Page 1

BEFORE THE ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF:)
DRYCLEANER ENVIRONMENTAL)
RESPONSE TRUST FUND ACT) R21-19
PROPOSAL TO ADD 35 ILL.)
ADM. C)

Hearing held on the 9th day of September 2021, scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. at EPA, 1021 North Grand Avenue East, Springfield, Illinois, pursuant to notice.

BEFORE:

MR. MARK KAMINSKI, Attorney/Hearing Officer

MS. JENNIFER VAN WIE, Board Member

MR. ANAND RAO, Chief Environmental Scientist

MS. ESSENCE BROWN, Environmental Scientist

ALSO APPEARING:

MS. MARY TIPSORD, General Counsel

MS. SHANNON BILBRUCK, Administrative Assistant

L.A. COURT REPORTERS, LLC 8 West Monroe Street, Suite 2007 Chicago, Illinois 60603 (312) 419-9292

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	Page 2
1	APPEARANCES:
2	On behalf of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency:
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20	
21	
22	
23	
24	Reported by: Carla Boehl, CSR Lic. #084-002710

		Page 3
1	INDEX	
2	WITNESSES	PAGE
3	JAMES JENNINGS	
4	Examination by Mr. Rao	8
5	Examination by Ms. Van Wie Examination by Ms. Kratz	15 16
6		
7		
8		
9	EXHIBITS	ADMITTED
10	Hearing Exhibit 1	20
11	Hearing Exhibit 2	20
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		

2.

Page 4

PROCEEDINGS

HEARING OFFICER KAMINSKI: Good morning, and welcome to the Illinois Pollution Control Board hearing. My name is Mark Kaminski. That's K-A-M-I-N-S-K-I. And I am the hearing officer for this rulemaking proceeding entitled Rulemaking for Drycleaner Environmental Response Trust Fund Act Proposal to add Illinois Administrative Code -- sorry, to add 35 Illinois Administrative Code Part 1501 and repeal 35 Illinois Administrative Code Part 1500 and repeal 2 Illinois Administrative Code Part 3100. The Board docket number for this rulemaking is R21-19.

Also present today for the Board are Board Member Van Wie and Board Staff Anand Rao, Essence Brown, Mary Tipsord and Shannon Bilbruck.

As a note, there was a request for a translator for Korean, and we were unable to engage a translator in time for the Springfield hearing, but we will have one for the Chicago hearing. That's supposed to be scheduled for October 7, 2021.

However, I would note that, due to some remodeling or rebuilding in the Bilandic building, we are still determining where we are going to hold that, and we

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Page 5

will provide that information on COOL and as soon as we can.

This hearing is governed by the Board's procedural rules. All information that is relevant and that is not repetitious or privileged will be admitted into the record. Please bear in mind that any questions posed to either the Board or the staff are intended solely to help us develop a clear and complete record for the Board's decision and do not reflect a decision on the proposal, testimony or other questions.

For the sake of our court reporter, please speak clearly and avoid speaking at the same time as the other person, so we can help produce a clear transcript. Also, speak loudly through your masks. I'm sure it will be difficult in this room.

Also, if you can, please provide a card or spell out your name the first time you speak. There is a comment sign-in paper in the back. Please note if you have any time constraints, and also note that you can submit written public comments on the Board's COOL system.

There is a Board open meeting at eleven o'clock today, so we will be recessing around 10:50

Page 6

in order to do that, but we will be back fairly quickly.

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This is the first hearing in this proceeding. Notice of this hearing was posted on July 15, 2021. The Board published notice of this second hearing -- I'm sorry, first hearing on July 19, 2021, in the State Journal Register and the Chicago Sun Times.

On July 15, 2021, the hearing officer directed that any prefiled testimony was to have been filed with the Board by July 29, 2021. Any prefiled questions based on the prefiled testimony or first hearing testimony was to have been filed with the Board by August 19, 2021.

On July 26 the Board received prefiled testimony on behalf of the Agency by a James Jennings. No additional prefiled testimony was received.

August 19, 2021, prefiled questions were submitted by Sung Kang in response to prefiled testimony of Agency witness James Jennings, and also on August 19, 2021, the hearing officer issued an order containing Board questions directed at the agency.

Page 7

On September 2, 2021, the Agency filed its response to the Board's questions, and the questions submitted by Sung Kang.

The proposed proceeding of this, the order, will be a summary introduction by the Agency and introduction of James Jennings, questions for Mr. Jennings, and if there are any other witnesses that did not prefile, we will identify those. We will deal with those. And then, finally, public comments, if there are any available.

At this time I would like for the Agency to introduce yourselves and introduce your testimony, and if you want to offer any general descriptions before we get to the questions.

MR. McDONOUGH: Good morning. My name is
John McDonough. I am assistant counsel of the Land
Regulatory Unit of the Illinois Environmental
Protection Agency's Division of Legal Counsel.

Joining me is Deputy General Counsel Nick San Diego
and Assistant Counsel Gina Roccaforte. Our witness
for today is James Jennings, manager of the Waste
Reduction and Compliance Section for the Agency's
Bureau of Land.

