

Cronus Chemicals, LLC

Deposition of: Public Hearing

Taken on: June 26, 2014

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1 IN THE MATTER OF:

2  
3 A PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING )  
4 THE PROPOSED ISSUANCE OF A )  
5 CONSTRUCTION PERMIT/PSD APPROVAL, )  
6 CRONUS CHEMICALS, LLC, )  
7 near Tuscola. )  
8  
9

10 REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS held in the  
11 above-entitled cause before Hearing Officer Kent  
12 Mohr, pursuant to the Illinois EPA's Procedures for  
13 Permit and Closure Plans, 35 Illinois Administrative  
14 Code 166, Subpart A, on Thursday, June 26, 2014, at  
15 7:00 p.m., at the Tuscola Community High School, 500  
16 South Prairie Street, Tuscola, Illinois.  
17  
18  
19

20 Reported and Transcribed by:  
21 Jill Nicole Stevens, CSR # 084-004212  
22  
23  
24

APPEARANCES

Kent Mohr, Hearing Officer/Illinois EPA  
Chris Romaine, Illinois EPA  
Bob Smet, Illinois EPA

Speakers/Public Comments:

Bob Smet, Illinois EPA  
Erzin Atac, CEO of Cronus Chemicals  
Adam Brown, State Representative, 102nd District  
Daniel Kleiss, Mayor of Tuscola  
Don Munson, Vice Chairman - Douglas County Board  
Jason McKinley, Lincoln Land Building & Trades  
Landon Stenger, for State Representative Chapin Rose

1 7:06 p.m.

2 MR. MOHR: Good evening. My name is Kent  
3 Mohr and I work for the Illinois Environmental  
4 Protection Agency, referred to as the "Illinois EPA"  
5 or the "Agency." On behalf of the Director, Lisa  
6 Bonnett, we welcome you to tonight's hearing.

7 Mr. Dean Studer with the Illinois EPA has  
8 been designated as the Hearing Officer for this  
9 matter. However, Mr. Studer is unable to preside  
10 over this hearing, so I have been designated to fill  
11 in for him as Hearing Officer tonight. Mr. Studer  
12 remains the Hearing Officer in this matter and, as  
13 such, any comments and questions outside of this  
14 hearing should continue to be directed to him.

15 My purpose tonight is to ensure that this  
16 proceeding runs properly, according to rules, and is  
17 conducted in a fair and efficient manner.  
18 Therefore, I will not be responding to questions  
19 regarding the permit process or the permit itself.

20 This is a public hearing before the  
21 Illinois EPA in the matter of an Air Pollution  
22 Control Construction Permit application submitted by  
23 Cronus Chemicals, LLC, referred to as "Cronus  
24 Chemicals" or "Cronus." Cronus Chemicals has

1 applied to the Illinois EPA for an Air Pollution  
2 Control Construction Permit for a new fertilizer  
3 manufacturing facility at 785 East Highway 36, west  
4 of Tuscola, Illinois.

5           The proposed facility would manufacture  
6 nitrogen-based fertilizers, specifically urea and  
7 ammonia, using natural gas as feedstock. The  
8 principal emission units at the facility would be an  
9 ammonia plant, a reformer furnace, a boiler and a  
10 urea plant. The proposed facility would be  
11 considered a major source for emissions of nitrogen  
12 oxides or NOx, carbon monoxide or CO, particulate  
13 matter or PM, PM 10, PM 2.5, and greenhouse gases,  
14 or GHGs, under the Federal Rules for Prevention of  
15 Significant Deterioration, or PSD, at 40 CFR 52.21.  
16 The proposed facility would be a significant source  
17 for emissions of volatile organic material, or VOM.

18           The application requests approval to  
19 construct the facility under the PSD rules. The  
20 issues involved in the permit decision include PSD  
21 analysis, determinations of best available control  
22 technology, air quality impact analyses,  
23 determinations of -- excuse me -- and endangered  
24 species and historic preservation effects.

1           The Illinois EPA has made a preliminary  
2       determination that the application for the proposed  
3       facility meets applicable requirements and has  
4       prepared a draft construction permit that it  
5       proposes to issue.

