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ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

May 20, 2009	CLERK'S OFFICE	,
IN THE MATTER OF:	AUG 2 4 2009	
	STATE OF ILLINOIS Pollution Control Boar	•
WATER QUALITY STANDARDS AND) and not courted Boat	d
EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS FOR THE) R08-9	
CHICAGO AREA WATERWAY SYSTEM AND) (Rulemaking -	
THE LOWER DES PLAINES RIVER:) Water)	
PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO 35 Ill.)	
Adm. Code Parts 301, 302, 303)	
and 304)	

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS at the

hearing of the above-entitled cause before Hearing Officer Marie Tipsord, taken before Rebecca A. Graziano, Certified Shorthand Reporter within and for the County of Cook and State of Illinois, at 160 North LaSalle Street, Room N-505, Chicago, Illinois, commencing at the hour of 1:00 p.m. on the 13th day of August, A.D., 2009.

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1	APPEARANCES
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3	THE ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD,
4	Ms. Marie Tipsord, Hearing Officer Mr. Anand Rao, Senior Environmental Scientist Mr. G. Tanner Girard, Acting Chairman
5	Ms. Andrea Moore, Member
6	Mr. Gary Blankenship, Member Mr. Thomas Johnson, Member
7	Dr. Shundar Lin, Member
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16	Appeared on behalf of ELPC, Prairie Rivers Network, and Sierra Club,
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20	BY: MR. FREDRIC ANDES
21	Appeared on behalf of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago,
22	J.,
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24	

	Page 3
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12	MAYER, BROWN, LLP 71 South Wacker Drive
13	Chicago, Illinois 60606 BY: MR. THOMAS W. DIMOND
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1	MS. TIPSORD: I think we're ready for
2	questions from the Environmental Law and
3	Policy Center.

MS. DEXTER: All right. I'm Jessica

Dexter with the Environmental Law and Policy

Center, and I just have, I think, five

questions remaining from the ones that we had

pre-filed. They're not going to make any

sense, because they're not in the context of

our other questions anymore, so I'll just ask

you some sporadic questions.

The first one is: Do you know whether recreational boaters currently use the river in the vicinity of the second discharge?

MR. DIMOND: We're going to object to that question as being way, way beyond the scope of expert testimony. I mean, they were asked to prepare a report on technologies that could be used to meet the proposal water quality standards. They didn't look at whether or not recreational boaters used the river.

MS. DEXTER: My question was basically

do they -- the question was do they have 1 knowledge, like personal knowledge, from 2 whatever they've studied? 3 MR. DIMOND: We object to the question as being beyond the scope of their testimony. 5 MS. DEXTER: I'll let them answer and 7 decide whether they want to try to answer that. 8 9 MS. TIPSORD: I'm looking back in the 10 introductory materials -- and I may be 11 remembering this from someone else's testimony, so let me double check something 12 13 here. 14 All right. I'm sorry. I'm remembering Mr. Elvert's testimony. I think 15 16 they can answer within their knowledge, and a simple, "No, we don't," is fine, or, "Yes, we 17 18 do." It's -- you don't have to expand. Or I don't know. 19 20 MS. GARIBAY: I don't know. 21 MS. DEXTER: All right. Thank you. 22 Has Stepan ever been denied a mixing 23 zone -- wait, that's not what I want to ask.

That's fine. I'll ask it.

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	1 age (
1	Has Stepan ever been denied a
2	mixing zone because of the fact that a
3	segment of the Des Plaines was violating
4	water quality standards?
5	MS. GARIBAY: According to Stepan,
6	they've never applied for a mixing zone.
7	MS. TIPSORD: Ms. Garibay, remember
8	MS. GARIBAY: Oh, sorry. According to
9	Stepan, they've never applied for a mixing
10	zone.
11	MS. DEXTER: What businesses or other
12	facilities are in the area of the Stepan
13	Millsdale Plant?
14	MS. GARIBAY: As Mr. Diamond
15	indicated, we didn't our task was just
16	purely focused on looking at the treatment
17	technologies to achieve the standards.
18	However, in response to that, we
19	did have to consider looking at other MPDS
20	permits, because we were trying to figure out
21	how implementation of standards might work
22	and look at the fact sheets. So we know
23	there's two power plants, nine industries,
24	and these are the ones that I consider

1	directly upstream.
2	MS. DEXTER: Within a mile?
3	within what, sort of, range is it directly
4	upstream? It doesn't have to be exact.
5	MS. GARIBAY: That would probably be
6	about ten miles, five miles. And so the two
7	power plants, nine industries and a couple of
8	POTWs. That's how we ended up looking at
9	Lockport and Crest Hill.
10	MS. DEXTER: Do you know whether
11	Stepan has recently attempted to buy land in
12	the area of the Millsdale plant?
13	MS. GARIBAY: According to Stepan, the
14	land that's available between their
15	wastewater treatment plant and the river is
16	owned by Illinois DNR and is not available
17	for sale.
18	MS. DEXTER: Okay.
19	MS. GARIBAY: As a matter of fact, in
20	looking at that issue, that they actually
21	have to lease a segment of the land to run
22	their discharge pipe through. So their
23	wastewater treatment plant isn't actually

near the river. It's about -- I think the

24

1 pipe is about 1,500 feet from the effluent tank to the river. 2 MS. DEXTER: Okay. Do you know how 3 many people regularly work at the Millsdale 5 plant? 6 MS. GARIBAY: 1,500. 7 MS. DEXTER: All right. 8 MR. DIMOND: No, no, that's worldwide. 9 MS. GARIBAY: Oh, worldwide. 10 sorry. 400 people, of which 230 are union 11 members. Sorry. 12 MS. DEXTER: Does Stepan currently 13 discharge nitrogen and phosphorus into the Des Plaines River? 14 15 MR. DIMOND: I'm going to object to 16 that, and it's also beyond the scope of the 17 testimony. We were dealing with disinfection 18 and temperature and oxygen -- dissolved 19 oxygen. 20 MS. TIPSORD: I'm going to sustain 21 that objection. MS. WILLIAMS: Do you want -- wasn't 22 23 he --24 MS. DEXTER: I remember testimony this

