1	MR. KISSEL NOR BAR 499
2	HEARING OFFICER HALLORAN: Ms. Williams?
3	MS. WILLIAMS: (Counsel shakes head.)
4	HEARING OFFICER HALLORAN: You may step down,
5	Mr. Flippin. Thank you very much.
6	MR. KISSEL: That's all we have on rebuttal.
7	HEARING OFFICER HALLORAN: Okay. I do want
8	to, before you rest on rebuttal, I just want to address
9	the question regarding the introduction of I believe it
10	was comparable municipalities, and you stated you may be
11	open to extended discovery?
12	MR. KISSEL: No, that's we're fine. We
13	don't have to deal with that.
14	HEARING OFFICER HALLORAN: Okay. Thank you
15	very much. So, you rest.
16	Any members of the public would like to give
17	public comment or statement?
18	You indicated earlier you just wanted to do
19	public comment.
20	MR. HERMANN: Yeah. Yeah.
21	HEARING OFFICER HALLORAN: Just state your
22	name for the court reporter, please.
23	MR. HERMANN: Yes. My name is Doug Hermann.
24	I'm a principal at and vice president at STS Consultants,
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	1	Page 500 and I have sat through most of the testimony for this
	2	hearing and the permit appeal hearing starting back on
•	3	Tuesday earlier this week.
	4	My participation has been at the request of my
	5	client, Illinois River Holdings, whose president is Kenin
	6	Edwards. He owns 118 acres of property about 400 to maybe
	7	500 feet or that's my best estimate, at least which
	8	is downstream of the combined Noveon and City of Henry
	9	outfall or, as I understand it, the single-port diffuser.
	10	The Illinois River Holdings property also
	11	includes part of the river bottom, I think, to
	12	approximately the center of the river or the channel. The
	13	underwater river bottom area is about 10 acres in size
	14	overall, as we can estimate anyway; of course, that varies
	15	with river stage and other things as well.
	16	Illinois River Holdings and its development
	17	team, of which I am a part, are planning an off-channel
	18	port development with barge fleeting with the guidance of
	19	the local and recently formed Port Authority on the river,
	20	and also the U.S. Corps of Engineers. We've had them out
	21	there to look at our development and actually have made
	22	plans around that development. This port will initially
	23	serve the shipping needs of the excavation of the port
	24	which will be off channel and the materials associated

Page 501 1 with that, and also a proposed nearby mine which will be 2 operated as a permitted sand and gravel mine. Both sites 3 will actually mine gravel, but we'll be actually making a 4 port by the mining activity at the location nearest the 5 river.

6 When the port is excavated, it will also 7 support shipping other commodities, we believe, as well as 8 for local industry that would be local to the area and 9 Marshall County.

I have with me today, because we are in the 10 process of a zoning and permitting process for this 11 project, what has been part of exhibits for presentations 12 in a -- the zoning effort for a special use permit as is 13 This required to conduct and complete this project. 14 effort began back in October 2003, and I think the first 15 hearing on this matter was in November. I wasn't a part 16 of that at that time, but later became so and shortly 17 after that time became so. 18

19 I might mention that several million dollars
20 have already been invested in this economic development
21 plan for Marshall County, and it's, as I mentioned, in the
22 process of zoning and permitting.

In listening to the testimony of Mr. Corn asI've sat here the last few days, and later talking to him

Page 502 after he gave his first testimony, I learned that he was 1 unaware of our planned port development. And although 2 many of the Noveon and, I know, PolyOne staff people are 3 4 aware of our local zoning efforts, he apparently had not 5 been brought up to speed. Of course, that became of some 6 concern because this plume has the potential to reach the, 7 the property location of Illinois River Holdings, as I understand it from the testimony that's been given. 8 9 As I understand Mr. Corn's testimony, it 10 appears that the existing single-port diffuser is performing in a manner causing about a 20:1 ratio in that 11 100-foot downstream location, maybe a 100:1 ratio of 12 13 dilution up to maybe 850 feet downstream. Of course, the 850 feet would probably begin to encroach for sure on our 14 15 property and where there would be a mouth to this port or 16 a port opening to the river. 17 With the Illinois River Holdings property 18 located only about 500 feet downstream from the existing 19 Noveon diffuser, the Illinois River Holdings wants to be sure -- for sure that there will be no aquatic toxicity 20 problems in the Illinois River Holdings' property and, for 21

Based on Mr. Corn's testimony, it sounds like 23 a multiport diffuser will perform better and maybe even a

that matter, in the port development.

24

22

Page 503

high-pressure diffuser would perform better yet to accomplish that objective. There's obviously some controversy about this, and I'm not here to sort out the controversy for the Board, but we certainly want to be sure that that port is protected by, by what might happen with water quality.

