

1 ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
2  
3 STERIGENICS FORMAL PUBLIC MEETING  
4 AIR POLLUTION CONTROL CONSTRUCTION PERMIT  
5

6 PLACE: Ashton Place  
7 341 75th Street  
8 Willowbrook, Illinois 60527  
9

10 DATE: Thursday, August 1, 2019, 6:00 p.m.  
11

12 MEETING MODERATORS:

13 Mr. Dean Studer  
14 Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
Hearing Officer

15 Mr. Brad Frost  
16 Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
Manager, Office of Community Relations

17 Mr. Christopher Romaine, P.E.  
18 Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
Manager, Construction Unit, Bureau of Air,  
Permit Section

19 Mr. Kevin Mattisson  
20 Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
Bureau of Air, Des Plaines Field Office  
21  
22  
23  
24

1           MR. STUDER: My name is Dean Studer, and I'm  
2           hoping that everyone in the back can hear me. Yes?  
3           Okay. That's good.

4                   I've been asked to moderate tonight's  
5           formal public meeting. I welcome you to this  
6           meeting. Please know that this is a formal  
7           meeting. It will be conducted in a structured  
8           format with subject matter limited to the draft  
9           construction permit for Sterigenics US, LLC, who  
10          will be referenced either as "Sterigenics" or "the  
11          applicant."

12                   By way of background, on June 24, 2019,  
13          the Illinois EPA, Bureau of Air, received a  
14          construction permit application from the applicant  
15          to conduct certain improvements to the  
16          sterilization operations at the Willowbrook I  
17          facility located at 7775 Quincy Street, here in  
18          Willowbrook. The application was required under  
19          existing provisions governing permitting of sources  
20          as well as new Section 9.16 of the Illinois  
21          Environmental Protection Agency, known as the  
22          Matt Haller -- that's H-a-l-l-e-r -- Act. The  
23          Illinois EPA received the application, and a draft  
24          construction permit was made available for public

1 review on July 15th, 2017 -- or 2019. Excuse me.  
2 Currently a public comment period concurrent with  
3 the making available the draft permit, the public  
4 comment opened. And that will close on August 15th  
5 of 2019.

6 The purpose of this formal public meeting  
7 is to accept verbal comment on the draft  
8 construction permit. At the time of the final  
9 decision on the permit application, the Illinois  
10 EPA will issue a Responsiveness Summary, a document  
11 that will respond to all significant questions or  
12 comments raised regarding the draft construction  
13 permit and all comments timely received during the  
14 comment period or those stated on the record at  
15 this meeting will be included in that  
16 Responsiveness Summary.

17 In accordance with Section 39 of the  
18 Illinois Environmental Protection Act, final action  
19 on this application for the construction permit  
20 must be taken within 90 days of receipt, or no  
21 later than September 22nd, 2019, or a permit will  
22 issue by default. Final action will be based on  
23 whether the applicant has demonstrated compliance  
24 with the applicable provisions of the Illinois

1 Environmental Protection Act and the regulations  
2 promulgated thereunder. Moreover, if the Illinois  
3 EPA determines that the legal requirements for  
4 obtaining a permit have been satisfied, the  
5 Illinois EPA is required to issue a construction  
6 permit. Again, the Responsiveness Summary will be  
7 made available to the public at the time the final  
8 action is taken on the application for the  
9 construction permit.

10 Please ensure that you have completed a  
11 registration card if you would like to speak this  
12 evening, or if you have not and want to speak,  
13 please proceed to the registration area to do so.  
14 Please be sure to check the appropriate box on the  
15 registration card if you desire to make comments or  
16 ask questions regarding the draft construction  
17 permit this evening. Also know that those who  
18 legibly complete a registration card or timely  
19 submit written comments in this matter will be  
20 notified of the final decision in this matter and  
21 of the availability of the documents at the time of  
22 the final decision.

23 This evening, when asking questions or  
24 making comments, the format will be as follows:

1                   You will be called to the microphone in  
2                   the center aisle.

3                   You will be asked to state your name and  
4                   then to spell your last name as well as your first  
5                   if there are alternate spellings for your first  
6                   name.

7                   You should state whether you represent any  
8                   governmental body, organization, association or the  
9                   like.

10                  You will be afforded up to two minutes to  
11                  ask a question or make a comment on the draft  
12                  construction permit.

13                  To the extent possible and in recognition  
14                  of time constraints, the Agency will provide a  
15                  brief response. Questions that warrant a longer  
16                  response or that require involvement from Agency  
17                  staff other than those that are present tonight  
18                  will be addressed in the Responsiveness Summary.  
19                  The Responsiveness Summary will contain the final  
20                  responses to all significant and relevant questions  
21                  or comments raised in this meeting, including those  
22                  where a preliminary response has been provided to  
23                  the Illinois EPA.

24                  I will endeavor to enforce the time frame

1 so that we can hear from as many people as  
2 possible. It is possible that not all who have  
3 registered to speak will be able to do so. Comment  
4 or questions do not need to be stated more than  
5 once. If someone has already addressed a comment  
6 or question that you wanted to ask, please feel  
7 free to pass when I call your name to come to the  
8 microphone.

9 At this time, please silence all cell  
10 phones and other electronic devices, if you have  
11 not already done so.

12 I will now have the Illinois EPA staff  
13 introduce themselves. The introductions will be  
14 followed by a brief presentation by Brad Frost of  
15 the Office of Community Relations on the draft  
16 construction permit. Thereafter, I will accept  
17 public comments and questions.

18 MR. FROST: I'm Brad Frost. I'm the manager  
19 of community relations at the Illinois  
20 Environmental Protection Agency.

21 MR. ROMAINE: I am Chris Romaine. I'm the  
22 manager of the construction unit and the air permit  
23 section.

24 MR. MATTISSON: My name is Kevin Mattisson.

1 I'm with the Bureau of Air, and I deal with source  
2 monitoring.

3 MR. FROST: As I said, I'm Brad Frost. I'm  
4 the manager of the Office of Community Relations at  
5 the Illinois EPA.

6 I have a presentation on the screen here.  
7 And it's -- as Dean had stated, we're accepting  
8 comments on the draft permit. So my  
9 presentation -- I'll try to keep it brief because  
10 we want to listen to as many comments as we can  
11 tonight -- is over the draft permit.

12 Now, as I'm sure everyone in this  
13 room knows, there is new law that was passed,  
14 Senate Bill 1852, that is called the Matt Haller  
15 Act that is codified now. It's law and is codified  
16 in the Environmental Protection Act under Section  
17 9.16.

18 And I'm going -- there are certain  
19 provisions in that that I'm going to go through and  
20 indicate to you where we addressed those in the  
21 permit, such that if you could make relevant  
22 comments on the draft permit. And, again, we're  
23 accepting comments tonight in oral form. We're  
24 also accepting written comments until August 15th.

1 So if you take the materials tonight and these  
2 could be guidelines for you to help you know where  
3 to find the relevant provisions in our permit.

4 So the first section or one portion on the  
5 slide you'll see the verbatim text from the Act is  
6 in italics on the various slides. So the owner or  
7 operator of an on-site source "must apply for and  
8 obtain a construction permit from the Agency." And  
9 so -- go to the next slide.

10 So the facility -- and that is to  
11 implement the various requirements in the -- in the  
12 Section 9.16. So the company submitted a  
13 construction permit application to us on June 24th  
14 of 2019. It addresses only the Willowbrook I  
15 facility and it was made available. We put  
16 together a draft construction permit and made it  
17 available July 15, 2019. We're, again, accepting  
18 written comments on the draft construction permit  
19 until August 15th of 2019, and those should be  
20 submitted to EPA.Sterigenics@Illinois.gov.

21 As Dean already mentioned, state law  
22 requires us to make a decision on the application  
23 within 90 days of receipt of the application.  
24 Otherwise the permit would issue by default.

1                   And then final action will be based on  
2                   whether the application has demonstrated compliance  
3                   with the Environmental Protection Act and  
4                   regulations thereunder, including the new Section  
5                   9.16 of the Act.

6                   If Illinois EPA determines that the legal  
7                   requirements for obtaining a permit has been  
8                   satisfied, Illinois EPA is required to issue a  
9                   construction permit.

10                  So the new law contains a variety of new  
11                  requirements for this type of facility. And,  
12                  again, in italics is the language from the law.  
13                  The first thing I've put up there as kind of a  
14                  simplification. The first is the capture of  
15                  emissions, which is the total permit enclosure. So  
16                  we -- in the draft, as Permit Conditions 2-1(a) and  
17                  3(b) is where you will find the provisions in the  
18                  permit that address permanent total enclosure.  
19                  That means that the ethylene oxide sterilization  
20                  source captures and demonstrates that it captures  
21                  100 percent of all ethylene oxide emissions.

22                  That same language continues on to discuss  
23                  control of emissions at this place. So that they  
24                  have to reduce ethylene oxide emissions to the

1 atmosphere for each exhaust point at the ethylene  
2 oxide sterilization source by at least 99.9 percent  
3 or 0.2 parts per million. And that, the provision  
4 in the draft permit that addresses that is Permit  
5 Condition 2-1(a).

6 Then the next section that we covered is  
7 that they have to do initial emission testing, and  
8 we included in initial emission testing provisions  
9 in the draft that's Permit Condition 8.2.

10 Then -- so they have to do a initial  
11 emission testing. Then they have to do annual  
12 emission testing every year after the  
13 once-a-calendar-year. And the provisions in the  
14 draft permit are included in Condition 8-2.

15 The facility is also required to  
16 continuously collect emissions information of  
17 ethylene oxide source. That is included as  
18 continuous emission monitoring and is included in  
19 Permit Condition 7.1.

20 Then the law requires two certifications.  
21 A facility permitted to emit ethylene oxide that  
22 has been subject to a seal order under Section 34  
23 is prohibited from using ethylene oxide for  
24 sterilization or fumigation purposes, unless (i),

1 the facility can provide a certification to the  
2 Agency by the supplier of a product to be  
3 sterilized or fumigated that ethylene oxide  
4 sterilization or fumigation is the only available  
5 method to complete sterilize or fumigate the  
6 product. So that's the supplier certification that  
7 has to be submitted to the Agency before any  
8 products can be sterilized.

9 And then two is an Agency certification.  
10 Its agency has certified that the facility's  
11 emission control system uses technology that  
12 produces the greatest reduction of ethylene oxide  
13 emissions currently available.