1 morning about nitrogen and phosphorus. MS. TIPSORD: But I think that was in 2. the context of --3 MS. WILLIAMS: Dissolved oxygen. 5 MS. TIPSORD: Right. MR. DIMOND: I think that --MS. TIPSORD: The impact of what it would have on dissolved oxygen and the 8 process. I don't think it was about 10 discharging. 11 MS. WILLIAMS: We had testimony, though, on why -- what about their discharge 12 13 might cause dissolved oxygen. If those are parameters that are related to that, I would 14 think that's relevant. 15 MS. DEXTER: I agree with that. 16 17 MR. DIMOND: I don't recall exactly 18 what the testimony was this morning. I 19 thought it was more generically in terms of 20 what might cause dissolved oxygen issues. 21 But I just think this is beyond the scope of 22 their testimony. 23 MS. TIPSORD: Yeah. I'm going to 24 sustain the objection. I'm not sure I see

the relevance of it.

MS. DEXTER: About the nitrogen phosphorus, scientists say it can relate to the dissolved oxygen question, and that's why. I mean, I'm not going to fight it, but I just -- I disagree. That's what I was saying.

All right. Have you considered wetland treatment for pathogens, phosphorus, nitrogen, or heat?

DR. ADAMS: The answer is yes. We considered it. We did not pursue it here for several reasons. We've been active in the wetlands. We seldom will recommend it to a chemical industry because of the future implications of a leak. It has to be a structured wetland, which means the plastic liner, which means a leak opens them to all types of legal implications. So we have actually taken a couple out in Europe that were put in because of the legal implications.

Also, wetlands, to our knowledge, don't do much to pathogens. They're, sort

of, a bobble that's used -- and I checked it 1 to be sure -- of wetland treatment. 2 3 Kadlee -- K-a-d-l-e-e -- Chapter 17 is just addressed on pathogens, and he basically is considered one of the gurus and does not recommend wetlands for pathogens. Nitrogen 7 phosphorous, you are transferring it to plant medium, which you need to get out eventually. 9 You're not taking it out, but you are 10 transferring it to the nitrogen 11 phosphorous --12 MS. DEXTER: Do you know whether the 13 holding time within wetlands affects the 14 levels of pathogens? 15 DR. ADAMS: I don't know that. Ι 16 don't know. MS. DEXTER: That's all I have. 17 18 MS. TIPSORD: Thank you. And I 19 understand the District has no questions. 20 They've all been addressed? Is that correct, 21 Mr. Andes? 22 MR. ANDES: Yes. 23 MS. TIPSORD: Are there any other 24 questions?

1	MR. DIMOND: I have one follow-up
2	question, and then I think we can address at
3	least one of the questions one of the
4	things that we had open with the Board.
5	With regard to the use of cooling
6	towers at OCPFS facilities, are you aware of
7	OCPFS facilities that have cooling towers
8	within them?
9	DR. ADAMS: Within the production
10	area, within the site boundary limits, yes.
11	MR. DIMOND: Okay. So what type of
12	water is being cooled in those cooling
13	towers?
14	DR. ADAMS: In the production-relating
15	cooling towers, the water is very clean. It
16	can be tap water, city water. It's
17	recirculated as the chemicals are added to
18	prevent bacterial growth to prevent scaling,
19	but it's basically a clean water compared to
20	an effluent treatment plant. There's no
21	foaming potential, et cetera.
22	As it becomes loaded with
23	chemicals, it is blown out the sewer and
24	actually treated in a treatment plant, and

1 freshwater is added. These towers are working with hot temperature waters. 2 They are very suitable for human towers. 3 4 have a big spread between what I said earlier 5 is a wet bulb temperature and the temperature of your cooling. So there you have enough difference in temperature -- they're very 8 hot -- to cool them with the cooling towers.

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MR. DIMOND: So these in process cooling towers, roughly what -- I mean, what range of temperatures would you expect the water that's being influent to those cooling towers to be?

DR. ADAMS: From 90 to 120 degrees F.

MR. DIMOND: Okay. And that's -- is that significantly hotter than the waters that would theoretically go into a cooling tower at the end of a wastewater treatment process?

DR. ADAMS: In this area, the waters will be quite cooler in the winter, and so it's more difficult to cool them with the cooling tower, in addition to the problems that this is a foaming wastewater and the

1	foam	aln	nost	lin	nits	most	of	the	cooling
2	metho	ods	exce	pt	the	close	ed (circu	uit.

MR. DIMOND: Okay. And then just to repeat your prior testimony, you're not aware of any chemical plants that have a cooling tower post the wastewater treatment system.

Is that correct?

DR. ADAMS: That's correct. I'm the global leader here at Environ Industrial, and I travel and do travel all over the word. I haven't seen a single one globally in a chemical plant.

MR. DIMOND: That's all I had in terms of questions. And in response to the Board's request, we've provided you the text of the 2004, 2005, and 2006 Midwest General studies. This is the text that was provided to Environ for their work. As I said, this is not the entire report, but it is the text of the reports that we've provided to them, and I suppose you can enter them as separate exhibits if you want, but I thought we'd just do it as a group.