The Agency moves pursuant to Title 35,

	Page 8
1	Section 102.424(f) of the Illinois Administrative
2	Code to swear in the Agency's witness as well as
3	enter the Agency's prefiled testimony and responses
4	to the record as if read.
5	HEARING OFFICER KAMINSKI: Under 102.424(f)
6	the prefiled testimony is entered into the record as
7	if read. Please swear the witness.
8	(Whereupon the witness was duly
9	sworn by the Notary Public.)
10	MR. McDONOUGH: At this time the Agency opens
11	up for questions from the Board or from the floor.
12	HEARING OFFICER KAMINSKI: At this point,
13	Mr. Rao, do you have questions for the witness?
14	MR. RAO: Yes, I have a few follow-up
15	questions.
16	JAMES JENNINGS
17	called as a witness on behalf of the Illinois
18	Environmental Protection Agency, having been first
19	duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:
20	EXAMINATION
21	BY MR. RAO:
22	Q. Good morning, Mr. Jennings. Thank you
23	for your answers. They were helpful. The first
24	follow-up I have is on Question Number 7. It would

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Page 9

be with Section 1501.116(b) as in boy. This activity requires the owners and operators to provide the Agency or its duly-authorized representatives proper facilities for access for inspection and copying.

Can you, please, elaborate on what constitutes proper facilities? This is a question that I would ask because sometimes JCAR approves certain factors to define what it means. So, it would be helpful.

A. Yeah. So, good morning, everybody.

Thank you for your time. So, how we've sought to develop this rule is for our enforcement of this from here and our other inspection enforcement programs.

So, to that end every site is somewhat unique. And within this industry, and based on the comments that we have received out of this process, there is a pretty wide range of the types of facilities that may be available to individual dry cleaners.

Ultimately, what we seek to see from a dry cleaner from whom we have requested records would be either hard copies of records that are retained on site, electronic copies that may be sent to us and available for our inspection, or a level of commitment from the dry cleaners inspected that would enable us to have those records within some

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Page 10

reasonable time. We see this very commonly in other solid waste and hazardous waste programs.

HEARING OFFICER KAMINSKI: Mr. Jennings, could you speak up a little bit so the rest of the room can hear?

A. Yes. Yeah, so we see these types of record requests very commonly for other solid waste and hazardous waste programs. In some cases the recordkeeping requirements are pretty express.

That's very common for landfills. But for any of these that vary in size and potentially sophistication, we take a flexible approach.

So, here one end of the spectrum would be a site that neither has the records and has no access to the records, and can't outline a plan for access to the records. In that case you potentially have a compliance issue with this provision. Otherwise, if the site has the records onsite or a meaningful way to transmit those to us in a timely manner, we would be comfortable with their satisfaction of these requirements.

Q. Would it change the intent of this program if we removed the word "proper" from it?

Instead of "proper facility," could we just say

Page 11

"facility" for such records?

- A. So, we want to take a look.
- Q. Okay.

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A. Not because of any necessary concern with that, that request. But one of the objectives that we had in developing this rule was to be as faithful as possible to the rules that the dry cleaner council has historically maintained and to avoid any potential implementation confusion within the regulated community.

So, again, we don't have a conceptual objection. We just want to confirm that that's language that was not included as part of their historical --

Q. Okay. The second follow-up I have is on Question 9. In response to Question 9 the Agency states that the records retention language proposed in Section 1501.116(c)(7) reflects the possibility of other longer retention periods that exist independent of these rules. Could you, please, clarify whether any existing council rules would be still applicable to dry cleaners upon adoption of Part 1501?

A. So, the council -- apart from the enactment of 1501, no other council rules would

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Page 12

continue to exist, provided that Part 1500 was repealed as part of this docket. What this provision sought to capture was the possibility that there may be other independent statutory requirements applicable to dry cleaners or other similarly situated businesses that would obligate them to retain records on site. That's not an element that we necessarily seek to enforce. What we were attempting to avoid was the situation where a dry cleaner may have a narrower record retention record under these rules than somewhere else, and they may fall afoul of those regulations by attempting to comply with the minimum obligations set forth here.

- Q. Do you have any examples of those types of provisions that we could -- you know, you've mentioned the opinions of -- you know, it can help the JCAR and also the regulated community, you know, what it means to say other potential periods?
- A. I don't have any prepared today, but we can certainly --
- Q. If you can get back to us, that would be great.

The next follow-up I have is on your response to Question 16(a). Here the Agency states

Page 13

that it does not oppose continuing education with products developed by interested third parties that are comparable to historic practices in this arena. The first follow-up I have is, is the Agency familiar with any historic practices addressing continuing education for dry cleaners?

