1	ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD		
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3	TN MUE MARRIED OF.		
4	IN THE MATTER OF:) RCRA DELISTING ADJUSTED) AS 08-10		
5	STANDARD PETITION OF) (Adjusted Standard - Land) PEORIA DISPOSAL COMPANY)		
6	THOREIT BIBLOSHE COMMING		
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14	The following is the transcript of a hearing		
15	held in the above-captioned matter, taken		
16	stenographically by Gale G. Everhart, CSR-RPR, a notary		
17	public within and for the County of Peoria and State of		
18	Illinois, before Carol Webb, Hearing Officer, at 107		
19	Northeast Monroe Street, Peoria, Illinois, on the 18th		
20	day of August, A.D. 2008, commencing at 3:00 p.m.		
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24			

1	PRESENT:
2	HEARING TAKEN BEFORE: ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
3	1021 North Grand Avenue East Springfield, Illinois 62794-9274
4	(217) 524-8509 BY: CAROL WEBB
5	
6	APPEARANCES:
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15	(815) 431-1500 On Behalf of the Petitioner.
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21	On Behalf of the IEPA.
22	
23	
24	

1	ALSO PRESENT:
2	ANAND RAO
3	ALISA LIU CONNIE NEWMAN
4	JOHN TRIPSES ROYAL COULTER
5	CHRIS COULTER JEFF COULTER
6	MATT COULTER RON EDWARDS
7	GEORGE ARMSTRONG RON WELK
8	MEMDERC OF THE DIDLIC AND MEDIA MEDE DECEMT
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- 1 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Good afternoon. My name is
- 2 Carol Webb. I'm a hearing officer with the Pollution
- 3 Control Board. This is AS 08-10 for the RCRA Delisting
- 4 Adjusted Standard of Peoria Disposal Company. It is
- 5 August 18th. We are beginning at 3 p.m.
- 6 With me today are the Board's environmental
- 7 engineers, Anand Rao and Alisa Liu. And our public
- 8 information officer Connie Newman is here. Connie will
- 9 be happy to answer any press inquiries during a break or
- 10 at the end of the hearing.
- 11 At issue is PDC's request for an adjusted
- 12 standard waste delisting for treated electric arc
- 13 furnace dust at its waste stabilization facility at 4349
- 14 West Southport Road in Peoria.
- The Pollution Control Board will make the
- 16 final decision in this case. My purpose is to conduct
- 17 the hearing in a neutral and orderly manner so that we
- 18 have a clear record of the proceeding.
- 19 If you are a member of the public who would
- 20 like to speak at today's hearing, please listen
- 21 carefully to the following announcement. Today's
- 22 meeting pertains only to the substance of the adjusting
- 23 standard petition. The outstanding requests for a
- 24 second hearing in DeWitt County and for information

- 1 redacted from the record will be addressed at the board
- 2 meeting on Thursday in an order prepared by board member
- 3 Andrea Moore.
- 4 I will call for public comment at the
- 5 conclusion of the proceeding. While your comments may
- 6 include questions for the Board to consider in its final
- 7 ruling, neither Peoria Disposal Company, the IEPA nor
- 8 the Board are required to answer your questions at this
- 9 hearing. You may speak only once at this hearing. Any
- 10 further comments may be submitted in writing to the
- 11 Clerk of the Pollution Control Board in our Chicago
- 12 office. The address is 100 West Randolph Street, Suite
- 13 11-500, Chicago, Illinois, 60601. Please do not send
- 14 public comments to the Springfield office. As I will
- 15 further discuss at the end of this hearing, the public
- 16 comment deadline will be September 11th.
- 17 This hearing was noticed pursuant to the Act
- 18 and the Board's rules and will be conducted pursuant to
- 19 sections 101.600 through 101.632 and section 104,
- 20 subpart D, of the Board's procedural rules. At this
- 21 time I would like to ask the parties to please make
- 22 their appearances on the record.
- 23 MS. MANNING: Claire Manning on behalf of Peoria
- 24 Disposal.

- 1 MS. NAIR: Janaki Nair, also for Peoria Disposal.
- 2 MR. MEGINNES: I am Brian Meginnes on behalf of
- 3 Peoria Disposal Company.
- 4 MR. INGERSOLL: Bill Ingersoll on behalf of the
- 5 Illinois EPA.
- 6 MS. RYAN: Michelle Ryan, also with the Illinois
- 7 EPA.
- 8 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you. Are there any
- 9 preliminary matters that you would like to discuss on
- 10 the record?
- 11 (No audible response.)
- 12 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Okay. Would PDC like to
- 13 make an opening statement?
- MS. MANNING: We would, Madam Hearing Officer.
- 15 Thank you very much. It's a pleasure being here in
- 16 front of Madam Hearing Officer and the Board engineers,
- 17 Anand Rao and Alisa Liu. As I indicated, my name is
- 18 Claire Manning here with co-counsel on behalf of Peoria
- 19 Disposal this afternoon.
- 20 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Claire, could you speak with
- 21 the microphone a little closer?
- MS. MANNING: Sure. Is that better?
- 23 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Start talking. We will see
- 24 if people can hear.

- 1 Can you hear?
- 2 MS. MANNING: All right. I'm close to the mike
- 3 now. Just a couple of preliminaries. Madam Hearing
- 4 Officer mentioned the idea that there was an outstanding
- 5 request that was involving the DeWitt County hearing.
- 6 We would just like to point out as well that we have
- 7 responded to that request, and that's on the Board's
- 8 website and available for public review as well. We
- 9 hope that that response is indicative of the fact that a
- 10 hearing wouldn't be necessary in DeWitt County, but we
- 11 wanted to point out to the public that, in fact, we have
- 12 made a response to that request.
- 13 Secondly, another one of the preliminaries we
- 14 wanted to just briefly discuss this afternoon is that we
- 15 had also received a letter -- the Board had received a
- 16 letter requesting disclosure of the location of the
- 17 Peoria Disposal customers. And we have also filed a
- 18 response to that. However, in reviewing our response
- 19 and in reviewing that particular request, we realize
- 20 that, in fact, if the Board wanted to have the
- 21 information about Peoria Disposal customers, we are
- 22 happy to provide that information.
- 23 What we were concerned about was disclosing
- 24 things that couldn't be disclosed in terms of the

- 1 contract. But we are certainly happy to disclose the
- 2 names and the locations of Peoria Company -- the Peoria
- 3 Disposal Company's customers. And we have what we have
- 4 marked, and Ms. Nair has, Exhibit Number 4. And the
- 5 public can certainly have an opportunity to look at
- 6 that. Those are Peoria Disposal Company's customers.
- 7 And many of them, actually, will be here this afternoon,
- 8 it's my understanding, to testify in support of this
- 9 delisting.
- Just briefly to summarize and to kind of give
- 11 a context to this particular proceeding, and the Board
- 12 knows the legislative purposes of an administrative and
- 13 adjudicatory adjusted standard is to provide a procedure
- 14 that allows for regulatory relief under appropriate
- 15 circumstances in a manner that's adjudicatory in nature
- 16 and that reflects the very technical nature of the
- 17 evidence before the Board. One of the specific uses of
- 18 the adjusted standard is to accommodate a hazardous
- 19 waste delisting under RCRA.
- In many states this is done directly with the
- 21 U.S. EPA, but in Illinois the Illinois Environmental
- 22 Protection Act has declared that the Board has the
- 23 technical expertise to evaluate these particular types
- 24 of petitions and evidence. The Board has technical

- 1 staff to review them, and the Board members are
- 2 technical experts in terms of evaluating the
- 3 information.
- 4 In addition to that -- as will become clear
- 5 from the testimony, and it has been clear in the record
- 6 as well -- this particular petition was developed with
- 7 the input of both the U.S. EPA and Illinois EPA. We are
- 8 happy that the Illinois EPA is here as well as they
- 9 factored into this petition prior to it being presented
- 10 to the Board. We also appreciate the fact that the
- 11 Board has already begun its review of this particular
- 12 petition because, as we know and you know, the Board's
- 13 technical staff has already prepared a list of
- 14 substantive questions to ask our witnesses today. We
- 15 have already performed and presented the Board with
- 16 answers to those questions, which we are happy to go
- 17 into more detail with this afternoon.
- 18 Suffice it to say that the bottom line of
- 19 this delisting process is to -- it's a process under
- 20 RCRA which will render what otherwise would be hazardous
- 21 waste nonhazardous, therefore safe. Therefore safe for
- 22 disposal in municipal waste landfill which still is
- 23 regulated, as you know, by subtitle D, but not necessary
- 24 any longer to be placed in a more highly at risk,

- 1 subtitle D, facility.
- 2 These delisting petitions are such that
- 3 environmental regulations can be both economically sound
- 4 and environmentally safe. Illinois has had a good
- 5 experience with delisting as IPCB, the Illinois
- 6 Pollution Control Board, has evaluated other requests.
- 7 One of those requests was that made by Peoria Disposal
- 8 Company many years ago, in 1993 to be exact, for a
- 9 different type of waste, an F006 waste. PDC's
- 10 experience under that adjusted standard and with that
- 11 delisting has been a good one. It's resulted in the
- 12 stable disposal of delisted waste for over a decade.
- 13 PDC has been able to draw from its experience
- 14 that it received after -- and subsequent to the Board's
- 15 determination in 1993 in fashioning the adjusted
- 16 standard of the delisting petition that it seeks today.
- 17 This petition was prepared by two outside
- 18 consultants hired by Peoria Disposal: Laura Curtis, who
- 19 will be here to give a brief overview of the process and
- 20 to summarize a summary of the petition, as well as
- 21 Dr. Ajit Chowdhury, who is the chemist who performed
- 22 certain analytical evaluation.
- 23 Additionally, we will have Ron Edwards, the
- 24 vice president of landfills for Peoria Disposal here to

- 1 answer questions and to testify, with us here this
- 2 afternoon as well. And I'm happy to present our -- and
- 3 show you the interest that Peoria Disposal Company has
- 4 and the respect for the Board in terms of this
- 5 particular decision are all of the members of the
- 6 Coulter family who are the owners of Peoria Disposal.
- 7 Mr. Royal Coulter and his sons Chris, Jeff and Matt are
- 8 all here today as are the whole front row are Peoria
- 9 Disposal Company technical experts that are happy to
- 10 answer whatever questions the Board has that are
- 11 relevant, of course, to this very technical adjusted
- 12 standard.
- With that, I am going to turn it over to
- 14 Janaki Nair, who is going to present our witnesses and
- 15 ask questions.
- 16 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Can I just check, did the
- 17 EPA want to make an opening statement of any sort?
- 18 MR. INGERSOLL: No, thank you.
- 19 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Go ahead then.
- 20 MS. NAIR: If I may, our first witness is Laura
- 21 Curtis.
- 22 (Witness sworn.)
- 23 LAURA CURTIS,
- 24 called as a witness, after being first duly sworn, was

- 1 examined and testified upon her oath as follows:
- 2 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 3 BY MS. NAIR:
- 4 Q Could you please state your name and spell
- 5 your last name for the record?
- 6 A Laura Curtis, C-u-r-t-i-s.
- 7 Q And what is your current employment?
- 8 A I am a senior environmental engineer with
- 9 RMT.
- 10 Q I have handed you a previously marked
- 11 document marked as Exhibit 1 for identification. Do you
- 12 know what that document is?
- 13 A Yes, I do.
- 14 Q What is it?
- 15 A It is my resume.
- 16 Q Did you prepare this document?
- 17 A Yes, I did.
- 18 Q Is it up-to-date to the best of your
- 19 knowledge?
- 20 A Yes, it is.
- 21 Q You work for RMT as a senior environmental
- 22 engineer. What is RMT's business?
- 23 A RMT is an environmental energy and
- 24 engineering firm that provides these services to our

- 1 clients, both large industrial and federal facilities.
- Q What, in particular, as a senior
- 3 environmental engineer are your duties with RMT?
- 4 A I am an experienced regulatory compliance
- 5 representative. I do -- that spans multimedia
- 6 compliance auditing, providing expert services for solid
- 7 and hazardous waste management, which includes general
- 8 inertness and low hazard designation delisting determ--
- 9 or, I'm sorry -- regulatory determinations and then also
- 10 remedial investigations and remediation.
- 11 Q How long have you been in this field of RCRA
- 12 regulatory activities?
- 13 A I have over 20 years experience with RCRA
- 14 regulatory activities, 13 of which have been with RMT.
- 15 Q What is your educational background?
- 16 A I have a bachelor's of science degree in
- 17 chemical engineering.
- 18 Q What professional affiliations do you have?
- 19 A I am a member of the American Institute of
- 20 Chemical Engineers and was a -- formerly on the Board of
- 21 Advisors for the Detroit section. I also am affiliated
- 22 with the American Foundrymen Society.
- 23 O In preparation of this -- for this case in
- 24 particular, how many delistings for K061 or electric arc

1 furnace dust waste have you reviewed or studied?

- 2 A I have reviewed over ten.
- 3 Q And as opposed to the ones you familiarized
- 4 yourself with, how many K061 delistings has RMT itself
- 5 been involved in?
- 6 A We have been involved in three.
- 7 Q Of the ten K061 delistings you have
- 8 familiarized yourself with, how many of those were in
- 9 Illinois?
- 10 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: May I interrupt the
- 11 proceeding for a minute? Let's take a moment to -- so
- 12 everybody can hear, I think they want to make the room a
- 13 little bigger and for individuals who are standing. I
- 14 think we have a couple of chairs over here. There is
- 15 one in the front row that I see. I don't know if there
- 16 are any more back in that section or if there is one
- 17 over there. Feel free to have a seat if you would like
- 18 to. I apologize. I think this is the biggest turnout
- 19 we have had for a PDC hearing so far. I was not
- 20 anticipating quite this many people.
- 21 Is there anyone who is standing who wants to
- 22 sit? Is everyone standing by choice? Are you okay back
- 23 there?
- 24 (Pause in proceedings.)

- 1 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: I'm sorry, Janaki.
- MS. NAIR. That's fine. That's fine. If everybody
- 3 is settled.
- 4 BY MS. NAIR:
- 5 Q I believe I was asking Ms. Curtis, Of the ten
- 6 K061 delistings that you have familiarized yourself with
- 7 for this project, how many of those were in Illinois?
- 8 A There are three that were in Illinois.
- 9 Q And how many of those ten delistings you
- 10 familiarized yourself with were K061 waste for
- 11 commercial waste treatment facilities rather than steel
- 12 mills?
- 13 A Seven of those.
- 14 Q Seven of the ten?
- 15 A Yes.
- 16 Q And of those delistings you familiarized
- 17 yourself with, how many of those contemplated disposal
- 18 -- eventual disposal of the delisted waste in a
- 19 municipal solid waste landfill --
- 20 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Hold on a second. I'm
- 21 sorry.
- We have enough chairs. Thanks.
- 23 Q I will repeat that question. I think I lost
- 24 the end. Of the ten K061 delistings you reviewed in

- 1 anticipation of this delisting project, how many of them
- 2 contemplated disposal of the delisted waste in a
- 3 municipal solid waste landfill rather than on-site?
- 4 A That was seven of them. That was the seven.
- 5 Q Thank you. If we could, I have handed you
- 6 another document labeled Exhibit 2 for identification.
- 7 Do you recognize that document?
- 8 A Yes, I do.
- 9 Q And what is that?
- 10 A It is a delisting petition process summary.
- 11 Q And did you prepare this document?
- 12 A Yes, I did.
- 13 Q And now what we propose to do, rather than
- 14 sticking with the straight question answer approach, is
- 15 that Ms. Curtis is just going to walk through her
- 16 outline, and we will interject questions periodically.
- 17 Ms. Curtis, if you would proceed.
- 18 A Okay. Thank you. I first want to start with
- 19 a delisting overview and to build on what Claire Manning
- 20 has provided. A delisting is a demonstration that a
- 21 petition waste is not hazardous. And what we did was
- 22 followed steps as far as first conducting an initial
- 23 review. Then once we had sufficient information that
- 24 this would be a successful delisting, we proceeded with

- 1 developing and then implementing a sampling and analysis
- 2 plan that would demonstrate representative sampling of
- 3 the petitioned waste.
- 4 And then finally after implementing this
- 5 sampling plan and collecting the analytical results, we
- 6 provide an analysis of the results and compare them to
- 7 the land disposal restriction treatment standards and to
- 8 a risk base model calculation to demonstrate meeting
- 9 delisting petition requirements.
- 10 In starting it off, the initial review is an
- 11 opinion of delisting potential. What RMT did was an
- 12 examination of the processes generating the waste not
- 13 only the electric arc ark furnace dust that is generated
- 14 from the steel mills, but also the process which PDC
- 15 uses in order to treat the waste. And what we do is
- 16 look at what is the universe of potential constituents
- 17 of concern.
- 18 In identifying these, we are able to look at
- 19 what analytical requirements and procedures are needed
- 20 in order to assess the absence or presence of these
- 21 constituents.
- 22 Using this and basic information and
- 23 analytical results that PDC provided, we ran a
- 24 preliminary risk model. This is the DRAS model provided

- 1 by U.S. EPA. DRAS, standing for delisting risk
- 2 assessment software. And we used the latest version
- 3 that was available to us, version 2.
- 4 And once we ran that, we compared the sample
- 5 results with the model results. And at the first time
- 6 when we gave the initial opinion of delisting for PDC,
- 7 we found that PDC's current chemistry required
- 8 additional work to meet a delisting demonstration. PDC
- 9 then took over 18 months and evaluated options and
- 10 performed extensive testing. They contracted with an
- 11 expert chemist in developing chemical treatment
- 12 technologies to develop an entirely new chemical
- 13 treatment regimen that was specifically designed for the
- 14 K061 delisting application.
- 15 Once this work, this extensive testing, this
- 16 analytical was completed, they then performed bench
- 17 scale testing and provided the results to us. We then
- 18 went through the same methodical procedure and running
- 19 another preliminary DRAS and comparing those results
- 20 with the sample results. At that point in time the
- 21 formula was found to be successful and that we could
- 22 proceed to the next step on showing an actual
- 23 demonstration.
- Q Without getting into the details of the

- 1 chemistry involved, can you explain, in general, the
- 2 chemical process involved in stabilizing the K061,
- 3 electric arc furnace dust?
- 4 A On chemical stabilization, which is a best
- 5 demonstrated achievable technology for this waste, what
- 6 is added is chemicals that stabilize the constituents,
- 7 in this case, with the electric arc furnace dust. The
- 8 toxic constituents are metals, heavy metals, that have a
- 9 potential to leach and migrate through pathways such as
- 10 groundwater and surface water. What the chemistry does
- 11 is it actually stabilizes the waste. It locks it into a
- 12 nonleachable, insoluble solvent form.
- 13 Q Thank you. Please proceed with your outline.
- 14 A Okay. We then moved on to develop a sampling
- 15 and analysis plan and at the same time the quality
- 16 assurance project plan for representative sampling. RMT
- 17 continued the process for delisting demonstration by
- 18 using data collected in the initial review cycle.
- 19 So, again, looking at how the waste was
- 20 generated, how it was handled, how it was processed and
- 21 then putting together with PDC, we developed a schedule
- 22 and plan to treat and collect samples from all ten steel
- 23 mills at PDC in quantities representative of their rates
- 24 of receipt. The demonstration would be full scale, not

