:12, 18:9  
Dave [1] - 85:2  
DAVID [18] - 50:10,  
50:14, 50:18,  
50:24, 51:1, 51:3,  
51:7, 51:11, 51:16,  
83:10, 83:15,  
84:15, 85:16,  
85:19, 85:22,  
107:1, 107:4, 107:7  
David [5] - 50:10,  
83:10, 106:21,  
106:23, 107:1  
days [9] - 15:7,  
15:13, 20:17, 26:6,  
26:9, 27:1, 50:19,  
50:22, 71:16  
deal [2] - 47:18,  
114:6  
dealing [3] - 17:22,  
26:17, 83:25  
deals [3] - 14:2,  
22:20, 65:13  
dear [1] - 91:16  
debate [2] - 10:7,  
80:15  
debated [1] - 58:25  
decades [1] -  
91:13  
decide [1] - 33:25

decided [1] - 38:15  
deciding [1] -  
20:13  
decision [2] -  
15:23, 38:18  
decomposes [2] -  
78:18  
decrease [1] -  
81:23  
decreased [2] -  
27:3, 106:7  
dedicated [2] -  
22:10, 39:25  
dedication [1] -  
110:18  
deemed [4] - 20:8,  
22:24, 24:3, 76:17  
deep [4] - 12:18,  
47:11, 47:14, 48:4  
deeply [1] - 105:21  
deferring [1] - 9:13  
deficiency [1] -  
52:16  
defined [2] - 14:13,  
25:3  
definition [6] -  
20:4, 24:15, 25:11,  
25:22, 48:18, 63:19  
definitions [2] -  
61:13, 76:24  
degree [1] - 18:11  
degrees [2] - 47:3,  
78:15  
demands [1] -  
110:25  
demonstrate [1] -  
8:2  
demonstrating [1]  
- 32:10  
demonstration [1]  
- 11:24  
dense [2] - 36:3,  
36:4  
deny [1] - 98:2  
Department [65] -  
5:11, 5:15, 5:18,  
5:22, 6:18, 6:21,  
6:23, 6:24, 7:15,  
8:6, 9:22, 9:24,  
9:25, 10:14, 10:22,  
11:1, 11:4, 11:5,  
11:8, 12:8, 12:12,  
13:8, 13:11, 13:20,  
13:24, 14:3, 14:9,  
15:8, 15:10, 15:13,  
15:19, 15:20,  
15:22, 16:9, 20:9,  
20:24, 21:4, 22:25,  
23:3, 24:3, 31:16,  
39:9, 39:15, 39:20,

51:20, 51:24,  
54:20, 56:13,  
58:11, 58:12,  
59:22, 60:5, 60:16,  
61:10, 67:12,  
67:13, 72:10,  
72:25, 75:15, 85:1,  
87:14, 119:21,  
119:23, 120:8,  
120:10  
Department's [3] -  
4:6, 10:21, 16:13  
depth [2] - 25:18,  
53:12  
Deputy [3] - 5:17,  
6:24, 11:4  
derived [1] -  
118:23  
describe [1] - 8:2  
described [1] -  
11:21  
Description [1] -  
4:2  
deserves [1] -  
106:13  
design [16] - 11:22,  
13:16, 14:2, 14:4,  
19:19, 22:1, 22:4,  
22:7, 22:14, 27:5,  
58:13, 59:17, 61:2,  
61:5, 67:7, 84:3  
designated [1] -  
36:18  
designed [4] -  
13:5, 27:7, 69:1,  
69:21  
designs [1] - 12:7  
desiring [1] -  
120:18  
detail [1] - 23:13  
detailed [2] - 14:4,  
14:7  
determination [2] -  
7:16, 15:22  
determine [3] -  
15:20, 35:11,  
120:10  
determined [2] -  
13:11, 81:16  
determining [1] -  
10:10  
develop [3] -  
18:13, 22:6, 110:6  
developed [3] -  
23:3, 59:18, 62:1  
developing [1] -  
21:14  
development [7] -  
14:23, 20:1, 32:9,  
45:11, 91:7, 111:2,

118:11  
dice [1] - 114:6  
DICK [2] - 44:22,  
46:17  
Dick [1] - 44:22  
diet [2] - 30:13,  
74:5  
diets [1] - 74:9  
differ [1] - 12:8  
difference [1] -  
96:10  
different [16] -  
12:2, 20:12, 24:15,  
26:2, 29:1, 29:4,  
29:7, 34:3, 34:6,  
35:23, 49:9, 64:6,  
64:12, 64:24,  
73:10, 83:7  
dig [1] - 47:19  
digitally [1] - 92:22  
diligently [1] - 31:7  
dimensions [1] -  
19:14  
directed [3] - 9:25,  
40:23, 51:20  
directing [1] -  
39:19  
direction [5] -  
34:8, 34:16, 36:18,  
40:20, 80:3  
directly [1] -  
101:20  
Director [4] - 5:17,  
6:17, 6:24, 11:4  
disagree [1] -  
82:14  
discloses [1] -  
76:8  
discomfort [1] -  
101:10  
Discover [1] -  
106:3  
discuss [3] - 10:7,  
20:11, 119:3  
discussed [1] -  
23:10  
discusses [1] -  
19:3  
discussions [1] -  
35:23  
disease [1] - 65:15  
disinfected [1] -  
88:11  
disk [1] - 41:19  
displayed [1] -  
52:15  
disrupted [1] -  
24:17  
disrupting [1] -  
111:9

disseminating [1]  
- 22:11  
disservice [1] -  
59:10  
dissipate [2] -  
42:23, 43:1  
distance [4] -  
13:17, 13:18,  
34:15, 47:21  
ditch [2] - 84:12,  
84:13  
diverse [1] - 32:21  
diversify [2] -  
18:13, 110:7  
diversions [1] -  
26:21  
document [1] -  
54:11  
documentation [1]  
- 21:24  
documented [5] -  
51:22, 56:25, 57:1,  
106:4, 106:6  
documents [2] -  
22:5, 22:8  
dollar [1] - 99:6  
dollars [12] - 45:7,  
45:15, 46:3, 46:6,  
117:19, 117:25,  
118:1, 118:4,  
118:5, 118:7,  
118:11  
door [1] - 114:3  
doors [1] - 119:13  
double [3] - 29:18,  
29:19, 75:8  
doubt [1] - 102:13  
Doug [2] - 5:24,  
6:24  
down [24] - 19:11,  
31:12, 32:3, 34:3,  
34:21, 35:7, 36:9,  
36:10, 55:10,  
55:13, 66:21, 67:3,  
74:13, 76:23, 77:7,  
77:14, 82:4, 85:13,  
90:12, 99:9, 99:23,  
102:9, 107:19,  
117:16  
down-home [1] -  
99:9  
dozen [1] - 67:22  
Dr [1] - 81:15  
dragline [5] - 29:6,  
37:16, 54:21, 55:1,  
55:3  
drainage [1] -  
24:17  
drawings [1] -  
52:15

drive [4] - 34:21,  
55:9, 105:25, 113:6  
drivers [5] - 35:12,  
45:18, 45:24,  
55:11, 88:14  
driving [2] - 43:13,  
55:13  
drop [2] - 55:8,  
55:9  
drought [2] -  
47:15, 48:4  
dry [3] - 33:11,  
49:3, 116:20  
drying [1] - 47:17  
due [1] - 15:10  
dust [4] - 29:21,  
30:1, 30:7, 49:3

## E

early [3] - 35:4,  
71:7, 81:13  
earn [1] - 94:12  
earth [1] - 94:18  
easily [1] - 73:12  
east [1] - 31:15  
East [1] - 5:8  
east side [1] -  
87:11  
eastern [1] - 13:1  
easy [2] - 69:14,  
98:8  
eat [2] - 37:4, 73:24  
economic [4] -  
14:23, 45:11,  
111:2, 118:11  
Economic [1] -  
91:21  
economies [1] -  
91:11  
economy [8] -  
82:10, 91:20,  
91:23, 94:15, 95:1,  
95:4, 95:5, 95:6  
Ecosystem [1] -  
72:4  
Ed [1] - 32:25  
educate [3] - 23:4,  
84:11, 112:21  
educated [1] -  
95:25  
educating [1] -  
119:12  
education [1] -  
60:17  
educational [2] -  
59:19, 112:23  
effect [5] - 36:1,  
36:6, 36:15, 51:8,

106:1  
**effects** [2] - 36:2, 79:21  
**efficiencies** [1] - 110:15  
**efficient** [1] - 30:14  
**efficiently** [1] - 30:7  
**eight** [15] - 12:18, 14:13, 15:21, 19:5, 19:15, 25:17, 31:19, 32:2, 43:9, 43:19, 95:11, 115:13, 117:17, 117:18  
**eighteen** [1] - 48:2  
**eighty** [2] - 12:17, 77:11  
**eighty-one** [1] - 12:17  
**elapsed** [1] - 8:22  
**election** [1] - 82:11  
**electric** [2] - 46:5, 99:12  
**electricity** [1] - 46:6  
**Electronic** [1] - 4:8  
**electronic** [2] - 39:8, 39:9  
**eleven** [1] - 25:18  
**emergency** [4] - 28:19, 56:6, 56:8, 85:9  
**Emington** [1] - 109:7  
**employee** [2] - 17:8, 32:18  
**employees** [2] - 45:6, 117:11  
**empty** [1] - 89:5  
**encompasses** [1] - 68:21  
**encourage** [1] - 108:18  
**encouraging** [1] - 91:9  
**end** [6] - 27:13, 29:3, 30:20, 66:5, 87:13, 119:8  
**endure** [2] - 101:10, 101:12  
**enforcement** [1] - 60:13  
**Engineering** [1] - 17:18  
**engineering** [2] - 14:4, 17:14  
**Engineers** [3] - 6:4, 13:3, 19:1  
**enhancement** [1] -

91:9  
**enjoy** [1] - 94:10  
**ensure** [9] - 7:10, 7:18, 29:24, 30:6, 59:14, 60:8, 60:24, 69:3, 110:10  
**ensuring** [1] - 105:17  
**enter** [7] - 8:17, 39:6, 89:16, 89:22, 93:18, 114:21, 114:23  
**entered** [6] - 7:12, 8:20, 16:7, 16:12, 39:12, 89:19  
**enterprise** [1] - 110:9  
**entire** [1] - 55:24  
**entirely** [3] - 76:1, 76:5, 76:17  
**entity** [1] - 63:22  
**entry** [1] - 16:2  
**environment** [9] - 22:2, 67:8, 69:1, 91:17, 94:12, 110:1, 110:22, 111:15, 111:18  
**environmental** [6] - 19:22, 25:25, 37:13, 85:12, 110:16, 111:14  
**Environmental** [16] - 5:13, 5:21, 6:4, 13:3, 19:1, 25:23, 57:20, 59:6, 59:7, 59:25, 60:4, 60:10, 61:10, 61:14, 62:8, 119:23  
**environmentally** [5] - 21:13, 24:4, 24:16, 25:2, 118:12  
**Environmentally** [1] - 72:3  
**enzymes** [1] - 74:4  
**EPA** [12] - 54:7, 58:15, 58:19, 62:14, 73:1, 83:12, 83:17, 83:24, 105:15, 105:18, 111:10  
**equals** [1] - 107:16  
**equate** [1] - 107:18  
**equipment** [3] - 28:17, 29:1, 29:5  
**equitably** [1] - 12:9  
**equivalent** [1] - 44:2  
**era** [1] - 73:10  
**ERIC** [5] - 51:19, 53:7, 53:12, 53:16,

53:22  
**Eric** [2] - 51:19, 83:24  
**especially** [2] - 43:8, 88:1  
**established** [1] - 30:23  
**estimated** [1] - 77:6  
**et** [1] - 68:19  
**euthanasia** [1] - 68:22  
**euthanized** [1] - 77:13  
**evening** [14] - 6:17, 7:10, 7:19, 10:7, 11:3, 14:11, 17:7, 18:9, 18:25, 66:18, 79:10, 90:25, 109:16, 120:12  
**evening's** [3] - 14:16, 15:6, 15:16  
**evenings** [1] - 101:11  
**event** [1] - 108:2  
**everywhere** [1] - 33:9  
**evolved** [1] - 91:13  
**exact** [4] - 26:10, 55:22, 76:12, 78:10  
**exactly** [4] - 54:7, 54:11, 74:16, 109:6  
**exam** [1] - 23:7  
**example** [4] - 22:16, 36:4, 61:2, 84:10  
**examples** [1] - 36:20  
**exceed** [3] - 50:23, 72:15, 76:16  
**exceeded** [3] - 22:24, 30:24, 30:25  
**exceeds** [2] - 20:15, 30:22  
**except** [3] - 60:6, 100:20, 102:11  
**excess** [3] - 26:8, 30:16, 117:12  
**excited** [1] - 108:23  
**excluded** [2] - 57:6, 58:2  
**excreted** [1] - 30:16  
**excuse** [2] - 30:13, 67:25  
**EXHIBIT** [1] - 4:1  
**exhibit** [1] - 16:2  
**Exhibit** [3] - 4:2, 114:22, 114:23

**Exhibit 1** [1] - 4:4  
**Exhibit 2** [1] - 4:6  
**Exhibit 3** [1] - 4:8  
**Exhibit 4** [1] - 4:10  
**Exhibit 5** [1] - 4:12  
**Exhibit 6** [1] - 4:13  
**Exhibit Number 1** [1] - 16:7  
**Exhibit Number 2** [1] - 16:12  
**Exhibit Number 3** [2] - 39:11, 39:12  
**Exhibit Number 4** [1] - 93:18  
**existence** [1] - 75:22  
**existing** [6] - 10:8, 10:10, 12:5, 14:21, 32:8, 76:13  
**expand** [2] - 76:3, 76:4  
**expanded** [2] - 95:3, 110:4  
**expanding** [4] - 75:22, 75:23, 92:7  
**expansion** [9] - 12:4, 75:17, 75:19, 75:21, 75:22, 76:5, 76:6, 76:23, 91:4  
**expectancy** [1] - 49:24  
**expected** [1] - 65:9  
**experience** [5] - 35:22, 35:23, 36:1, 42:23, 44:4  
**expert** [1] - 84:25  
**explain** [4] - 7:19, 58:15, 75:15, 77:21  
**exposure** [2] - 80:2, 81:6  
**expressed** [1] - 12:2  
**extend** [2] - 96:7, 96:8  
**extra** [1] - 74:10  
**extremely** [4] - 36:4, 55:25, 56:3, 112:23  
**eye** [2] - 38:19, 38:21  
**eyes** [1] - 72:18

## F

**face** [1] - 94:17  
**Facilities** [19] - 7:3, 7:22, 8:3, 11:7, 11:12, 11:14, 14:2, 14:14, 20:14, 22:3,

32:12, 51:25, 58:18, 58:24, 59:17, 59:23, 67:9, 69:7, 109:25  
**facilities** [29] - 12:2, 19:13, 49:24, 51:14, 59:12, 60:1, 61:3, 62:15, 62:21, 63:21, 64:12, 67:17, 68:5, 68:9, 69:16, 70:20, 75:16, 81:17, 83:20, 84:16, 84:17, 84:18, 88:14, 95:18, 115:19, 115:25, 116:12, 117:8, 117:24  
**Facility** [18] - 8:5, 9:22, 9:25, 10:18, 12:6, 16:14, 23:12, 39:6, 39:13, 39:15, 39:20, 40:24, 40:25, 88:5, 94:11, 115:2  
**facility** [85] - 7:8, 7:17, 10:10, 10:15, 11:22, 11:23, 11:25, 12:3, 12:4, 12:7, 12:14, 12:19, 13:6, 13:16, 14:3, 14:6, 14:17, 14:20, 14:22, 15:9, 19:10, 19:25, 20:3, 20:15, 22:22, 26:22, 27:1, 28:1, 29:22, 29:24, 38:3, 40:4, 46:23, 48:7, 48:12, 49:22, 52:4, 52:6, 52:9, 52:21, 52:23, 53:1, 53:5, 58:6, 60:9, 60:19, 61:3, 62:18, 63:20, 64:18, 64:23, 67:14, 75:20, 75:21, 75:24, 76:1, 76:3, 76:5, 76:13, 76:17, 76:18, 77:16, 77:20, 77:25, 79:17, 79:20, 80:24, 80:25, 82:6, 83:12, 87:8, 87:17, 89:7, 95:2, 107:13, 110:6, 111:7, 113:5, 113:6, 113:7  
**FACILITY** [1] - 5:2  
**facility's** [2] - 14:12, 14:18  
**Facility's** [4] - 4:9, 11:10, 39:10, 44:23

