| | Page | 1 |
|----|--|---|
| 1 | ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY | |
| 2 | PUBLIC HEARING FOR | |
| 3 | REVISED CAAPP PERMIT | |
| 4 | POWERTON GENERATING STATION | |
| 5 | | |
| 6 | | |
| 7 | | |
| 8 | | |
| 9 | APRIL 27, 2015 | |
| 10 | 7:00 P.M. | |
| 11 | 200 N.E. WATER STREET | |
| 12 | DEAN STUDER, HEARING OFFICER | |
| 13 | | |
| 14 | | |
| 15 | | |
| 16 | | |
| 17 | | |
| 18 | | |
| 19 | | |
| 20 | | |
| 21 | TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS | |
| 22 | | |
| 23 | | |
| 24 | | |

| 1 | | | Page 2 |
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| 1 2 | I N D E X | | |
| 3 | | PAGE NO. | |
| | WENTING OFFICER OFFICER OFFICER OFFICE | | |
| 4 | HEARING OFFICER STUDER OPENING REMARKS | | |
| 5 | DOUG RUTHERFORD OPENING REMARKS | 10 | |
| 6 | | | |
| 7 | PUBLIC COMMENTS | | |
| 8 | JOSEPH LASZLO | 21 | |
| 9 | PHILLIP LIPPI | 26 & 73 | |
| 10 | NICHOLAS KERKER | 27 | |
| 11 | DAVE WEIMAN | 29 | |
| 12 | JOYCE BLUMENSHINE | 30 | |
| 13 | KEVIN CASHMER | 41 & 74 | |
| 14 | LINDSAY DUBIN | 41 | |
| 15 | FAITH BUGEL | 47 | |
| 16 | VERENA OWEN | 55 | |
| 17 | ROBIN GARLISH | 61 | |
| 18 | TRACY FOX | 66 | |
| 19 | | | |
| 20 | | | |
| 21 | | | |
| 22 | | | |
| 23 | | | |
| 24 | | | |

| | | Page 3 |
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| 1 | HEARING OFFICER STUDER: Good | |
| 2 | evening. I have got a few minutes after 7:00 so | |
| 3 | we are going to go ahead and begin this evening. | |
| 4 | My name is Dean Studer and I am the | |
| 5 | Hearing Officer for the Illinois Environmental | |
| 6 | Protection Agency. On behalf of Director Lisa | |
| 7 | Bonnett, I welcome you to tonight's hearing. | |
| 8 | My purpose tonight is to ensure that | |
| 9 | this proceeding runs properly, according to rules | |
| 10 | and is conducted in a fair and efficient manner. | |
| 11 | Personally I will not be responding | |
| 12 | to specific technical issues related to the permit | |
| 13 | but will defer such issues to the technical staff | |
| 14 | person with me this evening. | |
| 15 | This is an informational hearing | |
| 16 | before the Illinois EPA in the matter of a | |
| 17 | significant modification of a Clean Air Act | |
| 18 | Permitting Program, otherwise referred to as | |
| 19 | CAAPP, C-A-A-P-P, Permit for the Midwest | |
| 20 | Generation, LLC Powerton Power Plant. And that is | |
| 21 | located at 13082 East Manito Road near Pekin in | |
| 22 | Tazewell County. | |
| 23 | An informational public hearing means | |
| 24 | exactly that, it is an opportunity for you to | |

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Page 4 1 provide information to the Illinois EPA concerning 2 this permit. This is not a contested case 3 hearing. 4 A Title V air permit was issued on September 29, 2005. On November 3rd, 2005 Midwest 5 6 Generation petitioned the Pollution Control Board 7 for administrative review of the permit. The administrative review of a permit 8 9 is often referred to as a permit appeal. 10 On February 16, 2006 the Pollution Control Board stayed the permit in its entirety, 11 12 pending resolution of the appeal. 13 Illinois EPA and Midwest Generation 14 have been negotiating to resolve the 15 administrative review of the permit filed by the 16 permit applicant. The permit as drafted reflects 17 these negotiations and is the first step in revolving the permit appeal. 18 19 Once a permit is issued that resolves 20 the appeal, the plans are to ask the Illinois Pollution Control Board to dismiss the 21 2.2 administrative permit review. 23 I also note that Illinois EPA is in 24 the process of preparing a filing with the

| | | Page 5 |
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| 1 | Illinois Pollution Control Board regarding sulfur | |
| 2 | dioxide, otherwise referred to as SO2. That | |
| 3 | proceeding is separate from this immediate permit | |
| 4 | modification proceeding and Illinois EPA staff | |
| 5 | will not be addressing those issues during this | |
| 6 | proceeding. Comments regarding the SO2 rule | |
| 7 | making are to be filed directly with the Illinois | |
| 8 | Pollution Control Board. | |
| 9 | As part of this hearing process the | |
| 10 | Illinois EPA has prepared documents for public | |
| 11 | review that outline the modifications that are the | |
| 12 | subject of this hearing. | |
| 13 | The Illinois EPA is holding this | |
| 14 | hearing for the purpose of accepting comments from | |
| 15 | the public on the proposed modification of the air | |
| 16 | pollution control permit for this project prior to | |
| 17 | taking final action on the modification. The | |
| 18 | public hearing is being held under the provisions | |
| 19 | of Illinois EPA's procedures for permit and | |
| 20 | closure plan hearings which can be found at 35 | |
| 21 | Illinois Administrative Code Part 166, Subpart A. | |
| 22 | Copies of these procedures can be accessed on the | |
| 23 | website for the Illinois Pollution Control Board | |
| 24 | at www.ipcb.state.il.us, or if you do not have | |
| 1 | | |

| | | Page 6 |
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| 1 | ready access to the internet they can be obtained | |
| 2 | from me by request. | |
| 3 | I would like to explain how tonight's | |
| 4 | hearing is going to proceed. | |
| 5 | First I will have the Illinois EPA | |
| 6 | staff introduce himself and identify his | |
| 7 | responsibilities within the Agency in regards to | |
| 8 | this permitting action. Then Permit Engineer Doug | |
| 9 | Rutherford will briefly explain the CAAPP permit | |
| 10 | program and the permit modifications. This will | |
| 11 | be followed by additional instructions on how I | |
| 12 | will take oral comments during this hearing and | |
| 13 | then I will allow the public to begin providing | |
| 14 | comments. Comments are not required to be | |
| 15 | provided orally. Written comments are given the | |
| 16 | same consideration as oral comments made during | |
| 17 | this hearing and may be submitted to the Illinois | |
| 18 | EPA at any time during the comment period which | |
| 19 | ends on May 27, 2015. All comments submitted by | |
| 20 | mail must be postmarked no later than May 27, | |
| 21 | 2015. Although we will continue to accept | |
| 22 | comments through that date, tonight is the only | |
| 23 | time that we will accept oral comments. The | |
| 24 | Illinois EPA would like to have a final resolution | |

| | | Page 7 |
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| 1 | in this matter as quickly as practical. However, | |
| 2 | the actual decision date will depend upon the | |
| 3 | number and nature of comments received as well as | |
| 4 | other factors. | |
| 5 | Any person who wants to make oral | |
| 6 | comments may do so as long as the statements are | |
| 7 | relevant to the issues at hand and time allows. | |
| 8 | If you have not completed a registration card at | |
| 9 | this point please see Brad Frost in the | |
| 10 | registration area out front and he can provide you | |
| 11 | with a registration card. Please be sure to check | |
| 12 | the appropriate box on the card if you desire to | |
| 13 | make comments at the hearing this evening. If you | |
| 14 | have lengthy comments it may be helpful to submit | |
| 15 | them to me in writing before the close of the | |
| 16 | comment period and I will ensure that they are | |
| 17 | included in the hearing record as an exhibit. | |
| 18 | Please keep your comments relevant to | |
| 19 | the issues at hand. The focus of this hearing is | |
| 20 | the conditions and requirements in the permit that | |
| 21 | Illinois EPA is proposing to modify. If your | |
| 22 | comments fall outside the scope of this hearing I | |
| 23 | may ask you to proceed to another issue. | |
| 24 | Midwest is also free to respond to | |

| | | Page 8 |
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| 1 | issues that are raised if willing to do so but I | |
| 2 | am not in a position to require them to do so. I | |
| 3 | will not allow the speakers to argue or engage in | |
| 4 | prolonged dialogue with each other or with members | |
| 5 | of our panel. I also will not allow members of | |
| 6 | the public to address comments to other members of | |
| 7 | the public. Comments from the public are to be | |
| 8 | addressed to the hearing panel and the court | |
| 9 | reporter. For the purpose of allowing everyone to | |
| 10 | have a chance to comment I ask everyone to keep | |
| 11 | their comments initially to eight minutes. In | |
| 12 | addition I would like to stress that we want to | |
| 13 | avoid unnecessary repetition. If anyone before | |
| 14 | you has already presented what is contained in | |
| 15 | your comments, please skip over those issues when | |
| 16 | you speak. If someone speaking before you has | |
| 17 | already said what you desire to say, you may pass | |
| 18 | when I call your name to come forward. | |
| 19 | Again, we are accepting written | |
| 20 | comments which will become part of the official | |
| 21 | record in this matter and your comments submitted | |
| 22 | in writing will be considered. All who legibly | |
| 23 | complete a registration card or submit written | |
| 24 | comments in this matter during the comment period | |

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| 1 | will be notified of the final decision in this | |
| 2 | matter and of the availability of the | |
| 3 | responsiveness summary. | |
| 4 | In the responsiveness summary the | |
| 5 | Illinois EPA will respond to all significant | |
| 6 | issues that were raised at this hearing or | |
| 7 | submitted to me prior to the close of the comment | |
| 8 | period. The record again in this matter will | |
| 9 | close on May 27, 2015. I will accept written | |
| 10 | comments as long as they are postmarked by that | |
| 11 | date. While the record is open, all relevant | |
| 12 | comments, documents and data will be placed into | |
| 13 | the hearing record as exhibits. Please send all | |
| 14 | written documents to my attention. They should be | |
| 15 | sent to Dean Studer, Hearing Officer, Office of | |
| 16 | the Community Relations Regarding Midwest | |
| 17 | Generation, Powerton, Illinois EPA, 1021 North | |
| 18 | Grand Avenue East, P.O. Box 19276, Springfield, | |
| 19 | Illinois, 62794-9276. This address is given on | |
| 20 | the public notice for the hearing tonight. | |
| 21 | At this time please silence all cell | |
| 22 | phones and pagers if you have not already done so. | |
| 23 | I will now have the Illinois EPA | |
| 24 | staff present tonight introduce themselves and | |

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| 1 | then Doug Rutherford will make a brief statement | |
| 2 | regarding the permit. I will then provide further | |
| 3 | instructions on how we will be taking comments | |
| 4 | during this hearing and then I will begin taking | |
| 5 | comments from the public. | |
| 6 | MR. RUTHERFORD: Good evening. My | |
| 7 | name is Doug Rutherford and I am an engineer with | |
| 8 | the Bureau of Air, the Permit Section. And thank | |
| 9 | you again for attending this public meeting. | |
| 10 | The planned action being discussed | |
| 11 | tonight involves issuance of a revised CAAPP | |
| 12 | permit for the Powerton station. The provisions | |
| 13 | arise from the settlement of the permit appeal | |
| 14 | currently pending before the Illinois Pollution | |
| 15 | Control Board for the CAAPP permit that was | |
| 16 | initially issued to the Illinois EPA in 2005. | |
| 17 | The Illinois EPA is committed to | |
| 18 | getting a CAAPP permit in place for the Powerton | |
| 19 | station as well as the CAAPP permits in place for | |
| 20 | the other coal fire plants in Illinois where | |
| 21 | original CAAPP permits are still subject to the | |
| 22 | appeals. | |
| 23 | It should not go unnoticed that after | |
| 24 | working cooperatively with USEPA the original | |