- 1 bench scale. But PDC would revert back to their current
- 2 chemistry when the sampling plan implementation was not
- 3 conducted.
- 4 In developing this sampling and analysis plan
- 5 we met with Illinois EPA and presented a draft sample
- 6 analysis plan and quality assurance project plan. RMT
- 7 conducted technical conference calls between U.S. EPA
- 8 region 5 and Illinois EPA to clarify analytical
- 9 procedures and assessment for the constituents of
- 10 concern.
- 11 RMT was selected as the consultant to be a
- 12 third party objective resource for PDC. We operate with
- 13 high integrity, and -- both professional and ethical
- 14 standards. We also were allowed by PDC to contract an
- 15 independent laboratory to conduct the analytical
- 16 procedures.
- 17 In doing this we have to coordinate all the
- 18 analytical procedures, the analyte reporting limits and
- 19 method detection limits to ensure the best procedures
- 20 for obtaining quality data with the waste matrix and
- 21 concentration levels needed. In addition to the
- 22 compositional analyses, stabilized waste also requires,
- 23 per the U.S. EPA delisting guidance document, additional
- 24 leaching procedures. One is the toxicity characteristic

- 1 leaching procedure or the TCLP. This is performed to
- 2 simulate the leaching potential in an improperly run,
- 3 unlined municipal solid waste landfill.
- 4 What was required was not only running it as
- 5 it is written in SW846, but with three different
- 6 extraction fluids. Now at the same time these are
- 7 separate analytical runs, which has an acidic, a neutral
- 8 and an alkaline leach.
- 9 This waste is also required to have another
- 10 leaching potential procedure called a multiple
- 11 extraction procedure or the MEP. This is performed to
- 12 simulate the leaching potential over a 1,000-year
- 13 period. And, again, we were using the three different
- 14 extraction fluids -- an acidic, a neutral, and an
- 15 alkaline leach.
- 16 Q How does the acidity of the solution used in
- 17 the TCLP and MEP test compare to, let say, orange juice,
- 18 other human consumables?
- 19 A According to the FDA, orange juice has a pH
- 20 in the range of 3.3 to 4.19. In the toxicity
- 21 characteristic leaching procedure, the acidic fluid, we
- 22 needed to use the most aggressive which is number 2.
- 23 That is 2.88 plus or minus .05. So it is considerably
- 24 more aggressive than orange juice. Also, pH is a

- 1 logarithmic. So it's not just a comparable. There
- 2 is -- quite a step change in between those numbers.
- 3 Q How is the TCLP test itself performed?
- 4 A The TCLP test takes the material -- in this
- 5 case it's a solid material. It will grind it up, and
- 6 then tumble it in the extraction fluid for over 24
- 7 hours. Then the extraction fluid is removed and
- 8 analyzed for any constituents of concern to see what has
- 9 migrated from the waste.
- 10 Q And comparing that to the MEP test, what is
- 11 added in the MEP test?
- 12 A The MEP is doing that in ten successive times
- 13 and using the same material, but it's exposing it. For
- 14 example, if we do it with the acidic, we do it -- tumble
- 15 it for 24 hours, remove the extraction fluid, but then
- 16 fresh new acidic at the same, 2.88, is added to the
- 17 waste. It's tumbled again another 24 hours. So the
- 18 material is the most aggressive for all ten successive
- 19 tumbles and extractions.
- 20 Q Thank you. Please proceed with your outline.
- 21 A Once we received approval by the Illinois
- 22 EPA, we proceeded to implement the sampling and analysis
- 23 plan and then assess the results. RMT performed a data
- 24 validation on the analytical given by the laboratory.

- 1 And we have found that we had a need to modify some of
- 2 the analytical procedures on some of this -- the
- 3 constituents of concern. Not necessarily the major
- 4 ones, but some of the others that we needed in order to
- 5 show that we could get sufficient recovery and
- 6 reproducible quality data.
- 7 We verified that the list of constituents of
- 8 concerns, the final ones were metals. And this is
- 9 consistent with other federal delistings as well as the
- 10 Illinois delistings for K061, electric arc furnace dust.
- 11 What we also found was that we needed another
- 12 round to the sampling plan to be added in order to
- 13 provide a demonstration of PDC's administrative
- 14 procedure that when the initial analysis of a treated
- 15 waste batch indicates that any constituent exceeds its
- 16 corresponding level that there is additional treatment
- 17 either in the form of additional curing time or for a
- 18 retreatment step. With that we were able then to insert
- 19 final data showing the complete sampling and
- 20 verification.
- 21 And then finally once we had all that data,
- 22 we went to the step of the analysis of the results and
- 23 the presentation to demonstrate that the waste is no
- 24 longer hazardous. And this is in the form of the

- 1 technical support document. We show that demonstration
- 2 samples were representative for each sampling event.
- 3 And the number of samples is more than double the
- 4 U.S. EPA suggested minimum of four samples.
- 5 We show that the TCLP results at the multiple
- 6 pH extraction provide leaching potential under all
- 7 possible conditions, acidic, alkaline and neutral. And
- 8 that the results showed metals were stable and that the
- 9 concentrations were acceptable.
- 10 The MEP test, the multiple extraction
- 11 procedure, which intends to simulate the leaching
- 12 potential over a 1,000-year period, tests were also run
- 13 in all three pH extraction fluids and that the metals
- 14 were found stable and the concentrations acceptable.
- We took all the analytical and ran a DRAS
- 16 model evaluation. And the DRAS model is a multimedia
- 17 risk tool that simulates landfill management based on a
- 18 20-year lifetime. And we put in an annual waste
- 19 generation for this of 95,000 cubic yards. We show that
- 20 the screening levels -- or we used screening levels that
- 21 are based on risk targets set by U.S. EPA region 5, and
- 22 that were confirmed by Illinois EPA. But the DRAS
- 23 models exposure pathways were to groundwater, to air and
- 24 to the surface waters. And that the risk assumptions

- 1 that we used were realistic and conservative. The
- 2 concentrations were used to set the delisting
- 3 concentrations.
- 4 Q Ms. Curtis, what interactions did you have
- 5 with the U.S. EPA regarding the DRAS model?
- 6 A U.S. EPA region 5 provided technical
- 7 assistance and their expertise both as the holders of
- 8 the DRAS model. They gave us updates for the version 2.
- 9 Right now they are in the process of changing over to a
- 10 version 3, but that was not available during the time
- 11 that we had submitted this petition. So they provided
- 12 the additional information for us on that. They were
- 13 also instructed -- or we were instructed by Illinois EPA
- 14 to forward any of our technical questions for the DRAS
- 15 to them. And in many instances they were also a party
- 16 to that conversation.
- 17 Q Please proceed with your outline.
- 18 A Okay. The DRAS model provided some of the
- 19 numbers, but where they -- where an LDR treatment
- 20 standard was available and was more stringent, PDC
- 21 decided to propose that as the delisting concentration.
- 22 Q If I could jump in for just a moment, what is
- 23 LDR?
- 24 A LDR stands for land disposal restriction.

- 1 Q Thank you.
- 2 A Once we did that, it's then assessing and
- 3 showing that PDC demonstrated the waste was no longer
- 4 hazardous and for the Illinois Regulation 720.122 and 35
- 5 IAC. This is to demonstrate that the electric arc
- 6 furnace dust stabilized residue does not meet any
- 7 criteria for which the waste was listed. That it has no
- 8 properties that were identified that would cause the
- 9 waste to be hazardous. And this is, again, we could
- 10 treat something, but if all of a sudden it shows another
- 11 characteristic of -- or hazard that has to be evaluated
- 12 but we found that, again, it was not hazardous in that,
- 13 that it is evaluated for all potential constituents of
- 14 concern and that electric arc furnace dust stabilized
- 15 residue is not an acute hazardous waste.
- As further safeguards PDC provides a
- 17 procedure to test every batch for metal constituents of
- 18 concern, to verify and validate treatment reaction is
- 19 complete. This is a failsafe method to protect against
- 20 any future temporal variations or spacial variability.
- 21 Plus they already have an existing plan and procedure in
- 22 place under their part B permit to handle any waste not
- 23 meeting the delisting concentrations or, in their case,
- 24 their permit requirements.

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1 O Is it RMT's conclusion that PDC's treatment
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- of the electric arc furnace dust, the KO61 waste,
- 3 renders the waste nonhazardous and subject to delisting?
- 4 A Yes, it is.
- 5 Q And is it RMT's position that the proposed
- 6 delisting is entirely protective of the environment and
- 7 public health and safety?
- 8 A Yes. This is our belief.
- 9 MS. NAIR: That's all the questions we have in
- 10 direct. Ms. Curtis, obviously, is here to respond to
- 11 questions of the Pollution Control Board technical
- 12 staff. And the following witness, as Ms. Manning
- 13 explained, is going to be Ron Edwards who is vice
- 14 president of PDC. He will be able to answer more of the
- 15 operational questions. An then finally we will be
- 16 presenting Dr. Ajit Chowdhury who is going to -- who is
- 17 actually the chemist who developed the process involved
- 18 here.
- 19 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Does the EPA have any
- 20 questions for this witness?
- 21 MR. INGERSOLL: No questions. Thank you.
- 22 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Does the Board have any
- 23 questions for this witness?
- 24 (No audible response.)

1 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: No? Thank you, Ms. Curtis. 2 Does the Board have any questions that were not answered by this witness that would best be addressed by one of 3 the other individuals? 4 5 MR. RAO: At this time the Board has reviewed the 6 responses provided by PDC, and I think our questions 7 that were raised in those questions have been answered. 8 Thank you. 9 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Do you still wish to call your additional witnesses? 10 MS. NAIR: If I could have just a moment. 11 12 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Sure. 13 (Brief pause in proceedings.) 14 MS. NAIR: I think we would like to call Dr. Ajit 15 Chowdhury just very briefly. HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Okay. 16 17 (Witness sworn.) HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Sir, if you could speak in 18 19 that little microphone, that would be great. Thank you. 20

21 AJIT CHOWDHURY,

22 called as a witness, after being first duly sworn, was

23 examined and testified upon his oath as follows:

1 DIRECT EXAMINATION

- 2 BY MS. NAIR:
- 3 Q Please state your name and spell your last
- 4 name for the record?
- 5 A Ajit Chowdhury, C-h-o-w-d-h-u-r-y.
- 6 Q I have handed you a document marked Exhibit
- 7 3. Do you know what this document is?
- 8 A Yes. This is my resume.
- 9 Q And is it entirely up-to-date?
- 10 A It is not. Actually, it is about a year and
- 11 a half old.
- 12 Q That's fine. Could you briefly describe your
- 13 educational background?
- 14 A I have bachelor's, master's and a Ph.D., all
- 15 in chemical engineering.
- 16 Q How long have you been a chemical engineer?
- 17 A 34 plus years.
- 18 Q Could you briefly describe your current
- 19 employment?
- 20 A I'm employed -- actually, I own my own
- 21 consulting company which is Trishul Technologies
- 22 developing technologies for hazardous waste treatment.
- 23 And also I work part time for a company in Madison,
- 24 Wisconsin, doing electrochemical disinfection of water

- 1 and wastewater.
- Q What is your professional licensure?
- 3 A I'm a registered professional engineer in the
- 4 state of Wisconsin.
- 5 Q And that is where you reside and work; is
- 6 that correct?
- 7 A Yes.
- 8 Q What professional affiliations and committees
- 9 are you involved with?
- 10 A I have been involved in a lot of different
- 11 committees. But currently I am a active member in
- 12 American Institute of Chemical Engineers, also American
- 13 Chemical Society.
- Q On the third page of the resume document
- 15 there is a list of patents. Are there additional
- 16 patents in addition to these that you hold?
- 17 A Yes. There are some recent patents. So
- 18 total I have now about 14, a total of 14 U.S. patents
- 19 and one Canadian patent.
- 20 Q What, generally, is the subject matter of
- 21 these patents?
- 22 A They are all related to water and wastewater
- 23 treatment and waste treatment. And about half of them
- 24 are specific to solid waste including hazardous waste

- 1 treatment and stabilization.
- 2 Q For how long have you been working in the
- 3 hazardous waste stabilization field?
- 4 A For practically all of 34 years. But for
- 5 solid toxic hazardous waste last 20 years.
- 6 Q Do you have any past experience stabilizing
- 7 specifically K061 electric arc furnace dust?
- 8 A Yes, I do.
- 9 Q Were you hired to perform services related to
- 10 this matter by PDC?
- 11 A Yes.
- 12 Q What did PDC request?
- 13 A They wanted me to develop chemistry and
- 14 technology for stabilizing their K061 waste.
- 15 Q Did you create such a process?
- 16 A Yes.
- 17 Q Who is the owner of the proprietary process
- 18 you created?
- 19 A Trishul Technologies, yeah.
- 20 Q That is your company?
- 21 A Yes.
- 22 Q And PDC has licensed the process from you; is
- 23 that correct?
- 24 A Yes.

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1 Q Are you considering patenting the process or
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- 2 any part of it?
- 3 A Yes.
- 4 Q Without using the specific names of the
- 5 chemicals involved, I am going to ask you for a
- 6 description of the chemical process. I know you have
- 7 prepared a paragraph that sort of summarizes this to
- 8 simply read into the record. Is that paragraph prepared
- 9 by you and is it fully correct?
- 10 A Yes.
- 11 Q Could you go ahead and read that in?
- 12 A Yes. I will read what I wrote here, a
- 13 paragraph describing the treatment chemistry. It just
- 14 says, "The new chemical treatment regimen PDC utilized
- 15 for the trials incorporated addition of reagents
- 16 involving sulfur oxy-anion compounds of alkaline-earth
- 17 metals along with agents for pH control which included
- 18 calcined and uncalcined lime. As necessary, the pH
- 19 control agents which may be used include various
- 20 phosphate and iron compounds. The additive mix ratio
- 21 and dosage were controlled to provide a robust chemistry
- 22 such that the potential for leaching of heavy metals of
- 23 concern are minimized under various natural and induced
- 24 leaching scenarios. During this treatment, the heavy

- 1 metals are stabilized through a series of complex
- 2 precipitation and adsorption-coprecipitation reactions
- 3 in a pH regime of very low solubility of the metals.
- 4 The material after stabilization is characterized by low
- 5 potential for leaching of heavy metals as indicated by
- 6 the TCLP (U.S. EPA Toxicity Characteristic Leaching
- 7 Procedure) which is TCLP, analysis with using different
- 8 extraction fluids like acidic, neutral and a pH 11.0
- 9 solution and also the corresponding MEP tests which is a
- 10 multiple extraction procedure of U.S. EPA.
- 11 Q Thank you. And you described this procedure.
- 12 Is this just dilution of the waste?
- 13 A It is not.
- 14 Q The process you created to stabilize the
- 15 electric arc furnace dust, does it permanently stabilize
- 16 that dust? Will there be changes over time?
- 17 A No.
- 18 Q And under landfill conditions would the
- 19 stabilized electric arc furnace dust ever destabilize in
- 20 an extreme acidic environment in a landfill?
- 21 A No.
- 22 O An extreme alkaline environment in a
- 23 landfill?
- A No. The answer is no.

- 1 0 In heat encountered in a landfill?
- 2 A No.
- 3 Q How about in cold that one would encounter in
- 4 a landfill?
- 5 A No. Temperature has no effect on the
- 6 chemistry.
- 7 MR. NAIR: That is all the questions we have for
- 8 Dr. Chowdhury.
- 9 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Are there any questions from
- 10 the Agency?
- 11 MR. INGERSOLL: No questions. Thank you.
- 12 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Any questions from the
- 13 Board?
- 14 (No audible response.)
- 15 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.
- MS. NAIR: I believe that that's all we have.
- 17 That's all we have, Madam Hearing Officer. Thank you.
- 18 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Would you like to move to
- 19 offer your exhibits?
- 20 MS. NAIR: I'm sorry, yes. I would like to offer 1
- 21 through 4. 1 was the list of steel mills. I'm sorry.
- 22 1 was actually Ms. Curtis' resume. 2 was Ms. Curtis'
- 23 outline. 3 was Dr. Chowdhury's curriculum vitae. And 4
- 24 was the list of the steel mills.

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1 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Does the EPA --
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- 2 MR. INGERSOLL: No objection.
- 3 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: No objection. 1 through 4
- 4 are admitted into the record.
- 5 Does the EPA have any witnessed to call
- 6 today?
- 7 MR. INGERSOLL: No, we don't.
- 8 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Are there any further
- 9 questions from the Board that need to be addressed by
- 10 either party?
- 11 (No audible response.)
- 12 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Would PDC like to make a
- 13 closing statement today?
- MS. MANNING: Just briefly, that we hope that this
- 15 information, the information the Board has received on
- 16 the record today, will allow it to make the decision
- 17 that we believe is the appropriate decision. And that
- 18 is to grant us the hazardous waste delisting. We have
- 19 spent a lot of time, a lot of work and lot of effort and
- 20 in keeping with the law and the regulations and the
- 21 process.
- 22 So with that, we are happy to hear whatever
- 23 public comments are going to be made today; and whatever
- 24 kind of follow-up, public commentary there is, we would

- 1 be happy to respond in kind to those comments as well.
- 2 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Does the EPA have any
- 3 closing comments?
- 4 MR. INGERSOLL: Nothing. Thank you.
- 5 (Discussion off the record.)
- 6 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: The transcript of these
- 7 proceedings will be available from the court reporter by
- 8 August 28th and will be posted on the Board's website.
- 9 The public comment deadline is September 11th. If the
- 10 Board rules that a second hearing will be held in DeWitt
- 11 County, there will be a public comment period after that
- 12 hearing as well. However, unless you hear otherwise,
- 13 you should plan to have your comments in by September
- 14 11th. Public comment must be filed in accordance with
- 15 section 101.628 of the Board's procedural rules and must
- 16 be sent to the Pollution Control Board clerk in the
- 17 Chicago office.
- 18 The Petitioner's brief is due by September
- 19 25th and the Agency's brief, if any, is due by October
- 20 2nd. Based on my legal judgment and experience, I find
- 21 the witnesses testifying at this hearing to be
- 22 creditable. And I will now take public comment. I'm
- 23 going to -- I think what we will do --
- MS. RYAN: Would you like to use this microphone,

- 1 because we don't need it.
- 2 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Yeah. Let's take it off the
- 3 stand and people can just hold it. If you have
- 4 something you need to set down, you can use this table
- 5 here. Otherwise, just step up here as I call your name.
- 6 I'm first going to call Mr. Jess Slager, Hopedale
- 7 Township Supervisor.
- 8 (Brief pause in proceedings.)
- 9 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Please state your name and
- 10 spell it for the court reporter.
- MR. SLAGER: Jess Slager, J-e-s-s, S-l-a-g-e-r,
- 12 Hopedale Township Supervisor.
- 13 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Go ahead.
- MR. SLAGER: My public comment today is that we
- 15 have -- we do have the Indian Creek Landfill in our
- 16 township. We have communicated with them extremely well
- 17 all during the process. And I want to put in a good
- 18 word because they have been very helpful to us, I think,
- 19 answered our questions and kept us informed of what was
- 20 going on. And so our Board decided to pass a resolution
- 21 on this hearing.
- 22 It goes as such: "Whereas, Tazewell County
- 23 Landfill Incorporated is the owner and operator of
- 24 Indian Creek Landfill located in Hopedale Township,

- 1 Tazewell County, Illinois,
- 2 "Whereas, on October 1st, 2003, Tazewell
- 3 County Landfill in the County of Tazewell entered into a
- 4 host community agreement which was amended by the first
- 5 amendment to host community agreement effective
- 6 September 27th, 2006," that's our host community
- 7 agreement.
- 8 "Whereas, on September 12, 2006, Tazewell
- 9 County Landfill in Hopedale Township entered into a host
- 10 Township agreement" -- that's the second host township
- 11 agreement.
- "Whereas, on March 28th, 2007, Tazewell
- 13 County granted the local siting approval for
- 14 approximately 10-million ton expansion of Indian Creek
- 15 Landfill,
- 16 "Whereas, in accordance with the procedures
- 17 set forth in section 32 of the host community agreement
- on May 30th, 2007, the County of Tazewell authorized
- 19 Tazewell County Landfill to accept for disposal at
- 20 Indian Creek delisted and characterized stabilized
- 21 residue from the waste stabilization facility owned and
- 22 operated by Peoria Disposal Company, an affiliate of
- 23 Tazewell County Landfill located in Peoria County,
- 24 Illinois,

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1 "Whereas, on April 25th, 2008, PDC filed with
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- 2 the Illinois Pollution Control Board a RCRA delisting
- 3 adjusted standard petition, petitioning for an up-front
- 4 and unconditional delisting for the stabilized residue
- 5 generated by PDC for the treatment of K061 electronic
- 6 arc furnace dust generated by the steel mills that
- 7 produce steel using electric arc furnaces treating K061
- 8 residues,
- 9 "Whereas, PDC would like to dispose of the
- 10 treated K061 residues in Indian Creek Landfill,
- "Whereas, other than Tazewell County,
- 12 Hopedale Township is the only local entity having
- 13 jurisdiction over the Indian Creek Landfill,
- 14 "Resolve that Hopedale Township supports the
- 15 RCRA delisting adjusted standard petition filed by PDC
- 16 with the Board petitioning for an up-front and
- 17 conditional delisting for the treated K061 residues.
- 18 "Further resolve that Hopedale Township
- 19 supports the disposal of the treated K061 residues by
- 20 Tazewell County Landfill, Indian Creek Landfill." And
- 21 it was signed August 12 by all elected officials
- 22 including the Township commissioner.
- 23 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Do you want to file
- 24 that?