6           It is now 7:09 p.m. on Thursday,  
7       June 26th, 2014. The Illinois EPA is holding a  
8       public comment period and this hearing to accept  
9       comments from the public on the proposed issuance of  
10      the draft construction permit and the terms and  
11      conditions of this draft permit prior to issuing a  
12      final construction permit.

13          This public hearing is being held under  
14      the provisions of the Illinois EPA's Procedures for  
15      Permit and Closure Plan Hearings, which can be found  
16      at 35 Illinois Administrative Code Part 166,  
17      Subpart A. Copies of these procedures can be  
18      obtained from Mr. Studer, upon request, at  
19      217-558-8280, or they can be accessed on the website  
20      at the Illinois Pollution Control Board at  
21      www.ipcb.state.il.us.

22          A public hearing means that this is  
23      strictly an informational hearing. It is an  
24      opportunity for the Illinois EPA to provide you with

1 information concerning the permit and it is also an  
2 opportunity for you to provide information to the  
3 Illinois EPA concerning the permit. This is not a  
4 contested hearing.

5 I would like to explain how tonight's  
6 hearing is going to proceed. First, I will have the  
7 Illinois EPA staff members here present tonight  
8 introduce themselves and identify their  
9 responsibilities at the Agency. After they have  
10 introduced themselves, Mr. Smet with the Agency will  
11 make a brief presentation regarding the proposed  
12 project. Then, I will have representatives of  
13 Cronus introduce themselves. After they have  
14 introduced themselves, they will make a brief  
15 presentation regarding the proposed project.

16 Following this presentation, I will allow  
17 the public to ask questions or provide comments.  
18 You are not required to verbalize your comments, as  
19 written comments are given the same consideration  
20 and may be submitted to the Agency at any time  
21 within the public comment period, which ends  
22 July 25th, 2014. All written comments submitted by  
23 mail must be postmarked no later than July 25th of  
24 2014. Tonight is the only time that we will accept

1 oral comments.

2 A decision date in this matter will depend  
3 upon the number and nature of comments received, as  
4 well as other factors.

5 Any person who wants to ask questions or  
6 make comments tonight may do so, as long as they are  
7 relevant to the issues at hand and such person has  
8 indicated on the registration card that he or she  
9 would like to comment. If you have not signed a  
10 registration card at this point, please see Brad  
11 Frost at the registration table and he will provide  
12 you with a registration card. Please be sure to  
13 check the appropriate box on the card if you desire  
14 to make a comment at this hearing.

15 If you have lengthy comments or questions,  
16 it might be helpful to submit them in writing before  
17 the close of the comment period and they will be  
18 included in the hearing record as exhibits.  
19 However, seeing as we have only a few cards up here  
20 for people to speak, you can make lengthy comments  
21 if that's what you really want to do tonight.

22 If you are called -- if your comment or  
23 question falls outside the scope of this hearing, I  
24 may ask you to proceed to another issue. Please



1 keep your comments and questions relevant to the  
2 issues at hand.

3 All speakers will have the option of  
4 directing relevant questions to the Illinois EPA  
5 panel or they can make comments or do both. Cronus  
6 is free to answer any questions if it is willing to  
7 do so, but I am not in a position to force it to do  
8 that this evening.

9 We will make every attempt to answer the  
10 questions presented, but I will not permit speakers  
11 to argue, cross-examine or engage in prolonged  
12 dialogue with our panel. If any questions presented  
13 cannot be answered tonight by the Illinois EPA  
14 panel, the questions will be noted and responses  
15 will be provided by the Illinois EPA in its  
16 responsiveness summary.

17 For the purposes of allowing everyone to  
18 have a chance to comment -- I am not going to hold  
19 this to a limit, so we are -- we only have about  
20 four cards. Usually, you know, sometimes we will  
21 put a limit on the number of minutes that you can  
22 speak, but seeing that we only have four, we are not  
23 going to do that tonight.

