1	BEFORE THE ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD VOLUME I							
2	VOLIOME I							
3	IN THE MATTER OF:							
4	EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS MARKET SYSTEM ADOPTION OF 35 ILL.) R97-013 ADM. CODE 205 AND AMENDMENTS) (RULEMAKING) TO 35 ILL. ADM. CODE 106)							
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9	The following is the transcript of a rulemaking							
10	hearing held in the above-entitled matter, taken							
11	stenographically by GEANNA M. IAQUINTA, CSR, a							
12	notary public within and for the County of Cook and							
13	State of Illinois, before Charles M. Feinen, Hearing							
14	Officer, at 100 West Randolph Street, Room 9-040,							
15	Chicago, Illinois, on the 21st day of April, 1997,							
16	A.D., commencing at the hour of 10:00 o'clock a.m.							
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1	APPEARANCES:
2	HEARING TAKEN BEFORE:
3	ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD, 100 West Randolph Street
4	Suite 11-500 Chicago, Illinois 60601
5	(312) 814-4925 BY: MR. CHARLES M. FEINEN
6	HEARING OFFICER.
7	
8	ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:
9 10	Mr. Richard McGill Ms. Kathleen M. Hennessey Mr. Joseph Yi Ms. Elizabeth Ann
11	Ms. Marili McFawn
12	
13	ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY MEMBERS PRESENT:
14	Ms. Bonnie Sawyer
15	Mr. Bharat Mathur Mr. Roger Kanerva
16	
17	OTHER AUDIENCE MEMBERS WERE PRESENT AT THE HEARING
18	BUT NOT LISTED ON THIS APPEARANCE PAGE.
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1 MR. FEINEN: Good morning. This is continuing

- 2 on the record from the last hearing date being April
- 3 21st at 10:00 o'clock.
- 4 I just want to thank the court reporter for
- 5 coming. I guess it was my fault for not sending on
- 6 the message that we would start a little bit
- 7 earlier. I just want to make that clear so
- 8 everybody knows it's not the court reporter's
- 9 fault.
- 10 Before we start with today's schedule for
- 11 testimony from the ERMS Coalition and some other
- 12 parties, Ron Burke from the American Lung
- 13 Association, Roy Cobb from Jefferson Smurfit, before
- 14 we start that, there's a couple of motions that came
- 15 in prior to today and this morning. One motion that
- 16 came in to the Board's office on April 18th was for
- 17 Mr. Trepanier requesting the hearing officer
- 18 reconsider the order previously dealing with a
- 19 motion for an extension of time.
- 20 I'm going to hold or reserve ruling on that
- 21 until later today to see if Mr. Trepanier comes
- 22 up -- shows up I should say to the hearing.
- 23 The other motion that was presented this
- 24 morning was from the ERMS Coalition, and I'm

1 wondering if we need to rule on that now or if we

- 2 can wait until they testify and we get into the
- 3 questioning.
- 4 Does anyone have a problem if we just wait
- 5 for that?
- 6 MR. SAINES: That's fine.
- 7 MR. FEINEN: Okay. Well, then with that out of
- 8 the way, I want to quickly talk about the schedule.
- 9 I've talked about this off the record. So I just
- 10 want to put it on the record.
- 11 I'm looking at closing the public comments
- 12 on May 16th, and then we'll go from there. Most
- 13 likely, the Board will go to first notice sometime
- 14 in June, most likely June 19th, and we'll go from
- 15 there. I don't think I need to go through the rest
- 16 of the schedule. August most likely the second
- 17 notice and final in October, time permitting, and
- 18 we'll see how things go.
- 19 With that, I think I'll turn it over to
- 20 IERG to present their witnesses and go from there.
- 21 MS. ROSEN: Good morning. I'm Whitney Rosen
- 22 with the Illinois Environmental Regulatory Group.
- 23 Today we have -- we will be presenting testimony by
- 24 Mr. Sid Marder who is the executive director of

- 1 IERG, Mr. Jerry Starkey from Millennium
- 2 Petrochemicals, Incorporated and Bob Elvert from
- 3 Mobile Business Resources Corporation.
- 4 There are copies of the prefiled testimony
- 5 and attachments on the table. Also a document
- 6 entitled Illinois Environmental Regulatory Group
- 7 proposed language, which Mr. Marder will be
- 8 discussing.
- 9 I have supplied those for the Board as
- 10 well. I guess we should now begin with Mr. Marder,
- 11 and do we swear him or do all --
- 12 MR. FEINEN: Have the witnesses --
- MS. ROSEN: -- of them?
- MR. FEINEN: Why don't we swear all the
- 15 witnesses in at one time and we'll be done with it?
- (Witnesses sworn.)
- 17 WHEREUPON:
- 18 SIDNEY M. MARDER,
- 19 JERRY M. STARKEY,
- 20 R.S. BOB ELVERT,
- 21 called as witnesses herein, having been first duly
- 22 sworn, deposeth and saith as follows:
- MS. ROSEN: If you'd want to begin, Sid?
- MR. MARDER: Good morning. My name is Sidney

1 Marder. I am the executive director of the Illinois

- 2 Environmental Regulatory Group, IERG. I also serve
- 3 as environmental consultant to the Illinois State
- 4 Chamber of Commerce.
- 5 I appreciate the opportunity to present
- 6 testimony before the Board on this matter.
- 7 Today IERG will be presenting a panel of
- 8 witnesses who will cover differing aspects of IERG's
- 9 and the Illinois Chamber's involvement in
- 10 development of the Emissions Reduction Market System
- 11 proposal, ERMS.
- 12 While our testimony will demonstrate the
- 13 level of effort that IERG members put into the
- 14 development of the proposal, which is before the
- 15 Board today, it's important to understand that all
- 16 of such efforts were, in essence, preliminary to
- 17 this Board proceeding.
- 18 It is, in fact, the Board proceeding which
- 19 is the formal open public rulemaking process from
- 20 which a legally binding regulation can result.
- 21 We also recognize it is appropriate and
- 22 proper that any issues resolved prior to formal
- 23 rulemaking are open to review and scrutiny by any
- 24 and all participants at the Board regulatory

- 1 hearings.
- 2 The primary purpose of my testimony will be
- 3 to present the broad policy decisions which faced
- 4 IERG members as well -- early in the process and
- 5 IERG's staff's role in analyzing the impact of these
- 6 issues and conveying the same to the full
- 7 membership.
- 8 Additionally, I will offer IERG's
- 9 perspective of the legislative intent behind Section
- 10 9.8 of the Environmental Protection Act. I will
- 11 also identify where IERG believes that improvements
- 12 to the proposed rules are still needed.
- 13 I'll be summarizing my testimony. The
- 14 Board has the prefiled full text. This regards
- 15 broad policy decisions. It was very early in this
- 16 process of determining the percentage reductions
- 17 which would be required for each category of
- 18 volatile organic material emitters, very early in
- 19 that process, the Agency proposed that an emission
- 20 trading system would be put in place for the point
- 21 source category.
- 22 Quite frankly, the members of IERG accepted
- 23 the fact that whether equitable or not, the reality
- 24 was that point sources would be asked to make

- 1 additional reductions.
- 2 That being the case, IERG began to analyze
- 3 the various draft ERMS proposals to determine the
- 4 real effect they would have on our members.
- 5 From this analysis, two broad policy shifts
- 6 became very clear. First, the proposal shifts our
- 7 regulatory obligation from an allowable basis to an
- 8 actual basis. The severity of the amount of VOM
- 9 emission reductions, while significant and difficult
- 10 to achieve, pale next to the effect of determining
- 11 the sources baseline by using actual rather than
- 12 allowable emissions.
- 13 Under the existing system, a facility has
- 14 the right to emit as many tons of VOM as it wishes
- 15 so long as it complies with applicable emission
- 16 standards.
- 17 Under the ERMS proposal, a facility would
- 18 be prohibited from adding even one additional ton of
- 19 VOM emissions unless an offsetting ton could be
- 20 generated internally or purchased on the market.
- 21 While our members ultimately accepted this
- 22 concept, it was one of the driving issues that
- 23 motivated IERG to aggressively argue for provisions
- 24 in both the legislation and the proposed

- 1 regulations.
- 2 The Board should be aware that the ERMS's
- 3 cap and allocate provision will result in a large
- 4 contribution towards attainment and maintenance of
- 5 the national ambient air quality standard for ozone.
- 6 To my knowledge, no other proposal for the
- 7 area or mobile source categories in Illinois
- 8 includes the emission cap concept. Rather,
- 9 traditional command and control options are being
- 10 considered, which by their very nature, allow for
- 11 unlimited growth.
- 12 The second major issue is that the proposal
- 13 shifts the regulatory burden from the regulators to
- 14 the regulated. In the past, for point sources, and
- 15 in the present for both area and mobile sources, the
- 16 burden of defining and supporting the validity of a
- 17 regulation falls on the Agency.
- 18 For example, in the case of a RACT rule,
- 19 the Agency would identify the source and/or emission
- 20 units which would be affected as well as the type
- 21 and nature of the controls to be implemented.
- 22 Further, the Agency had the burden to
- 23 demonstrate that the proposed rules were technically
- 24 feasible and economically reasonable to the extent

- 1 required by the Act.
- 2 Conversely, the ERMS program allows the
- 3 Agency to identify a broad class of affected
- 4 industry selected solely by level of emissions and
- 5 to assign a mandatory reduction level. The decision
- 6 of how to achieve this reduction is left to the
- 7 emitter, and the burden of proving equity is removed
- 8 from the Agency's shoulders.
- 9 Those are two major issues in shifts in
- 10 this policy which we essentially have agreed to, but
- 11 they drove our thinking in the process.
- 12 In light of these broad policy shifts, the
- 13 membership believed that it was important to include
- 14 certain protections in the ERMS enabling
- 15 legislation. Therefore, the membership discussed
- 16 two approaches to legislative development. Number
- 17 one, would be a very specific and detailed language
- 18 that established -- that would establish the general
- 19 provisions of the program or number two, the second
- 20 approach would be generic language authorizing the
- 21 Agency to develop an ERMS program for submittal to
- 22 the Board with certain guiding principles.
- The membership included that generic
- 24 legislation with certain protections was the

- 1 preferred option. To protect against the continuous
- 2 ratcheting down of the cap, the membership believed
- 3 it was important to ensure that one, emission
- 4 reductions would not be required unless necessary
- 5 for the attainment and maintenance of the national
- 6 ambient air quality standard for ozone.
- 7 Two, that any emissions reductions would
- 8 not be imposed until after full rulemaking under
- 9 Section 27 of the Act.
- 10 Three, that stationary sources would not be
- 11 required to reduce emissions to an extent which
- 12 exceeds their proportionate share.
- 13 Four, the program must be as cost-effective
- 14 as traditional command and control. And five, the
- 15 cost-effectiveness of other types of controls on
- 16 other sources must be considered as part of any
- 17 future reductions.
- 18 The intent of the above five factors was to
- 19 ensure that a complete review of all control options
- 20 for all categories be considered and evaluated prior
- 21 to simply ratcheting down stationary sources under
- 22 the ERMS program.
- 23 With regard to the proportionate share
- 24 concern, Section 9.7(C)(3) of the Act was included

- 1 to assure that the three emission sectors, point,
- 2 area, and mobile would reduce emissions roughly
- 3 proportionately.
- 4 The measure of proportionality would cover
- 5 the entire time frame in which the sectors made
- 6 reductions or were to make reductions as required to
- 7 meet their obligations under the Act.
- 8 Now, although IERG has expended
- 9 considerable time and energy in attempting to
- 10 resolve all of the issues inherent in the ERMS
- 11 program, there are still four issues which we
- 12 believe if resolved differently would allow for a
- 13 more equitable and fair program.
- 14 Generally, IERG's concerns are as follows:
- 15 First, the proposal should allow participants until
- 16 the end of the year 2000 seasonal allotment period
- 17 to operate pursuant to an allotment.
- 18 Secondly, the ERMS database should provide
- 19 information on the cost of ATUs purchased to the
- 20 extent feasible.
- 21 Third, as with regards to the cost of an
- 22 ATU under the ACMA throughout the discussions of
- 23 this program, IERG has continuously opposed the
- 24 imposition of a set price for obtaining an ATU under

- 1 the regular access to the ACMA.
- 2 IERG believes that due to the uncertainties
- 3 and the fact that the ACMA will in all likelihood be
- 4 sought only after other attempts to generate or
- 5 purchase ATUs has been exhausted, the price should
- 6 be only nominally above the established market
- 7 price.
- 8 Accordingly, we would recommend that the
- 9 multiple for regular access to the ACMA be 1.1 times
- 10 the market price and the multiple for special access
- 11 be 1.2 times the market price.
- 12 Four, the proposal as it's drafted right
- 13 now, fails to provide for the inclusion of
- 14 previously acquired emission reduction credits in
- 15 the source's baseline emission determination.
- 16 For example, in 1996, one of our member
- 17 companies acquired emission reduction credits for
- 18 use as New Source Review offsets for a future
- 19 expansion project.
- 20 However, due to the expansion project
- 21 schedule, a state construction permit will not be
- 22 issued by the Agency prior to the January 1st, 1998,
- 23 date that's included in the regulation now in
- 24 proposed Section 205.320(f).

1 We believe that proposed Section 205.320(f)

- 2 will not apply to this situation. Moreover, as
- 3 indicated by Mr. Romaine at the February 10th, 1997,
- 4 hearing in this matter, the Agency's current
- 5 proposal does not address this situation.
- 6 Thus, there is no mechanism by which such
- 7 emission reduction credits will be incorporated into
- 8 the source's ERMS baseline. The result is that a
- 9 company who diligently engaged in early planning
- 10 activities, for example, planning activities prior
- 11 to the implementation of the ERMS program so as to
- 12 assure compliance with New Source Review offsetting
- 13 requirements would be unfairly penalized.
- 14 As noted in my prefiled testimony, we have
- 15 discussed this issue with Agency representatives,
- 16 and we have reached agreement upon proposed language
- 17 which addresses his concern.
- 18 The language proposed for inclusion at new
- 19 Section 205.320 sub (g) is set forth within the
- 20 document entitled Illinois Environmental Regulatory
- 21 Group's proposed language, which is dated April
- 22 21st, 1997.
- 23 IERG requests that the Board modify the
- 24 current proposal to include IERG's proposed language

1 so as to allow for a transition for previously

- 2 acquired emission reduction credits.
- 3 I appreciate the opportunity to participate
- 4 in this proceeding, and I will be happy to add --
- 5 answer any of your questions on my testimony, I
- 6 believe, at the end of our presentation.
- 7 MS. ROSEN: Yes. At this time, I'd like to have
- 8 Mr. Marder identify his prefiled testimony for the
- 9 record.
- 10 MR. MARDER: That's it.
- 11 MS. ROSEN: Are you familiar with this
- 12 document?
- 13 MR. MARDER: Yes, I am.
- MS. ROSEN: Is it a true and accurate copy of
- 15 the prefiled testimony that you submitted for the
- 16 proceeding?
- 17 MR. MARDER: Yes, it is.
- 18 MS. ROSEN: Okay. I would like to move to have
- 19 this document admitted as Exhibit -- I believe we're
- 20 on 59?
- 21 MR. FEINEN: In your prefiled --
- MS. ROSEN: And the attachment is included.
- 23 MR. FEINEN: Okay. This document includes the
- 24 attachment A. Excuse me. This prefiled testimony

1 of Mr. Marder dated April 2nd, 1997. That's on Page

- 2 17, and then the attachment A is dated April 7th,
- 3 1995. It's to the members of the Illinois
- 4 Environmental Regulatory Group, IERG, from the IERG
- 5 staff. Its reason is VOM emissions trading issue
- 6 paper.
- 7 I'll move that plus the attachment -- I'll
- 8 move -- I'll mark prefiled testimony of Sidney
- 9 Marder and attachment A as number 59.
- 10 If there's no objections, I'll just have
- 11 that entered into the record. Seeing none, it'll be
- 12 entered in as 59.
- 13 (Hearing Exhibit No. 59
- 14 marked for identification,
- 15 4-21-97.)
- 16 MS. ROSEN: Okay. And then the language that
- 17 Mr. Marder referenced Illinois Environmental
- 18 Regulatory Group proposed language dated April 21st,
- 19 1997. If we can have that admitted as well?
- 20 MR. FEINEN: I'm marking as Exhibit No. 60 the
- 21 Illinois Environmental Regulatory Group proposed
- 22 language dated April 21st, 1997.
- 23 This seems to be what was passed out on the
- 24 back table also. If you don't have a copy, feel

1 free to get it. That's been marked as Exhibit No.

- 2 60.
- 3 If there's no objection, we'll enter it
- 4 into the record as Exhibit No. 60. Seeing none,
- 5 then I'll mark or enter into the record as Exhibit
- 6 No. 60, Illinois Environmental Regulatory Group
- 7 proposed language dated April 21st, 1997.
- 8 (Hearing Exhibit No. 60
- 9 marked for identification,
- 10 4-1-97.
- 11 MS. ROSEN: Okay. We would like to continue
- 12 with the summary of Mr. Jerry Starkey's prefiled
- 13 testimony.
- 14 MR. STARKEY: Good morning. Thank you for the
- 15 opportunity to testify today. My name is Jerry
- 16 Starkey. I am the Regional Environmental Manager
- 17 for Millennium Petrochemicals Incorporated,
- 18 previously known as Quantum Chemical Corporation.
- 19 I am also an active participant in the
- 20 Illinois Environmental Regulatory Group. I served
- 21 as chairman of IERG from 1995 through 1996, as
- 22 chemical sector representative on IERG's executive
- 23 committee from 1991 to the present, as the work
- 24 group chairman for IERG's Clean Air Act work group

- 1 from 1991 to the present, and as a member
- 2 representative of IERG's Ozone Attainment Strategy
- 3 Work Group.
- 4 My testimony today is intended to provide
- 5 historical testimony as to IERG's involvement in
- 6 development of the Agency's ERMS proposal.
- 7 First, I'd like to provide a brief
- 8 explanation of IERG's membership as an illustration
- 9 of the diversity of the companies that will be
- 10 impacted by the ERMS program.
- 11 IERG is a not-for-profit Illinois
- 12 corporation comprised of some 57 member companies
- 13 engaged in industry, commerce, manufacturing,
- 14 agriculture, trade, transportation, or other related
- 15 activities, and which persons, entities, or
- 16 businesses are regulated by governmental agencies
- 17 which promulgate, administer, or enforce
- 18 environmental laws, regulations, or policies.
- 19 Of our member companies, 40 companies
- 20 participate on the IERG ERMS work group. Agency
- 21 data referenced in my written prefiled testimony and
- 22 included in the document attached to my prefiled
- 23 testimony as attachment A, VOM Emitters Subject to
- 24 ERMS, that document indicates that these work group

1 member companies represent 45 facilities engaged in

- 2 various types of activities.
- 3 The estimated VOM emissions from these
- 4 facilities range from a low of ten tons per season
- 5 to 1,100 tons per season. Our members' size and
- 6 diversity caused us to be very careful in our
- 7 deliberations regarding the ERMS proposal so as to
- 8 ensure that all types and categories of sources were
- 9 treated fairly and equitably.
- 10 The Agency's records indicate that IERG
- 11 members account for 18 percent of the some of 245
- 12 facilities covered by the ERMS proposal.
- 13 But although IERG members' facilities
- 14 account for some 48 percent of the total emissions,
- 15 many of the members can easily be classified as
- 16 small emitters.
- 17 It is important for the Board to understand
- 18 the context of small in this setting. A very large
- 19 capitalization company may have some very small
- 20 emitting facilities. Likewise, a fairly small
- 21 capitalization company can have a very large
- 22 emitting facility.
- 23 IERG members understand the dilemma faced
- 24 by a small, in the sense of capitalization, company

1 when faced with capital expenditures which threaten

- 2 its net worth.
- 3 It was incumbent upon IERG to assess the
- 4 impact on both large emitters, those with multiple
- 5 emission units and small emitters, those with few
- 6 emission units.
- 7 We were strong supporters of limiting the
- 8 entry level of ERMS to a ten ton per season
- 9 threshold. The intent was that this approach would
- 10 tend to eliminate smaller facilities from coverage
- 11 under the program.
- 12 I would like also to provide an overview of
- 13 IERG's involvement in the development of the ERMS
- 14 proposal. By way of background, it should be
- 15 understood that the basis for the formation of IERG
- 16 as an association was to create an entity whose
- 17 purpose was to be inter -- was to interact as early
- 18 as professionally -- pardon me. An entity whose
- 19 purpose would be to interact as early and as
- 20 professionally as possible with the regulators
- 21 charged with designing, drafting, and ultimately
- 22 implementing regulations that affect member
- 23 operations.
- 24 IERG is obligated to provide the Agency

- 1 with our best information, thoughts, and rationale
- 2 as to the impacts from proposed regulations. In our
- 3 opinion, it is the Agency's obligation to craft
- 4 regulations that are workable.
- 5 Only through fulfillment of these
- 6 obligations can we assure that the ultimate goal of
- 7 the regulation, to enhance environmental quality, is
- 8 achieved.
- 9 To that end, IERG engaged in a time and
- 10 resource intensive effort in working with our
- 11 membership, the Agency, and our sister associations
- 12 to assist in crafting a workable ERMS program. The
- 13 IERG members grappled with and discussed the
- 14 fundamental policy issues that surround the ERMS
- 15 program since the beginning of development of the
- 16 ERMS concept.
- 17 The initial in-depth policy discussions
- 18 provided the basis for the members' position that
- 19 certain protection should be contained within the
- 20 ERMS enabling legislation. Once those protections
- 21 were afforded, the next step became ensuring that
- 22 those protections were carried through to the
- 23 regulations.
- 24 As the detailed process progressed, IERG

1 moved beyond the broad policy issues to focusing on

- 2 many of the intricate and site-specific issues.
- 3 Overall, IERG sought to ensure that a flexible and
- 4 workable program be put into place.
- 5 IERG's regulatory development efforts are
- 6 further detailed in my written prefiled testimony.
- 7 IERG's objective in undertaking the above-mentioned
- 8 process was to implement a constructive procedure
- 9 for forwarding to the Agency a consensus IERG
- 10 position as to the issues of concern and suggested
- 11 resolutions and obtaining feedback from the Agency
- 12 concerning those issues.
- 13 We believe the end result was beneficial to
- 14 all participants. The process enabled a group
- 15 affected sources that did not have the background or
- 16 understanding gained from participating in the
- 17 Agency's design team discussions to provide a
- 18 different perspective on the proposal.
- 19 The Agency was able to attempt to address
- 20 IERG's concerns by directing its resources in an
- 21 efficient manner. However, while this process was
- 22 beneficial, it was not, nor should it be, considered
- 23 a substitute for the public hearing process being
- 24 undertaken by the Board.