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1 MR. SLAGER: File that for me. And by this
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- 2 there was a lot of things in there. But we feel
- 3 that -- you know, like a lot of people we really didn't
- 4 want a landfill in our back yard. But we tried to
- 5 research it out and make the best out of everything that
- 6 comes there. And we feel this is a safe product from
- 7 what the State and the EPA and the Illinois Pollution
- 8 Control Board and the landfill, all the work they have
- 9 done makes us feel pretty safe and assured that it's
- 10 better than what we have had in the past. So we support
- 11 this and would like to see -- not object to it coming to
- 12 our community.
- 13 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Also, I will mention, if
- 14 anybody else -- if you prepared a letter and if you do
- 15 not want to read the letter aloud, you can just hand it
- 16 to me and I will file it with the Board as written
- 17 public comment. But feel free to read it aloud if you
- 18 so desire.
- 19 I will next call -- is it Ila Minson?
- 20 (Pause in proceedings.)
- 21 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: State your name and spell
- 22 your name for the court reporter.
- MS. MINSON: My name is Ila Minson. I-l-a,
- 24 M-i-n-s-o-n. I live -- I'm not born and raised, but I

- 1 currently live outside of Hopedale.
- 2 First of all, I would like to address what
- 3 Mr. Jeff Slager said. What Mr. Jeff Slager said was
- 4 grossly inaccurate. I attend and take every public
- 5 meeting. What he failed to tell you is that PDC is the
- 6 one that presented this resolution. It was not on the
- 7 agenda and it was filed -- in 2002 the Board said, If
- 8 it's not on the agenda, the Board cannot take action for
- 9 it. And it's considered null and void. I would like to
- 10 submit a copy of the agenda of the Township where it
- 11 shows it wasn't on the agenda, the resolution and the
- 12 court ruling approved that -- and ask you not to listen
- 13 to anything that Jeff Slager said because it was done
- 14 illegally and should not be considered. Tsk, tsk.
- 15 And the reason why Jeff Slager did it is the
- 16 Township gets paid ten cents per ton to bring this waste
- 17 and dump it over our drinking water. They want to do
- 18 what -- let me use a piece of candy here. This is toxic
- 19 waste. We will pretend like it's toxic waste, and this
- 20 PDC. They want to take the protective coating on it and
- 21 say, Ooh, well, ah, It's no longer toxic waste. They
- 22 want to change the description but not change a thing.
- 23 They brought a sample of it into the township meeting
- 24 and all it is is a solid lump. It's not going to leach

- 1 near as fast --
- 2 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Ms. Minson, you have to make
- 3 sure the court reporter can hear you.
- 4 MS. MINSON: I'm sorry. Fashion outweighs common
- 5 sense. First of all -- then they brought a sample in.
- 6 And it looks just like solid mass. They want to make it
- 7 dense. Changing it -- changing the consistency does not
- 8 change how toxic it is. It's still -- tomato, tomato
- 9 (emphasizing pronunciation) it does not change it. Just
- 10 because they are taking the protective coating off, it's
- 11 still toxic. And it is just going to leach that much
- 12 slower into our drinking water. What kind of legacy is
- 13 that? Our legislators shouldn't allow that over our
- 14 drinking water to begin with. What does that say about
- 15 our community? What does that say about our
- 16 politicians?
- 17 And, in fact, I know -- I had this all
- 18 planned. I was going to be so together on this. You
- 19 know, I just think it's -- how -- what PDC has done is
- 20 just -- is unscrupulous and underhanded. The fact that
- 21 they have a township person come up here -- because they
- 22 literally bought and paid for the township. You do the
- 23 math. 240 tons come into Hopedale and at ten cents a
- 24 ton -- I think that's called bribing a politician. PDC

- 1 told them, You don't have to document this. This is
- 2 part -- who said you can just do whatever you want with
- 3 this, which currently they are planning to use it to pay
- 4 for the utilities for some private Christian service
- 5 that happens to be Jeff Slager's pet project. Yeah. It
- 6 gets better than this.
- 7 And that is why PDC should be refused to do
- 8 this. Because they are telling the township, You are
- 9 going to get an additional \$30,000 more a year. Look
- 10 what you can do with that. And you don't have to record
- it or anything because it's not taxpayers' money, but
- 12 yet they passed it as a TIF tax to put wear and tear on
- 13 our world. So that is why I'm asking the Pollution
- 14 Board to stand up and defend us citizens. I want you to
- 15 step up to the plate. And I am asking why we don't have
- 16 some kind of independent outside study that PDC doesn't
- 17 have their hands in concerning this toxic waste, an
- 18 objective, analytic -- something that nobody -- that PDC
- 19 hasn't had their hands in it. It's asking too much to
- 20 put over our groundwater. I'm sure I'm boring
- 21 everybody. There is more.
- 22 So there is -- I just feel like that -- I
- 23 will be sending more documentation in because I do
- 24 document all the public meetings.

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1 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Why don't you mail this in
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- 2 because it really doesn't have -- include a letter with
- 3 it.
- 4 MS. MINSON: Okay. I just want to show that when
- 5 Jeff Slager amended that it was not binding.
- 6 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.
- 7 Matt Varble?
- 8 MR. VARBLE: Good afternoon, Madam Chairman. My
- 9 name is Matt Varble. I am the president of
- 10 watchclintonlandfill.com. We are a political action
- 11 committee represented through the State of Illinois
- 12 State Board of Elections website. I also used to be
- 13 former zoning and planning commissioner, one of seven,
- 14 of DeWitt County, Illinois. And I come here before you
- 15 today to present an oral motion at this hearing. And I
- 16 will just speak to you extemporaneously a little bit in
- 17 comments before presenting the oral motion to you.
- 18 Issues that were raised in response to
- 19 Representative Bill Mitchell's letter which was filed
- 20 with the Illinois Pollution Control Board will be
- 21 addressed through this motion. What we are doing is
- 22 proposing a motion under Title 35 of the Environmental
- 23 Protection Act, subtitle A, general provision, chapter
- 24 1, Pollution Control Board, part 102, regulatory and

- 1 informational hearings and proceedings, section 102.412
- 2 scheduling of hearings.
- 3 That is a different motion and request than
- 4 what Representative Mitchell, the state representative
- 5 for the 87th House District, has presented to this
- 6 Board.
- 7 And I will quote what the section of the law
- 8 states. It states that, Under section A, except as
- 9 otherwise provided by applicable law, no substantive
- 10 regulations shall be adopted, amended or repealed until
- 11 after a public hearing within the area of the state
- 12 concerning.
- 13 In the case of site-specific rules a public
- 14 hearing will be held in the affected county -- which is
- 15 what we are at today -- except as otherwise provided by
- 16 applicable law in the case of statewide regulations
- 17 hearings shall be held in at least two areas. 415 ILCS
- 18 528a says this in state statue: If the proponents or
- 19 any participant wishes to request a hearing beyond the
- 20 number of hearings specified by the hearing officer,
- 21 that person must demonstrate in a motion to the hearing
- 22 officer that failing to hold an additional hearing would
- 23 result in material prejudice. The movement -- the
- 24 motion may be oral. If made at hearing or written, the

- 1 movement must show that they exercised due diligence in
- 2 its participation in the proceeding and why an
- 3 additional hearing as opposed to the submission of
- 4 written comments pursuant to section 102 --
- 5 COURT REPORTER: Could you slow down?
- 6 MR. VARBLE: -- is necessary.
- 7 Okay.
- 8 COURT REPORTER: And I will need a copy of that,
- 9 too.
- 10 MR. VARBLE: Sure. I will submit that as soon as I
- 11 finish my comments.
- 12 So based upon that citing of the statute, we
- 13 propose that a second hearing on case AS 08-10 should be
- 14 held in DeWitt County pursuant to 415 ILCS 5/28a as
- 15 required for in the case of statewide regulations. The
- 16 failure to hold an additional hearing pursuant to 415
- 17 ILCS 5/28a would result in material prejudice to the
- 18 residents of DeWitt County for the following reasons:
- 19 One, we grant that the treatment process is
- 20 site-specific to Peoria. That said, the potential
- 21 impact from this K061 delisting is effectively
- 22 converting subtitle D landfills into hazardous landfills
- 23 without local siting approvals if an error is made and
- 24 the resulting residue starts to exhibit its previous

- 1 hazardous characteristics at some time in the future.
- While hearings at all subtitle D locations
- 3 statewide may not be practical, we feel hearings at two
- 4 locations as required by 415 ILCS 5/28a and at the next
- 5 closest site, which is Clinton, is not only required but
- 6 prudent.
- 7 Our due diligence has been met. DeWitt
- 8 County residents did not receive adequate notice of this
- 9 hearing to enable their informed participation today.
- 10 But once WATCH became aware of the hearing, all due
- 11 diligence was exercised to allow WATCH to participate in
- 12 this proceeding on a limited basis. We only had 11 days
- 13 to prepare, and time did not allow informed
- 14 participation by interested members of the general
- 15 public, DeWitt County.
- 16 Our burden of proving that due diligence was
- 17 met pursuant to the statutes includes the following:
- 18 Notice was received at about noon on August 7th, 2008,
- 19 just 11 days prior to today's hearing. We received
- 20 notice from the Heart of Illinois Sierra Club. We did
- 21 not receive notice at any time during the 18 months that
- 22 the Peoria Disposal Corporation was evaluating this
- 23 process, although PDC held public and private meetings
- 24 during that time in DeWitt County with public and

- 1 elected officials.
- 2 After receiving notice, DeWitt County Board
- 3 Chairman, Steve Lodd, was contacted and made a decision
- 4 on Friday, in one day, to call an emergency special
- 5 board meeting for last Wednesday, August 13th, 2008.
- 6 The delay in calling the emergency meeting was necessary
- 7 due to the need to confirm that a quorum could be
- 8 attained and to satisfy the statutory 48-hour rule for
- 9 meeting notices.
- 10 WATCH obtained a consensus of 11 of 12 county
- 11 board members by Sunday evening, August 10th, 2008, that
- 12 the meeting was needed providing the necessary quorum.
- 13 WATCH also obtained a consensus of ten members of the
- 14 DeWitt County Board who indicated support for her
- 15 resolution calling for an additional Pollution Control
- 16 Board hearing in Clinton, Illinois. Notice of the
- 17 emergency special meeting of the DeWitt County Board was
- 18 attended by active members of WATCH because of the
- 19 inherent limitations of mass communications for DeWitt
- 20 County residents. Regional papers from Decatur and
- 21 Bloomington did not publish the notice once it was
- 22 announced. One local paper, the Clinton Journal,
- 23 published the story in its next edition at noon on
- 24 Tuesday, August 12th.

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1 A second county weekly newspaper, the Farmers
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- 2 City Journal, did not publish the story in its Tuesday
- 3 evening edition. The third county newspaper, the DeWitt
- 4 County --
- 5 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Mr. Varble, can you
- 6 summarize this a little bit?
- 7 MR. VARBLE: I think it would be prudent to go
- 8 through the points due to establishing the burden of due
- 9 diligence.
- 10 MS. MANNING: Madam Hearing Officer, if I could as
- 11 a point of order as well --
- 12 MR. VARBLE: Excuse me. I am answering the Hearing
- 13 Officer's question. As a matter of due diligence, I
- 14 think it's important to reflect that in the minutes of
- 15 the record unless you feel that that's not --
- 16 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Okay. Just a minute. What
- 17 were you going to say?
- 18 MS. MANNING: I am going object to this. Public
- 19 comments, obviously, we are happy to hear public
- 20 comments on the petition that's before the Pollution
- 21 Control Board. But, number one, the gentleman is citing
- 22 the wrong -- you know, we could argue this in the briefs
- 23 afterward, but as the Board knows, he is citing the
- 24 regulatory provisions that we have, not the adjudicatory

- 1 provisions that are -- an adjusted standard is pursuant
- 2 to the Board's adjudicatory authority. It's not
- 3 pursuant to the Board's regulatory authority. So the
- 4 very provisions that he is citing are not relevant to
- 5 this particular proceeding. And, secondly, you know, as
- 6 a party, you know, I don't know how the Board can
- 7 necessarily entertain a motion in this particular --
- 8 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: It would be a request,
- 9 taking a request.
- 10 MS. MANNING: Right. Certainly not a motion of a
- 11 party. So at any rate, I think it behooves us all to
- 12 move on with public comment in terms of the substance of
- 13 the matter before the Board.
- 14 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: You understand they are
- 15 going to rule on this this Thursday. They won't have
- 16 the transcript until next week.
- 17 MR. VARBLE: Okay. I believe, then, it's important
- 18 to make this request, though, because I think --
- 19 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: If you are going to go into
- 20 that much detail, I would encourage you to submit that
- 21 as a written public comment.
- MR. VARBLE: I will submit that.
- 23 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: It would be a lot easier.
- MR. VARBLE: I will expedite making my comments.

- 1 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Okay. Thank you.
- 2 MR. VARBLE: So I believe a second hearing is
- 3 necessary also due to the fact that communication is
- 4 inadequate in DeWitt County for this purpose. While
- 5 written communication is possible in the future from
- 6 DeWitt County residents, the time to be allotted for the
- 7 education and forming of opinions on this delisting
- 8 issue needs to be adequate for that to occur.
- 9 Second hearing with adequate time to prepare
- 10 would focus residents on the perspective involvement on
- 11 this issue. It would allow time for public education by
- 12 the parties. And it would afford and remedy the
- 13 disparity between the current four-month opportunity
- 14 afforded to residents of Peoria County versus the 11
- 15 days of opportunity given to DeWitt County residents.
- 16 Contrary to the assertion made by Mr. Meginnes in his
- 17 response that was filed on August 14th to Representative
- 18 Mitchell's letter requesting a second hearing, we assert
- 19 that the residents would not have adequate
- 20 transportation to attend today's hearing and express
- 21 their concerns. We have a larger-than-average senior
- 22 population in DeWitt County living on fixed incomes. We
- 23 have a larger-than-average poverty level population with
- 24 inadequate private transportation to attend the

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1 hearings, such as the one here today. We are now
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- 2 studying the implementation of a countywide federally
- 3 subsidized rural transportation program and have a very
- 4 limited local --
- 5 COURT REPORTER: Could you slow down?
- 6 MR. VARBLE: We attempted to raise donations
- 7 to pay for private transportation to allow concerned
- 8 residents to attend today, but that effort was not
- 9 successful due to the limited time available to seek
- 10 donations due to the late notice of this meeting.
- 11 Representative Mitchell's request filed on
- 12 August 13th for a second hearing citing he received
- 13 calls from constituents expressing concerns of the
- 14 long-term public health and safety of this hearing's
- 15 delisting question. We feel that this is required by
- 16 statute to have a second hearing and that the effective
- 17 notice was not made. This was not disclosed by Peoria
- 18 Disposal formally to the DeWitt County Board. There is
- 19 direct evidence of the interest of DeWitt County
- 20 residents over landfill related issues if they are given
- 21 adequate notice and time to consider their concerns as
- 22 evidenced by the February 5th, 2008, primary election
- 23 during -- where a near record 44 percent of voters
- 24 turned out to consider a public question of whether or

- 1 not there should be a chemical waste landfill permitted
- 2 in Clinton. 74 percent or 3,531 people voted against
- 3 the proposed permitted of a chemical waste landfill
- 4 which Peoria Disposal currently has pending before
- 5 region 5 of the U.S.EPA. And they had a period of over
- 6 three months prior to forming their opinions as opposed
- 7 to 11 days. And --
- 8 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Mr. Varble, you still have
- 9 several pages there. Again, I am going to ask you to
- 10 please submit this as a written comment or summarize as
- 11 quickly as you can. We have a lot of people here to
- 12 speak today.
- 13 MR. VARBLE: I'm on the last page.
- 14 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.
- MR. VARBLE: It will take me several minutes.
- 16 While I would like to sum up, contrary to these
- 17 assertions that if reduced to writing and approved by
- 18 all parties gives the DeWitt County Board control --
- 19 they talk about an amendment that was proposed -- it is
- 20 not an adequate substitute for the right for concerned
- 21 residents to express their concerns directly as would be
- 22 afforded them if a hearing was convened in Clinton,
- 23 Illinois.
- While an amendment to the DeWitt County

- 1 Landfill hosting agreement, which has not been
- 2 specified, just orally presented, DeWitt County has an
- 3 option to limit or restrict this waste from coming, but
- 4 it does not if it is designed to circumvent this process
- 5 rather than to address the issue. Thus we say that if
- 6 delisted, DeWitt County not being afforded the right to
- 7 participate by holding a second hearing would represent
- 8 undue prejudice against the residents of DeWitt County.
- 9 And we request a second hearing for those reasons in
- 10 addition to the written comments that we will submit.
- 11 Thank you.
- 12 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.
- 13 COURT REPORTER: Can I get the spelling of your
- 14 name?
- MR. VARBLE: Spelling, M-a-t-t, Varble, V as in
- 16 Victor, a-r-b, as in bravo, l-e.
- 17 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you. I would like to
- 18 call Mr. Dennis Ford.
- 19 (Pause in proceedings.)
- MR. FORD: My name is Dennis Ford, F-o-r-d.
- 21 Thank you to the Board for allowing me an
- 22 opportunity to participate in public comment on this
- 23 issue. The first thing I want to say is that I'm here
- 24 to ask you and to encourage you to not approve PDC's

- 1 petition to delist this waste. I have a number of
- 2 concerns about it. I guess the main concern that I
- 3 have -- well, first of all, my overarching concern in
- 4 the whole issue is just public health and safety. I'm
- 5 worried that what they are proposing may be a hazard,
- 6 may be dangerous or harmful to the general public, not
- 7 only in my community -- I'm from Hopedale. I live near
- 8 Indian Creek Landfill -- but also to the whole region of
- 9 central Illinois and Peoria, Peoria area.
- 10 One of my main areas of concern is the lack
- 11 of long-term studies on whether or not it's an effective
- 12 process. I understand there has been extensive studies
- 13 done. Well, I wouldn't say extensive studies.
- 14 Intensive studies have been done on this, but not
- 15 long-term studies on what is actually going to take
- 16 place when this treated waste product ends up in a
- 17 municipal landfill, a RCRA, subtitle D landfill.
- 18 You know, we know there are components of the
- 19 waste product in a subtitle D landfill that are not
- 20 necessarily under control or even known what's in there.
- 21 There is just all kinds of things that can be in a
- 22 regular municipal placed landfill that could interact
- 23 with this treated waste and render their efforts to
- 24 stabilize this, you know, not successful. So that's my