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| 1 | permit for the Powerton station was issued in 2005 | |
| 2 | without objection from the USEPA. However, it was | |
| 3 | appealed by Midwest Generation and stayed in | |
| 4 | entirety by the Pollution Control Board. | |
| 5 | The draft revised permit that is now | |
| 6 | being discussed is the result of settlement | |
| 7 | discussions between Midwest Generation and the | |
| 8 | Illinois EPA with the assistance of the Illinois | |
| 9 | Attorney General's office. | |
| 10 | The essential nature of a negotiated | |
| 11 | settlement is that the parties reach an agreement | |
| 12 | in which they each believe that their key concerns | |
| 13 | would be fairly and appropriately addressed. | |
| 14 | Given the nature of the air pollution control | |
| 15 | operating permit for the coal plants, the | |
| 16 | settlement negotiations have involved significant | |
| 17 | effort over a period of time by both the Illinois | |
| 18 | EPA and the resources. | |
| 19 | I will now briefly summarize | |
| 20 | prominent changes that are planned for the CAAPP | |
| 21 | permit for the Powerton generating station. | |
| 22 | Specific details regarding all the plan changes | |
| 23 | can be found in the Statement of Basis that | |
| 24 | accompanied the draft permit of the revised | |

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Page 12 1 permit. 2 One plan change to the permit 3 involves pollutants addressed in the annual 4 Emission Report. Illinois EPA's authority to 5 require reporting of certain pollutants, including 6 mercury, was challenged in the appeal because of 7 no underlying requirement existed for any environmental statutory or regulatory provision at 8 9 the time of permit issuance. 10 Illinois EPA found the underlying rules did not provide support for this requirement 11 12 and plans to remove these specific details 13 regarding content of the annual emission report 14 from the permit. It can be noted that the 15 underlying reporting rules have changed since 16 2005, as they now encompass additional regulated 17 pollutants. In effect the general language in the 18 permit condition will cover an expanded list of pollutants subject to the annual emissions 19 20 reporting. 21 Another plan change to the permit is 2.2 the addition of compliance assurance monitoring, 23 commonly referred to as CAM, C-A-M, for the 24 emissions of particulate matter from the coal fire

| | | Page 13 |
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| 1 | plants. This is required because changes to the | |
| 2 | permit would be significant modifications. | |
| 3 | For the coal fire boilers, Illinois | |
| 4 | EPA would conditionally approve the approved | |
| 5 | CAM proposed CAM plan. The CAM plan provides | |
| 6 | Midwest Generation with up to 180 days after | |
| 7 | permit issuance to complete necessary testing for | |
| 8 | particulate matter conditions, submit test | |
| 9 | results, apply for a proposed modification to the | |
| 10 | permit and begin implementation of a CAM plan. | |
| 11 | Another area where changes to the | |
| 12 | permit are planned is in recordkeeping for startup | |
| 13 | of the coal boilers. | |
| 14 | Illinois EPA agreed to revise the | |
| 15 | issued permit to reflect a different duration of a | |
| 16 | typical startup when it became apparent that the | |
| 17 | original condition had been based on incorrect | |
| 18 | assumptions. Midwest Generation must continue to | |
| 19 | keep basic information related to each startup, | |
| 20 | date, time, duration, but they now must also keep | |
| 21 | additional records including documentation that | |
| 22 | established startup providers were followed. If | |
| 23 | procedures were not followed, detailed records are | |
| 24 | needed, including reasons why established | |

Page 14 1 procedures were not followed. 2 Startups where there might have been 3 an exceedance will trigger additional record 4 keeping and reporting to the Illinois EPA. 5 Another area where changes to the permit are planned are the requirements for 6 handling of coal and fly ash. Inspection 7 protocols for these operations and processes will 8 9 be revised, as well as requirements for periodic 10 observations of visual emission, using standard USEPA methods. 11 12 Also a requirement to obtain a 13 separate contingency plan for handling temporary sources of fly ash during malfunction and 14 breakdown events will be removed from the permit. 15 16 This is because it would be redundant to a source 17 wide condition to maintain a specific operating 18 program that addresses these situations. 19 As I mentioned before, details 20 concerning these and other permit changes 21 addressed in the permitting action as well as 2.2 accompanying justifications for the changes are set forth in the Statement of Basis. 23 24 I will now turn things back over to

Page 15 the Hearing Officer. 1 2 HEARING OFFICER STUDER: Thanks, 3 Doug. 4 While issues raised tonight may 5 indeed be heartfelt concerns to many of us here in attendance, applause, booing, hissing, cheering 6 and other noises are not appropriate during the 7 course of this hearing. 8 9 Tonight when statements are made they are to relate to the issues involved with this air 10 permit. Statements and comments that are of a 11 12 personal nature or reflect on the character or 13 motive of a person or group of persons are not appropriate in this hearing. If statements or 14 15 comments begin to drift into this area or other 16 areas that are not appropriate for this hearing I may interrupt and ask you to proceed to your next 17 relevant issue. 18 19 As Hearing Officer I intend to treat 20 everyone here tonight in a courteous, respectful 21 and professional manner. I ask that members of 2.2 the panel and public do the same. 23 If the conduct of persons attending 24 this hearing should become unruly, I am authorized

| | | Page 16 |
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| 1 | to adjourn this hearing should the actions | |
| 2 | warrant. In such a case Illinois EPA would still | |
| 3 | continue to accept written comments through the | |
| 4 | close of the comment period, which is through | |
| 5 | May 27, 2015. | |
| 6 | Since we have a limited amount of | |
| 7 | time in which to conduct this hearing, Illinois | |
| 8 | EPA staff members will be responding to issues | |
| 9 | primarily for clarification purposes. We are here | |
| 10 | tonight to listen to environmental issues. You | |
| 11 | may disagree with or object to some of the | |
| 12 | statements and comments made tonight, but this is | |
| 13 | a public hearing and everyone has a right to | |
| 14 | express their comments in this matter. | |
| 15 | Again, written comments are given the | |
| 16 | same consideration as oral comments received | |
| 17 | during the hearing and may be submitted to | |
| 18 | Illinois EPA at any time within the public comment | |
| 19 | period. Although we will continue to accept | |
| 20 | comments through May 27, 2015, tonight is the only | |
| 21 | time that we will accept oral comments. Any | |
| 22 | person who wishes to make an oral comment may do | |
| 23 | so as long as statements are relevant to the | |
| 24 | permit and time allows. If you have lengthy | |

| | | Page 17 |
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| 1 | comments, please consider giving only a summary of | |
| 2 | those comments during this hearing and submitting | |
| 3 | the comments in their entirety to me in writing | |
| 4 | before the close of the comment period. I will | |
| 5 | ensure that they are included in the hearing | |
| 6 | record as an exhibit. Please keep your comments | |
| 7 | relevant to the issues at hand. And again, if | |
| 8 | comments fall outside the scope of this hearing I | |
| 9 | may ask you to proceed to your next issue. For | |
| 10 | the purposes of allowing everyone to comment this | |
| 11 | evening and to ensure that we conduct this hearing | |
| 12 | in a timely fashion, I will impose a time limit of | |
| 13 | eight minutes per speaker. If everyone has had an | |
| 14 | opportunity to speak and time allows, I may allow | |
| 15 | those who initially did not desire to speak to do | |
| 16 | so. If time still allows, I may then allow those | |
| 17 | who have spoken to speak if they have additional | |
| 18 | comments to make. In the event we cannot | |
| 19 | accommodate everyone who wishes to make comments | |
| 20 | this evening, you would be asked to submit | |
| 21 | comments in writing to us during the comment | |
| 22 | period. Again, written comments are given the | |
| 23 | same consideration as oral comments. Again, I | |
| 24 | stress we want to avoid unnecessary repetition. | |
| 1 | | |

| | | Page 18 |
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| 1 | Once a point is made, it makes no difference if | |
| 2 | that point is made once or whether it is made 99 | |
| 3 | times. It will be considered and will be | |
| 4 | reflected only once in the responsiveness summary. | |
| 5 | The final decision of the Illinois | |
| 6 | EPA will not be based upon how many people support | |
| 7 | or oppose the modification of this permit but | |
| 8 | rather upon the record and whether the facility | |
| 9 | will comply with the applicable laws, regulations | |
| 10 | and requirements for permit issuance. | |
| 11 | We have a court reporter here who is | |
| 12 | taking a record of these proceedings for the | |
| 13 | purpose of us compiling our administrative record. | |
| 14 | Therefore, for her benefit please keep the general | |
| 15 | background noise in the room to a minimum so that | |
| 16 | she can hear everything and that it is accurately | |
| 17 | reflected in the transcript. | |
| 18 | Illinois EPA will post the transcript | |
| 19 | of this hearing on our web page in the same | |
| 20 | general place where the hearing notice, Statement | |
| 21 | of Basis, the draft permit and other documents | |
| 22 | associated with this proceeding have been posted. | |
| 23 | It is my desire to have this posted | |
| 24 | within three weeks. The actual time will depend, | |

| | | Page 19 |
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| 1 | however, on when I get the transcript back from | |
| 2 | the court reporter. | |
| 3 | When it is your turn to speak I will | |
| 4 | call your name to come forward. For the record, | |
| 5 | you should state your name and if applicable any | |
| 6 | governmental body, organization or association | |
| 7 | that you represent. If you are not representing a | |
| 8 | governmental body, an organization or an | |
| 9 | association, you may simply indicate that you are | |
| 10 | a concerned citizen or a member of the public. | |
| 11 | For the benefit of the court reporter I will ask | |
| 12 | that you spell your last name. If there are | |
| 13 | alternate spellings for your first name you may | |
| 14 | also choose to spell your first name. Once you | |
| 15 | spell your name, I will start timing and you will | |
| 16 | have eight minutes to complete your comments. I | |
| 17 | ask that while you are speaking that you direct | |
| 18 | your attention to the hearing panel and to the | |
| 19 | court reporter to ensure that an accurate record | |
| 20 | of your comments are made. Again, prolonged | |
| 21 | dialogue with members of the hearing panel or with | |
| 22 | others here in attendance is not permitted. | |
| 23 | Comments directed to the audience are also not | |
| 24 | permitted this evening. | |