MS. TIPSORD: I think we'll just enter

1	it as a group exhibit. If there's no
2	objection, we'll admit the Midwest Generation
3	reports, three of them, from three separate
4	years, as Exhibit 323. Seeing no objection,
5	they're Exhibit 323.
6	MR. DIMOND: And then, Madam Hearing
7	Officer, I think Dr. Lin had asked us a
8	question about the total residual chlorine
9	design. We're still working on that. If we
10	can get an answer before we leave today, we
11	may ask to come back up. But if not, we
12	will can we submit it in writing?
13	MS. TIPSORD: Sure.
14	MR. DIMOND: All right.
15	MS. TIPSORD: And we'll just give it a
16	public comment number when it comes in.
17	MR. DIMOND: Thank you.
18	MS. TIPSORD: Are there any other
19	questions for Ms. Garibay or Dr. Adams?
20	Thank you, very much, and we'll move on then
21	to Exon Mobil.
22	(Whereupon, a break was taken,
23	after which the following
24	proceedings were had.)

MS. RIOS: Good Afternoon. I'm Monica
Rios. I'm with the law firm Hodge Dwyer and
Driver. With me is Kathy Hodge, also with
the law firm of Hodge Dwyer and Driver, and
our witness today is Mr. Bob Elvert. He's
the state regulatory advisor for the Midwest
region for Exxon Mobil Oil Corporation.

Mr. Elvert's testimony will focus on the Agency's proposed use designation for the segment of the Lower Des Plaines River, called the Upper Dresden Isle Pool, where Exon Mobil's Joliet refinery is located. Exon Mobil reserves the right to provide testimony on the Agency's proposed water quality standards at a later time.

Mr. Elvert has a brief statement for the record, and then will answer pre-filed questions from Illinois EPA, the Environmental Law and Policy Center, The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, and any follow-ups regarding his pre-filed testimony.

So I would now like to offer his testimony as an exhibit, for the record.

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1	MS. TIPSORD: Let's swear him in first
2	and then we'll do that.
3	(Witness sworn.)
4	MS. TIPSORD: All right. Then let's
5	enter his pre-filed testimony.
6	MS. HODGE: Here's a copy.
7	MS. TIPSORD: If there's no objection,
8	we'll enter the pre-filed testimony of Robert
9	S. Elvert as Exhibit 324. Seeing none, it's
10	Exhibit 324. Go ahead.
11	MR. ELVERT: Good afternoon. My name
12	is Bob Elvert, and I am the state regulatory
13	advisor for the Midwest region of the Exxon
14	Mobil corporation in Channahon, Illinois.
15	I'm here today on behalf of Exon Mobil to
16	discuss potential impacts of the Agency's
17	proposed recreational use designation for the
18	Upper Dresden Island Pool of the Lower Des
19	Plaines River, on which Exon Mobil's Joliet
20	refinery is located.
21	The Agency proposes to designate
22	the segment of the river where the refinery
23	is located as incidental contact for
24	recreational use purposes. Adopting an

incidental contact designation for the

segment will encourage increased recreational

use of the stretch of the Lower Des Plaines

River near the refinery, which raises safety

and security concerns.

The portion of the Lower Des

Plaines River on which the refinery is

located is heavily trafficked by tug boats

and barges. Barge movement up and down the

river, as well as back and forth across the

river, is constant. Because multiple barges

often pass through the area at the same time,

it's possible that at times there is limited

space for recreational users to maneuver

safely around the tugs and barges.

Exon Mobil's concern that the hiking of the recreation use designation from secondary contact to incidental contact will increase recreational use and subsequently, proportionately, increase the risk posed by barge traffic to recreational users.

In addition to safety concerns, the proposed incident contact designation also raises security concerns. I stated in

1	my testimony the refinery is a protected
2	energy facility, a Coast Guard governed
3	facility, and is, thus, subject to increased
4	security members.

An increased number of people who recreate around the stretch of the river where the refinery is located poses an increased security risk, not only to the refinery, but also to other facilities located on the Lower Des Plaines River.

Exon Mobil encourages the Board to consider the implications of the proposed incidental contact designation for the Lower Des Plaines River, and it encourages the Agency to meet with the interested parties to discuss safety and security issues on the Lower Des Plaines River, as discussed with stakeholders for the cause.

I'm happy to answer any questions regarding my pre-filed testimony.

MS. TIPSORD: With that, we'll go to the IEPA.

MS. DIERS: Good afternoon. My name is Stefanie Diers, and I will be asking

1	questions on behalf of the Illinois EPA.
2	Pre-filed question number one:
3	Can you describe the recreational uses you
4	have observed near the Joliet refinery
5	upstream from the I-55 bridge?
6	MR. ELVERT: I've observed motor boats
7	of all sizes, row boats, canoes, jet skis,
8	transit large boats, sailboats from the gulf
9	of Mexico up through Lake Michigan,
10	specifically in the summertime, in the fall
11	spring and fall and fishing boats in
12	the Lower Des Plaines River near the Joliet
13	refinery.
14	MS. DIERS: Question two, can you
15	describe the recreational uses you have
16	observed near the Joliet refinery downstream
17	of the I-55 bridge?
18	MR. ELVERT: Downstream of
19	the specifically the same type of boats.
20	MS. DIERS: Question three, do you
21	believe the current recreational uses of the
22	Lower Des Plaines River represent a security
23	risk at your facility? If so, please state
24	why.