- 1 concern is the lack of long-term studies on what's
- 2 really going to happen when this waste gets into a
- 3 municipal waste landfill.
- 4 Now if it turns out that this is not 100
- 5 percent stabilized and that things do start happening
- 6 with the -- say the treated waste product starts to
- 7 breakdown and chemical reactions are happening within
- 8 the landfill, I'm concerned about, of course, emissions,
- 9 air emissions from volatilized compounds coming out of
- 10 the landfill. I'm concerned about surface water
- 11 pollutions. Indian Creek is nearby -- Indian Creek runs
- 12 directly into the Mackinaw River within less than two
- 13 miles of the landfill, Indian Creek Landfill. And, of
- 14 course, the Mackinaw River runs into the Illinois River
- 15 several miles away on the boundary of Tazewell County
- 16 near Pekin, Illinois.
- Now I know that there is -- there was some
- 18 reference in the application and in the EPA's review of
- 19 this petition, there is reference to dioxins and furans
- 20 possibly being released into Indian Creek. You know, I
- 21 don't think that we want that to happen. There is a lot
- 22 of fishing that does take place -- not so much in Indian
- 23 Creek, which is a very small creek, but Indian Creek
- 24 flows directly into the Mackinaw River. There is a lot

- 1 of fishing that takes place in the Mackinaw River and a
- 2 lot of consumption of fish from that stretch of the
- 3 Mackinaw River from Hopedale Township right over to the
- 4 convergence of Mackinaw River with Illinois River.
- 5 There is a lot of fish caught and consumed in that area,
- 6 and I think we need to be careful about the health and
- 7 safety of those people who are eating that fish.
- 8 (Brief pause in proceedings.)
- 9 Oh, yes. The other area I'm really concerned
- 10 about is if, in fact, it turns out that -- that this
- 11 waste, this treated waste, does start to cause problems
- 12 that it does have higher leachability than is
- 13 anticipated; that it does -- that it is released into
- 14 the environment through the bottom of the landfill.
- 15 Indian Creek Landfill is sitting directly on top of the
- 16 Mahomet aquifer. It's estimated to be -- the bulk of
- 17 the landfill is estimated to be within 35 feet of the
- 18 top of Mahomet aquifer, not a very large distance. It's
- 19 not known -- I believe it's not known right now how this
- 20 waste is going to react once it gets into the municipal
- 21 waste landfill, what the potential is for any sort of
- 22 leaching or release into the environment. It is known
- 23 or it has been published -- I have read information that
- 24 says there are already or there can be substances in a

1 municipal waste landfill that are capable of migrating

- 2 through an HDPE liner.
- 3 So if these substances that you expect to
- 4 find in a municipal waste landfill start reacting with
- 5 the new substances that are going to be put in there
- 6 with the treated waste, I feel we just don't know what
- 7 is going to happen. But there is information that says
- 8 that those constituents could travel through the liner
- 9 and end up in the Mahomet aquifer which is a huge
- 10 resource, a very important resource for water for a
- 11 large area of Illinois, considered to be some of the
- 12 cleanest and purest water in the nation.
- 13 I would like the Board to consider -- take
- 14 that into consideration, the possibility of endangering
- 15 public health and safety by granting this delisting.
- 16 Another area of concern of mine is the
- 17 implication by PDC that to not receive this delisting
- 18 would be really harmful to their business. First of
- 19 all, I don't think that business concerns and concerns
- 20 for profit should come before public health and safety
- 21 concerns. Secondly, I don't think it's the general
- 22 public's responsibility or the regulatory agency's
- 23 responsibility to ensure convenient avenue for business.
- Now, of course, we have waste, and it needs

- 1 to be managed. And I don't -- I don't necessarily think
- 2 that if PDC doesn't get this delisting that they need to
- 3 fold up and die. We need people who are innovating ways
- 4 to manage waste in the future. From the things that I
- 5 have been reading lately and hearing from others, it
- 6 doesn't seem like what they are proposing here is
- 7 cutting edge technology. It's just sort of the same old
- 8 thing, treating the waste, putting it in land --
- 9 disposal landfill. There seems to be more technology
- 10 coming up on the horizon, and I would challenge PDC to
- 11 jump out in that and be a leader in that area instead of
- 12 trying to find ways to find loopholes to just continue
- 13 doing the same old thing. You know, they can be a
- 14 leader in this sort of new technology and continue to
- 15 have a very successful business. That would be great.
- 16 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Could you please sum up the
- 17 rest of your argument?
- 18 MR. FORD: Yes. So, again, I would ask the Board
- 19 to not grant this delisting. My areas of concerns are
- 20 public health and safety, lack of long-term testing and
- 21 not a clear understanding of what's really going to
- 22 happen when this waste hits the actual municipal waste
- 23 landfill, my concerns over surface water and especially
- 24 my concerns over the quality of Mahomet aquifer water.

- 1 Thank you for allowing me to comment.
- 2 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Again, I apologize for
- 3 cutting people short. I'm going to try to keep people
- 4 under ten minutes, if possible, because we have quite a
- 5 few people who wish to speak today. If you did not get
- 6 to say everything you wish to say, please submit written
- 7 public comment to the Board. And that will be
- 8 considered as much as if you said it at today's hearing.
- 9 (Whereupon, a recess was taken in the
- 10 proceedings.)
- 11 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: When everyone is settled
- 12 down, I would like to call Lisa Offutt.
- 13 (Brief pause in proceedings.)
- 14 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Again, I would like people
- 15 to please try to be succinct as possible. We have more
- 16 than 20 people who still wish to speak. So with that in
- 17 mind I will turn the microphone over to you. Spell your
- 18 name for the court reporter.
- 19 MS. OFFUTT: My name is Lisa Offutt. Last name is
- 20 O-f-f, as in Frank, u-t-t, as in Thomas.
- 21 When the Peoria County Board originally
- 22 denied PDC's expansion application, it cited concerns
- 23 that are relevant to the issue at hand today. The
- 24 County Board expressed its finding back in 2006 that the

- 1 public health and safety and welfare would not be
- 2 protected were the landfill to be expanded. Many of the
- 3 same health concerns arise when we contemplate the
- 4 possibility of the waste treatment facility at PDC
- 5 number 1 being allowed to operate indefinitely as it
- 6 would if this delisting was approved. I am not going to
- 7 go over all of the potential health concerns, but there
- 8 are two I would like to highlight.
- 9 One obvious concern is the increased truck
- 10 traffic through our area bringing loads of dusty
- 11 hazardous material through our communities to PDC number
- 12 1. Trucks do overturn. Just recently a truck hauling
- 13 waste to PDC's DeWitt County landfill overturned just
- 14 outside the landfill's gates. Imagine a truckload of
- 15 heavy metal lace and EAF dust overturning near a Peoria
- 16 neighborhood on a windy day. It would be impossible to
- 17 contain and thousands could be affected. But my primary
- 18 concern for us regarding this landfill is the possible
- 19 contamination of our aquifer, the source of our drinking
- 20 water, directly over which the landfill sits.
- 21 Activities related to the waste treatment
- 22 facility should this delisting be approved will, in my
- 23 opinion, only make aquifer contamination more likely.
- In the technical support documents for their

- 1 delisting proposal, PDC describes how the treated waste
- 2 will be moved to a storage area in 25 cubic yard
- 3 roll-off boxes or 168 cubic yard gondola style rail
- 4 boxes to await testing or having failed initial testing
- 5 to cure for a period of time before retesting. These
- 6 very large, very heavy containers would need to be moved
- 7 by very large, very heavy equipment.
- 8 The storage area PDC proposes to use is
- 9 portions of landfill cell C1, C2 and C3. I'm very
- 10 concerned about the repeated compaction and wear and
- 11 tear to the landfill cells of driving these heavy
- 12 machines and heavy loads back and forth over them on a
- 13 daily basis.
- 14 We know from our research during the
- 15 expansion hearings that there is evidence that cell C1
- 16 has significant leaking of leachate and that the liner
- 17 system is compromised. At the hearing I recall it being
- 18 brought up that microencapsulated wastes are in the cell
- 19 and that there is a weight limit, or at least concern
- 20 about the amount of waste that can be placed over this
- 21 type of waste. I ask if this is being taken into
- 22 consideration regarding this delisting request as I
- 23 haven't heard any mention of this issue so far in public
- 24 meetings or documentation.

1 During the landfill expansion hearing process

- 2 Peoria Families Against Toxic Waste brought forward
- 3 evidence that PDC had encountered sand lense when
- 4 digging cell C1, and that they were unable to find the
- 5 bottom of it. Sand lenses can be a direct route into
- 6 the aquifer below. Cell C1 was built over two sand
- 7 lenses encountered in construction of the cell.
- 8 Repeated hauling heavy loads back and forth across this
- 9 already compromised area only increases chances of a
- 10 breach.
- 11 There is another reason I believe that it's
- 12 relevant to bring up PDC's expansion request and
- 13 subsequent denial. As it stands, PDC number 1 is
- 14 projected to be full sometime in 2009. If this
- 15 delisting is approved and PDC can begin landfilling the
- 16 treated waste elsewhere the active portion of the
- 17 landfill will fill more slowly and remain open much
- 18 longer. PDC representatives have mentioned this in
- 19 public as a benefit of delisting on more than one
- 20 occasion.
- 21 Finally, I believe there is a pattern of
- 22 behavior on PDC's part that shows an intention to
- 23 subvert the siting authority of the County, and this
- 24 delisting proposal is just the latest effort. Of course

- 1 they did not accept the decision to deny their expansion
- 2 request and appealed to the Pollution Control Board to
- 3 overturn it. Fortunately, you upheld it, and PDC has
- 4 subsequently taken their appeal to the appellate court.
- 5 But even before IPCB's decision came down,
- 6 PDC was hard at work pursuing other means of keeping
- 7 their operations going. Last year PDC asked the
- 8 Illinois EPA to modify its permit and be classified as a
- 9 waste generator. They were asking the IEPA to say that
- 10 the waste that goes through their waste treatment
- 11 facility that comes from several different sources
- 12 inside and outside of the state is actually waste that
- is generated by them.
- I know that the IEPA and IPCB have since
- 15 decided that PDC is the generator of the waste it
- 16 treats. But with all due respect it still defies
- 17 comprehension. The important point is that
- 18 reclassification would have allowed PDC to expand the
- 19 landfill without County approval. Fortunately, the IEPA
- 20 saw fit to deny this request, and the PCB affirmed its
- 21 decision when PDC in turn appealed it. Now PDC is
- 22 attempting to have the waste that goes through their
- 23 treatment facility declared nonhazardous so they can
- 24 dump it in a municipal landfill with relatively normal

- 1 liner systems and no leachate detection system along
- 2 with people's cleaning solvents, paint, bleach, organic
- 3 waste, et cetera. There is a provision in their
- 4 proposal that would allow them to take waste from new
- 5 sources not listed in their proposal without any
- 6 approval from any regulatory body and merely give 15
- 7 days notice.
- 8 Given the wide variability of what gets
- 9 melted down in the steelmaking process and,
- 10 consequently, the wide variability in constituents of
- 11 concern in the EAF dust, this amounts to PDC being able
- 12 to delist waste on their own. PDC keeps coming up with
- 13 more ways to make an end run around the fact that the
- 14 people of Peoria County and our county board have spoken
- 15 loudly and clearly that we don't want their hazardous
- 16 waste business to continue indefinitely in our
- 17 community.
- 18 I would also like to point out as evidence
- 19 that PDC's unwillingness to openly engage the
- 20 communities in which they do business, that the people
- 21 of DeWitt County as you heard earlier, had no idea that
- 22 their municipal waste landfill was listed as a possible
- 23 recipient of those treated EAF dust waste. And because
- 24 you heard that earlier and in the interest of time, I

- 1 won't go into detail. But I will say that I have heard
- 2 Chris Coulter state in public that their intention with
- 3 this delisting is not just to be allowed to dispose of
- 4 the waste in their own landfill, but in any municipal
- 5 landfill in the state of Illinois. This radically
- 6 widens the pool of counties likely to be affected by
- 7 this delisting should it go forward.
- 8 Finally, I would like to comment on what I
- 9 see as the lopsided nature of these processes. I
- 10 hesitated and thought long and hard about the arguments
- 11 I'm about to make. And I want to be very clear that my
- 12 comments are offered respectfully and with an awareness
- 13 of size and complexity of the task that confronts
- 14 everyone in this and related matters. However, this is
- 15 a concern that I have had for three years, and I feel
- 16 compelled to express it. My understanding is that the
- 17 burden of proof and the proposals like PDC's is on the
- 18 petitioner. In other words, on PDC. However, over the
- 19 course of the last three years the burden of taking a
- 20 locally based careful, critical look at these proposals
- 21 has fallen to ordinary citizens like the members of
- 22 Heart of Illinois Sierra Club and Peoria Families
- 23 Against Toxic Waste and others. We ask the Pollution
- 24 Control Board for it's most careful, scientific

- 1 assessment of the full and long-term impact of this
- 2 delisting request.
- 3 I understand that the regulatory bodies
- 4 involved are often understaffed and overworked and,
- 5 therefore, they tend to be inclined to look for problems
- 6 and more inclined to simply state that regulations are
- 7 being met and leave it at that. County board members
- 8 are, by and large, not scientists or engineers and
- 9 certainly not experts in the relevant fields. And they
- 10 rely heavily on county staff. County staff seem
- 11 disproportionately concerned about keeping two area
- 12 businesses and jobs intact. I personally am tired of
- 13 being accused of wanting PDC to go out of business, and
- 14 I'm tired of the implication that we don't care about
- 15 people losing their jobs. Nothing could be further from
- 16 the truth. However, to those who may be understandably
- 17 upset about the possibility that their jobs may
- 18 disappear, I would suggest that their anger is more
- 19 appropriately directed at the owners and managers who
- 20 have failed to manage their companies intelligently
- 21 enough to adapt to changing circumstances and
- 22 technologies.
- This is a major issue for me. Who is looking
- 24 out for the tens of thousands of others who don't happen

- 1 to work for PDC or Keystone both now and in the future
- 2 who have a right to expect clean water to drink and
- 3 clean air to breathe? We don't have the deep pockets of
- 4 PDC or Keystone or even the county. We stand to gain
- 5 nothing here. We have not made one red cent for all of
- 6 the hours we have spent over the last three years
- 7 reading reams of technical documents, writing letters
- 8 and giving public testimony. Nobody is paying us to
- 9 come to public hearings and make statements. We all
- 10 have jobs, families, and other responsibilities that
- 11 demand our time and energy. Indeed we have spent a lot
- 12 of time, effort and our own money.
- 13 It seems at times the county board and the
- 14 county staff think they primarily represent area
- 15 businesses. Who represents us in this process? Why
- 16 didn't the County hire truly independent experts who
- 17 could pore over the 27 boxes of documents in PDC's
- 18 expansion application and all of the other documentation
- 19 relating to all of PDC's other maneuvering and find the
- 20 potential problems in them, instead of hiring the
- 21 engineering firm that PDC hired to draw up their own
- 22 expansion plans, to rubber stamp this delisting without
- 23 access to much of the relevant information. In a
- 24 scientific undertaking and to my mind in any clear and

- 1 rational decision-making process, one makes an argument
- 2 and then tries conscientiously to defeat it. This is
- 3 how you show that your argument and your position is
- 4 valid.
- 5 I am not at all satisfied that this has been
- 6 a process with regard to PDC at least on the part of
- 7 county staff and the IEPA. I sincerely hope this is the
- 8 approach that will be taken by the Pollution Control
- 9 Board and that the siting authority of the Peoria County
- 10 Board, the elected voice of the people of Peoria County,
- 11 will be upheld.
- 12 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you. I am going to
- 13 try a new incentive program. Please raise your hand --
- 14 if you are going to speak for five minutes or less, I
- 15 will take you out of the order of the list, five minutes
- 16 or less.
- 17 Sir, in the white shirt. You had your hand
- 18 up first. And your name, sir?
- 19 MR. HABBEN: Rudy, Habben, H-a-b-b-e--
- 20 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Please keep your voice up.
- 21 COURT REPORTER: I can't hear you, sir.
- 22 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Spell that again for the
- 23 court reporter.
- MR. HABBEN: Rudy Habben, H-a-b-b-e-n.

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1 COURT REPORTER: And what was the first name?
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- 2 MR. HABBEN: Rudy, R-u-d-y. And I have a short
- 3 letter to read and then few comments of concern.
- 4 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Okay.
- 5 MR. HABBEN: My name is Rudy Habben. I live at
- 6 3732 North Monroe Avenue, Peoria Heights, Illinois,
- 7 61616. And I'm currently vice chairman of the Heart of
- 8 Illinois Group Sierra Club, and I wish to state my
- 9 concerns about the delisting. I am concerned that the
- 10 Illinois Environmental Protection Agency says in its
- 11 June 12th, 2008, comment letter that PDC requests will
- 12 likely meet the required level of justification with
- 13 some additional information. And I respectfully wish to
- 14 point out that "will likely" is a very open-ended way to
- 15 consider regulation that could impact municipal waste
- 16 landfills and area water resources across Illinois for
- 17 years and years to come.
- 18 This delisting should be denied. PDC should
- 19 not be allowed to send treated -- pardon me -- electric
- 20 arc furnace waste, dust waste, to any title D municipal
- 21 waste landfill in Illinois. I also think PDC should not
- 22 be allowed to delay reaching capacity at its hazardous
- 23 waste landfill at Peoria until 2018. And it should be
- 24 closed next year. Because this delisting could impact

- 1 municipal waste landfills across Illinois, I think a
- 2 second hearing must be held. I request that the
- 3 Illinois Pollution Control Board hold a public hearing
- 4 in Clinton. Thank you.
- 5 And then the reason I generated this concern
- 6 is in the -- generated this concern is in the electronic
- 7 filings received by the Clerk's office on 2/12/2008 and,
- 8 specifically, H section 104.406(H) justification of the
- 9 proposed adjusted standard. And this is where the EPA
- 10 said there had to be modified with regard to toxic,
- 11 paren, DRAS modeling summary in the appendix that a
- 12 fraction of fish intake is reduced from the generic
- 13 input of 1.0 to the quite specific input of .05. And
- 14 also in appendix 4H cites specific model function table,
- 15 the fish consumption rate is increased from the default
- 16 input of 0.02 kilograms a day to the site-specific input
- 17 of 0.06 kilograms per day. And congratulations to EPA
- 18 that -- whoever did the review of the application found
- 19 that in appendix 4H that only 0.006 kilograms a day was
- 20 used in the model and then requested that it be rerun.
- 21 And so this raises a real red flag to me. It's been
- 22 years and years since I had to do anything with
- 23 statistics and data going into a model and so forth, and
- 24 the danger of manipulating the data and get the outcome

- 1 that you desire.
- 2 So I would request that that model be rerun
- 3 by an independent agency. I don't know if EPA is
- 4 capable of doing that, but I think it has to be -- it
- 5 can't be the company that does the -- again, reruns the
- 6 model in terms of determining the impact on the
- 7 environment. Thank you.
- 8 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Does that have your name on
- 9 it?
- 10 MR. HABBEN: No. This was your --
- 11 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you very much. Five
- 12 minutes or less?
- 13 (Brief pause in proceedings.)
- 14 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Spell your name, ma'am.
- MS. BUCKLAR: My name is Tessie Bucklar. It's
- 16 T-e-s-s-i-e, last name is B-u-c-k-l-a-r.
- I have many concerns that I would like to
- 18 speak about today. I am not a scientist, but a mother.
- 19 I know there are many people that would like to
- 20 discredit those like me that do not have a scientific
- 21 background, yet I have spent several years trying to
- 22 educate myself on this issue. I am a citizen and a
- 23 volunteer and have nothing to gain by speaking today
- 24 except to hope that I might be protecting health and