1 Once again, thank you for the opportunity

- 2 to testify on this matter, and I will be available
- 3 to answer any questions concerning the testimony
- 4 presented. I believe the questioning will be
- 5 directed to the panel as a whole at the end of the
- 6 testimony.
- 7 MS. ROSEN: Thank you, Mr. Starkey. I'm going
- 8 to hand you this document for identification. Do
- 9 you recognize that document?
- 10 MR. STARKEY: Yes, I do.
- 11 MS. ROSEN: Could you identify it, please?
- MR. STARKEY: This is the prefiled testimony
- 13 that was filed on April 2nd.
- MS. ROSEN: And that's a true and accurate
- 15 copy?
- 16 MR. STARKEY: Yes, it is.
- MS. ROSEN: All right. We'd like to move to
- 18 have this admitted as document 61, and I would note
- 19 that the attachment is included, attachment A.
- 20 MR. FEINEN: I'm marking as Exhibit No. 61 the
- 21 prefiled testimony of Jerry Starkey, which includes
- 22 attachment A entitled VOM Emitters subject to ERMS
- 23 Derived from IEPA Database.
- 24 If there's no objections to that being

- 1 entered into the record, I'll enter it into the
- 2 record. Seeing no objections, that's entered into
- 3 the record as Exhibit No. 61. That's the prefiled
- 4 testimony of Jerry Starkey dated April 2nd, 1997.
- 5 It includes the Attachment A, VOM emitters subject
- 6 to ERMS Derived From IEPA Database, which is
- 7 actually misspelled. It says dase. So if you have
- 8 one that says dase, that's the one we're talking
- 9 about.
- 10 (Hearing Exhibit No. 61
- 11 marked for identification,
- 12 4-21-97.)
- 13 MS. ROSEN: Thank you, Mr. Feinen.
- We'd like to -- are you ready?
- MR. ELVERT: Yes.
- 16 MS. ROSEN: Okay. We will continue now with
- 17 Mr. Bob Elvert who will be reading his prefiled
- 18 testimony into the record. Thank you, Bob.
- 19 MR. ELVERT: Thank you.
- 20 Good morning. My name is Bob Elvert. I'm
- 21 the Midwest Region Senior State Regulatory Expert
- 22 for Mobil Business Resources Corporation. I
- 23 appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony on
- 24 behalf of the Illinois Environmental Regulatory

1 Group and Mobil Oil Corporation before the Illinois

- 2 Pollution Control Board regarding the Illinois
- 3 Environmental Protection Agency's proposed Emissions
- 4 Reduction Market System or ERMS program.
- 5 My predecessor and I have been active
- 6 participants on Mobil's behalf in the ERMS work
- 7 group process from its inception. In addition, I've
- 8 coordinated input from the petroleum sector of
- 9 IERG's members on this issue.
- 10 Throughout the entire process, all parties
- 11 have been open to constructive ideas on how Illinois
- 12 can adopt a compliance program that will meet the
- 13 Clean Air Act volatile organic materials or VOM
- 14 reduction requirements while being flexible and
- 15 agency/industry friendly.
- 16 In addition to the Joliet Refinery, which
- 17 is a large source of VOM emissions within the area,
- 18 Mobil Oil Corporation also owns and operates two
- 19 marketing terminals and a crude product pipeline
- 20 breakout facility. This pipeline facility is an
- 21 additional source identified since the prefiled
- 22 comments, and these are smaller sources of VOM
- 23 emissions that will be directly affected by the
- 24 proposed rule.

1 These four facilities jointly produce and

- 2 supply automotive gasoline and distillate fuel
- 3 through branded retail outlets in the Chicago
- 4 metropolitan area and throughout the midwest
- 5 region. Therefore, we have great interest in any
- 6 proposed regulation that would affect the daily
- 7 operations and compliance options of these
- 8 facilities.
- 9 I am here today to discuss our reasons for
- 10 accepting the ERMS program as the moist viable
- 11 alternative to historical command and control
- 12 compliance requirements.
- 13 Let me begin by saying that Mobil supports
- 14 cost-effective clean air programs. As corporate
- 15 citizens in Illinois, we share the IEPA's commitment
- 16 to a healthy environment. Midwest operations of
- 17 Mobil's affiliates are supported by over 700
- 18 employees who are committed to protecting the
- 19 environment and operating these facilities safely
- 20 and efficiently while providing quality goods and
- 21 services to the public.
- 22 As Mobil has already made considerable
- 23 capital investments to implement previous federal
- 24 and state Clean Air Act requirements, a program such

1 as ERMS that allows emission source flexibility,

- 2 while still obtaining compliance, is very
- 3 attractive.
- 4 In order to understand the complexity of
- 5 refinery operations and why a flexible compliance
- 6 program like ERMS is beneficial, let me give you an
- 7 overall picture of typical operations and the types
- 8 of emission units of which they are comprised.
- 9 Mobil's Joliet refinery, like many other
- 10 refineries, is constructed of several large
- 11 production units including a distillation unit,
- 12 catalytic crackers, thermal cracker, catalytic
- 13 reformer and hydrotreaters, an alkylation unit,
- 14 product blending facilities, and supporting utility
- 15 units that together process crude oil into many
- 16 usable products.
- 17 These products range from gasoline and
- 18 liquefied petroleum gas or LPG on the light side to
- 19 fuel oils, asphalt, and coke on the heavy side. It
- 20 should be noted that the production units I have
- 21 mentioned above include additional individual
- 22 emission sources such as fuel combustion devices,
- 23 boilers, process units, storage tanks, wastewater
- 24 facilities and other miscellaneous units that can

- 1 amount to over 100 individual emission units.
- 2 Refineries, like many other large point
- 3 sources, have made significant reductions of VOM
- 4 emission in the past as part of various federal and
- 5 state regulatory requirements such as New Source
- 6 Performance Standards, National Emission Standards
- 7 for Hazardous Air Pollutants and Rate of Progress
- 8 Regulations, RACT controls, and reformulated
- 9 gasoline standards.
- 10 For the Joliet refinery, we have reduced
- 11 VOM emissions through control equipment
- 12 installations or operation changes related to
- 13 reformulated gasoline production, wharf loading
- 14 restrictions, wastewater handling, and fugitive
- 15 emissions component monitoring inspection and
- 16 maintenance.
- To date, the cost to implement these
- 18 controls at Joliet has been estimated to be more
- 19 than \$5 million with an additional -- annual cost of
- 20 \$100,000 to ensure compliance.
- 21 From the pro-active side, Mobil has already
- 22 spent over \$350,000 voluntarily in the past seven
- 23 years to reduce tank emission losses in some of our
- 24 tanks in Joliet through seal improvements. These

1 improvements alone have reduced the VOM emissions by

- 2 approximately 100 tons during the summer ozone
- 3 season.
- 4 It should be pointed out the ERMS program
- 5 and its 12 percent VOM emission reduction
- 6 requirements will only apply to three of the six
- 7 refineries in the state of Illinois. The other
- 8 three are located in areas of the state which --
- 9 where emission reduction is not required and the
- 10 ERMS program will not apply.
- In addition, a fourth refinery is located
- 12 just beyond the Chicago metropolitan ozone
- 13 nonattainment area across the state border in
- 14 Indiana. As a result, Mobil is very interested in a
- 15 program such as ERMS, which will allow for the
- 16 managing of future control costs, especially in the
- 17 very competitive midwest fuels market.
- 18 This leads to why Mobil accepts the ERMS
- 19 program. We recognize that the Clean Air Act
- 20 mandates further reductions from stationary sources
- 21 located in severe ozone nonattainment areas, and
- 22 that the flexibility provided within the ERMS
- 23 program allows each facility, whether it be large,
- 24 medium, or small, to decide how they choose to

- 1 obtain compliance through the year 2000.
- While the required 12 percent VOM reduction
- 3 from a source's baseline will not be easy, it will
- 4 provide certainty for the purposes of long-term
- 5 planning, an important factor in any competitive
- 6 market.
- 7 From a refinery industry perspective, the
- 8 proposed 12 percent VOM fixed reduction allows for
- 9 such planning. Should further reduction be
- 10 necessary, approval from the Illinois Pollution
- 11 Control Board will be necessary.
- 12 The ERMS program will provide equity for
- 13 all affected VOM sources within the Chicago
- 14 metropolitan ozone nonattainment area, not only from
- 15 a VOM emission reduction standpoint, but also for
- 16 providing equal flexibility to comply.
- 17 The Joliet refinery and the other sources
- 18 that have pro-actively over complied with the
- 19 federal VOM emission rule will be able to obtain
- 20 such credits for the proactive steps taken at the
- 21 facilities to reduce emissions prior to the
- 22 additional ERMS requirements being imposed.
- 23 However, it should be pointed out that not
- 24 all pro-active compliance will be credited. For

- 1 example, Mobil will not be able to take credit for
- 2 pro-active steps taken on a number of tank seal
- 3 upgrades completed prior to 1990 because of the set
- 4 1990 baseline.
- 5 The ERMS program will provide flexibility
- 6 for all facilities that need to find future
- 7 reductions. Within Mobil's midwest region
- 8 operations, while the refinery has achieved some
- 9 early reduction credits to offset part of the
- 10 pending ERMS 12 percent VOM reduction, our two
- 11 terminals and pipeline facility have not.
- 12 As a result, these facilities like any
- 13 other affected source, can take advantage of the
- 14 compliance flexibility provided within the program.
- 15 They can curtail production, buy credits from the
- 16 market, or install further controls.
- 17 Finally, the program recognizes that
- 18 certain elements must exist that will allow for the
- 19 flexible operation of a facility. The program
- 20 contains such elements that will allow the continued
- 21 flexible operation of these ERMS facilities by one,
- 22 allowing the purchase and transfer of long-term
- 23 amount ATUs; two, allowing the use of ATUs as
- 24 offsets for purposes of New Source Review; three,

1 exempting insignificant sources; four, recognizing

- 2 the need to retain the startup and
- 3 malfunction/breakdown provisions.
- 4 In closing, Mobil accepts the proposed ERMS
- 5 program as we believe it is the most viable solution
- 6 to meeting the Clean Air Act objective of improving
- 7 air quality while balancing the cost of compliance.
- 8 I appreciate this opportunity to
- 9 participate in these proceedings. I will be happy
- 10 to answer questions that pertain to this testimony.
- 11 MS. ROSEN: Thank you. We will not be moving to
- 12 have Mr. Elvert's prefiled testimony entered as an
- 13 exhibit since he did read it for the record if
- 14 that's okay.
- Prior to proceeding to answer any
- 16 questions, I want to correct one reference that Mr.
- 17 Marder made in his summary, and it is included in
- 18 his prefiled testimony. He cited to -- in his
- 19 summary, he cited section, let's see, 9.5 or
- 20 something, 9.5(c)(3) of the Act. That should have
- 21 been 9.8(c)(3), and also on Page 11 of his prefiled
- 22 testimony, he cites to Section 9.5, and that as well
- 23 should have been Section 9.8. Thank you.
- MR. FEINEN: I will mark the change on Page 11

1 of Exhibit 59 to reflect that the cite should be 9.8

- 2 (c) did you say?
- 3 MS. ROSEN: Yes.
- 4 MR. FEINEN: Thank you. At this time, I guess
- 5 we'll turn to the prefiled questions for IERG
- 6 prepared by the Agency.
- 7 MS. SAWYER: Bonnie Sawyer with the Illinois
- 8 Environmental Protection Agency. Good morning, Mr.
- 9 Marder. The questions that the Illinois
- 10 Environmental Protection Agency filed are in
- 11 reference to the testimony of Sidney Marder, and the
- 12 first three questions are in reference to point 1
- 13 raised, and that's found on Pages 12 through 13.
- 14 The Illinois Environmental Regulatory
- 15 Group, IERG, suggests that the rule require volatile
- 16 organic material emission reductions first in 2000
- 17 rather than in 1999 as the proposed rule currently
- 18 requires.
- 19 Did the September 15th, 1995, draft
- 20 Emissions Reduction Market System, ERMS, rule
- 21 referred to in your testimony provide for VOM
- 22 emission reductions phased in over time through 2007
- 23 as a full attainment strategy?
- 24 MR. MARDER: Yes, it did. I think that was

- 1 proposed Rule 205.200.
- MS. SAWYER: Did the September 15th, 1995, draft
- 3 ERMS rule referred to in your testimony include a
- 4 specific VOM emissions reduction target or
- 5 percentage such as the 12 percent reduction
- 6 contained in the proposed rule?
- 7 MR. MARDER: No, it did not. As the rule was
- 8 then proposed, the reduction would have been
- 9 determined by the Agency.
- 10 MS. SAWYER: Is it your understanding that the
- 11 proposed ERMS rule requires reductions in 1999 to
- 12 meet the three percent a year rate of progress
- 13 requirement of Section 182 (c) of the Clean Air Act
- 14 for the first three-year period, which is by 1999?
- MR. MARDER: It's my understanding that the
- 16 ERMS's rules intended to provide for a portion of
- 17 the first state of the ROP requirements, and that
- 18 the other portions would be required from area and
- 19 mobile sources and would, in part, actually -- those
- 20 reductions would, in part, actually occur later than
- 21 the first-year period, although some portion of them
- 22 would be credited back to the first period.
- 23 As a general answer, this is intended --
- 24 the ERMS program is intended to meet the first

- 1 three-year period. I do agree with that.
- 2 MS. SAWYER: Mr. Marder, you refer to some
- 3 reductions from the area and mobile source sector
- 4 that you believe are to occur after 1999, but be
- 5 credited in 1999. Can you identify those particular
- 6 reductions?
- 7 MR. MARDER: My understanding from the
- 8 preliminary discussions we had were that some of the
- 9 programs, whether it be small engine reductions or
- 10 the consumer product reductions that the U.S. EPA
- 11 may have been late in adopting or would be
- 12 implemented over a time frame would get implemented
- 13 later, but still would be credited towards the first
- 14 period even though because they were enacted, but
- 15 not adopted -- but not implemented yet similar to
- 16 the original proposal of ERMS that allowed until the
- 17 year 2000 for some of the emissions, but really it
- 18 was part of the first three-year period.
- 19 MS. SAWYER: Mr. Mathur has some questions also.
- 20 MR. MATHUR: Mr. Marder, is it not true that
- 21 some of these area source measures that you
- 22 mentioned while being implemented after this rule
- 23 was in place, however, would be implemented by 1999,
- 24 which is the date that the Agency is required to

- 1 demonstrate its first nine percent ROP?
- 2 MR. MARDER: Some of them would, and some of
- 3 them wouldn't, and that's -- as I answered, I think
- 4 part of them would apply and some part of them would
- 5 come in a little later. That's my understanding of
- 6 them.
- 7 MR. MATHUR: Is it not also true that in the
- 8 Agency's testimony -- excuse me. Strike that.
- 9 Are you familiar with the exhibit in the
- 10 Agency's testimony that showed where and from what
- 11 sector the Agency was getting its nine percent ROP
- 12 reductions?
- 13 MR. MARDER: I've seen that months and months
- 14 ago. I can't say I'm thoroughly familiar with it,
- 15 but I do recall the document you're talking about.
- MR. MATHUR: So would you agree that the target
- 17 levels that the Agency needs meet the ROP
- 18 requirement it needs to meet by 1999?
- 19 MR. MARDER: I'm not sure if I agree with that.
- 20 I think that there is a certain amount of
- 21 flexibility that allows you to have programs in
- 22 place and commitments to make certain reductions by
- 23 certain times, but that there is some latitude in
- 24 that, and one of the reasons I say that is because I

- 1 don't recall the numbers.
- 2 I'd have to go back and review them, but
- 3 the numbers from the reductions that will occur by
- 4 1999, I'm not sure if they're going to add up to the
- 5 full nine percent.
- 6 Again, I'd have to go back and review the
- 7 document.
- 8 MR. MATHUR: I don't have anything else.
- 9 MS. SAWYER: Okay the next four questions that
- 10 the Illinois EPA has are in reference to point two
- 11 found at Pages 14 through 15. IERG suggests that
- 12 the price pay for each ATU transferred be posted to
- 13 the public access bulletin Board.
- 14 Is IERG suggesting that the price paid per
- 15 each ATU transfer be posted to the public access
- 16 bulletin Board, or are you suggesting that an
- 17 average of ATU transfer prices be posted
- 18 periodically?
- MR. MARDER: We're suggesting that the price
- 20 paid for each transfer be posted on the bulletin
- 21 Board. However, long-term transfers would not have
- 22 to be included in that. We believe that the
- 23 short-term transfers are akin to a spot market, and
- 24 in a spot market, the prices need to be known as

- 1 soon as possible.
- 2 MS. SAWYER: Is it your position that the
- 3 companies that are IERG members want the prices
- 4 associated with their ATU transfers posted to the
- 5 public access bulletin Board?
- 6 MR. MARDER: Well, we've obviously discussed
- 7 this, and it is not necessary that a posting of who
- 8 pays or receives what price be included on the
- 9 bulletin Board. That's not important, and it's not
- 10 necessary.
- 11 What is important is a knowledge of the
- 12 price that's paid for an ATU. For example, if I
- 13 want to buy a hundred shares of IBM stock or Mobil
- 14 stock or anybody's stock, I want to know the price
- 15 of the stock. I don't necessarily care who the
- 16 seller was and who the buyer was.
- 17 So those two issues can be disconnected.
- 18 What we're talking about is as early as possible and
- 19 as soon as possible an identification of the actual
- 20 price paid. It's our feeling that's what makes a
- 21 market work.
- 22 MS. SAWYER: Do you believe in general -- do you
- 23 believe companies in general involved in ATU
- 24 transfers will want the price associated with their

1 transfer posted to the public access bulletin

- 2 Board?
- 3 MR. MARDER: I think the same answer. It's not
- 4 necessary to tie the identity to the price.
- 5 MS. SAWYER: The fourth question I believe
- 6 you've already answered, so we will not ask it.
- 7 The next four questions are referenced to
- 8 point three found at Pages 15 through 16. IERG
- 9 suggests a lower price for ATUs from the Alternative
- 10 Compliance Market Account or ACMA account.
- Is it your understanding that the ACMA is
- 12 intended to be a secondary source of ATUs.
- MR. MARDER: Yes, that is my understanding.
- MS. SAWYER: Wouldn't the trading aspect of the
- 15 proposed rule be more successful than active market
- 16 exists for ATUs?
- 17 MR. MARDER: Yes, it would be.
- 18 MS. SAWYER: If the price of ATUs in the ACMA
- 19 are comparable to the price for ATUs in the market,
- 20 isn't it possible that sources will turn to the ACMA
- 21 as a first resort to locate ATUs because it may be
- 22 considered a more convenient source of ATUs?
- 23 MR. MARDER: Well, I think anything is possible,
- 24 but it's doubtful. If the market is efficient, that