**fact** [4] - 101:8, 101:16, 102:15, 108:7  
**facts** [1] - 93:10  
**failed** [1] - 15:1  
**Fair** [4] - 5:11, 5:15, 5:19, 5:22  
**fairly** [1] - 12:9  
**faithfully** [1] - 92:13  
**fall** [1] - 11:17  
**falling** [1] - 59:12  
**familiar** [1] - 94:20  
**families** [7] - 95:17, 105:1, 105:3, 110:20, 110:21, 110:14  
**family** [15] - 34:19, 38:11, 42:10, 79:23, 81:8, 97:12, 97:17, 100:16, 100:17, 105:10, 105:12, 105:20, 107:10, 110:8, 117:8  
**fans** [5] - 30:1, 30:5, 30:7, 68:24, 106:5  
**far** [7] - 29:9, 46:10, 57:10, 63:4, 63:8, 73:6, 75:17  
**Farm** [5] - 91:2, 91:6, 91:8, 92:16, 112:6  
**farm** [79] - 17:12, 17:25, 18:2, 19:4, 19:10, 19:13, 20:7, 20:18, 20:24, 21:1, 21:3, 21:7, 21:11, 22:14, 23:2, 23:6, 23:14, 23:19, 24:14, 24:22, 25:8, 26:5, 26:20, 26:22, 27:1, 27:7, 27:20, 27:22, 29:10, 29:15, 29:20, 30:2, 30:4, 30:6, 30:9, 30:12, 30:22, 31:3, 31:9, 31:13, 31:14, 31:24, 32:4, 32:6, 32:8, 32:11, 32:13, 32:21, 33:3, 34:14, 36:10, 38:11, 47:16, 82:13, 92:3, 95:14, 95:20, 96:22, 105:3, 105:10, 107:10, 107:11, 107:12, 108:25, 109:1, 109:20, 109:21,

109:23, 110:4,  
110:19, 110:21,  
111:2, 111:4,  
112:5, 113:5,  
114:2, 115:22,  
116:6, 119:5  
**farmer** [8] - 18:5,  
50:3, 64:24, 82:7,  
109:17, 110:6,  
112:18, 113:3  
**farmers** [22] - 18:7,  
33:5, 33:7, 33:8,  
37:13, 55:23,  
55:25, 78:6, 85:10,  
92:5, 92:13, 94:12,  
94:15, 94:24,  
110:1, 110:7,  
110:8, 110:11,  
110:24, 111:13,  
112:20, 116:19  
**farmhouses** [1] -  
36:9  
**farming** [2] - 41:12,  
114:4  
**farms** [25] - 29:7,  
33:13, 33:14,  
33:16, 91:7, 91:12,  
91:15, 91:24,  
92:10, 105:1,  
105:2, 105:9,  
105:23, 109:22,  
110:2, 110:17,  
110:19, 110:23,  
111:1, 111:7,  
111:11, 111:13,  
115:23, 115:24  
**farrow** [6] - 33:1,  
33:4, 116:1,  
116:19, 116:22,  
117:1  
**farrowing** [2] -  
33:9, 116:23  
**fashion** [2] - 7:11,  
21:13  
**father** [2] - 64:4,  
99:4  
**favor** [1] - 101:23  
**feasible** [1] - 76:14  
**feat** [1] - 116:25  
**federal** [2] - 61:19,  
61:24  
**feed** [16] - 27:25,  
30:14, 30:18,  
30:19, 46:14,  
68:22, 73:25, 74:1,  
74:6, 74:7, 77:6,  
94:25, 116:1,  
116:2, 117:5  
**Feed** [1] - 116:10  
**feeder** [2] - 116:11,

116:12  
**Feeding** [1] - 61:20  
**feet** [17] - 12:17,  
13:18, 13:19, 24:1,  
24:2, 25:3, 25:4,  
25:6, 25:13, 25:16,  
30:24, 31:1, 47:24,  
48:3, 57:12  
**felt** [2] - 101:2,  
113:13  
**FEMA** [1] - 24:8  
**fence** [1] - 99:12  
**fertilizer** [8] -  
21:10, 21:12,  
26:11, 37:9, 53:19,  
53:20, 54:22, 56:16  
**few** [8] - 11:11,  
61:2, 71:18, 86:13,  
86:15, 88:8, 91:12,  
112:5  
**fewer** [1] - 111:2  
**field** [16] - 26:20,  
29:8, 29:12, 29:13,  
43:14, 44:3, 48:11,  
53:17, 53:21,  
55:12, 57:2, 57:4,  
65:22, 71:10,  
71:13, 73:21  
**fieldman** [2] - 71:2,  
71:15  
**fieldperson** [1] -  
71:3  
**fields** [7] - 21:17,  
44:10, 48:6, 48:9,  
48:13, 49:3, 53:9  
**fifteen** [7] - 15:13,  
31:25, 46:2, 46:5,  
47:3, 47:4, 118:22  
**fifth** [2] - 36:22,  
107:11  
**fifty** [10] - 13:7,  
47:23, 47:24,  
67:21, 75:25, 76:4,  
76:16, 116:23,  
117:17, 117:18  
**fifty-eight** [2] -  
117:17, 117:18  
**fifty-five** [1] - 13:7  
**figuring** [1] - 72:15  
**file** [5] - 15:21,  
16:1, 21:3, 76:7,  
76:8  
**filed** [1] - 20:7  
**filings** [1] - 76:19  
**fill** [1] - 85:10  
**final** [4] - 15:23,  
38:15, 53:22, 70:14  
**finalize** [1] - 120:11  
**finally** [3] - 15:5,  
19:25, 118:17

**financial** [1] -  
11:24  
**finish** [5] - 33:1,  
33:4, 44:18, 116:1,  
116:12  
**finished** [1] - 96:5  
**Finishing** [1] -  
10:18  
**finishing** [4] - 7:8,  
12:16, 22:15, 22:16  
**first** [16] - 7:20,  
9:23, 11:17, 20:5,  
37:17, 37:18,  
37:21, 63:15, 71:7,  
75:15, 84:12,  
88:24, 109:7,  
112:11, 117:4,  
120:9  
**fits** [1] - 23:21  
**five** [21] - 11:21,  
13:7, 25:3, 25:6,  
25:12, 25:16, 26:6,  
33:22, 38:1, 47:8,  
50:4, 72:12, 78:14,  
82:24, 85:17,  
85:18, 85:23,  
85:24, 91:22, 94:8,  
117:11  
**fix** [1] - 61:6  
**fixed** [4] - 75:25,  
76:4, 76:16, 84:3  
**flaw** [1] - 61:2  
**fleet** [1] - 108:13  
**flexibility** [1] -  
75:18  
**floodplain** [5] -  
19:21, 24:5, 24:9,  
24:11, 24:14  
**floodplains** [1] -  
14:19  
**floor** [2] - 29:25,  
53:1  
**flow** [2] - 34:8,  
116:16  
**folks** [11] - 57:24,  
58:12, 71:8, 98:8,  
115:15, 116:2,  
116:12, 117:5,  
118:14, 118:18,  
119:12  
**follow** [5] - 35:12,  
42:7, 43:21, 45:13,  
58:21  
**follow-up** [2] -  
42:7, 43:21  
**followed** [1] - 15:5  
**following** [11] -  
7:20, 7:24, 7:25,  
8:15, 8:21, 8:24,  
10:5, 14:15, 21:15,

37:15, 84:24  
**follows** [1] - 15:6  
**food** [2] - 91:17,  
110:21  
**Foods** [6] - 6:6,  
6:7, 17:8, 18:18,  
107:21, 115:6  
**foot** [5] - 12:18,  
25:6, 25:17, 25:18,  
78:5  
**force** [1] - 69:19  
**forgot** [1] - 24:8  
**form** [5] - 20:25,  
98:4, 98:5, 111:14  
**formal** [3] - 12:12,  
14:4, 16:2  
**formulated** [1] -  
30:13  
**forth** [1] - 110:3  
**forty** [9] - 33:12,  
43:9, 43:19, 49:24,  
50:1, 73:8, 78:14,  
117:11  
**forty-eight** [2] -  
43:9, 43:19  
**forty-five** [2] -  
78:14, 117:11  
**forty-two** [1] -  
33:12  
**forwarded** [1] -  
13:12  
**four** [18] - 12:18,  
17:10, 31:23, 32:1,  
33:8, 33:10, 35:2,  
43:8, 43:19, 44:6,  
53:8, 53:14, 54:12,  
57:23, 62:3, 73:24,  
74:8, 94:9  
**fourth** [2] - 18:7,  
35:14  
**fractured** [1] - 25:4  
**frames** [1] - 116:24  
**Frank** [5] - 6:4,  
13:2, 17:13, 17:17,  
19:1  
**friend** [1] - 100:21  
**front** [1] - 89:23  
**FSA** [1] - 62:1  
**fuel** [1] - 108:15  
**full** [6] - 20:4, 95:8,  
99:16, 107:13,  
117:11, 117:13  
**full-time** [2] -  
107:13, 117:11  
**fun** [2] - 99:10,  
99:11  
**fundraising** [1] -  
107:22  
**future** [1] - 60:3

## G

**gain** [2] - 73:25,  
74:2  
**gallon** [2] - 47:7,  
73:7  
**gallons** [10] - 44:2,  
44:7, 44:9, 44:13,  
44:18, 46:22, 47:4,  
47:5, 47:8, 47:13  
**Gary** [1] - 18:5  
**gas** [2] - 46:2,  
118:9  
**gathered** [1] -  
111:6  
**gatherings** [1] -  
42:11  
**general** [2] - 14:15,  
25:14  
**General** [4] -  
11:17, 11:18,  
11:20, 60:14  
**generally** [4] -  
11:21, 20:14, 38:6,  
43:7  
**generate** [1] - 45:3  
**generated** [1] -  
45:7  
**generates** [1] -  
24:8  
**generation** [7] -  
18:7, 18:14, 33:21,  
95:14, 95:20,  
107:12, 115:17  
**generations** [3] -  
36:12, 91:16, 92:3  
**gentle** [1] - 43:4  
**gentleman** [2] -  
81:15, 95:12  
**gentlemen** [2] -  
28:21, 28:22  
**genuine** [1] - 99:20  
**Geological** [1] -  
24:24  
**gilt** [1] - 116:17  
**gilts** [2] - 116:18,  
116:19  
**girls** [1] - 18:22  
**given** [9] - 8:1, 8:6,  
9:7, 9:10, 65:18,  
98:2, 105:7,  
106:10, 107:25  
**glad** [1] - 119:6  
**glass** [1] - 95:8  
**goal** [3] - 21:6,  
21:14, 71:21  
**God** [1] - 83:22  
**GOETSCH** [20] -  
11:2, 51:24, 56:19,  
57:14, 57:19,  
58:23, 61:16,  
62:10, 63:15,  
63:18, 64:15,  
67:16, 67:19, 68:2,  
68:13, 68:17,  
75:20, 87:18,  
119:22, 120:6  
**Goetsch** [12] -  
5:17, 6:24, 7:20,  
7:25, 11:1, 11:3,  
16:6, 19:6, 19:16,  
20:6, 22:22, 120:15  
**goings** [1] - 113:19  
**gotcha** [1] - 19:9  
**government** [2] -  
61:24, 111:5  
**grade** [1] - 26:23  
**Grade** [1] - 27:9  
**grain** [6] - 91:24,  
94:23, 110:24,  
112:18, 113:3,  
113:24  
**Grain** [1] - 116:10  
**grand** [1] - 118:22  
**granted** [1] - 72:11  
**gravel** [1] - 25:5  
**gray** [2] - 24:12,  
73:20  
**great** [5] - 56:11,  
82:15, 86:20,  
95:20, 98:22  
**greater** [1] - 13:6  
**greatly** [4] - 26:9,  
27:3, 95:2, 120:23  
**green** [1] - 19:8  
**grew** [1] - 99:10  
**ground** [13] -  
25:15, 27:2, 28:6,  
28:7, 33:14, 34:4,  
34:5, 34:11, 34:19,  
41:7, 42:22, 96:2,  
114:3  
**Grounds** [4] - 5:11,  
5:15, 5:19, 5:22  
**group** [1] - 70:12  
**groups** [2] - 38:6,  
107:24  
**Grove** [1] - 107:10  
**grow** [3] - 37:1,  
37:5, 37:10  
**grower** [4] - 65:22,  
71:15, 84:20, 84:22  
**growers** [9] - 42:9,  
62:17, 70:24,  
70:25, 71:1, 83:20,  
84:11, 85:10,  
108:19  
**grown** [3] - 21:11,  
29:13, 91:15



grows [1] - 46:15  
**growth** [2] - 14:22, 91:9  
 guarantee [2] - 82:2, 110:12  
 guarantees [1] - 105:12  
 guess [5] - 68:11, 80:15, 85:23, 88:4, 103:2  
 guessing [1] - 108:15  
 guidance [1] - 22:5  
 guided [1] - 92:13  
 guidelines [2] - 59:13, 110:5  
 guy [5] - 35:16, 55:12, 55:13, 95:8, 97:23  
 guys [8] - 35:8, 38:7, 84:9, 95:25, 102:12, 117:24, 119:1  
 Guys [3] - 42:9, 42:12, 116:5

## H

**H-e-r-n-d-o-n** [2] - 16:22, 98:16  
**H-u-n-t** [1] - 90:20  
 hair [1] - 73:20  
 half [9] - 24:2, 43:4, 47:7, 74:1, 79:8, 80:13, 95:8, 107:9, 109:22  
 Hall [1] - 5:8  
 hand [13] - 15:2, 17:2, 39:17, 58:20, 90:22, 94:2, 98:17, 100:8, 107:3, 112:14, 120:4, 120:6  
 Handbook [1] - 22:9  
 handful [1] - 115:24  
 handle [1] - 33:15  
 handling [5] - 12:19, 14:3, 14:6, 23:4, 63:20  
 hands [1] - 99:12  
 handwriting [1] - 104:16  
 happy [3] - 65:10, 97:16, 117:15  
 hard [3] - 35:19, 65:4, 110:21  
 hardest [1] - 99:5

harvest [2] - 89:1, 116:20  
 harvested [1] - 69:13  
 hat [1] - 44:21  
 hatched [4] - 24:10, 24:12, 24:20, 48:23  
 hauled [1] - 33:2  
 haulers [1] - 45:23  
 hauling [3] - 45:18, 69:10, 69:16  
 hay [4] - 78:7, 78:8, 99:11  
 head [5] - 13:6, 38:1, 47:4, 70:4, 117:7  
 headaches [1] - 106:7  
 heading [1] - 40:20  
 health [6] - 49:5, 80:11, 80:14, 81:7, 106:4, 116:16  
 healthy [1] - 65:10  
 heard [4] - 5:5, 61:21, 73:13, 80:10  
 Hearing [1] - 5:14, 6:21, 17:4, 90:24, 94:4, 98:24, 100:13, 104:23, 107:5, 109:15, 112:16  
 hearing [4] - 15:24, 38:4, 87:9, 120:22  
 heat [2] - 47:2, 78:9  
 HEATHER [23] - 46:20, 47:9, 47:15, 48:5, 48:10, 48:14, 49:1, 49:12, 49:17, 49:21, 50:1, 86:24, 87:1, 87:5, 87:10, 87:15, 87:20, 104:14, 104:16, 104:20, 104:22, 104:25, 105:8  
 Heather [4] - 46:20, 87:1, 104:13, 104:20  
 held [1] - 7:4  
 hell [1] - 99:21  
 hello [1] - 66:18  
 help [8] - 26:2, 33:18, 47:16, 60:1, 68:23, 71:4, 110:24, 111:4  
 helped [2] - 101:3, 107:21  
 helping [1] - 65:23  
 HENDRON [1] - 5:3

HERNDON [10] - 16:22, 18:1, 53:11, 58:7, 98:15, 98:18, 98:22, 98:23, 99:1, 120:4  
 Herndon [15] - 6:1, 7:9, 10:18, 13:3, 16:22, 17:3, 18:1, 18:2, 94:18, 98:12, 98:15, 98:16, 99:25, 100:1, 100:21  
 Herndon's [1] - 32:4  
 hi [2] - 63:1, 75:13  
 hide [1] - 119:5  
 high [5] - 36:3, 36:4, 70:8, 79:14, 108:24  
 higher [1] - 69:7  
 highest [2] - 44:11, 47:1  
 hire [2] - 28:13, 28:15  
 hired [1] - 84:25  
 historically [1] - 21:17  
 history [2] - 32:19, 73:21  
 hit [3] - 68:7, 116:4, 116:21  
 Hodge [1] - 18:2  
 hog [16] - 63:4, 63:5, 79:12, 88:8, 92:10, 95:11, 99:2, 101:18, 101:23, 102:1, 102:9, 102:12, 104:3, 109:22, 111:7, 113:4  
 hogs [8] - 88:2, 88:19, 88:23, 91:25, 92:10, 111:11, 113:4, 114:4  
 hold [3] - 91:16, 117:7, 119:10  
 holes [1] - 24:17  
 home [8] - 58:1, 58:3, 99:9, 101:24, 102:5, 103:23, 120:13  
 homeplace [5] - 102:21, 102:23, 103:4, 103:6, 103:11  
 homes [1] - 91:13  
 hope [1] - 42:6  
 hopefully [1] - 59:14

horn [1] - 97:23  
 hose [6] - 37:16, 41:5, 41:6, 41:7, 55:7, 56:4  
 hoses [1] - 55:5  
 hospital [1] - 71:9  
 hospitality [1] - 10:16  
 hosting [1] - 108:2  
 hour [1] - 69:12  
 hours [5] - 43:9, 43:19, 54:12, 57:23, 86:2  
 house [7] - 33:6, 36:20, 57:5, 57:11, 57:13, 58:5, 109:24  
 houses [3] - 36:8, 36:10, 36:13  
 housing [1] - 22:19  
 Hr [2] - 92:23, 93:20  
 huge [3] - 26:18, 95:6  
 humidity [2] - 42:1, 79:14  
 hundred [28] - 12:17, 24:14, 31:20, 31:22, 32:2, 32:25, 33:4, 37:10, 38:1, 47:3, 47:8, 47:13, 47:23, 47:24, 48:3, 57:12, 66:13, 67:20, 67:21, 78:14, 78:25, 91:23, 93:1, 93:6, 111:11, 116:23, 117:7  
 hundredths [1] - 31:25  
 Hunt [6] - 90:14, 90:20, 91:1, 92:18, 92:24, 93:20  
 HUNT [8] - 90:16, 90:20, 90:23, 90:25, 92:21, 93:9, 93:13, 93:21  
 hunt [1] - 90:21  
 Hunt's [1] - 4:10  
 hunt's [1] - 93:18  
 husband [2] - 109:20, 112:4  
 Hy [1] - 108:4  
 Hy-Vee [1] - 108:4  
 hydrogen [1] - 106:5  
 hydrology [1] - 51:8