1	MR. ELVERT: Currently there's a
2	security risk due to the current designation
3	and associated recreational uses. However,
4	we anticipate that designating the Lower Des
5	Plaines River as incidental contact will
6	likely increase the number of recreational
7	users along the Lower Des Plaines River,
8	which would pose an increased security risk.
9	MS. DIERS: Do you believe the current
10	recreational uses of the Lower Des Plaines
11	River represent a safety risk to the
12	recreational user? If so, please state why.
13	This is question four.
14	MR. ELVERT: I've got some photos here
15	that
16	MS. RIOS: We have a series of photos
17	depicting barge traffic on the Lower Des
18	Plaines River that we'd like to enter as an
19	exhibit.
20	MS. TIPSORD: Okay.
21	MS. HODGE: And we have there are
22	-seven different photographs, and we have
23	numbers on them. I'm not sure whether,
24	Ms. Tipsord, you want to admit it as a single

- exhibit or individual.
- 2 MS. TIPSORD: Let's go ahead and do individually.
- MS. HODGE: Okay.

MS. TIPSORD: Actually, you know what,
let's go ahead and do it as a group exhibit.

That works just as well, I think. If there's
no objection, we'll admit the pictures that
are numbered in the upper left-hand corner as
one through seven as Group Exhibit 325.

Seeing no objection, they're Exhibit 325.

MR. ELVERT: In these photos -- I'd like to just refer to number one through five at this point in time -- if you look at the first one, this is right at the I-55 bridge to where a barge is -- it's an empty barge, and it's doing part of its fleeting operations, and you have a decent-sized motor boat going fairly quickly -- you can tell by the wake as somewhat close to the barge itself.

The second picture is a three wide tow going downstream. This is an empty -- these three -- at least three -- I

think, it's six actually -- are empty. You

can see the height that they are out of the

water, and that does impose a concern coming

down the river, even along the sides.

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The next photo, number three, is the same tow much closer. And again, the safety concerns of anybody being that close as this barge is going by.

Number four is a tug with three wide and at least two deep. Normally each barge is approximately 50 to 55 feet wide.

Long, they range from 200 to 250 feet long.

Most of the time they're three wide, so you're talking about at least 150 feet wide, and anywhere from two to five barges long.

So as far as navigational, they're in the middle of the river. But as far as safety on both the tugs as well as recreational, you can see where you would have some concerns.

And the -- number five is actually a two with -- I apologize for the poor picture -- but it is a five barge long tow, three wide. So you are looking over 1,000 feet long. If you include about

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1	90 feet for the tug, it's almost 1,100 feet
2	long and 150 feet wide.
3	MS. TIPSORD: And Mr I may be
4	stepping on some your questions, but my
5	questions are about these pictures, they're
6	clearly different angles, and I'm wondering,
7	particularly with Pictures 2 and 3 of
8	Exhibit 325, are those taken bank, on the
9	water?
10	MR. ELVERT: No. I'm in a boat
11	approximately, maybe, 50 yards, 30 yards off
12	shore.
13	MS. TIPSORD: Okay. And picture
14	number one
15	MR. ELVERT: Picture number one, I am
16	along our dock looking north across the
17	river.
18	MS. TIPSORD: All right. Thank you.
19	MS. DIERS: So you took all of these
20	pictures?
21	MR. ELVERT: I took one through three.
22	Four and five were taken off a website of the
23	Illinois Marine Towing Company, the pictures
24	of their tows.

MS. DIERS: I believe this is -- I'm sorry.

MR. ELVERT: I'm sorry. I'll continue. The recreational craft operator on tug boat and/or barge movements of any kind create an unnecessary and unwanted risk and a potential degradation of vessel security and represented potential degradation to the state and secure vessel operation. A recreational craft may not fully appreciate the potential risks that they create by operating in a close proximity to a tug or

barge underway.

Following the tragic events of 9/11, regulators in the industry have made steps to strengthen vessel security.

Measures to prevent unwanted intrusion or distractions while operating recreational boaters operating at a high speed, or particularly in areas of high traffic are at a higher risk of colliding with the barge or towboat, that is, limited ability to maneuver to avoid a high speed crash.

Due to security concerns, all

1	pleasure boats, regardless of their distance
2	from the tow, must be monitored and, thus,
3	heavy traffic areas result in additional
4	concerns and distractions for the towboat
5	crew.
6	Heavy pleasure boat and
7	recreational use activity is encountered in
8	this area primarily in June through August
9	and creates an increased risk to recreational
10	boaters and commercial traffic. We do not
11	believe that recreational traffic and
12	commercial traffic are mutually exclusive,
13	but additional safety measures are necessary
14	to ensure the risk is properly managed.
15	MS. DIERS: Can you tell me where
16	picture four was taken?
17	MR. ELVERT: I believe that's just
18	south going through Joliet. I'm sorry.
19	Number four yes, that's going through
20	Joliet.
21	MS. DEXTER: Where is that in
22	proximity to the I-55 bridge?
23	MR. ELVERT: That is
24	approximately I think it's about hold

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1	on here a second. You're at 278, and that is
2	in the area of 285, so about seven miles
3	upstream, still part of the Lower Des
4	Plaines, right at the upstream edge of the
5	Lower Des Plaines River.
6	MS. DIERS: Is it in the Brandon Pool?
7	MR. ELVERT: I'm sorry.
8	MS. DIERS: Is it in the Brandon Pool?
9	MR. ELVERT: That is the well,
10	Brandon Lochs. Just north of the Brandon
11	Lochs, so that would be just outside. But
12	that tug did go through the Lower Des Plaines
13	to get there, and the same case with picture
14	number five.
15	MS. DIERS: Do you have any
16	information about actual boating accident
17	reports in this area that you've talked
18	about?
19	MR. ELVERT: No, I do not, other than
20	the one that was already on record. I
21	believe it's Exhibit 9. It has to do with
22	the fisherman that died by drowning.
23	MS. DIERS: Question five, why do you
24	believe a change in the use from secondary

1	contact to incidental contact will encourage
2	increased recreational use of the Upper
3	Dreeden Teland Dool?