1 would mean that an ample supply of ATUs is available

- 2 and any difference in price just like in the
- 3 market -- the stock market, any difference in price
- 4 will draw buyers to the lowest possible cost option
- 5 buying those ATUs.
- If the market is not efficient, we will
- 7 need all avenues available and we should not be
- 8 penalized, in our opinion, for using an available
- 9 option.
- 10 MS. SAWYER: I think you essentially answered
- 11 the fourth question in your answer to question two,
- 12 so I won't ask that question also.
- 13 Well, that concludes our questions of the
- 14 IERG witnesses.
- 15 MS. ROSEN: Thank you.
- 16 MR. FEINEN: Are there any other questions of
- 17 the IERG witnesses from the audience? Any
- 18 questions?
- 19 MS. HENNESSEY: I have a question. Just
- 20 following up on Ms. Sawyer's last question, whether
- 21 buyers will turn to the ACMA market versus trying to
- 22 negotiate private transactions for purchase and sale
- 23 of ATUs will depend, I guess, on the extent of the
- 24 transaction cost in negotiating a private deal,

- 1 correct?
- 2 MR. MARDER: Generally, that's correct.
- 3 MS. HENNESSEY: And you think the 1.1 ratio
- 4 will -- I guess I'm wondering won't it be easier, in
- 5 fact, to buy things from the Agency rather than
- 6 having to negotiate a deal privately?
- 7 MR. MARDER: Well, one would hope not. I mean,
- 8 this is -- the entire premise of this is that it's a
- 9 market base system, and that there's going to be a
- 10 market, and there's going to be enough ATUs
- 11 available. It's -- when we discussed this with our
- 12 membership, our presumption is that most business
- 13 people who realize that they are going to need a
- 14 stream of ATUs are going to enter into a long-term
- 15 contract for those ATUs, and that's not what the
- 16 ACMA is for.
- 17 So Mr. Starkey may go to Mr. Elvert and
- 18 then go into -- come up with some kind of an
- 19 agreement to buy a long-term stream. What we're
- 20 talking about is, if you will, the spot market where
- 21 an order comes in. That is what this market is
- 22 for.
- 23 If the bulletin Board is effective, if
- 24 the -- if people know what's available, we're

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- 1 talking about 232 companies, I would think the
- 2 market would prevail. That's just our general
- 3 feeling. The issue becomes if the market is not
- 4 effective, how much of a penalty should we have to
- 5 pay for using an alternative?
- 6 MS. HENNESSEY: I suppose that the market price
- 7 should reflect any transaction cost that --
- 8 MR. MARDER: Uh-huh, yes.
- 9 MS. HENNESSEY: -- results in private
- 10 transactions?
- 11 And why does IERG not favor including price
- 12 of the long-term transactions in the database?
- MR. MARDER: I don't think they're that
- 14 relevant. In the case of a long-term transaction,
- 15 there are probably going to be other considerations
- 16 involved.
- 17 In some cases, it's going to be
- 18 intercompany transfers where Plant A in one area
- 19 will shut something down and give it or sell it to
- 20 another plant.
- 21 There are going to be so many factors and
- 22 so many different combinations and permutations that
- 23 we don't believe that the selling price is going to
- 24 be truly representative of what the next deal is

- 1 going to look like.
- Whereas, the spot market is truly an
- 3 instantaneous market, and in that case, you're going
- 4 to have more representative pricing.
- 5 MS. HENNESSEY: I have a question which is
- 6 really beyond the scope of your testimony, but if
- 7 you -- I'd invite you to comment on it.
- 8 We've had one comment from the American
- 9 Lung Association in their prefiled testimony which
- 10 they've raised the possibility that this program
- 11 doesn't adequately account for the possibility that
- 12 hot spots could develop.
- 13 For example, one source in an area may buy
- 14 up a lot of ATUs and be able to omit a lot VOMs in a
- 15 particular area that might present something
- 16 hazardous as far as an environmental factor. I
- 17 don't know if you've had a chance to think about the
- 18 issue, but if you have any comment, I'd like to hear
- 19 it.
- 20 MR. MARDER: Anything is possible. I don't
- 21 think people are going to buy up ATUs simply to
- 22 expand. If people are going to expand, they would
- 23 be expanding or attempting to expand with or without
- 24 the ERMS program.

- 1 Without the ERMS program, if one of our
- 2 members or anybody wants to expand in the Chicago
- 3 area, they can do that. They can do it today. All
- 4 they have to do is go through the New Source Review
- 5 provisions and meet that.
- 6 So the emission levels can go up simply by
- 7 buying at 1.3 to 1 offsets. This is an alternate
- 8 way to get to the same result. I don't think that
- 9 the existence or the lack of existence of the ERMS
- 10 program is going to drive decisions to expand
- 11 facilities.
- MS. HENNESSEY: Okay. That's it. Nothing else
- 13 from me.
- 14 MR. FEINEN: I've got a couple of questions. I
- 15 guess the first one is directed to Mr. Marder.
- You stated that 9.8 topic on proportionate,
- 17 I don't want to say liability, proportionate aspect
- 18 of 9.8 it's supposed to be met in a time frame, and
- 19 I was wondering if you had an idea of what that time
- 20 frame was?
- 21 MR. MARDER: I think our discussions were fairly
- 22 flexible on that. That goes to a little bit of what
- 23 I was saying before. Nobody really insisted that
- 24 every year or every three year increment all of the

1 sources would contribute proportionately, but rather

- 2 over the entire period from today until attainment
- 3 is reached, whenever that is, there would be some
- 4 degree of proportionality.
- 5 It doesn't mean that it has to be exactly
- 6 one to one, but it means that we should all, of the
- 7 regulated and the regulators, take a hard look at
- 8 what can be done and what time frames are feasible
- 9 and try to level it out over the broader time scale.
- 10 MR. FEINEN: And, Mr. Starkey, excuse me, I'm
- 11 still dealing with a cold. You were talking about
- 12 the difference between small capitalization and
- 13 large capitalization in defining the IERG membership
- 14 and talking about what is a large and small company,
- 15 that when you started talking about the
- 16 applicability of the rule and talking, between, like
- 17 a large person and a small person you started using
- 18 emissions and tonnage.
- 19 Does the tonnage of emissions always run
- 20 with the capitalization, or is there sometimes when
- 21 you have a large emitter with low capitalization?
- MR. STARKEY: Well, I think the best way to
- 23 describe that or to shed some light on it is that
- 24 you can have a company that has a large capital

1 investment with multiple plants across the country

- 2 and whereas they may be viewed as a leading
- 3 manufacturer in the country because of their size,
- 4 the individual installation that they may have in
- 5 Illinois could be quite small with very limited
- 6 emissions.
- 7 The converse of that is that you could have
- 8 a very small operation, a mom and pop operation if
- 9 you will, that could be engaged in an activity that
- 10 results in significant emissions.
- 11 What we're saying is the differentiation
- 12 between the large company and the small company
- 13 based upon the total assets of the facility looking
- 14 at their annual report is not necessarily an
- 15 indication of their emission rates.
- What we're saying is that in terms of this
- 17 program, you need to look at the individual source
- 18 that is subject to the emission requirements, take a
- 19 look at their emissions, and determine their
- 20 applicability, and what we're saying is that for
- 21 locations that have less than ten tons, we think
- 22 that it is not cost effective for those small
- 23 emission sources to be subject to the emission
- 24 control requirements.

- 1 MR. FEINEN: I have one last question for Mr.
- 2 Elvert to get all the panel. You talked about
- 3 Mobil's agreement with the ERMS program, and you've
- 4 used the 12 percent. I was wondering if Mobil would
- 5 still agree with an ERMS-type program if it was a
- 6 different starting point, let's say, a 14 percent
- 7 reduction off the top or a 16 point reduction.
- 8 Would Mobil still consider ERMS the best approach
- 9 versus the command and control method?
- 10 MR. ELVERT: Yes, we would, but we feel from a
- 11 12 percent we feel is with the nine percent ROP that
- 12 is required and relative being excessive, this gives
- 13 us -- gives a facility and a corporation an idea of
- 14 long-term findings rather than having excessive
- 15 amounts of reduction.
- 16 MR. MARDER: Can I comment on that?
- 17 MR. ELVERT: Sure.
- 18 MR. MARDER: Because it's an overall IERG policy
- 19 question. I think I'd agree with Bob that if it
- 20 were determined that additional reductions were
- 21 needed from the point source sector, we would
- 22 probably, all things being equal, opt for the ERMS
- 23 approach rather than another approach.
- 24 That's a separate question from whether we

- 1 believe that a higher threshold is appropriate, and
- 2 that's one of the reasons that when we work with the
- 3 Agency, they agree that revisiting the threshold
- 4 would be yet another full broad rulemaking.
- 5 MS. HENNESSEY: Just to follow up on that, one
- 6 of the reasons for that is that once you have a
- 7 given cap allowing the ERMS program allows an
- 8 individual source to either control emissions or
- 9 purchase ATUs and use whatever is the lowest cost
- 10 method, and the traditional control and command --
- 11 command and control regulation doesn't allow that?
- MR. MARDER: Well, the reason for requesting thr
- 13 full rulemaking to go from 12 percent to 12 plus, I
- 14 assume plus X rather than minus X, is really
- 15 twofold.
- Number one is to test the thesis against
- 17 the requirements of Section 9.8 of the Act to see if
- 18 proportionality is really there, and, quite frankly,
- 19 this is easy. I mean, if I'm in my friend
- 20 Mr. Mathur's chair and I have to make additional
- 21 reductions and I have to either go fight with the
- 22 automobile companies or fight with the coating
- 23 companies or simply say let's go to 20 percent, I'm
- 24 going to go to 20 percent.

- 1 So it's an easy -- it may be
- 2 a preferable way for us to comply, but it's also
- 3 awful easy to just simply up the number, and we
- 4 think there has to be a certain amount of
- 5 protection, and I think the Agency agreed, and
- 6 that's why there is a limit.
- 7 MR. FEINEN: If there's no other questions, I
- 8 want to take a 15 minute break.
- 9 MS. ROSEN: So is our panel complete?
- 10 MR. FEINEN: Yes.
- 11 MS. ROSEN: Thank you.
- MR. FEINEN: I'm going to dismiss the IERG
- 13 panel, and they can go home, disappear, stay around,
- 14 do what they want, but we're not going to call them
- 15 back so if you have any questions. Okay.
- 16 MS. ROSEN: Thank you.
- 17 MR. FEINEN: Thank you very much for waiting
- 18 this morning. I'm sorry about that.
- 19 (Break taken.)
- 20 MR. FEINEN: Back on record.
- I know the hearing officer order had listed
- 22 the ERMS Coalition to start next after IERG, but I'm
- 23 going to switch that around and leave ERMS for this
- 24 afternoon and have Mr. Cobb from Jefferson Smurfit

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- 1 testify.
- 2 He prefiled his testimony on April 4. With
- 3 that, I guess we'll have the witness sworn in.
- 4 MR. COBB: Could you swear both of us?
- 5 MR. FEINEN: Oh. Could you introduce
- 6 yourselves?
- 7 MR. COBB: Okay. I'm Roy Cobb, and this is Al
- 8 Chiaruttini who is environmental manager for our
- 9 folding carton division, and I was going to present
- 10 an abbreviated form of my testimony, and then Al
- 11 will be here to help me answer any questions that
- 12 the Board or others might have.
- MR. FEINEN: Okay. Well, let's swear both of
- 14 you in so when you answer, you're telling the truth
- 15 and all that.
- 16 (Witnesses sworn.)
- 17 WHEREUPON:
- 18 R O Y C. C O B B, JR.,
- 19 ALBERT W. CHIARUTTINI,
- 20 called as witnesses herein, having been first duly
- 21 sworn, deposeth and saith as follows:
- MR. COBB: My name is Roy Cobb. I'm the senior
- 23 environmental counsel for Jefferson Smurfit
- 24 Corporation. I work for the corporate environmental

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- 1 affairs department, and I assist our plants
- 2 throughout the country in complying with
- 3 environmental requirements.
- 4 Jefferson Smurfit is one of the largest
- 5 paperboard packaging companies in the United States
- 6 and the largest recycler of waste paper. We have
- 7 over 150 facilities scattered throughout the United
- 8 States. We have 17 facilities in Illinois with over
- 9 2400 employees. We have three facilities in the
- 10 Chicago area that will be participating sources
- 11 under the ERMS program.
- 12 These are a folding carton plant that is
- 13 located in Carol Stream, Illinois. Folding cartons
- 14 are the -- typically, the type of carton you would
- 15 see in a grocery store or other retail establishment
- 16 such as soap boxes, cereal boxes, containers such as
- 17 that.
- 18 We have a flexible packaging plant that's
- 19 located in Schaumburg. It produces flexible
- 20 packages of various material. One of the big things
- 21 that we're involved in a few years back was making
- 22 the MREs for operation Desert Storm. That's the
- 23 type of product that they produce, and then we have
- 24 a paper label plant in St. Charles, Illinois, that

1 produces paper labels for bottles and various

- 2 applications.
- 3 All of our plants produce to customer
- 4 order. We don't decide on a product and then
- 5 produce it and try to sell it. Basically, we have
- 6 to be able to compete for orders for specific
- 7 product and be able to produce it on a competitive
- 8 basis and within the time requirements of the
- 9 customer, especially with respect to our flexible
- 10 packaging plant and our folding carton plant.
- 11 There is a great variety in terms of the
- 12 complexity and sophistication of the products that
- 13 we produce. Generally speaking, and, you know, any
- 14 generalization is, you know, not universally true,
- 15 the more sophisticated the product, the higher the
- 16 value added, the higher the revenue from that
- 17 product and also because of the sophisticated
- 18 demands typically the higher amount of VOM that we
- 19 have to use in producing the product.
- There is some very simple boxes that don't
- 21 require any special coating and require very limited
- 22 printing that can be produced with little or no
- 23 VOM. On the more or less opposite extreme, if
- 24 you're looking at folded cartons, it would be a soap

- 1 box, which because it has to be able to meet
- 2 customer specifications and in-use requirements. In
- 3 particular, it has to have multiple barriers so that
- 4 water vapor doesn't penetrate the box even if it
- 5 spends a long period of time in a laundry room or
- 6 other environment where it's exposed to humid air
- 7 and heat also combined with the fact that typically
- 8 you want graphics that have, you know, fluorescent
- 9 colors and other such features and also have to have
- 10 certain -- meet certain requirements in terms of the
- 11 glossiness of the surface, whether it will slip if
- 12 it's stacked, other requirements.
- 13 Such cartons as that require a very high
- 14 amount of VOM to produce. So that's the amount of
- 15 VOM used and therefore emitted at our facilities
- 16 depends very much upon the product mix, which, in
- 17 turn, is customer driven. Our preference, simply
- 18 because of the nature of the marketplace, typically,
- 19 is to get the high-end range of business, which, in
- 20 turn, means more VOM used and emitted.
- Obviously, you know, we're competing with
- 22 other facilities, and we may or may not get as much
- 23 of that business as we would like. So based upon
- 24 business conditions, our VOM emissions will vary.

1 Because of the nature of our business, we

- 2 feel that it's very important that whatever
- 3 regulations are adopted provide the maximum
- 4 flexibility for businesses such as ours to
- 5 accommodate customer demand because we don't have
- 6 the flexibility, for example, of telling a customer
- 7 that we'll produce soap boxes for them October
- 8 through April, but, you know, May through September
- 9 they have to get them from someone else.
- 10 So we have to be able to respond with a
- 11 product the customer wants when the customer wants
- 12 it or else we're not going to get the orders, and so
- 13 we feel that if we have to forgo the high end of our
- 14 business for any portion of a year, this will have a
- 15 very definite effect on the viability of our
- 16 facilities in the Chicago area.
- 17 So in my testimony, I touched upon four
- 18 areas in the prefiled testimony of where I felt that
- 19 in order to protect a business such as ours from
- 20 undue injury and also to comply with the
- 21 requirements of Section 9.8 of the Illinois
- 22 Environmental Protection Act, that there needed to
- 23 be flexibility in four areas.
- 24 The first of these relates to the proposal

- 1 that the baseline would be determined by averaging
- 2 two years in the period 1994 to 1996. We believe
- 3 that the Board should provide the maximum
- 4 flexibility and choice of baseline and allow
- 5 facilities to choose years between 1990 and 1997,
- 6 that being the overall window that the Agency has
- 7 selected without a special showing that the years
- 8 1994 to 1996 were unrepresentative or that years
- 9 outside that three-year window were more
- 10 representative.
- 11 We think that would involve the Agency in
- 12 making basically business determinations relating to
- 13 what is representative for a particular business.
- 14 One of the things that was suggested was that if you
- 15 had had a high business demand in an earlier period
- 16 and you didn't have it now, you would have to make
- 17 some sort of demonstration that you expected the
- 18 demand to return. That's really a business decision
- 19 that we don't think is something that the
- 20 Environmental Protection Agency would be
- 21 particularly expert at, and that is, for example,
- 22 something that would affect, I think, our folding
- 23 carton plant, which due to business conditions in, I
- 24 think, '92, '93 were operating seven days a week.

1 Now, we're operating five days or slightly

- 2 less a week. That has a big impact on what the
- 3 emissions are, and we don't think any decision
- 4 should be made that, in effect, said well, now that
- 5 you're going to five days, there's going to be some
- 6 special hurdle that we to have overcome in order to
- 7 go back to a higher rate of production.
- 8 The second area that we felt there needed
- 9 to be flexibility and this -- it's -- I wouldn't say
- 10 that this is foreclosed in the current proposal is
- 11 that especially since in the years before just the
- 12 last few facilities by and large were not tracking
- 13 VOM emissions on a seasonal basis, that facilities
- 14 be allowed to demonstrate what their seasonal
- 15 emissions were by use of reasonable estimation
- 16 techniques so they would still have to demonstrate
- 17 what its emissions were during the ozone season, but
- 18 that there be at least some flexibility for that to
- 19 be done by measures other than actually having
- 20 directly measured the VOM emissions during the ozone
- 21 season.
- The third area and, as we read it, we think
- 23 the Agency's proposal does take this into account is
- 24 the provision excluding from the required 12 percent

- 1 reduction existing emission units that have best
- 2 available control technology, and it would be our
- 3 understanding that best available control technology
- 4 could include use of low VOM materials and not
- 5 necessarily add on control technology.
- 6 So that is an area that we think is
- 7 addressed in the IEPA proposal and we think that
- 8 that is an important feature of it.
- 9 The fourth provision is that full credit be
- 10 given for prior voluntary reductions. Here again,
- 11 the Agency has provided for this. I have merely
- 12 noted, and I'm not a student of Section 9.8 or its
- 13 history that the Act doesn't say anything about a
- 14 1990 cutoff in terms of allowing for voluntary
- 15 reductions, and that is in the Agency proposal, and
- 16 I understand the reason why it's there, and we're
- 17 not objecting to -- you know, our company is not
- 18 objecting to the 1999 cutoff. That was just an
- 19 issue that I raised.
- 20 Anyway, that was -- there's -- my prefiled
- 21 testimony then added some additional language
- 22 inscription about why we feel that this flexibility
- 23 is needed, but I think that would conclude my oral
- 24 testimony this morning.

1 MR. FEINEN: Before we move on, I have a couple

- 2 of questions. On your prefiled testimony, if you
- 3 could look at the copy that you're going to enter in
- 4 as an exhibit?
- 5 MR. COBB: Yes.
- 6 MR. FEINEN: You have bolded point one, which
- 7 reads the final ERMS rule adopted by the Board
- 8 should allow the maximum possible flexibility in
- 9 selection of baseline.
- 10 MR. COBB: Yes.
- 11 MR. FEINEN: And then a point two comes later
- 12 on, like, on page --
- 13 MR. COBB: Right.
- MR. FEINEN: Where is that at? Page 12 near the
- 15 end, and then I had a Page 13 at the end. Is that
- 16 all? There's no -- there's no point four -- three
- 17 or four to go along with the other things you've
- 18 mentioned this morning?
- 19 MR. COBB: No. As I had indicated when I talked
- 20 with you, I was -- you know, the time was limited,
- 21 and there were four points we made. I was saying
- 22 that I thought the Agency had addressed points three
- 23 and four, so I omitted that from the subsequent.
- MR. FEINEN: But you do mention that was on Page

- 1 4 of the prefiled testimony?
- 2 MR. COBB: Yes.
- 3 MR. FEINEN: Okay. I just wanted to make sure I
- 4 have it.
- 5 MR. COBB: No, no. You've got the complete --
- 6 MR. FEINEN: Why don't you hand me that, and
- 7 I'll mark it as Exhibit No. 62?
- 8 MR. COBB: Okay.
- 9 MR. FEINEN: I'm marking as Exhibit No. 62 the
- 10 prefiled testimony of Mr. Cobb from Jefferson
- 11 Smurfit, which is dated April 4.
- 12 If there is no objections, I'll enter that
- 13 into the record. Seeing none, I'll enter that as
- 14 Exhibit No. 62.
- 15 I'm going to open the floor up to
- 16 questioning. Is there any questions from the
- 17 participants?
- 18 (Hearing Exhibit No. 62
- 19 marked for identification,
- 20 4-21-97.)
- 21 MS. SAWYER: We have some -- the Illinois
- 22 Environmental Protection Agency has some prefiled
- 23 questions from Mr. Cobb's testimony. It's on Page
- 24 10 of our prefiled questions.