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| 1 | I remind everyone that the focus of | |
| 2 | this hearing is the proposed modification of the | |
| 3 | Title V permit, specifically the conditions and | |
| 4 | the requirements that Illinois EPA has proposed | |
| 5 | for modification as outlined in the documents | |
| 6 | available at the registration table and on the | |
| 7 | Illinois EPA website. | |
| 8 | Are there questions regarding the | |
| 9 | procedures that will be used for conducting this | |
| 10 | hearing? | |
| 11 | (No response.) | |
| 12 | Let the record indicate that no one | |
| 13 | raised their hand. | |
| 14 | With that, I want to point out | |
| 15 | tonight that we have one microphone, so I am going | |
| 16 | to set this microphone and the stand and its | |
| 17 | stand on the podium. Because when you speak you | |
| 18 | are going to have your back to the audience, | |
| 19 | please speak into the microphone so that everyone | |
| 20 | can hear what you are saying. | |
| 21 | I think everyone in the room wants to | |
| 22 | hear what everyone else is saying when they are | |
| 23 | addressing the hearing panel, so I would | |
| 24 | appreciate that if you could do that. | |

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| 1 | The first person is Joseph Laszlo. | |
| 2 | JOSEPH LASZLO: All right. My name | |
| 3 | is Joseph Laszlo, L-A-S-Z-L-O. I am a resident | |
| 4 | of Peoria County. Private citizen making | |
| 5 | comments and questions. | |
| 6 | I have one question in particular. | |
| 7 | And I refer you to the Statement of Basis, | |
| 8 | page 14, changes in Section 5, paragraph 3, which | |
| 9 | starts out with the statement, the explicit | |
| 10 | requirements for recordkeeping for emissions of | |
| 11 | mercury hydrochloric acid and hydrofluoric acid | |
| 12 | would be removed from the permit. The reason for | |
| 13 | doing this is given in that paragraph. And the | |
| 14 | final paragraph or sentence of that paragraph | |
| 15 | reads, because the source is now required to | |
| 16 | maintain records of emissions for HCL, the removal | |
| 17 | of HF from condition 5.6.1 is of minor | |
| 18 | significance because HCL serves as a surrogate for | |
| 19 | HF. Hydrochloric acid and hydrofluoric acid have | |
| 20 | very different dissociation contents. | |
| 21 | Hydrochloric acid is a much stronger acid under | |
| 22 | most environmental conditions. The toxicity | |
| 23 | issues related to HCL and HF are very different | |
| 24 | and their absorption properties, particulates and | |

Page 22 surfaces are also quite different. 1 2 Can you explain why the HF is going 3 to be not monitored because HCL is a surrogate? 4 I dispute that contention. 5 MR. RUTHERFORD: I understand your question. I can't honestly give you a good 6 answer at this point. That is something I would 7 probably have to do some research on to get back 8 9 with you. 10 Mike Reed is the supervisor and has also been involved in the development of the 11 12 statement basis. Maybe he can answer. 13 HEARING OFFICER STUDER: Spell your 14 last name and state your title so we have it for the record. 15 MR. REED: Michael Reed. I am the 16 CAAPP Unit Supervisor. Last name is R-E-E-D. 17 18 Basically the boiler pact and the 19 utility pact -- I don't know if you are familiar 20 with those or not, new regulations that have just 21 been promulgated and resolved through USEPA --2.2 have basically deemed HCL as a surrogate for HF. 23 And basically monitoring HCL from an air emissions 24 perspective, water emissions, which is what I

| | | Page 23 |
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| 1 | believe the dissociation factor you were | |
| 2 | discussing is about, would be equivalent to HF. | |
| 3 | So basically using HCL, you would basically say | |
| 4 | HCL is equivalent to HF. So whatever HCL | |
| 5 | emissions are being emitted you would assume would | |
| 6 | be HF emissions also. | |
| 7 | JOSEPH LASZLO: So you are taking | |
| 8 | the assumption the atmosphere has no moisture in | |
| 9 | it which to dissociate these molecules into? | |
| 10 | Is that the judgment, that there is | |
| 11 | no moisture on any surface or in the atmosphere? | |
| 12 | MR. REED: I don't know that we are | |
| 13 | making any assumption. We are simply following | |
| 14 | the federal regulations that allow for HCL to be | |
| 15 | a surrogate for HF. | |
| 16 | JOSEPH LASZLO: Well, I personally | |
| 17 | find that as a chemist to be an inadequate basis | |
| 18 | for going forward with that permit. | |
| 19 | On a minor point, you guys prepared | |
| 20 | these records, this statement, right? That's | |
| 21 | yours, right? | |
| 22 | HEARING OFFICER STUDER: Yes. | |
| 23 | JOSEPH LASZLO: On the link, this | |
| 24 | link is supposed to be to these documents that | |

Page 24 you are handing out, this document. No? 1 2 MR. FROST: Which link specifically 3 are you talking about? 4 JOSEPH LASZLO: There is a blue link 5 right there. 6 MR. FROST: Yes. 7 JOSEPH LASZLO: It does not go to 8 these documents. 9 MR. FROST: It takes you to the 10 general website. JOSEPH LASZLO: To the EPA. 11 MR. FROST: We maintain the Illinois 12 13 permit's database on the USEPA website. So the 14 link in the notice takes you to the Illinois EPA database which is posted on the USEPA website. 15 16 JOSEPH LASZLO: Without a keyword for us to search this does not link us to any 17 18 useful information. 19 MR. FROST: The keyword is right in 20 the title. But the documents are also on the 21 Illinois EPA website under our hearing web page. JOSEPH LASZLO: I believe you stated 22 23 that link. 24 HEARING OFFICER STUDER: Yes.

Page 25 JOSEPH LASZLO: That would be useful 1 to actually use. 2 3 HEARING OFFICER STUDER: That is 4 Brad Frost, F-R-O-S-T. JOSEPH LASZLO: That would be useful 5 6 for public in general to have the actual link in 7 the actual documents rather than trying to search 8 through a huge database. MR. FROST: And then the follow-up 9 10 to that is our contact information is on there. If you have any difficulty you just call us and 11 12 we can --13 JOSEPH LASZLO: That's it. 14 HEARING OFFICER STUDER: Phillip Lippi. 15 16 PHILLIP LIPPI: Phillip Lippi. I am 17 a concerned citizen. While at the same time I am a member of the Sierra Club, I can't speak for 18 19 them. 20 I have come tonight to --21 HEARING OFFICER STUDER: Spell your 22 last name. 23 PHILLIP LIPPI: L-I-P-P-I. 24 I have come tonight to gather more

| | | Page 26 |
|----|--|---------|
| 1 | information and as a citizen, a lifetime, lifelong | |
| 2 | citizen of Pekin, Illinois, convey some thoughts I | |
| 3 | have. | |
| 4 | It is interesting all my life I | |
| 5 | notice sometimes the only clouds in the sky are | |
| 6 | coming from the power plant smoke stacks. | |
| 7 | One thought I have as I consider how | |
| 8 | the IEPA functions for us citizens and protecting | |
| 9 | us, we as citizens need to charge them with our | |
| 10 | demands and ideas because someone has to look out | |
| 11 | for us. And we are grateful at the work they have | |
| 12 | done, but I think overall I would like to see any | |
| 13 | force or demand that can be put on the power plant | |
| 14 | to keep our air clean be done. | |
| 15 | I consider that while the profiteers | |
| 16 | or, you know, the energy plant could be making | |
| 17 | whatever, billions, millions, I don't know | |
| 18 | exactly, but I am pretty sure that anything they | |
| 19 | could do to help keep the air clean they can | |
| 20 | afford to do. So I am a businessman and I can | |
| 21 | define the economy of my business to include or | |
| 22 | not include things like environmental cleanup or | |
| 23 | efforts I can make to keep the air clean. And the | |
| 24 | IEPA can do that too. They can request whatever | |

| | | Page 27 |
|----|--|---------|
| 1 | funds are required to get the job done to keep the | |
| 2 | community safe. | |
| 3 | Second, I understand and I don't | |
| 4 | know this as a fact, I will pose it as a question | |
| 5 | but make it my comment they are depending on | |
| 6 | the testing and monitoring by the industry. And | |
| 7 | my question is why? Why aren't we demanding that | |
| 8 | we have watchdog groups or people doing testing | |
| 9 | and monitoring? I think anything else is absurd. | |
| 10 | And I think those are my only two | |
| 11 | major points. | |
| 12 | Thank you very much. | |
| 13 | HEARING OFFICER STUDER: Thank you. | |
| 14 | Nicholas Kerker. | |
| 15 | NICHOLAS KERKER: Good evening. My | |
| 16 | name is Nicholas Kerker, K-E-R-K-E-R. I am here | |
| 17 | as a concerned citizen. | |
| 18 | I believe that the Illinois EPA, it | |
| 19 | is incumbent on them to make sure there are | |
| 20 | sufficient accountability and safeguards in place | |
| 21 | to make sure that communities like Peoria, Pekin | |
| 22 | and surrounding areas are sufficiently protected | |
| 23 | from air pollution. | |
| 24 | Now I will refer to the Statement of | |

| | | Page 28 |
|----|--|---------|
| 1 | Basis, specifically page 12, Chapter 2. The | |
| 2 | Factual Basis For Plan Permit Action, Section 2.5, | |
| 3 | which quotes the construction permits listed below | |
| 4 | issued prior to October, 2005 were reviewed in | |
| 5 | development of the initial CAAPP permit issued for | |
| 6 | the source. Applicable conditions that originated | |
| 7 | in these construction permits were incorporated | |
| 8 | into the initial CAAPP permit. Listed below there | |
| 9 | are five permits issued between October 29, 2001 | |
| 10 | and April 2nd, 2004. | |
| 11 | Now, I would like to know, how many | |
| 12 | construction permits had been issued to Powerton | |
| 13 | since 2005? | |
| 14 | And why are we just now in 2015 | |
| 15 | reviewing permits last issued in 2004? And are | |
| 16 | those initial permits being taken into | |
| 17 | consideration? Thank you. | |
| 18 | MR. RUTHERFORD: I will just say | |
| 19 | regarding the fact that we only went up to 2004, | |
| 20 | 2005 is we are really basically just trueing this | |
| 21 | permit up as if it were issued in 2005. This | |
| 22 | will resolve the appeal and get it released from | |
| 23 | the morgue. And immediately after that it will | |
| 24 | go through what we are referring to as reopening. | |

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| | | Page 29 |
|----|---|---------|
| 1 | And at that point the newer construction permits | |
| 2 | as well as any new regulatory requirements will | |
| 3 | be incorporated into the permit. | |
| 4 | HEARING OFFICER STUDER: Next person | |
| 5 | is Dave Weiman. I am having a hard time making | |
| 6 | that out. I probably butchered the name and I | |
| 7 | apologize. | |
| 8 | DAVE WEIMAN: As long as we spell it | |
| 9 | we don't have a problem. | |
| 10 | My name is Dave Weiman, W-E-I-M-A-N. | |
| 11 | I am Immediate Past President of the Interfaith | |
| 12 | Alliance Chapter here in central Illinois. | |
| 13 | I could speak to you this evening | |
| 14 | about the moral obligation that Powerton has for | |
| 15 | the citizens that live here, but I also am a | |
| 16 | member of an organization called Care Compass. | |
| 17 | And Care Compass tries to help elders find good | |
| 18 | elder care in long-term care situations. For the | |
| 19 | last ten or 12 years I have been involved in | |
| 20 | improving the culture of skilled nursing homes, | |
| 21 | making it person oriented, staff oriented, making | |
| 22 | choices important for the elders. The elders | |
| 23 | living in skilled nursing homes depend on their | |
| 24 | care providers to give them quality of life every | |