## I

I can't say [1] - 41:11  
 I don't know [8] - 38:19, 49:9, 78:6, 87:16, 87:17, 97:15, 97:19, 113:19  
 idea [2] - 25:14, 31:17  
 ideally [1] - 43:3  
 identified [2] - 57:4, 61:5  
 identify [1] - 15:2  
 IEPA [4] - 60:7, 60:13, 60:25, 61:6  
 Illinois [47] - 5:9, 5:11, 5:12, 5:15, 5:16, 5:18, 5:20, 5:22, 5:23, 6:5, 6:18, 6:20, 11:1, 11:4, 13:4, 24:24, 35:15, 48:23, 54:6, 59:7, 59:21, 59:25, 60:10, 60:14, 60:22, 61:10, 62:8, 91:8, 91:11, 91:21, 92:13, 93:10, 94:15, 101:17, 105:15, 105:18, 107:19, 109:8, 110:6, 110:11, 110:19, 111:8, 111:11, 111:16, 112:6, 117:12  
 Illinois' [1] - 62:14  
 illness [1] - 81:18  
 immediate [1] - 101:6  
 immediately [1] - 71:19  
 impact [7] - 14:17, 14:20, 14:21, 14:22, 19:22, 42:22, 111:15  
 Impact [1] - 25:23  
 impacts [2] - 12:1, 19:24  
 implement [3] - 20:16, 20:19, 27:20  
 important [11] - 18:19, 20:20, 26:25, 27:24, 28:1, 37:23, 91:20, 91:24, 94:14, 110:23, 117:15  
 impressions [1] - 106:2  
 improvements [1] - 108:18  
 inadequacies [1] - 10:7  
 Inc [1] - 6:4  
 inch [5] - 27:2, 43:4, 44:5, 44:8, 44:14  
 inches [4] - 12:17, 12:18, 53:15, 78:5  
 inclement [1] - 26:12  
 include [6] - 28:18, 29:23, 70:23, 72:24, 112:21, 118:6  
 including [4] - 15:15, 16:8, 91:7, 107:23  
 income [1] - 18:14  
 incorporate [2] - 30:13, 31:10  
 incorporated [3] - 30:12, 53:21, 57:23  
 incorporating [1] - 31:8  
 incorporation [1] - 21:23  
 increase [2] - 49:13, 80:2  
 increased [2] - 106:7, 110:15  
 increasing [1] - 81:6  
 incredibly [1] - 65:5  
 independent [4] - 88:7, 88:13, 94:7, 115:25  
 INDEX [1] - 4:1  
 Indiana [1] - 55:24  
 indicate [2] - 9:19, 39:19  
 individual [3] - 70:23, 114:5, 114:7  
 individually [2] - 20:3, 97:15  
 individuals [1] - 97:11  
 industry [19] - 12:10, 33:12, 59:10, 61:12, 65:25, 66:1, 66:5, 67:12, 68:15, 69:5, 84:2, 91:10, 92:6, 92:7, 92:8, 99:2, 109:17, 111:17, 111:25  
 inefficient [1] - 117:3

**influence** [1] - 82:8  
**information** [10] - 10:9, 10:13, 14:15, 15:14, 15:18, 16:16, 21:15, 21:21, 76:8, 101:4  
**Informational** [2] - 6:22, 120:24  
**INFORMATIONAL** [2] - 5:1, 5:5  
**informational** [6] - 7:4, 10:12, 11:9, 13:22, 16:10, 100:23  
**inhaler** [1] - 79:25  
**inject** [1] - 37:15  
**injected** [4] - 41:2, 43:7, 58:1, 65:14  
**injecting** [1] - 57:25  
**injection** [7] - 28:4, 28:9, 29:1, 29:2, 29:5, 31:4, 53:14  
**inlets** [1] - 68:25  
**input** [1] - 120:8  
**inside** [3] - 22:18, 77:17, 101:4  
**inspect** [1] - 60:23  
**inspection** [6] - 52:8, 52:20, 60:20, 62:15, 62:16, 111:10  
**inspections** [5] - 21:5, 53:4, 67:25, 85:2, 110:13  
**inspectors** [2] - 67:13, 67:15  
**install** [1] - 53:1  
**instance** [3] - 25:1, 56:3, 84:25  
**instituted** [1] - 95:17  
**intensity** [1] - 30:11  
**Intent** [5] - 4:4, 12:12, 13:9, 15:25, 16:8  
**intent** [6] - 12:9, 15:15, 20:7, 59:25, 76:7, 77:2  
**interested** [2] - 18:12, 92:7  
**interesting** [1] - 113:13  
**interject** [2] - 62:12, 73:19  
**internally** [1] - 65:20  
**Internet** [2] - 35:20, 119:4

**interruptions** [1] - 105:6  
**interviews** [1] - 118:21  
**introduce** [1] - 17:11  
**invested** [1] - 95:2  
**investigating** [1] - 106:2  
**investigators** [1] - 66:10  
**invitation** [1] - 6:19  
**inviting** [1] - 10:17  
**involved** [9] - 20:13, 35:5, 35:7, 62:16, 71:23, 84:14, 101:5, 108:19, 118:21  
**involvement** [1] - 108:20  
**involves** [1] - 51:4  
**Iowa** [8] - 35:16, 36:4, 47:19, 70:5, 81:16, 81:20, 88:17, 117:1  
**issue** [5] - 27:6, 35:21, 48:4, 85:12, 101:16  
**issues** [7] - 26:13, 60:14, 65:6, 68:3, 68:8, 70:8, 85:8  
**itself** [3] - 26:22, 49:2, 56:20  
**IUA** [1] - 110:13

**J**

**Jackson** [1] - 5:8  
**JEROME** [7] - 75:13, 77:4, 77:12, 77:17, 77:21, 78:19, 104:12  
**Jerome** [2] - 75:13, 104:11  
**Jessica** [2] - 18:9, 18:10  
**job** [8] - 33:15, 95:18, 95:19, 95:22, 95:24, 105:16, 105:18  
**jobs** [4] - 91:24, 93:6, 108:10, 118:9  
**Joe** [3] - 71:17, 71:18  
**John** [2] - 5:13, 6:20  
**joined** [3] - 18:9, 110:8, 112:6  
**joining** [1] - 110:7

**joint** [2] - 27:15, 61:9  
**joints** [2] - 27:10, 27:11  
**July** [7] - 12:14, 13:9, 13:11, 20:7, 20:9, 47:3, 107:25  
**jump** [1] - 54:5  
**jumped** [1] - 99:10  
**junior** [1] - 108:24

**K**

**karst** [5] - 24:15, 24:20, 24:23, 48:18, 48:20  
**karstified** [1] - 24:18  
**keep** [11] - 9:17, 10:6, 21:1, 40:3, 41:17, 44:16, 59:11, 59:12, 95:14, 104:25, 113:11  
**keeping** [2] - 65:9, 95:19  
**keeps** [1] - 108:13  
**Kendall** [1] - 81:15  
**Kendell** [2] - 112:10, 112:12  
**KENDELL** [3] - 112:12, 112:15, 112:18  
**kept** [3] - 113:8, 113:17  
**key** [1] - 33:22  
**kick** [1] - 59:8  
**kids** [5] - 50:3, 95:14, 96:22, 107:11, 108:23  
**kind** [19] - 22:16, 26:3, 30:21, 31:2, 31:17, 42:25, 48:22, 53:23, 54:1, 58:15, 58:20, 59:11, 60:12, 62:10, 63:10, 75:19, 77:3, 86:19, 108:20  
**Kiwanis** [1] - 107:23  
**knowing** [1] - 38:23  
**knowledge** [1] - 70:9  
**known** [1] - 30:10  
**knows** [1] - 58:15  
**knuckleheads** [1] - 96:1

**Kolette** [4] - 18:9, 18:10, 98:12, 98:15  
**KOLETTE** [6] - 98:15, 98:18, 98:22, 98:23, 99:1, 120:4  
**KR** [1] - 44:4

**L**

**L-a-n-g-h-o-u-t** [1] - 66:25  
**L-i-t-c-h-f-i-e-l-d** [1] - 112:13  
**ladies** [1] - 71:3  
**lagoon** [2] - 11:24, 60:20  
**lagoons** [1] - 60:21  
**laid** [3] - 19:13, 69:11, 69:14  
**land** [9] - 21:22, 24:16, 24:17, 27:23, 56:16, 56:17, 74:14, 92:15  
**landlords** [1] - 102:8  
**lands** [1] - 106:11  
**LANGHOUT** [23] - 66:18, 66:22, 66:25, 67:2, 67:4, 67:17, 67:24, 68:11, 68:14, 68:18, 69:8, 69:23, 70:1, 70:14, 70:20, 87:24, 88:18, 88:22, 89:3, 89:8, 111:23, 112:3, 112:7  
**Langhout** [4] - 66:19, 66:22, 87:24, 111:23  
**lapel** [1] - 40:17  
**larger** [2] - 109:23, 111:8  
**LARRY** [27] - 78:23, 79:5, 79:7, 79:23, 80:8, 80:16, 80:25, 81:2, 81:4, 81:21, 82:14, 82:16, 82:20, 82:22, 100:4, 100:6, 100:8, 100:11, 100:12, 100:15, 102:24, 103:8, 103:12, 103:16, 103:20, 104:1, 104:10  
**Larry** [6] - 78:23, 100:3, 100:11,

100:15, 102:20, 103:2  
**last** [20] - 8:9, 10:2, 16:16, 30:21, 33:12, 39:18, 40:10, 58:4, 60:23, 66:24, 73:7, 85:17, 85:18, 85:24, 90:4, 98:13, 104:18, 106:24, 109:12, 112:11  
**Last** [1] - 40:12  
**late** [2] - 41:15, 115:19  
**latest** [1] - 111:14  
**law** [4] - 11:15, 53:1, 54:16, 72:23  
**laws** [2] - 10:8, 40:4  
**layer** [1] - 78:3  
**Leaching** [1] - 27:6  
**leader** [1] - 99:4  
**leading** [1] - 118:21  
**learn** [5] - 10:15, 106:9, 111:6, 113:2, 119:1  
**learned** [3] - 99:17, 117:3, 119:1  
**learning** [1] - 99:18  
**lease** [2] - 96:6, 116:17  
**leasing** [1] - 116:18  
**least** [7] - 25:6, 29:10, 34:17, 52:2, 52:3, 52:7, 63:22  
**leave** [3] - 30:4, 45:8, 118:2  
**leaving** [1] - 31:14  
**legal** [1] - 9:9  
**lenders** [1] - 116:4  
**lengthens** [1] - 26:9  
**less** [11] - 13:17, 13:18, 20:15, 31:25, 38:2, 55:12, 55:25, 76:5, 111:2, 111:10, 117:22  
**letting** [1] - 28:6  
**level** [5] - 27:2, 69:7, 70:9, 72:15, 120:9  
**life** [4] - 49:24, 99:12, 106:8, 113:14  
**lift** [1] - 100:18  
**light** [2] - 72:18, 93:12  
**likelihood** [1] -

25:25  
**limestone** [1] - 48:15  
**limit** [3] - 8:13, 40:1, 106:17  
**limited** [3] - 39:23, 68:8, 92:5  
**limits** [1] - 32:5  
**line** [5] - 57:22, 57:25, 71:14, 90:12, 117:13  
**Line** [1] - 4:2  
**lines** [1] - 81:12  
**link** [1] - 58:20  
**Lions** [1] - 107:23  
**list** [2] - 108:9, 110:3  
**listed** [1] - 57:10  
**listening** [2] - 39:4, 94:6  
**listing** [1] - 89:25  
**Litchfield** [3] - 112:10, 112:12, 114:9  
**LITCHFIELD** [3] - 112:12, 112:15, 112:18  
**live** [15] - 34:7, 36:11, 36:12, 40:21, 69:22, 101:17, 102:8, 104:4, 105:3, 105:10, 106:8, 107:9, 107:10, 112:4, 112:19  
**livelihood** [1] - 99:22  
**lives** [2] - 79:23, 101:8  
**livestock** [52] - 10:9, 12:10, 12:18, 14:3, 14:5, 14:12, 21:2, 22:22, 23:2, 23:4, 27:8, 27:16, 28:12, 32:21, 33:16, 33:19, 33:20, 35:17, 36:3, 36:5, 36:17, 58:14, 59:1, 59:24, 61:12, 63:19, 63:20, 81:17, 82:6, 82:7, 87:8, 91:4, 91:7, 91:9, 91:19, 91:22, 91:24, 92:2, 92:6, 92:7, 93:14, 93:15, 94:12, 109:17, 110:2, 110:4, 110:6, 110:23, 111:1, 111:25, 112:6, 113:24

**LIVESTOCK** [1] - 5:2  
**Livestock** [24] - 6:25, 7:3, 7:21, 8:3, 11:6, 11:12, 11:14, 12:6, 14:1, 14:14, 20:14, 22:2, 32:12, 51:25, 57:8, 58:18, 58:24, 59:16, 59:23, 60:18, 67:9, 69:6, 94:10, 109:25  
**living** [3] - 28:16, 36:20, 94:13  
**Livingston** [1] - 109:21  
**LMFA** [6] - 59:25, 60:6, 61:17, 62:8, 110:3, 110:10  
**load** [2] - 69:17, 107:18  
**loaded** [2] - 77:8, 77:10  
**loading** [4] - 21:8, 21:20, 28:8, 55:8  
**loads** [2] - 107:14, 107:15  
**local** [23] - 18:5, 29:11, 35:5, 35:6, 37:14, 45:16, 45:24, 46:3, 46:6, 46:10, 65:16, 91:23, 95:1, 95:4, 95:5, 108:6, 108:12, 108:17, 111:2, 111:5, 113:12, 118:1  
**locally** [4] - 29:10, 46:8, 108:3, 108:15  
**located** [3] - 12:20, 14:19, 63:24  
**location** [13] - 19:4, 19:19, 19:20, 22:1, 22:20, 23:16, 25:9, 27:25, 31:4, 67:8, 76:14, 88:20, 110:5  
**locker** [1] - 108:3  
**look** [26] - 22:17, 23:17, 24:12, 25:10, 25:15, 25:19, 31:9, 34:6, 34:7, 34:9, 35:19, 48:2, 49:7, 55:2, 67:14, 70:11, 71:18, 73:21, 78:15, 80:9, 80:13, 82:10, 101:21, 110:17  
**looked** [4] - 34:3, 38:19, 38:21, 74:17

**looking** [10] - 44:17, 46:9, 49:24, 72:18, 73:3, 77:8, 77:10, 81:7, 110:7, 117:5  
**looks** [1] - 86:6  
**lose** [3] - 65:6, 92:12, 115:24  
**loss** [1] - 30:8  
**lost** [1] - 115:23  
**loudly** [1] - 40:11  
**loved** [1] - 99:8  
**loves** [2] - 105:20  
**loving** [1] - 99:20  
**low** [1] - 79:15  
**lowest** [1] - 44:10  
**LP** [2] - 46:2, 46:3  
**Ludlum's** [1] - 108:4

## M

**M-a-r-c-o-t-t** [1] - 44:23  
**M-c-M-e-e-k-a-n** [3] - 46:21, 87:2, 104:21  
**M-o-e** [1] - 51:19  
**M-o-o-r-e** [2] - 78:23, 100:11  
**M-u-h-l-e-n-b-r-u-c-k** [2] - 16:24, 115:10  
**M-u-r-p-h-y** [1] - 50:11  
**ma'am** [6] - 49:6, 49:15, 50:6, 64:22, 67:1, 86:25  
**Ma'am** [2] - 49:15, 64:23  
**Macomb** [5] - 5:8, 13:3, 19:10, 19:11, 107:24  
**mailed** [1] - 70:12  
**maintain** [2] - 20:16, 20:19  
**maintained** [4] - 18:16, 94:15, 110:12, 110:19  
**maintenance** [5] - 27:25, 29:21, 29:23, 30:6, 30:10, 31:4  
**major** [1] - 11:22  
**majority** [2] - 59:20, 111:8  
**malice** [1] - 101:14  
**man** [3] - 94:17, 99:5, 99:19