MR. ELVERT: Hold on here a second.

The Lower Des Plaines River UAA concludes information from an Aquanova survey, regarding the recreational use of the Lower Des Plaines River.

Question five, "Of that survey, do you think that recreational use would increase if the water quality improved?" The response was that respondents answered affirmatively, such as recreational use would increase if water quality improved. However, a perception of, quote, unquote, "bad water quality" was strong. The recreational uses that would be most likely improved are, in order of positive response, fishing, canoeing, bird watching, and swimming.

In addition, Aquanova's overall assessment of the Upper Dresden Island Pool provides at the lower pool between mile marker 283 and the I-55 bridge has a potential for increased recreational use,

including contact recreation.

Also, the Empress Casino is operated as a resort that would benefit from expanding the recreational opportunities.

The area's recreational potential -- there is potential for developing most of the Dresden Pool as a recreational area for the citizens of northeast Illinois.

MS. DIERS: Question six, on Page 5 of your testimony, you use the term federally protected energy facility. What is the definition of this term?

MR. ELVERT: For purposes of this section, the term energy facility means a facility that is involved in the production, storage, transmission, or distribution of electricity, fuel or another form or source of energy or research development or demonstration facilities relating thereto.

And under this section, the Exon

Mobil Joliet refinery facility requires

signage along the perimeter of the facility.

The signs state that it is a federal crime,

punishable by fine and up to ten years

L	punishment, for any person to willfully
2	damage or attempt to damage this facility.
3	The signs are posted to notify the public
1	that it is a federally protected facility
5	part of the Upper to deter trespassers and/or
5	that intent in attempting to damage the
7	facility in any way.

MS. DIERS: Question seven, on Page 5 of your testimony, you call the Joliet refinery a U.S. Coast Guard governed facility. What is the definition of this term?

MR. ELVERT: Regulated facilities under the Maritime Transportation Security

Act are required to increase a security level clearance for unescorted access to the secured areas.

As part of the increased security, the transportation workers' identification credentials, known as TWIC, T-W-I-C, was developed by the Department of Homeland Security with the original effective date of September 25th, 2008, but the compliance date was pushed back to December 1st, 2008.

aimed to insure that only personnel who successfully complete the security threat assessment, and this includes background check, including terrorism, intelligence check, criminal record check, and immigration status check will be granted access to the secure area of an MTSA facility. While the entire Exon Mobil Joliet is considered a restricted area, the wharf and dock areas and related tank farm will require TWIC cards, and anyone without one needs to be escorted to the secure area.

To ensure compliance, the U.S.

Coast Guard will conduct unannounced audits,
of which the Exon Mobil facility has received
one to date. Facilities not found to be in
compliance will receive aggressive
enforcement steps, such as a letter of
warning, notice of violation, and other civil
penalties.

I do want to make a statement that even though I have a pass onto the refinery,
I do not have a TWIC card, because I do not

1	normally go down into that certain area.
2	That's just because you can get into the
3	refinery or have an employee card, you are
4	not necessarily allowed you are not
5	allowed down to the barge dock.
6	MS. DIERS: Question eight, if you're
7	not supporting an incidental contact
8	recreational use designation as proposed by
9	Illinois EPA, what would you propose for the
10	upper Dresden Island Pool?
11	MR. ELVERT: Exon Mobil would propose
12	to maintain the secondary contact use
13	designation for the Des Plaines River.
14	MS. DEXTER: Can I ask a follow-up?
15	MS. TIPSORD: Yes, go ahead, Ms.
16	Dexter.
17	MS. DEXTER: What is your
18	understanding of how the IEPA proposal will
19	change the recreational designation of the
20	Des Plaines River above the I-55 bridge?
21	MR. ELVERT: Just one second. I just
22	got to find it. The Illinois EPA proposal
23	will redesignate the stretch of the Lower Des
24	Plains River on which the Exon Mobil Joliet

refinery is located from secondary contact to incidental contact for recreational use.

The Lower Des Plaines River is designated as incidental contact, and it is possible that such designation will increase recreational use, such as canoeing, kayaking, jet skis, power boats, fishing boats in the Upper Dresden Island Pool segment, and, therefore, increase concern for the safety of recreational users on a heavily navigated portion of the Lower Des Plaines River.

MS. DEXTER: What is your understanding of the difference between secondary contact use and incidental contact use?

MR. ELVERT: The differences would be -- means any recreational activity in which human contact with water is incidental in which the probability of ingesting appreciable quantities of water is minimal, such as fishing, commercial boating, small craft recreational boating, and any limited contact to associate it with shoreline activity, such as wading.

1	MS. DEXTER: But what's the definition
2	of what that is the designation that IEPA
3	has proposed, and I'm asking what is the
4	difference between that designation and
5	secondary contact designations?
6	MR. ELVERT: It's more specific.
7	MS. DEXTER: Does it propose new uses?
8	MR. ELVERT: It adds small craft
9	recreational boating. It adds activities
10	such as wading.
11	MS. DEXTER: So you in your reading
12	of this of the current secondary use of
13	contact standards, small craft boating and
14	wading are not secondary contact uses?
15	MR. ELVERT: Yes.
16	MS. DEXTER: Do you have a sense of
17	what kind of use that would be?
18	MR. ELVERT: I would think it would
19	be what would be under a secondary use?
20	MS. DEXTER: I mean, generally we talk
21	about recreation in terms or we have, in
22	this rulemaking, talked about it in terms of
23	primary contact recreation and secondary
24	contact recreation, primary being swimming.