14 So that Agency certification you will find  
15 in the draft permit as Provision 1(b)(iii)(c), and  
16 what that essentially is saying is if all the  
17 various conditions in the permit are satisfied,  
18 then there's a certification that it meets the most  
19 stringent or the greatest reduction. Sorry.

20 There is also a usage limit in the law.  
21 So a limit on ethylene oxide usage at the source.  
22 That's included in the Draft Permit Condition  
23 5(a)(5) -- or (i). I'm sorry.

24 And then there's deviation reporting. So

1           they have to notify the Agency within five days  
2           after discovering any deviations from any of the  
3           requirements in this section or deviations from any  
4           applicable requirements concerning ethylene oxide  
5           that are set forth in this Act, USEPA's rules, or  
6           Board rules. And that's included in Draft Permit  
7           Condition 10(b).

8                         Now, all provisions and directives in the  
9           new law that are applicable to existing ethylene  
10          oxide sources are applicable to Sterigenics.  
11          However, as set forth in Condition 2-1, the draft  
12          construction permit only addresses requirements of  
13          Section 9.16, the new law, that are relevant for  
14          improvements in the control of emissions of  
15          ethylene oxide at Willowbrook.

16                        So there are more provisions in the law  
17          than you will find in the permit itself. There are  
18          certain things that aren't applicable to control  
19          systems at the facility that are in the law that  
20          the facility still has to comply with.

21                        So Willowbrook I has -- its sterilization  
22          operation consists of 14 sterilization chambers and  
23          three aeration rooms. They currently have  
24          scrubbers and a dry bed absorption device for

1 control of emissions. And the improvements, which  
2 are listed in Condition 1(b) of the permit, are,  
3 again, permit total enclosure, which means the  
4 building is put under negative pressure so that  
5 there are no fugitive emissions; additional air  
6 pollution control equipment; the control of  
7 emissions by 99.9 percent or 0.2 ppm. And these  
8 improvements will produce the greatest reduction in  
9 ethylene oxide emissions currently available.

10 There is also in the permit a new emission  
11 limit of 85 pounds per year. And they're also  
12 going to be putting a single exhaust point with a  
13 new stack.

14 So for compliance to assure you these are  
15 working, there's annual emissions testing. That's  
16 included in draft Permit Condition 8-2; continuous  
17 emission monitoring, which is included in draft  
18 Permit Condition 7-1. There's continuous  
19 operational monitoring of the permanent total  
20 enclosure, and that's included in draft Permit  
21 Condition 7-2. There's recordkeeping and reporting  
22 requirements in Conditions 9 and 10. And then  
23 there are Agency inspections.

24 We've also included other provisions for

1 clarity in the permit, three that I'll go through  
2 is Condition 2-3(a), which is that the issuance of  
3 a construction permit does not affect the seal  
4 order current in effect; draft Condition 2-3(b),  
5 the issuance of any construction permit does not  
6 leave the permittee of responsibility to comply  
7 with all local, state, and federal regulations; and  
8 draft Condition 2-3(c), which is all applicable  
9 requirements of Section 9.16 -- again, the new  
10 law -- apply regardless of whether they expressly  
11 appear in the body of the construction permit.

12 So the improvements are: The capture of  
13 all emissions, 100 percent capture; increase in  
14 control efficiency 99.9 on all operations.  
15 Previously, the federal standard, the NESHAP,  
16 requires efficiency of 99 percent only on the  
17 chamber and the aeration room.

18 There's also a limit on future emissions  
19 of 85 pounds per year, which a fraction of the  
20 current permit limits, and there's a new stack for  
21 all emissions that they be raised to reduce  
22 downwash.

23 Now, what will these improvements  
24 accomplish? The USEPA has a reference point of

1 risk when they talk about risk of 1 in 10,000. The  
2 dispersion modeling that we've done at the facility  
3 shows that within these improvements at the  
4 facility, risk will approach the 1 in a million  
5 mark, which is typically, in a risk assessment  
6 circles, is essentially the de minimus number.

7 So the main points -- and this is my last  
8 slide -- is the new law requires a construction  
9 permit for any modifications made to the source to  
10 comply with the emission control requirements. All  
11 emissions will be captured and routed through  
12 control devices. Emission concentrations will be  
13 reduced to levels well below the USEPA's reference  
14 risk level. And emission test and continuous  
15 emissions monitoring will verify that emissions  
16 have been reduced.

17 So, again, we're taking -- we're taking  
18 comments. So the purpose of my presentation was to  
19 walk you through the various provisions in the  
20 permit. We wanted -- we want to hear your comments  
21 tonight. We want to receive them in writing.  
22 They're due by August 15th and you can e-mail  
23 comments to EPA.Sterigenics@Illinois.gov.

24 MR. STUDER: Thank you, Brad.

1                   Is that better?

2                   Whoa. I guess that is better.

3                   Again, comments or questions made tonight  
4 need to relate to the draft construction permit.  
5 If statements or comments should drift outside of  
6 this topic, I may interrupt the person speaking and  
7 ask that they return to the subject matter of this  
8 meeting.

9                   As moderator --

10                   (Audience outburst.)

11                   MR. STUDER: As moderator, I intend to treat  
12 everyone here tonight in a respectful manner. I  
13 ask the same respect of all attendees. Because a  
14 court reporter is here transcribing this meeting,  
15 and to ensure that she can hear the comments and  
16 questions, applause or outbursts are not  
17 appropriate. To the extent that such disturbances  
18 take up time, they detract from the number of  
19 people who we will be able to accommodate tonight  
20 to speak.

21                   If the conduct of persons attending this  
22 meeting should become unruly or abusive,  
23 threatening, or disrespectful, I am authorized to  
24 adjourn this meeting. In such a case, Illinois EPA

1 would still accept written comments through the  
2 close of the comment period which ends on  
3 August 15th.

4 Please, when you come forward, project  
5 your voice into the microphone and speak slowly and  
6 distinctly. Please consider leaving a copy of any  
7 of your prepared remarks for the court reporter.  
8 Please keep the general background noise in the  
9 room to a minimum so that she can accurately  
10 transcribe all the comments.

11 Questions regarding the draft construction  
12 permit are to be addressed to Mr. Frost, sitting  
13 here on my right. As this is an informational  
14 meeting, there will be no examination, debate, or  
15 prolonged dialogue with Mr. Frost, members of the  
16 Agency panel, or others here in attendance. Also,  
17 I will not allow members of the public to address  
18 comments to other members of the public.

19 And one final note. If for any reason  
20 persons who desire to provide verbal comments or  
21 questions during tonight's meeting are unable to do  
22 so, you may submit those comments or questions in  
23 writing. Written comments are given the same  
24 consideration as verbal comments made during this

1 meeting and may be submitted to the Illinois EPA at  
2 any time during the comment period, again, which  
3 ends on August 15th. Written comments should be  
4 e-mailed to EPA.Sterigenics@Illinois.gov. That  
5 e-mail address is provided on the Notice of Formal  
6 Meeting and was also on the handout for this  
7 evening's meeting. To be considered, comments need  
8 to be received, again, no later than August 15th.

9 Are there any questions regarding the  
10 process or procedures that I will use this evening  
11 for this meeting?

12 Okay. Let the record indicate that no one  
13 raised their hand.

14 With that, I will go ahead and proceed to  
15 calling -- we have a certain number of elected  
16 officials have asked to speak to us this evening.  
17 We'll start with Representative Durkin, and he will  
18 be followed by Representative Mazzochi.

19 I would ask, when you speak, if you would  
20 spell your name for the court reporter.

21 REPRESENTATIVE DURKIN: Certainly. Can  
22 everybody hear me in this room?

23 (Applause.)

24 REPRESENTATIVE DURKIN: All right. Thank you.

1 My name is Jim Durkin. I'm the state  
2 representative of the 82nd District, which  
3 represents Willowbrook and many of the surrounding  
4 areas that are within the Sterigenics zone.

5 We once again come together as a community  
6 under trying circumstances. We thought the  
7 nightmare we have all been living through was  
8 finally over, but unfortunately, this fight  
9 continues.

10 In Springfield, we passed a bill, Senate  
11 Bill 1852, negotiated by the EPA, members of the  
12 legislature, the Illinois Environmental Council,  
13 and also the advice of counsel from Stop  
14 Sterigenics. We believe it is the strictest bill  
15 in the nation regarding ethylene oxide. It had  
16 bipartisan support in both chambers. It gave our  
17 regulators at the Illinois Environmental Protection  
18 Agency the tools needed to keep a corporate  
19 polluter like Sterigenics closed for good.

20 Sadly, the Illinois Environmental  
21 Protection Agency has forgotten their core mission.  
22 Instead of working to protect us, it seems they are  
23 working quickly to allow Sterigenics to open its  
24 doors and start polluting again as quickly as

1 possible, as evidenced by the fast tracking of a  
2 settlement on the seal order in the DuPage Circuit  
3 Court.

4 I'd like to know when the discussions  
5 between the EPA or the Attorney General and  
6 Sterigenics start related to the settlement of  
7 lifting the seal order. And I'd also like to know  
8 when did communications between the EPA and  
9 Sterigenics started regarding this new permit that  
10 has been applied for. I've been told -- it's all  
11 hearsay -- that it goes back many months. While  
12 the bill was being negotiated, Sterigenics and EPA  
13 were working on a permit.

14 I need to know more information. I would  
15 like to know what communications were made between  
16 both. I don't think I need --

17 (Applause.)

18 REPRESENTATIVE DURKIN: I don't think I need  
19 to submit a Freedom of Information --

20 MR. STUDER: Again, the court reporter can't  
21 hear over the applause. I understand this is an  
22 emotional issue, but it is going to further  
23 detract, so I'm going to have to say we've got to  
24 keep applause down.

1           REPRESENTATIVE DURKIN: Those are two requests  
2           I made and I hope that I'm able to get a response  
3           back from the Agency regarding communications with  
4           the seal order from Sterigenics, the EPA, and the  
5           AG and also communications from Sterigenics and the  
6           EPA regarding this new construction permit.

7           I'm glad that the Circuit Court of DuPage  
8           County last week put a halt to this, slowed it  
9           down. It was the right thing to do.

10          No one in this room is going to rest until  
11          Sterigenics is closed. Any other outcome is  
12          unacceptable. I say this not only as an elected  
13          official, but also as a resident of Western  
14          Springs, which is located in the region of these  
15          emissions.