24 In addition, I would like to avoid any

1 unnecessary repetition, so if you -- if anyone  
2 before you has already presented testimony that is  
3 contained in your testimony or oral comments, you  
4 can skip over those. If someone speaking before you  
5 has already said what you desire to say, you may  
6 pass on that as well. I am not going to limit that,  
7 but if you want to pass on it you can because your  
8 comment, if it has already been said, will already  
9 be into the record.

10 All who complete a registration card or  
11 submit written comments in this matter will be  
12 notified of the final decision in this matter and of  
13 the availability of the responsiveness summary. In  
14 the responsiveness summary, the Illinois EPA will  
15 respond to all significant issues that were raised  
16 in this hearing or submitted in writing prior to the  
17 close of the comment period. Again, the written  
18 record in this matter will close July 25th of 2014.  
19 Written comments will be accepted as long as they  
20 are postmarked by that date.

21 During the comment period, all relevant  
22 comments, documents or data will be placed into the  
23 hearing record as exhibits. Please send these  
24 comments, documents and data to Dean Studer, Hearing

1 Officer, Office of Community Relations, Regarding  
2 Cronus Chemicals, Illinois EPA, 1021 North Grand  
3 Avenue East, P.O. Box 19276, Springfield, Illinois,  
4 62794-9276. This address was also listed on the  
5 public notice for the hearing tonight.

6 For everyone wishing to make a comment  
7 tonight, I want to remind you that we have a court  
8 reporter here taking a verbatim record of these  
9 proceedings for the purpose of making an  
10 administrative record. After the transcript is  
11 received from the court reporter, it will be posted  
12 on the Agency's webpage in the same manner where the  
13 hearing notice and other documents in this  
14 proceeding have been posted.

15 For the benefit of the court reporter,  
16 please keep the general background noise level in  
17 this room to a minimum so the court reporter can  
18 hear everything that is said. Also, please keep in  
19 mind that any comments from those other than the  
20 person at the microphone will not be recorded by the  
21 court reporter and only act as a disruption. Also,  
22 please silence all cell phones and pagers at this  
23 time if you have not already done so.

24 People who have requested to speak will be

1 called upon one at a time to come forward and speak.  
2 When it is your turn to speak, please state your  
3 name and, if applicable, any governmental body,  
4 organization or association you may represent. If  
5 you do not represent any governmental body,  
6 organization or association, you may simply state  
7 that you are a concerned citizen.

8 For the benefit of the court reporter, I  
9 also ask that you spell your last name. If there  
10 are alternate ways of spelling your first name, you  
11 may spell your first name also. Please direct your  
12 comments to the panel and court reporter so that we  
13 may have an accurate transcription of your comments.

14 Are there any questions on how I will  
15 conduct this hearing this evening?

16 (Pause.)

17 Now I will ask the Illinois EPA staff here  
18 today to introduce themselves and make a brief  
19 presentation.

20 MR. ROMAIN: Good evening. My name is  
21 Chris Romaine. I am manager of construction in the  
22 air permit section.

23 MR. SMET: Good evening. My name is Bob  
24 Smet and I am a permit engineer in the Illinois

1 EPA's Bureau of Air. I will be giving you a brief  
2 description of the project.

3 Cronus Chemicals has applied for a permit  
4 to construct a urea and ammonia manufacturing plant  
5 west of here, Tuscola. Because the plant will be a  
6 major source of emissions for various pollutants,  
7 including greenhouse gases, these pollutant  
8 emissions must be controlled with Best Available  
9 Control Technology. The principal emission points  
10 at the plant will be the reformer furnace, boiler,  
11 the main carbon dioxide vent and the urea  
12 granulator.

13 Natural gas will be the feedstock for the  
14 plant. In addition to being the feedstock, natural  
15 gas will also be the main fuel for the plant. For  
16 the gas-fired reformer and boiler, the emission  
17 controls will include the use of low-emission  
18 burners and selective catalytic reduction to reduce  
19 and control emissions of nitrogen oxides. For the  
20 urea granulator, a high-efficiency scrubber system  
21 will be used for the control of particulate matter.  
22 Emissions of greenhouses gases, which will mainly be  
23 carbon dioxide, will be addressed by energy  
24 efficiency, as achieved by the design of the plant

1 and certain work practices.