**managed** [2] - 65:3, 88:6  
**management** [13] - 11:23, 14:12, 14:16, 23:4, 27:25, 57:1, 58:14, 61:18, 61:22, 62:19, 63:20, 72:9, 85:9  
**Management** [37] - 7:3, 7:21, 8:3, 11:7, 11:12, 11:14, 12:6, 14:1, 14:14, 20:11, 20:12, 20:14, 20:16, 20:20, 20:22, 20:25, 21:2, 21:6, 21:15, 22:2, 23:9, 23:10, 32:12, 36:24, 50:15, 51:25, 58:18, 58:24, 59:16, 59:23, 61:25, 62:6, 67:9, 69:6, 94:11, 109:25  
**MANAGEMENT** [1] - 5:2  
**manager** [3] - 23:1, 23:2, 23:6  
**Manager** [4] - 5:24, 6:6, 6:24, 60:18  
**managers** [1] - 23:4  
**managing** [3] - 63:13, 83:12, 95:18  
**Manure** [1] - 22:9  
**manure** [74] - 14:16, 21:7, 21:8, 21:10, 21:16, 21:19, 23:4, 23:14, 26:17, 26:18, 27:8, 27:16, 27:23, 28:4, 28:5, 28:7, 28:11, 28:12, 28:16, 29:2, 29:11, 29:24, 29:25, 31:5, 33:1, 33:2, 34:19, 36:23, 37:1, 37:8, 37:15, 40:19, 41:13, 42:10, 42:14, 42:24, 43:3, 43:6, 43:7, 43:11, 43:24, 44:1, 44:2, 44:9, 44:17, 44:18, 49:2, 53:9, 53:17, 53:19, 55:2, 55:7, 56:16, 56:18, 57:11, 57:12, 58:17, 60:6, 61:4, 61:15, 61:22, 62:19, 62:20, 63:10, 69:1, 72:12, 72:16, 73:7, 74:14,

74:25, 78:25, 84:10, 89:5  
**map** [7] - 23:17, 24:7, 24:11, 24:19, 24:24, 31:12, 48:22  
**maps** [2] - 24:8, 57:2  
**MARC** [5] - 96:17, 96:25, 97:5, 97:7  
**marc** [1] - 96:17  
**MARCOTT** [2] - 44:22, 46:17  
**Marcott** [1] - 44:22  
**margins** [1] - 118:7  
**mark** [1] - 93:18  
**marked** [1] - 39:10  
**market** [5] - 37:6, 88:8, 91:24, 95:11, 110:23  
**markets** [1] - 111:2  
**married** [1] - 18:6  
**material** [8] - 8:19, 25:2, 25:10, 25:19, 25:22, 77:24, 78:3, 78:11  
**materials** [2] - 94:24  
**matter** [1] - 113:10  
**mature** [1] - 47:2  
**maximum** [4] - 13:5, 47:5, 72:23, 76:14  
**McDonough** [30] - 6:19, 7:5, 7:14, 10:23, 13:1, 13:13, 13:21, 15:10, 16:10, 45:4, 46:15, 66:23, 87:25, 91:1, 91:6, 91:20, 91:22, 91:25, 92:2, 92:16, 93:15, 96:22, 101:18, 101:19, 104:3, 107:20, 108:14, 111:1, 111:23, 120:7  
**MCMEKAN** [10] - 47:9, 47:15, 48:5, 48:10, 48:14, 49:1, 49:12, 49:17, 49:21, 50:1  
**McMeekan** [19] - 46:20, 86:24, 87:1, 87:5, 87:10, 87:15, 87:20, 104:14, 104:15, 104:16, 104:20, 104:22, 104:25, 105:8, 106:17  
**McMeetian** [1] - 104:13

**meal** [1] - 107:15  
**mean** [11] - 26:15, 46:11, 68:2, 80:16, 84:16, 93:9, 96:10, 97:15, 97:17, 111:2, 117:14  
**means** [5] - 21:9, 27:12, 38:13, 45:17  
**measuring** [1] - 12:16  
**media** [3] - 118:18, 118:25  
**medications** [2] - 68:19, 68:22  
**meet** [12] - 20:3, 21:12, 22:21, 25:11, 25:21, 27:18, 32:11, 50:23, 64:13, 102:22, 103:4, 103:7  
**MEETING** [2] - 5:1, 5:5  
**meeting** [42] - 6:13, 7:2, 7:4, 7:10, 7:13, 7:14, 7:19, 7:24, 8:4, 8:12, 8:23, 9:21, 10:12, 11:9, 13:22, 13:24, 13:25, 14:16, 15:6, 15:7, 15:16, 16:4, 16:10, 38:4, 38:14, 38:16, 39:14, 39:22, 49:11, 82:22, 83:3, 83:4, 86:5, 89:14, 90:1, 100:22, 100:23, 101:3, 112:20, 112:25, 115:1, 120:13  
**Meeting** [2] - 6:22, 120:24  
**meetings** [1] - 119:9  
**meets** [3] - 8:2, 20:12, 62:4  
**member** [1] - 99:8  
**members** [2] - 7:5, 10:14  
**membership** [1] - 108:20  
**memory** [1] - 63:4  
**mention** [2] - 97:21, 97:22  
**mentioned** [16] - 13:8, 19:6, 19:16, 20:6, 22:22, 23:9, 26:21, 28:3, 56:6, 58:23, 60:18, 67:10, 67:11,

70:17, 83:16, 120:16  
**mentioning** [1] - 104:25  
**merits** [1] - 10:7  
**met** [7] - 15:21, 20:8, 22:24, 32:14, 99:5, 110:4, 110:12  
**method** [1] - 55:14  
**mic** [2] - 90:17, 90:19  
**MICHELLE** [23] - 66:18, 66:22, 66:25, 67:2, 67:4, 67:17, 67:24, 68:11, 68:14, 68:18, 69:8, 69:23, 70:1, 70:14, 70:20, 87:24, 88:18, 88:22, 89:3, 89:8, 111:23, 112:3, 112:7  
**Michelle** [4] - 66:19, 66:22, 87:24, 111:23  
**Michigan** [1] - 102:8  
**microphone** [3] - 40:17, 45:20, 90:3  
**mid** [2] - 44:6, 73:22  
**MidAmerica** [1] - 5:7  
**middle** [2] - 42:19, 58:9  
**MidWest** [2] - 22:8, 22:9  
**might** [7] - 50:4, 50:5, 54:24, 56:17, 67:11, 93:14, 108:24  
**migraine**  
**headaches** [1] - 79:24  
**migraines** [1] - 80:10  
**mile** [14] - 24:1, 24:2, 32:25, 33:5, 57:11, 63:23, 63:25, 64:9, 64:25, 79:8, 80:13, 81:6, 107:9, 109:23  
**miles** [13] - 12:21, 31:1, 35:17, 41:23, 41:24, 42:3, 58:7, 64:13, 87:12, 101:9, 102:4, 109:23, 112:19  
**mill** [3] - 107:16, 108:18, 118:8

million [8] - 45:15, 91:23, 107:17, 117:12, 117:19, 118:3, 118:4, 118:7  
mind [7] - 9:15, 9:17, 10:6, 40:3, 44:16, 54:5, 102:13  
minded [1] - 38:17  
minds [1] - 26:3  
mine [1] - 100:21  
minimize [5] - 19:22, 19:24, 25:23, 25:25, 29:21  
minimizes [2] - 28:9, 30:3  
minimizing [1] - 30:7  
minimum [10] - 26:6, 27:9, 29:15, 29:17, 52:1, 52:7, 72:22, 74:17, 74:20, 75:5  
minute [3] - 47:13, 86:1, 86:3  
minutes [5] - 9:7, 9:10, 90:7, 90:9, 96:13  
mirror [1] - 119:11  
Miss [6] - 99:25, 100:1, 109:7, 111:20, 111:21, 111:25  
mission [1] - 118:25  
Missouri [1] - 55:24  
misspoke [1] - 28:14  
mister [1] - 69:12  
misunderstood [2] - 50:12, 50:18  
mixture [1] - 25:5  
MMP [1] - 69:2  
modern [1] - 111:7  
modified [1] - 12:4  
MOE [5] - 51:19, 53:7, 53:12, 53:16, 53:22  
Moe [1] - 51:19  
Moine [1] - 72:4  
moisture [2] - 78:12  
moment [1] - 26:11  
money [4] - 74:10, 95:3, 107:25, 108:3  
monitor [1] - 68:15  
monitored [1] - 28:18  
monitoring [4] - 53:23, 54:1, 54:13,

105:16  
monitors [1] - 51:21  
months [2] - 26:6, 117:1  
MOORE [27] - 78:23, 79:5, 79:7, 79:23, 80:8, 80:16, 80:25, 81:2, 81:4, 81:21, 82:14, 82:16, 82:20, 82:22, 100:4, 100:6, 100:8, 100:11, 100:12, 100:15, 102:24, 103:8, 103:12, 103:16, 103:20, 104:1, 104:10  
Moore [9] - 78:23, 80:23, 100:3, 100:11, 100:15, 102:16, 102:17, 104:8, 104:9  
morning [1] - 43:4  
most [9] - 11:19, 17:22, 27:24, 30:14, 33:8, 44:13, 71:12, 101:23, 111:10  
mother [1] - 109:17  
move [6] - 10:21, 49:20, 50:7, 69:18, 92:3, 118:1  
moved [3] - 18:4, 71:9, 100:15  
movement [1] - 79:15  
moving [3] - 21:25, 89:13, 118:8  
MP [1] - 44:4  
MR [345] - 6:11, 11:2, 16:6, 16:18, 16:20, 16:21, 16:22, 16:23, 16:25, 17:1, 17:5, 17:7, 18:1, 18:24, 18:25, 19:8, 19:9, 32:16, 39:5, 39:8, 39:9, 40:12, 40:16, 40:18, 40:23, 40:25, 41:1, 41:9, 41:10, 41:21, 41:23, 41:24, 41:25, 42:4, 42:5, 42:6, 42:7, 42:17, 42:18, 42:19, 42:20, 43:2, 43:21, 43:22, 43:23, 44:5, 44:8, 44:15, 44:16, 44:21, 44:22, 45:1,

45:2, 45:13, 45:22, 46:17, 46:18, 46:19, 46:24, 47:11, 47:18, 48:9, 48:11, 48:16, 48:21, 48:22, 49:6, 49:15, 49:18, 49:23, 50:2, 50:6, 50:10, 50:13, 50:14, 50:17, 50:18, 50:20, 50:21, 50:24, 50:25, 51:1, 51:2, 51:3, 51:6, 51:7, 51:10, 51:11, 51:15, 51:16, 51:17, 51:19, 51:24, 53:7, 53:11, 53:12, 53:14, 53:16, 53:18, 53:22, 54:4, 54:5, 54:17, 54:18, 54:23, 54:24, 55:2, 55:15, 55:18, 55:20, 55:22, 56:5, 56:10, 56:13, 56:19, 57:8, 57:14, 57:16, 57:17, 57:19, 58:4, 58:7, 58:8, 58:10, 58:23, 61:13, 61:16, 62:9, 62:10, 62:12, 62:24, 63:15, 63:18, 64:15, 64:20, 64:22, 66:16, 66:21, 66:24, 67:1, 67:3, 67:16, 67:19, 68:2, 68:13, 68:17, 68:21, 69:9, 69:25, 70:3, 70:19, 70:22, 70:23, 70:25, 71:24, 72:2, 72:8, 72:9, 72:17, 73:13, 73:15, 73:19, 74:12, 74:16, 75:2, 75:4, 75:10, 75:13, 75:20, 77:4, 77:8, 77:12, 77:15, 77:17, 77:19, 77:21, 77:23, 78:19, 78:20, 78:21, 78:23, 79:3, 79:5, 79:6, 79:7, 79:13, 79:23, 80:6, 80:8, 80:9, 80:16, 80:20, 80:23, 80:25, 81:1, 81:2, 81:3, 81:4, 81:9, 81:11, 81:21, 82:1, 82:14, 82:15,

82:16, 82:17, 82:20, 82:21, 82:22, 83:2, 83:10, 83:14, 83:15, 83:16, 84:15, 84:18, 84:19, 84:21, 84:24, 85:5, 85:6, 85:14, 85:16, 85:18, 85:19, 85:20, 85:21, 85:22, 85:23, 85:25, 86:10, 87:7, 87:14, 87:16, 87:18, 87:21, 88:7, 88:16, 88:17, 88:21, 88:23, 89:1, 89:2, 89:6, 89:11, 90:16, 90:17, 90:20, 90:21, 90:25, 92:18, 92:21, 92:23, 93:1, 93:4, 93:9, 93:12, 93:13, 93:16, 93:17, 93:21, 93:22, 93:25, 94:1, 94:5, 94:6, 96:14, 96:17, 96:24, 96:25, 97:2, 97:5, 97:6, 97:7, 97:8, 97:10, 97:14, 98:9, 98:11, 98:12, 98:17, 98:20, 98:25, 99:25, 100:3, 100:4, 100:5, 100:6, 100:7, 100:8, 100:9, 100:11, 100:14, 100:15, 102:16, 102:19, 102:24, 103:2, 103:8, 103:10, 103:12, 103:13, 103:16, 103:20, 103:22, 103:24, 104:1, 104:5, 104:6, 104:10, 104:11, 104:12, 104:13, 104:15, 104:17, 104:24, 105:5, 106:16, 107:1, 107:2, 107:6, 107:7, 109:3, 109:10, 111:20, 112:9, 112:12, 112:14, 112:17, 112:18, 114:8, 114:12, 114:13, 114:15, 114:16, 115:5, 115:8, 115:9, 115:11, 115:12,

119:20, 119:22, 120:5, 120:6, 120:15  
MRSA [1] - 49:2  
MS [62] - 46:20, 47:9, 47:15, 48:5, 48:10, 48:14, 49:1, 49:12, 49:17, 49:21, 50:1, 63:1, 63:17, 64:11, 64:21, 65:2, 66:15, 66:18, 66:22, 66:25, 67:2, 67:4, 67:17, 67:24, 68:11, 68:14, 68:18, 69:8, 69:23, 70:1, 70:14, 70:20, 86:24, 87:1, 87:5, 87:10, 87:15, 87:20, 87:24, 88:18, 88:22, 89:3, 89:8, 98:15, 98:18, 98:22, 99:1, 104:14, 104:16, 104:20, 104:25, 105:8, 109:9, 109:13, 109:16, 111:23, 112:2, 112:3, 112:4, 112:7, 112:8, 120:4  
MUHLENBRUCK [24] - 16:23, 45:2, 62:12, 65:4, 68:21, 69:9, 69:25, 70:3, 70:19, 70:22, 70:25, 73:19, 81:11, 84:19, 84:24, 85:6, 85:20, 88:7, 88:17, 89:1, 89:6, 115:5, 115:9, 115:12  
Muhlenbruck [8] - 6:6, 16:23, 17:3, 17:19, 69:25, 70:1, 115:5, 115:9  
multiple [4] - 9:9, 33:13, 52:10, 53:3  
multitude [1] - 115:14  
municipal [1] - 88:12  
MURPHY [15] - 50:10, 50:14, 50:18, 50:24, 51:1, 51:3, 51:7, 51:11, 51:16, 83:10, 83:15, 84:15, 85:16, 85:19, 85:22  
Murphy [3] - 50:10, 83:10, 106:21

must [1] - 110:4

## N

nail [1] - 74:12  
name [49] - 6:20, 8:9, 9:20, 10:1, 10:2, 11:3, 16:16, 16:18, 17:7, 18:25, 32:17, 39:17, 39:18, 40:10, 40:12, 40:13, 44:22, 46:20, 50:10, 51:19, 66:19, 66:22, 66:24, 69:24, 75:13, 81:15, 85:3, 86:25, 90:4, 91:1, 93:3, 98:13, 100:10, 100:15, 104:17, 104:18, 106:24, 106:25, 109:7, 109:12, 109:16, 112:11, 115:5, 115:8  
names [3] - 9:11, 90:2, 114:17  
National [1] - 5:7  
natural [1] - 111:15  
nature [1] - 120:22  
nearly [1] - 74:5  
necessarily [2] - 68:2, 73:17  
need [15] - 15:4, 29:15, 29:18, 38:12, 40:3, 40:17, 59:9, 70:12, 71:9, 75:8, 85:14, 86:25, 95:21, 103:17, 108:4  
needed [3] - 65:18, 66:5, 108:1  
needs [2] - 21:12, 102:14  
neighbor [13] - 18:19, 34:7, 34:8, 34:16, 36:18, 38:17, 42:13, 43:15, 48:2, 76:13, 79:4, 94:18  
neighbor's [1] - 57:5  
neighborhood [6] - 33:4, 39:1, 79:22, 81:6, 82:6, 82:12  
neighborhoods [3] - 33:20, 36:11  
neighboring [1] - 23:21

neighborly [1] - 42:16  
 neighbors [15] - 18:17, 33:23, 34:6, 34:17, 38:6, 43:10, 76:22, 94:16, 103:1, 105:21, 105:22, 106:6, 109:22, 111:9, 111:18  
 neighbors' [1] - 47:17  
 never [5] - 12:25, 56:11, 92:12, 101:5  
 New [1] - 100:16  
 new [17] - 7:8, 12:4, 33:19, 36:20, 50:4, 58:12, 75:24, 76:1, 76:5, 76:17, 76:18, 76:19, 85:10, 92:3, 110:9, 110:15  
 newer [1] - 92:5  
 newspaper [1] - 13:15  
 newspapers [1] - 13:25  
 next [15] - 18:14, 27:14, 43:5, 51:18, 57:21, 65:11, 77:4, 77:12, 80:4, 93:22, 95:13, 95:20, 105:13, 113:10, 115:17  
 nice [2] - 43:4, 113:18  
 Nick [17] - 6:7, 16:21, 17:3, 17:7, 32:17, 38:22, 42:20, 42:21, 58:10, 68:23, 71:5, 83:24, 84:25, 102:19, 114:14, 118:20, 119:2  
 NICK [15] - 42:20, 43:21, 43:23, 44:15, 58:10, 61:13, 62:9, 102:19, 103:2, 103:10, 103:13, 103:17, 103:22, 104:5, 114:15  
 night [1] - 43:5  
 nine [8] - 18:1, 58:7, 74:9, 79:24, 101:9, 102:4, 107:13, 117:1  
 ninety [1] - 44:20  
 ninety-seven [1] - 44:20

nitrogen [1] - 28:7  
 nobody [1] - 109:1  
 non [2] - 15:8, 107:22  
 non-binding [1] - 15:8  
 non-profit [1] - 107:22  
 none [2] - 65:17, 74:3  
 normal [2] - 41:11, 69:14  
 normally [1] - 37:23  
 north [5] - 19:12, 31:14, 107:9, 113:5  
 north side [1] - 63:7  
 north/northwest [1] - 41:16  
 northwest [2] - 12:21, 79:8  
 notes [1] - 16:4  
 nothing [12] - 24:13, 25:20, 26:15, 48:19, 48:24, 51:7, 81:20, 101:20, 102:8, 102:11, 119:5  
 Notice [5] - 4:4, 12:12, 13:9, 15:25, 16:8  
 notice [9] - 13:12, 13:14, 13:21, 13:24, 15:15, 20:7, 37:17, 76:7, 77:2  
 notices [2] - 16:9, 77:1  
 notifications [2] - 75:17, 76:15  
 notify [5] - 15:22, 76:21, 85:11, 85:14  
 November [1] - 15:14  
 nowhere [1] - 24:23  
 NRCS [4] - 61:25, 62:1, 62:7, 73:2  
 nudge [1] - 38:20  
 nudged [1] - 38:21  
 Number [3] - 19:17, 114:22, 114:23  
 number [9] - 8:11, 65:21, 65:22, 67:7, 69:10, 72:12, 72:17, 100:21  
 numbers [3] - 72:21, 73:11, 117:10

numerous [3] - 23:10, 31:8, 107:22  
 Nutrient [16] - 20:10, 20:11, 20:16, 20:19, 20:22, 20:25, 21:1, 21:6, 21:15, 23:9, 23:10, 36:24, 50:14, 50:15, 61:25, 62:6  
 nutrient [2] - 37:13, 73:6  
 nutrients [4] - 30:14, 30:16, 48:6, 74:10  
 nutrition [1] - 31:4