- 1 safety of my family in the future. I am a citizen of
- 2 Peoria County, but I currently purchase my drinking
- 3 water from a company that sources water from the Mahomet
- 4 aquifer, the aquifer that would be affected by
- 5 contamination from the landfills in both Clinton and
- 6 Hopedale, Illinois, where PDC is proposing to send this
- 7 delisted hazardous waste.
- 8 My first concern deals with the treatment of
- 9 these hazardous substances. Nothing I have read or
- 10 heard even today about this treatment process states
- 11 that the chemical composition of these toxins is changed
- 12 during the treatment process. Mixing hazardous waste
- 13 with cement or whatever substance they use to create a
- 14 lower parts per million does not change the amount of
- 15 lead, chromium or mercury and other heavy metals that is
- 16 contained within the EAF dust. The lead is still lead,
- 17 the chromium still chromium, the mercury still mercury.
- 18 It is just being put into a larger package.
- 19 COURT REPORTER: I need to change my paper.
- 20 (Brief pause in proceedings.)
- 21 MS. BUCKLAR: As I was stating, lead is still lead,
- 22 the chromium still chromium, the mercury still mercury.
- 23 It is just being put in a larger package. My concerns
- 24 increased when I learned that this treatment process is

1 considered proprietary information and it is kept secret

- 2 and not allowed to be examined by the public.
- 3 My second concern is that these substances
- 4 are being sent to municipal landfills with even less
- 5 restrictions than hazardous waste landfills. And it's
- 6 my understanding that we are not talking about a small
- 7 amount of EAF dust just being occasionally deposited at
- 8 a municipal landfill, but a large-scale operation with
- 9 as much as 95,000 cubic yards going in each year. There
- 10 is absolutely no waste toxicity ever changing mixture of
- 11 substances that the lead, chromium, mercury and other
- 12 heavy metals will come into contact with the municipal
- 13 landfill. Substances that may not be allowed in a
- 14 municipal landfill, but that will find their way there
- 15 anyway. Is this hazardous waste being segregated from
- 16 the rest of the household waste, or is it just being
- 17 thrown in with everything else? What happens when the
- 18 sulphuric acid from a car battery, the solvent from
- 19 paint thinner or simple household bleach comes in
- 20 contact with these heavy metals? What happens when they
- 21 are left exposed to the elements of nature during the
- 22 day when there is no cover on the landfill? What
- 23 happens when they are mixed with the methane gas
- 24 produced by municipal landfills? What happens when they

- 1 are subjected to the daily compaction of heavy equipment
- 2 that is used at these landfills? Until these questions
- 3 are answered, it would be irresponsible to allow these
- 4 hazardous materials to be mixed with municipal trash.
- 5 I believe Chris Coulter said it best himself
- 6 in the Journal Star this weekend. Quote, "It's not the
- 7 hazardous waste landfill that keeps me up at night, said
- 8 Coulter. At a municipal waste landfill I don't know
- 9 what people are putting in their trash," end quote. If
- 10 we don't know what comes in, how can we test for it?
- 11 And if we can't test for it, how can you tell us that
- 12 it's safe?
- 13 My third concern deals with economic issues.
- 14 It is my understanding that one of the main arguments in
- 15 favor of this delisting is that it would be economically
- 16 beneficial to both PDC and Keystone. I'm wondering if
- 17 anyone is taking into account the negative economic
- 18 impact any type of contamination of the Mahomet aquifer
- 19 would have on many other Illinois businesses and
- 20 industry. What about the company that provides my
- 21 drinking water? They have employees and drivers. What
- 22 happens to them if they can no longer pump
- 23 uncontaminated water? What happens to the farmers that
- 24 use water from the aquifer for irrigation? What happens

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1 to the ethanol plants that use enormous quantities of
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- 2 water from the aquifer for ethanol production? Do the
- 3 business interests of PDC and Keystone trump those of
- 4 these other Illinois businesses that depend on the
- 5 Mahomet aquifer? Once again, until these questions are
- 6 addressed, it would be irresponsible to allow this
- 7 delisting.
- 8 In closing, I respectfully ask the Illinois
- 9 Pollution Control Board to deny this delisting.
- 10 The huge quantity of EAF dust that is proposed to be
- 11 landfilled above the Mahomet aguifer is too great a
- 12 risk. Even trace elements of carcinogens and
- 13 neurotoxins contained in the dust could be triggers for
- 14 cancers, autism and many other illnesses. Deny this now
- 15 so that we can avoid a potential health, environmental
- 16 and economic disaster in the future.
- 17 Lastly, I respectfully request that public
- 18 hearings be held in both Clinton and Hopedale, Illinois,
- 19 so that citizens of those communities can have the same
- 20 chance to voice their concerns as I have. Thank you.
- 21 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you. Anyone else have
- 22 a short comment?
- 23 Ma'am?
- 24 (Brief pause in proceedings.)

- 1 MS. JORGENSEN: My name is Diane, D-i-a-n-e,
- 2 Jorgensen, J-o-r-g-e-n-s-e-n. I live in East Peoria.
- 3 And I strongly oppose the delisting of EAF dust because
- 4 of concerns of long-term health and safety concerns. I
- 5 also request a second hearing in Clinton, Illinois
- 6 regarding PDC delisting application. This delisting
- 7 Will create a statewide rule change allowing PDC to send
- 8 its EAF to any subtitle D municipal waste landfill in
- 9 Illinois. Thank you.
- 10 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: In the green.
- 11 (Brief pause in proceedings.)
- MS. LUNER: My name is Julie Luner, L-u-n-e-r. And
- 13 I live in Peoria. And my primary concern as a resident
- 14 of Peoria County is a verification of RMT's conclusion.
- 15 RMT is a paid client of PDC. There is a conflict of
- 16 interest. There has no been no independent testing and
- 17 verification of the new proprietary stabilization
- 18 technology. Unless RMT's finding of efficacy and
- 19 long-term safety of this new technology is verified by a
- 20 qualified, independent party, I believe it would be
- 21 irresponsible for the IPCB to delist the EAF dust based
- 22 upon the current information.
- 23 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you. Short comment,
- 24 sir, in the glasses?

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1 (Brief pause in proceedings.)
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- 2 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Five minutes or less?
- 3 MR. MAURER: Don Maurer, M-a-u-r-e-r, from
- 4 Hopedale, Illinois. And I'm on the Hopedale Betterment
- 5 Association, the Lions' Club, the Triangle of
- 6 Opportunity, and -- about -- and I go to the township
- 7 meetings, by the way, and the village board meetings.
- 8 So I have an idea of what's going on.
- 9 And I was a little concerned about the
- 10 landfill so I talked to Jess Slager who is the head of
- 11 the township. And he filled me in on what it was about.
- 12 And so I heard a lot of good things about the landfill.
- 13 So the landfill is two miles from my home. And last
- 14 year in Hopedale there was a hearing in December and
- 15 January that lasted a day and a half. And I thought it
- 16 was a real great meeting. And it brought out a lot of
- 17 things with -- I didn't realize. The liner is kind of
- 18 like the back of your chair. They've got a -- if I'm
- 19 not mistaken, it's white and black. And they take this
- 20 big huge hole. It's probably higher than this ceiling,
- 21 maybe it's from that wall to this wall. And they -- the
- 22 liner is really sturdy. They put the liner down first
- 23 and then they put the stuff in. Then after they put the
- 24 garbage in, then they put it in. And then last week

- 1 there was a township meeting, and I went to the township
- 2 meeting. And the township meeting, Chris Coulter he
- 3 came to the meeting, and he showed two jars of the dust
- 4 and the liquid. And he -- it's really a long story
- 5 about that, but he cleared everything up about that.
- 6 And there was no secret meetings or nothing like that as
- 7 far as the township went. And like I say, I went to --
- 8 last year I went to the December and January meeting in
- 9 Hopedale. And I really found it fascinating. And I
- 10 would like to challenge anybody in this to go out to the
- 11 landfill and judge it for yourself. You will find that
- 12 it is very well clean. As a matter of fact, if there is
- 13 any garbage out on the highway, they have maintenance
- 14 men clean up the garbage on the highway, on I-55. They
- 15 keep it really clean.
- This is kind of like a book.
- 17 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Sir --
- 18 MR. MAURER: Okay. This is kind of like a book.
- 19 You open up the pages. You have ten pages. And you
- 20 only go to page 8. You are not getting the whole
- 21 meaning of the landfill. And I guess I only got one
- 22 minute, but the Coulters at the landfill are doing an
- 23 excellent job. And if anybody would like to see this
- 24 landfill in Hopedale, I would contact the Coulters to

- 1 see this landfill. Okay. I'm already on five minutes.
- 2 Okay. Thank you.
- 3 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you. Again, I will
- 4 take longer comments at the end. I just want to take
- 5 short comments. Purple shirt? I will take short
- 6 comments first, and at least let those people go. And
- 7 people who wish to speak a little bit longer than
- 8 that -- up to ten minutes -- can go after that.
- 9 Your name, sir?
- 10 MR. JORGENSEN: Bob Jorgensen, 212 Sunnybrook
- 11 Drive, East Peoria. And I didn't realize I was wearing
- 12 a purple shirt today, but I guess purple is as good as
- 13 anything. I oppose the delisting of this hazardous
- 14 waste K061. I want to remind the Pollution Control
- 15 Board that we as citizens depend on you, the Pollution
- 16 Control Board, to make the safe call, the fair call, the
- 17 hard call and the right call. We look to you to protect
- 18 us from harm, to not be influenced or swayed by a
- 19 corporation putting the "new and improved label" on its
- 20 product when it's really the same old dangerous toxin in
- 21 a different box with a nice sounding ad campaign. You
- 22 must not fall into relaxed ways of faulty protection
- 23 agencies like the FDA, for instance, which seems to
- 24 approve anything the corporate drug companies put out

- 1 there. And then later the real world experience, the
- 2 lawsuits, come back and effect a recall of something
- 3 that was undertested and overpromised. And I think
- 4 that's what PDC's new and improved hazardous waste is,
- 5 just that, undertested and overpromised. Lack of a
- 6 vigilant oversight agency can cause irreparable harm to
- 7 individuals who believe the corporate sales pitch of
- 8 "Trust us. We know what's best for you." You are the
- 9 agency that we depend on to look for holes in the fabric
- 10 of PDC's rosy assertions, to look down the road and
- 11 critically ask, critically ask, Will this be a good
- 12 environmental choice ten years from now? Will it be a
- 13 good choice one generation from now? Will it be a good
- 14 choice one century from now? If there is the slightest
- 15 chance that it will be a regretted choice because of
- 16 toxins, furans, dioxins, heavy metals, et cetera,
- 17 contained in EAF dust, you must stand up and protect
- 18 current and future generations from a risk that really
- 19 does not need to be taken. Do what your name says,
- 20 control pollution. Protect our children's children from
- 21 this dangerous gamble. Don't allow PDC to export
- 22 hazardous waste out of Peoria County into Tazewell
- 23 County. Don't delist EAF dust. And thank you for
- 24 taking the time to listen to all of our public comments.

- 1 I appreciate it.
- 2 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you. Does anyone else
- 3 have a short comment?
- 4 MR. SKELLEY: My name is Jack Skelley,
- 5 S-k-e-l-l-e-y. I am here today on behalf of Gerdau
- 6 Ameristeel to offer our support for the Peoria Disposal
- 7 Company's delisting petition application. My current
- 8 position is serving as the corporate environmental
- 9 affairs manager for Gerdau Ameristeel at the Wilton,
- 10 Iowa, steel mill.
- 11 Gerdau Ameristeel is first and foremost a
- 12 recycling company. Our preference is to recycle. But
- 13 in the case of EAF dust, there is not enough capacity to
- 14 recycle the entire North American production of 800 to
- 15 1.1 million tons. Secure and well-run treatment and
- 16 landfill operations like Peoria Disposal Company are
- 17 critical to the steel industry until such time as
- 18 sufficient capacity to recycle all EAF produced. There
- 19 are a number of recycling projects being conducted
- 20 worldwide to solve the EAF dust challenge. However, it
- 21 will be a number of years before these are commercially
- 22 available with recycling capacity limit.
- Therefore, PDC's K061 delisting petition is
- 24 crucial to meet the EAF dust capacity requirements in

- 1 the interim.
- 2 Peoria Disposal Company is one of Gerdau
- 3 Ameristeel's approved strategic regional suppliers for
- 4 our St. Paul, Wilton and Jackson, Tennessee, mills. As
- 5 an approved supplier, Gerdau Ameristeel has monitored
- 6 the delisting petition application process.
- 7 Gerdau Ameristeel supports the conclusions of
- 8 the Illinois EPA in the response to the RCRA delisting
- 9 adjusted standard petition submitted by Mr. Ingersoll to
- 10 the Illinois Pollution Control Board on June 12th.
- 11 PDC has shown the thorough, objective,
- 12 scientific data that the treated K061 is environmentally
- 13 stable and safe. In addition, the Indian Creek Landfill
- 14 exceeds design requirements for the subtitle D landfill,
- 15 and will be an environmentally sound facility to store
- 16 the treated K061.
- 17 PDC's environmental performance record is
- 18 unmatched in the landfill industry. This is well known
- 19 and highly respected in the steel industry. Gerdau
- 20 Ameristeel, as a current customer, has great confidence
- 21 in PDC in the future. We, therefore, respectfully urge
- 22 you to support the K061 delisting petition.
- 23 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Do you have a short comment,
- 24 five minutes or less?

- 1 MR. PIOLETTI: Yes.
- 2 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Your name, sir?
- 3 MR. PIOLETTI: Dan Pioletti, P-i-o-l-e-t-t-i.
- 4 First of all, there is no such thing as
- 5 totally objective. My problem is I see EPA sitting here
- 6 and not saying anything. And they are basing their
- 7 decision based on a study paid for by PDC. Now that's
- 8 called conflict of interest. And why do we not allow
- 9 testimony totally based on this when it's a conflict of
- 10 interest? There should be a totally independent study
- 11 for something so hazardous that could affect the health
- 12 and well-being of thousands of people. I think Peoria
- 13 County has one of highest cancer rates in the state, if
- 14 not the highest. What is that about? So I'm just
- 15 concerned about EPA not demanding a totally independent
- 16 study, not paid for by PDC, so there is no conflict of
- 17 interest. So far I don't see it. So I have some real,
- 18 real concerns, and I hope everybody else does, too.
- 19 Thank you.
- 20 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Short comment, five minutes
- 21 or less?
- MR. TAYLOR: My name is David Taylor, T-a-y-l-o-r.
- 23 I'm an elected trustee for the Village of Wapella which
- 24 is located in DeWitt County. I would also like to

- 1 request a public hearing in DeWitt County, not only for
- 2 the residents of Wapella, but for the residents of
- 3 DeWitt County. As an elected trustee, I feel it's my
- 4 obligation to request that for those who did not have
- 5 notice and for those who have concerns. Thank you.
- 6 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you. In the red
- 7 shirt?
- 8 MR. ERDMANN: Chad Erdmann, C-h-a-d, E-r-d-m-a-n-n.
- 9 I'm the environmental manager at Keystone Steel and
- 10 Wire, and I am here on their behalf. Keystone currently
- 11 employs over 900 people. Even though Keystone is one of
- 12 the largest recyclers in the area we, like any other
- 13 large industrial facility, have some processed
- 14 bi-product that must be handled as hazardous wastes
- 15 under current environmental regulations. PDC has a
- 16 strong history of environmental compliance which is very
- 17 important to Keystone. For many years these wastes have
- 18 been transported, treated and disposed of by PDC in an
- 19 environmentally safe manner while still being convenient
- 20 and cost effective.
- 21 If PDC would no longer have the capability to
- 22 treat in the landfill K061 electric arc furnace dust, in
- 23 the near future Keystone's cost of waste disposal will
- 24 increase significantly because of high transportation

1 costs to the next nearest facility capable of receiving

- 2 K061 hazardous waste.
- It is a short trip to Keystone's facility to
- 4 the PDC waste stabilization plant and Indian Creek
- 5 Landfill. Currently at PDC's facility the wastes are
- 6 stabilized and treated as necessary to meet stringent
- 7 disposal requirements before being placed in a landfill
- 8 cell.
- 9 PDC is a valid supplier to Keystone's
- 10 business plan moving forward. Keystone has followed
- 11 PDC's K061 delisting petition application and supports
- 12 IEPA's response to the RCRA delisting adjusted standard
- 13 petition submitted on June 12, 2008, to the Illinois
- 14 Pollution Control Board.
- 15 Keystone holds PDC's environmental
- 16 stewardship in high regard and supports this K061
- 17 delisting petition application. Thank you.
- 18 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Any more short comments,
- 19 five minutes or less?
- 20 Ma'am?
- 21 MS. KELLY: My name is Jeannine Kelly.
- 22 COURT REPORTER: Would you spell your last name?
- MS. KELLY: Oh, do you want my first name as well?
- 24 COURT REPORTER: Yes.