- A. Yes, we are aware -- we are aware they exist.
- Q. And would it be possible for the Agency to provide that information into the record so that the Board can take a look at it, what kind of practices are they following?
- A. Yes. And just to be clear, some of the information that we have from the historic administration of the program directly mirrors the prefiled response -- or prefiled information submitted by Mr. Kang. So, we will provide that as well. But, yes, we can absolutely provide the information that's currently available to us.
- Q. The next follow-up I have is I wanted to know if the Agency consulted with the council or any dry cleaner trade groups, such as the Dry Cleaning and Laundry Institute International, to determine if there are any accepted practices or certification

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Page 14

programs that could be used to model regulations for continuing education.

A. So, to the extent that the Agency did, that would have been part of the discussions that were ongoing during the legislative process. I was part -- I was part of that discussion but not part of the discussion that would have touched on that. And so as we sit here today, I can't specifically recall any of those discussions. But we can survey the folks we have on staff who did participate and see what, if any, communications they may have had.

Q. Okay. That would be helpful. Any information regarding these continuing education, if you can provide those, it would be helpful to the Board.

And one last question I had was, when the Agency was developing this proposal, did the Agency review regulations of other states who may have continuing education programs as part of their rules?

A. I did not. But, again, to the extent that we have people who remain on staff who were part of that evaluation, we can confirm and see what, if any, source material they may have examined.

MR. RAO: Okay. That's all I have. Thank

Page 15 1 you. 2. HEARING EXAMINER KAMINSKI: All right. 3 Mr. Kang, do you have any additional questions? 4 MR. KANG: I don't think I do. Not at this 5 time. 6 HEARING EXAMINER KAMINSKI: Does anyone else 7 have any questions for the EPA witness, Mr. Jennings? 8 EXAMINATION 9 BY MS. VAN WIE: Q. Will the EPA be hiring any new inspectors 10 11 specifically to conduct the dry cleaning facility 12 inspections? 13 Not to my knowledge. At this point the proposal would be to add proposed technical employees 14 15 to the fold as part of these inspections as well as a 16 variety of others. At this point our field 17 inspectors are primarily tasked with a wide portfolio 18 of individual inspections, and this would be along 19 those same lines. 20 Do you know if they will be receiving any kind of specialized training on the dry cleaner --21 22 the requirements of the dry cleaner act and the 23 regulations as they are written? 24 Yes. So, as with any of our other Α.

	Page 16
1	regulatory programs, they receive training going over
2	the relevant statutory authority and regulatory
3	requirements before going on site.
4	MS. VAN WIE: Okay. Thank you.
5	HEARING OFFICER KAMINSKI: Thank you. For
6	the record is there anyone else present here today
7	that did not prefile testimony for this hearing but
8	would like to offer testimony?
9	Does anyone here have further questions
10	for the Agency witness?
11	MS. KRATZ: My name is Sue Kratz, K-R-A-T-Z,
12	and I am the executive director for the Illinois
13	Professional Dry Cleaners Association. I also
14	represent one of the existing compliance programs
15	that has been in place with the fund for 25 years.
16	EXAMINATION
17	BY MS. KRATZ:
18	Q. And my question is, is it the intent of
19	the EPA to eliminate all those compliance programs
20	that exist and take over the inspection process?
21	THE WITNESS: This is procedural. Which do
22	you prefer? Me to address the witness or the court
23	reporter?
24	HEARING OFFICER KAMINSKI: Well, speak toward

Page 17

the court reporter loudly enough so that she can hear you.

THE WITNESS: All right. Perfect. I basically didn't want to be rude.

A. So, those are really, as we see it, two independent issues. The Agency did not propose, as you know, a compliance program, but we don't necessarily oppose one. That's just not the type of operation that typically falls within our portfolio. And so to the extent that the Board adopts a compliance program that includes independent off-site inspections, depending on the language, we would be essentially comfortable with that.

Independent of that program, though, the Agency has obligations under state law and obligations to the federal government to inspect a variety of sites, and some of those are dry cleaners. And so in those cases there is a possibility that you could have a facility that is inspected by our inspectors through the prism of either the Resource Conservation Recovery Act or for compliance with this act that would also be inspected as part of a compliance program that was headed -- just the two heads, slightly different carrots and sticks that are

	Page 18
1	applicable. But if a compliance program were
2	adopted, it would not be the Agency's intent to
3	eliminate other inspections.
4	HEARING OFFICER KAMINSKI: Are there any
5	other questions for the Agency witness?
6	(No response.)
7	At this point we will take a five-minute
8	break. We will go off the record.
9	(Whereupon the hearing was in a
10	short recess.)
11	HEARING OFFICER KAMINSKI: Go back on the
12	record.
13	At this point is there anyone present
14	interested in offering any oral comments on the
15	record?
16	(No response.)
17	At this point I would note that, if
18	anyone wants to submit comments, written comments,
19	you can file those on the COOL system. That's
20	C-O-O-L system, which is available on the Illinois
21	Pollution Control Board website. And I would note
22	that at this point there are no comments being
23	requested now.
24	I would note that right now it is

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Page 19

September 9. The transcript will be -- should be available on the 16th. At this point the second hearing is scheduled for October 7, 2021, in Chicago. As I've stated, the hearing was to be held in the Michael J. Bilandic building in Chicago. However, due to renovations, the location will be changed to another Chicago venue. When a new location is settled, it will be provided on the COOL system.