1	MR. ELVERT: I think secondary would
2	be more so pass-through boats not having any
3	contact with the water. Not the wading, not
4	the small craft recreational boating type
5	thing, more pass-through, such as the large
6	sailboats that come through from the Gulf of
7	Mexico up to Chicago.
8	MS. DEXTER: And this is your personal
9	take on what you believe secondary contact to
10	be and not a legal opinion on what secondary
11	contact is, correct?
12	MR. ELVERT: Yes.
13	MS. DEXTER: Thank you.
14	MS. DIERS: I'm going to skip over
15	question nine and strike it.
16	Ten, can you cite in the record
17	where people testify that there would be
18	increased recreational uses in the Upper
19	Dresden Island Pool?
20	MR. ELVERT: Yes. The statement of
21	support and objections to the proposed rule
22	by the Chicago Area Sea Kayakers Association,
23	CASKA, and various co-petitioners on April
24	18th, 2008 several bullets here it

1 says, "Each year CASKA and it's members organize paddles on the Chicago River, the Calumet River, Lake Calumet Area, the North Shore Canal, and the Lower Des Plaines River.

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"In recent years, CASKA members have paddled every waterway that is subject to this rulemaking. Quote, unquote, waterways are a close second to Lake Michigan for sea kayaking. CASKA regularly receives reguests for information from out-of-town paddlers interested in paddling on the Chicago River to and around the downtown area, or paddling down the CSSC to the Lower Des Plaines River, and from there to the Illinois River and beyond.

"Many stretches of the waterways offer paddlers a unique view of the industrial sector of the local economy. Paddlers, rowers, and other recreational boaters find this very paddling environment extremely attractive.

"The petitioners understand firsthand how the water quality improvements in this waterway can drive major

1	recreational, educational, commercial, and
2	cultural improvements in the region. A
3	co-petitioner of the Southwest Brigade,
4	members paddle of the lower Des Plaines River
5	for their own enjoyment in a variety of
6	boats."
7	MS. TIPSORD: Mr. Elvert, you are
8	reading the testimony from this preceding
9	that
10	MS. RIOS: Yeah. I'd like to clarify.
11	He's quoting from a statement of support
12	filed by CASKA on April 18th, 2008, in this
13	rulemaking.
14	MS. TIPSORD: And do you have a public
15	comment number or exhibit number?
16	MS. RIOS: Let me see. It just says
17	received by the clerk's office April 18th,
18	2008. I don't have a public comment number
19	for it.
20	MS. TIPSORD: Okay. That's okay. We
21	can find it. If it's not testimony, then it
22	was a public comment.
23	MS. RIOS: And before moving on, I'm
24	going to go ahead and ask Mr. Elvert a

1	follow-up question.
2	In your testimony, you estimate
3	the barge width and length. Can you and
4	you also estimate the width of the Lower Des
5	Plaines River to show how much room there is
6	Can you tell me where you got those figures?
7	MR. ELVERT: I estimated the width of
8	the Lower Des Plaines River based upon the
9	Army Corps of Engineers Illinois Waterway
10	charts. Specifically I've used map numbers
11	108 and number 109. These Army Corps of
12	Engineer waterway charts are available
13	on-line.
14	MS. RIOS: And we also want to enter
15	those as an exhibit.
16	MS. HODGE: That's two charts.
17	MS. TIPSORD: Okay. If there's no
18	objection, we will admit these as
19	Exhibit 326. Seeing none, they're
20	Exhibit 326.
21	MR. ELVERT: Also at this time, I'd
22	like to take a look at pictures number six
23	and seven.

MS. TIPSORD: Of Exhibit 325?

MR. ELVERT: Yes. Thank you. These are both aerial photographs. The first one was from USGS. The -- I don't know if you can see the arrows. The I-55 is on your left-hand-side. The grayest one, number six, I-55 is the lower end point of the Lower Des Plaines of the Upper Dresden Pool. The Joliet refinery, the part that you see is the white part on the bottom.

As you can see, barges across from our facility are being fleeted, and this one area here, basically from the I-55 bridge up a little bit past this picture, is one of three terminals that Illinois Marine Transfer uses for fleeting. They use this as the Channahon one, there's another one in Joliet, and another one in Lemont.

What you can see in this picture is they use both sides of the Lower Des Plaines River. It goes two to three wide per barge, and in this picture you can see one tug there behind the blue square in the middle of the picture.

On number seven -- this is from

Google Earth -- you see a lot more action
down below toward I-55. You see barges that
are at least three wide on Tuesday passing by
the refinery -- they were six wide
temporarily, but they are -- they do go that
wide -- and in the red area that is circled,
I want to point out several things here. You
can see four or five tugs, and if you look at
the upper part of it, you see the tug, and
you also see the wave action from the tug
maneuvering, and this almost takes up the
whole river.

two more tugs, one that is parallel with the barges, and another one that is horizontal to the barges. The bottom of that red circle, there's another tug pushing up against the barges, and I do want to point out there is a power boat of some decent size in the middle of the -- just south -- I mean, just beyond the bottom of the red circle.