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1 MR. FEINEN: Okay. I'm sorry I missed that. I

- 2 just got a little -- we'll start with the Agency's
- 3 questions. Sorry about that.
- 4 MS. SAWYER: Question number one, does Jefferson
- 5 Smurfit Corporation currently incorporate the cost
- 6 of compliance with environmental requirements in the
- 7 price of its products?
- 8 MR. COBB: The answer to that is yes. We have
- 9 to incorporate all of our costs in how we price our
- 10 products.
- MS. SAWYER: Since the answer to number one is
- 12 yes, would Jefferson Smurfit be forced to increase
- 13 its price to cover the cost of complying with the
- 14 command and control rule as an alternative to the
- 15 proposed ERMS rule?
- MR. COBB: It would depend, as I said, whatever,
- 17 whether it's command and control or ERMS, we'll have
- 18 to incorporate whatever the cost of control is.
- 19 In order to determine the impact of command
- 20 and control versus ERMS, it would really be
- 21 necessary to know the specifics of the command and
- 22 control rule, and the one reason for that, and I
- 23 mean, it's something that it's possible under the
- 24 ERMS proposal, but it's unclear if you actually go

- 1 through the baseline setting process, is that if the
- 2 command and control rule were adopted, for example,
- 3 that established a level of control that while it
- 4 was significantly higher than what the current RACT
- 5 requires is something that you could meet with your
- 6 existing control equipment or with minor
- 7 modifications thereto you might not have any
- 8 additional costs.
- 9 So it would -- you'd really have to know
- 10 what the command and control rule was that you were
- 11 looking at.
- MS. SAWYER: Is it your understanding that under
- 13 the current proposed ERMS rule if your control level
- 14 is currently above what is required by rules that
- 15 you would receive credit for that in your baseline
- 16 calculation?
- 17 MR. COBB: It's -- there is a provision for
- 18 that. It's not clear to me how that will be
- 19 applied, and, in particular, like, for example,
- 20 packaging work reviewer such as we have at Carol
- 21 Stream, the current requirement is a 65 percent
- 22 overall reduction.
- It's not that clear to me that, let's say,
- 24 if you tested and you've shown 85 percent whether

1 you get full credit for that or whether the Agency

- 2 would, in fact, say that well, in order to meet 65,
- 3 you would need to have met some number better than
- 4 this anyway.
- 5 So I don't know as to exactly how that's
- 6 going to be applied in practice as to how much
- 7 credit you're going to get under ERMS for over
- 8 control.
- 9 MS. SAWYER: But there is a provision that
- 10 allows for that?
- 11 MR. COBB: Yes.
- MS. SAWYER: I just have one more follow up on
- 13 that. If there was a command and control rule in
- 14 place that required Jefferson Smurfit to reduce
- 15 emissions below current levels, is it likely that
- 16 the cost of compliance with that rule would be
- 17 included in the cost of -- the price of your
- 18 products?
- 19 MR. COBB: Like I said, any -- whatever the
- 20 nature of the rule, if there's a compliance cost,
- 21 that does have to be incorporated.
- 22 Could Mr. Chiaruttini add something?
- MR. CHIARUTTINI: I'd like to add something to
- 24 what Roy said. It would be included in our cost

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1 structure, meaning in how we start to estimate. It

- 2 does not necessarily mean that is recoverable.
- 3 We compete across the nation with other
- 4 printers that make boxes, and we may be, in fact,
- 5 competing with somebody in Georgia or Mississippi.
- 6 So that's what's going to drive the final price at
- 7 which we take the business, and in many times,
- 8 contracts are for multiple years. So while it is a
- 9 component of a fixed cost, it's not necessarily
- 10 recoverable.
- MS. SAWYER: Are you aware that the trading of
- 12 ATUs is not limited to the reconciliation period,
- 13 but can occur at any time during the year?
- MR. COBB: Yes.
- Did you have a follow-up to that?
- MS. SAWYER: Well...
- MR. COBB: I was assuming that that was directed
- 18 at -- I mean, to help you out, that that was
- 19 directed to where I was talking about the
- 20 uncertainty and about the problems that it presented
- 21 for business, and I still think it would be true
- 22 that -- I mean, obviously, if you know going into an
- 23 ozone season that you need more ATUs, well, you
- 24 know, you would try and act as soon as possible, but

- 1 once you're into the season and an order comes in,
- 2 you know, you could well -- there would be that
- 3 uncertainty as to whether you're actually going to
- 4 get through without needing more ATUs and so
- 5 effectively at least in some circumstances I think
- 6 you would be either late in the ozone season or into
- 7 the reconciliation period before you really knew
- 8 whether or not you needed ATUs, and that's assuming
- 9 that it's totally straightforward because we do have
- 10 facilities in the South Coast, and I know with one
- 11 of the ones there, we ran into problems where
- 12 actually we had released a large number of ATUs and
- 13 then the Agency decided that they didn't agree with
- 14 the way that we had determined what our, you know, X
- 15 emissions were and so then retroactively, in fact,
- 16 it was after the reconciliation period, we had a
- 17 very large deficit that we had to make up.
- 18 Could Mr. Chiaruttini follow up?
- 19 MR. CHIARUTTINI: I'd like to add a comment to
- 20 that. In the structure of how we run our business
- 21 and how our customers run their business and very
- 22 often the majority of our customers are
- 23 consumer-driven. Going into the ozone season, we
- 24 can't necessarily prepare, especially in the current

- 1 year, let alone future years.
- 2 If P & G or Leiber Brothers, for example,
- 3 decides to make a more concentrated powdered soap,
- 4 they'll reduce the size of the container or they'll
- 5 go the other way, which may lead to more printing,
- 6 which results in more emissions for us.
- 7 So in addition to that, contracts come and
- 8 go and we cannot plan for them because we don't know
- 9 what the customer's business is going to be, and in
- 10 the case where they're going to reduce the boxes,
- 11 that's a double-edge sword in that they will fill
- 12 their existing pipelines so that they can shift
- 13 their machinery to the new sizes and so that there's
- 14 no loss in them providing market to the marketplace,
- 15 and in that, our emissions would go up simply
- 16 because we'll fill their pipeline then go to
- 17 practically zero, and in that setting and in that
- 18 case, we would run seven to eight continuous, and
- 19 then we'd go back maybe even to three or four days a
- 20 week.
- 21 MS. SAWYER: Mr. Kanerva from the Agency has a
- 22 follow-up question.
- MR. KANERVA: Mr. Cobb or either one of you for
- 24 that matter, you mentioned the South Coast program

- 1 and the situation you ran into there. There's an
- 2 important difference about how the ERMS system is
- 3 set up in that it allows banking or carrying over
- 4 unused ATUs from one season to another.
- 5 Isn't that provision something you could
- 6 use to help manage this variability in your
- 7 production level?
- 8 MR. COBB: Assuming that, you know, the -- your
- 9 level of emissions compared to your baseline was
- 10 such that you have a surplus of ATUs, yes, you could
- 11 stockpile them, and I think one of the uncertainties
- 12 that exist, you know, hopefully if this program is
- 13 adopted, you know, five years from now buying ATUs
- 14 will be such a normal thing that some of the
- 15 concerns wouldn't exist.
- 16 It, in part, ties in with Mr. Marder's
- 17 testimony. In other words, if you've got a good
- 18 efficient market, there are a lot of ATUs out there,
- 19 it could be that some of these problems, you know,
- 20 will go away or won't exist, but if that's not the
- 21 case, then, you know, there will be all these
- 22 uncertainties, but yes, that's sort of going beyond
- 23 your thing that insofar as you have a surplus of
- 24 ATUs, you can at least, you know, apply them toward

- 1 the following year.
- 2 MR. KANERVA: One more follow-up on that. Roger
- 3 Kanerva again. Again, getting back to this point of
- 4 certainty, this system allows you to achieve a
- 5 reasonable or workable level of certainty by the way
- 6 you manage those emissions from year to year, and,
- 7 perhaps, make sure you do have bank emissions to
- 8 fall back on; is that correct?
- 9 MR. COBB: I don't -- I guess I wouldn't think
- 10 that you get certainty from that. Obviously, your
- 11 goal will be to try and make sure that, you know --
- 12 well, obviously, you've got to, you know, always
- 13 have enough ATUs to cover your emissions, but in
- 14 some -- assuming that, for example, a command and
- 15 control way were reasonable in nature, you've got a
- 16 set of parameters that you have to meet.
- 17 If you meet those, whatever it is, like,
- 18 let's say, there's a certain percent reduction
- 19 required, then you know you're in compliance. You
- 20 don't also have to worry then about, you know, can
- 21 we accept another order of detergent cartons or will
- 22 that, you know, put us over our ATUs.
- 23 So while I think you're always going to
- 24 strive to have the ATUs you need, I don't know that

- 1 it would be more certain than some other method.
- 2 MS. SAWYER: Let me ask the final prefiled
- 3 question. Then we might have one more follow-up or
- 4 so.
- 5 Is it your belief that the market system
- 6 proposed in the ERMS rule would depress the Chicago
- 7 area economy to a greater or lesser extent than a
- 8 command and control rule intended to achieve the
- 9 same level of reduction in VOM emissions?
- 10 MR. COBB: And I'm not an economist, so this
- 11 would just be, you know, my own common sense view of
- 12 things. I don't know that you can necessarily
- 13 answer that in the abstract without knowing, you
- 14 know, what command and control regulations might be
- 15 required to achieve a similar reduction, and also
- 16 there would be some assumptions, I think, that would
- 17 come into play as to how good a market there's going
- 18 to be in ATUs. So I don't know.
- 19 Could Mr. Chiaruttini give his opinion?
- 20 MS. SAWYER: Sure.
- 21 MR. CHIARUTTINI: I can give you my opinion.
- 22 Again, it's a little difficult to answer in the
- 23 abstract, but from the comments I made earlier and
- 24 approaching it more from a business point of view

1 than from the regulatory or legal point of view, my

- 2 views are absolutely it's going to impact in a
- 3 negative way in the Chicago area.
- 4 From a businessman's standpoint and that is
- 5 to how we manufacture and the customers we serve, if
- 6 we're to expand here, the uncertainty of the rules
- 7 and what we have to do and what we have to pay in
- 8 order to run a customer's business would in all
- 9 likelihood lead us to go elsewhere.
- 10 If we are to build a new facility in this
- 11 area, it would be my view that we would not do
- 12 that. With the ERMS type of rule where we would
- 13 have to go out and either seek long-term ATUs or get
- 14 them on a year-by-year basis because of the -- just
- 15 in the nature we run our business.
- 16 If we're producing widgets, that's a little
- 17 bit of a different story, but those are my views
- 18 from a business standpoint, absolutely negative
- 19 impact.
- 20 MS. SAWYER: And it's your position then that
- 21 the negative impact would be greater than requiring
- 22 Jefferson Smurfit to comply with a command and
- 23 control type rule even if that rule, perhaps, had a
- 24 higher cost of control associated with it totally?

1 MR. CHIARUTTINI: I can speak for today with the

- 2 command and control. I can't speak for what our
- 3 business levels -- how much I'll have to pay for
- 4 tomorrow, and there lies the problem for us, for
- 5 what we do.
- 6 MR. KANERVA: Roger Kanerva. You heard the
- 7 earlier testimony by the person from Mobil that this
- 8 rule and this system gave them certainty and, in
- 9 fact, there was some discussion in that testimony
- 10 about entering into long-term arrangements with
- 11 people, and you just mentioned it yourself.
- 12 What is it about your business that would
- 13 cause Jefferson Smurfit to want to not pursue a
- 14 long-term arrangement and to leave themselves
- 15 vulnerable year to year?
- MR. CHIARUTTINI: Why would we pursue a
- 17 long-term arrangement when we would probably have to
- 18 pay for that long-term arrangement because the other
- 19 side is offering things for sale, and there is no
- 20 incentive for us we may not need them in terms of
- 21 ATUs?
- MR. COBB: I guess there's a double uncertainty
- 23 here and that is that until the baseline is known
- 24 and there are a number of things provided in the

- 1 rule that, you know, will possibly ameliorate the
- 2 things we're raising and that's the -- you know, how
- 3 the credit VACT will be determined, the credit
- 4 you're given for voluntary over compliance in the
- 5 past.
- It might well be that, you know, once we've
- 7 worked out a baseline for our facilities that you
- 8 all have given us enough credits for those things
- 9 that at least at the 12 percent level they won't be
- 10 a problem.
- I mean, I don't think we know at this point
- 12 that that's possible. So I really think there's a
- 13 very large uncertainty until the baseline has been
- 14 determined for a facility use as to how much of a
- 15 problem a 12 percent reduction from something that
- 16 you've already demonstrated within the recent past
- 17 that you've done how much of a hardship that might
- 18 impose.
- 19 MS. SAWYER: I just have a question for
- 20 clarification of your point two on Page 12 of your
- 21 prefiled testimony.
- 22 MR. COBB: Oh, okay. Yes.
- 23 MS. SAWYER: Point two reads the final ERMS rule
- 24 adopted by the Board should allow the maximum

- 1 possible flexibility for a facility to quantify its
- 2 seasonal VOM emissions for its selected baseline
- 3 years by appropriate estimation techniques, and then
- 4 it says actual seasonal emissions date should not be
- 5 required.
- 6 On the next page, 13, there's a phrase that
- 7 reads the final rule should allow the use of
- 8 reasonable estimation techniques to determine VOM
- 9 emissions.
- 10 Are you referring to baseline emissions in
- 11 both instances?
- 12 MR. COBB: Yes.
- MS. SAWYER: Are you aware that the rule does
- 14 not specify the techniques that a facility can use
- 15 to establish its baseline emissions to allow for
- 16 such flexibility?
- 17 MR. COBB: Yes, and there was -- I guess to me
- 18 there was concern relating to, I think, it says
- 19 accurate, you know, seasonal data or something like
- 20 that about whether that didn't imply some sort of
- 21 measurement, you know, contemporaneous with the
- 22 season, and I didn't have, you know, something
- 23 specific in mind in terms of a suggestion, just that
- 24 there should be flexibility to allow the Agency and

- 1 the source to agree on what the seasonal emissions
- 2 were for a year without having actual, you know,
- 3 measured data during the months in question.
- 4 MS. SAWYER: Thank you.
- 5 MR. FEINEN: Any other questions from the
- 6 audience? Any questions from the Board?
- 7 MS. HENNESSEY: Just one question. Your first
- 8 point was that years -- any year between 1990 and
- 9 1997, any two years within that time period, should
- 10 be available to be used as the baseline determination?
- 11 MR. COBB: We're saying from the standpoint of
- 12 business flexibility, that's definitely what we
- 13 would prefer, yes, ma'am.
- MS. HENNESSEY: Have you discussed that with the
- 15 Agency?
- 16 MR. COBB: It's -- let's say I think that that
- 17 has come up when the Agency had meetings with, like,
- 18 the Chicago Chamber, and I, you know, am aware of,
- 19 you know, their position. We haven't had direct
- 20 face-to-face negotiations as a company.
- MS. HENNESSEY: Thank you.
- MR. FEINEN: I just have a couple of requests.
- 23 Mr. Cobb, can you just give us a little bit of your
- 24 professional background and then, Mr. Chiaruttini,

- 1 if you could --
- 2 MR. COBB: Oh, okay.
- 3 MR. FEINEN: -- give us a little bit of your
- 4 professional background so we just have a basis on
- 5 what your opinion is based?
- 6 MR. COBB: Okay. I graduated from New York
- 7 University Law School in 1968. I have been involved
- 8 with issues relating to environmental matters
- 9 actually going back to 1969.
- 10 (Enter Mr. Edwin Hurley)
- 11 MR. COBB: I was with Republic Steel Corporation
- 12 1977 to '80. I've been with Container Corporation
- 13 of America and now Jefferson Smurfit Corporation
- 14 since 1980. I've been involved assisting all of our
- 15 facilities in complying with environmental
- 16 regulations both at Republic and at CCA JSC.
- 17 Is there more?
- MR. FEINEN: Whatever you feel is appropriate.
- 19 I mean -- okay.
- 20 What position are you currently with with
- 21 Jefferson Smurfit?
- 22 MR. COBB: My title is Senior Environmental
- 23 Counsel.
- 24 MR. FEINEN: Thank you.

1 MR. CHIARUTTINI: I've been with the company for

- 2 26 years, and currently I'm the environmental
- 3 manager for the folding carton division, which is 18
- 4 facilities across ten states, and I either do or
- 5 assist -- or assist outside contractors and
- 6 attorneys that we retain in order to do all the
- 7 various aspects of compliance and permit submission
- 8 and all the negotiations that goes along with that.
- 9 I'm a graduate of DePaul University here in
- 10 Chicago, although I'm currently headquartered in
- 11 Pennsylvania, and in the course of my career, I've
- 12 held various positions mostly in the line management
- 13 control and in production on the floor.
- 14 MR. FEINEN: Thank you. I see that Mr. Hurley
- 15 has joined us here. Sorry about switching the
- 16 testimony. Do you have any testimony you want to
- 17 provide today?
- 18 MR. HURLEY: No.
- 19 MR. FEINEN: You're just --
- MR. HURLEY: No.
- 21 MR. FEINEN: Okay. I have one question then for
- 22 whoever, Mr. Cobb or Chiaruttini. You talked about
- 23 how in considering this flexibility your concern
- 24 that possibly the Agency doesn't have the expertise

- 1 to make the determination of what is representative
- 2 of your emissions, and I'm kind of putting the Board
- 3 up for ridicule, but if that determination was
- 4 appealable to the Board, would you feel any more
- 5 comfortable with the way that the system is set up?
- 6 MR. COBB: Well, I really haven't contemplated
- 7 the appeal process. I do think that there is a
- 8 problem. In other words, there's a clear case, you
- 9 know, that when Chris Romaine was giving his
- 10 testimony and that is, you know, your plant blows up
- 11 or something and so you have a year where you're
- 12 rebuilding it, well, there's no question that that's
- 13 unrepresentative and the Agency would throw that
- 14 year out.
- But when you get into questions of, you
- 16 know, whether business conditions are representative
- 17 and what that means, I'm not sure that that's
- 18 something that either the Agency or the Board is
- 19 really equipped to handle, and that it would be
- 20 really better to, you know, word the regulation so
- 21 that wasn't the issue that had to be decided by
- 22 either the Agency or the Board.
- 23 MR. FEINEN: You wouldn't happen to have any
- 24 ideas how -- what you would consider representative

1 of one business versus another business? That might

- 2 be varied, wouldn't it?
- 3 MR. COBB: Right, I think so.
- 4 MR. FEINEN: So what you might think is
- 5 representative for the year might not be in someone
- 6 else's mind?
- 7 MR. COBB: Right, and that's part of the concern
- 8 is that we would basically have to try and persuade
- 9 Chris and the Agency that our view of what was
- 10 representative was one that they should adopt.
- 11 MR. FEINEN: Thank you. I don't have any
- 12 further questions. I think then we'll break for
- 13 lunch for an hour and excuse the witnesses. I don't
- 14 think we'll call you back the rest of the time, so
- 15 you're free to stay or go. Let's break for lunch
- 16 for an hour.
- 17 (Whereupon, further proceedings
- 18 were adjourned pursuant to the
- 19 lunch break and reconvened
- at 1:00 o'clock as follows.)
- 21 MR. FEINEN: Back on the record.
- 22 Before we start this afternoon with the
- 23 ERMS Coalition's prefiled testimony and testimony
- 24 from the witnesses, there was a motion that was