And before we go any further, I would note that we have a Board hearing in about a half an hour. To give some additional time for folks to show up for this noticed hearing, we would like to hold the hearing -- we will recess until shortly after the Board meeting. So, at this point let's put it on hold and go off the record until we come back from the Board meeting, shortly after eleven o'clock, I would expect. Thank you.

(Whereupon the hearing was in a short recess until 11:24 a.m.)

HEARING OFFICER KAMINSKI: Thank you. We are back on the record.

While off the record, we attended the Board meeting, and giving the opportunity for any further public comments. We noted that there is no

Page 20 1 more people on the sign-in sheet. Does anybody want 2. to make a public comment that's in the room? 3 (No response.) For the record no one has answered. 4 Т 5 will just note a couple of things. One, 6 housecleaning, regarding the prefiled testimony, we 7 are going to refer to that as Hearing Exhibit 1, if 8 that's okay. And the Agency's response to questions 9 to be Hearing Exhibit 2. (Whereupon Hearing Exhibits 1 10 11 and 2 were presented for 12 purposes of identification as of 13 this date.) At this point the deadline to prefile 14 15 testimony with regard to the second hearing is 16 September 23, 2021, by 4:30. Prefiled questions 17 based on the prefiled testimony will be filed with the Board by 4:30 on September 30 of this year. 18 19 participants wish to prefile answers, those answers 20 should be prefiled on October 4, 2021. Filings with the Board, whether paper or electronic, must also be 21

served on the hearing officer and those persons on

the service list. Before filing, please check on

COOL or with the Board's clerk to insure that the

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	Page 21
1	most recent version of the service list is what you
2	are using.
3	As I stated earlier, participants have
4	requested a Korean translator for the second hearing,
5	and a translator has been engaged.
6	Are there any other matters to be
7	addressed at this time? Please go ahead.
8	MR. McDONOUGH: For post-hearing comments, I
9	believe you said the transcript will be available on
10	September 16 and then any comments or follow-ups that
11	we would like to submit. When would you like those
12	to you by?
13	HEARING OFFICER KAMINSKI: Ideally, we would
14	like those by the same September 23. However,
15	given that we have another hearing, if you can't get
16	them in by then, at least by on the 30th.
17	MR. McDONOUGH: Okay.
18	HEARING OFFICER KAMINSKI: Anything else?
19	(No response.)
20	Okay. I would like to thank everyone for
21	participating today and waiting for us to get back
22	from the open meeting. The first hearing is now
23	adjourned. Thank you.
24	CONCLUDED AT 11:26 A.M.

	Page 22
1	STATE OF ILLINOIS)
2	COUNTY OF MACOUPIN)
3	CERTIFICATE
4	I, Carla J. Boehl, a Notary Public and Certified
5	Shorthand Reporter, do hereby certify on the 9th day
6	of September 2021, the foregoing matter was taken
7	down in shorthand by me and afterwards reduced to
8	typewritten form by me, and that the foregoing
9	transcript contains a true and accurate translation
10	of all such shorthand notes.
11	Given under my hand and seal this 11th day of
12	September 2021, at Virden, Illinois.
13	My commission expires April 13, 2023.
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23	Notary Public Certified Shorthand Reporter
24	Lic. #084-002710