16          I haven't said this before -- I made  
17          mention of it last week, but I think this is the  
18          time for me to make this statement. In 2006, I was  
19          diagnosed while I was living in Western Springs  
20          with a brain tumor. I'm not sure how I got it. It  
21          was -- it was rough. It left me partially  
22          disabled. I'm totally deaf in my left ear. My  
23          balance is completely compromised, but I am lucky  
24          that I am here. I'm not the only person in this

1 room today who has gone through a horrific health  
2 experience, but we must make sure it doesn't happen  
3 again.

4 Now, I will go right to the point. I'm  
5 asking you and Director Kim, Mr. Frost, to deny  
6 this construction permit submitted by Sterigenics  
7 on June 4th, 2019. The regulators at the EPA can  
8 say no. It is in your discretion.

9 But let me be perfectly clear. You're  
10 going to hear a lot of this from my colleagues,  
11 particularly one coming after me. This permit is a  
12 farce.

13 (Applause.)

14 REPRESENTATIVE DURKIN: I also want to be  
15 clear that I presume those making the decisions on  
16 whether or not this permit should be approved and  
17 people ultimately deciding the issue do not reside  
18 in the ZIP codes affected by Sterigenics.

19 (Applause.)

20 REPRESENTATIVE DURKIN: Mr. Frost, Director  
21 Kim, I insist that you strongly consider the voices  
22 you will hear tonight. Now, approving this permit  
23 and stating you had no other option is not true.  
24 You can deny it and you can say no. And if

1 Sterigenics want to take to the Court, let them do  
2 it, but you can say no.

3 (Applause.)

4 REPRESENTATIVE DURKIN: Now, I'm going to --  
5 specifically this permit, if you need a reason to  
6 deny the permit, I'll give you one. What's  
7 referenced on application page 20 to 21 is a  
8 section titled "Compliance Information." On  
9 page 20, under No. 30 of the page, it asks, "Is the  
10 emission unit in compliance with all applicable  
11 requirements?" Sterigenics in their application  
12 checks the "yes" box.

13 The permit also in that section under  
14 those pages asks for an explanation of ongoing  
15 compliance. In Section 32, it says explanation of  
16 ongoing compliance will be demonstrated, and it  
17 states a few things. And it says something about a  
18 CMS unit to be installed in a common stack. Now, a  
19 CMS unit is a continuing emissions monitoring  
20 system.

21 Section 34, describe any monitors of  
22 monitoring activities used to determine fees,  
23 rules, applicability, or compliance, makes a few  
24 statements, and then it says, "CMS will be

1 installed." And that's under Section 34(a).

2 34(b), what parameters are being  
3 monitored? It also makes another statement, CEMS  
4 to be installed. And it then it -- under Section  
5 C, describe the location of each monitor. "CEMS  
6 location in the stack to be determined." Those are  
7 on page 21.

8 Now, let's go to the first page of the  
9 June 24th, 2019, cover letter to the permit  
10 application that was drafted by the Sterigenics  
11 director of environmental health and safety. And  
12 let's jump to Paragraph 3 of the first page of that  
13 letter. And this is from Sterigenics. We also  
14 point out two additional features of the permit  
15 application.

16 First, the application proposes to measure  
17 EO concentrations in addition to existing methods  
18 with a new continuous emissions monitoring system,  
19 CEMS, which I previously referenced. "As the EPA  
20 is aware, we have proposed use of a CEMS even  
21 though no CEMS has been demonstrated as applied to  
22 a sterilization facility like our Willowbrook  
23 plant. We look forward to working with IEPA to  
24 gain field experience with such systems in the

1 sterilization industry. To make this effort  
2 successful, we will need to work cooperatively with  
3 the IEPA and the manufacturer" -- who we have no  
4 idea who the manufacturer is in this permit. "We  
5 expect the permit will contain appropriate terms  
6 and reflect those efforts."

7 Well, it doesn't. So my question is,  
8 really, a CEMS, a continuing emissions monitoring  
9 system, which they proposed, and by their own  
10 admissions, states that it's never been used or  
11 applied to a sterilization facility such as  
12 Willowbrook.

13 "We look forward to working with you to  
14 gain experience." Isn't that their job, to have  
15 the experience to get this done and to have that  
16 verified in their compliant?

17 "We need to work cooperatively with the  
18 EPA, the manufacturer." It seems to me that the  
19 CEMS, the monitoring system, proposed is untested  
20 and is not reliable. And at this point, it cannot  
21 accomplish the goals and nor will it get the job  
22 done. Right there is reason number one to deny  
23 this permit.

24 (Applause.)



1 contained? Are those drums contained in an area  
2 which they have no exposure to the oxygen or the  
3 environment? It doesn't say that in here. I think  
4 the people behind me should know that.

5 Now, it goes through how this process  
6 works. It says to dispense ethylene oxide, the  
7 drums are moved with a drum cart from the storage  
8 area through the dispensing station located inside  
9 the chamber room areas. Once in place at the  
10 dispensing station, the drum is connected to the  
11 dispensing system where it gets a specific  
12 sterilization chamber.

13 They're missing something that's extremely  
14 important. What do you do with that drum after  
15 it's completely will be used? Is it brought out to  
16 a contained outside storage area? Is it sealed  
17 shut? Is the EO completely removed from that used  
18 drum? I don't know that.

19 Don't you think that Sterigenics has an  
20 obligation to explain how they're abandoning this  
21 product not only before and during, but just as  
22 importantly, after. And they haven't done this in  
23 this report.

24 So I use that as a reason to say that they

1 are, again, incomplete in this application to  
2 ensure that if they plan to -- they're going to ask  
3 the State of Illinois for their blessing to open up  
4 their facility, they are gravely short. They have  
5 not met what we believe are any standards for them  
6 to even be considered for operating a business  
7 again. Now, I'm speaking personally.

8 I'll speak as a legislator. I don't want  
9 them back here anymore. Everybody here says --

10 (Applause.)

11 REPRESENTATIVE DURKIN: -- the same thing.  
12 They've lost their right to --

13 (Applause.)

14 REPRESENTATIVE DURKIN: They've lost their  
15 right to work in this region. I'm a pro-business  
16 Republican, but the fact is that I'm offended that  
17 worked.

18 So I'm just going to finish and say I'm  
19 going to ask you to begin to do the right thing for  
20 this region and what's right for the State of  
21 Illinois and deny this permit. Thank you.

22 (Applause.)

23 (Audience outburst.)

24 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Shut them down. Shut them

1 down.

2 MR. STUDER: Okay. The longer we shout and  
3 chant and applaud, the less people we're going to  
4 get to.

5 (Audience outburst.)

6 REPRESENTATIVE MAZZOCHI: I am State  
7 Representative Deanne Mazzochi from the 47th  
8 District, spelled D-e-a-n-n-e, M-a-z-z-o-c-h-i. I  
9 represent Elmhurst and Hinsdale, and other affected  
10 communities are in my district.

11 The Matt Haller Act gives the EPA tools it  
12 needs to hold Sterigenics to the most heightened  
13 standards possible using the most advanced science  
14 and technology currently available. And you're not  
15 using them.

16 As the draft permit presently stands, it  
17 does not comply with Subsection G. Here's some,  
18 not all, of the reasons why. Here's the first one.  
19 The certifications required for the manufacturers  
20 are entirely missing from the permit application.  
21 It's utterly impossible to state today that the  
22 proposed sterilization components of the permit are  
23 acceptable or permissible without full disclosure  
24 of those certifications and the product list.

1                   Second, the permit pages 2 to 3 seems to  
2                   imply that the Agency has already made findings  
3                   that the technology that exists will be the  
4                   greatest reduction in ethylene oxide emissions  
5                   currently available. That's impossible.

6                   There's no way that the Agency today has  
7                   made the independent findings that the technology  
8                   that exists for each particular product Sterigenics  
9                   proposed to make is in fact the best that's  
10                  possibly available.

11                  The statement in the permit is utterly  
12                  conclusory. It's factually unsupported. It fails  
13                  to meet the legal standard that we legislators  
14                  demanded in Subsection G. And it's particularly  
15                  troubling that the Illinois EPA seems to be  
16                  equating the facility standards of Subsection B to  
17                  the product-based standards that are in  
18                  Subsection G.

19                  The Agency may not rest on the assumption  
20                  the facility is using the best technology as a  
21                  proxy for making an independent determination that  
22                  each product sterilization method is the best and  
23                  most stringent technology available.

24                  The permit doesn't do it. The findings

1 haven't been made. The permit is not compliant  
2 with Subsection G. And unless and until the Agency  
3 verifies that for each product Sterigenics proposes  
4 to sterilize at the site, each one of those  
5 products, ethylene oxide is the only thing that can  
6 be used to sterilize that product and not other  
7 techniques and the Agency makes independent  
8 findings for this product, there's nothing more  
9 than that could be done by Sterigenics to capture  
10 emissions for that product, the permit is  
11 premature. It's not ready.

12 And that is going to be a lot of work by  
13 Illinois EPA. We understand it. But until that  
14 factual basis exists per product, the permit is not  
15 ready.

16 And nor may Illinois EPA keep those  
17 findings secret as part of the permit process. The  
18 findings have to be done, tested by the public  
19 before they can qualify. And it pertains to a  
20 particular. I just want to make it clear.

21 If Sterigenics says, "We have a product  
22 and we think that the best technology we can use is  
23 the Subsection G standard, that's one thing. But  
24 if they want to do another product and there's

1 something more that can be done, that something  
2 more has to be done. They have to hit that next  
3 level, and it's the Agency's job to make them get  
4 there.

5 Subsection G, in short, does not allow  
6 Illinois EPA to cater to the lowest common  
7 denominator, but that's exactly what the permit is  
8 doing. You can't rubber stamp. You can't assume.  
9 You can't agree to work with them. You've got to  
10 do the work first for each and every product,  
11 publish those findings, and let the public test the  
12 accuracy of that judgment before they become final.

13 And since we know that hasn't been done,  
14 the permit is premature and cannot issue. Because  
15 the proposed compliance finding in the permit at  
16 page 3, Subsection C, as it stands on the record  
17 today, it's unfounded, unsupported, conclusory, and  
18 necessarily arbitrary and capricious. That alone  
19 should end the permit.

20 Third, when it comes to the emissions  
21 testing itself, I am extraordinarily concerned that  
22 the Illinois EPA seems to be relying on the same  
23 type of testing that Sterigenics used before. As  
24 we pointed out in our brief that we filed before

1 the Court, Exhibits G and H, the Illinois EPA  
2 accepted Sterigenics' report that various samples  
3 had no detectable ethylene oxide. But when you  
4 look at the raw data, the baselines are messed up.  
5 There's a clear signal for ethylene oxide in the  
6 region where this test result said ethylene oxide  
7 was not detected.