Page 30 1 day. 2 What I am asking this panel to do is 3 consider themselves a care provider. 4 The nursing homes can do a great job, and they are doing a great job in taking care of 5 6 our most elderly people. But those people are 7 sick sometimes, and no matter how much they get help and care from their care providers in that 8 9 skilled nursing home, if the air is polluted they 10 are not making a lot of progress. We can't continue to do this. Our elders need your help. 11 12 They need you to get the air clean. 13 I ask you to become elder care 14 providers and clean our air. Thank you. HEARING OFFICER STUDER: Joyce 15 16 Blumenshine. 17 JOYCE BLUMENSHINE: My name is Joyce Blumenshine, B-L-U-M-E-N-S-H-I-N-E. 18 I am a citizen of the area and a 19 20 volunteer with the Heart of Illinois Group Sierra Club. I want to thank the Illinois Environmental 21 Protection Agency for being here tonight. And we 22 23 appreciate very much that you are listening to us 24 and taking our comments into consideration.

| | | Page 31 |
|----|--|---------|
| 1 | I grew up in Tazewell County. I | |
| 2 | lived two years south of downtown Pekin because I | |
| 3 | worked near there. And I wanted to leave Pekin | |
| 4 | almost the entire time. I either had headaches or | |
| 5 | nasal congestion. | |
| 6 | Anyway, to make a long story short, I | |
| 7 | am here tonight because I am very concerned as an | |
| 8 | individual and as a group member from our, my | |
| 9 | group, about air quality. | |
| 10 | I feel there is a lot of holes in | |
| 11 | this proposed permit. I am not a scientist. I | |
| 12 | tried go through the Statement of Basis. I do | |
| 13 | have some questions. | |
| 14 | This is very complicated. It is 81 | |
| 15 | pages just kind of for the summary. I know you | |
| 16 | all are experts and you work with these things all | |
| 17 | of the time, but I had hoped that because of this | |
| 18 | CAAPP permit process was to compile things | |
| 19 | together, that you as the experts could keep us, | |
| 20 | the public, in mind and perhaps make it, you know, | |
| 21 | more digestible. I just think this seems like it | |
| 22 | is not even quite maybe up to the parts of the | |
| 23 | CAAPP permitting, as my limited understanding is | |
| 24 | that it is to compile everything in one place for | |

| | | Page 32 |
|----|--|---------|
| 1 | the public to be able to look at and understand | |
| 2 | the risks to their community. | |
| 3 | We all know, whether we live in Pekin | |
| 4 | or East Peoria or Peoria, on up this river valley | |
| 5 | the pollution from Powerton comes with the | |
| 6 | prevailing winds day in and day out and we are | |
| 7 | living in this soup of pollution and have been for | |
| 8 | decades. | |
| 9 | And we thank you for your every | |
| 10 | effort to help us with our air quality. We need | |
| 11 | you to continue that. | |
| 12 | Just beginning the reading that I did | |
| 13 | on this, it seems to me that this whole thing is | |
| 14 | more like an effort to resolve this impasse for | |
| 15 | the company and to get this moving forward, which | |
| 16 | I can see the importance of, but I still have a | |
| 17 | lot of concerns about how this is being done and | |
| 18 | the loopholes that you could drive a truck | |
| 19 | through. | |
| 20 | Here is just a couple of them, if you | |
| 21 | will bear with me to comment on that. | |
| 22 | The first thing that hit me between | |
| 23 | the eyes is on page 12 sorry, that was already | |
| 24 | mentioned. On page 14 on the requirements. And | |

| | | Page 33 |
|----|---|---------|
| 1 | Mr. Laszlo talked about that so let me go back | |
| 2 | here to the part that talks about the actual air | |
| 3 | conditions in the area. That was a real concern | |
| 4 | to me. | |
| 5 | In your Statement of Basis it | |
| 6 | contains a section that says there is I believe | |
| 7 | it says there is no concerns for the air quality | |
| 8 | or that it is not under a non-attainment. I | |
| 9 | needed to ask about that. And I am fishing right | |
| 10 | now, I apologize, for my note. | |
| 11 | CHRIS ROMAINE: I see that. Chris | |
| 12 | Romaine, Manager of the Construction Unit, the | |
| 13 | Air Permit Section. I think you have identified | |
| 14 | an error. I believe it's it is just a partial | |
| 15 | error. | |
| 16 | My understanding is that Powerton is | |
| 17 | not in the SO2 monitoring attainment area but it | |
| 18 | is certainly adjacent to the Pekin SO2, is that | |
| 19 | correct? | |
| 20 | MR. REED: Yes. | |
| 21 | CHRIS ROMAINE: So it could have | |
| 22 | been clearer to remind people that it is close to | |
| 23 | the SO2 non-attainment. | |
| 24 | MR. REED: You are speaking of | |

Page 34 Section 2.2, Chris? 1 2 CHRIS ROMAINE: Yes. 3 MR. REED: Yes. 4 HEARING OFFICER STUDER: Can 5 everyone in back hear what is being said? 6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No, I am not 7 following it. 8 HEARING OFFICER STUDER: I am going 9 to have to ask when we start talking back and 10 forth we will have to use the mic and I will come back and get it. 11 12 MR. REED: I will repeat. 13 I think in Section 2.2 of the Statement of Basis on page 11 is where we discuss 14 15 the ambient air quality status of the source. And 16 just to reiterate what Chris mentioned earlier was 17 Powerton Station is on the edge of the non-attainment SO2. It is not directly in the 18 non-attainment area for SO2. So the Statement of 19 20 Basis does have a slight misreading, error, 21 whatever you want to call that. So we could have 2.2 been clearer in the document. 23 JOYCE BLUMENSHINE: Thank you for 24 that explanation.

| | | Page 35 |
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| 1 | So as a citizen of this area, that is | |
| 2 | just mind boggling to me. And I realize there is | |
| 3 | a lot in here so it could be an error, and I | |
| 4 | certainly hope that is corrected. | |
| 5 | So I brought for your information the | |
| 6 | January 30, 2015 printout from the Federal EPA | |
| 7 | that lists current non-attainment counties for all | |
| 8 | criteria pollutants. And indeed it doesn't | |
| 9 | specify Powerton but it does have that Tazewell | |
| 10 | County part, and it has Pekin there, is in | |
| 11 | non-attainment. And maybe that the plant is on | |
| 12 | the edge the reason the plant is on the edge is | |
| 13 | partly due that it is adding to the whole air | |
| 14 | problems of the area. And I fail to understand as | |
| 15 | a citizen how Illinois EPA can neatly set | |
| 16 | non-attainment areas like, okay, Powerton is not | |
| 17 | in the non-attainment and then the boundary is | |
| 18 | some imaginary line somewhere else but the air | |
| 19 | goes all over. So to me it is kind of an outrage | |
| 20 | that you are saying, well, it is on the edge, but | |
| 21 | we all know there is humongous tons and tons and | |
| 22 | tons of air pollution that goes all over. So I | |
| 23 | really hope that IEPA addresses that. | |
| 24 | I have brought also for an exhibit | |

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| that I will hand in shortly here in addition to | |
| the EPA printout an article from way back in 2011 | |
| in the Pekin Daily Times. And this just talks | |
| about Pekin's air problems and that it's the | |
| hearing that you all were kindly enough to have in | |
| Pekin at the City Hall there back in earlier | |
| years. So there are other plants in Pekin we | |
| fully recognize that contribute to air pollution, | |
| but Powerton is a huge problem. | |
| Just a quick list, my source is the | |
| Clean Air Task Force, a letter dated 2011, plant | |
| data, that there is over 9 million tons of CO2. | |
| 19,000 tons of SO2. We are not talking about | |
| that. NOx, nitrogen oxide, 25,000 tons, and | |
| Mercury, hundreds of pounds. | |
| So my other exhibit that I wish to | |
| hand in tonight is Death and Disease Attributable | |
| to Pollution from Powerton. These are costs to | |
| the public. That's us. These are costs to the | |
| healthcare system for the United States and the | |
| State of Illinois. That's taxpayers. And the | |
| value of our lives and our health seems to me | |
| should be very important in your consideration of | |
| this air permit and that the company should be | |
| | the EPA printout an article from way back in 2011 in the Pekin Daily Times. And this just talks about Pekin's air problems and that it's the hearing that you all were kindly enough to have in Pekin at the City Hall there back in earlier years. So there are other plants in Pekin we fully recognize that contribute to air pollution, but Powerton is a huge problem. Just a quick list, my source is the Clean Air Task Force, a letter dated 2011, plant data, that there is over 9 million tons of CO2. 19,000 tons of SO2. We are not talking about that. NOx, nitrogen oxide, 25,000 tons, and Mercury, hundreds of pounds. So my other exhibit that I wish to hand in tonight is Death and Disease Attributable to Pollution from Powerton. These are costs to the public. That's us. These are costs to the healthcare system for the United States and the State of Illinois. That's taxpayers. And the value of our lives and our health seems to me should be very important in your consideration of |

| | | Page 37 |
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| 1 | required first and foremost to do the right thing, | |
| 2 | and that is to clean up what it is doing. | |
| 3 | So the loopholes on their reporting | |
| 4 | of pollutants, the loopholes that were just from | |
| 5 | my limited understanding when they start up and | |
| 6 | shut down, that's being excused somehow. I | |
| 7 | thought plants normally start up and shut down for | |
| 8 | all kinds of regular operations during a year. So | |
| 9 | why is that being given a waiver of some kind that | |
| 10 | they should not have to fall under the strict | |
| 11 | regulations for reporting and for considering | |
| 12 | startup and shutdown as events that have to be | |
| 13 | documented in detail? I fail to understand that. | |
| 14 | And I would hope that you would | |
| 15 | review that and require that this plant be more | |
| 16 | transparent. I thought that was the purpose of | |
| 17 | this permit work and that we also have an easy way | |
| 18 | for the public to find out about what is going on. | |
| 19 | I would like to ask, is the local | |
| 20 | IEPA office person here? Or the inspector I guess | |
| 21 | is the right term. Is the person here locally who | |
| 22 | goes to Powerton and does the regular inspections | |
| 23 | or assessments? | |
| 24 | MR. REED: Is he here tonight? | |