1 filed by ERMS. I guess I'll leave it to you guys to

- 2 explain what your...
- 3 MR. SAINES: Well, we filed prefiled testimony.
- 4 In response, the Agency has filed prefiled
- 5 questions, a group of which have been repeated for
- 6 each individual Coalition member the same questions
- 7 that are contained originally as questions one
- 8 through six with respect to Allied Tube & Conduit's
- 9 questions, the questions that pertain to ozone
- 10 transport, and we have an agreed motion to respond
- 11 to those questions in writing once on behalf of the
- 12 ERMS Coalition, which we've submitted to the Board
- 13 this morning.
- MR. FEINEN: You said agreed motion?
- 15 MR. SAINES: Correct.
- MR. FEINEN: The Agency agreed to the written
- 17 answers?
- MS. SAWYER: Well, we agreed that they -- we
- 19 wouldn't object to them filing written answers, but
- 20 we still think it's appropriate to ask questions to
- 21 individual Coalition members that have presented
- 22 testimony on a particular subject.
- MR. FEINEN: Right, but does that mean you're
- 24 going to ask the questions you prefiled that

- 1 reappear for each testifier?
- 2 MS. SAWYER: I don't think we intend to testify
- 3 necessarily and ask each prefiled or all of the
- 4 questions, but as they testify to this matter, we,
- 5 you know, may need to ask some questions to each of
- 6 them.
- 7 I mean, the reason we filed the questions
- 8 to each of them we filed to each member of the
- 9 Coalition that presented that testimony.
- 10 MR. FEINEN: Right, and the answers supplied in
- 11 the written are not satisfactory or are
- 12 satisfactory, or do you feel that if I grant this
- 13 motion, you're still going to ask the same questions
- 14 to each witness, and if I deny the motion, are you
- 15 going to ask the questions? I just want to know
- 16 what the Agency is going to do based on this.
- 17 MS. SAWYER: Yeah. In some instances, we find
- 18 that the answers are not responsive.
- 19 MR. SAINES: Well, on behalf of the coalition, I
- 20 would say that we have done this process by allowing
- 21 the Agency to file written responses to certain
- 22 questions we've asked, and if they feel the need to
- 23 ask follow-up questions because they don't feel the
- 24 answers have adequately -- the questions have been

1 adequately addressed, I believe the process allows

- 2 for people to ask follow-up questions.
- 3 MR. FEINEN: I guess I'm confronted with the
- 4 issue of I grant the motion, but I don't think I'm
- 5 granting anything because they're going to ask
- 6 questions in follow-up anyway.
- 7 So why don't we just deny the motion and
- 8 when they ask this question, you can read them the
- 9 answer, and if they want more, then we'll go that
- 10 route.
- 11 Hopefully, the Agency cannot ask the same
- 12 question over and over and over and they can pare it
- 13 down a little bit and save ourselves some time.
- 14 I'll hang onto this.
- So with that, why don't we begin with your
- 16 presentation testimony?
- 17 MR. SAINES: Okay. I'm Richard Saines, an
- 18 attorney for Gardner, Carton & Douglas, representing
- 19 the ERMS Coalition along with my co-counsel, Tracey
- 20 Mihelic.
- 21 Today, we're going to be presenting
- 22 testimony first from James Skalon of Allied Tube &
- 23 Conduit Corporation and then from Ralph Fasano from
- 24 White Cap Incorporated. I believe is there a

- 1 statement --
- 2 MS. MIHELIC: We would just like to make a
- 3 statement for the record that the ERMS Coalition
- 4 members, several have met with the Agency on several
- 5 occasions. Several of the members have met with
- 6 them to discuss the implementation of these rules
- 7 and calculating the baselines.
- 8 They have reached some agreements as to the
- 9 methodologies of calculations, have reached no
- 10 agreements -- I want to clarify for the record,
- 11 have -- we've reached no agreements as to the
- 12 specific baseline emission calculation or any of the
- 13 numbers presented in any of the testimonies, and
- 14 we're going to begin today with the presentation of
- 15 James Skalon's summary of his prefiled testimony,
- 16 and once we complete it, we'll be entering as an
- 17 exhibit his actual prefiled testimony.
- MR. FEINEN: Why don't we swear in both the
- 19 witnesses? Who is the other witness today?
- 20 MS. MIHELIC: Ralph Fasano from White Cap
- 21 Incorporated.
- MR. FEINEN: Why don't we swear both the
- 23 witnesses in, and we'll start with Mr. Skalon then?

1 (Witnesses sworn.)

- 2 WHEREUPON:
- JAMES C. SKALON,
- 4 RALPH L. FASANO,
- 5 called as witnesses herein, having been first duly
- 6 sworn, deposeth and saith as follows:
- 7 MR. SKALON: Good afternoon, everyone. My name
- 8 is James C. Skalon. I'm the environmental engineer
- 9 for Allied Tube & Conduit Corporation, and we're
- 10 located in Harvey, Illinois.
- 11 Allied Tube manufacturers galvanized steel,
- 12 tube, and conduit for use of electrical
- 13 installations, fencing, liquid transport systems,
- 14 and sprinkler systems. Allied Tube installed a new
- 15 mill in 1994, which emits less than 25 tons per year
- 16 of VOM, and we are now in the process of installing
- 17 an additional mill this year.
- The new mill will emit more than 25 tons
- 19 per year of VOM emissions. With the installation of
- 20 the new mill, Allied Tube triggered the application
- 21 of Illinois' New Source Review rules. Consequently,
- 22 in its construction permit, the Agency required
- 23 Allied Tube to demonstrate that it had offset the
- 24 emissions from the new mill at a ratio of 1.3 to 1.

- 1 Allied Tube had sufficient reductions in
- 2 emissions in the last five years to offset the new
- 3 emissions at a ratio of 1.3 to 1. Nonetheless,
- 4 Allied Tube opposed offsetting these emissions at a
- 5 ratio of 1.3 to 1 because under the Clean Air Act
- 6 amendments of 1990, Allied Tube could have netted
- 7 out of NSR applicability.
- 8 Pursuant to the statutory language, Allied
- 9 would not have had to offset emissions from the new
- 10 mill at a ratio of 1.3 to 1. It is Allied's
- 11 understanding that it was not the Agency's intention
- 12 to enact more stringent New Source Review
- 13 regulations than the Clean Air Act rules, but to
- 14 reflect the Clean Air Act requirements.
- 15 Along with White Cap, it is my
- 16 understanding that the Agency will be proposing
- 17 changes to Illinois regulations to be consistent
- 18 with the Clean Air Act netting requirements. Based
- 19 upon this understanding, Allied will be able to net
- 20 out of New Source Review, not be required to offset
- 21 emissions at a ratio of 1.3 to 1, and will be able
- 22 to incorporate the reductions not used in the
- 23 netting exercise in its ERMS baseline.
- In agreement with other Coalition members

- 1 presenting testimony tomorrow, I believe that if
- 2 these rules are adopted, both the Agency and the
- 3 Board are electing the easy way out of a difficult
- 4 dilemma.
- 5 Placing a disproportionate share of the
- 6 burden on industry, which has already been
- 7 significantly regulated to reduce emissions rather
- 8 than direct its attention to other potential sources
- 9 of emissions, the Agency is relying upon the United
- 10 States Environmental Protection Agency to implement
- 11 restrictions on other sources, which, as we have all
- 12 experienced, could take several years.
- In the meantime, the Agency is continuing
- 14 to extract reductions from the same sources which
- 15 have already reduced emissions beyond their
- 16 proportionate share.
- 17 Allied thanks the Board for the opportunity
- 18 to testify at this hearing and requests that the
- 19 Board consider the issues raised by the Coalition
- 20 before adopting these rules.
- 21 MR. FEINEN: Thank you, Mr. Skalon. Okay.
- 22 We'll have testimony from Mr. Fasano, and then we'll
- 23 open it up for questions from the Agency if that's
- 24 okay.

- 1 MS. SAWYER: Okay.
- 2 MR. FEINEN: No, no. We'll have the testimony.
- 3 Then we'll do questions.
- 4 MS. SAWYER: Oh, okay.
- 5 MR. FASANO: My name is Ralph Fasano. I am the
- 6 manager of environmental affairs for White Cap
- 7 Incorporated. White Cap manufactures metal closures
- 8 or caps for food and beverages packed in glass such
- 9 as baby food, pickles, and fruit drinks.
- 10 White Cap has been operating in Chicago for
- 11 71 years. White Cap currently operates ten coating
- 12 lines, two of which are new and have permanent total
- 13 enclosures. In 1994, White Cap voluntarily embarked
- 14 upon a program to upgrade and replace all of our
- 15 existing lines with permanently totally enclosed
- 16 lines as well as upgrade or replace our current
- 17 oxidizers.
- 18 This program has and will continue to
- 19 dramatically decrease VOM emissions in the Chicago
- 20 area. When this program is complete, we anticipate
- 21 it will reduce emissions from its facility -- from
- 22 our facility by over 300 tons per year.
- 23 White Cap has met with the Agency for
- 24 several years regarding maintaining credit for

1 emission reductions resulting from this replacement

- 2 program. During these meetings, the Agency
- 3 consistently represented that White Cap would not
- 4 lose any credits for voluntarily reducing emissions
- 5 before 1996 or before the adoption of the ERMS
- 6 rules.
- 7 Based upon the Agency's assurances, we have
- 8 already replaced four lines with two permanently
- 9 totally enclosed lines, and replaced four catalytic
- 10 oxidizers with one ABB regenerative thermal
- 11 oxidizer.
- 12 The regenerative thermal oxidizer achieves
- 13 a destruction efficiency between 98 percent and 99
- 14 percent. We will be replacing at least two more
- 15 lines with one new permanently totally enclosed line
- 16 this year.
- By the end of 1998, we intend to replace
- 18 the remaining six old coating lines with new
- 19 permanently totally enclosed lines.
- 20 White Cap has three primary concerns with
- 21 this rule; one, limiting representative years to
- 22 1994 through '96; two, how the Agency will calculate
- 23 White Cap's baseline; and three, the impact of the
- 24 Illinois New Source Review rules on the ERMS

- 1 baselines.
- 2 First, White Cap agrees with other
- 3 testimony being presented that the years upon which
- 4 the source's baseline is calculated should not be
- 5 limited to 1994 through 1996. As discussed and
- 6 agreed by the Agency, 1995 and '96 are not
- 7 representative of typical production throughput and
- 8 VOM emissions from White Cap during the ozone
- 9 season.
- 10 In 1995, White Cap encountered a union
- 11 lockout, which resulted in our having to send
- 12 production outside to other sources. In 1996, we
- 13 experienced the effects of the replacement program,
- 14 the removal of four lines and the installing of two
- 15 new lines.
- 16 Although White Cap believes we should be
- 17 allowed to use any year from 1990 forward, based
- 18 upon the current language of the proposed rules, the
- 19 Agency has agreed that White Cap may substitute
- 20 emissions during 1993 for the proposed -- for the
- 21 purpose of calculating our baseline.
- Our second concern is how the Agency will
- 23 calculate our baseline. During 1993 and 1994, White
- 24 Cap operated 12 litho process production lines

1 controlled by seven catalytic oxidizers. Emissions

- 2 from these lines is a product of the amount of VOM
- 3 in each of the coatings and the overall control
- 4 efficiency of the oxidizers.
- 5 Overall control efficiency is a product of
- 6 destruction efficiency of the control unit or
- 7 oxidizer and the capture efficiency of the line.
- 8 The destruction efficiencies of the oxidizers are
- 9 known values since we conducted destruction
- 10 efficiency testing on all of the oxidizers in
- 11 January of 1992 and again in 1994 on two oxidizers
- 12 that we modernized, C and A units.
- 13 The capture efficiency of these lines,
- 14 however, is unknown. The U.S EPA, the Agency, and
- 15 the Board have agreed in past actions that it was
- 16 not feasible for White Cap to demonstrate compliance
- 17 using the capture efficiency test methods previously
- 18 set forth in Illinois' rules.
- 19 The U.S EPA subsequently approved
- 20 alternative capture efficiency test methods which
- 21 the Agency also has accepted. White Cap has agreed
- 22 to conduct the testing pursuant to the alternative
- 23 methods on any of the old lines we have not removed
- 24 in 1998.

1 We expect that no testing will be conducted

- 2 because we will have removed any remaining lines.
- 3 As a result, no established capture efficiency
- 4 exists for White Cap's operations and, therefore, we
- 5 are unable to calculate actual emissions for 1993
- 6 and 1994.
- 7 White Cap and the Agency have agreed that
- 8 White Cap's actual emissions are unknown, yet have
- 9 not been able to reach agreement on how to calculate
- 10 these emissions. We have proposed that the Agency
- 11 allow White Cap to use allowable emissions. The
- 12 Agency has agreed that this is a reasonable
- 13 approach, but has not agreed that we may use this
- 14 method to calculate our emissions.
- 15 A second approach may be to use the
- 16 Agency's own capture estimates for White Cap. In
- 17 either case, we are very close to the same number of
- 18 emissions. White Cap was the first company to ask
- 19 for a baseline meeting. I have presented the data
- 20 in many ways.
- 21 This process has taken and continues to
- 22 take a long time. We have spent an incredible
- 23 amount of time and money simply trying to calculate
- 24 our baseline. It should not be such a chore. If

- 1 the Agency does this with all other companies,
- 2 baseline determination will take forever.
- 3 The baseline should expect -- I'm sorry.
- 4 The Board should expect it to take forever because
- 5 companies don't realize how the Agency is actually
- 6 going to apply these rules until the companies
- 7 submit their proposed baselines and meet with the
- 8 Agency.
- 9 The key to the implementation of this rule
- 10 is the determination of a fair baseline for all
- 11 companies. I do not believe the Board, the Agency,
- 12 or sources can know how these rules will actually
- 13 affect Chicago business until these baseline
- 14 determinations have been made, which, in my opinion,
- 15 should have been made before this rule was proposed
- 16 to the Board.
- To calculate White Cap's emissions, we must
- 18 determine the required control efficiency for each
- 19 line. Since White Cap is complying with section
- 20 218.207(b)(2) of the Illinois pollution -- air
- 21 pollution regulations, the overall control
- 22 efficiency or required control efficiency must be
- 23 sufficient to control emissions to the amount which
- 24 would be admitted if we were -- if we applied

1 compliant coatings. This is commonly referred to as

- 2 the equivalency rule.
- 3 The Agency has agreed that White Cap may
- 4 take the annual usages of all of the coatings
- 5 supplied on each line, and in keeping -- and keeping
- 6 in mind the 1996 RACT emission limitations,
- 7 calculate the weighted average required control
- 8 efficiency of each line, and, in turn, the required
- 9 capture efficiency for each line to achieve
- 10 compliance with Section 218's regulation.
- 11 White Cap has determined the weighted
- 12 average required control efficiency for each line in
- 13 1993 and 1994 based upon the annual amounts of all
- 14 coatings applied on each line. Using these required
- 15 control efficiencies, allowable ozone season
- 16 emissions in 1993 and 1994 were 169.3 tons and 154.9
- 17 tons for an average emissions of 162.1 tons.
- 18 The third concern of ours is the potential
- 19 impact of the New Source Review rules on White Cap
- 20 ERMS baseline. As set forth in our testimony, our
- 21 concern arises from the difference in the New Source
- 22 Review rules and the Clean Air Act amendments of
- 23 1990. Specifically, unlike the statutory language
- 24 Illinois' New Source Review rules do not currently

1 allow a source in a severe nonattainment area to net

- 2 out of New Source Review if emissions from the new
- 3 source will exceed 25 tons per year even if the
- 4 source has greater reduction in emissions at the
- 5 same time.
- 6 Rather, Illinois rules require White Cap to
- 7 limit emissions from all of the new lines to 25 tons
- 8 per year or offset the emissions from the new lines
- 9 to a ratio of 1.3 to 1. Although White Cap would be
- 10 able to demonstrate an offset of 1.3 to 1, it would
- 11 lose all of these emission reduction credits in its
- 12 ERMS baseline.
- 13 In essence, by simply modernizing and
- 14 voluntarily significantly reducing actual VOM
- 15 emissions, White Cap would lose a significant amount
- 16 of ATUs. Whereas, if we continue to operate the old
- 17 lines and emit several hundred more tons of VOM each
- 18 year, it would be able to retain those emissions in
- 19 its baseline.
- 20 To avoid an inequitable application of the
- 21 New Source Review rules and the ERMS rules to
- 22 sources who are actually reducing emissions, the
- 23 Agency has informed White Cap that it intends to
- 24 modify Illinois' New Source Review rules to reflect

- 1 the federal statutory language on a fast-track
- 2 rulemaking basis this spring or summer.
- 3 With this change, White Cap will be able to
- 4 net out of New Source Review and will not be
- 5 required to offset emissions at a ratio of 1.3 to
- 6 1. White Cap recognizes that even with this change,
- 7 the New Source Review rules -- in the New Source
- 8 Review rules, White Cap will not be able to include
- 9 the emissions used in the netting exercise in its
- 10 ERMS baseline.
- 11 White Cap will, however, receive ATUs for
- 12 emissions from the new lines as pending projects.
- 13 White Cap has set forth in its prefiled testimony an
- 14 example of how it will calculate its emission
- 15 credits versus baseline considering the ongoing
- 16 changes to the lines and its permit limits.
- 17 Until White Cap has obtained actual permit
- 18 limitations for the upcoming changes, it cannot
- 19 provide an actual ERMS emissions credit
- 20 calculation. The Agency has agreed that the
- 21 methodology set forth in this example is correct,
- 22 although the numbers are only hypothetical.
- White Cap greatly appreciates the Agency's
- 24 cooperation in discussing the impact of these rules

- 1 on our operation. White Cap would also like to
- 2 thank the Board for the opportunity to present this
- 3 testimony today.
- 4 White Cap advocates the Agency's and the
- 5 Board's effort to obtain cleaner air in Chicago.
- 6 White Cap has anticipated the need to reduce VOM
- 7 emissions many years ago and has proactively taken
- 8 steps to do so.
- 9 Let the record show that White Cap is doing
- 10 just that, reducing VOM emissions well beyond what
- 11 will be required and doing it earlier than
- 12 required. Let me reiterate that White Cap's primary
- 13 concern with this rulemaking is that White Cap not
- 14 lose ATUs simply because it implemented a VOM
- 15 reduction program before the Agency drafted these
- 16 rules, and that the Agency implement the rules
- 17 fairly and consistent with its representations made
- 18 throughout this proceeding. Thank you.
- 19 MR. SAINES: At this time, we'd like to --
- 20 Mr. Skalon, could you take a look at that and
- 21 identify that that's your prefiled testimony?
- 22 MR. SKALON: Yes, it is.
- 23 MR. SAINES: Is that a fair and accurate copy of
- 24 your prefiled testimony?