8 We pointed this out at House hearings of  
9 the House Energy and Environment Committee.  
10 Illinois EPA didn't make Sterigenics go back and  
11 figure out what that signal is due to. Didn't make  
12 Sterigenics go back and say what are these unknown  
13 compounds that are coming off of the stacks. You  
14 have no clue what really Sterigenics is allowing to  
15 come off this stack.

16 (Applause.)

17 REPRESENTATIVE MAZZOCHI: And for a company  
18 like Sterigenics that has been promising since the  
19 1980s to get to 99.9 percent efficiency, these test  
20 results and tests method are not good enough.  
21 There's more that could be done. These test  
22 results have a red flag in them. You should have  
23 followed up on them. You didn't. And unless and  
24 until you do, again, this permit isn't ready to go.

1 (Applause.)

2 REPRESENTATIVE MAZZOCHI: Fourth, Section  
3 4(b)(1) of the permit talks about stack heights.  
4 You know, you know full well that you're not even  
5 getting the Subsection B standards. They are not  
6 going to be met without an 87-foot stack height.  
7 Yet this permit application has the magic word  
8 "or". "87 feet or the highest Willowbrook will  
9 allow." That is absolutely unacceptable. Because  
10 you know your modeling won't work.

11 (Applause.)

12 REPRESENTATIVE MAZZOCHI: And you're  
13 not going to get to those one in a million cancer  
14 results without the 87-foot stack height. So the  
15 fact that you're even entertaining a permit that  
16 makes that an option is unacceptable and you're  
17 throwing this community under the bus when you do  
18 that, and that's not right.

19 (Applause.)

20 REPRESENTATIVE MAZZOCHI: And finally, fifth,  
21 I just want to say, how dare you invoke 23(a) on  
22 the seal order. Because you know full well that  
23 seal order, the Illinois AG right now is trying to  
24 make that seal order toothless. He is agreeing to

1           vacate it in a consent order and that is going to  
2           -- so to somehow suggest that the people in this  
3           community are going to be protected by the seal  
4           order while you're thinking about what Sterigenics  
5           is going to construct, that is flat wrong. That is  
6           a misrepresentation, and you should not be giving  
7           people that false sense of comfort that somehow  
8           while this permit is pending people are going to be  
9           given any protection by that seal order once that  
10          consent order gets entered. They won't be.

11                        This facility is not ready for prime time.  
12          They've caused untold harm and damage to members of  
13          this community. They have not shown a willingness  
14          that they are going to actually come into  
15          compliance and, frankly, they haven't even shown  
16          that they're ever going to be able to come into  
17          compliance with the Matt Haller Act, particularly  
18          the Subsection G standards.

19                        I strongly urge you to deny this permit.  
20          At the very least, say that it is premature because  
21          the work that needs to be done hasn't been done,  
22          and it's your job to hold them accountable for  
23          that.

24                                        (Applause.)

1 MR. STUDER: Thank you.

2 The next speaker is Mayor Frank Trilla and  
3 he will be followed by Mayor Gary Grasso.

4 MAYOR TRILLA: Hello. Good evening. My name  
5 is Mayor Frank Trilla, T-r-i-l-l-a. And I am here  
6 to speak on behalf of the Village of Willowbrook to  
7 oppose this Agency's hurried decision to allow  
8 Sterigenics to continue to release harmful levels  
9 of ethylene oxide into our air.

10 We believe that Illinois EPA must address  
11 a number of serious concerns before permitting  
12 Sterigenics to resume emitting ethylene oxide into  
13 the air. First, Illinois EPA owes it to the people  
14 of Illinois to be transparent in its  
15 decision-making. The Village of Willowbrook  
16 expended tremendous time and expense to provide the  
17 Agency with the data necessary to expose and stop  
18 Sterigenics' harmful emission of ethylene oxide.  
19 Yet, when it came to ensuring an end to this  
20 pollution, the Agency worked with Sterigenics under  
21 a veil of secrecy to negotiate the terms. What  
22 faith do we have that the permit will protect the  
23 public?

24 For example, Illinois EPA has not shared

1 the air dispersion modeling that it undertook that  
2 indicates the degree and extent of pollution that  
3 the facility will cause, nor has the Agency shared  
4 how it certified that Sterigenics' proposed  
5 pollution controls represent the greatest reduction  
6 of ethylene oxide emissions currently available, as  
7 the statute requires.

8 The public should have an opportunity to  
9 review this information before the Illinois EPA  
10 issues a permit and before the facility resumes  
11 operation. To that end, the Illinois EPA should  
12 create a publicly accessible database that contains  
13 all of this information as well as all data,  
14 reports, and submissions that the construction  
15 permit requires Sterigenics to provide.

16 Secondly, the Village does not believe  
17 that the draft permit adequately addresses all  
18 potential sources of ethylene oxide emission, the  
19 particular -- and particularly the fugitive  
20 emissions. Why, for example, is Illinois EPA  
21 allowing Sterigenics to store both full and empty  
22 drums of ethylene oxide next to the facility,  
23 rather than in the permanent total enclosure,  
24 preferably underground, where fugitive emissions of

1 ethylene oxide could be captured.

2 And why doesn't the permit require that  
3 Sterigenics adopt a leak detection and repair plan  
4 to promptly identify and fix any unintended  
5 releases of ethylene oxide in the facility? The  
6 draft permit is full of monitoring requirements,  
7 but requires Sterigenics to do little, if anything,  
8 once it or Illinois EPA has identified a problem.

9 Third, the permit must, but does not,  
10 prevent the facility from operating when the  
11 pollution control equipment is not operating, when  
12 ambient air impacts are observed, or 100 percent of  
13 ethylene oxide emissions are not being captured.  
14 This is unacceptable. The permit requires that  
15 Sterigenics immediately cease operations if it  
16 fails an annual test. So why does it -- why  
17 doesn't it also require Sterigenics to immediately  
18 cease operations when a drop in pressure is  
19 observed in the permanent total enclosure or when a  
20 pollution control device fails?

21 These simple measures are critical to  
22 ensuring that the public is not harmed by exposure  
23 to unnecessary and preventable short-term exposure  
24 to ethylene oxide from faulty operation of the

1 facility.

2 Fourth, the permit offers Sterigenics the  
3 option to install a taller, 87-foot stack within  
4 about a year after the permit is issued. As the  
5 permit indicates, the Village may decide not to  
6 allow that stack. If we do not, what will be the  
7 impact on ambient air? Illinois EPA cannot issue a  
8 permit that allows Sterigenics to begin operating  
9 without first determining how tall the stack must  
10 be to protect human health and the environment, and  
11 Illinois EPA must make this information public.

12 Fifth and finally, the Village has serious  
13 concerns that the combined emissions impact from  
14 Willowbrook I and Willowbrook II facilities could  
15 generate harmful levels of EO in the air. Even  
16 though Sterigenics may not be able to immediately  
17 resume operations at Willowbrook II, it may do so  
18 in the future. Illinois EPA should account for  
19 this possibility before it issues a construction  
20 permit.

21 We appreciate the time to speak tonight  
22 and to share the concerns of the community. We  
23 plan to submit these written comments and explain  
24 our concerns in even more detail. In the meantime,

1 we urge the Illinois EPA to consider the issues  
2 we've raised tonight and not issue a construction  
3 permit to Sterigenics. Illinois EPA must do more  
4 to protect the people of Willowbrook and the health  
5 of our neighbors and our children. Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 MR. STUDER: Thank you, Mayor.

8 MAYOR GRASSO: Representative Durkin,  
9 Mazzochi, Mayor Trilla, thank you for your comments  
10 and your strong support against Sterigenics. We  
11 appreciate your leadership.

12 I will be brief so that we have many  
13 people behind me that can speak. My name is Gary  
14 Grasso, G-r-a-s-s-o. I am the mayor of Burr Ridge.  
15 And like Willowbrook and our other communities,  
16 Burr Ridge strongly opposes the Illinois EPA  
17 issuing any permit to Sterigenics to reopen. We --

18 (Applause.)

19 MAYOR GRASSO: -- ask you to deny this  
20 application for a construction permit. You are the  
21 Environmental Protection Agency. Please protect  
22 us.

23 (Applause.)

24 MAYOR GRASSO: You have proof. You have proof

1 already that Sterigenics has emitted for years  
2 dangerous amounts of ethylene oxide into our  
3 communities. Rather than entertain applications  
4 for the issuance of a permit to reopen, you should  
5 fine them millions of dollars and make them  
6 establish --

7 (Applause.)

8 MAYOR GRASSO: -- and make them establish a  
9 healthcare fund for the many who are ill, who have  
10 cancer and respiratory disease in our community.

11 (Applause.)

12 MAYOR GRASSO: And you should keep them  
13 closed.

14 As for the permit itself, has Sterigenics  
15 complied with Section G of the Matt Haller Act? It  
16 has not. That, as Representative Mazzochi has  
17 clearly pointed out, is a precondition to asking  
18 for a construction permit. How can you let them  
19 build a facility before they have any  
20 certifications from their suppliers?

21 Think about it. You are placing the  
22 proverbial cart ahead of the horse. As you know,  
23 the Matt Haller Act prohibits Sterigenics from  
24 using EtO until two things occur. First, that

1 Sterigenics' suppliers, its customers, certify that  
2 EO sterilization is the only available method to  
3 completely sterilize their products, and second,  
4 that this Agency certify that the proposed emission  
5 controls reflect the greatest reduction in EO  
6 available.

7 To the extent that these certifications  
8 have been obtained, which I doubt, none of the  
9 certifications have been made available to the  
10 public. Where are they? How is a supplier going  
11 to certify to Sterigenics and certify to the public  
12 that their products can only be sterilized by a  
13 cancer-causing agent? I doubt that will ever  
14 happen. Hold their feet to the fire and make them  
15 come up with the supplier certifications first.

16 (Applause.)

17 MAYOR GRASSO: And then tell Burr Ridge and  
18 Willowbrook and these communities who those  
19 suppliers are that will give that certification.  
20 No supplier will do that because of the liability  
21 that will happen when all of the people around here  
22 prove their illnesses are due to ethylene oxide  
23 from Sterigenics.