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| 1 | JOYCE BLUMENSHINE: Yes. |
| 2 | MR. REED: I don't believe he is |
| 3 | here. |
| 4 | JOYCE BLUMENSHINE: I don't know who |
| 5 | that person is. I have at different times called |
| 6 | the local Peoria IEPA office about air concerns. |
| 7 | And I think it would be very helpful if your |
| 8 | department could share that information when you |
| 9 | are so good to come to like Peoria where you have |
| 10 | all of these citizens here tonight. I mean the |
| 11 | room is for a beautiful spring night, you |
| 12 | know, it is pretty full for a spring night like |
| 13 | that. So I think it would be very helpful that |
| 14 | you could let us know directly who locally we can |
| 15 | contact as well as the information that you did |
| 16 | post about this. That would be appreciated. |
| 17 | I will hand in these exhibits. I did |
| 18 | put my name on them, Mr. Hearing Officer. |
| 19 | HEARING OFFICER STUDER: Thank you. |
| 20 | JOYCE BLUMENSHINE: I just had a |
| 21 | couple more comments. |
| 22 | As I mentioned, I do think that there |
| 23 | is a concern for more monitoring and not less |
| 24 | monitoring. |

| | | Page 39 |
|----|---|---------|
| 1 | HEARING OFFICER STUDER: For the | |
| 2 | record, Death and Disease Attributable to Fine | |
| 3 | Particle Pollution from Powerton will go in as | |
| 4 | Exhibit 13 excuse me, Exhibit 12. Current | |
| 5 | Non-Attainment Counties For All Criteria | |
| 6 | Pollutants will go in as Exhibit 13. And the | |
| 7 | story from the Pekin Daily Times, Pekin Has Worst | |
| 8 | Sulfur Dioxide Air Pollution In The State, will | |
| 9 | go in as Exhibit 14. | |
| 10 | JOYCE BLUMENSHINE: Thank you very | |
| 11 | much, Mr. Hearing Officer. | |
| 12 | I just had a couple of quick | |
| 13 | questions yet, please. | |
| 14 | May I ask the panel, is Powerton | |
| 15 | currently in compliance with its air permits that | |
| 16 | are existing? | |
| 17 | MR. RUTHERFORD: We are not aware of | |
| 18 | any issues at this time. | |
| 19 | JOYCE BLUMENSHINE: Okay. And then | |
| 20 | may I ask will you be reviewing their current | |
| 21 | reporting before you finalize this permit? Will | |
| 22 | you be assessing potential violations in the | |
| 23 | meantime or do you go back a certain amount to | |
| 24 | look for air permit concerns? | |
| 1 | | |

| | | Page 40 |
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| 1 | MR. RUTHERFORD: We always monitor | |
| 2 | and look at inspection reports as well as | |
| 3 | reporting requirements to make sure things are | |
| 4 | completed and fulfilled, that their obligations | |
| 5 | are met and make sure compliance is not an issue. | |
| 6 | We do through a similar process as we go through | |
| 7 | the opening of this permit. | |
| 8 | JOYCE BLUMENSHINE: I did have a | |
| 9 | question from the definitions of the Statement of | |
| 10 | Basis. It talks about opacity and it says in | |
| 11 | there that something about the opacity | |
| 12 | definition would include observable. Is that | |
| 13 | something that the citizens can make a complaint | |
| 14 | about or I am just concerned, is it just the | |
| 15 | plant people that walk out and use their | |
| 16 | subjective assessment if there is an opacity | |
| 17 | problem or is it something that the public can | |
| 18 | find out about that we could also report? | |
| 19 | MR. RUTHERFORD: The permit does | |
| 20 | talk about two different methods that are | |
| 21 | currently USEPA methods you can use for | |
| 22 | determining opacity. | |
| 23 | Method 22, which is basically just | |
| 24 | determining if there is a visible emission. And | |

| | | Page 41 |
|----|---|---------|
| 1 | Method 9 is a more rigorous process. Requires | |
| 2 | service or requires certifications and gives | |
| 3 | you a quantitative answer of what the opacity is. | |
| 4 | The plant people have been trained and are | |
| 5 | certified on how to do those readings. | |
| 6 | JOYCE BLUMENSHINE: Okay. I'll try | |
| 7 | to wrap up here. | |
| 8 | So if the public was, you know, in | |
| 9 | the area, the plant, at the fishing lake or, you | |
| 10 | know, headed toward Manito to buy melons or | |
| 11 | whatever, if the public sees noticeable emissions | |
| 12 | that look dark or yellow or other strange things, | |
| 13 | how does the public respond then? What would your | |
| 14 | agency advise us to do, please? | |
| 15 | MR. REED: Well, to back up just a | |
| 16 | minute, Joyce, the public could be certified if | |
| 17 | they wish to be certified and take opacity | |
| 18 | readings in Method 9. The IEPA does hold classes | |
| 19 | twice a year free of charge. So they could be | |
| 20 | certified and they could take opacity readings if | |
| 21 | they chose. Method 22, the public or anybody | |
| 22 | could do, which would be similar to what you are | |
| 23 | speaking of, of if you just see anything coming | |
| 24 | out of the stack, you could characterize it as | |

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| 1 | dark, light, heavy, the color, you know, that | |
| 2 | sort of thing. And then we would just ask that | |
| 3 | you document that and also contact our local | |
| 4 | field office so they can follow up on that. | |
| 5 | JOYCE BLUMENSHINE: Thank you very | |
| 6 | much. I do appreciate that. I didn't know about | |
| 7 | the opportunity to be certified. That is very | |
| 8 | helpful. | |
| 9 | I will leave the podium now because I | |
| 10 | know there are others that want to speak, but I | |
| 11 | might have just a couple of questions later. | |
| 12 | Thank you. | |
| 13 | HEARING OFFICER STUDER: Thank you, | |
| 14 | Joyce. | |
| 15 | Next person is Kevin Cashmer. | |
| 16 | KEVIN CASHMER: Good evening. My | |
| 17 | name is Kevin Cashmer, C-A-S-H-M-E-R. I am here | |
| 18 | just as a concerned citizen. | |
| 19 | Most of the technical questions have | |
| 20 | been covered so I guess I am left with personal | |
| 21 | comments. | |
| 22 | I am told as an infant I suffered | |
| 23 | acute asthma and numerous times my parents were | |
| 24 | rushing me to the hospital because I was turning | |

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|----|--|---------|
| 1 | blue. And I can't say that I actually remember | |
| 2 | that, I was too young, but what I do take | |
| 3 | exception to is this is almost five, six decades | |
| 4 | later and the whole situation has not improved. | |
| 5 | Years ago I worked for a local | |
| 6 | machining company and one of my primary | |
| 7 | responsibilities was resources reclamation. I ran | |
| 8 | an industrial evaporator. And through engineering | |
| 9 | changes of my own the company was astounded that I | |
| 10 | managed to decrease the waste flow by 75 percent. | |
| 11 | So I know from a personal standpoint | |
| 12 | that that can be done, needs to be done, has to be | |
| 13 | done. | |
| 14 | In regards to public health, anyone | |
| 15 | on the face of this planet breathing right now is | |
| 16 | here due entirely from those who came before them | |
| 17 | who have taught us certain things, moral | |
| 18 | obligations, ethical considerations. And in | |
| 19 | regard to the youth and the elder and everybody | |
| 20 | else in between, we have a moral imperative to do | |
| 21 | what is right. | |
| 22 | HEARING OFFICER STUDER: Thank you. | |
| 23 | Lindsay Dubin. She will be followed by Faith | |
| 24 | Bugel. | |
| 1 | | |

| | | Page 44 |
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| 1 | LINDSAY DUBIN: Good evening. My | |
| 2 | name is Lindsay Dubin, L-I-N-D-S-A-Y, last name | |
| 3 | D, as in dog, U-B, as in boy, I-N, as in Nancy. | |
| 4 | So like I said, my name is Lindsay. | |
| 5 | I am here with the Environmental Law and Policy | |
| 6 | Center. And first off I wanted to thank you for | |
| 7 | taking the time to hear about all of our concerns | |
| 8 | this evening. I know like Joyce said it is a | |
| 9 | beautiful spring night and we really appreciate | |
| 10 | you making time for us. | |
| 11 | So I wanted to talk a little bit | |
| 12 | about some of the inadequacies pertaining to the | |
| 13 | CAM plan. | |
| 14 | As you guys had mentioned, opacity is | |
| 15 | used to measure particulate matter limits. And I | |
| 16 | believe that we believe that the CAM plan must | |
| 17 | be revised to first, include an appropriate | |
| 18 | indicator range; second, to monitor additional | |
| 19 | parameters; and third, to create enforceable | |
| 20 | responsive actions for excursions. | |
| 21 | Now on the first note, the CAM plan | |
| 22 | must include an appropriate indicator range. Now, | |
| 23 | opacity, which is used to monitor particulate | |
| 24 | matter, has a nonlinear correlation to particulate | |

| | | Page 45 |
|----|--|---------|
| 1 | matter. Because of that it makes the relationship | |
| 2 | between the two a little bit tricky and it is | |
| 3 | difficult to tell when there is a violation of | |
| 4 | particulate matter based off of what the level of | |
| 5 | opacity is. | |
| 6 | Furthermore, the permit doesn't even | |
| 7 | yet say what the level of opacity will be when | |
| 8 | there is an exceedance in particulate matter. | |
| 9 | Rather as you mentioned it will be several months | |
| 10 | until testing is completed, and we as the members | |
| 11 | of the public and also the plan itself will | |
| 12 | actually know when there is a violation of | |
| 13 | particulate matter with respect to levels of | |
| 14 | opacity. | |
| 15 | Furthermore, opacity is calculated | |
| 16 | based off of three hour block averaging. Sorry, | |
| 17 | particulate matter is monitored based off of three | |
| 18 | our block averaging of opacity. Now, this is | |
| 19 | contrary to the state implementation plan. Rather | |
| 20 | the block averaging should be on an hourly basis | |
| 21 | to monitor particulate matter. | |
| 22 | Furthermore, there is no there is | |
| 23 | only an upper limit that will be established for | |
| 24 | particulate matter as far as opacity goes. So say | |

| | | Page 46 |
|----|--|---------|
| 1 | the upper limit, which the upper limit for opacity | |
| 2 | is 30 percent, we need to know or the plant | |
| 3 | should really monitor when before that | |
| 4 | 30 percent is reached and have some set of | |
| 5 | guidelines and responsive actions before there is | |
| 6 | an excursion, before there is a violation in | |
| 7 | opacity and particulate matter. Therefore, there | |
| 8 | should be monitoring beyond that one upper limit. | |
| 9 | Secondly, there should be additional | |
| 10 | parametric monitoring included in the permit. | |
| 11 | Like I said, there is a nonlinear | |
| 12 | relationship between particulate matter and | |
| 13 | opacity. Because of this we believe that voltage | |
| 14 | and current should also be monitored. And the | |
| 15 | United States EPA mentions that this wave | |
| 16 | monitoring is presumptively is a presumptively | |
| 17 | acceptable approach. | |
| 18 | Finally, the permit must delineate | |
| 19 | responsive actions for excursions. | |
| 20 | Currently essentially the permit says | |
| 21 | that it will restore normal operations as | |
| 22 | expeditiously as possible. But this language is | |
| 23 | pretty is so vague that it essentially renders | |
| 24 | this condition unenforceable. | |
| | | |

| | | Page 47 |
|----|--|---------|
| 1 | Rather the permit should lay out | |
| 2 | steps of exactly how it plans to achieve | |
| 3 | compliance following an excursion. | |
| 4 | I know it is getting late in the | |
| 5 | evening and I just wanted to wrap it up here to | |
| 6 | save everybody some time. So again, thank you so | |
| 7 | much for listening to our comments this evening. | |
| 8 | Thank you. | |
| 9 | HEARING OFFICER STUDER: Faith Bugel | |
| 10 | will be followed Verena Owen. | |
| 11 | FAITH BUGEL: I am submitting a | |
| 12 | comment card for Tracy Fox who would like to be | |
| 13 | added to the list. | |
| 14 | HEARING OFFICER STUDER: Okay. | |
| 15 | FAITH BUGEL: She's arrived and is | |
| 16 | here. | |
| 17 | My name is Faith Bugel. Last name is | |
| 18 | spelled B-U-G-E-L. I representing the Sierra | |
| 19 | Club. | |
| 20 | I have a list of about 25 comments or | |
| 21 | questions, so I am going to go ahead and just ask | |
| 22 | the questions and not expect an immediate response | |
| 23 | from the panel. I am satisfied with an answer in | |
| 24 | the response to comments. | |