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1 MS. KELLY: J-e-a-n-n-i-n-e, Kelly, K-e-l-l-y. I'm
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- 2 the director of regulatory compliance for Alton Steel in
- 3 Alton, Illinois, Southern Illinois. I am here today on
- 4 behalf of Alton Steel to support PDC's petition to
- 5 delist the stabilized residue from the treatment of KO61
- 6 dust.
- 7 Now for those of you who don't know it, Alton
- 8 Steel is a new company. We purchased Laclede's Steel,
- 9 the bankrupt -- we purchased the assets of Laclede's
- 10 bankrupt estate in May of 2003, and we began operations
- in September of 2003. We went through a year and a half
- of structuring of a deal with IEPA, U.S. EPA, Laclede's,
- 13 Alton Steel, structuring a deal that would be beneficial
- 14 to all and to the community. We basically took a site
- 15 that could very well become a superfund site and we
- 16 created a prosperous company that now employs 240
- 17 people, and we are growing. Alton Steel, as part of its
- 18 steel manufacturing process, generates K061 dust. We
- 19 have to do something with that dust. That's what
- 20 electric arc furnaces do. They generate dust. We have
- 21 to do something with it. We generate millions of pounds
- 22 of this waste each year, and we spend hundreds of
- 23 thousands of dollars for its disposition.
- As an environmentally responsible company, it

- 1 is of utmost importance to Alton Steel to ensure that
- 2 its waste is handled in an environmentally responsible
- 3 manner from the time it is generated until its final
- 4 disposition. It is also crucial for ASI to ensure that
- 5 it is receiving cost effective services, that it
- 6 minimizes its environmental liability, and that it
- 7 minimizes its carbon footprint. That is something new
- 8 that people are talking about now. We all need to look
- 9 at our carbon footprint.
- 10 Peoria Disposal Company's delisting is
- 11 crucial for Alton Steel to ensure that it achieves all
- 12 of these results. By PDC's strict adherence to
- 13 environmental laws and its close proximity to ASI, ASI
- 14 can rest assured that it is utilizing the services of a
- 15 company with an exceptional track record for
- 16 environmental stewardship, and at the same time we can
- 17 ensure that we are minimizing our potential liability by
- 18 traveling a shorter distance. We have reduced the
- 19 chance for environmental releases by traveling a shorter
- 20 distance. And we minimize our carbon footprint by using
- 21 less energy traveling to the site and in the process
- 22 itself. A lot of recycling activities generate a lot --
- 23 or utilize a lot of energy in recycling.
- 24 As a customer of PDC and as an advocate for

- 1 the environment and the scientific data that PDC has
- 2 submitted, ASI strongly urges the Board's approval of
- 3 PDC's petition to delist the stabilized K061 residue.
- 4 Thank you.
- 5 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Anyone with any more
- 6 short -- sir?
- 7 (Brief pause in proceedings.)
- 8 MR. BARNETT: Thank you. Tom Barnett. Arcelor
- 9 Mittal Steel --
- 10 COURT REPORTER: Wait. Wait. What did you say?
- 11 MR. BARNETT: Okay. I will start again. Tom
- 12 Barnett, B, as in boy, a-r-n-e-t-t, first name Tom. And
- 13 I will spell it for you. It's Arcelor Mittal,
- 14 A-r-c-e-l-o-r-m-i-t-t-a-l. And I'm the solid and
- 15 hazardous waste manager in Indiana, just over the line
- 16 in Indiana. That facility supplies substraight to feed
- 17 our plants in Riverdale, Illinois, Hennepin, Illinois.
- 18 And between those two plants and our large sales force
- 19 downtown, we employ about 1,000 people in the state of
- 20 Illinois.
- 21 I think what is important is that we once did
- 22 recycle EAF dust. And we divorced that industry. So we
- 23 essentially got cut off because of a couple of things.
- One, there is not enough capacity. Our particular

- 1 material was very low in zinc. So they just one day
- 2 said, "That's it."
- 3 We have to have safe, well run landfills in
- 4 order to operate. That's just a fact of life. Since
- 5 that time at our Columbus Avenue research facility, we
- 6 have been working ever since trying to figure out how to
- 7 recycle this material, and we think we will get there.
- 8 But worldwide -- and our store is worldwide. We have
- 9 the same problem and the same issue. We have not been
- 10 able to figure out a way to effectively recycle this
- 11 material.
- 12 So, obviously, our sole purpose here is to
- 13 support this delisting petition. Thank you.
- 14 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.
- 15 Sir?
- 16 MR. COOK: My name is Bill Cook, C-o-o-k. I live
- 17 in Hollis Township, Peoria County. I'm a former chemist
- 18 for the Army Corps of Engineers, for Daley Laboratories
- 19 and a chemist for the Illinois State Water Survey. And
- 20 I am currently teaching chemistry out at ICC. I often
- 21 tell my students that if it were cheaper and more cost
- 22 effective to do what was most environmentally sound that
- 23 we probably wouldn't be having these debates. This does
- 24 boil down to money. The money that can be made by PDC

- 1 and its competitors and the money that companies like
- 2 Keystone don't want to spend in order to landfill this
- 3 waste. And so it appears that the public health
- 4 continues to take a back seat to those monetary
- 5 interests. And it seems that the issue here seems to
- 6 revolve around PDC's ability to guarantee that the
- 7 stabilization system they are going to use on the arc
- 8 furnace waste is not going to contaminate the
- 9 groundwater or in any way escape the facility to which
- 10 it was assigned. And therein lies the problem. As a
- 11 chemist, when I was associated with research, it was
- 12 very common to have kind of preconceived ideas regarding
- 13 the outcome of your research. And it's difficult at
- 14 best to accept results that might run contrary to your
- 15 wishes or, for that matter, contrary to your business
- 16 objectives. But you hope that all scientists would
- 17 enter this arena with an absolute open mind to the
- 18 possible outcomes. But in reality, this is not always
- 19 the case.
- 20 And with sampling techniques and
- 21 methodologies as complex as those cited in PDC's
- 22 request, the numbers can tell many different stories.
- 23 And this alone warrants a much more thorough look at
- 24 potential risks to the environment. There aren't any

- 1 guarantees.
- 2 I arrived here late today, but I got here
- 3 just in time to hear testimony that this stabilized
- 4 waste was absolutely impervious to temperature, acidity,
- 5 alkalinity. I saw nothing in PDC's request indicating
- 6 that this waste was subjected to any of these extremes.
- 7 The organic solvents and undocumented solvents in
- 8 municipal landfills can be very corrosive. As a matter
- 9 of fact, when I worked for the Corps of Engineers -- and
- 10 this was in 1975, they had just finished a ten-year
- 11 study looking at the disposal of TNT wastewater. And
- 12 they wanted to spread it on municipal landfills. And
- 13 they wanted to see how it metabolized and how it would
- 14 percolate down through the landfill. In order to do
- 15 that they mounted a ten-year long study where we built
- 16 20-foot diameter cylinders that were basically
- 17 artificial landfills. They had every employee of the
- 18 Corps of Engineers lab in Champaign bring in their
- 19 waste, all their garbage. We built an artificial
- 20 landfill indoors, actually built five of them. And the
- 21 assay of what was put in there included car batteries,
- 22 paint waste, things that find their way to our municipal
- 23 landfill. And we sprinkled TNT wastewater on the top of
- 24 it and checked the leachate for ten years. There hasn't

- 1 been a ten-year study on this. And as many people have
- 2 already said in their public statements, this is what
- 3 needs to be done. We can't go on the surface of this
- 4 preliminary study of this waste stabilization system and
- 5 assume that this is going to be effective.
- 6 Now there is a 23-year long study that was
- 7 mounted in 1985 by the EPA on the environmental impact
- 8 of dioxin. And it's still not in its final form or
- 9 published. And this is basically because of the
- 10 influence of the chemical industries and those that care
- 11 for the waste have pretty much muddied the waters and
- 12 sort of bogged down the system. The dioxins and furans
- 13 mentioned in PDC's request cannot be converted into
- 14 insoluble salts, not like the metals that are contained
- 15 in the waste. And so, consequently, they are going to
- 16 find their way into the leachates below these landfills.
- Now these are some of the most insidious
- 18 pollutants that we have ever manufactured in the United
- 19 States. How can these not be listed as constituents of
- 20 concern? Dioxin is considered a class 1 carcinogen by
- 21 the CDC. It causes birth defects, immune system
- 22 suppression, diabetes, a wide array of different forms
- 23 of cancer. It bioaccumulates in fish and dairy products
- 24 and beef. A typical diet in the United State, 38

- 1 percent of the dioxin that we all intake here comes from
- 2 beef. It moves up the food chain very rapidly, and it
- 3 wouldn't take long once it leached into surface waters
- 4 for that to appear.
- Now to the subject of metals, the mercury now
- 6 linked with the epidemic of autism in our population,
- 7 how can even the smallest amount of additional mercury
- 8 in the system be allowed? The process for stabilization
- 9 merely converts according to Enviroscience's own super
- 10 detox system. It says it converts the heavy metals
- 11 contained within to their least soluble forms, not
- 12 insoluble, their least soluble forms. So the idea of
- 13 burying this type of waste anywhere near a water supply
- 14 is not only foolhardy, but borders on criminal.
- 15 Pthalate esters in this waste are considered endocrine
- 16 disruptors that affect reproduction in humans. How can
- 17 we risk even the smallest amount of this to contaminate
- 18 an underlying aquifer? Pthalates have already been
- 19 banned in Europe for this very reason. Now once this
- 20 waste is delisted any further objections by the EPA or
- 21 the public that changes in methodology or sample
- 22 composition or leachability will be met with boxes and
- 23 boxes of data and paperwork to choke or stall this
- 24 system or any close examination of procedures or

1 results. Once this barn door is open, you will not get

- 2 this horse back in the stall. If any of these
- 3 contaminants turn up down the road or if mercury or
- 4 dioxin levels begin to spike, no amount of money is
- 5 going to clean this up.
- 6 Now many times I have quoted at these public
- 7 forums Marvin Resnikoff from his book Living Without
- 8 Landfills. And he says that the bottom line of our
- 9 waste management plan is eternal vigilance. We can no
- 10 longer produce waste, place it in the ground and hope
- 11 that the earth just stands still. Waste will have to
- 12 remain in sight and in mind. And as waste containers
- 13 and storage vaults degrade, future generations will need
- 14 to repair and replace them. Waste must be stored in
- 15 ways accessible to future generations. Burying this
- 16 waste is not acceptable. And when it leaches, and that
- 17 day will come, we will look back and wonder how we could
- 18 have been so foolish. So I stand adamantly opposed to
- 19 the delisting of this furnace dust.
- 20 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Okay. Thank you.
- 21 Short comment, sir?
- 22 (Brief pause in proceedings.)
- 23 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Your name, sir?
- MR. SPENCER: Bill Spencer, Clinton, Illinois,

- 1 DeWitt County.
- I had a few issues with delisting. I'm not
- 3 currently in favor of it. I had questions concerning
- 4 the process. It was obvious after I reviewed some of
- 5 the information that the process was analytical and
- 6 actually has never gone into production. So it's
- 7 conceivable to me since I have worked as a process
- 8 engineer that it's possible that it may not be
- 9 achievable in reality.
- 10 Then after doing that, I thought that the
- 11 thing that I was concerned about was, is there any other
- 12 alternatives other than storing it in a hazardous waste
- 13 dump? I would like to read a brief statement here.
- 14 "1984 RCRA was amended and strengthened by Congress with
- 15 passing of the federal hazardous and solid waste
- 16 amendments. These amendments to RCRA required the
- 17 phasing out of land disposal and hazardous waste."
- When I read that, I considered, Can they
- 19 recycle it? I found out that the recycling of the
- 20 electronic arc furnace dust can be achieved, but major
- 21 steel mills that are running in other parts of world are
- 22 doing 100 percent recycling right now. So as far as it
- 23 being achievable, it's already a proven fact.
- In 1991 the EPA made a test run or a

- 1 production run. Unlike the process that PDC is
- 2 proposing, they actually tested this production run, and
- 3 they found out that this production run that it is
- 4 financially feasible to actually earn money from the
- 5 recycling process. So there is not a cost to it
- 6 actually.
- 7 Currently the minimills and stuff are
- 8 struggling to survive and are on the verge of bankruptcy
- 9 in this country. Currently the minimills are in a
- 10 financial burden and are on the verge of bankruptcy as
- 11 was stated by some of them today at the meeting.
- 12 I think that their resources to produce
- 13 recycling centers is limited. And I would like to see
- 14 the government step forward and offer them some type of
- 15 finances to produce these recycling centers and get them
- 16 running.
- 17 Other than that, I have one other concern.
- 18 When I read some of the process, the analytical study of
- 19 it, they weren't directing anything toward dioxins. I
- 20 mean, it's obvious dioxins are present within a steel
- 21 mill and the processing of scrap. And those dioxins may
- 22 not be present at all times in that scrap. They may
- 23 come and go. Dioxins are not friendly to us. They
- 24 should be processed correctly. And the process for

- 1 recycling disposes of a dioxin which is an important
- 2 process in our society to reduce dioxins as much as
- 3 possible because those dioxins are going to be present
- 4 here for many, many generation, for thousands and
- 5 thousands of years. Any opportunity to capture a dioxin
- 6 is a very important process. That's it.
- 7 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Again, I will be taking
- 8 longer comments, but I would like to first clear out the
- 9 people who believe they will be speaking for five
- 10 minutes or less. Are there any more five minute or less
- 11 commenters here?
- 12 (Brief pause in proceedings.)
- MS. GERARD: My name is Suzanne Gerard,
- 14 S-u-z-a-n-n-e, G-e-r-a-r-d. And as a nurse I can't
- 15 speak to solubility of one thing or another, but I can
- 16 speak to the fact that Peoria County has a very high
- 17 rate of cancer, the highest rate being in the
- 18 neighborhood just below the treatment center. And if
- 19 this delisting is allowed to take place, that treatment
- 20 center is given God knows how many more years of use.
- 21 And at one point Mr. Meginnes said, By delisting we are
- 22 taking things out of Peoria County; that's what you
- 23 wanted. You should be happy. No. What we wanted was
- 24 for things not to be placed over the water supply. The

- 1 water supply is far more important than the landfill or
- 2 the companies involved. Without water we all die. And
- 3 that being said, the people of Clinton, Illinois, should
- 4 be given a chance to have an open meeting on the
- 5 delisting application.
- 6 And I will read this just to have it
- 7 absolutely straight. As per 415 Illinois Compiled
- 8 Statutes 5, section 8 -- I beg your pardon -- section
- 9 28a, this delisting would create a statewide rule change
- 10 which would allow PDC to send the EAF to any subtitle D
- 11 municipal landfill in Illinois. They could send it
- 12 anywhere which may or may not be over an aquifer. But
- 13 the IEPA and the EPA have both agreed that they would no
- 14 longer allow this sort of thing over aquifers if it were
- 15 a new application. And I won't take your time for it,
- 16 but as a nurse I could describe to you minutely how
- 17 somebody dies of cancer. Thank you.
- 18 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you. Were there
- 19 any more very short comments, five minutes or less,
- 20 before we move on to the rest of the list? Mr. Edwards,
- 21 are you going to be five minutes or less?
- MR. TOM EDWARDS: My name is Tom Edwards, 902 West
- 23 Moss Avenue, right up the hill here. I request that
- 24 Peoria Disposal Company's appeal to the IPCB to uphold

- 1 delisting of electric arc waste, furnace waste, EAF it's
- 2 called, as a hazardous waste after going through secret
- 3 proprietary stabilization technology, that this request
- 4 be summarily rejected because PDC's denial of any
- 5 further public disclosure in the process itself. How
- 6 can we make a logical, intelligent decision? We can't
- 7 know all of the details of it that they are disclosing
- 8 privately in backrooms by their own hired consultants.
- 9 And we also reject proof of any short- or
- 10 long-term effectiveness of the safety of this. The
- 11 public's right of its due process is therefore being
- 12 violated because there is no way to consider, let alone
- 13 respond to, the PDC request for exemption in the
- 14 hazardous waste classification. Therefore I ask the
- 15 hearing, this matter be thrown out for the questions of
- 16 this permit.
- 17 PDC wants to have highly hazardous electric
- 18 arc furnace waste -- so far at least ten steel
- 19 manufacturers from throughout the Midwest -- brought to
- 20 its hazardous waste landfill adjoining Peoria's west
- 21 side. To go through the secret processing to
- 22 theoretically reduce its toxicity by at least
- 23 temporarily immobilizing but not removing the bevy of
- 24 toxic materials in the waste -- I mean, a bevy. I could

- 1 list 20 if you want me to -- in the waste to qualify it
- 2 as an nonhazardous. It could then be reshipped, PDC
- 3 says, to local municipal waste dumps.
- 4 It has been brought up today at this hearing
- 5 it could also be acted upon by the waste in the landfill
- 6 itself garbage and so and so forth that those things
- 7 that were supposedly locked in place. This steel mill
- 8 furnace dust is loose and fluffy. It is now also mixed
- 9 with soil or nonhardening cement to hold it stable, that
- 10 is, keep it from blowing away. But this dilution of
- 11 toxic waste with regular soil is not now permitted, is
- 12 considered a reduction of the toxic hazard of the
- 13 original chemical waste that came in.
- 14 PDC would have that law changed to permit
- 15 this, too, that dilution take place. This is termed
- 16 quote, "solution by dilution," unquote.
- 17 There are many contaminants listed in the
- 18 steel mill wastes, endless steel mill wastes, both
- 19 metals and chemicals, including very toxic lead and
- 20 mercury which are now banned from all European
- 21 landfills. Under its proposed permit change, PDC would
- 22 be allowed to truck in 95,000 cubic yards of such waste
- 23 per year for so-called treatment at the PDC landfill
- 24 adjoining Peoria at Pottstown.

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1 After this treatment if it proves effective,
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- 2 the waste would be reloaded onto trucks and taken to one
- 3 or more other local landfills for nonhazardous municipal
- 4 waste. If 95,000 cubic yards were stacked vertically
- 5 yard by yard it would be a tower 54 miles high. That's
- 6 a lot of waste. At a five-yard per load truck trip
- 7 would be 19,000 trips into PDC's Peoria dump site, and
- 8 probably be retrucked 30 miles to PDC's regular landfill
- 9 in Tazewell County or, if they can, what they will do
- 10 the Peoria County, city and county landfill which is
- 11 only a few miles away.
- 12 PDC's landfill for hazardous waste or
- 13 hazardous toxic waste is one of only 16 such commercial
- 14 landfills still operating in the nation. The last few
- 15 years a lot of them have closed and Los Angeles taken 75
- 16 miles out from the city. And the only one in the top
- 17 half of the nation from 50 miles this side of
- 18 Indianapolis to the Rocky Mountains. The Indiana one is
- 19 closer to Chicago and Milwaukee and the entire east side
- 20 of Illinois and is centrally located for Indiana, Ohio,
- 21 Michigan and Tennessee and the bulk of Kentucky and
- 22 Tennessee. If those landfills are accepting their waste
- 23 here, PDC is charging them less because Peoria County
- 24 doesn't take any tax to speak of off the top of that

- 1 cost.
- 2 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Can you please sum up the
- 3 rest of it?
- 4 MR. TOM EDWARDS: Yes. We need to work with the
- 5 EPA and PDC to find a safe place, to find a safe
- 6 landfill and also close this one safely. Thank you.
- 7 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: If we have gone through
- 8 everyone who has a short comment, I will move on to
- 9 people who have slightly longer comments. I still ask
- 10 you to please stay under ten minutes. At about nine
- 11 minutes I will ask you to please sum up everything you
- 12 have to say. May I ask, have we had anyone join us
- 13 recently who want to speak that is not signed in? Any
- 14 new people coming from work?
- 15 (No audible response.)
- 16 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Okay. Then I am going to go
- 17 back to my list here and call Tracy Fox.
- 18 MS. FOX: Thank you. My name is Tracy Fox. I'm a
- 19 resident of Chillicothe, Illinois, and I ask the
- 20 Illinois Pollution Control Board to please dismiss this
- 21 delisting petition today. I have had a chance to look
- 22 over everything PDC has filed, and I have tried to read
- 23 it as carefully as I can. I have read the RMT technical
- 24 report. I have read the Illinois EPA's response. And I

- 1 have read the questions and PDC's responses submitted by
- 2 the Pollution Control Board. And I am very disappointed
- 3 because I think Lisa Offutt is on track. I wonder who
- 4 is looking out for me? My reading of these documents
- 5 was very disturbing to me.
- I want to begin by talking about the tests
- 7 procedures. And I am going to be quoting from the RMT
- 8 technical document here. On page 42 they say "Some
- 9 initial" --
- 10 COURT REPORTER: Could you slow down?
- 11 MS. FOX: "Some initial sample results showed
- 12 exceedences (sic) of the anticipated delisting level."
- 13 They continued. "The initial sampling program did not
- 14 fully demonstrate PDC's procedures verified that
- 15 anticipated delisting levels would be achieved for
- 16 additional curing time --
- 17 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Can you slow down a little
- 18 bit?
- 19 MS. FOX: I'm sorry.
- 20 -- "and/or retreatment prior to disposal."
- 21 Later in the document, on page 53, RMT
- 22 discloses that, quote, "A few of the samples collected
- 23 during the eight sampling event exhibited TCLP cadmium
- 24 and zinc concentrations above their anticipated

- 1 delisting levels."
- 2 Still later on page 62 it's disclosed that
- 3 using an acidic extraction fluid, TCLP concentrations of
- 4 cadmium greater than the screening levels were found in
- 5 four of the first samples. TCLP concentrations of zinc
- 6 greater than the screening levels were found in four
- 7 samples as well. In all, five of the eight samples,
- 8 62.5 percent, leached cadmium or zinc in an acid
- 9 environment. Now I think that's worth talking about,
- 10 and I'm curious why the IEPA and why the Illinois
- 11 Pollution Control Board didn't have any questions about
- 12 those results.
- Now to respond to this, PDC took an
- 14 additional sample in early February. Now this initially
- 15 also exhibited TCLP concentrations above the screening
- 16 levels for both cadmium and mercury, a new player in the
- 17 mix. The report also notes -- and this is on page 42 as
- 18 well -- the sample was analyzed with three additional
- 19 parameters -- silver, cyanide and sulphide -- since the
- 20 data validation process indicated these tests had failed
- 21 quality control standards during the initial phase of
- 22 analysis -- excuse me, that's on page 44. So to
- 23 demonstrate the retreatment, to fix the problem of
- 24 leaching cadmium and mercury in an acid environment over

- 1 a 16-day period, and that includes time for this ten-day
- 2 lab result to come back as discussed on page 44. The
- 3 stabilized material was resampled and retreated before
- 4 it actually passed its test. RMT explained that the
- 5 IEPA agreed this additional data could replace previous
- 6 data for cadmium and zinc exceeding the LDR treatment
- 7 levels in the risk analysis. So, basically, according
- 8 to RMT the IEPA approved throwing out the 62.5 percent
- 9 failure rate and replacing it with a single test. I
- 10 have to ask, Who is looking out for me? That does not
- 11 seem very protective.
- 12 The only proof of concept offered in this
- 13 document on page 62 to offset all the variability in the
- 14 test results is this statement: The efficacy of
- 15 additional curing time and retreatment when necessary is
- 16 demonstrated by PDC's experience and knowledge of the
- 17 waste reagent chemical reaction and verified by
- 18 additional trials designed to demonstrate this
- 19 additional treatment. However, the RMT document only
- 20 contains a single trial, number 9 in subsequent
- 21 resampling which they label round 10 and its final
- 22 retreatment round 11 when it finally passes its test
- 23 with a 62 percent failure rate in the original eight
- 24 sampling. I would expect more than one test. I fail to

- 1 see how this widely out-of-control proof of process
- 2 demonstrates anything even close to production ready. I
- 3 urge the Illinois Pollution Control Board deny this on
- 4 the basis of these test results alone.
- 5 I'm also troubled that there is nothing more
- 6 than -- there is no testing at all to ensure that the
- 7 waste meets delisting limits in the long-term. I don't
- 8 expect PDC to study the process for 10 or for 50 years.
- 9 But I do think it is reasonable to expect that you would
- 10 provide a full year's test results, including some
- 11 testing of the actual materials after exposure to the
- 12 active base of the municipal landfill. I believe that
- 13 the Illinois Pollution Control Board should deny this
- 14 petition on that condition alone.
- 15 Furthermore, I do not believe that the
- 16 analysis and the modeling is truly protective of
- 17 long-term help. I quote again from the RMT technical
- 18 document. "RMT was unaware of existing calculation
- 19 errors within the DRAS D2, and the U.S. EPA was
- 20 transitioning to version 3 of DRAS in the future. Not
- 21 to undermine the representatives' credentials, but I
- 22 find it somewhat troubling that PDC hired a consultant
- 23 that did not even know about problems with the model
- 24 they were supposedly experts in.