24 I was a member of the DuPage Board of

1 Health for 12 years. I asked them to do some quick  
2 research for me in anticipation of tonight. They  
3 came up with things from the USEPA, the USFDA, and  
4 the Illinois Medical Society. The USEPA already  
5 has a list of substitutes for ethylene oxide that  
6 can sterilize these equipments. They are things  
7 like hydrogen peroxide gas plasma systems. There  
8 is a hydrogen gas acid system. There is steam for  
9 devices resistant to heat and moisture, and there  
10 is something called a Mini-Max Cleanser. None of  
11 these require the use of EtO. If they don't  
12 require the use of EtO, how can the suppliers say  
13 EtO is the only way to do this?

14 The United States Food and Drug  
15 Administration lists -- it lists 36 projects not  
16 mentioning EtO at all as sterile and high-level  
17 disinfectants that will sterilize medical  
18 equipment. I have nine fancy names I will submit  
19 in writing that go along with this.

20 Also, the Illinois State Medical Society  
21 in April 2019 adopted Resolution A-19 that seeks  
22 substitution of ethylene oxide with less toxic  
23 alternatives that are currently available,  
24 including hydrogen peroxide, steam, and other safe

1 alternatives, what you just heard from the USEPA  
2 and from the FDA. These are alternatives.

3 Hold the feet of Sterigenics to the law.

4 Now, as to the 87-foot stack, please,  
5 Frank, don't approve it.

6 (Applause.)

7 MAYOR GRASSO: I represent Burr Ridge.  
8 Contiguous to Willowbrook is Darien. You're now  
9 going to propose lifting -- instead of the  
10 emissions here, lifting it up even higher so it can  
11 get to Burr Ridge sooner. We don't want this gas  
12 in our environment. You must understand people  
13 live and work here. For years these communities  
14 have been exposed to the life-threatening levels of  
15 toxic carcinogens. After the seal order, EO levels  
16 plummeted. That's all you need to know.

17 But the damage --

18 (Applause.)

19 MAYOR GRASSO: -- but the damage might have  
20 been permanent for many of our residents that  
21 inhaled Sterigenics' EO for decades. The seal  
22 order abated this harm from continuing. You cannot  
23 lift the seal order.

24 And by the way, what is the Attorney

1 General doing trying to get rid of the seal order?  
2 How is the Attorney General representing the public  
3 in that case?

4 (Applause.)

5 MAYOR GRASSO: Please deny this application.  
6 Do not remove the seal order. Do not allow  
7 Sterigenics to reopen. You are the Environmental  
8 Protection Agency. Please, protect us.

9 (Applause.)

10 MR. STUDER: Bryon Vana.

11 MR. VANA: My name is Bryon Vana, B-r-y-o-n,  
12 Vana, V-a-n-a. I am the city administrator for the  
13 City of Darien, representing the city and Mayor Joe  
14 Marchese, who is out of town.

15 My questions are going to focus on two  
16 topics. One is this process we have here tonight,  
17 which is -- I'm not sure what the process is. I  
18 did attend a meeting a couple of weeks ago with my  
19 colleagues and team members from the other  
20 communities, as well as some members from Stop  
21 Sterigenics. We were told this was going to be  
22 a meeting, but I don't know what this is because  
23 it's called a formal public meeting. I've looked  
24 at other notices that you've put out for meetings

1           like this, and they're all -- they're titled  
2           different things.

3                         What I believe that this process should  
4           require -- and I think Illinois EPA has the  
5           flexibility to do that, and I think it is also part  
6           of what's required in Title 35, Part 203, is a real  
7           public hearing that requires Sterigenics to be  
8           here --

9                                 (Applause.)

10                         MR. STUDER: (Inaudible.)

11                         MR. VANA: -- and also to be able to  
12           cross-examine --

13                                 I didn't hear what you said. I'm sorry.

14                         MR. STUDER: That's okay.

15                                 To my knowledge, we don't have the  
16           authority to require the applicant to be here.

17                         MR. VANA: The EPA, there's --

18                                 (Audience outburst.)

19                         MR. VANA: I don't know what this process is,  
20           if we're going to have a meeting. But, again,  
21           Sterigenics should be required to be here as a  
22           presenter. They should be able to be  
23           cross-examined by witnesses.

24                                 If you're in any of our communities and



1 open and those levels increased like they increased  
2 before, what is the Illinois EPA going to do? And  
3 there is no answer to that. And that needs to be  
4 answered because that is critical. Those levels,  
5 again, were unbelievable to the -- to all of us in  
6 the USEPA, Illinois EPA, so that really needs to be  
7 determined. We can't say, oh, they're going to  
8 capture 99.9 percent so we don't have to worry  
9 about the ambient air testing. And that is, in  
10 essence, the answer I received from the EPA and we  
11 definitely need a better answer than that.

12 And I'm not sure if Sterigenics is still  
13 opposing the ambient air testing. In a release  
14 they had sent out or put on the Web site earlier,  
15 on May 10th, they're really -- they're not agreeing  
16 with ambient air testing. And I think, again, if  
17 they were here in front of everybody in the  
18 meeting, they would need to answer those questions.

19 Thank you.

20 (Applause.)

21 MR. STUDER: Thank you. That concludes the  
22 elected officials that have been asked to --

23 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Excuse me, sir.

24 MR. STUDER: -- speak on behalf -- did I miss?

1 Oh. Luke Stifflear. I apologize.

2 MR. STIFFLEAR: No worries.

3 MR. STUDER: And you are appearing on behalf  
4 of Hinsdale?

5 MR. STIFFLEAR: That is correct, yes.

6 First of all, I'd like to enter a comment  
7 to my state representative --

8 MR. STUDER: How do you spell your last name?

9 MR. STIFFLEAR: Luke Stifflear, L-u-k-e,  
10 S-t-i-f-f-l-e-a-r. And I'm also here with Trustee  
11 Neale Byrnes, N-e-a-l-e, B-y-r-n-e-s. Thank you.

12 So State Representatives Durkin and  
13 Mazzochi, thank you very much.

14 First of all, I serve as the chair in the  
15 Village on Zoning and Public Safety, and Trustee  
16 Byrnes, who serves as the chair of the Village's  
17 Environmental and Public Services Committee. We  
18 are here on behalf of the entire Village of  
19 Hinsdale to speak out against the issue of the  
20 construction permit on Sterigenics' facility.

21 Since August of 2018, the residents of  
22 towns and villages surrounding the Sterigenics  
23 facility have revealed that Sterigenics' business  
24 practices have endangered the health and safety of

1 people in the surrounding communities. During this  
2 time period, Sterigenics continually denied that it  
3 has known that which is now known as a fact, that  
4 EtO emissions from its facility were at dangerous  
5 levels.

6 Furthermore, business practices prior to  
7 2018 illustrate a long history of unacceptable  
8 practices and neglect for public safety. Decades  
9 of Sterigenics' operating history shows Sterigenics  
10 to be simply bad actors, routinely compromising the  
11 health and safety of area residents.

12 It is with overwhelming public support and  
13 the backing that I make the statement Sterigenics  
14 simply cannot be trusted.

15 (Applause.)

16 MR. STIFFLEAR: For the Illinois EPA to  
17 approve a permit that would allow Sterigenics to  
18 resume operations is unfathomable and contrary to  
19 the mission of your organization. Now is the time  
20 for you to do your job and simply protect our  
21 communities. Simply deny the application based on  
22 the past bad acts of Sterigenics, which they have  
23 illustrated for decades.

24 I would also like to thank you for

1 allowing the information you gave that answers four  
2 specific questions, but the question that it did  
3 not answer is what type of standards must be met  
4 for Sterigenics to be an allowable operator? Are  
5 there any standards whatsoever for Sterigenics to  
6 be the operator?

7 If we have a commercial driver who gets a  
8 DUI or a speeding ticket, we take his license away.  
9 Just because he gets a better truck, we don't allow  
10 him back on the highway. Sterigenics should have  
11 the exact same method.

12 (Applause.)

13 MR. STIFFLEAR: Needless to say, neither  
14 Trustee Byrnes nor I or the community that we were  
15 elected to represent have any faith in Sterigenics  
16 doing the right thing. As has been established by  
17 its past business practices, Sterigenics will  
18 mislead regulators, mislead the public, continually  
19 deny wrongdoing, any wrongdoing, and will very  
20 likely put their profits ahead of any safety of  
21 Illinois residents.

22 It is the position of the Village of  
23 Hinsdale that the Illinois EPA deny the permit  
24 request based on the elevated public health risks

1 that exist by allowing Sterigenics to operate a  
2 facility, even with the additional improved  
3 equipment. Thank you.

4 (Applause.)

5 MR. STUDER: Okay. I think now that -- as to  
6 address, we will now move on to questions and  
7 comments from the general public. For this section  
8 of the public meeting, we'll allow two minutes. If  
9 you have comments or questions, I would suggest if  
10 you have a question that you want a response to and  
11 here, again, we'll have to be as brief as we can,  
12 that you would ask the question first or otherwise  
13 you may not get an answer in the time that we have.  
14 We're going to have to move to try and get as many  
15 people in as we can tonight.

16 Again, the topic is the draft permit and  
17 those that have spoke have done a very good job of  
18 addressing the permit and permit conditions and  
19 raising questions on those. And that is the focus  
20 of tonight's meeting.

21 What I will do is I'm going to call a name  
22 and I'm going to call a second name. And we have  
23 an empty seat that is directly behind the podium on  
24 my right, which would be on the left of the aisle

1 here. And the second person, if they could come up  
2 and take a seat in there, they would follow the  
3 first person, and that way we can try and keep  
4 things moving. I will try and keep one person on  
5 deck at all times. If by chance when your name is  
6 called and you want to pass or someone has already  
7 said what you wanted to say, feel free to do that.  
8 Also, if you are reading from prepared remarks, you  
9 do have the option of submitting those to us in  
10 writing. We will take those, if you would like,  
11 either before or after or in lieu of making  
12 comments this evening.

13 The first person will be Alex -- it looks  
14 like Garel Frantze. Did I really mess that up?

15 And Colleen Haller will be following him.

16 MR. GAREL FRANTZE: Good evening. My name is  
17 Alex Garel Frantze, A-l-e-x, G-a-r-e-l,  
18 F-r-a-n-t-z-e, and I'm here tonight to underscore  
19 the comments of Mayor Trilla and Mayor Grasso.  
20 Both mayors already rightfully insisted that the  
21 Agency not issue the permit. My comments will  
22 focus on issues that must be addressed should the  
23 Agency decide to proceed with the permit.