**O**

o'clock [1] - 6:11  
 O'Neill [10] - 93:22, 93:24, 93:25, 94:1, 96:14, 96:15, 96:18, 97:8, 98:9, 98:10  
 O'NEILL [5] - 93:25, 94:3, 94:6, 97:14, 98:11  
 O-N-e-i-l [1] - 93:25  
 O-t-t [1] - 96:17  
 Oakville [3] - 88:16, 88:17, 116:10  
 obtain [1] - 79:1  
 obvious [1] - 105:20  
 obviously [3] - 20:18, 71:22, 97:17  
 occasionally [1] - 56:8  
 occupied [3] - 22:23, 23:25, 57:21  
 occurred [1] - 54:14  
 October [1] - 15:11  
 Odor [5] - 27:20, 28:1, 29:9, 30:22, 31:3  
 odor [18] - 14:19, 19:23, 27:19, 29:20, 30:4, 30:8, 30:10, 30:11, 31:7, 31:8, 37:20, 41:11, 42:22, 79:10, 111:11, 119:16  
 odors [5] - 30:15, 55:9, 79:16, 81:7, 101:10

OF [2] - 5:2, 5:5  
 office [4] - 20:7, 84:5, 95:13, 108:6  
 Officer [12] - 5:14, 6:22, 15:24, 17:4, 90:24, 94:4, 98:24, 100:13, 104:23, 107:5, 109:15, 112:16  
 official [1] - 13:20  
 officials [1] - 16:11  
 offloaded [2] - 88:19, 88:23  
 offs [1] - 28:19  
 often [5] - 17:22, 54:25, 55:1, 105:10, 105:11  
 old [3] - 18:2, 36:9, 79:24  
 oldest [1] - 98:16  
 once [8] - 15:22, 35:11, 52:1, 52:2, 52:3, 62:21, 105:11, 106:10  
 one [88] - 9:1, 11:5, 12:17, 16:20, 19:4, 20:2, 20:13, 20:20, 22:7, 22:8, 23:11, 27:13, 34:21, 35:7, 38:6, 41:4, 45:1, 45:2, 45:10, 49:18, 49:19, 50:4, 50:5, 50:19, 50:22, 50:24, 51:1, 51:11, 52:5, 52:7, 53:7, 55:25, 56:2, 58:4, 61:2, 62:3, 62:5, 62:13, 63:3, 63:7, 64:1, 65:1, 65:8, 65:21, 66:13, 67:19, 67:22, 68:6, 68:8, 69:18, 70:14, 70:24, 70:25, 71:1, 71:2, 72:21, 73:19, 75:15, 79:18, 79:21, 80:4, 80:7, 82:19, 82:20, 82:21, 83:19, 83:20, 83:21, 83:23, 87:12, 87:13, 97:18, 97:21, 101:5, 108:22, 108:24, 109:11, 109:22, 111:11, 116:22, 117:22, 118:15  
 one-on-one [1] - 38:6  
 ones [3] - 33:18, 84:8, 97:18

op [1] - 108:16  
 open [3] - 8:4, 38:3, 39:14  
 operate [3] - 30:7, 60:1, 111:9  
 operated [2] - 38:9, 60:2  
 operation [12] - 18:16, 19:19, 20:17, 22:1, 23:8, 23:11, 23:13, 25:24, 33:1, 37:11, 67:8, 67:10  
 operational [1] - 60:13  
 operations [2] - 105:19, 105:22  
 Operations [1] - 61:20  
 operator [2] - 11:23, 25:24  
 operators [2] - 75:19, 77:5  
 opinion [2] - 36:14, 101:7  
 opportune [1] - 26:11  
 opportunities [1] - 92:5  
 opportunity [13] - 7:6, 8:1, 8:6, 10:14, 18:14, 32:13, 82:17, 90:9, 91:3, 97:2, 105:7, 107:20, 108:25  
 opposite [2] - 36:7, 113:14  
 Oral [2] - 4:12, 114:22  
 oral [26] - 7:6, 8:12, 8:17, 8:20, 8:21, 8:24, 9:3, 9:4, 9:5, 9:14, 9:18, 10:3, 40:1, 86:17, 89:16, 89:19, 89:20, 89:24, 89:25, 90:13, 90:14, 90:18, 92:19, 97:3, 114:18, 114:20  
 order [1] - 7:18  
 orderly [2] - 7:11, 7:18  
 organic [1] - 77:24  
 organization [1] - 73:2  
 organizations [2] - 107:23, 108:20  
 original [1] - 96:6  
 originally [1] - 11:15

originating [1] - 29:21  
 otherwise [2] - 29:8, 56:8  
 OTT [4] - 96:17, 96:25, 97:5, 97:7  
 Ott [1] - 96:17  
 ourselves [2] - 112:21, 116:22  
 outlets [2] - 54:2, 54:9  
 outlining [1] - 7:23  
 Outreach [1] - 5:7  
 outside [10] - 8:25, 26:15, 33:11, 77:18, 77:19, 84:5, 101:24, 113:20, 114:3  
 overall [3] - 30:15, 31:3, 31:7  
 oversee [2] - 65:17, 67:21  
 overseeing [2] - 65:21, 70:15  
 oversight [1] - 62:22  
 overview [1] - 7:21  
 overwhelmingly [2] - 105:2, 105:9  
 owed [1] - 101:2  
 OWENS [1] - 19:8  
 Owens [2] - 5:24, 6:24  
 own [8] - 34:5, 35:17, 88:8, 97:23, 102:25, 112:5, 116:13, 119:17  
 owned [7] - 34:19, 56:16, 56:17, 63:21, 64:12, 64:24, 110:19  
 owner [3] - 17:24, 25:24, 101:17  
 owners [1] - 15:18  
 ownership [6] - 18:17, 63:25, 64:2, 64:6, 64:8, 84:23  
 owns [2] - 79:1, 104:2

**P**

P.E [1] - 5:17  
 P.O [4] - 5:12, 5:16, 5:19, 5:23  
 P1 [1] - 74:15  
 packing [3] - 69:22, 89:2, 89:6  
 Page [1] - 4:2

panel [1] - 70:6  
paper [2] - 92:19, 113:12  
papers [1] - 118:19  
paragraph [1] - 14:13  
parcel [1] - 34:7  
parcels [1] - 34:6  
part [28] - 8:17, 8:20, 16:4, 18:12, 20:5, 20:10, 22:20, 23:1, 23:11, 32:20, 33:14, 33:15, 35:1, 46:7, 50:20, 52:9, 53:8, 53:22, 54:6, 61:5, 63:15, 79:12, 82:23, 85:9, 85:24, 91:20, 95:6, 106:12  
Part [1] - 22:4  
participation [1] - 120:1  
particles [2] - 30:4, 30:8  
particular [9] - 7:22, 10:9, 12:11, 34:11, 40:4, 80:24, 83:3, 87:8, 91:11  
partner [2] - 39:1, 84:23  
partnered [1] - 18:17  
partners [1] - 118:13  
partnership [1] - 102:10  
Partnership [1] - 72:4  
parts [3] - 17:11, 29:7, 76:10  
party [2] - 42:13, 66:10  
pass [8] - 9:15, 9:20, 23:7, 100:4, 100:6, 104:12, 114:12, 114:15  
passed [5] - 11:15, 18:8, 58:24, 66:13, 106:22  
passes [1] - 105:11  
passionate [1] - 113:24  
past [4] - 52:22, 96:13, 117:23, 119:15  
pat [1] - 66:2  
patterns [4] - 14:21, 19:24, 31:11, 31:17  
payment [1] - 118:4

payments [1] - 46:10  
payroll [2] - 117:12, 117:13  
pays [1] - 46:10  
PED [1] - 70:8  
peer [1] - 22:11  
pen [2] - 22:18, 71:9  
penetration [1] - 61:4  
people [43] - 8:11, 9:3, 9:5, 10:4, 36:7, 36:9, 37:20, 42:21, 44:23, 63:3, 64:5, 64:12, 65:8, 66:2, 66:7, 69:3, 69:10, 69:17, 70:15, 70:17, 71:11, 71:23, 86:16, 89:25, 90:12, 92:9, 96:2, 96:5, 98:7, 101:6, 101:25, 102:13, 104:25, 105:13, 106:5, 113:21, 113:24, 115:19, 115:22, 115:23, 118:10, 119:14  
per [15] - 29:10, 32:1, 35:2, 44:9, 44:11, 44:12, 44:13, 47:4, 52:18, 55:25, 106:17, 107:16, 116:25, 118:4  
perceived [1] - 10:7  
percent [14] - 31:25, 32:3, 44:19, 44:20, 56:2, 56:3, 66:13, 75:25, 76:4, 76:16, 110:18, 111:11, 117:22  
perform [1] - 60:21  
performed [1] - 51:23  
perhaps [1] - 59:11  
period [2] - 15:13, 40:22  
permeability [1] - 27:18  
permits [1] - 75:18  
person [7] - 9:7, 38:17, 38:18, 39:1, 65:21, 97:3, 99:20  
personnel [2] - 28:20, 70:21  
persons [1] - 9:11  
perspective [1] -

31:2  
pertain [2] - 34:12, 40:4  
petition [2] - 101:7, 112:19  
petitions [2] - 101:1, 101:3  
phase [5] - 8:12, 8:13, 8:14, 9:4, 89:14  
phase I [1] - 8:15  
phases [2] - 21:24, 52:12  
phone [3] - 71:17, 71:20, 83:23  
phosphorous [2] - 73:4, 73:14  
phosphorus [8] - 28:8, 72:15, 72:23, 73:18, 74:3, 74:6, 74:22, 75:1  
physical [1] - 69:19  
physically [1] - 110:13  
pick [2] - 15:1, 58:19  
picked [1] - 83:23  
picks [1] - 71:16  
pictures [2] - 28:25, 52:11  
piece [5] - 27:13, 27:14, 29:5, 34:11, 92:19  
pieces [1] - 21:20  
pig [21] - 33:3, 33:13, 37:7, 37:8, 38:7, 46:1, 73:24, 74:4, 74:8, 78:11, 78:12, 78:13, 79:22, 80:14, 80:21, 82:8, 82:13, 85:11, 89:7, 111:13  
pigs [41] - 32:21, 33:6, 33:8, 37:3, 37:4, 37:5, 37:9, 46:14, 47:2, 63:12, 63:13, 65:2, 65:10, 65:15, 69:4, 69:11, 69:15, 69:16, 69:18, 69:20, 69:21, 70:12, 71:1, 71:4, 71:6, 71:8, 71:9, 71:15, 71:18, 71:22, 88:24, 112:5, 116:5, 116:11, 116:12, 116:13, 116:19, 116:25, 117:6, 117:8

pipe [1] - 61:4  
pit [5] - 41:5, 53:2, 55:8, 83:18, 84:4  
place [4] - 54:6, 75:17, 92:7, 119:2  
placed [7] - 8:13, 8:25, 27:10, 52:4, 53:6, 60:9, 108:9  
places [1] - 119:5  
plan [16] - 17:12, 21:3, 21:24, 23:13, 37:16, 44:9, 44:13, 47:16, 50:15, 51:13, 56:10, 57:1, 61:15, 62:3, 72:25, 73:14  
Plan [22] - 20:11, 20:12, 20:17, 20:20, 20:22, 20:25, 21:2, 21:6, 21:15, 22:8, 22:9, 23:9, 23:10, 27:20, 28:2, 29:9, 29:20, 30:22, 31:3, 36:25, 50:15, 62:6  
planned [4] - 25:13, 31:7, 31:13, 32:8  
planning [3] - 11:23, 14:17, 61:23  
plans [16] - 14:2, 14:4, 14:8, 14:20, 15:16, 22:15, 25:24, 38:11, 45:11, 51:13, 61:18, 62:19, 72:10, 76:9, 77:13, 85:9  
Plans [1] - 61:25  
plant [3] - 69:13, 69:22, 89:7  
plants [1] - 89:2  
play [1] - 28:1  
plays [1] - 91:10  
plenty [1] - 120:1  
Plus [2] - 65:12, 65:13  
Poe [1] - 6:17  
point [8] - 8:23, 54:25, 59:6, 83:4, 97:11, 104:2, 116:10  
point A [2] - 35:9, 55:6  
point B [2] - 35:9, 55:6  
pointer [1] - 19:7  
policy [1] - 91:9  
pollution [1] - 111:12

pop [1] - 102:15  
popping [1] - 81:14  
populated [4] - 13:18, 22:23, 24:1, 30:25  
populations [1] - 49:5  
pork [3] - 98:5, 107:25, 111:17  
Pork [2] - 65:12, 65:13  
portion [3] - 24:9, 25:1, 39:22  
portrayals [1] - 113:13  
porus [1] - 48:15  
posed [1] - 77:4  
position [1] - 91:8  
positions [1] - 107:13  
positive [1] - 95:11  
possible [6] - 14:20, 14:22, 30:19, 30:20, 40:11, 108:18  
possibly [4] - 68:7, 70:9, 79:16, 95:21  
posted [1] - 32:5  
pot [2] - 78:15, 78:16  
potential [1] - 14:17  
potentially [1] - 27:3  
pound [2] - 73:25, 74:1  
pounds [5] - 13:7, 71:6, 73:24, 74:1, 77:11  
pour [2] - 27:13, 27:14  
poured [1] - 77:25  
power [3] - 46:7, 88:1, 88:3  
PowerPoint [3] - 4:6, 16:3, 16:13  
PQA [4] - 68:16, 68:18, 68:21, 85:9  
practical [2] - 35:22  
practice [2] - 30:15, 83:19  
practices [2] - 111:14, 119:10  
precip [1] - 119:24  
precipitation [2] - 119:25, 120:1  
preemptive [1] - 59:11

preferably [1] - 77:24  
premises [2] - 78:19, 78:20  
prepare [2] - 20:16, 20:19  
prepared [1] - 21:1  
presence [1] - 10:22  
present [4] - 7:6, 25:6, 32:20, 49:5  
PRESENT [1] - 6:2  
presentation [16] - 8:4, 16:4, 16:5, 16:13, 17:10, 19:3, 39:6, 39:10, 39:13, 50:20, 72:19, 74:21, 102:21  
Presentation [2] - 4:7, 4:9  
presenting [1] - 16:15  
President [3] - 6:3, 72:3, 91:1  
pressure [1] - 30:2  
pretend [1] - 113:20  
pretty [6] - 34:21, 42:2, 69:14, 98:8, 118:18, 118:23  
prevent [2] - 27:7, 30:1  
previous [1] - 32:2  
price [1] - 82:1  
prices [1] - 110:25  
pride [1] - 18:16  
printed [1] - 118:20  
priorities [1] - 118:15  
pro [1] - 99:15  
problem [13] - 28:24, 60:13, 61:1, 61:8, 70:8, 71:15, 83:22, 83:24, 84:2, 84:6, 84:7, 84:9  
problems [7] - 52:21, 53:4, 53:5, 59:15, 60:3, 105:17, 106:7  
procedure [1] - 9:23  
proceed [3] - 7:19, 7:24, 17:5  
proceeding [2] - 8:18, 10:13  
proceedings [1] - 10:25  
process [12] - 7:18, 7:24, 15:5,