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1 Furthermore, Todd Ramolly (phonetic) of the
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- 2 U.S. EPA states that the DRAS D2 model incorrectly
- 3 tabulates the risk to human health for constituents with
- 4 the tendency to bioaccumulate. He then had to provide
- 5 additional guidance modeling on both mercury ingestion
- 6 and dioxin residue. To me this fiasco suggests the
- 7 Illinois Pollution Control Board should just deny this
- 8 petition. It is too risky to take any action until the
- 9 problems with the risk assessment software are ironed
- 10 out, a stable version 3 is released and, hopefully, new
- 11 bug-free software can be cured and determined to be
- 12 correct.
- There is no overwhelming justification
- 14 presented here that would address delisting when there
- 15 is no standard for ascertaining risks. PDC claims to
- 16 have a 6 Sigma quality program, and I am certain that
- 17 they are implementing it. But processes that operate 6
- 18 Sigma quality of the short-term are assumed to produce
- 19 long-term defect levels below 3.4 defect per million
- 20 opportunity. PDC has a long way to go here. World
- 21 class process control is critical to protecting the
- 22 health and safety of Illinois citizens. None of the
- 23 justification PDC has presented can offset the risks
- 24 they are asking citizens to accept. A widely

- 1 out-of-control process with test results that would even
- 2 fail its approval concept in most businesses based on
- 3 the sketchy list of assessment methodology in a state of
- 4 flux. These risks strongly outweigh the benefits. IPCB
- 5 should deny this petition.
- 6 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Ms. Fox, would you please
- 7 summarize as best you can. It looks like you have a lot
- 8 of pages there.
- 9 MS. FOX: I have a lot of pages, and I will submit
- 10 them all as written comments. I will look over PDC's
- 11 disclosures and the description of the process. Yeah.
- 12 I'm just -- there is so much to say about these
- 13 documents. You know, I'm disappointed that the IEPA and
- 14 the Illinois Pollution Control Board didn't look into
- 15 these matters further. And a number of other matters I
- 16 will be listing in my letter. Thank you.
- 17 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.
- 18 Cara Rosson.
- 19 (Whereupon, a recess was taken in the
- 20 proceedings.)
- 21 MS. ROSSON: Good afternoon. Thank you very much,
- 22 you guys, for your time this afternoon. My name is Cara
- 23 Rosson, C-a-r-a, R-o-s-s, as in Sam, -o-n, as in Nancy.
- 24 And I have been involved in fighting the expansion of

- 1 PDC's number 1 landfill since January 2006. I work full
- 2 time. I'm here on vacation time, or I was here on
- 3 vacation time for the start of it. I'm in fundraising
- 4 for a local university, and I'm the mother of two young
- 5 boys, five and seven, who were lucky enough and got to
- 6 stay home with Daddy today. I have volunteered many
- 7 hours in the last -- almost three years to this cause.
- 8 I would like to focus my comments today on
- 9 the nature of EAF delisting and how I believe PDC's
- 10 current proposal differs significantly from other
- 11 examples nationally. I have done some research, as has
- 12 our attorney, into other EAFD delistings in other
- 13 states. And in all examples that we have found fall
- 14 into one of two categories. The first category, the
- 15 delisting is specific to the steel mill or foundry from
- 16 which the waste in question is generated. EnviroSource
- 17 -- although I think it might be Enviroscience. I have
- 18 written EnviroSource so bear with me -- technology
- 19 called super detox is one that has achieved delisting in
- 20 several states including Illinois, Ohio, and Idaho.
- 21 With the super detox technology EnviroSource
- 22 goes to each steel mill, also referred to as minimills,
- 23 and installs a treatment plant at the mill. So the
- 24 components of the waste stream or of EAFD are

- 1 consistent. The components are known and the treatment
- 2 process at each mill can be relied upon to a great
- 3 extent. I have not done specific research into the
- 4 super detox process, but media articles indicate that
- 5 development started at Bethlehem Steel and over the
- 6 course of seven years of research and commercial
- 7 activity.
- 8 This second phase, commercial activity,
- 9 implies to me that EnviroSource has tested their super
- 10 detox technology in actual landfill conditions. There
- 11 are two key differences that I see between EnviroSource
- 12 and super detox and PDC's current request for delisting.
- 13 One, that PDC has stated that they will be accepting
- 14 EAFD for multiple sites in several different states.
- 15 Iowa was mentioned at a recent county board committee
- 16 meeting, for example.
- 17 The super detox technology has only been
- 18 installed on site at the various minimills, where again,
- 19 the components of the EAFD are known and consistent as
- 20 each treatment facility is only dealing with EAFD from
- 21 that specific mill. And most steel mills or foundries
- 22 have consistent processes by which they produce their
- 23 steel. The components do not vary and testing for those
- 24 specific components can be done more reliably. PDC is

- 1 proposing to take EAFD from any number of steel mills in
- 2 the ten-state area that we know they serve. They did
- 3 not provide a listing of the steel mills -- although
- 4 they have already done so today -- in this delisting
- 5 proposal. How radically can the components of the EAFD
- 6 vary from any of the various mills they work for? I
- 7 would think that the variation would be significant.
- 8 For example, I understand that the components of steel
- 9 mills for home use as in silverware or appliances is
- 10 relatively pure or free of the more toxic contaminants
- 11 that end up EAFD often. Whereas, a steel mill that
- 12 produces steel for, say, fencing wire does not require
- 13 the same purity for obvious reasons. We won't be
- 14 cooking with it or eating off it. But that does not
- 15 reduce the toxicity that end up EAFD from, quote,
- 16 unquote, "dirtier steel."
- 17 My question is, How can PDC have possibly
- 18 tested their new process of treating the EAFD from all
- 19 of the possible components from all of the mills they
- 20 plan to work with. I know it is impossible that they
- 21 have tested their process with the EAFD from mills that
- 22 they state they are negotiating with. PDC has stated
- 23 that testing was done for their new process during
- 24 December 2007 and February 2008, far less than the seven

- 1 years EnviroSource took to develop super detox. I have
- 2 seen no evidence in their proposal that any of the
- 3 testing was also done during "commercial activity,"
- 4 quote, unquote, as was noted about the super detox
- 5 process. Also per the application, only nine samplings
- 6 of an EAFD mix were done and the additional tenth was a
- 7 resampling. Given the high variability of EAFD they
- 8 plan to take in and treat, how could they possibly have
- 9 done thorough testing on the numerous components for
- 10 their safety after treatment giving only nine samplings
- 11 from known sources. And how, I question, is it legal or
- 12 safe that they will be allowed self-approval of any
- 13 future EAFD intake from any number of mills that they
- 14 may or may not contract with.
- 15 Illinois Administrative Code -- I believe
- 16 it's C357214I or 720.122D state that, Sampling must be,
- 17 quote, unquote, "taken over a period of time sufficient
- 18 to represent the variability or the uniformity of the
- 19 waste." It seems to me that PDC, one, has not done
- 20 sufficient testing to demonstrate the safety or
- 21 reliability of their process given the large number of
- 22 steel mills and foundries that they are taking EAFD
- 23 from. And it is absolutely impossible that they have
- 24 done sufficient testing on steel mills they have yet to

- 1 contract with. Their current proposal seems to be
- 2 asking that the IEPA and the IPCB grant them their own
- 3 delisting ability since PDC has stated that upon
- 4 contracting with a new mill they will give the IEPA at
- 5 least 15 days notice of the new contract and that this
- 6 notification does not constitute approval. So either
- 7 the IEPA is trusting that PDC will test to the
- 8 sufficient standard for disposal at municipal landfills
- 9 such that whenever they come back at a later date to
- 10 review the in-house sampling data or in reviews of any
- 11 given municipal landfill that everything will be fine
- 12 leachate-wise. And as so many of us know all too well,
- 13 given the glacial pace of any governmental body 15 days
- 14 is a nanosecond of time as regard to notification.
- 15 Hence, I do not trust given their considerable workload
- 16 that the IEPA will have time with a 15-day notice or
- 17 even a 30-day notice to make sure that sufficient
- 18 testing is done. Especially when said testing is likely
- 19 done in-house or in a laboratory and not during
- 20 "commercial activity," quote, unquote.
- 21 During -- again quote -- "commercial
- 22 activity" also implies that testing was done of the
- 23 treated EAFD in actual municipal landfills to assess the
- 24 affect of any one of thousands of chemicals both organic

- 1 and inorganic that people throw into their household
- 2 trash. Let any one of these ferment in the summer heat
- 3 in a landfill and I would be afraid of what it might do
- 4 to any substance it might come into contact with.
- 5 While we are on the subject, I would like to
- 6 talk for a moment about summer heat. All of PDC's
- 7 testing was done, quote, unquote, "in plant." I assume
- 8 that means in a laboratory. What does happen to the
- 9 treated material at high heat and humidity when it was
- 10 in contact with, say, battery acid and nail polish
- 11 remover and depilatory cream and hair dye. What does
- 12 that do to the treated materials that are, quote,
- 13 unquote, "stabilized," or to the stabilization
- 14 materials. I'm not a scientist, but any of these
- 15 chemicals are increasingly dangerous at high heats as
- 16 most of them state on the bottle that you bring home,
- 17 "Keep away from heat and flame."
- 18 Also in regard to heat, PDC's proposal has
- 19 stated they will do daily testing to ensure that the
- 20 treated EAFD achieves the correct level
- 21 contaminant-wise. And that I do appreciate. They also
- 22 state that when the levels are too high they allow the
- 23 treated EAFD to cure. The treated EAFD cures outside in
- 24 the elements. It is common chemistry that many

- 1 chemicals volatilize or evaporate at higher heat. So my
- 2 question here is, Does PDC allow the chemicals to simply
- 3 cure outdoors during which time the hazardous elements
- 4 volatilize into the air above and around their facility
- 5 on Southport Road? Do they simply allow the hazardous
- 6 chemicals to evaporate into the wind no matter what the
- 7 heat or humidity level? There is no indoor storage area
- 8 at the facility that I am aware of. Did you know that
- 9 there is a middle school, Pleasant Valley Middle School,
- 10 about a half mile uphill from this facility and that
- 11 approximately 52,000 people live within a three-mile
- 12 radius. How does this volatilization affect their air
- 13 quality? It may not, but I have seen no evidence in
- 14 this proposal to say that it won't.
- 15 It is also worth noting that my opposition
- 16 group is unaware of any IEPA air monitoring that is done
- 17 outside of the bag house facility where the treatment
- 18 occurs. So it would seem to me that there is not
- 19 currently any testing in place which might be able to
- 20 determine any air pollution that might travel during the
- 21 curing process at the outer locations of the landfill.
- 22 Also, there is no publicly available information
- 23 regarding the tests done at the bag house on air quality
- 24 for us to review. And given the low level of testing of

- 1 the air quality around the hazardous waste facility, it
- 2 does not surprise me that 61604, the zip code in which
- 3 this facility is located, has among the highest cancer
- 4 rates in Illinois according to the American Cancer
- 5 Society's 2006 and 2007 studies.
- 6 I accuse PDC of nothing with this. They have
- 7 been a responsible steward of their facility. I am
- 8 questioning the need for much greater air monitoring on
- 9 the part of both the IEPA and the U.S. EPA. I would
- 10 like to question the EPA standard where the treated EAFD
- 11 must withstand being exposed to an acidic solution for
- 12 16 or 18 -- I said I wasn't sure. I will actually refer
- 13 to the 24-hour number quoted here -- to pass their
- 14 testing regulations.
- This hardly seems sufficient by any stretch
- 16 of the imagination. A landfill is forever. I can only
- 17 guess, as can you, as to the number of household
- 18 chemicals the treated EAFD may encounter during its
- 19 lifetime in a landfill, even just the number of days
- 20 during which it sits near the top of the active cell.
- 21 Brake fluid, hair spray, vinegar, suppose some half
- 22 empty bleach container gets packed down on top of the
- 23 treated EAFD.
- 24 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Can you summarize?

- 1 MS. ROSSON: Second example as to regard to the
- 2 delisting of EAFD around the country, other delistings
- 3 do not cover disposal of EAFD at municipal landfills.
- 4 They are only for on-site delisting. So the EAFD is
- 5 disposed of in landfills on the site of the steel mill
- 6 itself.
- 7 As a third point, the number of EAFD
- 8 delistings that have been allowed -- I have a few actual
- 9 numbers, and these numbers are taken from PDC's own
- 10 submission to the IPCB. EAFD delistings comprise only
- 11 4.5 percent of all delistings nationally. Only 13
- 12 percent of EAFD delistings have been granted and 56
- 13 percent of them are withdrawn. A delisting was even
- 14 revoked in '97 due to health and safety concerns. This
- 15 rate seems very low to me. I contend that approving
- 16 PDC's current delisting proposal is essentially
- 17 delegated delisting responsibility to a private company
- 18 and away from the regulatory and government agencies
- 19 that were established to protect the health and welfare
- 20 of the citizens of their state, county or region.
- 21 Hazardous materials are regulated for very
- 22 good reason. They are toxic and carcinogenic pollutants
- 23 just at science's expense. I understood that government
- 24 was established on behalf of the people, not on behalf

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1 of any corporation or business, to protect the health
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- 2 and welfare of the general population not at the benefit
- 3 of a small group of owners and operators. I feel the --
- 4 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Are you --
- 5 MS. ROSSON: Okay. I request that the IPCB at
- 6 least demand further extensive testing, commercial
- 7 activity testing, and to at least demand that the IEPA
- 8 approve each new source of EAFD PDC contracts with in
- 9 the future. Ideally, I request that you deny this
- 10 delisting proposal. It sets a dangerous precedent in
- 11 that it would allow multi and unknown source delisting
- 12 without sufficient testing for safety and leaching for
- 13 disposal into municipal landfills where the dangers are
- 14 great at best, unknown at worst. I request that you
- 15 deny this delisting proposal on behalf of the citizens
- 16 of central Illinois who have been fighting to close this
- 17 hazardous waste landfill that lies in our back yards for
- 18 several years. Also on behalf of the San Koty and
- 19 Mahomet aquifers, the source of drinking and household
- 20 water for all of central Illinois. Thank you.
- 21 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you. And, again, you
- 22 can submit that comment in its entirety as a written
- 23 comment.
- MS. ROSSON: Okay.