2 The air quality analysis for the project  
3 submitted by Cronus and reviewed by the Illinois EPA  
4 shows that the proposed project, as would be  
5 addressed by the draft permit, would not threaten  
6 the ambient air quality standards for carbon  
7 monoxide, nitrogen dioxide and fine particulate  
8 matter.

9 The permit for the plant would require  
10 testing, monitoring, recordkeeping and reporting to  
11 address compliance with applicable limits and  
12 requirements. For example, for the reformer  
13 furnace, continuous emissions monitoring would be  
14 required for emissions of nitrogen oxides, carbon  
15 monoxide and carbon dioxide.

16 In closing, the Illinois EPA is proposing  
17 to issue an Air Pollution Control Construction  
18 Permit to Cronus for its proposed plant. We welcome  
19 your comments and questions on our proposed action.  
20 Thank you.

21 MR. MOHR: Thank you, Bob. Now I will ask  
22 representatives from Cronus to introduce themselves  
23 and make a brief presentation.

24 MR. ATAC: Good evening, everyone. Is

1 that too loud? I wanted to take this opportunity to  
2 briefly introduce myself and the Cronus project. My  
3 name is Erzin Atac -- that's E-r-z-i-n and the last  
4 name is A-t-a-c -- and I am the Chief Executive  
5 Officer of Cronus Chemicals. I would like to start  
6 by thanking the Illinois EPA for conducting this  
7 hearing as well as the Tuscola Community High School  
8 for hosting it and, of course, all of you for coming  
9 tonight.

10 I have been a part of the fertilizer  
11 industry for more than 30 years. In fact, the  
12 Cronus management team has an average of 30 years'  
13 experience building and operating fertilizer plants.  
14 We are here to discuss our plans to build a granular  
15 urea production plant. Once completed, our plant  
16 will provide high-quality, locally-produced urea  
17 fertilizers to Midwestern farmers.

18 Cronus will be investing more than  
19 \$1.2 billion in this facility and will create  
20 between 1,500 and 2,000 union construction jobs  
21 during the 32-month construction schedule. Once the  
22 plant becomes operational, we will be creating  
23 around 200 full-time jobs.

24 As I am sure many of you know, urea is

1 critically important to agriculture, providing  
2 essential nitrogen to the soil to help crops grow.  
3 Currently, a significant amount of the urea we  
4 consume in the United States is imported from  
5 faraway countries, like Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Egypt  
6 and China. We are looking to locate our project in  
7 the Midwest in order to give farmers access to  
8 locally-produced fertilizers and to reduce their  
9 reliance on imports. The state-of-the-art Cronus  
10 project will use the best available technology and  
11 will be the most modern urea production facility  
12 built in the United States.

13 We are very grateful for the strong  
14 support we have received from many members of the  
15 community in Tuscola and across Illinois as well as  
16 from leaders like Governor Pat Quinn, Senator Chapin  
17 Rose, Representative Adam Brown, County Board Chair  
18 Chuck Knox, Mayor Dan Kleiss and Brian Moody from  
19 Tuscola Community Development. We look forward to  
20 becoming good neighbors and great corporate  
21 citizens. Thank you again for coming. Thank you.

22 MR. MOHR: Thank you. Now we will take  
23 comments from the public. The first commenter will  
24 be Representative Adam Brown from the 102nd



1 District.

2 (Inaudible.)

3 REPRESENTATIVE BROWN: I'll start over.

4 Good evening, folks. Adam Brown, State  
5 Representative, 102nd District. I want to first  
6 thank you and welcome you here this evening; I know  
7 it's a muggy evening and I appreciate your interest  
8 in this project. It's something that's been ongoing  
9 for the past year plus for us. It's a project where  
10 we've been contesting with other states and,  
11 finally, Illinois has offered a package that is  
12 unresistable to a company like Cronus.