35:4, 38:16, 54:25, 55:15, 58:13, 58:16, 60:13, 65:17, 88:6  
**processes** [1] - 84:14  
**processing** [1] - 77:13  
**processor** [1] - 118:6  
**produce** [8] - 37:3, 37:9, 59:3, 92:14, 94:25, 112:22, 113:23, 113:24  
**produced** [5] - 21:7, 21:16, 21:19, 26:19, 92:10  
**producer** [1] - 53:8  
**producers** [12] - 59:2, 59:12, 59:24, 60:1, 60:17, 62:3, 62:5, 63:9, 79:18, 107:20, 113:23, 115:25  
**produces** [1] - 47:13  
**production** [7] - 30:3, 66:7, 91:22, 92:2, 92:12, 93:15, 118:13  
**products** [1] - 92:14  
**professional** [4] - 28:15, 99:2, 109:18, 112:1  
**professionals** [2] - 47:19, 48:1  
**profit** [2] - 105:24, 107:22  
**profits** [1] - 118:7  
**program** [4] - 23:3, 61:9, 61:19, 116:17  
**Program** [4] - 6:25, 60:18, 65:13  
**programs** [1] - 68:16  
**Programs** [3] - 5:13, 5:21, 119:24  
**prohibited** [1] - 103:6  
**project** [9] - 7:22, 7:23, 8:1, 8:2, 11:13, 12:15, 12:20, 17:9, 45:14  
**project's** [1] - 14:5  
**projects** [4] - 17:23, 67:21, 85:2, 115:16  
**pronounce** [1] - 12:21

**pronunciation** [1] - 109:6  
**proper** [2] - 26:5, 31:4  
**properly** [1] - 68:25  
**property** [19] - 35:15, 35:18, 36:1, 36:2, 36:6, 36:15, 45:3, 45:4, 57:22, 57:25, 81:22, 81:23, 82:5, 82:8, 82:11, 101:17, 104:2, 105:11, 111:4  
**property's** [1] - 82:3  
**proposal** [2] - 12:12, 13:22  
**proposed** [30] - 7:7, 7:16, 8:1, 10:9, 10:15, 10:17, 11:10, 11:13, 12:3, 12:13, 12:15, 12:20, 13:5, 13:16, 14:5, 14:12, 14:17, 14:18, 14:20, 14:21, 14:22, 15:8, 19:4, 22:1, 24:22, 27:20, 64:16, 67:8, 68:7, 101:9  
**PROPOSED** [1] - 5:2  
**proposing** [5] - 27:21, 57:24, 60:19, 62:5, 80:25  
**prospects** [1] - 119:13  
**protect** [6] - 22:1, 67:8, 92:15, 110:1, 110:22, 111:14  
**protection** [2] - 19:21, 91:17  
**Protection** [9] - 57:20, 59:7, 59:25, 60:4, 60:11, 61:11, 61:14, 62:8  
**proteins** [1] - 30:14  
**prove** [1] - 81:16  
**proven** [1] - 21:17  
**provide** [15] - 7:21, 9:3, 9:7, 10:13, 40:1, 40:16, 76:25, 89:25, 91:24, 92:14, 108:12, 110:21, 110:22, 110:23, 117:13  
**provided** [1] - 120:17  
**provides** [4] -

62:15, 91:23, 109:25, 110:10  
**providing** [3] - 9:5, 17:2, 110:24  
**provisions** [9] - 7:21, 11:6, 11:12, 12:1, 12:6, 13:10, 21:22, 51:24, 59:6  
**PUBLIC** [2] - 5:1, 5:5  
**Public** [2] - 6:22, 120:24  
**public** [13] - 7:6, 8:25, 9:6, 10:4, 10:12, 10:15, 11:9, 13:21, 16:9, 17:23, 38:4, 39:25, 89:14  
**publications** [1] - 22:12  
**published** [3] - 13:14, 13:25, 113:12  
**publishing** [2] - 22:10, 22:11  
**pump** [3] - 41:4, 41:5, 106:5  
**pumped** [1] - 55:7  
**pumps** [1] - 28:21  
**purchased** [4] - 45:16, 46:3, 46:8, 107:15  
**purpose** [1] - 10:13  
**pursuant** [1] - 7:2  
**pursued** [1] - 18:10  
**pushing** [1] - 69:20  
**put** [24] - 26:10, 26:20, 31:2, 45:11, 46:11, 52:13, 53:20, 73:25, 74:5, 77:14, 77:24, 78:2, 78:10, 94:25, 101:1, 101:18, 102:9, 102:20, 104:3, 105:19, 117:4, 117:9  
**puts** [1] - 74:1  
**putting** [7] - 28:5, 28:7, 75:2, 95:3, 99:11, 115:19, 117:18

## Q

**qualified** [1] - 49:6  
**quality** [8] - 53:24, 54:2, 68:19, 91:17, 92:14, 96:1, 106:7, 110:22  
**Quality** [3] - 65:12,

65:13, 95:24  
**quarry** [1] - 45:24  
**quarter** [5] - 24:1, 57:11, 63:22, 63:24, 64:9  
**quarters** [1] - 64:25  
**questioning** [2] - 8:14, 9:6  
**questions** [48] - 7:6, 8:5, 9:18, 9:25, 10:4, 10:20, 17:22, 33:19, 33:22, 34:12, 37:25, 38:5, 39:14, 39:23, 40:2, 40:3, 40:7, 50:8, 54:20, 67:5, 71:25, 75:11, 75:14, 80:23, 81:10, 86:1, 86:13, 86:15, 86:18, 86:19, 86:21, 87:22, 89:12, 92:23, 96:15, 97:3, 97:8, 98:9, 100:1, 102:17, 104:8, 106:16, 106:17, 106:19, 109:4, 111:21, 114:9  
**quick** [1] - 92:11  
**quicker** [1] - 71:21  
**quickly** [1] - 7:19  
**quite** [3] - 12:7, 111:17, 116:25  
**quoted** [3] - 72:13, 72:21, 73:11

## R

**R-i-g-g-i-n-s** [1] - 97:10  
**radio** [1] - 119:4  
**rain** [3] - 26:18, 27:2, 43:5  
**rained** [1] - 27:3  
**rainfall** [2] - 44:1, 44:2  
**rainwater** [1] - 26:15  
**raise** [11] - 15:2, 17:2, 39:17, 43:25, 79:10, 90:21, 94:1, 98:17, 107:2, 110:2, 112:14  
**raised** [3] - 26:23, 32:20, 109:19  
**raising** [1] - 109:20  
**ran** [1] - 38:9  
**range** [1] - 38:10

**ranging** [1] - 44:10  
**rare** [2] - 55:25, 56:3  
**rate** [1] - 117:22  
**rates** [3] - 21:8, 21:20, 28:8  
**rather** [1] - 55:3  
**raw** [2] - 94:23, 94:24  
**Raymond** [1] - 6:17  
**reach** [1] - 29:7  
**read** [2] - 90:12, 118:19  
**ready** [1] - 26:19  
**real** [6] - 85:16, 95:18, 95:19, 113:14, 118:10, 118:11  
**realize** [2] - 84:17, 86:1  
**really** [15] - 36:3, 59:1, 59:3, 59:16, 61:9, 61:14, 63:21, 84:19, 84:22, 86:24, 94:10, 96:21, 97:22, 106:12, 119:13  
**reason** [4] - 18:12, 26:25, 33:15, 114:4  
**reassured** [1] - 38:25  
**rebar** [1] - 27:9  
**rebar's** [1] - 85:3  
**REC** [1] - 46:6  
**receive** [2] - 10:9, 14:11  
**received** [6] - 7:12, 12:12, 13:8, 13:20, 14:3, 52:2  
**recent** [1] - 111:10  
**recently** [1] - 11:19  
**recess** [1] - 86:9  
**recognize** [3] - 10:22, 95:7, 97:16  
**recognized** [1] - 97:20  
**recommendation** [4] - 15:8, 15:9, 15:17, 120:10  
**recommendation** [1] - 35:13  
**reconvene** [1] - 86:7  
**record** [20] - 7:12, 8:18, 8:20, 16:2, 16:7, 16:12, 39:7, 39:12, 86:14, 89:17, 89:20, 89:22, 93:19, 99:1,

99:3, 99:15, 104:18, 106:25, 114:21, 114:23  
**recordkeeping** [2] - 66:9, 68:22  
**records** [3] - 21:2, 21:4, 65:14  
**recreation** [1] - 14:23  
**red** [3] - 50:9, 62:25, 83:9  
**reduce** [2] - 30:10, 111:15  
**reduces** [1] - 69:19  
**reducing** [1] - 30:15  
**Reduction** [1] - 27:19  
**reduction** [2] - 19:23, 30:15  
**reinforced** [1] - 27:9  
**referenced** [1] - 93:11  
**referencing** [1] - 89:19  
**referred** [1] - 89:15  
**referring** [1] - 87:7  
**refresh** [1] - 63:4  
**regarding** [8] - 7:7, 7:16, 9:18, 11:11, 12:11, 13:22, 14:12, 14:15  
**REGARDING** [1] - 5:1  
**regards** [2] - 46:22, 48:5  
**regional** [1] - 71:11  
**registration** [2] - 19:17, 20:6  
**regular** [6] - 29:21, 29:23, 29:25, 30:6, 30:10, 65:23  
**regulation** [1] - 61:11  
**regulations** [8] - 10:8, 10:11, 40:5, 61:17, 74:19, 74:22, 75:9, 75:16  
**Regulations** [1] - 61:20  
**Regulatory** [1] - 6:6  
**regulatory** [1] - 59:3  
**reinforcement** [3] - 22:12, 52:14  
**reintroduced** [1] - 33:19  
**relate** [1] - 61:18

related [3] - 55:1, 67:5, 68:19  
relates [1] - 7:22  
relation [1] - 58:5  
Relations [2] - 6:6, 6:7  
relationship [2] - 18:20, 58:15  
relative [2] - 15:8, 80:11  
release [3] - 27:8, 59:5, 60:12  
relocated [1] - 88:22  
remains [1] - 110:18  
remarks [4] - 10:21, 11:1, 115:2, 119:21  
remediating [1] - 105:16  
remember [5] - 10:1, 10:19, 90:6, 95:12, 115:22  
remind [1] - 39:22  
remodel [1] - 36:11  
reoccurring [1] - 60:15  
repeat [1] - 117:20  
repercussions [1] - 84:1  
replace [1] - 59:24  
report [1] - 111:10  
REPORTER [6] - 40:15, 66:20, 86:25, 87:4, 93:3, 93:24  
reporter [6] - 8:10, 16:17, 66:19, 66:23, 90:4, 120:19  
reporting [1] - 60:7  
representatives [7] - 7:25, 8:6, 11:11, 17:1, 39:13, 39:21, 115:3  
representing [1] - 90:8  
request [2] - 7:5, 15:18  
requesting [1] - 13:21  
require [5] - 38:3, 52:16, 52:21, 53:4, 61:18  
required [2] - 20:18, 20:22, 22:6, 22:21, 23:7, 23:24, 25:8, 26:5, 27:17, 27:18, 51:25, 52:11, 52:23,

54:16, 56:25, 57:3, 57:10, 60:8, 60:16, 60:20, 75:18  
requirement [3] - 14:1, 25:12, 76:14  
requirements [30] - 11:23, 11:25, 12:10, 14:10, 19:18, 20:6, 22:13, 32:11, 56:15, 56:20, 59:1, 59:4, 59:11, 59:14, 59:19, 59:21, 59:24, 60:7, 61:17, 61:22, 62:4, 62:6, 62:7, 64:13, 73:1, 102:22, 103:4, 103:7  
requires [3] - 13:16, 54:7, 69:17  
research [2] - 22:11, 45:6  
research-based [1] - 22:11  
residence [5] - 22:23, 23:25, 56:22, 57:22, 79:7  
residential [5] - 13:17, 30:24, 48:10, 49:4, 106:6  
residents [1] - 48:7  
resistance [2] - 49:2, 49:14  
Resource [1] - 57:9  
resources [1] - 111:15  
respect [1] - 101:25  
respectful [1] - 120:21  
respiratory [1] - 106:7  
responsibilities [1] - 11:5  
responsibility [3] - 11:24, 58:21, 94:16  
responsible [5] - 38:17, 70:24, 71:1, 80:5, 80:19  
rest [2] - 117:1, 118:23  
restricting [1] - 111:1  
restricts [1] - 69:19  
result [1] - 14:8  
retention [1] - 21:3  
retirement [1] - 18:14  
revenue [1] - 111:4

review [7] - 14:7, 15:14, 15:20, 17:21, 17:22, 119:10, 120:11  
reviewed [2] - 13:9, 22:11  
RICHARD [13] - 54:18, 54:24, 55:15, 55:20, 56:5, 56:13, 57:8, 57:17, 58:4, 93:1, 93:4, 93:12, 93:16  
Richard [2] - 54:18, 93:4  
riding [1] - 99:10  
RIGGINS [1] - 97:10  
Riggins [1] - 97:10  
right? [1] - 68:20  
rigorous [1] - 22:5  
risk [4] - 49:5, 71:9, 105:23, 106:13  
risks [1] - 106:13  
River [3] - 5:6, 72:4, 107:19  
road [11] - 34:21, 35:3, 35:5, 35:6, 35:8, 55:10, 55:13, 77:7, 82:4, 89:4, 113:15  
roads [2] - 31:18, 34:25  
roadway [1] - 32:5  
ROBERT [9] - 40:12, 40:18, 40:25, 41:9, 41:21, 41:24, 42:4, 42:6, 42:17  
Robert [1] - 40:12  
rock [2] - 45:23, 48:15  
rode [1] - 32:25  
role [2] - 28:1, 91:11  
roll [1] - 114:6  
rolling [1] - 55:5  
rolls [1] - 84:12  
roof [1] - 117:4  
room [8] - 9:1, 40:9, 89:24, 95:17, 97:12, 99:18, 114:19, 118:14  
root [1] - 81:17  
Rotary [1] - 107:23  
rotation [1] - 29:16  
roughly [1] - 47:8  
round [1] - 69:2  
route [1] - 31:13  
Route [1] - 31:15

routes [2] - 35:11, 35:13  
routine [1] - 27:25  
row [2] - 32:21, 78:22  
rule [4] - 50:21, 50:23, 52:18, 54:6  
rules [3] - 58:21, 61:21, 75:16  
run [4] - 18:16, 18:18, 49:22, 50:12  
rundown [1] - 113:11  
running [5] - 26:18, 28:21, 31:1, 54:9, 83:18  
runoff [1] - 26:21  
runs [3] - 48:8, 48:15, 106:12  
ruptures [1] - 56:4  
rural [5] - 23:20, 32:9, 36:8, 36:13, 45:11, 82:12

## S

S-m-i-t-h [2] - 40:13, 63:2  
safe [6] - 9:17, 92:14, 94:11, 106:10, 110:21, 120:13  
safer [1] - 55:14  
safety [1] - 28:17  
sale barn [1] - 116:13  
Salem [1] - 100:16  
sales [1] - 73:21  
salesmen [1] - 116:3  
samples [1] - 70:12  
sand [1] - 25:5  
sand/gravel [1] - 25:5  
sandstone [1] - 25:3  
SANDY [6] - 63:1, 63:17, 64:11, 64:21, 65:2, 66:15  
Sandy [1] - 63:1  
sanitized [1] - 30:3  
sat [1] - 35:7  
saw [6] - 44:11, 44:13, 72:18, 83:8, 84:3  
sawdust [3] - 77:24, 78:3, 78:12  
scale [1] - 47:16

scheduled [2] - 13:22, 13:24  
Schmalshof [1] - 18:5  
Schuld/Bushnell [1] - 108:9  
Schwerer [2] - 10:23, 10:24  
Science [1] - 107:24  
scooped [1] - 33:1  
SCOTT [1] - 5:3  
Scott [39] - 6:1, 7:8, 10:18, 10:23, 13:3, 16:22, 17:3, 17:9, 17:11, 17:24, 18:1, 28:3, 31:6, 32:4, 32:18, 34:2, 34:4, 34:18, 38:10, 38:15, 38:20, 46:10, 56:17, 58:5, 65:8, 65:11, 71:14, 98:16, 100:21, 100:24, 101:8, 102:12, 102:20, 103:3, 112:24, 114:5, 117:8, 117:18  
Scott's [17] - 17:10, 19:10, 24:22, 28:13, 28:14, 29:10, 34:2, 34:14, 36:17, 78:25, 82:13, 82:23, 100:17, 101:13  
Scotty [1] - 94:18  
screen [1] - 19:12  
seal [1] - 27:15  
season [1] - 41:15  
seasonal [1] - 32:5  
seat [3] - 6:12, 86:10, 86:12  
second [8] - 9:2, 11:18, 20:10, 33:24, 51:4, 63:9, 64:18, 64:23  
seconds [1] - 118:22  
section [4] - 25:7, 33:14, 33:17, 114:25  
Section [2] - 7:2, 14:13  
secured [1] - 79:5  
see [21] - 17:22, 22:18, 23:18, 24:10, 24:13, 24:22, 31:12, 35:25, 36:1, 41:3, 45:10, 48:17, 52:12, 52:20, 53:4, 54:9, 54:13, 61:1, 65:4, 73:13, 113:15  
seeking [1] - 110:6  
sell [1] - 116:5  
semi [3] - 35:2, 69:13, 107:14  
semi-trucks [1] - 35:2  
semis [1] - 69:17  
send [3] - 70:12, 76:21, 116:20  
sensitive [6] - 14:19, 24:4, 24:16, 25:2, 41:13, 41:14  
sent [1] - 7:14  
separate [5] - 63:23, 64:2, 64:3, 64:7, 64:10  
separated [2] - 63:22, 64:9  
SEPTEMBER [1] - 6:9  
September [1] - 5:6  
series [2] - 56:19, 56:24  
seriously [2] - 53:3, 66:14  
serve [1] - 11:4  
serves [1] - 85:1  
Service [2] - 22:9, 22:10  
service [5] - 35:10, 52:4, 53:6, 60:9, 70:2  
services [3] - 62:15, 62:16, 108:13  
serving [1] - 6:21  
session [11] - 8:8, 11:18, 11:19, 39:24, 39:25, 40:1, 86:4, 86:8, 86:18, 86:22  
set [10] - 22:5, 55:3, 59:13, 59:20, 65:7, 71:1, 71:15, 90:17, 116:14  
setback [19] - 11:25, 13:17, 13:18, 22:23, 24:1, 24:2, 30:24, 30:25, 52:2, 56:15, 56:19, 56:21, 56:22, 57:10, 57:11, 57:21, 58:2, 61:17, 76:11  
setbacks [15] -