24 First, transparency. IEPA should create a

1 publicly accessible database containing all the  
2 information and comments you rely on for granting  
3 the construction permit, as well as all data,  
4 reports, and submissions the construction permit  
5 requires Sterigenics to provide. This database  
6 should include any customer certifications and the  
7 Agency certification of the emission controls and  
8 supporting documentation required by the Matt  
9 Haller Act. The public should have the opportunity  
10 to review the data, information, and plans the  
11 Agency has received to date before IEPA issues the  
12 permit.

13 Second, the draft permit does not  
14 adequately address all potential current EtO  
15 emissions, especially fugitive emissions. The  
16 permit should require Sterigenics to adopt a leak  
17 detection and prepare a program to promptly  
18 identify and fix any unintended release of EtO.

19 Third, the permit should prevent the  
20 facility from operating when pollution control  
21 equipment is not operating, like during a  
22 malfunction when ambient air impacts are observed  
23 or when 100 percent EtO emissions are not being  
24 captured.

1                   Fourth, the permit is devoid of any  
2                   evidence demonstrating that either the stack of  
3                   Sterigenics is required to install or that 87-foot  
4                   stack that Sterigenics may obtain the right to  
5                   install is protective of public health. If the  
6                   stack is lower, will Willowbrook residents and  
7                   surrounding communities be protected? As the  
8                   Agency determined, this height will address  
9                   building downdraft conditions.

10                   Fifth, the customer and Agency  
11                   certifications under the Matt Haller Act are not  
12                   once-in-time requirements. Methods of  
13                   sterilization and technology controls change. Will  
14                   the Agency require Sterigenics to submit customer  
15                   certifications annually and reconsider their  
16                   certifications on a regular basis?

17                   Thank you.

18                   (Applause.)

19                   MR. STUDER: Thank you.

20                   Colleen Haller, and she'll be followed by  
21                   it looks like Randall McNichols.

22                   MS. HALLER: Hi. My name is Colleen Haller,  
23                   H-a-l-l-e-r, C-o-l-l-e-e-n. I am a wife and I am  
24                   the widow of Matt Haller.

1 (Applause and standing ovation.)

2 MS. HALLER: Thank you. Thank you.

3 Have you ever watched a loved one die of  
4 cancer? Sixteen months I watched my husband slowly  
5 die from stomach cancer. He was an active man. He  
6 played hockey. He loved skiing. He loved the  
7 outdoors. He was only 45 years old when he passed.  
8 It was not gas coming from a car. It was not gas  
9 from a grill. It was not gas from a lawnmower or  
10 the food he ate. He was a very healthy man that  
11 cooked his own food.

12 I lost my best friend, the person I was  
13 supposed to grow old with. But worse, my son, who  
14 is only four, lost his father. How many people in  
15 this room have lost a loved one to cancer? Please  
16 raise their hands.

17 How many of you know somebody who is  
18 fighting cancer right now? Please raise your hand.

19 If you have respiratory issues, migraines,  
20 fertility problems, if you've had a miscarriage,  
21 please raise your hand.

22 This is why this permit should not be  
23 granted. Nobody in this community should go  
24 through the pain and the loss that I went through.

1           There are images I can never get out of my head,  
2           and that is watching your spouse take their last  
3           breath because of this company, Sterigenics.

4                        I am asking you. Do not grant this  
5           permit. Please, for our community. There is a  
6           high school down the street. There are grade  
7           schools. There are middle schools. There are day  
8           cares. There are libraries. It is common sense.  
9           Do not grant this permit.

10                      And if Director Kim does, I hold him  
11           responsible.

12                                (Applause.)

13                      MR. STUDER: Thank you.

14                                (Applause.)

15                      MR. STUDER: (Inaudible ) is following  
16           Mr. McNichols.

17                      MR. McNICHOLS: Good afternoon. Or good  
18           evening. My name is Randy McNichols,  
19           R-a-n-d-a-l-l, M-c-N-i-c-h-o-l-s.

20                                I'm a resident of Darien. I'm also a  
21           decorated Vietnam veteran.

22                                (Applause.)

23                      MR. McNICHOLS: And for 40 years I was told  
24           how safe Agent Orange was by our federal

1 government. I watched my brother die and many  
2 others. This is a death sentence that you're  
3 passing on to all of us, not a permit. A death  
4 sentence. Thank you.

5 (Applause.)

6 MR. STUDER: Jana Conev. The next person  
7 following her will be Urszula Tanouye.

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Tanouye.

9 MR. STUDER: I'm so sorry. As long as she  
10 knows who she is.

11 MS. CONEV: My name is Jana Conev, J-a-n-a,  
12 C-o-n-e-v. I live right on Midway Drive, about  
13 2,000 feet from Sterigenics. I own and run Conev's  
14 Cradle Infant Care and I am in the air zone.

15 I thought it was going to be Sterigenics  
16 that was going to be here also, but I guess they're  
17 just too darn chicken.

18 (Applause.)

19 MS. CONEV: You've heard the expression "It  
20 takes a village." Sterigenics has taken our  
21 village. We have lived here for over 33 years. I  
22 have cancer. My husband has three kinds of cancer.  
23 He will be on hormone therapy for the rest of his  
24 life because it is in his skeleton. He can't be

1 here because he can't sit or stand for any length  
2 of time.

3 I want you to know that EtO is heavy and  
4 it stays close to the ground. Almost a year ago,  
5 when you EPA people were here, your representative  
6 told us not to run our air conditioner. Rain makes  
7 it worse. I am now absolutely terrified of rain.  
8 I'm a 60-year-old woman who has a phobia of rain  
9 because of Sterigenics and EtO. The reality, the  
10 fear, the anxiety are real.

11 You know, recently an alligator was  
12 captured and relocated to where it posed no harm or  
13 a threat to the residential area. Sterigenics, I  
14 want you to follow suit, and you, the EPA, has got  
15 to see to it that they do so. They're not welcome  
16 here. No EtO emissions are safe. The tools you're  
17 offering have not been tested. Do I look like a  
18 rat?

19 (Applause.)

20 MR. STUDER: Thank you.

21 Sri Rao will be next.

22 MS. TANOUYE: Urszula Tanouye, U-r-s-z-u-l-a,  
23 T-a-n-o-u-y-e.

24 On page 11 of the application that

1 Sterigenics submitted -- I'm going to quote --  
2 "Sterigenics also requests to operate this facility  
3 under this construction permit until its CAAPP  
4 permit is revised to address the proposal."

5 Can this permit be used to resume  
6 operations under its provision before their proper  
7 operating permit is issued, granted all of the  
8 stipulations that which were raised -- have raised  
9 or met?

10 That's a question.

11 MR. FROST: So there is the draft construction  
12 permit, which we're evaluating. The underlying  
13 CAAPP permit is still valid and selected. But the  
14 question that you're posing is a complex question.  
15 I think it's better that we put it -- the response  
16 in writing because it's very complex.

17 (Audience outburst.)

18 MR. FROST: It's not a simple yes-or-no  
19 question. I do appreciate the question, though.  
20 From the standpoint of doing it justice, that's a  
21 response that we should develop because there are  
22 complexities.

23 (Audience outburst.)

24 MR. FROST: I think as you know.

1 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: So the answer is yes,  
2 Urszula.

3 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Urszula's clock should  
4 be restarted.

5 MR. STUDER: Okay. We have one person at the  
6 mic. The court reporter cannot get your words when  
7 other people are speaking. So we cannot have this  
8 type of disorder with a court reporter in the room.  
9 So the person at the mic is the one that's  
10 authorized to speak.

11 MS. TANOUYE: I have some serious concerns  
12 about the exemption of method 204, criterion 5-1,  
13 about any VOC emitting point being 4 equivalent  
14 diameters away from any natural draft opening  
15 enclosure. If one criterion is modified, I'm  
16 concerned that the other criteria may need to be  
17 modified, such as the facial velocity, in order to  
18 adequately maintain the permanent total enclosure.  
19 The originally proposed method in 1995 does not  
20 include a provision by which exceptions to the  
21 enclosure criteria can be made.

22 It seems that statements from the  
23 application and draft permit are made because it  
24 wouldn't be appropriate for this requirement if the

1 product is considered a VOC point while being  
2 loaded onto a truck for shipping.

3 I have two concerns with this. One, it  
4 seems that this industry would like to consider the  
5 product as containing minimal and un concerning  
6 levels of EtO in the processed product (what's  
7 being loaded onto a truck) when they talk to the  
8 FDA.

9 But then when they turn to the EPA, that  
10 product becomes a VOC-emitting point; it is so  
11 significant it must qualify them for an exemption  
12 to the method.

13 I think what happened here is they don't  
14 want to modify the location of the doors to the  
15 aeration and storage rooms to comply with the  
16 method or to create a second strongly ventilated  
17 transition room to further protect against  
18 unintended releases.

19 For comparison, the EPA granted  
20 a permit to a printing company also using  
21 method 204. Presumably, they have the product  
22 that's generated inside the PTE that then needs to  
23 somehow be removed from that PTE to ship to their  
24 customers. Yet, they don't have any exceptions to

1 criterion 5-1 to accommodate product being removed  
2 from the PTE through any NDO.

3 I strongly question the motives and  
4 justifications for this exception.

5 (Applause.)

6 MR. STUDER: And Margie Donnell, she'll be on  
7 deck.

8 Go ahead, sir.

9 MR. RAO: My name is Sri -- Sri -- Rao, R-a-o.  
10 I'd like all of my answers in writing so as not to  
11 take up too much time with your answers.

12 Is CMS, FCE, or PCE regulated?

13 How is ethylene oxide not regulated under  
14 the NESHAP for sterilization facilities, Subpart O?

15 The application on page 16 at 11(c) lists  
16 the last modification date for Sterigenics'  
17 sterilizing chambers, vacuum pumps, and back vents  
18 as November of 1990. The community was told  
19 Sterigenics had hooked up the back vent and changed  
20 them in 2018. This is an inconsistency in the  
21 application.

22 The application also refers to the storage  
23 and transfer of EtO drums. Willowbrook Village  
24 Code, as updated on June 24th, 2019, limits EtO

1 storage to 100 pounds or whatever the facility has  
2 on hand as of July 10th. The EPA inspection  
3 reports indicate that no ethylene oxide was on hand  
4 at Sterigenics. At these strong points over  
5 400 pounds, not even a single drum would not be --  
6 a single drum would be in violation of Municipal  
7 Code.

8 It was related by Sterigenics that the  
9 highest concentration of ethylene oxide was in the  
10 shipping areas. Yet on page 13, the draft permit  
11 states that the criteria is not appropriate for the  
12 shipping doors while loading the product into the  
13 truck. This is inconsistent with Sterigenics' own  
14 statements regarding those doors.