A	apart 11:23	4:12,14,15,15	16:13 17:17	containing 6:23
a.m 1:9 19:19	APPEARANCES	5:7,23 6:5,11,14	cleaning 13:22	contains 22:9
21:24	2:1	6:15,23 8:11	15:11	continue 12:1
absolutely 13:18	APPEARING	13:11 14:15	clear 5:8,15 13:13	continuing 13:1,5
accepted 13:24	1:17	17:10 18:21	clearly 5:13	14:2,13,19
access 9:4 10:14	applicable 11:21	19:10,14,16,23	clerk 20:24	Control 1:1 4:3
10:15	12:5 18:1	20:18,21	Code 4:8,9,10,11	18:21
accurate 22:9	approach 10:12	Board's 5:3,9,22	8:2	COOL 5:1,22
act 1:4 4:7 15:22	approves 9:7	7:2 20:24	come 19:15	18:19 19:8
17:21,22	April 22:13	Boehl 2:23 22:4	comfortable 10:20	20:24
activity 9:1	arena 13:3	boy 9:1	17:13	copies 9:20,21
add 1:4 4:8,9	assistant 1:18	break 18:8	comment 5:19	copying 9:4
15:14	7:16,20	Brown 1:15 4:16	20:2	council 11:7,21,23
additional 6:17	Association 16:13	building 4:23 19:5	comments 5:21	11:24 13:21
15:3 19:11	attempting 12:9	Bureau 7:23	7:10 9:14 18:14	counsel 1:18 7:16
address 16:22	12:12	businesses 12:6	18:18,18,22	7:18,19,20
addressed 21:7	attended 19:22		19:24 21:8,10	COUNTY 22:2
addressing 13:5	Attorney/Hearing	C	commission 22:13	couple 20:5
adjourned 21:23	1:14	C 1:5 22:3,3	commitment 9:23	court 1:22 5:12
ADM 1:5	August 6:14,19,22	C-O-O-L 18:20	common 10:10	16:22 17:1
administration	authority 16:2	called 8:17	commonly 10:1,7	CSR 2:23
13:15	available 7:10	capture 12:3	communications	currently 13:19
Administrative	9:17,22 13:19	card 5:17	14:11	
1:18 4:8,9,10,11	18:20 19:2 21:9	Carla 2:23 22:4	community 11:10	D
8:1	Avenue 1:10 2:4	carrots 17:24	12:17	D 3:1
admitted 3:9 5:6	avoid 5:13 11:8	case 10:16	comparable 13:3	date 20:13
adopted 18:2	12:9	cases 10:8 17:18	complete 5:9	day 1:8 22:5,11
adoption 11:22	aware 13:7,7	certain 9:7	compliance 7:22	deadline 20:14
adoption 11.22 adopts 17:10		certainly 12:20	10:17 16:14,19	deal 7:9
afoul 12:12	B	certification	17:7,11,21,23	decision 5:9,10
agency 2:2 6:16	back 5:19 6:1	13:24	18:1	define 9:8
6:21,24 7:1,5,11	12:21 18:11	Certified 22:4,23	comply 12:13	depending 17:12
7:24 8:10,18 9:3	19:15,21 21:21	certify 22:5	conceptual 11:11	Deputy 7:19
11:16 12:24	based 6:12 9:14	change 10:22	concern 11:4	descriptions 7:13
13:4,9,21 14:3	20:17	changed 19:6	CONCLUDED	determine 13:23
14:17,17 16:10	basically 17:4	check 20:23	21:24	determining 4:24
17:6,15 18:5	bear 5:6	Chicago 1:23 4:20	conduct 15:11	develop 5:8 9:11
Agency's 7:18,22	behalf 2:2 6:16	6:8 19:3,5,7	confirm 11:12	developed 13:2
8:2,3 18:2 20:8	8:17	Chief 1:15	14:22	developing 11:6
ahead 21:7	believe 21:9	clarify 11:20	confusion 11:9	14:17
Anand 1:15 4:15	Bilandic 4:23 19:5	cleaner 9:19 11:7	Conservation	Diego 2:4 7:19
	Bilbruck 1:18	12:10 13:22	17:21	different 17:24
answered 20:4	4:16	15:21,22	constitutes 9:5	difficult 5:16
answers 8:23	bit 10:4	cleaners 9:17,23	constraints 5:20	directed 6:10,23
20:19,19	Board 1:1,14 4:3	11:22 12:5 13:6	consulted 13:21	directly 13:15
anybody 20:1	,		101104104 10.21	, , ,
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	