| | | Page 48 |
|----|---|---------|
| 1 | I have about five different | |
| 2 | categories of concerns. Generally my concerns | |
| 3 | fall into the categories of changes that affect | |
| 4 | the emissions limits for criteria pollutants. I | |
| 5 | have concerns regarding startup, shutdown and | |
| 6 | malfunction, concerns regarding monitoring, | |
| 7 | concerns regarding the coal handling equipment, | |
| 8 | and also concerns with what I believe creates an | |
| 9 | incentive for the company to argue that there | |
| 10 | are is a de minimus exception. | |
| 11 | Starting with criteria pollutants, I | |
| 12 | am concerned about the permit being switched from | |
| 13 | just listing solid fuel, parenthetical coal, to | |
| 14 | coal or other solid fuel. And that's the page | |
| 15 | numbers I reference are all to the red line | |
| 16 | version of the permit. That appears at page 39 | |
| 17 | and 40. | |
| 18 | I am also concerned that the sulfur | |
| 19 | dioxide standard for fuel oil was deleted. | |
| 20 | I am concerned as to the carbon | |
| 21 | monoxide measurements from the natural gas boiler | |
| 22 | being deleted. | |
| 23 | And my final concern on the general | |
| 24 | that will affect criteria of pollutants is as to | |

| | | Page 49 |
|----|--|---------|
| 1 | the heat rate. The heat rate appears in | |
| 2 | conditions 7.1.1, but the permit makes it clear | |
| 3 | that the heat rate is not enforceable. | |
| 4 | This is a longstanding concern of | |
| 5 | environmental groups. | |
| 6 | For instance, the heat rate needs to | |
| 7 | be both enforceable and it needs to be provided so | |
| 8 | that members of the public and citizens can | |
| 9 | estimate or calculate what the emissions limits | |
| 10 | actually are. And once you have a certain heat | |
| 11 | rate for the plant, you can calculate what the | |
| 12 | limits the emissions are in actuality compared | |
| 13 | to the permit limits. And you can also take | |
| 14 | limits based on heat input and convert them to | |
| 15 | emissions per hour and annual emissions. And that | |
| 16 | allows citizens to verify that the permit that | |
| 17 | the plant is in compliance with hourly limits, | |
| 18 | annual limits and also limits based on heat input. | |
| 19 | My next group of concerns are about | |
| 20 | startup, shutdown and malfunction. | |
| 21 | As already has been mentioned | |
| 22 | tonight, startups went from six under the | |
| 23 | previous version of the permit six hours to 28 | |
| 24 | hours under this current version of the permit. | |

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| | | Page 50 |
|----|--|---------|
| 1 | We question that that is simply some sort of error | |
| 2 | that was verified by NRG or Midwest General | |
| 3 | currently as to how the plant actually operates | |
| 4 | because the permit application was submitted by | |
| 5 | Midwest General. | |
| 6 | Therefore, if this was based on if | |
| 7 | the six hours was based on the current | |
| 8 | application, it is troubling to hear that somehow | |
| 9 | things have changed from the permit application | |
| 10 | and startups are actually 28 hours based on how | |
| 11 | the plant actually operates. | |
| 12 | While this plant has a new owner and | |
| 13 | this is a I don't know if this is a new permit | |
| 14 | or not. It is ten years old. But while the | |
| 15 | plant's owner has changed in that time, it is the | |
| 16 | same plant and should be operating in the same | |
| 17 | manner as when the application was submitted. | |
| 18 | Generally some other concerns about | |
| 19 | startup malfunction and breakdown are concerns on | |
| 20 | page 93, 94 that malfunction and breakdown | |
| 21 | recordkeeping requirements were deleted. And also | |
| 22 | on page 130, recordkeeping requirements during | |
| 23 | malfunction were deleted. | |
| 24 | And finally I have a concern that the | |

| | | Page 51 |
|----|--|---------|
| 1 | requirement to estimate the magnitude of emissions | |
| 2 | during startups was also deleted. That is | |
| 3 | important information for the public. | |
| 4 | Again, there is a long history with | |
| 5 | startup, shutdown malfunction as we all know. And | |
| 6 | whether there is an affirmative defense or an | |
| 7 | exception or are startups normal operations, this | |
| 8 | has been a moving target for the public. But what | |
| 9 | is not a moving target is that emissions during | |
| 10 | startups, shutdown and malfunction are real. They | |
| 11 | have an impact on health. We need to know how | |
| 12 | much they are. We need to know if they are in | |
| 13 | compliance with permit requirements. So the | |
| 14 | estimate of startup emissions is important for the | |
| 15 | public to have. | |
| 16 | Generally as to monitoring | |
| 17 | requirements, again, I am going to emphasize the | |
| 18 | concern about on page 51 of the red line that | |
| 19 | what previously was a one hour reporting of one | |
| 20 | hourly emissions for opacity got converted into a | |
| 21 | three hour block average above 30 percent. That | |
| 22 | is troubling and it is inconsistent with the SIP. | |
| 23 | And the need to my understanding | |
| 24 | of the SIP is that it requires immediate reporting | |

Page 52 of emissions violations. 1 2 A three hour block average doesn't 3 tell us what the peak was, it doesn't tell us what 4 the maximum was. If those records are kept in six minute increments, averaging shouldn't be allowed 5 6 over three hours. 7 And my next concern is about particulate measurements at 90 percent of seasonal 8 9 load instead of what was previously maximum normal 10 operations. What is representative of normal 11 12 operations? That is normal operations, not 13 90 percent of normal operations. And if PM measurements are only going to calculate 14 15 90 percent of PM measurements, whether that is maximum PM or normal PM, that is a problem. 16 17 We need to know what emissions are 18 coming out of the plant, how much are they total, 19 not 90 percent of the total. 20 Next set of concerns is about the 21 coal handling equipment. 2.2 I realize I am probably running short 23 on time so I am just going to list off a series of 24 questions.

Page 53 1 Again, citing to the red line 2 page 80, why was the coal crushing house deleted? 3 Page 81, why was the coal conveying 4 equipment deleted? 5 Page 84, why was the PM limit for the coal silo deleted? 6 Page 90, why was the PM demonstration 7 requirement deleted? 8 9 Page 107, why was the inspection of 10 dust collection equipment deleted? And page 119, the contingency plan 11 12 for the handling of fly ash was deleted. 13 I realize that there is an 14 overarching plan or operating program, but again, 15 fly ash is a concern. Again this is a concern not 16 just from an air quality perspective, a water 17 perspective -- I realize that is not an issue 18 today, but if any PM is coming from handling of 19 fly ash, there should be a contingency plan for 20 handling of fly ash. 21 Generally as far as the coal handling 2.2 equipment, I am also concerned about how fugitive 23 emission from the coal handling equipment is 24 treated in the permit and about whether opacity

| | | Page 54 |
|----|--|---------|
| 1 | observations from the coal handling equipment are | |
| 2 | still required. | |
| 3 | Finally as to what I am calling the | |
| 4 | de minimus exception. Page 60 to 63 of the red | |
| 5 | line allow a 1 percent a change to what | |
| 6 | previously was reporting of excess opacity | |
| 7 | emissions. It then was there is a new | |
| 8 | requirement that says if they are below 1 percent | |
| 9 | of the operating time you are allowed to do less | |
| 10 | stringent reporting than otherwise required in the | |
| 11 | permit. And even though these reports will still | |
| 12 | be gathered I believe in quarterly or annual | |
| 13 | reports, there is still an exception for reporting | |
| 14 | for 1 percent operating time. | |
| 15 | As far as opacity goes, we have | |
| 16 | battled with industry for dozens of years about | |
| 17 | opacity emissions and whether there is a de | |
| 18 | minimus exception. The USEPA has tried to make it | |
| 19 | clear there is no de minimus exception. In this | |
| 20 | state there has never been a de minimus exception. | |
| 21 | Although there is obviously enforcement | |
| 22 | discretion, we understand and respect that, but we | |
| 23 | have now armed industry to argue that there is in | |
| 24 | fact a de minimus exception and that this is not | |

| | | Page 55 |
|----|--|---------|
| 1 | just a de minimus exception for reporting but it | |
| 2 | means that there is a de minimus exception that if | |
| 3 | there are opacity violations less than 1 percent | |
| 4 | of the time there shouldn't be enforcement. | |
| 5 | This issue is being battled right now | |
| 6 | in an ongoing opacity enforcement case in this | |
| 7 | state. We do not need to arm industry with any | |
| 8 | additional reasons to argue that there is a de | |
| 9 | minimus exception. | |
| 10 | That is all I have. Thank you for | |
| 11 | your time. | |
| 12 | HEARING OFFICER STUDER: As Verena | |
| 13 | Owen is coming to the podium, Robin Garlish will | |
| 14 | follow her. | |
| 15 | VERENA OWEN: Thank you for the | |
| 16 | introduction. | |
| 17 | My name is Verena Owen, V-E-R-E-N-A. | |
| 18 | For the record, it is O-W-E-N, four letter word. | |
| 19 | Thank you. Thank you for the hearing today. | |
| 20 | I came down from the northeastern | |
| 21 | part of the state tonight to stand in solidarity | |
| 22 | with my friends and the folks in the Pekin and | |
| 23 | Peoria area to demand a strong and protective | |
| 24 | permit for their power plant. | |

| | | Page 56 |
|----|--|---------|
| 1 | As they, I am affected by an energy | |
| 2 | plant, the Waukegan plant in Lake County. And I | |
| 3 | bring greetings from Lake County to you all. And | |
| 4 | thanks for showing up last year for our event on | |
| 5 | the lakefront. That was fun and we should do it | |
| 6 | again. | |
| 7 | Powerton applied for the permit first | |
| 8 | in 1995. My son was a year and a half old. He | |
| 9 | will graduate from college on Mother's Day this | |
| 10 | year. So this should be the happy occasion of the | |
| 11 | fourth renewal of an operating permit for | |
| 12 | Powerton, but here we are. | |
| 13 | So they got their drafted permit in | |
| 14 | 2003, which was already a couple of years late. | |
| 15 | Some of us were around for that. You know who you | |
| 16 | are. We had a round of interesting hearings and | |
| 17 | discussions. And we have not made much progress | |
| 18 | because we are now looking at the same permit that | |
| 19 | expired by the year 2010 and is a ten year old | |
| 20 | permit that was in this process not updated. | |
| 21 | So what happens if you don't update | |
| 22 | things? What happens if you don't update your PC? | |
| 23 | It actually stops working and it is worthless. | |
| 24 | So why are we doing this? | |