20:8, 21:22, 22:21, 22:24, 23:23, 24:2, 30:23, 32:10, 52:6, 56:22, 56:23, 56:24, 59:18, 61:13, 76:25  
**sets** [1] - 110:3  
**setting** [1] - 56:20  
**seven** [6] - 44:20, 45:8, 95:11, 112:19, 116:23, 118:2  
**seventy** [5] - 12:17, 47:8, 77:9, 77:10, 82:24  
**seventy-five** [2] - 47:8, 82:24  
**seventy-one** [1] - 12:17  
**seventy-two** [2] - 77:9, 77:10  
**several** [4] - 20:12, 33:6, 36:16, 62:16  
**severe** [1] - 48:4  
**sewage** [1] - 88:13  
**shall** [1] - 20:16  
**share** [5] - 10:13, 101:25, 102:2, 102:3, 117:10  
**sheep** [2] - 32:21, 112:5  
**Sheet** [4] - 4:12, 4:13, 114:22, 114:24  
**sheet** [6] - 9:1, 9:2, 9:4, 9:14, 9:19, 116:6  
**sheets** [4] - 8:25, 14:25, 89:23, 89:24  
**shirt** [8] - 44:21, 46:19, 50:9, 51:18, 62:25, 72:1, 75:12, 86:23  
**shops** [1] - 108:13  
**shore** [1] - 116:5  
**short** [3] - 8:23, 36:25, 81:19  
**shortly** [1] - 86:11  
**shoulder** [1] - 38:21  
**show** [6] - 20:3, 23:18, 24:14, 32:13, 41:22, 112:5  
**showed** [2] - 18:21, 48:22  
**showing** [3] - 24:8, 24:19, 28:25  
**shows** [3] - 24:20, 45:6, 111:10  
**shut** [1] - 28:19

**shut-offs** [1] - 28:19  
**shutoff** [2] - 56:6, 56:8  
**sick** [2] - 77:14, 85:11  
**side** [9] - 38:13, 40:8, 48:23, 58:18, 63:5, 79:21, 87:11, 102:1  
**side-by-side** [1] - 38:13  
**sides** [1] - 35:20  
**sight** [1] - 92:12  
**Sign** [4] - 4:12, 4:13, 114:22, 114:24  
**sign** [9] - 8:25, 9:1, 9:2, 9:4, 9:14, 9:18, 14:25, 89:23  
**Sign-in** [4] - 4:12, 4:13, 114:22, 114:24  
**sign-in** [2] - 8:25, 14:25  
**sign-up** [3] - 9:1, 9:2, 89:23  
**signature** [1] - 101:5  
**signatures** [2] - 82:24, 101:1  
**signed** [10] - 9:19, 86:16, 90:13, 93:22, 97:3, 101:7, 105:6, 106:21, 112:19, 114:17  
**significantly** [2] - 73:7, 73:9  
**signs** [1] - 52:20  
**silent** [1] - 6:15  
**similar** [2] - 29:4, 78:7  
**simple** [4] - 85:16, 92:11, 118:18, 118:25  
**sincere** [1] - 99:20  
**single** [2] - 27:24, 101:5  
**sink** [1] - 24:17  
**Sioux** [1] - 36:3  
**sit** [1] - 34:3  
**site** [29] - 12:5, 17:18, 19:4, 23:15, 28:8, 34:14, 34:15, 34:18, 34:22, 34:23, 37:19, 37:21, 38:1, 45:3, 52:1, 52:5, 52:7, 60:1, 64:1, 64:16, 64:17, 66:12, 68:6,

70:15, 101:9, 103:9, 110:13  
**sited** [1] - 110:11  
**sites** [9] - 34:3, 63:23, 64:3, 64:7, 64:10, 69:4, 71:2, 117:17, 117:18  
**Siting** [6] - 20:4, 20:5, 21:25, 22:20, 23:1, 24:4  
**sifting** [19] - 8:3, 14:13, 15:9, 15:21, 17:18, 19:5, 19:15, 20:10, 23:16, 25:1, 25:23, 27:19, 31:11, 32:6, 32:14, 34:13, 35:4, 67:5, 110:3  
**sitting** [5] - 27:2, 38:2, 95:12, 95:17, 116:2  
**situation** [2] - 47:14, 71:22  
**situations** [1] - 12:8  
**six** [7] - 6:11, 27:2, 53:14, 67:16, 81:19, 118:1, 118:2  
**sixty** [4] - 50:19, 50:22, 107:14, 107:16  
**size** [5] - 12:2, 26:8, 37:6, 38:3, 91:15  
**sizing** [1] - 26:5  
**skipped** [1] - 37:17  
**slatted** [1] - 29:25  
**slaughter** [2] - 63:14, 88:2  
**sleep** [1] - 65:6  
**slide** [1] - 32:2  
**slightly** [1] - 26:23  
**slow** [4] - 66:21, 67:3, 78:13, 78:17  
**small** [3] - 36:8, 38:6, 105:1  
**smell** [4] - 41:19, 42:2, 106:1, 106:8  
**smelled** [2] - 43:15, 43:18  
**smelling** [2] - 43:5, 79:21  
**SMITH** [15] - 40:12, 40:18, 40:25, 41:9, 41:21, 41:24, 42:4, 42:6, 42:17, 63:1, 63:17, 64:11, 64:21, 65:2, 66:15  
**Smith** [3] - 40:12, 40:13, 63:1

**Smith's** [1] - 32:25  
**soak** [1] - 28:6  
**soil** [6] - 25:7, 25:10, 29:13, 43:22, 48:24, 106:11  
**sold** [2] - 74:9, 116:1  
**solid** [1] - 27:8  
**solids** [1] - 44:19  
**solution** [1] - 95:16  
**solutions** [1] - 84:2  
**someone** [6] - 9:16, 28:13, 28:15, 49:20, 50:7, 105:19  
**son** [1] - 64:4  
**sooner** [3] - 41:18, 41:19  
**sophisticated** [1] - 111:8  
**sophomore** [1] - 18:11  
**sorry** [9] - 45:22, 48:17, 62:10, 69:23, 70:16, 77:9, 87:1, 87:4, 87:18  
**sound** [3] - 21:13, 118:12, 119:8  
**sounds** [1] - 93:7  
**soup** [1] - 62:11  
**source** [3] - 30:18, 47:9, 48:7  
**South** [1] - 6:5  
**south** [2] - 63:5, 112:19  
**southeast** [1] - 19:11  
**sow** [2] - 33:1, 116:25  
**sows** [5] - 33:4, 33:10, 116:23, 117:4  
**soybean** [1] - 107:15  
**soybeans** [1] - 110:25  
**SPEAKER** [2] - 45:20, 105:4  
**speakers** [1] - 9:13  
**speaking** [4] - 9:9, 9:12, 53:24, 72:4  
**speaks** [1] - 119:18  
**specific** [6] - 12:7, 14:24, 23:15, 61:21, 93:14, 110:5  
**specifically** [1] - 7:23  
**specifications** [5] - 14:5, 22:12, 51:21, 52:18, 76:9

**specifics** [2] - 17:18, 55:17  
**spell** [11] - 8:9, 10:1, 16:16, 39:18, 40:10, 66:24, 90:4, 98:13, 104:17, 106:24, 109:12  
**spelled** [2] - 93:24, 104:18  
**spends** [1] - 108:2  
**spill** [3] - 55:1, 59:4, 60:6  
**spills** [2] - 55:21, 84:10  
**spoken** [2] - 97:15, 97:19  
**Spoon** [1] - 5:6  
**spot** [2] - 65:20, 66:11  
**spray** [3] - 40:19, 42:9, 57:12  
**sprayed** [1] - 41:1  
**spraying** [5] - 40:21, 41:2, 41:3, 41:8  
**spread** [2] - 42:9, 49:3  
**spreader** [1] - 33:2  
**spreading** [3] - 42:14, 43:11, 48:5  
**spring** [2] - 11:18, 11:19  
**Springfield** [6] - 5:12, 5:16, 5:20, 5:23, 6:5, 19:2  
**springs** [1] - 24:17  
**staff** [9] - 65:22, 66:8, 71:8, 71:10, 71:11, 85:1, 108:19, 117:14  
**stages** [1] - 71:7  
**stand** [5] - 55:8, 84:8, 90:18, 90:19, 92:11  
**standards** [10] - 11:22, 19:19, 21:23, 27:18, 59:17, 69:5, 77:2, 105:14, 110:10, 110:12  
**standing** [1] - 38:7  
**start** [9] - 6:13, 17:24, 46:9, 47:17, 76:2, 78:8, 85:8, 85:10, 98:22  
**started** [13] - 6:12, 32:23, 71:4, 73:21, 81:14, 86:11, 86:12, 115:19, 115:21, 116:11,

116:17, 116:23, 117:4  
**starting** [3] - 25:15, 59:3, 70:7  
**starts** [2] - 71:20, 94:11  
**state** [27] - 8:9, 9:11, 10:1, 12:10, 16:16, 16:18, 23:17, 24:7, 24:19, 24:21, 39:17, 40:10, 55:24, 61:12, 62:22, 67:15, 67:18, 90:3, 91:10, 98:13, 100:9, 104:17, 106:24, 110:10, 112:11, 115:8, 117:8  
**State** [10] - 5:8, 5:11, 5:15, 5:19, 5:22, 24:24, 62:14, 70:5, 101:17, 117:12  
**statement** [3] - 81:11, 118:18, 118:25  
**statement's** [1] - 118:18  
**States** [1] - 105:9  
**states** [1] - 20:14  
**stating** [1] - 20:25  
**station** [2] - 69:11, 69:12  
**statistics** [2] - 55:20, 55:22  
**stats** [2] - 54:25, 55:16  
**status** [3] - 7:23, 11:13, 12:11  
**statute** [4] - 61:6, 61:7, 76:10, 76:24  
**statutory** [1] - 14:10  
**stay** [3] - 82:2, 108:4, 116:6  
**stays** [1] - 26:19  
**steel** [2] - 27:9, 52:14  
**step** [3] - 20:21, 65:11, 90:3  
**stewards** [1] - 114:2  
**stewardship** [1] - 110:16  
**stick** [1] - 35:12  
**still** [7] - 35:17, 57:14, 74:12, 86:1, 90:14, 93:16, 117:6  
**stirring** [2] - 55:8,

79:15  
**stood** [1] - 119:15  
**stop** [3] - 27:13, 40:21, 41:12  
**stoppage** [1] - 27:11  
**Storage** [1] - 22:9  
**storage** [5] - 26:6, 27:1, 27:4, 61:4  
**store** [1] - 26:10  
**stored** [1] - 43:24  
**stores** [2] - 108:6, 118:10  
**story** [1] - 81:19  
**straight** [1] - 41:7  
**straightforward** [1] - 38:22  
**strange** [1] - 119:8  
**strategy** [1] - 31:7  
**Street** [5] - 5:8, 6:5, 31:14, 31:19, 31:25  
**strong** [1] - 91:16  
**structure** [2] - 61:4, 83:17  
**structures** [1] - 22:4  
**students** [1] - 105:25  
**studies** [1] - 35:20  
**Study** [2] - 91:21, 93:10  
**study** [2] - 35:24, 35:25  
**stuff** [5] - 36:19, 55:11, 98:7, 118:23, 119:3  
**subject** [6] - 9:6, 10:20, 49:9, 60:10, 76:11, 91:4  
**submit** [3] - 15:7, 15:25, 20:24  
**submittal** [1] - 14:4  
**submitted** [3] - 13:2, 15:15, 15:18  
**substantially** [1] - 51:22  
**substituting** [1] - 53:19  
**success** [1] - 118:13  
**successful** [2] - 111:17, 118:14  
**sulfide** [1] - 106:5  
**summarize** [1] - 9:23  
**summer** [2] - 18:3, 47:2  
**supplier** [3] - 45:17, 46:3, 52:17  
**suppliers** [1] -

108:10  
**supplies** [3] - 46:8, 108:4, 108:6  
**supply** [1] - 107:15  
**support** [7] - 18:22, 36:13, 99:16, 100:18, 108:19, 110:25, 114:7  
**supports** [1] - 91:6  
**suppose** [1] - 96:25  
**supposed** [1] - 71:16  
**surface** [5] - 24:17, 25:15, 26:16, 26:23, 56:22  
**surfaces** [1] - 27:16  
**surprised** [1] - 41:25  
**surprises** [1] - 99:11  
**surrounding** [4] - 14:18, 23:20, 26:1, 106:6  
**surrounds** [1] - 27:14  
**Survey** [1] - 24:25  
**sustainable** [4] - 37:11, 73:12, 95:21, 116:15  
**swear** [3] - 16:17, 90:5, 98:21  
**Swine** [1] - 10:18  
**swine** [5] - 7:8, 12:13, 32:24, 65:25, 115:25  
**sworn** [11] - 9:5, 10:4, 17:4, 90:24, 94:4, 98:24, 100:13, 104:23, 107:5, 109:15, 112:16  
**sympathy** [1] - 80:11  
**symptoms** [3] - 80:1, 80:17, 80:22  
**system** [4] - 26:14, 55:3, 55:18, 65:19  
**systems** [3] - 23:5, 24:18, 65:7

## T

**table** [1] - 14:25  
**taken.** [1] - 86:9  
**tank** [3] - 55:9, 84:12

**tanker** [1] - 29:2  
**tanks** [1] - 55:4  
**TASHA** [7] - 109:9, 109:13, 109:14, 109:16, 112:2, 112:4, 112:8  
**Tasha** [3] - 109:9, 109:10, 109:16  
**task** [1] - 7:10  
**tasked** [1] - 105:17  
**taught** [1] - 99:6  
**tax** [1] - 111:4  
**taxes** [2] - 45:3, 45:4  
**teach** [1] - 71:8  
**Team** [1] - 6:7  
**tear** [1] - 50:4  
**techniques** [1] - 31:8  
**technologies** [3] - 31:8, 31:10, 110:15  
**technology** [2] - 28:11, 111:14  
**Teefey** [2] - 5:13, 6:20  
**TEEFEY** [88] - 6:11, 16:6, 16:20, 17:1, 17:5, 39:5, 39:9, 40:16, 40:23, 42:19, 44:21, 46:19, 49:15, 49:18, 50:6, 51:17, 54:17, 58:8, 62:24, 66:16, 66:21, 66:24, 71:24, 75:10, 78:21, 80:23, 81:1, 81:3, 81:9, 82:17, 82:21, 83:2, 85:25, 86:10, 87:7, 87:14, 87:21, 89:11, 90:17, 90:21, 92:18, 92:23, 93:17, 93:22, 94:1, 94:5, 96:14, 96:24, 97:2, 97:6, 97:8, 98:9, 98:12, 98:17, 98:20, 98:25, 99:25, 100:3, 100:5, 100:7, 100:9, 100:14, 102:16, 103:24, 104:6, 104:11, 104:13, 104:15, 104:17, 104:24, 105:5, 106:16, 107:2, 107:6, 109:3, 109:10, 111:20, 112:9, 112:14, 112:17,

114:8, 114:13, 114:16, 115:8, 115:11, 119:20, 120:5, 120:15  
**television** [1] - 119:4  
**ten** [12] - 9:10, 25:4, 56:2, 68:23, 69:2, 73:7, 78:4, 78:5, 85:25, 86:3, 90:9, 95:12  
**term** [3] - 36:2, 76:12, 119:12  
**terms** [9] - 44:24, 45:5, 60:3, 65:9, 66:8, 75:20, 75:21, 118:9  
**terrible** [1] - 119:16  
**test** [3] - 72:15, 74:13, 74:15  
**testified** [9] - 90:24, 94:4, 98:24, 100:13, 104:23, 107:5, 109:15, 112:16, 115:15  
**testify** [8] - 8:11, 45:5, 49:16, 90:2, 90:11, 105:6, 105:7, 106:21  
**Testimony** [3] - 4:11, 4:12, 114:22  
**testimony** [44] - 7:7, 7:12, 8:12, 8:16, 8:17, 8:20, 8:21, 8:24, 8:25, 9:2, 9:4, 9:14, 9:18, 10:3, 10:4, 10:5, 14:11, 17:2, 17:6, 39:25, 82:18, 86:17, 89:13, 89:15, 89:16, 89:18, 89:19, 89:20, 89:21, 89:24, 89:25, 90:13, 90:15, 90:18, 92:19, 93:18, 93:23, 97:4, 99:3, 99:19, 114:18, 114:20  
**testing** [1] - 11:24  
**tests** [1] - 51:23  
**Thanksgiving** [1] - 42:10  
**THE** [7] - 5:1, 40:15, 66:20, 86:25, 87:4, 93:3, 93:24  
**themselves** [1] - 66:3  
**therefore** [1] -