15 Lastly, as a community member, back in --  
16 I want to say in April or May -- we heard rumors  
17 about the negotiations with Sterigenics and IEPA.  
18 We made phone calls asking, and I asked you,  
19 Director Frost, if that was happening, and you told  
20 me no. You lied. You lied to this community. You  
21 lied to me --

22 (Applause.)

23 (Audience outburst.)

24 MR. RAO: -- resignation. And I want

1           yours --

2                               (Audience outburst.)

3                               (Unreportable.)

4           MR. STUDER: Please. You are going to have to  
5 stop speaking because none of what was said is  
6 probably in the transcript because quite frankly --

7                               (Audience outburst.)

8           MR. STUDER: If you're speaking and applause  
9 breaks out and you want what you said in the  
10 transcript, you're going to have to stop speaking  
11 and wait for the applause to settle down.

12           UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: He said Brad Frost lied.

13           MR. STUDER: Lauren Kaeseberg will follow.

14                               Go ahead.

15           MS. DONNELL: Margie Donnell, D-o-n-n-e-l-l.

16                               My first question is, where is  
17 Exhibit 220-A from page 53 of the draft permit?  
18 The emission information under HAP, Hazards Air  
19 Pollution, it says, "See Exhibit 220-A."

20                               Can you hand that over to me?

21                               (Audience outburst.)

22           UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Pause the clock.

23           UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Pause the clock.

24           MS. DONNELL: You don't have it?

1 MR. STUDER: Do you want an answer now or do  
2 you want it --

3 MS. DONNELL: Well, you drafted a permit that  
4 you --

5 MR. STUDER: Right. So I'm asking did you  
6 want an answer now or do you want the answer --

7 (Audience outburst.)

8 MR. STUDER: -- (inaudible). We can do both  
9 each time, but it's go to be --

10 (Audience outburst.)

11 MS. DONNELL: You know, here's the thing.  
12 They're counting us at two minutes --

13 MR. STUDER: Ma'am. Ma'am. Ma'am. Ma'am.  
14 Address me, please. Thank you.

15 (Audience outburst.)

16 MR. STUDER: The rules --

17 (Audience outburst.)

18 (Unreportable.)

19 MR. STUDER: The rules --

20 (Audience outburst.)

21 MS. DONNELL: The court reporter didn't get  
22 what you said down. I'll address you.

23 I am asking anybody here who did not sign  
24 the sheet to please sign your name and give up your

1 two minutes to those of us who still have  
2 questions.

3 (Applause.)

4 MR. STUDER: That's not how this works.

5 MS. DONNELL: You don't get to just come in  
6 here and make all the rules, sir.

7 (Audience outburst.)

8 MR. STUDER: Well, it was clear from the  
9 start, but we will take the question.

10 MS. DONNELL: My question is, do you have  
11 Exhibit 220-A? Do you have it here with you right  
12 now?

13 MR. ROMAINE: I would have to review the  
14 documents to find it.

15 (Audience outburst.)

16 MS. DONNELL: I want to know under what  
17 conditions the IEPA can deny a construction permit  
18 application.

19 MR. ROMAINE: As Mr. Studer has explained, a  
20 permit application can be denied that does not  
21 demonstrate compliance with the Environmental  
22 Protection Act or regulations adopted thereunder.

23 MS. DONNELL: And all of you sitting up there  
24 today, do you four get to make the decision as to

1           whether this draft permit is issued?

2           MR. FROST: We have permit section staff who  
3 review the application against the law and the  
4 applicable regulations.

5           MS. DONNELL: So the four of you sitting here  
6 today are not the people that are making that  
7 decision; is that correct?

8           MR. ROMAINE: I will be one of the people that  
9 makes a recommendation on whether to act on the  
10 application.

11          MS. DONNELL: Are you able to reject in part?  
12 Or are you only able to accept or deny, grant or  
13 deny it?

14          MR. ROMAINE: At this point in time, we can  
15 either grant the permit or deny the permit.

16          MS. DONNELL: And if you deny the permit and  
17 Sterigenics returned with another draft permit  
18 application, does the whole 90-day process start  
19 over again?

20          MR. ROMAINE: Yes.

21                   Sterigenics can also appeal the denial of  
22 the permit and then the Control Board will be under  
23 the obligation to decide therein.

24          MS. DONNELL: If they appeal the denial, is

1           that something you make public?

2           MR. ROMAINE: Yes.

3           MS. DONNELL: Now, do you understand that  
4           within their application Sterigenics clearly states  
5           that the CEMS is unproven for ethylene oxide? Do  
6           you agree with me?

7           MR. ROMAINE: No.

8                           (Audience outburst.)

9           MR. ROMAINE: I agree with the statement that  
10          Sterigenics made the application based on  
11          the -- in the case of Mr. Mattisson, there are  
12          continuous emission monitoring methods that are  
13          available for ethylene oxide. The issue that we  
14          are working on is developing a level at which those  
15          methods can be used.

16          MS. DONNELL: My last question is, as you sit  
17          here today, do you believe that this draft permit  
18          is complete?

19          MR. ROMAINE: I believe that certain issues  
20          have been identified that could be addressed in an  
21          issued permit.

22          MS. DONNELL: Is that a yes or no, sir?

23          MR. ROMAINE: This is a draft permit. There  
24          is certain potential for improvement. We do not

1 intend to issue the permit as drafted. That's why  
2 we're having this public meeting, to get input from  
3 the public on the draft permit, and we've had a  
4 number of suggestions about the permit.

5 MS. DONNELL: Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 MR. STUDER: Thank you.

8 As Lauren is coming, it looks Thomas  
9 Maguire is on deck. Go ahead.

10 MS. KAESEBERG: Well, you should be ashamed of  
11 yourself for the way you spoke to her.

12 (Applause.)

13 MS. KAESEBERG: This is a community opposed --

14 (Applause.)

15 MS. KAESEBERG: Truly. I mean that. We're  
16 here night after night. And it's because of a  
17 problem that you guys created by allowing this  
18 company to be here. It was shameful the way that  
19 you just spoke to Ms. Donnell.

20 You keep speaking about dispersion  
21 modeling that was done by the IEPA to create this  
22 85-pound limit. We asked for that modeling to be  
23 given to us when we met with you. You have not  
24 given that to us. We request it once again so that

1 the dispersion model can be made available  
2 publicly.

3 Second of all, you are rewarding bad  
4 corporate behavior. Sterigenics, under this  
5 permit, is -- has to comply with the fact that it  
6 needs to be safety technology available, which they  
7 maintain they're using because they acquire safer  
8 technology when it's been developed.

9 A company called Noxilizer came out with a  
10 nitrous dioxide alternative to ethylene oxide for  
11 the very specific purpose of replacing ethylene  
12 oxide in the market because it is dangerous.

13 What happened? They got FDA approval.  
14 Sterigenics acquired that company. They acquired  
15 the technology and the rights to all feasibility  
16 studies of that technology. And now they don't get  
17 to stand up there and say "We're using the best  
18 available technology" because they've created a  
19 monopoly where they own all the other technology.  
20 And you are allowing them to do that. And it is  
21 not the best available technology.

22 They can't just buy other companies and  
23 quash it every time it comes out so that they stay  
24 on top and make their money while they're killing

1 people.

2 (Applause.)

3 MS. KAESEBERG: I also think that under the  
4 draft permit the facility is being treated as if  
5 it's a new facility coming into a community for the  
6 first time. I think that you are ignoring the fact  
7 that they've been emitting ethylene oxide at  
8 exorbitant amounts for 35 years.

9 If you look at the numbers of what their  
10 self-reported emissions are from the late '90s, it  
11 goes down to 36,000 pounds. When many of us sat in  
12 high schools across the street and played in parks  
13 across the street, we have been exposed to this our  
14 entire lives.

15 So now the facility coming today, and  
16 admit 85 pounds, to you guys, it's like some  
17 glorious achievement, which is shocking. But to  
18 us, it's an absolute life-threatening danger after  
19 having constant -- we are the study, the 35-year  
20 study of what happens to someone in that exposure,  
21 that's us. Look around.

22 How many of you have been here 30-plus  
23 years? We are that. So to have them reopen  
24 today -- I don't care if there's 1 pound a year.



1 indicated that to address that obligation was  
2 shared with the Illinois legislature.

3 MR. STUDER: Okay. Getting back to our --  
4 when the question was asked, the vast majority of  
5 people here raised their hand and I want that in  
6 the record because --

7 MS. KAESEBERG: Thank you.

8 MR. STUDER: -- just raising hands doesn't  
9 show up in the record.

10 MS. KAESEBERG: Correct. Thank you.

11 MR. STUDER: And you are Thomas?

12 MR. MAGUIRE: Yes. Tom Maguire, T-o-m,  
13 M-a-g-u-i-r-e.

14 MR. STUDER: Don't start yet. He'll be  
15 followed by Andrew Kelly. Now. I apologize.

16 MR. MAGUIRE: First of all, I'd like to thank  
17 Stop Sterigenics and Citizens 4 Clean Air for all  
18 their hard work.

19 If you notice, I'm wearing a Willowbrook  
20 Spring Fling 5K shirt. I've run this race every  
21 year since it started in the park right by  
22 Sterigenics. And in looking at the backs of all  
23 the shirts, our sponsors, Sterigenics has never  
24 been a sponsor of the race. Not once has

1 Sterigenics been a sponsor of anything in the  
2 community.

3 If the EPA is going to refuse to listen to  
4 the community and ignore all the evidence and keep  
5 Sterigenics closed, then I have a modest proposal  
6 for the consent order. Require that Sterigenics  
7 move their corporate office from Oak Brook to  
8 Willowbrook. Require that the corporate employees  
9 live in Willowbrook.

10 (Audience outburst and applause.)

11 MR. MAGUIRE: Require that Sterigenics'  
12 executives be exposed to the same risks that have  
13 been suggested to every community member in this  
14 room.

15 (Applause.)

16 MR. MAGUIRE: Now, this may sound ridiculous,  
17 like I'm being facetious to prove a point, but I'm  
18 entirely serious. If they claim the community is  
19 safe, the community will no longer be in danger,  
20 then they should have no problem relocating here.  
21 They should have no problem raising their families  
22 here, no problem with their children breathing the  
23 air in Willowbrook.

24 My point is this. Sterigenics is a bad

1 actor with no accountability for their actions and  
2 cannot be trusted unless they're exposed to the  
3 same risks as everyone in this community and in  
4 this room. And I'm not talking about underpaid  
5 hourly employees.