13 Here in Tuscola, you've got phenomenal  
14 roads, you've got phenomenal railways and the  
15 transportation hub is immense. As you remember,  
16 FutureGen looked very strongly at locating here.  
17 Unfortunately, that didn't work out, but because of  
18 the plans drawn up by Brian Moody and the Tuscola  
19 Economic Development folks here in Douglas County,  
20 we've had an opportunity to move swiftly on this  
21 project and hammer down a lot of regulations and a  
22 lot of issues that would have popped up otherwise.

23 I would like to thank the folks from the  
24 Illinois EPA for joining us tonight. The

1 regulations and the safeguards built into this  
2 project are immense. We've had to work with folks  
3 from the Illinois EPA, the U.S. EPA, the Illinois  
4 Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunities  
5 and the U.S. Department of Labor. The regulations  
6 are very stringent; let me reinforce that and let  
7 you know that your community will be safe with this  
8 project. Not only safe, but your community will  
9 thrive because of this project and because of  
10 Erzin's commitment to building jobs right here in  
11 Tuscola. How many jobs, you ask? At least 1,500  
12 jobs and at least a \$1.2 billion investment in our  
13 community.

14           And do you think about how that might  
15 impact the local folks here as well? It could well  
16 mean lower property taxes for you, better roads,  
17 better opportunities for lodging, for retail, for  
18 food in your community and the opportunity for us to  
19 grow local jobs, to branch out and connect with an  
20 agricultural sector that's so strong here in  
21 Illinois is something I take to heart. My family  
22 operates a fifth-generation family farm here in  
23 Illinois. We are concerned about the water safety;  
24 we are concerned about air safety. We have a

1 long-term investment in this community. We want to  
2 raise my one-year-old daughter here and have her see  
3 the opportunities and the growth potential in  
4 Central Illinois, but we have to do it by creating  
5 jobs, good-paying jobs like this Cronus project will  
6 do.

7 So, again, I thank you for your interest  
8 and if you have any questions in the future, I know  
9 Brian is extremely busy with this project, so please  
10 feel free to reach out to my office.  
11 staterepbrown@gmail.com, that's my contact  
12 information. E-mail me sometime and we will bring  
13 you up to speed. Thank you again.

14 MR. MOHR: Thank you, Representative  
15 Brown. Our next speaker will be Mayor Dan Kleiss.

16 MAYOR KLEISS: Thank you. Okay. Can you  
17 hear me okay? Okay. On behalf of the citizens of  
18 Tuscola and our city council, let me welcome you to  
19 Tuscola. As Mayor of the City of Tuscola, I would  
20 like to express my support for the issuance of this  
21 construction permit for the Cronus chemical plant.

22 I want to thank the Illinois EPA for their  
23 work during this permitting process and for their  
24 due diligence not only right now, but I'm sure going

1 forward as well, considering the potential impacts  
2 on the -- of the project on this community. I  
3 understand some of the complexities of the  
4 permitting process and appreciate the opportunity  
5 for our community to comment on the permit.

6 Over the past two years, I've had the  
7 opportunity to meet with the folks here from Cronus  
8 and their consultants, and there's been quite a few  
9 of them. We are pleased that they have considered  
10 building a new facility on our CSX Select Site  
11 Certified Tuscola Industrial Rail Park.

12 As you are likely aware, our city staff  
13 and the economic development team have worked very  
14 hard over the past eight years to promote our  
15 industrial sites. While we have been close several  
16 times, we feel very positive about this project and  
17 look forward to working with them. Not only does  
18 this project provide the opportunity for quality,  
19 well-paying jobs during the construction as well as  
20 once -- as well as once it gets operating, but the  
21 products produced by this plant will be put to use  
22 right here in our own area economy, as Erzin so  
23 stated.

24 Instead of Erzin -- excuse me. Instead of

1 urea being produced outside the U.S. and imported  
2 into our country, it will be made right here, a very  
3 big plus for our area.

4 Our community has managed to increase  
5 traffic of visitors which comes with this type of  
6 development before, whether it was the construction  
7 of industrial chemical manufacturing facilities in  
8 the early 50s, natural gas transmission lines as  
9 late as four years ago or the seed grain companies  
10 that have flourished here.