1490 21	Page	24
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	Ī	l	l	Ì
director 16:12	4:7 7:17 8:18	filing 20:23	hard 9:20	independent
discussion 14:6,7	EPA 1:9 15:7,10	Filings 20:20	hazardous 10:2,8	11:19 12:4 17:6
discussions 14:4,9	16:19	finally 7:9	headed 17:23	17:11,14
Division 7:18	Essence 1:15 4:16	first 5:18 6:3,6,12	heads 17:24	individual 9:17
docket 4:12 12:2	essentially 17:13	8:18,23 13:4	hear 10:5 17:1	15:18
dry 9:17,19,23	evaluation 14:22	21:22	hearing 1:8 3:10	industry 9:14
11:7,22 12:5,9	everybody 9:9	five-minute 18:7	3:11 4:2,4,5,19	information 5:1,4
13:6,22,22 15:11	Examination 3:4	flexible 10:12	4:20 5:3 6:3,4,6	13:10,14,16,19
15:21,22 16:13	3:4,5 8:20 15:8	floor 8:11	6:6,9,13,22 8:5	14:13
17:17	16:16	fold 15:15	8:12 10:3 15:2,6	inspect 17:16
Drycleaner 1:3	examined 8:19	folks 14:10 19:11	16:5,7,24 18:4,9	inspected 9:23
4:7	14:23	follow-up 8:14,24	18:11 19:3,4,10	17:19,22
due 4:22 19:6	EXAMINER 15:2	11:15 12:23	19:12,13,18,20	inspection 9:4,12
duly 8:8,19	15:6	13:4,20	20:7,9,10,15,22	9:22 16:20
duly-authorized	examples 12:14	follow-ups 21:10	21:4,13,15,18,22	inspections 15:12
9:3	executive 16:12	following 13:12	held 1:8 19:4	15:15,18 17:12
	Exhibit 3:10,11	follows 8:19	help 5:8,14 12:16	18:3
E	20:7,9	foregoing 22:6,8	helpful 8:23 9:8	inspectors 15:10
E 3:1 22:3,3	Exhibits 3:9 20:10	form 22:8	14:12,14	15:17 17:20
earlier 21:3	exist 11:19 12:1	forth 12:13	hiring 15:10	Institute 13:23
East 1:10 2:4	13:8 16:20	fund 1:4 4:7 16:15	historic 13:3,5,14	insure 20:24
education 13:1,6	existing 11:21	further 16:9 19:9	historical 11:14	intended 5:8
14:2,13,19	16:14	19:24	historically 11:8	intent 10:22 16:18
either 5:7 9:20	expect 19:17		hold 4:24 19:12	18:2
17:20	expires 22:13	G	19:15	interested 13:2
elaborate 9:5	express 10:9	general 1:18 7:13	hour 19:11	18:14
electronic 9:21	extent 14:3,20	7:19	housecleaning	International
20:21	17:10	Gina 2:3 7:20	20:6	13:23
element 12:7		give 19:11		introduce 7:12,12
eleven 5:23 19:16	F	given 21:15 22:11	I	introduction 7:5,6
eliminate 16:19	F 22:3	giving 19:23	Ideally 21:13	issue 10:17
18:3	facilities 9:4,6,16	go 18:8,11 19:9,15	identification	issued 6:22
employees 15:14	facility 10:24 11:1	21:7	20:12	issues 17:6
enable 9:24	15:11 17:19	going 4:24 16:1,3	identify 7:8	
enactment 11:24	factors 9:7	20:7	II 2:3	J
enforce 12:8	fairly 6:1	good 4:2 7:15	ILL 1:4	J 19:5 22:4
enforcement 9:11	faithful 11:6	8:22 9:9	Illinois 1:1,10,23	James 3:3 6:16,21
9:12	fall 12:12	governed 5:3	2:2,5 4:3,8,9,10	7:6,21 8:16
engage 4:18	falls 17:9	government 17:16	4:11 7:17 8:1,17	JCAR 9:7 12:17
engaged 21:5	familiar 13:4	Grand 1:10 2:4	16:12 18:20	JENNIFER 1:14
enter 8:3	federal 17:16	great 12:22	22:1,12	Jennings 3:3 6:17
entered 8:6	field 15:16	groups 13:22	implementation	6:21 7:6,7,21
entitled 4:6	file 18:19		11:9	8:16,22 10:3
Environmental	filed 6:11,13 7:1	<u>H</u>	included 11:13	15:7
1:3,15,15 2:2	20:17	half 19:10	includes 17:11	John 2:3 7:16
		hand 22:11		
	•	•	•	•

Page 25

	i	1	i	ı
Joining 7:19	M	Notary 8:9 22:4	PAGE 3:2	prefer 16:22
Journal 6:7	M 2:3,4	22:22	paper 5:19 20:21	prefile 7:8 16:7
July 6:5,6,9,11,15	MACOUPIN 22:2	note 4:17,22 5:20	part 4:9,10,11	20:14,19
	maintained 11:8	5:20 18:17,21,24	11:13,22 12:1,2	prefiled 6:10,11
K	manager 7:21	19:10 20:5	14:4,6,6,6,19,21	6:12,15,17,19,20
K-A-M-I-N-S	manner 10:19	noted 19:24	15:15 17:22	8:3,6 13:16,16
4:5	Mark 1:14 4:4	notes 22:10	participants	20:6,16,17,20
K-R-A-T-Z 16:11	Mary 1:18 4:16	notice 1:11 6:4,5	20:19 21:3	prepared 12:19
Kaminski 1:14	masks 5:16	noticed 19:12	participate 14:10	present 4:14 16:6
4:2,4 8:5,12	material 14:23	number 4:12 8:24	participating	18:13
10:3 15:2,6 16:5	matter 1:3 22:6		21:21	presented 20:11
16:24 18:4,11	matters 21:6	0	parties 13:2	pretty 9:16 10:9
19:20 21:13,18	McDONOUGH	o'clock 5:24 19:16	people 14:21 20:1	primarily 15:17
Kang 6:20 7:3	2:3 7:15,16 8:10	objection 11:12	Perfect 17:3	prism 17:20
13:17 15:3,4	21:8,17	objectives 11:5	periods 11:19	privileged 5:5
kind 13:11 15:21	meaningful 10:18	obligate 12:6	12:18	procedural 5:4
know 12:15,16,17	means 9:8 12:18	obligations 12:13	person 5:14	16:21
13:21 15:20	meeting 5:23	17:15,16	persons 20:22	proceeding 4:6
17:7	19:14,16,23	October 4:21 19:3	Ph 2:5	6:4 7:4
knowledge 15:13	21:22	20:20	place 16:15	PROCEEDINGS
Korean 4:18 21:4	Member 1:14	off-site 17:11	plan 10:15	4:1
Kratz 3:5 16:11	4:15	offer 7:13 16:8	please 5:6,13,17	process 9:15 14:5
16:11,17	mentioned 12:16	offering 18:14	5:19 8:7 9:5	16:20
	Michael 19:5	officer 1:14 4:2,5	11:20 20:23	produce 5:14
	mind 5:6	6:9,22 8:5,12	21:7	products 13:2
L.A 1:22	minimum 12:13	10:3 16:5,24	point 8:12 15:13	Professional
Land 7:16,23	mirrors 13:15	18:4,11 19:20	15:16 18:7,13,17	16:13
landfills 10:10	model 14:1	20:22 21:13,18	18:22 19:2,14	program 10:23
language 11:13,17	Monroe 1:23	okay 11:3,15	20:14	13:15 17:7,11,14
17:12	morning 4:2 7:15	14:12,24 16:4	Pollution 1:1 4:3	17:23 18:1
Laundry 13:23	8:22 9:9	20:8 21:17,20	18:21	programs 9:12
law 17:15	moves 7:24	ongoing 14:5	portfolio 15:17	10:2,8 14:1,19
Legal 7:18		onsite 10:18	17:9	16:1,14,19
legislative 14:5	N	open 5:23 21:22	posed 5:7	proper 9:3,5
let's 19:14	N 3:1	opens 8:10	possibility 11:18	10:23,24
level 9:22	name 4:4 5:18	operation 17:9	12:3 17:18	proposal 1:4 4:8
Lic 2:24 22:23	7:15 16:11	operators 9:2	possible 11:7 13:9	5:10 14:17
lines 15:19	narrower 12:10	opinions 12:16	post-hearing 21:8	15:14
list 20:23 21:1	necessarily 12:8	opportunity 19:23	posted 6:4	propose 17:6
little 10:4	17:8	oppose 13:1 17:8	potential 11:9	proposed 7:4
LLC 1:22	necessary 11:4	oral 18:14	12:18	11:17 15:14
location 19:6,7	neither 10:14	order 6:1,23 7:5	potentially 10:11	Protection 2:2
longer 11:19	new 15:10 19:7	outline 10:15	10:16	7:18 8:18
look 11:2 13:11	Nick 2:4 7:19	owners 9:2	practices 13:3,5	provide 5:1,17 9:2
loudly 5:15 17:1	North 1:9 2:4	P	13:12,24	13:10,17,18