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| | | Page 57 |
|----|---|---------|
| 1 | I have a question. Actually I have a | |
| 2 | couple. But let me ask the first one. You can | |
| 3 | say yes or no, up or down. | |
| 4 | Did NRG, Midwest Generation, whoever, | |
| 5 | actually apply for the significant modification? | |
| 6 | Do you have an application? | |
| 7 | MR. RUTHERFORD: Yes. | |
| 8 | VERENA OWEN: Yes? | |
| 9 | MR. RUTHERFORD: Yes. | |
| 10 | VERENA OWEN: Great. | |
| 11 | The next question I have, in this | |
| 12 | process are we truly only fixing contested | |
| 13 | conditions that are currently under appeal at the | |
| 14 | Pollution Control Board? | |
| 15 | MR. RUTHERFORD: Yes. | |
| 16 | VERENA OWEN: Yes? | |
| 17 | MR. RUTHERFORD: Yes. | |
| 18 | VERENA OWEN: Okay, great. | |
| 19 | So going back to the fact that we | |
| 20 | just put a date on an old permit that is ten | |
| 21 | years it doesn't even look like your permits | |
| 22 | anymore, thank God by the way. But it is clearly | |
| 23 | not a modern permit and it's ten years old. The | |
| 24 | intent of Title V was to have all applicable | |

| | | Page 58 |
|----|--|---------|
| 1 | requirements in one place. It also needs to be | |
| 2 | understandable and readable by the public so | |
| 3 | citizens know what the polluters will be held to, | |
| 4 | accountable for and have to be in compliance. | |
| 5 | So the question is did this company | |
| 6 | ever sign a compliance certification? | |
| 7 | The answer should be no because they | |
| 8 | don't have a permit that makes them sign that. | |
| 9 | Do you know when the last inspection | |
| 10 | was? | |
| 11 | You said you are pretty sure they are | |
| 12 | in compliance. When did you last look at it? | |
| 13 | I know because I looked it up. I | |
| 14 | cheated. It is actually 2013. | |
| 15 | I think large sources like that, | |
| 16 | especially if they are not required to serve | |
| 17 | compliance certifications, a certification where | |
| 18 | you go to jail if you are lying on it, should at a | |
| 19 | minimum be inspected once a year by IEPA. I find | |
| 20 | that astonishing that there is this lax | |
| 21 | enforcement going on. | |
| 22 | So the process, I understand it, | |
| 23 | beginning the significant modification perhaps, I | |
| 24 | suggest if you are truly interested in making this | |

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|----|--|---------|
| 1 | a useful permit, a protective permit, to reopen it | |
| 2 | the next day. There is no excuse to wait 35 days | |
| 3 | or whatever. I didn't even understand that. But | |
| 4 | if it gets issued July 2nd, reopen it July 3rd. | |
| 5 | Let's not wait. | |
| 6 | I have to say and I give people | |
| 7 | credit reading through a statement of basis | |
| 8 | that IEPA has a long history of statement of | |
| 9 | basis. That is you are smiling because you | |
| 10 | know what I am talking about. | |
| 11 | The question is, is this better than | |
| 12 | having none? I don't think so. | |
| 13 | You can't really write a statement of | |
| 14 | basis that is 65 pages long and 85 footnotes and | |
| 15 | try to explain to people your thinking and your | |
| 16 | decision making, which is what a statement of | |
| 17 | basis is supposed to do. | |
| 18 | Some people managed to make it to | |
| 19 | page 14 and 12 but I doubt they made it to page 85 | |
| 20 | because it is not readable. | |
| 21 | A statement of basis is supposed to | |
| 22 | supply the rationale for IEPA decision when it | |
| 23 | comes to certain conditions, but it seems to me | |
| 24 | that it makes it applies rationale for this | |

| | | Page 60 |
|----|---|---------|
| 1 | negotiated settlement. This wasn't your decision. | |
| 2 | This wasn't asked by industry that was put into | |
| 3 | the permit. I don't think that that statement of | |
| 4 | basis is meant for that, even to explain that | |
| 5 | away. | |
| 6 | So what I see and Faith went | |
| 7 | through a wonderful list. There are definitely | |
| 8 | themes in this permit that I think significantly | |
| 9 | weakened what we had before, as flawed as it may | |
| 10 | have been, but I don't think it was all that | |
| 11 | flawed. | |
| 12 | There is things that the communities | |
| 13 | says we should care about like good testing. So | |
| 14 | why is testing delayed? | |
| 15 | On 7.27 opacity testing is now two | |
| 16 | years for the permit instead of 100 days. That is | |
| 17 | not protective. It delays monitoring. | |
| 18 | There is less recordkeeping required, | |
| 19 | and the recordkeeping that is required is less | |
| 20 | strong. | |
| 21 | And I do have a question. And I am | |
| 22 | sure you will answer this in your responsive | |
| 23 | notes. But I actually don't understand what | |
| 24 | atypical coal fines are. Are those the peaked | |

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| 1 | ones or the triangular ones? It was added to a | |
| 2 | condition where it was required that they have to | |
| 3 | keep a record of their coal fines and report | |
| 4 | those. Not atypical ones, all of them. | |
| 5 | There is just we have nine pages | |
| 6 | of detailed things that we found that are | |
| 7 | weakened, delayed, late and changed that just | |
| 8 | undermine this whole process. | |
| 9 | And with that I think I will sit down | |
| 10 | and let other people talk. You will get comments | |
| 11 | from the Sierra Club on this for sure. | |
| 12 | Thank you very much. | |
| 13 | HEARING OFFICER STUDER: Thank you, | |
| 14 | Verena. | |
| 15 | As Robin is coming to the podium, she | |
| 16 | will be followed by Tracy Fox. | |
| 17 | ROBIN GARLISH: Hi. Thank you for | |
| 18 | having us up here tonight to speak to you guys. | |
| 19 | My name is Robin Garlish, R-O-B-I-N, | |
| 20 | G-A-R-L-I-S-H. I forgot my glasses. | |
| 21 | I am a resident of Tazewell County. | |
| 22 | I am a mother of chronic asthmatic children. And | |
| 23 | I will mention really quick, since Kevin brought | |
| 24 | it up, I happen to sleep next to my chronic | |

| | | Page 62 |
|----|--|---------|
| 1 | asthmatic daughter and luckily we fell asleep by | |
| 2 | each other because she has did turn blue during | |
| 3 | an asthmatic condition and I had to perform CPR on | |
| 4 | her. And I don't wish that on anybody on their | |
| 5 | own family member. I am glad I knew what to do. | |
| 6 | Again, you know, thank you. | |
| 7 | I have this question, and I don't | |
| 8 | know science, but if I between being next to a | |
| 9 | non-attainment, right next to it, I don't | |
| 10 | understand that and again, I am not a | |
| 11 | scientist, but if I have a bad virus and cold | |
| 12 | right now, how far in the air is it going to get | |
| 13 | to you guys? Who can tell me that scientifically? | |
| 14 | I don't understand that. If someone could give me | |
| 15 | that. | |
| 16 | And before I forget, I would love to | |
| 17 | sign up to be to take those classes to measure. | |
| 18 | I'll be available and I will be ready. I can I | |
| 19 | think you guys have all of my information on my | |
| 20 | card. I have been to a couple of hearings. This | |
| 21 | is my third one. | |
| 22 | And another question I have is who | |
| 23 | made this meeting, hearing here and made it at | |
| 24 | this time tonight? | |
| 1 | | |

| | | Page 63 |
|----|--|---------|
| 1 | Because right now I am usually at the | |
| 2 | Pekin City Council meeting trying to help them | |
| 3 | understand the issues that we are going through | |
| 4 | with the pollution. My mother-in-law just passed | |
| 5 | at 71. That is way too young. They water skied | |
| 6 | in this river right by Powerton. Her sister, my | |
| 7 | aunt, just died shortly before that of cancer. I | |
| 8 | have a campground that from Powerton is on an S | |
| 9 | curve on the river. We have a Manito/Bloomington | |
| 10 | campground within a couple of miles of the | |
| 11 | Powerton plant. We have had last year Allison | |
| 12 | with no last name is my daughter's age, she went | |
| 13 | to the ER at midnight. She lives in Hudson, | |
| 14 | Illinois. We have so many children there. These | |
| 15 | kids get to play on the beach. We are being a | |
| 16 | little leery about waterskiing with mercury and | |
| 17 | particles. We don't know what is in the water. | |
| 18 | We are starting to really be concerned about being | |
| 19 | there. But they don't even live where the plant | |
| 20 | is and when they are there at the campground they | |
| 21 | are getting sick. | |
| 22 | And if I can take extra copies to | |
| 23 | these guys, because I just found out about this | |
| 24 | meeting, this hearing tonight and so I got in the | |

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|----|--|---------|
| 1 | car and got over here right away from the Tazewell | |
| 2 | County area. | |
| 3 | Right now our campers, they are | |
| 4 | the campers are setting and bringing everything in | |
| 5 | from Bloomington and Manito and Hudson, campers | |
| 6 | set up, our boats set up. I was concerned about | |
| 7 | this before I even heard about the hearing because | |
| 8 | we have grandfathers taking their kids fishing. | |
| 9 | They are not aware of the non-attainment. I know | |
| 10 | we are not talking about the water I don't think, | |
| 11 | but the air I am just really concerned. I was | |
| 12 | really concerned before I heard about this | |
| 13 | hearing. | |
| 14 | Is this a toxic summer for us again? | |
| 15 | Is this worse this year? | |
| 16 | Are we trying to pass things or not | |
| 17 | pass things so that the plant can get by making it | |
| 18 | and we have more people dying of cancer? | |
| 19 | We have a cancer alley right there | |
| 20 | next to Powerton. | |
| 21 | People, they call this community | |
| 22 | this little residential area has got Karo Syrup | |
| 23 | Street and Flynn different names of different | |
| 24 | products that they have made over in that area | |

| | | Page 65 |
|----|--|---------|
| 1 | with I think there is a couple of other plants | |
| 2 | also that has some problems. | |
| 3 | I am scared to death for our | |
| 4 | families. I am really scared to death. | |
| 5 | You know, I taught my kids and as | |
| 6 | Girl Scout leader too I am the one that took them | |
| 7 | all out snow skiing, snow tobogganing, teaching | |
| 8 | them all how to water ski, tubing, fishing, | |
| 9 | looking for animal track prints in the beach along | |
| 10 | the river. What have I done to these kids? This | |
| 11 | is what we grew up doing. | |
| 12 | Two out of three of my daughter's | |
| 13 | friends have inhalers. Unless you guys are | |
| 14 | different than me, we didn't all have inhalers | |
| 15 | when I was growing up. That was not the norm. | |
| 16 | Just absolutely not the norm. It is the norm now. | |
| 17 | These kids have asthma specialists, they have | |
| 18 | inhalers. I am taking one today and I am not sure | |
| 19 | why. Because we don't get warnings. We don't | |
| 20 | have any kinds of air warning like most cities do. | |
| 21 | I signed up for one with I think American Lung | |
| 22 | Association but they don't report back to me on my | |
| 23 | phone. | |
| 24 | I just am a little upset because this | |