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1 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Ms. Converse?
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- 2 (Brief pause in proceeding.)
- 3 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Did she leave? Okay.
- 4 Ms. Blumenshine?
- 5 (Brief pause in proceedings.)
- 6 MS. BLUMENSHINE: Madam Hearing Officer, I would
- 7 like to give sworn testimony, please.
- 8 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: We are not doing that at
- 9 this hearing. We are just taking public comments. But
- 10 if you would, please state and spell your name for the
- 11 court reporter.
- 12 MS. BLUMENSHINE: Thank you. My name is Joyce
- 13 Blumenshine. That is B-l-u-m-e-n-s-h-i-n-e. I do live
- 14 in Peoria. I'm a volunteer with the Heart of Illinois
- 15 Sierra Club. And to edit my comments tonight there is
- 16 several issues that were already covered so I will be
- 17 brief. I do want to first sincerely thank the members
- 18 of the Illinois Pollution Control Board and the Illinois
- 19 Environmental Protection Agency for their time and for
- 20 allowing this democratic process. We sincerely
- 21 appreciate your coming to Peoria.
- 22 Part of my comments were to discuss major
- 23 concerns regarding the Mahomet aquifer. That has been
- 24 covered in detail. I wish to discuss also site-specific

- 1 concern regarding the Indian Creek Landfill. And this
- 2 is regarding the section 28.1 factors, which I believe
- 3 alone would be sufficient to deny this application. You
- 4 have heard regarding the underlying Mahomet. In
- 5 addition to that concern at Indian Creek Landfill number
- 6 2, is the wetland that was destroyed, moved, when this
- 7 landfill application expansion will occur. On the maps
- 8 that were provided in Appendix E supplied by Peoria
- 9 Disposal Company, there is no indication of the location
- 10 or any existence of that wetland. And Appendix E was
- 11 not on the Pollution Control Board website. I did
- 12 request it. I did review it in detail. In the packet I
- 13 will submit today are two maps, and they are provided
- 14 from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers public notice for
- 15 the same site, dated June 5, 2007.
- 16 The map on page -- figure 2 shows very
- 17 clearly the proposed wetland area to be impacted at the
- 18 site of the Indian Creek Landfill number 2 expansion.
- 19 This area was then to be mitigated by the construction
- 20 of another wetland just outside of that area. And
- 21 figure 3 map that I am supplying shows the proposed
- 22 mitigation area southwest of the landfill area. The
- 23 importance of this cannot be overlooked, and I ask the
- 24 Illinois Pollution Control Board to please consider this

- 1 in their review.
- I have presented also a letter from Dr. Cindy
- 3 Skrukrud, who is with the Illinois Sierra Club. Her
- 4 last name is S-k-r-u-k-r-u-d. She is a Ph.D., of
- 5 course. Pardon me. And I would just like to read
- 6 briefly from her comments and this is in response to the
- 7 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers listing. It says, "We are
- 8 not only concerned with the proposed wet landfill, we
- 9 are concerned with the potential impacts on Indian Creek
- 10 and the underlying aquifer. The proposed landfill site
- 11 lies in an area subject to high water tables since the
- 12 public notice states that the proposed wetland
- 13 mitigation 200 feet south of the landfill expansion will
- 14 only require two to three feet to contact groundwater,
- 15 there is potential for stream contamination to occur as
- 16 a result of landfill leaching, leaching the
- 17 groundwater." She goes on to discuss this further, and
- 18 I do have this in complete for the Board's review. And
- 19 then she also adds her concerns for the additional
- 20 special waste and things that are going into the
- 21 landfill and concludes that increasing -- all these
- 22 things do increase the vulnerability to contamination of
- 23 this water resource the major sand and gravel aguifer.
- In addition, I will spare you my wetland

- 1 information that I printed out about the nature of
- 2 wetlands and the definition of wetlands pertaining to
- 3 this site and what was actually at this site.
- 4 And then moving as quickly as I can. In
- 5 addition, I have some other comments regarding dioxins
- 6 and bioaccumulation, impacts on animals, and I will
- 7 spare you that. And the final thing I have included
- 8 here is of concern also, not only does this fail to meet
- 9 the site specific regulation, it is my understanding
- 10 that there should be site information for all the sites
- 11 PDC wants to send this to, not a massive open-ended
- 12 opportunity to send EAF all over the state. As you
- 13 know, these municipal landfills vary greatly. Indian
- 14 Creek is fortunate to have some double liners. In
- 15 Clinton they have a single liner. The locations, of
- 16 course, vary greatly in the state. A multistate listing
- 17 is incomprehensible. A multistate opportunity for this
- is incomprehensible.
- 19 In closing, I would like to ask permission to
- 20 read an e-mail from Chuck Norris who is a certified
- 21 geologist in Illinois. And I received this from him.
- 22 It says that he thanks me for contacting him some time
- 23 ago. He says, "I have completed a preliminary review of
- 24 the proposed and related Agency, Board and PDC

- 1 materials. Based upon that review, my education,
- 2 training and experience, I believe your concerns" -- and
- 3 he is talking about issues with which I talked to him
- 4 over the phone and by e-mail -- "are well-founded. As
- 5 we discussed earlier, my existing obligations to other
- 6 clients make it impossible to attend the public meeting
- 7 in person to offer sworn testimony. I am sorry for that
- 8 because I do believe personal testimony, with the
- 9 opportunity for cross-examination, the most effective
- 10 way to present technical issues. However, in lieu of
- 11 that, I can provide written comments to you and the
- 12 Board for its and its technical staff's consideration.
- 13 I will try to have my comments ready for submittal by
- 14 August 21st. By filing early I hope to generate a
- 15 dialogue before the Board with the applicant during the
- 16 public comment period instead of simply providing
- 17 closing statements at the end of the comment period. It
- 18 isn't the same as testimony with the cross, but it is
- 19 the best I can do at this time. At present, my
- 20 principal concerns are the modeling performed by the
- 21 applicant, the environment or environments targeted for
- 22 disposal, the reliance upon problematic test protocols
- 23 and the poor performance record of lime enhanced coal
- 24 combustion waste as a stabilizing agent for other waste

- 1 treatments. I will likely call upon some or all of
- 2 these, and I may address other issues that arise."
- 3 Chuck Norris and his licensed professional geologist
- 4 number is here. Thank you very much for your time.
- 5 MR. MEGINNES: Ms. Hearing Officer, could I clarify
- 6 for the record the letter from Mr. Norris is coming in
- 7 as public comment?
- 8 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Yes. Yes. This is all
- 9 public comment here.
- 10 MR. MEGINNES: Thank you. I just wanted to clarify
- 11 that for the record.
- 12 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Mr. Wentworth?
- 13 (Brief pause in proceedings.)
- 14 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Spell your name, please, for
- 15 the court reporter.
- 16 MR. WENTWORTH: Sure. My name is David Wentworth,
- 17 W-e-n-t-w-o-r-t-h. Thank you to the members of the
- 18 staff of the Pollution Control Board for being here in
- 19 Peoria and accommodating the afternoon meeting request
- 20 very much. In addition, thanks to the parties and
- 21 everything for being here. I'm here representing the
- 22 Heart of Illinois Group of Sierra Club and Peoria
- 23 Families Against Toxic Waste.
- 24 There have been two previous Pollution

- 1 Control Board hearings or decisions regarding this
- 2 landfill. One was the case 06-184, which was the
- 3 affirmation of the denial of siting expansion. The
- 4 second was the case 08-25, which was the denial of the
- 5 class 3 permit modification request. Under section 27A
- 6 of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act, the Board
- 7 shall, and I respectfully submit that the Board should,
- 8 take into account the existing physical conditions, the
- 9 character of the areas involved, including the character
- 10 of surrounding land uses, zoning classifications, the
- 11 nature of the existing air quality or receding body of
- 12 water as the case may be and the technical feasibility
- 13 and economic reasonableness of measuring or reducing a
- 14 particular type of pollution. The generality of this
- 15 grant of authority shall only be limited by the
- 16 specifications of particular classes of regulations
- 17 elsewhere in this Act.
- Now in the denial of the siting expansion,
- 19 this Board affirmed the Peoria County Board's decision
- 20 that the expansion which was directly related to the
- 21 capacity that we are talking about here, the electric
- 22 arc furnace dust, that that expansion was not needed,
- 23 was not protective of the health, safety and welfare,
- 24 and was not compatible with surrounding land uses.

- 1 While acknowledging that that is on appeal with the
- 2 Third District Appellate Court, as it stands right now
- 3 it is the position of this Board that those conditions
- 4 existed for this site. The fact that the petitioner
- 5 here is requesting to use the landfill and maintain its
- 6 use of the waste stabilization facility is indicative of
- 7 it still not being needed, not protective and not being
- 8 compatible with the surrounding land uses. It all comes
- 9 down to the location, location, location. Whether there
- 10 is actual disposal there or a use of that facility
- 11 during the curing process, during the opening -- the
- 12 open curing process on the closed cells of PDC landfill
- 13 number 1.
- In addition, from my reading -- and I would
- 15 love to learn how I am wrong in the response, but from
- 16 my reading most of these electric arc furnace dust
- 17 delistings are very site-specific. So you heard about
- 18 the super detox; they will put a super detox facility at
- 19 a steel mill. And then it can go -- it will be
- 20 processed at the steel mill and then put in the local
- 21 municipal dump adjacent to or in close proximity to each
- 22 steel mill. Here it appears just the opposite is going
- 23 to happen. Everything is going to be coming in from
- 24 multiple mills and multiple states to one central

- 1 location and treated. It will then go out into just one
- 2 single municipal landfill at Indian Creek and/or
- 3 additional ones. It seems to turn the letter and spirit
- 4 of the RCRA laws on its head in that the -- you know,
- 5 about what is a "generator," quote, unquote, by site.
- 6 About what the limits of the delisting to apply within
- 7 the state of Illinois.
- 8 I request the Pollution Control Board to take
- 9 as hard a look at the generator issue and these issues
- 10 as they did in the case 08-25 regarding the class 3
- 11 permit modification.
- 12 Granting this petition would essentially not
- 13 just delist PDC's waste stabilization facility hazardous
- 14 waste for K061, but all K061. It would undo the listing
- 15 under RCRA. The only limit to that is that the capacity
- 16 that they stated in their petition. But we all know
- 17 from the Keystone case of AS91-1 and other law that
- 18 those caps on the capacity may or may not hold up. So,
- 19 essentially, PDC's proposed waste stabilization facility
- 20 could accept waste from any electric arc furnace mill in
- 21 the nation. They could be going 24/7. They could
- 22 expand within the contours of their current permit, or
- 23 they could seek to modify to expand even more. So this
- 24 could be the magnet for all electric arc furnace dust to

- 1 come in here.
- 2 I respectfully submit that that type of
- 3 wholesale change in the law is best done in Congress to
- 4 change the waste code to make K061 not a listed waste
- 5 anymore. But that granting this petition would have the
- 6 same effect, only limited by the, quote, unquote,
- 7 "capacity or cap limit" which may not be worth the paper
- 8 that it's written on. The headline would be, you know,
- 9 "Delisting exception swallows rule," or something like
- 10 that.
- 11 With all due respect to Peoria Disposal
- 12 Company, PDC talks about the costs and the efforts
- 13 necessary to comply with the regulations of general
- 14 application. They have to do that as part of the
- 15 permit. It was very nice to see the representatives of
- 16 the customers coming here and giving their own public
- 17 comments, and this is just public comment also about the
- 18 needs and justification. And in the press there has
- 19 been a lot of talk about Keystone and that this is very
- 20 important and integral to Keystone's survival. But
- 21 Keystone already has an adjusted standards permit for
- 22 K061 through the super detox method. Apparently they
- 23 have not been able to handle the cost or have not kept
- 24 that in full force and effect, but that has been around

- 1 since 1991. So that is the same waste that PDC is going
- 2 to be taking in plus the waste from all the other
- 3 surrounding states to treat. That's all that I have.
- 4 Thank you.
- 5 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.
- 6 Dave Long?
- 7 (Brief pause in proceedings.)
- 8 MR. LONG: My name is David Long, L-o-n-q. It's
- 9 simple to spell.
- 10 I'm sure a lot of people are thinking, oh,
- 11 here is another one of those steel guys here to sing the
- 12 praises of PDC. And, well, that's true.
- 13 But I'm the environmental manager at Sterling
- 14 Steel Company in Sterling, Illinois. We are located
- 15 about 75 miles north of Peoria, and we are considered a
- 16 minimill like Keystone and the other steel companies
- 17 that have been up before. Understanding that we do not
- 18 make steel; we recycle it. We do not start with iron
- 19 ore. We take scrap, and we take that material, melt it
- 20 down and make steel.
- I do want to, right from the beginning,
- 22 indicate that Sterling Steel supports the delisting
- 23 petition because we do make a lot of K061. And we feel
- 24 that the way it is being treated and handled at Peoria

- 1 Disposal Company is appropriate and safe for the
- 2 environment and for our health.
- 3 We have approximately 250 employees and make
- 4 about 500,000 tons of steel each year. With those
- 5 500,000 tons of steel, we make about 8,000 tons of K061
- 6 waste. K061's -- I will just abbreviate it as K061, but
- 7 one thing that I found that many people talk about the
- 8 material and have never actually seen it. So this is
- 9 two ounces of K061. It's a powder. It's metallic. And
- 10 there have been a number of comments that I have seen
- 11 where people say, "It's evaporating," or, "It's going
- 12 into the air." This is a metal. These are metal
- oxides, meaning, iron, zinc, manganese, mostly iron, 60
- 14 percent or more. So the material itself, this is not
- 15 the idea of hazardous waste that most people have.
- 16 You know, the drums of bubbling green goo
- 17 that eat through everything is not what we are dealing
- 18 with here. This is a solid, harder material. This
- 19 small sample has been in this jar for about eight years.
- 20 It is still not leaking through the glass.
- 21 I wanted to mention that our company makes an
- 22 end product which is rod. Now once we make the rod, we
- 23 send it to our parent company who makes bedsprings. So
- 24 the steel that we make, you sleep on at night. Seeley

- 1 and all the big companies use our steel. That steel
- 2 comes from billets that we make out of melting scrap.
- 3 So we melt scrap into steel, this shape, and run it
- 4 through a mill and make rod.
- 5 Before we make that steel, it comes to us
- 6 like this. This is a sample of scrap. Scrap steel is
- 7 dirty. It's rusty. There have been comments that
- 8 people make about, "We've got to keep this K061 stuff
- 9 out of the landfill." People, it's going in the
- 10 landfill. For sure it's going in. If it doesn't go in
- 11 as a dust that we produced, it goes in as a steel from
- 12 wrecked cars. At one time this was part of an
- 13 automobile. It was shredded; now it goes to the steel
- 14 plant. When you take steel like this, 200 tons at a
- 15 time at our plant and put it into a furnace, putting
- 16 70-degree steel like this into 3,000 degree liquid steel
- 17 immediately vaporizes all the contaminants and junk
- 18 that's on there. If this was a galvanized piece of
- 19 steel, it certainly could be, that zinc that's on the
- 20 galvanized piece goes right into the air. When that
- 21 happens we collect it on fabric filter as dust. And
- 22 that dust is collected and sent to PDC.
- 23 The material is going into the landfill one
- 24 way or the other. Either as 100 million tons of scrap

- 1 steel or as a much, much, much smaller percentage of
- 2 K061 dust. I thought I might go to six or seven
- 3 minutes. That's why I didn't stand up earlier.
- 4 Sterling Steel has sent K061 material to
- 5 Peoria Disposal Company since 1988. So when earlier
- 6 speakers were talking about super detox process, I might
- 7 be the only person in the room who actually knows the
- 8 process and has been involved with it. At our steel
- 9 plant up in Sterling we used the super detox process for
- 10 about ten years. We used to make about 40,000 tons a
- 11 year of K061 material. EnviroSource had a plant on-site
- 12 in Sterling. Our K061 material went to that plant.
- 13 It's true that that was dedicated to our material. Our
- 14 dust went to that plant. They stabilized it, and they
- 15 put it into a landfill that we had on site. But CSI's
- 16 stabilization process was not site-specific. The
- 17 delisting petition that they sought and received from
- 18 the United States Environmental Protection Agency was a
- 19 process specific delisting, not site-specific. So it
- 20 allows them to use their process at any site to delist
- 21 K061. I believe they may have set up a site at another
- 22 steel plant, but I do know that they have the super
- 23 detox process operating at their landfill near Toledo,
- 24 Ohio. And at that landfill they took in dust from many

- 1 different electric arc furnace shops in that area,
- 2 stabilized, delisted and landfilled. We do not send our
- 3 material that far because Toledo is not a reasonable
- 4 distance to send material when Peoria and some other
- 5 landfills are much closer.
- 6 Also comments were made about things -- other
- 7 things in the landfill. A comment that Chris made in
- 8 the paper about, you know, you worry about what else
- 9 goes into the landfill. We all worry about that. But
- 10 one thing to be aware of, a battery that is full of acid
- or a bottle of fingernail polish remover may have an
- 12 effect on the K061. But you don't put a whole truckload
- 13 of batteries in the landfill. The K061 material goes
- 14 out in truckloads. And a battery, whatever effect it
- may have on the K061, would be an extremely limited
- 16 effect on very, very, very small portion of material
- 17 that's there. We are not washing the K061 in gallons
- 18 and gallons of acid or other organic material.
- 19 One of the things that is just -- I'm
- 20 preaching to the choir for some people, but the testing
- 21 that is done on the KO61 is referred to as TCLP,
- 22 toxicity characteristic leaching procedure. It's an
- 23 18-hour wash in an acidic solution, which is more acidic
- 24 than you would expect in a municipal landfill. If the

- 1 material is put in a hazardous waste landfill like we
- 2 have now, we don't have the concern of acid materials
- 3 getting to the K061. But once you put it in a municipal
- 4 landfill, there is a possibility -- because after a
- 5 while the waste starts to degrade and degrade and you
- 6 get kind of a toxic soup in there that can be removed as
- 7 a leachate, but it can affect the material. But the
- 8 test, the TCLP test, is supposed to take that into
- 9 account by being more acidic than what you would find in
- 10 a landfill.
- 11 Other steel company people have mentioned
- 12 there are other things to do with K061 material. One
- thing is to stabilize a landfill. We have been
- 14 stabilizing it, like I said, for about 15 years. We
- 15 think it's a very viable solution to the problem. We
- 16 have recycled our material also. But, again, the amount
- 17 of recycling capability has some restriction. One is
- 18 the amount of zinc. Recyclers that recycle K061 don't
- 19 want to recycle and get iron. They want a more valuable
- 20 material. Lead and zinc are things that they can make
- 21 money from. If the K061 material does not have enough
- 22 zinc in particular, they don't want it. They can't make
- 23 any money out of recycling low zinc material.
- We think that PDC is an exceptional company.

- 1 Like I said, for 15 more years I have been sending
- 2 material there. I come down from time to time to audit
- 3 their operations. I have seen their test results on my
- 4 material. I think their results are as comparable to
- 5 super detox method that I used personally for about 12
- 6 years. The test results shows that the material is
- 7 stabilized. You cannot remove zinc and lead by
- 8 landfilling. Metals are not something that are going to
- 9 evaporate. They are there. When you make a cake, you
- 10 mix a lot of ingredients. You bake it. When you are
- 11 done, where is the egg and flour and everything else?
- 12 It's still there, but you don't see it. It's tied up.
- 13 That's the same way as with the metals and the
- 14 stabilized K061.
- 15 Steel companies have a need for different
- 16 options. There are companies that recycle material. We
- 17 want to recycle. It's probably the best option. We do
- 18 recycle some, but we can't recycle all of it. The
- 19 capability and capacity in the United States is not
- 20 there. 100 million tons of steel are made. Some small
- 21 percentage of that is K061 tons. That capability is not
- 22 there for the entire country. In the meantime, until it
- 23 is or until other processes are designed, landfilling is
- 24 a very viable option and one that we want to take care

- 1 of.
- 2 So just in closing, Sterling Steel supports
- 3 the petition. We hope that any technical questions that
- 4 are still out there get answered. We are confident that
- 5 we reduce our liability greatly by going to a company as
- 6 strong as PDC. Thank you for listening.
- 7 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Thank you.
- 8 I will just ask one more time if Kim Converse
- 9 is here? She left? Okay. Thank you. Is there anybody
- 10 else who came in late and did not have a chance to sign
- 11 in?
- 12 MR. FOX: This will be very brief.
- HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Your name, sir?
- 14 MR. FOX: My name is Rick Fox. Just one quick
- 15 proposal to the Board. In the application there are
- 16 three landfills stated. And we have the Tazewell and
- 17 DeWitt County facilities. There is also one in Pike
- 18 County. And I would like to make the request that there
- 19 be a public hearing there for those folks so they can
- 20 have an opportunity to have this discussion as well.
- 21 Thank you.
- 22 HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Anybody else not have an
- 23 opportunity to speak that came here to speak?
- 24 (No audible response.)

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1
          HEARING OFFICER WEBB: Okay. Great. I think
 2
     that's everybody. Is there any final comment from PDC,
 3
     EPA, Board?
                       (Brief pause in proceedings.)
 4
 5
          HEARING OFFICER WEBB: At this time I will
     concluded the proceedings. We stand adjourned, and I
 6
 7
     thank all of you for your very thoughtful and
 8
     intelligent comments and everybody's participation.
 9
     Thank you.
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13
                       (Whereupon, the proceedings concluded
14
                       at 6:35 p.m.)
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1	STATE OF ILLINOIS)				
2	COUNTY OF TAZEWELL)				
3					
4	CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER				
5					
6	I, GALE G. EVERHART, CSR-RPR, Notary Public in and				
7	for the County of Tazewell, state of Illinois, do hereby				
8	certify that the foregoing transcript, consisting of				
9	pages 1 through 139, both inclusive, constitutes a true				
LO	and accurate transcript of the original stenographic				
L1	notes recorded by me of the foregoing proceedings had				
L2	before Hearing Officer Carol Webb, in Peoria,				
L3	Illinois, on the 18th day of August, 2008.				
L4					
L5	Dated this 25th day of August, 2008.				
L6					
L7					
L8					
L9					
20					
21	GALE G. EVERHART, CSR-RPR Illinois License No. 084-004217				
	IIIINOIS LICENSE NO. 064-004217				
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