- 1 MR. SKALON: Yes, it is.
- 2 MR. SAINES: Okay. At this time, we'd like to
- 3 move the prefiled testimony of James C. Skalon for
- 4 Allied Tube & Conduit Corporation to the record as
- 5 an exhibit. I believe it's 63.
- 6 MR. FEINEN: I'm marking as Exhibit No. 63 the
- 7 prefiled testimony of Mr. Skalon from Allied Tube &
- 8 Conduit Corporation.
- 9 I'd just like to ask one question. Is this
- 10 the same as the prefiled testimony in your submittal
- 11 of April 4th?
- 12 MR. SAINES: Yes, it is.
- MR. FEINEN: Having marked that, if there's no
- 14 objections, I'll enter it into the record. Seeing
- 15 none, then I'll enter that into the record as
- 16 Exhibit No. 64 (sic), and that was the prefiled
- 17 testimony of James C. Skalon for Allied Tube &
- 18 Conduit Corporation.
- 19 (Hearing Exhibit No. 63
- 20 marked for identification,
- 21 4-21-97.)
- MR. SAINES: At this time, Mr. Fasano, would you
- 23 please look at this document and identify it? Do
- 24 you recognize that document as your prefiled

- 1 testimony?
- 2 MR. FASANO: Correct, that's what it is.
- 3 MR. SAINES: Is it a fair and accurate --
- 4 MR. FASANO: Yes.
- 5 MR. SAINES: -- version of your prefiled
- 6 testimony?
- 7 MR. FASANO: Yes.
- 8 MR. SAINES: Thank you. At this time, we'd like
- 9 to move that we enter the prefiled testimony for
- 10 Ralph Fasano for White Cap Incorporated for the
- 11 record.
- MR. FEINEN: Again, is this the copy of the
- 13 testimony that's part of the April 4th, 1997,
- 14 filing?
- 15 MR. SAINES: Yes.
- MR. FEINEN: I'll mark this as Exhibit No. 64.
- 17 That is the prefiled testimony of Ralph Fasano from
- 18 White Cap. If there's no objections to entering it
- 19 into the record, I'll enter it into the record.
- 20 (Hearing Exhibit No. 64
- 21 marked for identification,
- 22 4-21-97.)
- MS. SAWYER: Yeah. I have an objection. I
- 24 object to this testimony to the extent that it

- 1 attempts to establish baseline emissions in this
- 2 proceeding. The Illinois EPA thinks that this is
- 3 the inappropriate proceeding for individual sources
- 4 to establish baseline emissions.
- 5 MR. FEINEN: Let me get this straight. You're
- 6 objecting because by his testifying what he thinks
- 7 should be the baseline emissions and how it should
- 8 be done is inappropriately setting out how we're
- 9 going to do baseline emissions?
- 10 MS. SAWYER: Yes.
- 11 MR. FEINEN: I'll overrule the objection.
- MS. SAWYER: Well, I would like that objection
- 13 noted.
- 14 MR. FEINEN: It's duly noted in the record that
- 15 the Agency is objecting to my entering into the
- 16 record the Exhibit No. 64, which is the prefiled
- 17 testimony of Ralph Fasano.
- 18 We'll open the floor up to the prefiled
- 19 questions of the Agency for these witnesses.
- 20 MS. SAWYER: Bonnie Sawyer, Illinois EPA. Good
- 21 afternoon, Mr. Skalon. Please explain your
- 22 statement on Page 4 of your testimony that the
- 23 Illinois EPA acknowledges that the level of ozone
- 24 entering in the Chicago area is at levels which

1 exceed the ozone standard including when and where

- 2 you believe such acknowledgment was made by the
- 3 Illinois EPA?
- 4 MR. SKALON: It is my understanding that the
- 5 underlying premise of the Ozone Transport Assessment
- 6 Group study is that the Chicago and other
- 7 nonattainment areas in the northeast will not be
- 8 able to meet the ozone standards due to the levels
- 9 of VOM and nitrogen oxide transported into these
- 10 areas.
- 11 It is my understanding that throughout
- 12 various OTAG meetings in these proceedings, Illinois
- 13 EPA has acknowledged that regardless of the amount
- 14 of VOM reductions in the Chicago area without VOM
- 15 reductions outside of this area, Chicago will be
- 16 unable to meet the ozone national ambient air
- 17 quality standards.
- 18 MS. SAWYER: So just for clarification, your
- 19 statement that the Illinois EPA acknowledges that
- 20 the level of ozone entering the Chicago area is at
- 21 levels which exceeds the ozone standard is not
- 22 entirely accurate?
- 23 MS. MIHELIC: I'm just trying to clarify exactly
- 24 what you're reading from. Could you reiterate your

1 question just to make sure I read the right part?

- 2 MS. SAWYER: Right. As I understand your
- 3 answer, then you're acknowledging that your
- 4 statement that the Illinois EPA acknowledges that
- 5 the level of ozone entering the Chicago area is at
- 6 levels which exceed the ozone standard isn't
- 7 accurate?
- 8 MS. MIHELIC: Objection as to misstating what he
- 9 stated in his answer when you asked the question.
- 10 MS. SAWYER: In his answer, he said that
- 11 regardless of the amount of VOM reductions in the
- 12 Chicago area, without VOM reductions outside of this
- 13 area, Chicago will be unable to meet the national
- 14 ambient air quality standard for ozone.
- 15 That is not -- that doesn't really answer
- 16 the question of whether the level of ozone entering
- 17 the Chicago area is at levels which exceed the ozone
- 18 standard.
- 19 MR. SKALON: It is my understanding that it does
- 20 exceed.
- 21 MS. SAWYER: That the level of ozone entering
- 22 the Chicago area exceeds the national ambient air
- 23 quality standard for ozone?
- MR. SKALON: That's my understanding, yes.

1 MS. SAWYER: And what is the basis of that

- 2 understanding?
- 3 MR. SKALON: Through counseling with the
- 4 Coalition, I guess, and through my attorneys.
- 5 MS. SAWYER: Okay. Are you familiar with
- 6 Exhibit 2 of the Illinois EPA in this proceeding?
- 7 MR. SKALON: Yes. I have seen Exhibit 2, but I
- 8 would not agree that I'm familiar with the document.
- 9 MS. SAWYER: Do you have the document in front
- 10 of you?
- 11 MR. SKALON: No, I'm sorry, I don't.
- 12 (Document tendered.)
- MS. SAWYER: This exhibit indicates ozone
- 14 concentration measured at the southern boundary of
- 15 the Chicago nonattainment area.
- MS. MIHELIC: I object just to the statement as
- 17 to what this exhibit shows. It just states that
- 18 it's ozone concentrations measured at southern --
- 19 MS. SAWYER: Okay.
- 20 MS. MIHELIC: -- boundaries. This does not
- 21 indicate anything else other than that.
- MR. FEINEN: Please speak up.
- MS. MIHELIC: That this does not reference
- 24 exactly what this is. It's just a document. It's a

- 1 page with numbers on it.
- 2 MS. SAWYER: Okay. This figure is ozone
- 3 concentrations measured at southern LMOS boundary,
- 4 and LMOS stands for Lake Michigan Ozone Study.
- 5 What is the highest numerical value shown
- 6 on this exhibit?
- 7 MS. MIHELIC: Objection. The exhibit speaks for
- 8 itself.
- 9 MS. SAWYER: Okay. I can rephrase the
- 10 question. The highest numerical value on this
- 11 exhibit is 110 parts per billion. Are you aware
- 12 that the ozone national ambient air quality standard
- 13 is set at 120 parts per billion?
- MS. MIHELIC: Objection as to that's a legal
- 15 question as to what the national ambient air quality
- 16 standard is, and, again, it's interpreting -- it
- 17 says 110, but it does not say parts per billion
- 18 anywhere on this document. It's an interpretation
- 19 of the document.
- MR. FEINEN: Your response?
- 21 MS. SAWYER: Well, I don't think that the fact
- 22 that doesn't say that on the document makes it
- 23 inappropriate to ask the question on that. I asked
- 24 him if they were aware that the highest number

1 indicated was 110 parts per billion and that the

- 2 ozone standard is at 120.
- 3 MS. MIHELIC: Same objection.
- 4 MR. FEINEN: How about I rephrase the question
- 5 for you? You testified that you don't -- you
- 6 believe that the ozone coming from outside of the
- 7 nonattainment area to be violating the max, and this
- 8 exhibit shows concentrations of ozone levels coming
- 9 from the southern boundary, if those numbers
- 10 represent parts per million, the standard --
- 11 billion, excuse me, the standard being 110, I
- 12 believe? Am I correct?
- 13 MS. SAWYER: 120.
- MR. FEINEN: 120, and those being 110. What
- 15 does that even show?
- MR. SKALON: It shows that it's below the 120 if
- 17 this is, again, parts per billion.
- 18 MS. SAWYER: Okay. Do you have any evidence
- 19 that indicates that the level of ozone entering the
- 20 Chicago area is at levels which meet or exceed the
- 21 national ambient air quality standard for ozone?
- MR. SKALON: No.
- 23 MS. SAWYER: Question number two, please explain
- 24 your statement that the Illinois EPA admits that if

1 no emissions were to occur in the Chicago area, this

- 2 area could still be in violation of -- I'd like to
- 3 modify the question. It's written a little
- 4 unclearly. -- (continuing) in violation of the
- 5 ozone standard including where and when you believe
- 6 the Illinois EPA made any such admission?
- 7 MR. SKALON: Okay. It is my understanding that
- 8 the underlying premise of the Ozone Transport
- 9 Assessment Group study is that the Chicago and other
- 10 nonattainment areas in the northeast will not be
- 11 able to meet the ozone standards due to the levels
- 12 of VOM and nitrogen oxide transported into these
- 13 areas.
- 14 It is also my understanding that throughout
- 15 various OTAG meetings in these proceedings, Illinois
- 16 EPA has acknowledged that regardless of the amount
- 17 of VOM reductions in the Chicago area, without VOM
- 18 reductions outside of this area, Chicago will be
- 19 unable to meet the ozone national ambient air
- 20 quality standards.
- 21 MS. SAWYER: Is it your understanding that the
- 22 Chicago ozone nonattainment area would still be in
- 23 violation of the ozone standard if no emission
- 24 reductions were to occur in the Chicago area?

- 1 MR. SKALON: I don't know.
- 2 MS. SAWYER: Okay. I guess I don't have to ask
- 3 number three because you've already indicated that
- 4 you're familiar the Ozone Transport Assessment
- 5 Group.
- 6 Number four, are you aware that the Ozone
- 7 Transport Assessment Group, OTAG, involves 37 states
- 8 in the eastern portion of the U.S. and is intended
- 9 to address transported ozone pollution and ozone
- 10 precursors?
- 11 MR. SKALON: Yes.
- MS. SAWYER: Are you aware that the Illinois EPA
- 13 is participating in the OTAG process and, in fact,
- 14 Illinois EPA has been in a leadership -- has been a
- 15 leader in this process designed to address
- 16 transported ozone pollution and precursors?
- 17 MR. SKALON: I am aware that Illinois is one of
- 18 the 37 states that is a member of OTAG. I am not
- 19 aware whether Illinois has been a leader in the
- 20 process.
- 21 MS. SAWYER: Are you aware that the Illinois EPA
- 22 assumed reductions in boundary conditions; that is,
- 23 transported ozone in making its determination in
- 24 support of the proposed ERMS rule that more VOM

1 emission reductions are needed within the Chicago

- 2 ozone nonattainment area?
- 3 MR. SKALON: I acknowledge that the Agency has
- 4 testified that it has assumed reductions in boundary
- 5 conditions, but do not know the basis of the
- 6 Agency's assumptions nor what the resulting impact
- 7 of these assumed reductions will be on the level of
- 8 ozone in Chicago.
- 9 MR. MATHUR: Bharat Mathur, Illinois EPA. I
- 10 have a couple of follow-up questions.
- 11 Mr. Skalon, you said you're familiar with
- 12 the Ozone Transport Assessment Group?
- 13 MR. SKALON: Yes.
- MR. MATHUR: Would you tell us what your goals
- 15 are?
- 16 MR. SKALON: I'm sorry?
- 17 MR. MATHUR: Would you tell us what the goal of
- 18 this Ozone Transport Assessment Group is?
- 19 MR. SKALON: I don't remember. I'm sorry.
- 20 MR. MATHUR: Do you know where the Ozone
- 21 Transport Assessment Group meets?
- MR. SKALON: No, I'm sorry.
- 23 MR. SAINES: Objection. What's the relevance of
- 24 where the Ozone Transportation Assessment Group

1 meets and what date it meets and, you know, what

- 2 they have?
- 3 MR. MATHUR: I'm trying to find out how familiar
- 4 he is with the Ozone Transport Assessment Group
- 5 because he has testified extensively in the written
- 6 testimony about what that group is all about and
- 7 what the Agency said relative to that group.
- 8 MR. SKALON: As a member of the Coalition, I
- 9 rely on our attorneys to communicate the information
- 10 to us.
- 11 MR. MATHUR: So it's fair to say you have no
- 12 independent understanding or knowledge of the Ozone
- 13 Transport Assessment Group?
- 14 MR. SKALON: Yes.
- 15 MR. MATHUR: Thank you.
- MS. SAWYER: Okay. That concludes, I guess, our
- 17 questions for Mr. Skalon.
- 18 MR. FEINEN: Why don't you proceed with your
- 19 questions for Mr. Fasano?
- 20 MS. SAWYER: Okay. Good afternoon, Mr. Fasano.
- 21 This is Page 9 of our prefiled questions.
- 22 Does White Cap anticipate that it will be
- 23 able to demonstrate that it should receive voluntary
- 24 over compliance adjustment as part of its baseline

- 1 determination?
- 2 MR. FASANO: This is White Cap's primary concern
- 3 with this rulemaking. It depends on how the Agency
- 4 calculates White Cap's baseline emissions, and
- 5 despite our efforts to resolve this matter, that is
- 6 unknown at this time.
- 7 MS. SAWYER: Please explain your position that
- 8 the rules in Part 203 make it irrelevant whether the
- 9 sources decreased emissions beyond the increase
- 10 occurring from the new unit when aggregate emissions
- 11 from all new or modified units in the previous five
- 12 years exceeds 25 tons per year?
- 13 MR. FASANO: Our position is the only way to
- 14 completely avoid New Source Review is that all new
- 15 lines have to -- all new lines have less than 25
- 16 tons total VOM emissions. Otherwise, I will have to
- 17 net out or offset depending on emissions from
- 18 individual units.
- 19 MS. SAWYER: So essentially it is relevant
- 20 whether the source has decreased emissions for
- 21 purposes of netting out of New Source Review; isn't
- 22 that correct?
- MR. FASANO: For purposes of netting out, it's
- 24 relevant.

- 1 MS. SAWYER: Please explain your position that
- 2 to avoid New Source Review all of the new lines at
- 3 White Cap is -- that White Cap is installing must
- 4 have less than 25 tons of emissions when
- 5 aggregated?
- 6 MR. FASANO: Well, it's the same answer I stated
- 7 before. To avoid New Source Review applicability,
- 8 all new units must have less than 25 tons emissions
- 9 to avoid New Source Review.
- 10 MS. SAWYER: Isn't it true for purposes of
- 11 netting you would aggregate all new lines to
- 12 determine if there has been a net increase?
- MR. FASANO: Yeah, for netting purposes, true.
- MS. SAWYER: Please explain your position that
- 15 the de minimus rule in the Clean Air Act constitutes
- 16 a definition of the term did de minimus increase?
- 17 MR. FASANO: It is my position that if I install
- 18 a line with 25 tons or more of VOM emissions, but
- 19 take out a line with greater emissions, that New
- 20 Source review would not apply under the Clean Air
- 21 Act, and I would not need to offset emissions from
- 22 this new line.
- MS. SAWYER: Is that position based on defining
- 24 de minimus based on the de minimus rule?

- 1 MS. MIHELIC: Objection as to that's a legal
- 2 question. I believe it's an interpretation of the
- 3 Clean Air Act.
- 4 MR. FEINEN: Could you repeat the question for
- 5 me if you're going to continue?
- 6 MS. SAWYER: Okay. I asked if your position is
- 7 based on defining de minimus increase as based on
- 8 the de minimus rule?
- 9 MS. MIHELIC: It's a legal interpretation.
- 10 MS. SAWYER: The question is related to
- 11 something that he directly testified on.
- MR. FEINEN: Could you rephrase the question and
- 13 just ask him what he's basing his testimony on, if
- 14 it's based on that?
- 15 Can you answer the question?
- 16 MR. FASANO: I'm not really sure if I can, you
- 17 know. I mean, the de minimus rule from the U.S EPA
- 18 Clean Air Act amendments, the way I understand that,
- 19 and that's what we're talking about here, that the
- 20 Illinois doesn't have the same language in the New
- 21 Source Review in their New Source Review. That's
- 22 basically what we're saying.
- MR. FEINEN: Thank you.
- MR. FASANO: And the Agency has agreed that it

- 1 is different. We talked about that before.
- 2 MS. SAWYER: As to question five, I believe you
- 3 clarified that in your testimony, you referred to it
- 4 as statutory language rather than rules, federal New
- 5 Source Review rules. Thank you for clarifying that
- 6 point, and I'll withdraw question six.
- 7 MR. FEINEN: Are there any other questions?
- 8 Hold on a second.
- 9 MS. SAWYER: We might have just a couple
- 10 follow-up questions.
- 11 MR. FEINEN: Okay. Well, let's see if there's
- 12 any -- are there any other questions for any of the
- 13 witnesses?
- 14 MS. HENNESSEY: I just have one or two quick
- 15 questions. Mr. Skalon, you state that these
- 16 regulations will place a disproportionate share of
- 17 the burden on the industry which has already been
- 18 significantly regulated to reduce emissions --
- 19 MR. SKALON: I'm sorry. I'm sorry, I couldn't
- 20 hear you.
- 21 MS. HENNESSEY: I'm just reading from your
- 22 conclusion. I'm sorry. I wanted to know if you
- 23 could clarify or explain the basis for your
- 24 statement a little more fully, the statement that

1 these regulations place a disproportionate share of

- 2 the burden on the industry?
- 3 MR. SKALON: And you're -- you would like?
- 4 MS. HENNESSEY: I just -- I guess why do you
- 5 think it places a disproportionate share of the
- 6 burden on the industry?
- 7 MS. MIHELIC: Just to clarify, on this -- on
- 8 stationary sources other than, I think, to clarify
- 9 industry stationary sources --
- 10 MS. HENNESSEY: Yes.
- 11 MS. MIHELIC: -- as compared to other area
- 12 sources or other mobile sources?
- MR. SKALON: I feel the Agency has been going to
- 14 the stationary sources. They have asked us to show
- 15 reductions in emissions over the years, and they
- 16 continue to come to us for those reductions,
- 17 stationary sources.
- MS. HENNESSEY: Do you have an opinion as to
- 19 what the appropriate proportionate share of
- 20 stationary sources should be?
- 21 MR. SKALON: Do I have an opinion on that?
- MS. HENNESSEY: Yes.
- MR. SKALON: No.
- MS. HENNESSEY: Thank you.

1 MS. SAWYER: I have a couple of additional

- 2 questions for Mr. Fasano.
- 3 Mr. Fasano, you stated that the Illinois
- 4 EPA agreed that White Cap's actual emissions are
- 5 unknown. When did the Illinois EPA make that
- 6 agreement?
- 7 MR. FASANO: Well, I think in our meetings that
- 8 we've been having in trying to determine baseline
- 9 that based on our situation of not being able to
- 10 have a good handle on the capture efficiency of all
- 11 the lines that you have agreed or the Agency has
- 12 agreed that we can't definitively say in 1993 and
- 13 1994 what our true actual emissions were, and I
- 14 thought that was agreed between White Cap and the
- 15 Agency.
- MS. SAWYER: Mr. Fasano, isn't it true that it
- 17 was the capture efficiency at White Cap's facilities
- 18 for certain lines that we had some disagreement as
- 19 to whether -- what is the appropriate method to
- 20 determine that?
- 21 MR. FASANO: Correct.
- MS. SAWYER: Also in your testimony, you stated
- 23 that the Illinois EPA agreed to -- agreed that
- 24 allowable emissions were a reasonable way to

1 calculate baseline. When did the Agency make that

- 2 agreement?
- 3 MR. FASANO: I don't think I said it exactly
- 4 like that with that exact language. We have
- 5 proposed to the Agency to allow White Cap to use
- 6 allowable emissions. The Agency has agreed that
- 7 this is a reasonable approach, but has not agreed
- 8 that we may use this method to calculate emissions.
- 9 So you agreed that this is a reasonable approach,
- 10 but you haven't agreed that we can use it or not
- 11 yet.
- MS. SAWYER: You stated that the Agency agreed
- 13 to that; is that correct?
- 14 MR. FASANO: I believe you did.
- MS. SAWYER: Yeah. Was that agreement just
- 16 essentially my statement that I thought it seemed
- 17 reasonable, or was it an agreement from the Agency.
- 18 MR. SAINES: Objection. Is there a distinction
- 19 between that? Aren't you representing the Agency?
- 20 MS. SAWYER: In fact, I believe, Mr. Fasano,
- 21 didn't I state that while I thought it sounded
- 22 reasonable, I couldn't give you a final, sort of,
- 23 agreement on that?
- MR. FEINEN: You know, we're getting, like,

- 1 outside the scope of this hearing. We're getting
- 2 into, like, what happened at special meetings that
- 3 are going on during the course of this, and I think
- 4 you can raise that you might not agree with him that
- 5 you had some kind of agreement, and I don't know if
- 6 we should follow down this path any further.
- 7 I think it's obvious that there's been
- 8 statements made between the Agency and White Cap and
- 9 they might not all be in agreement, and let's just
- 10 leave it at that. I don't think we're going to get
- 11 one person saying one thing or another.
- 12 MS. SAWYER: That's fine.
- MR. FASANO: So you don't want me to answer
- 14 that?
- MR. FEINEN: You don't have to. If you want to
- 16 answer it, you can, but you don't have to.
- MS. SAWYER: That's fine. Do you have some
- 18 questions?
- 19 MR. MATHUR: Yeah. I have one follow-up
- 20 question.
- 21 MS. MIHELIC: To Ralph or Jamie?
- MR. MATHUR: To Mr. Fasano.
- 23 You testified today that you believe that
- 24 in your discussions with the Agency you discussed

1 and agreed to the methodology, but that the numbers

- 2 haven't been agreed to. Is that true?
- 3 MR. FASANO: That was -- I think what you're
- 4 referring to might be when we said in the full
- 5 testimony that's been submitted the example of how
- 6 we calculate the emission -- the ATU credits,
- 7 emission credits, as they change and go through
- 8 because of our modernization program because we're
- 9 right in the middle of it, and we're going to
- 10 continue pulling old lines and putting new lines in.
- 11 That methodology of that example that's
- 12 presented that's where those numbers are, you know,
- 13 repeat -- you know, maybe I'm -- I think that's what
- 14 you're talking about, but maybe not.
- 15 MR. MATHUR: I'm referring to your verbal
- 16 testimony a few minutes ago.
- 17 MR. FASANO: Okay.
- 18 MR. MATHUR: You said that there is agreement in
- 19 methodology between you and the Agency, but not
- 20 necessarily in the final numbers. That's what I
- 21 think you testified.
- 22 MR. FASANO: That was -- that, I think --
- 23 without going back, I think that was related to
- 24 referring back to the original the full testimony

- 1 and talking about the example on the methodology
- 2 that calculates the changes in emission credits.
- 3 MR. MATHUR: Mr. Fasano, my question is, is it
- 4 not your testimony that you feel that there is
- 5 agreement with the Agency on the methodology?
- 6 MR. FASANO: Not for calculating baseline, not
- 7 yet. I mean, we're -- there's two things -- you're
- 8 mixing two things up, I believe. The methodology of
- 9 calculating baseline is one thing, and we're close
- 10 to an agreement, but we don't have an agreement
- 11 because of capture efficiency and that affects a
- 12 couple of things.
- 13 The methodology that we agreed on that is
- 14 definitely an agreement is related to an example on
- 15 how to calculate the ATU credits, emission credits,
- 16 against baseline throughout the change of taking
- 17 lines out and putting lines in, and that was an
- 18 example we submitted because it's so confusing that
- 19 you have to have -- I wanted to put an example on
- 20 the record because no one in this room would
- 21 remember six months from now how to even calculate
- 22 the changes as we go through this modernization
- 23 program because it's very complex.
- So we had an example placed on the record.