In looking at this picture, you can see where there is a lot of activity in this area. It does take from bank to bank,

1	and it depends on the time of day and it
2	depends on the day, but it is a heavily
3	traveled area, and IMT does use this as one
4	of its three primary terminals between Lemont
5	and the I-55 bridge.

MS. DIERS: Question 11, please state what your additional safety concerns are.

MR. ELVERT: Exon Mobil's concern for the safety of recreational users, as well as those vessels that call to our Joliet refinery located in the Upper Dresden Island Pool of the Lower Des Plaines River.

Towboats and barges operate in this area on a daily basis.

Operations include birthing,

fleeting -- this is where you park the barges

temporarily. We may have a barge that comes

in. We normally have, on an average, at

least two a day. So you're talking,

approximately, almost over 700 barges a day.

But to get that there, the barge usually

comes in, it is fleeted across the river, and

then this is brought to our dock, and then

after it's loaded or unloaded, it's brought

	rage 42
1	back to the fleeting area and out.
2	So you can take that, let's say,
3	800 and multiply that by a minimum of three
4	touches to four touches, and you're talking
5	2,400 a year minimal, probably more.
6	Shifting on the
7	MR. JOHNSON: How many you say how
8	many are headed to your facility on a daily
9	basis?
10	MR. ELVERT: We have a minimum of two
11	a day on average.
12	MR. JOHNSON: So in addition to your
13	safety concerns of the jet skiers of the
14	world, do you have liability concerns as
15	well?
16	MR. ELVERT: Yes.
17	MR. JOHNSON: Okay.
18	MR. ELVERT: Maneuvering, loading,
19	discharging, shifting the movement of barges
20	back and forth across the river, transiting,
21	making and breaking the tow is when they're
22	empty they move them around. That's what you
23	see in picture number seven. So they get
24	kind of like a train. You want to get the

right tows or the right barges in the right order so when you ship it downstream or upstream, it's the most efficient way of doing your business. Some of these activities, coupled with river restrictions or confined waters, can be seen in the satellite pictures of six and seven.

Due to the active nature of commercial operations in this area and a variety of weather visibility conditions, recreational boat traffic presents an increased risk to themselves and commercial traffic.

Commercial towboat crews and pilots are cognizant of the recreational boats in the area, resulting in safety and security risks, and appropriate countermeasures are taken by the towboat crew, to the extent possible. However, with the commercial vessels' limited ability to maneuver, the recreational boater may ignore or be unaware of the responsibility in this regard or the associated risk.

MS. DIERS: And I'll strike Question

	_
1	12.
2	Question 13, how do you think the
3	Agency could address these concerns in its
4	proposal now before the Board?
5	MR. ELVERT: The Agency can address
6	the safety concerns by reviewing a letter
7	sent to the IEPA by Three Rivers
8	Manufacturing Association in 2002 and 2003,
9	and providing responses to the issues raised
10	in those letters.
11	Further, the Agency could schedule
12	area meetings to discuss safety and security
13	concerns on the Lower Des Plaines River, as
14	it did during the CAWS stakeholders meetings
15	where the Agency, stakeholders,
16	municipalities, and the U.S. Coast Guard met
17	to discuss safety and security issues.
18	During the process of the stakeholders
19	meeting of the Lower Des Plaines, there was
20	no safety or security meetings such as this.
21	MS. DIERS: Do you know what the
22	outcome of the meetings concern safety
23	are sorry. Strike it.

Do you know what the outcome of

1	the	safety	meetings	were	with	respect	to	the
2	CAWS	5?						

MR. ELVERT: I believe -- off the top of my head, I believe the issues were discussed, and they did not foresee any major concerns.

Our response to that is, one, they did have the meetings, and they did not have any on the Lower Des Plaines. And two is that we feel because of the traffic barge and primarily the barge and industry traffic on the river, you would have a different perspective on those meetings from those invited.

MS. DIERS: Question 14, on Page 2 of your pre-filed testimony, you state in quotes, "Will encourage increased use of the Dresden Pool and, consequently, increased numbers of recreational users may be placed in danger, since the Dresden Pool is heavily used to navigate barges in and out of the area."

Are the fleeting operations in general use waters, and do you know how they

deal	with safe	ety and s	security	issues	that
have	been brou	ıght up,	and do	you know	if they
allow	, hostere	to lige t	he wate	ra?	

number one, fleeting operations and general use waters, I talked to two facilities just downstream, IMTT, and Dow Chemical.

they're -- IMTT is located just south of the I-55 bridge, and Dow, I believe is about a mile and a half away, and fleeting of their barges are done by Illinois Marine Terminal at the Channahon terminal across from our barge dock, just upstream of the I-55 bridge.

MR. ELVERT: In regards to question

Number two, how do they deal with safety and security issues, they are just as concerned, but they are not the size of the refinery, and they don't deal with the daily barge usage that the Exon Mobil refinery has. I believe IMTT may receive two barges a month, and Dow may receive one or two a week.

Number three, do they allow boaters to use the waters, I'm not sure quite what you mean, but they do not encourage recreational usage around their docks,

because their docks are much smaller. IMTT

is just literally, rather than a huge wharf

like ours, it is three pillars for the barge

to sit in the walkway, and Dow is very

similar to theirs.

MS. DIERS: I'm going to strike Question 15 and I'm going to skip 16.

Seventeen, on Page 3 of your pre-filed testimony, you discuss the periodic existence of double barges being 110 feet wide in the areas where the pool is 500 feet wide. Is a clear path of four fifths of the waterway, especially around trees, islands, and other sidestream areas, not enough space for a hand-powered watercraft to avoid the commercial activity in the Upper Dresden Island Pool?