64:12  
**they've** [12] - 61:1, 95:3, 95:16, 95:17, 95:18, 95:22, 96:1, 96:7, 101:24, 107:25, 118:19, 119:17  
**thickness** [2] - 25:4, 25:5  
**thinking** [1] - 102:7  
**third** [4] - 29:6, 34:24, 44:14, 66:10  
**thirteen** [1] - 86:16  
**thirty** [11] - 15:7, 15:12, 31:21, 33:10, 49:24, 50:1, 72:11, 91:22, 94:8, 94:9, 100:16  
**thirty-five** [2] - 91:22, 94:8  
**thirty-four** [1] - 94:9  
**thirty-two** [3] - 31:21, 33:10, 100:16  
**thoroughly** [1] - 30:2  
**thousand** [12] - 31:21, 38:2, 44:6, 44:9, 44:18, 46:3, 46:6, 47:5, 76:20, 77:10, 77:11, 107:16  
**three** [19] - 9:7, 11:17, 31:1, 33:5, 35:17, 41:23, 41:24, 42:3, 44:19, 47:3, 52:1, 62:2, 64:25, 68:4, 74:7, 90:6, 96:13, 107:17, 117:7  
**three-quarters** [1] - 64:25  
**threw** [1] - 33:1  
**thrive** [1] - 95:5  
**throughout** [5] - 28:10, 55:24, 91:10, 105:9, 113:7  
**Thu** [1] - 81:15  
**ties** [1] - 32:19  
**tight** [1] - 27:15  
**tile** [1] - 53:17  
**tiled** [2] - 53:10, 53:11  
**tiles** [1] - 54:2  
**timing** [1] - 113:13  
**tired** [1] - 117:24  
**today** [13] - 6:19, 46:24, 57:9, 64:17, 74:1, 74:9, 82:3,

92:11, 109:20, 113:9, 113:10, 117:6  
**today's** [2] - 15:7, 91:12  
**together** [5] - 16:17, 100:18, 101:1, 110:8, 116:9  
**tomorrow** [2] - 43:12, 43:13  
**tonight** [15] - 6:14, 9:23, 10:8, 10:17, 18:21, 42:21, 72:5, 82:22, 91:4, 92:17, 99:18, 102:22, 111:6, 119:1, 120:20  
**tonight's** [7] - 6:22, 7:13, 89:14, 89:22, 90:1, 115:1, 120:16  
**tool** [2] - 29:2, 29:4  
**tooting** [1] - 97:23  
**top** [5] - 19:8, 19:12, 28:5, 36:10, 41:3  
**topics** [1] - 19:4  
**total** [3] - 9:10, 21:16, 118:22  
**totally** [4] - 49:9, 64:5, 64:24, 75:24  
**tour** [1] - 119:2  
**tourism** [1] - 14:23  
**towards** [4] - 40:20, 40:23, 41:16, 92:4  
**town** [1] - 41:22  
**towns** [2] - 36:8  
**Township** [1] - 100:16  
**township** [3] - 34:21, 35:5, 35:6  
**TQA** [4] - 68:16, 69:8, 69:9, 95:23  
**trackhoe** [1] - 85:14  
**tractor** [4] - 28:22, 41:6, 55:7, 55:10  
**traffic** [5] - 14:21, 19:24, 31:11, 31:17, 32:5  
**tragedies** [1] - 100:17  
**train** [1] - 65:9  
**trained** [1] - 66:7  
**training** [7] - 11:23, 23:7, 58:14, 60:17, 65:7, 69:4, 69:17  
**transcribed** [1] - 7:13

**TRANSCRIPT** [1] - 5:5  
**transcript** [3] - 7:14, 120:17, 120:18  
**transcripts** [1] - 15:16  
**Transport** [1] - 95:24  
**transport** [1] - 88:2  
**transportation** [1] - 69:9  
**Transportation** [1] - 31:16  
**treated** [2] - 65:15, 118:15  
**treatment** [1] - 88:13  
**tremendously** [1] - 97:25  
**trenches** [1] - 70:3  
**Tribune** [1] - 118:20  
**TriOak** [14] - 6:6, 6:7, 17:8, 18:18, 32:17, 46:9, 62:23, 66:7, 66:12, 73:22, 107:7, 108:22, 108:23, 116:10  
**TriOaks** [16] - 94:22, 94:23, 95:16, 95:19, 96:6, 96:21, 98:2, 102:10, 107:13, 107:21, 108:2, 108:9, 108:12, 108:17, 115:6, 117:22  
**trip** [1] - 120:13  
**trouble** [2] - 59:4, 59:13  
**troubles** [1] - 79:9  
**truck** [7] - 35:12, 45:24, 88:10, 88:13, 88:16, 89:7, 108:13  
**truckers** [2] - 88:8, 88:14  
**trucks** [14] - 31:13, 31:24, 32:1, 34:10, 35:2, 77:6, 77:7, 88:8, 88:9, 88:19, 89:4, 118:9  
**true** [1] - 84:21  
**truly** [1] - 75:21  
**try** [2] - 68:2, 69:18  
**trying** [4] - 26:4, 66:2, 75:6, 101:21  
**turn** [5] - 6:15, 10:25, 46:11,

81:24, 94:25  
**twelve** [1] - 71:6  
**twenty** [36] - 11:16, 31:19, 32:2, 32:25, 33:4, 33:10, 37:3, 37:5, 37:9, 38:1, 43:8, 43:19, 44:5, 44:6, 44:8, 46:2, 46:5, 52:25, 54:12, 57:23, 58:25, 60:23, 67:20, 69:11, 91:23, 93:2, 93:6, 107:14, 115:13, 116:24, 117:23, 118:4, 118:7  
**twenty-eight** [4] - 31:19, 32:2, 115:13  
**twenty-five** [1] - 38:1  
**twenty-four** [6] - 33:10, 43:8, 43:19, 44:6, 54:12, 57:23  
**twenty-two** [1] - 44:6  
**two** [42] - 12:16, 12:17, 19:4, 19:13, 22:15, 25:6, 31:18, 31:21, 33:10, 33:12, 37:10, 38:12, 38:13, 44:6, 47:13, 50:3, 57:12, 64:11, 64:12, 65:8, 65:22, 68:4, 68:15, 69:12, 74:1, 77:9, 77:10, 78:11, 81:22, 82:3, 86:2, 87:12, 100:16, 106:17, 108:23, 109:22, 109:23, 116:24  
**type** [4] - 26:13, 29:6, 51:23, 88:15  
**types** [3] - 12:1, 29:1, 29:14  
**typical** [1] - 73:24  
**typically** [3] - 24:5, 25:17, 42:22

## U

**U.S.** [3] - 72:10, 82:10, 105:15  
**umbilical** [3] - 41:4, 43:8, 55:4  
**unable** [1] - 14:9  
**unannounced** [1] - 68:12  
**uncle** [1] - 64:5

**uncle's** [1] - 18:2  
**uncomfortable** [1] - 92:10  
**under** [13] - 28:7, 51:24, 54:16, 57:20, 59:24, 61:17, 61:24, 63:25, 69:12, 73:14, 76:24, 84:5, 117:4  
**underbuilding** [2] - 12:18, 14:5  
**underground** [1] - 24:18  
**underneath** [3] - 48:8, 48:15, 106:12  
**understood** [1] - 89:9  
**unfortunately** [2] - 63:14, 83:19  
**UNIDENTIFIED** [2] - 45:20, 105:4  
**unit** [3] - 7:8, 23:23, 51:8  
**United** [1] - 105:9  
**units** [9] - 12:3, 13:6, 20:15, 23:6, 23:25, 38:2, 76:20, 81:14, 111:5  
**universities** [1] - 117:25  
**university** [2] - 22:10, 45:6  
**University** [3] - 70:5, 81:15, 81:20  
**unless** [3] - 36:2, 58:1, 100:25  
**unrelated** [1] - 64:5  
**up** [7] - 9:1, 9:2, 15:1, 15:6, 18:21, 31:1, 33:1, 35:16, 36:22, 42:7, 43:21, 45:13, 47:17, 50:4, 55:3, 57:22, 57:25, 58:19, 59:20, 61:6, 65:7, 65:25, 70:8, 70:16, 71:16, 72:11, 72:18, 74:15, 77:7, 78:4, 78:14, 81:14, 83:23, 84:5, 84:9, 84:13, 86:16, 87:13, 89:23, 90:3, 90:13, 90:17, 90:19, 93:22, 95:16, 96:2, 97:3, 99:10, 99:19, 100:6, 100:18, 101:18, 102:9, 102:15, 104:3,

105:6, 105:19, 106:21, 113:8, 114:17, 115:18, 115:19, 115:20, 116:5, 116:20, 117:9, 117:18, 118:21, 119:11, 119:15  
**upfront** [3] - 38:22, 60:9, 112:24  
**usage** [1] - 46:22  
**uses** [2] - 107:14, 108:12  
**utilization** [2] - 30:14, 61:22  
**utilize** [7] - 21:7, 21:8, 22:6, 29:20, 37:16, 77:15, 77:23  
**utilized** [1] - 74:20  
**utilizes** [1] - 108:17  
**utilizing** [2] - 29:11, 56:17

## V

**value** [2] - 99:6, 118:6  
**values** [13] - 35:15, 35:18, 36:2, 36:6, 36:15, 81:23, 82:5, 82:8, 82:12, 91:15, 92:13, 110:17  
**valve** [2] - 56:7, 56:9  
**various** [3] - 11:6, 12:1, 52:12  
**vast** [1] - 111:8  
**Vee** [1] - 108:4  
**vehicles** [5] - 31:20, 31:22, 88:2, 88:3, 108:13  
**ventilation** [1] - 68:24  
**verify** [1] - 89:9  
**Version** [1] - 4:8  
**version** [2] - 39:8, 39:10  
**versus** [3] - 55:4, 55:8, 106:14  
**vet** [1] - 71:12  
**veterans** [1] - 107:24  
**veterinarian** [3] - 70:2, 70:4, 70:5  
**veterinarians** [4] - 65:16, 65:17, 70:7, 70:10  
**veto** [1] - 11:17  
**view** [1] - 113:16

**violation** [1] - 111:12  
**virgin** [1] - 68:6  
**visit** [4] - 33:23, 52:1, 52:5, 68:9  
**visits** [2] - 52:10, 68:12  
**visual** [2] - 29:23, 52:20  
**visually** [1] - 28:18  
**vital** [1] - 91:10  
**Voice** [3] - 66:23, 87:25, 111:24  
**volume** [2] - 21:16, 43:25  
**volumes** [1] - 119:18  
**vote** [1] - 83:1  
**voted** [1] - 100:23  
**vulnerable** [1] - 49:4

## W

**W-a-l-k-e-r** [1] - 72:2  
**W-e-s-t** [1] - 16:25  
**wait** [1] - 42:15  
**walked** [1] - 83:21  
**WALKER** [6] - 72:2, 72:9, 73:13, 74:12, 75:2, 114:12  
**Walker** [2] - 72:2, 114:11  
**walking** [1] - 94:17  
**walkthroughs** [1] - 29:23  
**walkways** [1] - 29:25  
**wall** [2] - 61:5, 84:4  
**walls** [1] - 78:1  
**Walnut** [1] - 107:9  
**wants** [2] - 95:7, 105:19  
**warmer** [1] - 78:16  
**Warren** [6] - 5:17, 6:23, 7:20, 10:25, 11:3, 83:16  
**wash** [5] - 88:3, 88:9, 88:10, 88:16, 89:7  
**washed** [3] - 30:2, 88:11, 88:19  
**washing** [1] - 88:1  
**waste** [10] - 11:22, 12:19, 14:3, 14:6, 21:2, 61:18, 61:22, 63:20, 72:9, 74:10  
**wastewater** [2] - 88:6, 88:12  
**watched** [1] - 100:17  
**water** [24] - 26:16, 26:21, 26:24, 27:13, 27:14, 44:17, 44:20, 46:22, 46:23, 47:5, 47:10, 48:7, 48:10, 53:24, 54:2, 54:9, 61:14, 63:11, 71:5, 92:15, 106:10, 106:11, 111:12  
**waterline** [3] - 83:18, 84:4, 84:5  
**watershed** [2] - 53:24, 53:25  
**waterstop** [3] - 22:13, 27:10, 27:14  
**waterstops** [1] - 52:13  
**waterway** [1] - 57:6  
**waterways** [1] - 56:23  
**ways** [1] - 12:2  
**weak** [1] - 54:25  
**wean** [1] - 44:18  
**weaned** [1] - 74:8  
**weather** [3] - 26:12, 43:2, 43:20  
**wedding** [2] - 42:13, 42:14  
**WEDNESDAY** [1] - 6:9  
**week** [7] - 32:1, 35:2, 68:10, 107:17, 107:19, 113:10  
**weekend** [2] - 42:10, 42:15  
**weekly** [5] - 31:19, 31:21, 31:24, 107:14, 107:15  
**weighing** [2] - 71:6, 106:13  
**weight** [1] - 77:6  
**welcome** [4] - 11:8, 42:18, 97:7, 112:8  
**welfare** [4] - 63:13, 65:2, 65:5, 65:6  
**well's** [1] - 47:25  
**well-being** [1] - 68:22  
**Wellman** [1] - 47:19  
**wells** [4] - 47:17, 47:20, 56:23, 61:14  
**west** [1] - 113:5  
**West** [12] - 6:3, 6:4,

13:2, 16:25, 17:3,  
17:13, 17:17, 19:1,  
72:6  
WEST [20] - 16:25,  
18:25, 19:9, 39:8,  
44:5, 48:16, 48:22,  
50:21, 50:25, 51:2,  
51:6, 51:10, 54:5,  
55:22, 56:10, 72:8,  
72:17, 73:15,  
74:16, 75:4  
Western [2] -  
18:11, 106:3  
western [1] - 48:23  
wet [4] - 69:12,  
78:7, 78:8  
white [1] - 51:18  
whole [6] - 40:5,  
46:1, 46:14, 46:15,  
79:9, 82:9  
wide [1] - 110:10  
widely [1] - 28:10  
wife [1] - 18:6  
wife's [2] - 107:10,  
108:8  
willing [2] - 102:2,  
114:5  
Wilma [1] - 32:25  
win [1] - 82:11  
wind [8] - 34:8,  
34:16, 36:18,  
40:19, 40:20, 42:1,  
49:4, 80:3  
wind's [1] - 41:15  
windows [2] -  
79:10, 101:12  
wish [9] - 8:11, 9:3,  
9:17, 89:25, 90:2,  
90:11, 90:14,  
106:3, 120:13  
wishes [1] - 114:19  
wishing [1] - 8:5  
WIU [1] - 105:25  
wondered [1] -  
87:12  
wonderful [1] -  
95:24  
wondering [1] -  
95:13  
words [2] - 11:11,  
20:20  
works [4] - 55:23,  
70:6, 77:22, 77:23  
world [1] - 114:3  
worry [4] - 26:13,  
26:17, 26:23, 27:4  
worrying [4] -  
63:10, 63:11, 65:6  
worse [3] - 80:1,  
80:18, 80:22

worst [3] - 47:5,  
52:25, 56:10  
worth [5] - 26:6,  
46:3, 46:6, 82:3,  
118:7  
wrap [1] - 26:3  
wrecks [1] - 55:13  
writing [4] - 79:5,  
79:19, 117:19,  
118:3  
Written [1] - 4:10  
written [12] - 7:7,  
8:16, 8:19, 8:24,  
10:3, 26:7, 72:25,  
89:13, 89:15,  
89:18, 89:21  
wrote [1] - 72:9

## Y

yard [1] - 113:11  
year [14] - 20:8,  
21:19, 24:14,  
29:10, 46:4, 55:25,  
67:21, 79:14,  
79:24, 107:17,  
111:9, 113:7,  
116:25, 120:2  
years [40] - 11:16,  
18:2, 33:13, 37:12,  
49:21, 49:25, 50:1,  
50:4, 52:25, 58:25,  
60:23, 61:3, 69:10,  
72:11, 72:14, 73:8,  
81:19, 81:22, 82:3,  
85:17, 85:18,  
85:24, 91:14, 94:8,  
95:12, 100:16,  
100:21, 110:17,  
115:13, 115:23,  
116:24, 117:23,  
119:17  
yesterday [2] -  
43:16, 43:18  
yields [4] - 21:17,  
29:11, 29:13, 73:9  
you know [53] -  
29:17, 33:8, 33:9,  
34:5, 34:8, 36:9,  
38:2, 38:20, 40:19,  
40:21, 41:10,  
41:11, 41:16,  
42:10, 42:12, 44:1,  
44:17, 45:23,  
46:10, 47:13,  
48:12, 55:11,  
56:21, 57:4, 59:2,  
59:12, 66:3, 68:4,  
69:9, 69:10, 70:11,  
71:5, 71:7, 71:21,

77:8, 78:15, 80:9,  
80:10, 80:13, 81:5,  
82:10, 82:11,  
82:12, 83:22, 84:2,  
97:12, 98:6, 99:12,  
102:2, 115:16,  
116:21, 119:11,  
119:15  
young [2] - 36:12,  
110:7  
yourself [1] - 15:2

## Z

zero [1] - 46:24  
zoned [2] - 23:18,  
23:19  
zones [1] - 57:3  
zoning [1] - 32:10