11 Our community, once again, is ready to  
12 embrace the opportunities and challenges brought by  
13 a project of this magnitude. Our city council and  
14 staff have worked hard to grow our local economy and  
15 provide more opportunities for our residents. A  
16 facility like Cronus being built in Tuscola will be  
17 a tremendous benefit to our community and its  
18 economy.

19 As a longtime employee of Cabot  
20 Corporation and being Mayor of Tuscola for many  
21 years, I know the positive impact that comes from  
22 these industrial operations spending dollars in our  
23 community and the surrounding region. This project  
24 will positively impact job growth, local tax

1 revenues and bring nearly 2,000 new construction  
2 jobs to this region as the facility is being built.  
3 Once the plant is in operation, it is projected to  
4 provide over 200 well-paying, highly-skilled  
5 full-time jobs. These are jobs that are needed in  
6 this community.

7 I would ask that you please consider the  
8 potential impact of this activity in Central  
9 Illinois as you continue to review this project. We  
10 have the right location, the right infrastructure,  
11 the right labor skills to make this project happen.  
12 We are excited about this project and ready to take  
13 the next step.

14 Thanks again for coming to Tuscola and we  
15 hope to see you many more times during the course of  
16 the completion of this project. Thank you very  
17 much. And my name is Daniel J. Kleiss, K-l-e-i-s-s.

18 MR. MOHR: Thank you, Dan. Our next  
19 speaker will be Don Munson.

20 MR. MUNSON: Thank you. I am Don Munson,  
21 M-u-n-s-o-n; I am Vice Chairman of the County Board  
22 here in Douglas County and I want to thank our Board  
23 Chairman for not being present tonight so I could  
24 make this -- he seemed to think that his 54th

1 wedding anniversary sort of trumped this meeting  
2 tonight, so we apologize for our Chairman.

3           Anyway, we thank you also for coming and  
4 giving us the opportunity to express our deep  
5 gratitude for the Cronus people to at least give us  
6 a shot at this plant coming here to our area.

7           As Representative Brown mentioned, we  
8 worked hard and long and tirelessly trying to woo  
9 the FutureGen project here. That didn't come to  
10 fruition, but you see what it's brought. We were  
11 prepared for something like this.

12           And at this time I want to thank our  
13 County Engineer Jim Crane and our IT GIS  
14 Coordinator, Jason Goad, who worked tirelessly on  
15 that FutureGen project and have worked I think very  
16 well with the FutureGen -- or with the Cronus people  
17 and I hope they will agree. And we will -- I pledge  
18 that we, as a County Board, will continue to put  
19 those services forward for you people.

20           And as a retired farmer, I couldn't be  
21 more pleased with this type of project wanting to  
22 come to this area, especially this year as you look  
23 around and see all this green corn and green  
24 soybeans that we have coming out here. Eh, a little

1 bit too much water here and there, but it takes  
2 fertilizer to grow that crop for our larger  
3 commercial farms and we would very much welcome this  
4 type of project. This is good fertilizer, this is  
5 clean fertilizer and we certainly hope that we will  
6 come out the victor for the siting of the Cronus  
7 plant and we thank you for giving us the opportunity  
8 to put our best foot forward. Thank you.

9 MR. MOHR: Thank you. Our next speaker  
10 will be Jason McKinley.

11 MR. McKINLEY: Hello, I am Jason McKinley;  
12 I'm President of Lincoln Land Building & Trades and  
13 I would like to thank you for the opportunity to  
14 speak here tonight and thank the EPA for allowing us  
15 to do this.

16 The bad part about going last, I guess, is  
17 everybody has already said what I was planning on  
18 saying, but you have heard how many jobs this will  
19 create during construction, the estimate on the  
20 permanent jobs once the plant is in production.