After learning that Mr. Corn was unaware of 7 our port development, we encouraged the Board to determine 8 whether or not the port development will impact any of his 9 10 findings and conclusions. After the close of the proceedings on Tuesday, Wednesday, I approached the Noveon 11 One -- the Noveon and PolyOne staff just to help 12 coordinate the dissemination of information from us to 13 them to the extent that that's important related to this. 14 15 And if he needs anything from us in terms of the way of information or data or anything, we certainly want to 16 supply that information as well. 17

18 I believe that neither Illinois River Holdings 19 nor Noveon desire to have any problems with aquatic 20 toxicity in this area; that's obviously the case through 21 listening to the hearing. But we certainly don't want it 22 to happen in our off-channel port as well. We're 23 concerned about that.

24

I should also mention that the off-channel

ports are being planned by Illinois River Holdings and 1 also Ozinga Brothers in the Lacon area further downstream. 2 As we understand it, this is quite far downstream and 3 probably not a cause for concern. I thought I heard that 4 full mixing was accomplished about -- up to about a 5 6 10-mile distance downstream. These other two ports are actually on the other side of the river, so maybe that's 7 irrelevant to this situation. 8

Page 504

On the issue of whether more treatment for 9 ammonia removal is needed to protect the Illinois River 10 quality, we encourage the Board to consider the technical 11 science presented here by Noveon and the IEPA, as well as 12 the economic costs to protect the river quality consistent 13 with IPCB case law and things that they have done over the 14 15 years. We understand that these are hard decisions, and 16 we encourage them to consider all the facts of this case 17 in making its decision. We have personally observed the 18 Pollution Control Board do this many times in the past, so our confidence is certainly with them. 19

In considering the treatment alternatives investigated by Noveon, the Board should be aware that off-gas treatment which is -- was for -- was happening or not happening with some of the selected alternatives -- I know they talked about dealing with the off-gas in some

Page 505 and not in others. We think it's important for the Board 1 to know that the local aquifer is widely contaminated with 2 nitrate; and for that reason, you know, anything that 3 would maybe further contribute to that should be 4 considered. So, off-gas treatment would appear to be very 5 6 important here to protect the local aquifer. And we would 7 encourage them to -- in our own studies, we've learned about this contamination, and I think it's also widely 8 known in the area, region. 9

10 I will close my comments and summarize. Illinois River Holdings has an interest to cooperate and 11 assist where needed with our own development plan, which 12 is a railroad and marine port in Marshall County. Based 13 on the testimony in this hearing, it sounds like the 14 15 multiport and particularly the high-pressure diffuser and 16 maybe even the single-port diffuser are all workable solutions potentially for what's been presented. And 17 18 certainly if that is not the case, we ask that the Noveon 19 experts devise a combined strategy of treatment and 20 diffusers that will work because we obviously are 21 concerned about that.

For the regional conditions which exist on the river, we trust that the Board will weigh the technical and economic evidence in this case as it relates to

Page 506

protecting water quality, the local businesses, and 1 certainly the local jobs which are all so important to 2 downstate Illinois and the Marshall County economy. 3 This 4 probably means understanding what the EPA waste load allocation may be and what the financial and economic 5 6 resources may be available from Noveon. We understand all 7 these things, but again, we trust that the Board will be able to help deal with that. 8

I might mention just in closing, that although 9 10 we were given the written testimony yesterday as it was handed out and presented, no exhibits were attached. We 11 do intend to get those from the Pollution Control Board 12 office in Chicago as we are directed to. We may have some 13 written comment to follow up after that, but at this 14 15 point, until I really see that, I think I have a pretty 16 good understanding of what that situation is, so those are 17 my comments.

18 I do have with me actually a packet of 19 information that I will give to the --

HEARING OFFICER HALLORAN: Hearing officer. MR. HERMANN: -- hearing officer here which I might mention that page eight of that probably gives the best kind of layout and depiction of the port location as it is.

Page 507 I might mention that the opening to the river 1 has been discussed. With respect to some wetlands issues 2 3 and other issues that do exist on the river, that we're trying to compromise this port opening to the river, so --4 HEARING OFFICER HALLORAN: What is your name 5 again, sir? 6 MR. HERMANN: My name is Doug Hermann. 7 8 HEARING OFFICER HALLORAN: I will take it with the case as Public Comment Number 1, and it will be read 9 in conjunction with your public comment made here today. 10 11 MR. HERMANN: Okay. HEARING OFFICER HALLORAN: Okay. Anybody else 12 like to give a comment or statement? 13 All right. Before we go off the record and 14 15 talk about a briefing schedule, I'm still waiting for an answer regarding Petitioner's Exhibit Number 11. 16 We have admitted that, and I think we were 17 going to hold off until now regarding the data to support 18 table 1 and how long it will take Petitioner to file that 19 with the Board, is what I recall. 20 MS. DEELY: I don't think we've addressed 21 22 that. 23 HEARING OFFICER HALLORAN: No, we haven't. It keeps getting put off. 24





















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