MR. ELVERT: As I've stated, Exon

Mobil's concern is for the safety of the

recreational users. Considering that there

is a conditional tug boat and barge movement

back and forth, both shore lines, within the

Dresden Island Pool segment, as well as

throughout the Lower Des Plaines River. This

1	area of the river is quite active, given the
2	variety of commercial operations.
3	Again, pictures of the
4	satellite images for pictures number six and
5	seven illustrate this concern. Two wide
6	possibly on both sides of the river, as well
7	as almost a half mile long, it is routine to
8	have multiple barges and tugs operating
9	simultaneously, as I pointed out in picture
10	number seven, which increases the potential
11	risk to recreational boaters.
12	MS. DIERS: Question 18, do you have
13	any photographs or any other evidence, other
14	than the drownings mentioned in your
15	pre-filed testimony, of small crafts being
16	overwhelmed by the barges in the pool?
17	MR. ELVERT: No, I don't.
18	MS. DIERS: Nineteen, was the cited
19	drownings the result of wake?
20	MR. ELVERT: The article I referenced
21	in my pre-filed testimony did not state that
22	the drownings were a result of wakes.
23	MS. DIERS: And 20, is the pool a
24	straight-walled channel, or does it have side

1	zones	with	more	gradual	banks	that	buffer	or
2	absorb	o weig	ght?					

MR. ELVERT: The Upper Dresden Island Pool generally has more gradual banks, except for some of the Joliet refinery wharf area along the south bank of the Lower Des Plaines River just east of the I-55 bridge.

In addition, there are routinely fleeted barges across the Lower Des Plaines River, which are secured along the corresponding north bank. We do see an absorption of wakes beyond the river bank.

MS. DIERS: And one final question,
has Exon Mobil been able to meet individually
with the Agency staff during these
proceedings to discuss concerns with
recreational uses?

MR. ELVERT: Throughout the stakeholders process, basically from 2001 through the end of the Lower Des Plaines River, Exon Mobil constantly raised the concerns of the recreational use safety and security issues, as well as through the three rivers that intersect the IEPA.

1	MS. DIERS: Thank you. No more
2	questions.
3	MS. TIPSORD: With that, I think we
4	go the District had the next most
5	questions.
6	MR. ANDES: I believe that all of our
7	questions have been addressed.
8	MS. TIPSORD: In that case, we'll go
9	to Ms. Dexter with the ELPC.
10	MS. DEXTER: And I just have one
11	question that has not been addressed.
12	Are there currently facilities to
13	assist recreational boaters near the Exon
14	Mobil refinery or the I-55 bridge?
15	MR. ELVERT: May I ask to clarify what
16	assist means?
17	MS. DEXTER: Are there boat launches
18	or similar types of things that allow
19	recreational access to the river at this
20	point?
21	MR. ELVERT: In talking to the Will
22	County, the city of Joliet, the only there
23	is a dirt boat launch in the Romeoville area,
24	which is at least ten miles north, and if

1	you're the definition pertains to a
2	facility that could assist recreational
3	boaters in distress or provide information.
4	Neither of the Big Basin Marina, which is
5	literally just on the other side of the I-55
6	bridge at marker 277.8, nor the Harbor Side
7	Marina, which is downstream about five miles,
8	in the current general use waters have
9	emergency assistance. Both do provide both
10	slips, fuel, and food.
11	MS. DEXTER: Thank you.
12	MS. TIPSORD: Are there any other
13	questions for Mr. Elvert? All right. That
14	means we get to go home and enjoy the day.
15	MR. ELVERT: Great.
16	MS. TIPSORD: Thank you all. I want
17	to remind you tomorrow morning we start with
18	Mr. Calvalo (phonetic).
19	MR. HARLEY: Actually, Madam Hearing
20	Officer for the record, Keith Harley,
21	Southeast Environmental Task Force. Ms.
22	Dexter indicated that her witness, who is
23	traveling, would need a substantial amount of
24	time tomorrow, if not the entire day. I

spoke to Mr. Calvalo, and he indicated that
he would be willing to switch to October 5th,
where right now we only have Gerry Ingelman
(phonetic) and Laura Bernhousen (phonetic)
prepared to testify as a panel. If it would
make things more convenient for Ms. Dexter's
witness, we would be willing to shift
Mr. Calvalo to October 5th.

MS. TIPSORD: If the census is that it's going to take all day with Mr. Thomas, I would -- that's fine with us. I just -- I feel bad, because we've already put him off once.

MR. HARLEY: You know, he's completely available to the Board. He lives locally, so he doesn't have the same traveling concerns that other people have.

MS. TIPSORD: All right. Well, then we will begin tomorrow morning with Dr. David Thomas. And with that, we're adjourned, and we're at 9031 tomorrow. Thank you.

AND FURTHER DEPONENT SAITH NAUGHT...

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     STATE OF ILLINOIS )
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     COUNTY OF COOK
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 5
                       REBECCA A. GRAZIANO, being first
 6
     duly sworn on oath says that she is a court reporter
     doing business in the City of Chicago; that she
     reported in shorthand the proceedings given at the
 9
     taking of said hearing and that the foregoing is a
10
     true and correct transcript of her shorthand notes
     so taken as aforesaid and contains all the
11
12
    proceedings given at said hearing.
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15
                             GRAZIANO, CSR
16
                  29 South LaSalle Street, Suite 850
                  Chicago, Illinois 60603
17
                  License No.: 084-004659
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19
     SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO
     before me this ____ day
        , A.D., 2009.
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           Notary Public
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