21 I can add one more thing to that. While  
22 the plant is in operation, there will be routine  
23 maintenance needed and that will be continued  
24 opportunities for employment for routine maintenance



1 shutdowns. The Building & Trades have worked  
2 closely with Erzin and his team for several months  
3 negotiating a project labor agreement. We are very  
4 near the end of that process and we are close to  
5 having a project labor agreement in place that will  
6 provide skilled, safe workers for the project to  
7 complete it in a timely fashion and cost-effective  
8 manner.

9 A lot of our members in this area have  
10 been -- have had a rough way to go for the last few  
11 years. Work has been a little scarce. Some of them  
12 have had to travel many miles, states away to find  
13 work and they would like to come here to Tuscola and  
14 perform their craft closer to home and we look  
15 forward to working with Cronus and their team in the  
16 future to build their plant. Thank you.

17 MR. MOHR: Thank you. Our next speaker  
18 will be State Senator Chapin Rose.

19 MR. STENGER: Good evening. My name is  
20 Landon Stenger. I regret that I'm not State Senator  
21 Chapin Rose. I'm sorry about that. I am Chapin's  
22 Chief of Staff. He had another commitment on the  
23 other side of the district this evening and was  
24 driving very quickly to try to be here, but of

1 course didn't make it in time, so.

2 I know that he would, first of all,  
3 welcome you all here and would like to certainly  
4 thank the City of Tuscola and Brian Moody and the  
5 good folks from Cronus, but he did ask me to pass on  
6 a letter to read here in his stead tonight.

7 It says, "I write today in support of the  
8 recent EPA permit application by Cronus Chemicals  
9 for the proposed site of a urea fertilizer plant  
10 near Tuscola, Illinois. For over a year, I have  
11 worked with local community leaders and my  
12 colleagues in the Illinois House and Senate to help  
13 create an economically-friendly environment for  
14 companies, such as Cronus Chemicals, to locate their  
15 commercial facilities here. Douglas County and the  
16 City of Tuscola have worked hard in these efforts  
17 and resulting -- and the resulting proposal to  
18 Cronus has been outstanding.

19 As you know, the proposed Cronus plant  
20 would spur a significant economic boost for the City  
21 of Tuscola, East Central Illinois and the State of  
22 Illinois by bringing an investment of \$1.2 billion  
23 to the region. Specifically, the proposed project  
24 is estimated to create at least 2,000 construction

1 jobs and at least 200 permanent, well-paying jobs  
2 after construction is complete, which in turn  
3 translates into a positive impact to local property  
4 tax bases.

5 Additionally, the benefit to the robust  
6 local agricultural economy will be impactful by  
7 providing efficient access to Cronus's fertilizer  
8 products throughout the Midwestern Region.

9 The Cronus administrative team has the  
10 experience and knowledge to implement their proposal  
11 and operate this facility both responsibly and  
12 successfully and, as such, I wish to lend my support  
13 to their application.

14 If I can answer any further questions  
15 related to this application, please do not hesitate  
16 to contact me. Best regards, State Senator Chapin  
17 Rose." Thank you.

18 MR. MOHR: I feel compelled to say  
19 thank you, State Senator Chapin Rose. Thank you,  
20 Landon. Are there any more members of the public  
21 that would like to make a comment tonight?

22 (Pause.)

23 Seeing no members of the public with  
24 comments, as we bring this hearing to a close, I

1 want to remind everyone that the comment period for  
2 the record in this matter closes on July 25th, 2014,  
3 so any written comments must be postmarked by  
4 July 25th, 2014 to be accepted as part of the  
5 record.

6 The time now is approximately 20 till  
7 8:00 p.m. and this hearing is adjourned. Thank you  
8 for your participation this evening. Stay cool.

9 7:40 p.m.

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

I, JILL NICOLE STEVENS, CSR No.  
084-004212, Certified Shorthand Reporter and  
Registered Professional Reporter, certify:

That the foregoing proceedings were taken  
before me at the time and place therein set forth;

That the proceedings were recorded  
stenographically by me and were thereafter  
transcribed;

That the foregoing is a true and correct  
transcript of my shorthand notes so taken.

I further certify that I am not a relative  
or employee of any party, nor financially interested  
in the action.

Dated July 7, 2014.



Jill Nicole Stevens

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