Page	26

				1496 20
14:14	13:10 16:6 18:8	requests 10:7	14:10,22 17:5	Springfield 1:10
provided 12:1	18:12,15 19:15	requirements	seek 9:18 12:8	2:5 4:19
19:8	19:21,22 20:4	10:9,21 12:4	sent 9:21	SS 22:1
provision 10:17	recordkeeping	15:22 16:3	September 1:8 7:1	staff 4:15 5:7
12:2	10:9	requires 9:2	19:1 20:16,18	14:10,21
provisions 12:15	records 9:19,20	Resource 17:20	21:10,14 22:6,12	state 6:7 17:15
public 5:21 7:9	9:24 10:14,15,16	response 1:4 4:7	served 20:22	22:1
8:9 19:24 20:2	10:18 11:1,17	6:20 7:2 11:16	service 20:23 21:1	stated 19:4 21:3
22:4,22	12:7	12:24 13:16	set 12:13	stated 19.4 21.3 states 11:17 12:24
published 6:5	Recovery 17:21	18:6,16 20:3,8	set 12.13 settled 19:8	14:18
purposes 20:12	reduced 22:7	21:19	Shannon 1:18	statutory 12:4
			4:16	16:2
pursuant 1:10	Reduction 7:22	responses 8:3	· -	
7:24	refer 20:7	rest 10:4	sheet 20:1	sticks 17:24
put 19:14	reflect 5:10	retain 12:7	short 18:10 19:19	Street 1:23
0	reflects 11:18	retained 9:20	shorthand 22:5,7	submit 5:21 18:18
question 8:24 9:6	regard 20:15	retention 11:17	22:10,23	21:11
11:16,16 12:24	regarding 14:13	11:19 12:10	shortly 19:13,16	submitted 6:20
14:16 16:18	20:6	review 14:18	show 19:11	7:3 13:17
	Register 6:7	right 15:2 17:3	sign-in 5:19 20:1	Sue 16:11
questions 5:7,11	regulated 11:10	18:24	similarly 12:5	Suite 1:23
6:12,19,23 7:2,3	12:17	Roccaforte 2:3	sit 14:8	summary 7:5
7:6,14 8:11,13	regulations 12:12	7:20	site 9:13,21 10:14	Sun 6:8
8:15 15:3,7 16:9	14:1,18 15:23	room 5:16 10:5	10:18 12:7 16:3	Sung 6:20 7:3
18:5 20:8,16	regulatory 7:17	20:2	sites 17:17	supposed 4:21
quickly 6:2	16:1,2	rude 17:4	situated 12:6	sure 5:16
R	relevant 5:4 16:2	rule 9:11 11:6	situation 12:9	survey 14:9
$\frac{\mathbf{R}}{\mathbf{R}}$ 22:3	remain 14:21	rulemaking 4:6,6	size 10:11	swear 8:2,7
R21-19 1:4 4:13	remodeling 4:22	4:12	slightly 17:24	sworn 8:9,19
range 9:16	removed 10:23	rules 5:4 11:7,20	solely 5:8	system 5:22 18:19
\mathcal{C}	renovations 19:6	11:21,24 12:11	solid 10:2,7	18:20 19:8
Rao 1:15 3:4 4:15	repeal 4:10,11	14:19	somewhat 9:13	
8:13,14,21 14:24	repealed 12:2		soon 5:1	<u>T</u>
read 8:4,7	repetitious 5:5	S	sophistication	T 22:3,3
really 17:5	Reported 2:23	sake 5:12	10:12	take 10:12 11:2
reasonable 10:1	reporter 5:12	San 2:4 7:19	sorry 4:9 6:6	13:11 16:20
rebuilding 4:23	16:23 17:1 22:5	satisfaction 10:20	sought 9:10 12:3	18:7
recall 14:8	22:23	scheduled 1:9	source 14:23	taken 22:6
receive 16:1	REPORTERS	4:21 19:3	speak 5:13,15,18	tasked 15:17
received 6:15,18	1:22	Scientist 1:15,15	10:4 16:24	technical 15:14
9:15	represent 16:14	seal 22:11	speaking 5:13	testified 8:19
receiving 15:20	representatives	second 6:6 11:15	specialized 15:21	testimony 5:10
recess 18:10 19:13	9:3	19:2 20:15 21:4	specifically 14:8	6:10,12,13,16,17
19:19	request 4:17 11:5	Section 7:22 8:1	15:11	6:21 7:12 8:3,6
recessing 5:24	requested 9:19	9:1 11:18	spectrum 10:13	16:7,8 20:6,15
record 5:6,9 8:4,6	18:23 21:4	see 9:18 10:1,6	spell 5:18	20:17
10:7 12:10,10			1	
	I	I	1	I