- 1 That methodology of using that example to show when
- 2 we take this out and put this in what effect does it
- 3 have on our baseline, on ATU emission credits, all
- 4 that kind of -- that methodology we did agree on in
- 5 a meeting with the Illinois EPA.
- 6 As far as a final agreement on methodology,
- 7 it depends if you can tell me your definition of
- 8 methodology, then maybe I can be a little more
- 9 precise because I think you're looking for was there
- 10 an agreement on methodology on baseline calculation.
- I think we're real close. We've got the
- 12 broad scope, you know, pretty much narrowed down,
- 13 but there's a few points in there that we haven't
- 14 agreed on yet, and I think we're real close in
- 15 coming to an agreement. You know, hopefully, we
- 16 will soon.
- 17 MR. MATHUR: This methodology that you spoke of
- 18 to your firm or mine, was that based on the version
- 19 of the rule that is before the Board?
- MR. FASANO: Yeah.
- 21 MR. MATHUR: Thank you.
- MR. FEINEN: Any other questions of these
- 23 witnesses?
- MS. HENNESSEY: Let me just ask one

- 1 clarification question. It's kind of a broad
- 2 question. I understand that you have an objection
- 3 to the requirement that stationary sources reduce
- 4 emissions by 12 percent, but assuming that that was
- 5 a given, do you have an objection to the use of a
- 6 trading scheme to achieve that reduction as opposed
- 7 to a command and control regulation?
- 8 MS. MIHELIC: The ERMS Coalition as a whole or
- 9 the individual members?
- 10 MS. HENNESSEY: Of these witnesses.
- MS. MIHELIC: Could you read that question
- 12 back?
- 13 (Record read.)
- 14 MR. SKALON: That would depend on what the
- 15 command and control would be. I'm not all that
- 16 familiar with it, but, again, unless that's defined,
- 17 I really don't know if I can answer that.
- MS. HENNESSEY: Mr. Fasano?
- 19 MR. FASANO: Yeah. In White Cap's case, command
- 20 and control or a trading program is fine. I think a
- 21 trading program I don't have a problem with. It's
- 22 just that we have the proper starting point that the
- 23 baselines are established and everybody is in
- 24 agreement. So if you're starting off where

- 1 everything is fine in the beginning, you have an
- 2 established baseline that's understandable and
- 3 agreed upon, then the trading program is fine too.
- 4 MS. HENNESSEY: Thank you.
- 5 MR. FEINEN: I think we're going to take a 15
- 6 minute break. Mr. Burke, Mr. Ron Burke, from the
- 7 American Lung Association was here earlier. I think
- 8 he went to get some lunch and said he'd be back in
- 9 about a half an hour.
- 10 So let's take a break for about 15
- 11 minutes. When he comes back, we'll proceed with his
- 12 testimony because I don't think ERMS has any other
- 13 witnesses to present.
- MS. MIHELIC: We'll have all of them tomorrow.
- MR. FEINEN: And we'll conclude today with
- 16 Mr. Burke's testimony.
- 17 MS. MIHELIC: And I would like to notify the
- 18 Board that John Sutton from Wrico Packaging is
- 19 unavailable to testify tomorrow. So we are
- 20 withdrawing his prefiled testimony and submitting it
- 21 as a public comment.
- MR. FEINEN: Thank you. Let's take 15.
- 23 (Break taken.)
- MR. FEINEN: Let's go back on the record. We're

1 going to conclude today's hearings with testimony

- 2 from Mr. Burke from the American Lung Association.
- 3 Tomorrow we'll start up at -- let's go off the
- 4 record.
- 5 (Discussion had
- off the record.)
- 7 MR. FEINEN: Back on the record. So tomorrow
- 8 we'll start at 9:00 o'clock in the morning, if the
- 9 court reporter can make it I guess.
- 10 THE REPORTER: I'm sure that's fine.
- 11 MR. FEINEN: Thank you.
- So we'll start at 9:00 o'clock tomorrow
- 13 with the ERMS Coalition's remaining witnesses, and
- 14 we'll proceed that day depending on who shows up in
- 15 the audience and wants to testify.
- 16 With that, I believe we're going to turn it
- 17 over to Mr. Burke for his testimony today. Do you
- 18 want to swear the witness?
- 19 (Witness sworn.)
- 20 WHEREUPON:
- 21 RON BURKE,
- 22 called as a witness herein, having been first duly
- 23 sworn, deposeth and saith as follows:
- MR. BURKE: Good afternoon. I'm glad to be here

1 today. My name is Ron Burke. I'm director of

- 2 environmental health of the American Lung
- 3 Association of Metropolitan Chicago. We have been
- 4 working with -- at least discussing this proposal
- 5 with the Agency for, I think, well over a year now
- 6 and had a number of opportunities to run some of our
- 7 concerns by them, and what I'm going to summarize
- 8 today are those concerns that we're left with after
- 9 what I would consider to be lengthy negotiations.
- 10 Before I begin though, I want to mention a
- 11 couple of things. One, I'm going to be summarizing
- 12 the prefiled testimony I submitted. In some cases,
- 13 I'll be reading it. In other cases, I'll be
- 14 skipping things. So as I understand it, I'll need
- 15 to submit the actual testimony as an attachment; is
- 16 that right?
- 17 MR. FEINEN: An exhibit.
- 18 MR. BURKE: An exhibit once I'm done. Secondly,
- 19 I just want to say that the Lung Association thinks
- 20 as a whole this is a really good program and an
- 21 excellent step in the right direction towards
- 22 cleaner air. It's a creative way for us to make
- 23 continued progress, clean the air, and help all the
- 24 residents of northeastern Illinois breathe a bit

1 easier, but especially the nearly 800,000 who suffer

- 2 some type of lung disease.
- 3 We're confident that along with other
- 4 programs that the Agency is currently implementing
- 5 and planning to implement, we can reach attainment
- 6 with the current ozone standard and think we can go
- 7 beyond that as well, but I won't get into that now.
- 8 So I'll start with some of the comments
- 9 again that we have remaining, if you will, after our
- 10 discussions with the Agency and try to really focus
- 11 on our major concerns. Again, we think it's a good
- 12 proposal at this point that can be made better with
- 13 some of the recommendations I'm going to cover right
- 14 now.
- 15 Our first concern focuses on monitoring and
- 16 quantification of emissions, and, therefore, the
- 17 generation of the ATUs. We're concerned that the
- 18 rule fails to account for certain inaccuracies that
- 19 inevitably will be encountered when we estimate
- 20 emissions -- we in the industry estimate emissions
- 21 and report them. This potentially creates an
- 22 opportunity for sources to claim false ATUs or to be
- 23 given ATUs in excess of what really should have been
- 24 allotted.

- 1 Our recommendation is that the rule
- 2 discount credits to account for inaccuracies with
- 3 the value of the discount varying in accordance with
- 4 the confidence in the estimate, and this is designed
- 5 to make sure that we're not allotting more ATUs than
- 6 we really should and, therefore, allowing for more
- 7 air pollution than should be emitted under the
- 8 program.
- 9 We think this approach is necessary and it
- 10 also creates an incentive for sources to apply more
- 11 accurate quantification protocols that have other
- 12 benefits as well, and I know that the Agency's
- 13 proposal and testimony given by Mr. Romaine from the
- 14 Agency spells out the ways in which emissions will
- 15 be estimated and how the agencies will be allotted,
- 16 and we think on the whole those are good procedures,
- 17 but still leave some room for certainty that should
- 18 be factored into the allotment of ATUs.
- 19 Our second major concern has to do with
- 20 potential, although unlikely, recognized potential
- 21 increases in air toxins, specifically air toxins
- 22 that are also VOMs. Because the proposed rule does
- 23 not distinguish between toxic and nontoxic VOM
- 24 emissions, a source could purchase credits generated

1 by nontoxic VOM emissions reductions and use those

- 2 to increase toxic VOM emissions, and we recognize
- 3 that this is unlikely and it certainly would be an
- 4 unintended consequence of the proposal, and also I
- 5 understand that any increase in toxic VOM emissions
- 6 would be limited overall by the proposal's cap on
- 7 total VOMs from emissions units.
- 8 Nonetheless, it still is conceivable that
- 9 this unintended consequence could occur, especially
- 10 given that MACT, the federal MACT provisions, are
- 11 not applicable yet for a number of sources in the
- 12 metropolitan area the Agency has referred to in the
- 13 past.
- In fact, that MACT will still be in place
- 15 and is in no way prohibited or usurped, if you will,
- 16 by this rule, but given that MACT isn't in place yet
- 17 and won't be in place for a number of sources, we
- 18 think it makes sense to try to minimize the
- 19 likelihood that this unintended consequence will
- 20 occur.
- 21 So we have recommended that the rule
- 22 establish an emissions cap based on actual historic
- 23 emissions for HAPs and TACs until such time and I --
- 24 let me finish this sentence -- until such time as

1 control standards are adopted and being in force. I

- 2 mentioned TACs where the state's toxic air
- 3 contaminants which the Board is well aware of in
- 4 some cases they go beyond the federal hazardous air
- 5 pollutant's list.
- 6 We'd like to see a cap on these toxic VOCs,
- 7 both the state and the federal's, until such time as
- 8 MACT is in place for the affected sources to make
- 9 sure that this unintended consequence of localized
- 10 increases and hazardous air pollutants and toxic air
- 11 contaminants does not occur.
- 12 That basically summarizes it. I won't go
- 13 into any more detail though. I may have some
- 14 questions from the Agency I recognize.
- Related to this point is the rule's
- 16 proposal to track trends and spacial distributions
- 17 of hazardous air pollutants to essentially monitor
- 18 for this potential unintended consequence, and while
- 19 we think that's a good idea, it simply, I don't
- 20 think, goes far enough when you consider the
- 21 potential ramifications of localized increases in
- 22 toxic VOMs. So, again, we recommend this cap based
- 23 on historic actual emissions until such time as MACT
- 24 is in place.

1 Another concern we have relates back to New

- 2 Source Review. As I understand, the proposal would
- 3 substitute the annual New Source Review offsets
- 4 requirements with a seasonal requirement to hold
- 5 ATUs in an amount 1.3 times the actual seasonal
- 6 emissions. As I understand it, this would eliminate
- 7 the offset requirements during the non-ozone
- 8 season. We basically object to this proposal and
- 9 question its consistency with the Clean Air Act. We
- 10 think the offset requirements should remain
- 11 applicable during both the ozone season and the
- 12 non-ozone season.
- We would, frankly, hate to lose those air
- 14 quality improvements during the non-ozone season
- 15 even though they may not be required by the Clean
- 16 Air Act. We acknowledge that that's a possibility.
- 17 Another major concern relates to baseline
- 18 emissions. The rule would allow sources to
- 19 substitute nonrepresentative, quote, unquote,
- 20 seasonal emissions from the '94 through -- for 1994
- 21 through 1996 with seasonal emissions from 1990
- 22 through '93 or 1997 for purposes of calculating the
- 23 baseline.
- 24 We recommend that the rule define

1 nonrepresentative in order to avoid disagreements

- 2 that could end up delaying implementation and in
- 3 order to limit the extent to which baselines exceed
- 4 actual emissions.
- 5 I think it's fairly well understood that
- 6 this last point, the fact that baselines could
- 7 exceed actual emissions, is a reality, and in my
- 8 discussions with the Agency, it's been suggested
- 9 that the amount that the emissions might exceed the
- 10 baseline -- might exceed actual emissions would
- 11 probably be relatively small, and that seems to be
- 12 true.
- On the other hand, to the extent that we
- 14 can minimize this difference, I think we should, and
- 15 a more clear definition of nonrepresentative might
- 16 help clear that up, and the example I give for how
- 17 you might do that is to link these nonrepresentative
- 18 emissions to changes that are not expected to occur
- 19 more than once every 20 years, and that's just off
- 20 the top of my head, and I don't have a lot of
- 21 experience with this, but it's the kind of
- 22 definition that one might use to narrow this
- 23 somewhat vague definition down and keep the program
- 24 on track as we move to the implementation phase.

1 Also I have some comments concerning the

- 2 proposed exclusions. The best available technology
- 3 exclusion we were concerned is defined far too
- 4 broadly. We fear that it might undermine the
- 5 proposal with far too many exclusions that would
- 6 limit emissions reductions and potentially too many
- 7 appeals that might delay implementation.
- 8 I know the Agency has testified in the past
- 9 the importance of appropriately limiting the number
- 10 of exclusions. Mr. Romaine has testified if most
- 11 emissions units are determined to have best
- 12 available technology, the ERMS will not reduce the
- 13 pool of VOM emissions to the level required for ROP,
- 14 rate of progress, and that's clearly a -- the
- 15 potential is there for that to happen, even though
- 16 it may be unlikely.
- 17 So we have suggested a more detailed
- 18 definition of best available technology to, again,
- 19 minimize the potential for this to occur.
- 20 Specifically, we recommend that the definition more
- 21 specifically delineate a maximum degree of VOM
- 22 reduction, which seems to be the key definition or
- 23 the key phrase within that overall definition of
- 24 best available technology.

1 One approach is to define that as being the

- 2 least as pronounced -- let me back up. Maximum
- 3 degree of VOM reduction will be at least as
- 4 pronounced as the greatest level of reductions from
- 5 comparable units. Again, Mr. Romaine has testified
- 6 that that would more than likely be one, if not the
- 7 most, important way of determining best available
- 8 technology.
- 9 If a source has emissions that are clearly
- 10 higher than a comparable unit, then common sense
- 11 suggests that that's probably not the best available
- 12 technology. We're suggesting that that common sense
- 13 be translated into the definition to avoid, again,
- 14 potential delays and disputes, and the written
- 15 testimony that I'll be submitting gives you some
- 16 specific language that you might take a look at. I
- 17 won't go into that now.
- 18 These exclusions also have some potential
- 19 ramifications for the Agency's overall plan for
- 20 achieving attainment with the ozone standard and
- 21 maintaining a rate of progress emissions reductions
- 22 if we don't, in reality, get the kind of emissions
- 23 reductions that we're expecting because of
- 24 exclusions. Then that might throw us off in the

1 overall process of making reasonable progress

- 2 towards attainment.
- 3 The third point on the exclusions issue,
- 4 the LAER exclusions we fear ignore the fact that a
- 5 unit meeting LAER can still increase its emissions
- 6 by increasing production and at least that's my
- 7 understanding, and, therefore, we recommend a
- 8 seasonal emissions limit up front for units that are
- 9 excluded because they meet LAER to make sure that we
- 10 don't have increases due to increased rates of
- 11 production. Again, the goal there is to minimize
- 12 unexpected emissions increases.
- 13 Another point is concerning the banking of
- 14 ATUs in order to account for any uncertainties. I
- 15 mentioned earlier to minimize the potential for
- 16 emission spikes because of ATU transactions, we
- 17 supported deduction from the unused ATUs that are
- 18 banked for the next season. Specifically, unused
- 19 ATUs that are carried over to the next season should
- 20 be reduced by five percent in order to help improve
- 21 air quality and to help sustain the effective
- 22 operation of the ERMS.
- 23 Three percent of the unused ATUs would be
- 24 retired and two percent would be deposited in the

1 ACMA, and we think this is -- it makes -- especially

- 2 makes sense given that we are still struggling to
- 3 reach attainment with the ozone standard. We need
- 4 every reduction we can get, and I believe the
- 5 proposal -- the Agency's proposal at one time
- 6 actually included this type of deduction on banked
- 7 ATUs, and we'd be bringing it back for these
- 8 reasons.
- 9 We have some comments concerning shutdowns
- 10 and how the facilities who shut down can use their
- 11 credits in the future, their ATUs in the future. We
- 12 object to the proposals -- the proposal to allow 100
- 13 percent of a source's air pollution to effectively
- 14 live on into perpetuity even after the source is
- 15 shut down.
- I should qualify that. Not necessarily
- 17 into perpetuity, but at least as long as the
- 18 proposal is around or the proposal is in effect, I
- 19 should say. These ATUs would live on both through
- 20 the ACMA, those that go to the ACMA, I think it's 20
- 21 percent, and through what appears to be a conveyance
- 22 of ownership of these ATUs until the region has
- 23 reached attainment and has an approved attainment
- 24 plan. We believe 100 percent of the ATUs should be

- 1 retired from shutdowns.
- 2 Furthermore, allowing a source to retain 80
- 3 percent of its ATUs wrongly suggests that the ATUs
- 4 are some type of property, when in reality, they are
- 5 part of an alternative regulatory system owned by
- 6 the public, not individual companies, and I'd really
- 7 like to emphasize how important we think it is for
- 8 this type of change to be made. It's one of the
- 9 major flaws, we think, in the overall proposal, and
- 10 then I have some general comments concerning
- 11 compliance with the overall proposal.
- 12 As currently proposed, an ATU generator
- 13 could sell -- potentially could sell invalid ATUs
- 14 and not suffer any consequences unless doing so
- 15 creates an emissions excursion. At least this is my
- 16 understanding. There may be some legal language
- 17 that I'm not aware of, but this appears to be the
- 18 case now. Noncompliance fees or some other
- 19 compensation, we believe, should be specified in the
- 20 rule for inaccurate filing and late filing even if
- 21 this doesn't result in emissions excursion.
- I want to wrap up with our recommendation
- 23 for how best to track compliance and to essentially
- 24 assure the public that the sources that are affected

1 by these regulations are, in reality, emitting the

- 2 emissions that their supposed to be and complying
- 3 with the overall program.
- 4 As you might imagine, there's -- on the
- 5 surface, there's some skepticism about this whole
- 6 concept of emissions trading and, in part, I think
- 7 it's valid and, in part, it, I think, stems from
- 8 some ignorance of the current regulatory system.
- 9 There is an assumption that -- there is a
- 10 misunderstanding, I think, that this program somehow
- 11 gives people the right to pollute and companies the
- 12 right to pollute that they don't already have, and
- 13 in reality, our current system effectively gives
- 14 companies the right to pollute, but at certain rates
- 15 and with certain restrictions and that makes sense.
- Nonetheless, there is a perception, and in
- 17 some cases it's valid, that this program emissions
- 18 trading is somehow skewed and could potentially
- 19 result in, how do I say it, oh, abuse, you know,
- 20 abuse of the system. Well, I don't -- the Lung
- 21 Association thinks on the whole this is a good
- 22 program and that's highly unlikely to happen.
- 23 It is real important that the public
- 24 understand how this program works and understands

- 1 how it affects the sources located in their
- 2 communities. So we have suggested what we think is
- 3 a relatively simple source-by-source compliance
- 4 summary for this program that pulls together key
- 5 information from different components of the
- 6 proposed program.
- 7 Again, we think this will help ensure that
- 8 the overall program is running properly. I'll just
- 9 take off the items that we think would ideally be
- 10 reported, perhaps, at the end of every ozone season
- 11 once the transaction period is over, the
- 12 reconciliation period I believe it's called. The
- 13 public would have access to the data. It would
- 14 actually be reported to the public as such.
- Number one, actual seasonal emission --
- 16 this is, again, a source-by-source summary. Number
- 17 one, actual seasonal emissions and ATUs in tons of
- 18 VOM given, and people may not understand what an ATU
- 19 actually is; the ATU allotment through that season;
- 20 the difference between the consumed ATUs and
- 21 allotted ATUs; the total number of ATUs sold, if
- 22 any; the number of ATUs obtained, if any, from
- 23 another participating or new participating source;
- 24 the number of ATUs obtained, if any, via emissions

- 1 reductions generators; the number of ATUs obtained,
- 2 if any, from a general participating source; and the
- 3 number of ATUs, if any, obtained through an
- 4 auction. I'm not sure if the program still has an
- 5 auction. I think you got rid of that, didn't you?
- 6 MR. KANERVA: (Nodding.)
- 7 MR. BURKE: Okay. Skip that one. The number of
- 8 ATUs obtained, if any, from the ACMA. That's still
- 9 there I know. The total number of ATUs obtained,
- 10 okay, through these different types of
- 11 transactions. The ATU balance, which would be the
- 12 actual ATU emissions minus those allotted plus the
- 13 obtained minus the sold. Do you see where I'm going
- 14 with this?
- 15 And then you can more clearly determine
- 16 whether an excursion has actually occurred, and this
- 17 is the kind of information that the average person
- 18 can look at and say okay, I see what happened here
- 19 at the source of my community, and clearly this was
- 20 done properly or clearly it wasn't, and it's a nice,
- 21 simple way to determine whether an excursion
- 22 actually occurred.
- Then you would also have the daily
- 24 excursion notice and the description of the

- 1 compensation required, assuming this is relevant;
- 2 the status of the compensation. If there's been an
- 3 audit conducted, you know, note that; the date of
- 4 the last audit, noncompliance or deficiencies
- 5 discovered, if any, make a note of that in the
- 6 description, and then if there's any corrective
- 7 action plan required or something similar, make a
- 8 note of that as well and then the status of that
- 9 plan.
- 10 This is, in a snapshot, a way for the
- 11 public to understand to what extent their -- the
- 12 sources located in their communities are performing
- 13 properly versus the way the system is set up now,
- 14 it's fairly fragmented. I think it will work, but
- 15 it's going to be very hard for the general public to
- 16 get a handle on how it works and whether or not the
- 17 sources in their communities are actually
- 18 complying.
- 19 I have just two other brief comments, one
- 20 on intersector transactions. On the whole, we
- 21 support the concept of intersector transactions,
- 22 though we recognize the reductions for mobile and
- 23 area sources may be hard to predict and can be
- 24 short-lived.