| | | Page 66 |
|----|---|---------|
| 1 | was not made public over in Tazewell County. As a | |
| 2 | resident I didn't see it in the paper, unless it | |
| 3 | was in a little bitty thing. Sometimes I don't | |
| 4 | know who is responsible for that, but I wish they | |
| 5 | would make that more public. And tonight the City | |
| 6 | Council meeting over there is going on right now, | |
| 7 | so obviously they don't know anything about this. | |
| 8 | And I am sorry to be upset about it, | |
| 9 | but you know, I don't want to see these kids | |
| 10 | suffer. If I got the flu, I sure don't want to | |
| 11 | give it to you right now. | |
| 12 | That's all I have. Thank you again | |
| 13 | for allowing me to talk. I am really concerned | |
| 14 | about this situation. | |
| 15 | HEARING OFFICER STUDER: Thank you. | |
| 16 | TRACY FOX: My name is Tracy Fox. I | |
| 17 | live in Chillicothe, Illinois. Quite a bit north | |
| 18 | of the plant. I am here representing Peoria | |
| 19 | Families Against Toxic Waste. | |
| 20 | When I looked at the notice for | |
| 21 | this when I heard about this meeting I wanted | |
| 22 | to go online and look for the notice for this. | |
| 23 | I went to the EPA website. Illinois | |
| 24 | EPA has a nice new friendly front end. When I | |
| 1 | | |

| | | Page 67 |
|----|--|---------|
| 1 | clicked on Citizen and I looked under Public | |
| 2 | Notices, I thought no problem. First word said, | |
| 3 | remember this site may not tell you all public | |
| 4 | meetings and the information here may not be | |
| 5 | accurate. | |
| 6 | Well, that's a fine how do you do, | |
| 7 | because of course this wasn't listed there. | |
| 8 | I wasn't at all surprised to find | |
| 9 | that out. But I persevered and eventually went | |
| 10 | off to the Illinois Permit database and waded | |
| 11 | through a bunch of stuff and I found that listed | |
| 12 | still under Midwest General, not under NRG. It | |
| 13 | did have the meeting notice. And I got there and | |
| 14 | I found out that, hey, this has been going on | |
| 15 | since 2005. Great. It's taken them ten years to | |
| 16 | bring us up to 2005 regulations. Absolutely | |
| 17 | fabulous. | |
| 18 | Then I saw that you were looking at | |
| 19 | implementing some conditions from the Illinois | |
| 20 | Pollution Control Board, 2006, 2007, 2008 and went | |
| 21 | through the whole thing on who in the Clerk's | |
| 22 | office and found that, and not only did nothing | |
| 23 | happen but nothing substantive was reported | |
| 24 | anywhere on that website. | |

| | | Page 68 |
|----|--|---------|
| 1 | You have had ten years and you can't | |
| 2 | even get a description of the permit online | |
| 3 | anywhere. | |
| 4 | So I went back to the original | |
| 5 | documents and I looked at the statement of basis. | |
| 6 | Now, Verena thought maybe no one | |
| 7 | would persevere past page 15 or 16, but I did read | |
| 8 | the whole thing, and I was absolutely | |
| 9 | disappointed. I did not find any rationale for | |
| 10 | any of the decisions. And I certainly did not see | |
| 11 | any concern for citizens on any page of that | |
| 12 | document. | |
| 13 | All it did was backpedal as to don't | |
| 14 | worry, you are only going to be limited to nothing | |
| 15 | newer than 2008 when talking about coal ash | |
| 16 | standards. Lengthy discussion of permit shield | |
| 17 | and how if application shield isn't helping you, | |
| 18 | by God permit shield will. Don't worry about | |
| 19 | having to catch up with any new source of | |
| 20 | regulations that might have come about, not to | |
| 21 | mention that there was no discussion whatsoever of | |
| 22 | the new knowledge that we have on the harmful | |
| 23 | effects of many of these pollutants. | |
| 24 | All in all, from a citizen's | |

| | | Page 69 |
|----|--|---------|
| 1 | perspective it was extremely disappointing to read | |
| 2 | through that that document. | |
| 3 | Furthermore, I looked at things like | |
| 4 | all of the changes to the startup and malfunction | |
| 5 | rule. I couldn't help in my mind but connect that | |
| 6 | to the fact that I know that USEPA is going to be | |
| 7 | working on SSM as one of its objectives this | |
| 8 | summer. I hope that you have managed to get NRG | |
| 9 | set up so that they will not have to do any | |
| 10 | changes when these new rules come in, because it | |
| 11 | certainly looks like that. You know, when I see | |
| 12 | the numbers going in the affirmative towards a | |
| 13 | company for example, we are extending the time | |
| 14 | from eight to 28 hours or whatever the specifics | |
| 15 | were I can see the press releases now. NRG | |
| 16 | will cut back its allowance by 50 percent or | |
| 17 | whatever, you know, and comply with the new rule. | |
| 18 | You let them do this time and time again, and | |
| 19 | frankly it is tiresome that Illinois EPA continues | |
| 20 | to fall head over heels into their ideas, what | |
| 21 | turns out just to be publicity opportunities for | |
| 22 | these companies. | |
| 23 | I think in this whole permitting | |
| 24 | process it has not at all been focused on the | |
| | | |

| | | Page 70 |
|----|--|---------|
| 1 | citizens and I think you are letting a lot of | |
| 2 | people down. | |
| 3 | First and foremost I think you are | |
| 4 | letting elected officials down. They believe that | |
| 5 | Illinois EPA is looking out for us. And frankly | |
| 6 | when I talked to two county board members from | |
| 7 | Peoria that I was coming to this tonight and it | |
| 8 | was about a permit that hadn't been renewed since | |
| 9 | 2005, they thought I had it wrong. I didn't argue | |
| 10 | with them. But I mean quite frankly you make them | |
| 11 | look foolish because they don't understand. You | |
| 12 | need to get out in front of it, get the problem | |
| 13 | corrected. And if you can't correct it, you need | |
| 14 | to make it clear to people what is going on, | |
| 15 | because officials rely on the fact that the EPA is | |
| 16 | around and operating and they take it as evidence | |
| 17 | that things are okay. And that can't possibly be | |
| 18 | the case if you are not even looking at what is | |
| 19 | going on in 2015. | |
| 20 | Secondly, you are letting down | |
| 21 | concerned activists. The way the information is | |
| 22 | reported, the way that data is available to us is | |
| 23 | absolutely absurd. | |
| 24 | You know, I realize that Illinois EPA | |

| | | Page 71 |
|----|--|---------|
| 1 | is not responsible for things like the toxics | |
| 2 | release inventory and the fact that criteria | |
| 3 | pollutants are aren't reported there, but it is | |
| 4 | not an easy matter to go in and to find tons of | |
| 5 | SO2 any information about these plants. You | |
| 6 | have to go to 15 different places. I mean in | |
| 7 | today's era of big data, instead of spending your | |
| 8 | time on a fancy front end and, you know, taking | |
| 9 | people to pages that say they are going to contain | |
| 10 | inaccurate and incomplete information, why not put | |
| 11 | something together that really contains useful | |
| 12 | data for decision making? | |
| 13 | You yourself could probably shave | |
| 14 | some years off of your permitting time if you take | |
| 15 | the time to do that. And activists like myself | |
| 16 | and some of the other people in this room could | |
| 17 | also be satisfied by having reasonable data to | |
| 18 | look at to be able to assess where these plants | |
| 19 | are at. | |
| 20 | Thirdly, you are letting down the | |
| 21 | general public, because like elected officials | |
| 22 | they believe if air raid sirens aren't going off | |
| 23 | and they aren't being told to wear masks outside | |
| 24 | that everything is okay. | |

| | | Page 72 |
|----|--|---------|
| 1 | The history of opacity problems at | |
| 2 | this plant, the high levels of SO2 in the air, the | |
| 3 | fact that we have counties in non-attainment all | |
| 4 | speak to the fact that that isn't true. | |
| 5 | You know, third world countries | |
| 6 | understand this concept of leapfrogging. They are | |
| 7 | not fighting to get landlines, they are looking to | |
| 8 | put their people directly to cell phones. I don't | |
| 9 | understand why Illinois EPA is still messing | |
| 10 | around with standards from 2005. Why are we not | |
| 11 | looking at some that would be appropriate for 2015 | |
| 12 | and the things that we know about how very low | |
| 13 | levels of particulates, low levels of sulfur | |
| 14 | dioxide, short exposures like for an hour are | |
| 15 | creating definite human harm? | |
| 16 | Your statement of basis should be | |
| 17 | dealing with things like that and not just | |
| 18 | justifying why you are implementing everything NRG | |
| 19 | wants. | |
| 20 | Thank you. | |
| 21 | HEARING OFFICER STUDER: Thank you, | |
| 22 | Tracy. | |
| 23 | Is there anyone in the room that | |
| 24 | hasn't spoken this evening that would like to make | |

Γ

Page 73 a comment on the record? 1 2 (No Response.) Let the record indicate that no one 3 raised their hand. 4 Is there someone in the room that has 5 6 already spoken that has some additional comments 7 that they would like to make? Okay. I am going to ask for a show 8 9 of hands. There is one. Keep your hand up 10 because I am going to make a count. Two. Anyone else? Okay. There is two 11 12 people. 13 We will go ahead and allow them two additional minutes, and then when those two are 14 15 done we will go ahead and adjourn this hearing. 16 But if you would come forward and again if you 17 would state your name for the record when you come 18 forward. 19 PHILLIP LIPPI: Phillip Lippi. I 20 don't know how applicable this thought is, but if 21 there is some kind of waste component, fly ash, 22 something that is going to get into the air that 23 the permit addresses or doesn't mandate the plant 24 clean up, I just don't want to see this permit so

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| | | Page 74 |
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| 1 | lax that the taxpayers end up having to clean up | |
| 2 | what I would consider should be part of the | |
| 3 | economy of their doing their business. | |
| 4 | Thanks. | |
| 5 | HEARING OFFICER STUDER: Thank you. | |
| 6 | Next. | |
| 7 | KEVIN CASHMER: My name is Kevin | |
| 8 | Cashmer. | |
| 9 | In regard to public trust, fiduciary | |
| 10 | responsibility and systemic problems regarding | |
| 11 | loopholes, the whole process looks like macrame. | |
| 12 | HEARING OFFICER STUDER: Okay. I | |
| 13 | thank you for coming out on this evening. | |
| 14 | This hearing record will remain open | |
| 15 | until the 27th of May and we will take written | |
| 16 | comments through that time period. | |
| 17 | I thank you for your attendance this | |
| 18 | evening and this hearing adjourned. | |
| 19 | | |
| 20 | | |
| 21 | | |
| 22 | (Hearing adjourned.) | |
| 23 | | |
| 24 | | |

| | | Page 75 |
|----|---|---------|
| 1 | CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER | |
| 2 | | |
| 3 | I, LORRAINE McCREIGHT, an Illinois | |
| 4 | Certified Shorthand Reporter, do hereby certify | |
| 5 | that the testimony in the foregoing transcript | |
| 6 | was reported by me; that the testimony was | |
| 7 | taken by me to the best of my ability, and | |
| 8 | thereafter reduced to typewriting under my | |
| 9 | direction; that I am neither counsel for, nor | |
| 10 | related to, nor employed by any of the parties | |
| 11 | to the action in which this hearing was taken; | |
| 12 | and further, that I am not a relative or | |
| 13 | employee of any attorney or counsel employed by | |
| 14 | the parties hereto; nor financially or | |
| 15 | otherwise interested in the outcome of this | |
| 16 | action. | |
| 17 | | |
| 18 | | |
| 19 | | |
| 20 | C.S.R. | |
| 21 | LORRAINE K. McCREIGHT | |
| 22 | C.S.R. License Number 084-003070 | |
| 23 | | |
| 24 | | |

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