Page	2	7
raye	: 4	/

				rage 27
4 1022010	1	l ————	420.20	
thank 8:22 9:10	variety 15:16	1	4 20:20	
14:24 16:4,5	17:17	1 3:10 20:7,10	4:30 20:16,18	
19:17,20 21:20	vary 10:11	10:00 1:9	419-9292 1:24	
21:23	venue 19:7	10:50 5:24		
things 20:5	version 21:1	102.424(f) 8:1,5	5	
think 15:4	Virden 22:12	1021 1:9 2:4		
third 13:2		11:24 19:19	6	
time 4:19 5:14,18	W	11:26 21:24	60603 1:23	
5:20 7:11 8:10	waiting 21:21	11:20 21:24 11th 22:11	62794 2:5	
9:10 10:1 15:5	want 7:13 11:2,12	13 22:13	7	
19:11 21:7	17:4 20:1			
timely 10:19	wanted 13:20	15 3:4 6:5,9	7 4:21 8:24 19:3	
Times 6:8	wants 18:18	1500 4:11 12:1	758-3347 2:5	
Tipsord 1:18 4:16	waste 7:21 10:2,2	1501 4:10 11:22		
Title 7:24	10:7,8	11:24	8	
	way 10:18	1501.116(b) 9:1	8 1:23 3:4	
today 4:14 5:24	we've 9:10	1501.116(c)(7)	9	
7:21 12:19 14:8	website 18:21	11:18		
16:6 21:21	welcome 4:3	16 3:5 21:10	9 11:16,16 19:1	
touched 14:7		16(a) 12:24	9th 1:8 22:5	
trade 13:22	West 1:23	16th 19:2		
training 15:21	wide 9:16 15:17	19 6:7,14,19,22		
16:1	Wie 1:14 3:4 4:15			
transcript 5:15	15:9 16:4	2		
19:1 21:9 22:9	wish 20:19	2 3:11 4:11 7:1		
translation 22:9	witness 6:21 7:20	20:9,11		
translator 4:18,19	8:2,7,8,13,17	20 3:10,11		
21:4,5	15:7 16:10,21,22	2007 1:23		
transmit 10:19	17:3 18:5	2021 1:8 4:21 6:5		
true 22:9	witnesses 3:2 7:7	6:7,9,11,14,19		
Trust 1:4 4:7	word 10:23	6:22 7:1 19:3		
two 17:5,23	written 5:21	20:16,20 22:6,12		
type 17:8	15:23 18:18	2023 22:13		
types 9:16 10:6		217 2:5		
12:14	X	23 20:16 21:14		
typewritten 22:8	X 3:1	25 16:15		
typically 17:9	Y	26 6:15		
U	Yeah 9:9 10:6	29 6:11		
Ultimately 9:18	year 20:18	3		
unable 4:18	years 16:15			
		30 20:18		
unique 9:13	Z	30th 21:16		
Unit 7:17		3100 4:12		
$\overline{\mathbf{v}}$	0	312 1:24		
Van 1:14 3:4 4:15	084-002710 2:24	35 1:4 4:9,10 7:24		
	22:23	4		
15:9 16:4				
	•	•	•	•