1 There's also some uncertainties involved in

- 2 quantifying these types of reduction. As I
- 3 understand it, there's likely to be a separate
- 4 rulemaking to create the system to allow for this,
- 5 but either way, I just -- we wanted to have on the
- 6 record our recommendation that the rule or the rule
- 7 to follow, if that's the course we're going to take,
- 8 should discount ATUs to account for uncertainties
- 9 inherent in making these types of quantifications
- 10 and to prohibit the ATU banking and limit the ATU
- 11 life-span for improvements that won't last.
- 12 We think for these particular types of
- 13 credits it makes little or no sense to actually
- 14 allow for the banking of these ATUs, the ATU
- 15 generated from these types of emissions reductions
- 16 primarily because of the fact that they're likely to
- 17 be so much more short-lived.
- 18 And finally, I have a comment on
- 19 directionality and reactivity. We recommend that
- 20 the rule more specifically commit the Agency to
- 21 reviewing the effects of trade directionality and
- 22 VOM reactivity on the ERMS performance. Again,
- 23 depending on the direction of the trades, we may
- 24 actually see more or less ozone reduction benefit,

- and while we agree with the Agency that it probably
- 2 doesn't make sense at this time to put some kind of
- 3 limitation on the directionality of trades, it is
- 4 very important to make sure that the program doesn't
- 5 result in disproportionate direction of trades that
- 6 would impede the overall program's performance.
- 7 So those are all my specific comments
- 8 after, again, some fairly lengthy discussions with
- 9 the Agency, and I want to just summarize again by
- 10 saying that on the whole, we think this is a very
- 11 good program. It's moving us in the right
- 12 direction. It can be made better with the
- 13 suggestions we've made here today, but on the whole,
- 14 the American Lung Association is supportive of this
- 15 program.
- 16 MR. FEINEN: Do you want to move your prefiled
- 17 testimony to the record as an exhibit?
- 18 MR. BURKE: Yeah, I would.
- 19 MR. FEINEN: I think you have two separate
- 20 filings. So let's make them two separate exhibits
- 21 just to keep -- make my life a little bit easier.
- 22 MR. BURKE: Yeah. I apologize to all of you for
- 23 leaving a page out of the prefiled testimony. I
- 24 hope you all got the --

- 1 MR. FEINEN: I'll mark as Exhibit --
- 2 MR. BURKE: -- additional page.
- 3 MR. FEINEN: -- No. 65 the prefiled testimony of
- 4 Mr. Burke dated April 4th, which was received by the
- 5 Board on April 4th. If there's no objections to
- 6 entering that into the record as an exhibit, I'll do
- 7 so. I see no objections. That will be entered as
- 8 an exhibit as No. 65, and that's the prefiled
- 9 testimony of Mr. Burke from the American Lung
- 10 Association of Metropolitan Chicago dated April 4th.
- 11 I'm marking as Exhibit No. 66 an additional
- 12 page of prefiled testimony dated April 8th, 1997,
- 13 from Mr. Burke, which is the infamous missing page.
- 14 If there's no objection to that, I'll enter that
- 15 into the record. Seeing none, that will be entered
- 16 as an Exhibit No. 66, the additional page of
- 17 prefiled testimony from Mr. Burke, American Lung
- 18 Association Metropolitan Chicago dated April 8th.
- 19 I believe the Agency has some prefiled
- 20 questions for Mr. Burke.
- 21 (Hearing Exhibit Nos. 65 and 66
- 22 marked for identification,
- 23 4-21-97.)
- MS. SAWYER: Yes, we do. Bonnie Sawyer,

1 Illinois EPA. Good afternoon, Mr. Burke. Starting

- 2 with our first question, which is on Page 11 of our
- 3 prefiled questions, are you aware that sources under
- 4 the proposed ERMS rule will be allotted ATUs on the
- 5 basis of baseline emissions determined by the
- 6 Illinois EPA reduced by 12 percent?
- 7 MR. BURKE: Yes.
- 8 MS. SAWYER: Please explain how discounting of
- 9 credits is relevant for a system such as the one
- 10 described in question one above? Specifically, I'm
- 11 referring to the discounting referred to in number
- 12 one of the first page of your testimony.
- MR. BURKE: I understand. What we've suggested
- 14 is that there are inevitably going to be some
- 15 uncertainties in quantifying actual emissions in the
- 16 baseline. Let me back up.
- 17 There's going to be some differences
- 18 inevitably, we think, between the actual emissions
- 19 and the baseline emissions, and I mentioned before
- 20 that even the Agency has acknowledged that baseline
- 21 emissions may actually exceed actual emissions
- 22 slightly. This is an example of how ATUs may be
- 23 slightly inflated.
- 24 Secondly, when we estimate emissions, there

- 1 are uncertainties as well, and our concern is that
- 2 potentially, though it may be unlikely, potentially
- 3 the ATUs may be inflated. We may actually be
- 4 granting excess ATUs because of these uncertainties
- 5 in quantification.
- 6 So our suggestion was let's account for
- 7 those uncertainties by slightly discounting the
- 8 allotted ATUs. So if it's -- let's say, for
- 9 example, that the overall procedures for quantifying
- 10 emissions and, therefore, ATUs is, I think, a two
- 11 percent level of uncertainty, we might discount the
- 12 credits, the ATUs, two percent to account for that
- 13 to make sure that we're not granting excess ATUs.
- MR. KANERVA: I'd like to ask a follow-up
- 15 question. Roger Kanerva. This discounting of the
- 16 allotment as you've clarified now, are you
- 17 suggesting that this discounting would be -- they're
- 18 available in some way, that some emissions are
- 19 quantified more rigorously than others in some
- 20 cases, there's a range? Are you suggesting that
- 21 this would apply relative to the type of emissions
- 22 quantification protocol?
- 23 MR. BURKE: Yeah. I think that is a legitimate
- 24 option. As I recall, I think it was Mr. Romaine's

1 testimony at one point in this long process who

- 2 actually outlined different strategies for
- 3 quantifying emissions, some of which were more
- 4 accurate than others, and we think it's reasonable
- 5 if a source chooses to use the more accurate
- 6 quantification protocol, then the degree of
- 7 discounting would be less and vice-versa.
- 8 Again, that creates an incentive for the
- 9 sources to use more accurate approaches, which keeps
- 10 the program on a whole more valid and also minimizes
- 11 the chances that we are granting excess ATUs and not
- 12 getting the kind of reductions that we all hope for.
- MR. FEINEN: Mr. Hurley, do you have a follow-up
- 14 to that?
- MR. HURLEY: I do have a follow-up to that. In
- 16 that proposal, are you making the assumption that
- 17 all these inaccuracies are going to be on one side
- 18 of the line, that the actuals are actually going to
- 19 be more than the baseline?
- 20 MR. BURKE: No, I'm not making that assumption.
- 21 I understand that it could go either way. Our
- 22 suggestion is that we adhere on the side of caution,
- 23 protectiveness versus dismissiveness.
- MR. HURLEY: And that would be for every

- 1 applicant?
- 2 MR. BURKE: I think a recent -- you know, given
- 3 that that's the case that it could go either way, I
- 4 think your degree of discounting would reflect that,
- 5 but, nonetheless, it would probably make sense to
- 6 have some small degree of discount.
- 7 MR. FEINEN: Agency?
- 8 MS. SAWYER: Yeah. I would like to ask question
- 9 number seven out of order here because I think it's
- 10 more of a follow-up to what we're talking about
- 11 right now.
- 12 Mr. Burke, are you aware that the 12
- 13 percent emissions reduction required of the proposed
- 14 rule includes two percent contingency to assure that
- 15 the state of Illinois meets its 1999 ROP target?
- MR. BURKE: Yeah. I'm not sure if I was aware
- 17 of that or not. It depends on where that
- 18 contingency is coming in. I was aware that there
- 19 was going to be some type of buffer, and I wasn't
- 20 sure if it was part of the ACMA or where this
- 21 contingency was coming in.
- 22 So I'm not sure how to answer that. I
- 23 suppose the answer is no, and I could actually
- 24 use -- it would be helpful for me to have that for

- 1 the -- I'm not sure where it is. Nonetheless, I
- 2 still think it makes sense given the fact that we're
- 3 still a good ways from reaching attainment to not
- 4 only have that contingency, but also to discount the
- 5 ATUs.
- 6 Let's bear in mind that another -- I
- 7 mentioned the second reason for doing the
- 8 discounting is to encourage more accurate types of
- 9 protocols, quantification protocols. So I think
- 10 there's two good reasons to do it.
- MS. SAWYER: I think you've answered the first
- 12 part of question number three, but I'll ask the
- 13 second part. Please describe such inaccuracies, the
- 14 extent or amount of such inaccuracy, and the base
- 15 set of accurate emissions from which this inaccuracy
- 16 is derived.
- MR. BURKE: Do you want me to give you a
- 18 specific example? Is that what you're looking for?
- 19 Yeah, I can't answer that question right now. I
- 20 mean, I think you can go back and look at one of the
- 21 early versions of the Agency's written proposal, one
- 22 of the -- I don't know if it was the second draft or
- 23 the third draft. I can't remember which at this
- 24 point, but it listed quantification protocols and

1 acknowledged that some are more accurate than

- 2 others.
- 3 In reality, we may be -- our estimate may
- 4 be off by some percentage, and that's the kind of
- 5 accuracy I'm talking about, although I really can't
- 6 give you a specific example at this point.
- 7 MS. SAWYER: I believe you've answered our
- 8 questions four and five. I'll ask question six. Is
- 9 it your position that the proposed ERMS rule will
- 10 make it profitable for a source to increase its
- 11 productions -- production of products that result in
- 12 hazardous air pollutants?
- 13 MR. BURKE: I don't think it's the Lung
- 14 Association's position that this will -- the ERMS
- 15 rule would necessarily make it profitable. I
- 16 certainly can't speak to a company's, you know,
- 17 profit margin or anything along those lines, but
- 18 what we do believe to be the case is that the ERMS
- 19 rule could make it economically more feasible for a
- 20 source to increase its emissions of toxic VOM.
- 21 We understand, again, as I mentioned
- 22 earlier, that it's probably unlikely given the way
- 23 the proposal is set up and the limited number of
- 24 transactions that are likely to occur and so on and

- 1 so forth, but given the potential ramifications of
- 2 these localized increases prior to MACT kicking in,
- 3 we thought it made sense to guard against that
- 4 potentiality.
- 5 MS. SAWYER: I'm not sure if you clarified this
- 6 in your direct testimony. Our question number eight
- 7 relates to your position that ATUs in the ACMA
- 8 account should be reduced consistent with the rate
- 9 at which the emissions cap is declining.
- 10 Are you aware that the emissions cap under
- 11 the rule -- the proposed rule is established in 1999
- 12 and does not decline separate from an amendment to
- 13 the rule?
- MR. BURKE: Yeah, I am aware of that, and it's a
- 15 good point. That comment is really relevant only if
- 16 the ERMS were to be extended beyond 1999 and we were
- 17 to have a declining emissions cap beyond that.
- 18 The point we were trying to make is if
- 19 you've got, whatever, 100 ATUs in the ACMA in 1999,
- 20 let's say, and the allotments to everybody else are
- 21 declining at a rate of, say, four percent or
- 22 something, in the year 2007, assuming this program
- 23 were still in place, even if nobody ever touched
- 24 those ATUs in the ACMA, they should be reduced, you

- 1 know, four percent a year as well instead of
- 2 remaining at that 100 level, but given this program
- 3 is targeted only at the year 1999, it's not a
- 4 relevant comment.
- 5 MR. KANERVA: Roger Kanerva. Mr. Burke, you
- 6 mentioned in your testimony that the Lung
- 7 Association recommended discounting the banking or
- 8 carrying ATUs that are carried over to the next
- 9 season. Are you aware of some of the benefits that
- 10 are available from emissions banking, and we
- 11 mentioned one to see if it's one you agree with,
- 12 like, early reductions that it's an incentive to
- 13 encourage early reductions of emissions?
- MR. BURKE: Sure.
- MR. KANERVA: What do you think the impact would
- 16 be if this discounting procedure on, for instance,
- 17 that type of activity, the early reductions?
- MR. BURKE: This is the -- you're referring to
- 19 the deduct -- our recommendation to deduct a
- 20 percentage of the ATU that gets banked --
- 21 MR. KANERVA: Right.
- 22 MR. BURKE: -- to the next year?
- 23 MR. KANERVA: I think you said five percent or
- 24 something.

1 MR. BURKE: Yeah. We recommended five percent

- 2 reduction.
- 3 MR. KANERVA: Right. And how that might affect
- 4 other benefits that banking provides.
- 5 MR. BURKE: Right. We don't think it affects --
- 6 a deduction, for example, would create a significant
- 7 disincentive or I should say it would offset the
- 8 incentive created by -- let me back up. Offset the
- 9 incentive to, for example, create early reductions
- 10 that the banking does allow. It's five percent.
- 11 It's not 20 percent or something along those lines.
- 12 I think -- we think it strikes a nice
- 13 balance between moving us at a more expeditious rate
- 14 towards attainment while at the same time allowing
- 15 for the incentive that Roger -- Mr. Kanerva
- 16 mentioned for early reductions and so on.
- MS. SAWYER: I don't believe we have anything
- 18 further at this time.
- 19 MR. FEINEN: Any other questions from the
- 20 audience? Do you have anything?
- 21 MS. HENNESSEY: I have a question or two.
- Mr. Burke, you suggested that we have a cap
- 23 on toxic air contaminants until MACT is in place for
- 24 the affected sources. Can you explain how that

- 1 would work?
- 2 MR. BURKE: I can explain one option, and I'm
- 3 sure there are others, but one option is to
- 4 establish a toxic VOM baseline, perhaps, in a manner
- 5 consistent with the overall VOM baseline that's been
- 6 proposed be it through this rule based on actual
- 7 emissions, historic actual emissions, and you
- 8 would -- essentially, the baseline would then be the
- 9 cap until MACT is enacted for the sources affected
- 10 by the ERMS rule.
- In other words, it would say until MACT is
- 12 in place, your toxic VOM emissions are not going to
- 13 go above, you know, X, you know, the baseline, and,
- 14 again, that's to make sure that the trade, the known
- 15 ERMS trade, wouldn't send us above that baseline.
- You could use some other methodology for
- 17 developing this cap until MACT is in place, but that
- 18 is one approach to use the actual historic emissions
- 19 to establish a baseline or a cap.
- 20 MS. HENNESSEY: But that wouldn't require there
- 21 to be the two categories of ATUs though, right?
- 22 You'd need to have a category for toxic VOMs and
- 23 another category for nontoxic VOMs, right?
- MR. BURKE: I'm not sure that that's the case.

- 1 I think a provision of the rule would be that no
- 2 transaction result in toxic VOM emissions period
- 3 that exceed a certain level until MACT is applied.
- 4 I don't think you would need to have two different
- 5 types of ATUs.
- 6 MS. HENNESSEY: Nothing else. Thank you.
- 7 MR. BURKE: Thank you.
- 8 MR. FEINEN: I have no questions.
- 9 MR. HURLEY: I have a question. In your
- 10 testimony, you talked about expanding the public
- 11 disclosure of the ATU account. I didn't quite hear
- 12 you. Did you talk about also baseline determination?
- MR. BURKE: Well, I'm not --
- 14 MR. HURLEY: I'm just asking.
- MR. BURKE: When I was talking about the
- 16 accounting and the compliance, no, I was not
- 17 specifically referring to the baseline
- 18 determination, although I think there are some
- 19 provisions in the rule to subject that to public
- 20 scrutiny.
- 21 MR. HURLEY: I guess the follow along question
- 22 is on this expansion of the company's individual ATU
- 23 accounting, would you put any -- would you provide
- 24 for any confidentiality provisions if a company

1 represented that there was a proprietary information

- 2 included in those, or would you feel that this is
- 3 public disclosure without qualification?
- 4 MR. BURKE: No. We wouldn't suggest public
- 5 disclosure without qualification. There would be
- 6 some qualifications if the confidentiality is
- 7 inevitably going to be one of those I'm sure, but,
- 8 nonetheless, I think you could have a good
- 9 disclosure, good accounting system, you know,
- 10 coupled with the confidentiality requirements.
- 11 MR. FEINEN: Okay. If there's no more
- 12 questions, I'll excuse Mr. Burke.
- I think that will be it for today. We'll
- 14 pick up tomorrow. I think we agreed for 9:00
- 15 o'clock in the morning. We will be starting out
- 16 with the ERMS Coalition witnesses, and then along
- 17 the day with time permitting for anything else.
- 18 I just want to reiterate that we talked
- 19 early this morning about the close of public
- 20 comments being May 16th with the Board most likely
- 21 going to pursue it sometime in June. Thank you.
- 22 We'll see you tomorrow at 9:00 o'clock.
- 23 (Whereupon, the above-entitled
- 24 proceedings were adjourned.)

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1 STATE OF ILLINOIS )
                           SS.
   COUNTY OF C O O K )
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              I, GEANNA M. PIGNONE-IAQUINTA, CSR, notary
   public within and for the County of Cook and State
   of Illinois, do hereby certify that the testimony
    then given by all participants of the rulemaking
   hearing was by me reduced to writing by means of
   machine shorthand and afterwards transcribed upon a
10
   computer, and the foregoing is a true and correct
   transcript.
11
12
             I further certify that I am not counsel for
   nor in any way related to any of the parties to this
13
14
   procedure, nor am I in any way interested in the
15
   outcome thereof.
16
             In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my
   hand and affixed my notarial seal this 28th day of
18 April, A.D., 1997.
19
20
                    Geanna M. Pignone-Iaquinta
                    Notary Public, Cook County, IL
21
                    Illinois License No. 084-004096
   SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO
    before me this____day
   of_____, A.D., 1997.
23
         Notary Public
24
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