6 When it was discovered they were poisoning  
7 the community, they did not stop production.  
8 Furthermore, they did not stop production at their  
9 plants nationwide in order to cease harming people  
10 all across this country. Now other towns are  
11 fighting the same fight being fought here. They  
12 could have taken steps to safeguard others, but did  
13 not. They chose to continue to make money  
14 literally from a safe distance.

15 If you allow Sterigenics to reopen, make  
16 them move here. My proposal may sound ridiculous,  
17 but I'm under the premise of allowing Sterigenics  
18 to reopen, it's probably the only thing that makes  
19 sense because nothing is more absurd than allowing  
20 Sterigenics to operate. Not here. Not anywhere.  
21 Sterigenics has never been a part of this  
22 community. They only poison it, and there's no way  
23 to believe that they will ever look out for our  
24 well-being.

1 (Applause.)

2 MR. STUDER: Thank you. Andrew Kelly is up,  
3 followed by Katherine Howard.

4 Go ahead.

5 MR. KELLY: Hello. My name is Andrew Kelly,  
6 K-e-l-l-y. The key thing that everybody is missing  
7 here is, Mr. Frost, your numbers to say that we're  
8 safe are predicated on a 1 in a million risk  
9 assessment.

10 Please raise your hand here if you do not  
11 know how much ethylene oxide you've breathed in  
12 over the last 35 years and you do not know your  
13 cancer risk.

14 Your numbers are a sham.

15 MR. STUDER: Let the record --

16 MR. KELLY: And if you were here, if you were  
17 my employee, I would fire every single one of you.

18 (Applause.)

19 MR. KELLY: For you to sit up here and tell me  
20 you know what our community's cancer risk is is a  
21 lie. You don't know. None of you know. And for  
22 you to sit here and say that it's a 1 in a million,  
23 none of you are risk censors. You don't know.

24 This permit should not be allowed to move

1 forward until you know the risk assessment and the  
2 cancer risk of every single person here.

3 (Applause.)

4 MR. STUDER: Let the record reflect also that  
5 there was almost unanimous on the number of people  
6 that raised their hand when the question was asked.

7 And Katherine is here. She'll be followed  
8 by Heather Conroy.

9 MS. HOWARD: Katherine Howard, H-o-w-a-r-d.  
10 First name, Katherine, K-a-t-h-e-r-i-n-e.

11 I know my cancer risk. I know it. I was  
12 diagnosed in 2009. I hook up to this thing  
13 17 hours a day because of stomach cancer. So don't  
14 talk to me about 1 in a million risk. I live with  
15 it every damn day.

16 Now I have some questions about the  
17 permit. First of all, one of the comments I  
18 noticed was that it states here for the annual  
19 limit, they'll be using a 12-month period that  
20 begins March 2019. Why would a 12-month period  
21 begin in March 2019 when they're not even open?

22 It seems to me you're allowing them  
23 to use that 85 pounds within a very short time if  
24 you're talking about a 12-month period beginning

1 March 2019.

2 MR. ROMAINE: That is the first 12-month  
3 period. The second month period would start  
4 April 2019 through March 2020, assuming they were  
5 actually operating. But we have to start the time  
6 period, so there will be a series of 12-month  
7 periods. Within each of those 12-month periods,  
8 annual emissions in the 12-month total emissions  
9 cannot exceed 85 pounds.

10 MS. HOWARD: All right. 85 pounds is --  
11 contains a lot of EtO molecules so -- I'm sorry.  
12 The ATSDR said there is no safe limit. So I don't  
13 understand why you're saying that they're allowed  
14 85 pounds. It only takes one molecule to change  
15 your DNA.

16 (Applause.)

17 MS. HOWARD: I would also like to address the  
18 fact that the permit indicates that the permanent  
19 total enclosure is effective as long as all windows  
20 and doors are shut.

21 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Yeah, right.

22 MS. HOWARD: What is that? You open your  
23 window and suddenly -- now is that going to be  
24 reported? Because we know if an alarm goes off,

1 Sterigenics has a history of turning off those  
2 alarms. Are you guys going to have somebody there  
3 walking around, checking the windows? Because the  
4 minute they open a window, you no longer have a  
5 PTE.

6 MR. FROST: Is that a question about --

7 MS. HOWARD: Yeah. It's actually a question.  
8 How are you going to keep the windows shut?

9 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: And the doors?

10 MS. HOWARD: How will you know if they open a  
11 window?

12 MR. MATTISSON: So it's within the permit.  
13 They're required to monitor the pressure  
14 differential --

15 (Audience outburst.)

16 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: They monitor?

17 MS. HOWARD: Tell me what that means. Tell me  
18 what that means. Because monitoring means diddly  
19 squat if they're the ones self-reporting their  
20 monitoring.

21 (Applause.)

22 MS. HOWARD: How do you even trust -- I have  
23 documents that are on letterhead from Sterigenics  
24 stating how much their emissions are, but what they

1 reported on Form R is very different from what they  
2 reported on their annual emissions reports. But  
3 you guys aren't paying attention. The numbers  
4 don't line up. They never have lined up.

5 MR. MATTISSON: So I'm going to answer your  
6 question about the permanent total enclosure and  
7 the pressure differential --

8 MS. HOWARD: Thank you.

9 MR. MATTISSON: -- because that's what you  
10 asked.

11 In the course of method 204, one of the  
12 criteria is that you have to have a face velocity  
13 and air removal in the enclosure of 200 feet per  
14 minute.

15 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Can't hear you.

16 MR. MATTISSON: At 200 feet per minute.

17 Is that better?

18 Back in 1997, USEPA came up with an  
19 alternative to measure that 200 feet per minute,  
20 and that's with a differential pressure, the  
21 pressure inside and outside that enclosure. As  
22 long as that pressure, on average, is greater than  
23 negative .007 inches of water column, that is  
24 equivalent to 1 foot per minute.



1 of Willowbrook, which I'm sure you guys have all  
2 looked at their codes. I would think that you  
3 would take that into consideration.

4 But "or 87 feet aboveground." Where does  
5 the 87 feet aboveground come from? What model is  
6 that in that -- what does that do?

7 MR. ROMAINE: The dispersion modeling that has  
8 been conducted for the facility shows that the  
9 effect of downwash or the effect of buildings on  
10 good dispersion emissions is reduced by having a  
11 stack that is at least 87 feet high.

12 MS. CONROY: So you're dispersing it and  
13 you're just throwing it further away from the  
14 testing area?

15 MR. ROMAINE: No.

16 MS. CONROY: That's kind of what it sounds  
17 like.

18 MR. ROMAINE: We are dispersing it better  
19 everywhere.

20 (Audience outburst.)

21 MS. CONROY: So everybody gets killed. All  
22 right.

23 MR. ROMAINE: Excuse me.

24 MR. STUDER: Chris, you're going to have to

1 wait until the applause -- until the background.

2 Okay. Go ahead.

3 MR. ROMAINE: By eliminating downwash, you  
4 reduce the concentrations that everybody is exposed  
5 to.

6 MS. CONROY: Oh, okay. So everybody gets  
7 exposed, not just a little amount of people?  
8 Everybody gets a little bit of it kind of thing.

9 (Audience outburst.)

10 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Environmental Protection  
11 Agency. Protect us.

12 MS. CONROY: It takes one molecule.

13 (Audience outburst.)

14 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Protect us.

15 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Protect us.

16 MR. STUDER: Okay.

17 MS. CONROY: That's it.

18 MR. STUDER: Background noise. The court  
19 reporter cannot hear over it. I understand your  
20 frustration.

21 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: No, you really don't.

22 (Audience outburst.)

23 MR. STUDER: Ralph will be followed by Sandy.  
24 It looks like Binyamin.

1 MR. SCUMACI: My name is Ralph Scumaci,  
2 R-a-l-p-h, S-c-u-m-a-c-i.

3 I'd like to know how many times have you  
4 revised the acceptable levels of emissions? You  
5 don't really have to answer it. I know it's quite  
6 a few times over the years since the '80s. So we  
7 don't really know if this level that's now  
8 acceptable is really acceptable and going to  
9 protect us.

10 A lot of talk about the -- how Sterigenics  
11 self monitors. Obviously, you've heard -- and I  
12 don't know if you're aware, but they -- they don't  
13 do a good job of self monitoring. They lie. We've  
14 heard about employees of theirs that are told to  
15 wash the residue down the drain. I know from jobs  
16 that I've had that I've managed, quite a few  
17 people. And I would be fired if one of my  
18 employees washed anything down the drain, any type  
19 of chemical. The EPA would lock that building up  
20 with 1,200 employees and probably never reopen. We  
21 accept it from this company.

22 They're not going to -- they're not going  
23 to tell you when they have mistakes. They're not  
24 going to tell you when they have accidents.

1 They're not going to tell the community that  
2 they've had leaks or anything of that type.  
3 They're not good actors. It's just not going to  
4 happen.

5 You also hear about the possibility of  
6 getting breaks cut because of the grandfather  
7 rights. I've lived in the community since 1978  
8 before they've gotten there. So there's quite a  
9 few people here that have more than grandfather  
10 rights, to stay fair. And, plus, I'm a  
11 grandfather, so I'd like to protect my  
12 grandchildren and my family.

13 So that's all I have.

14 (Applause.)

15 MR. STUDER: Thank you.

16 And Kathy is at the podium. She'll be  
17 followed by Carolyn -- it looks like.

18 MS. BINYAMIN: It's Sandy now.

19 MR. STUDER: And Sandy. I'm so sorry. Go  
20 ahead.

21 MS. BINYAMIN: My name is Sandy Binyamin,  
22 B-i-n-y-a-m-i-n. I used to be a wife. I'm now a  
23 widow. And I've lived here most of my life and my  
24 husband didn't.

1                   We have been pounded with whistle blowers  
2                   that Sterigenics lies and cheats. And I want to  
3                   know how you can prevent this from happening again.  
4                   They will change whatever they have to change to  
5                   get away with what they're doing. And I hate for  
6                   any other family to go through what my life has  
7                   been like when I had 13- and 16-year old children  
8                   without a father. That's all.

9                   (Applause.)

10                  MR. STUDER: Thank you.

11                  Carolyn? She's not here? Okay.

12                  Then I've got Guy Franzese followed by  
13                  Tony Schinpp.

14                  MR. FRANZESE: Good evening. My name is Guy  
15                  Franzese, G-u-y, F-r-a-n-z-e-s-e. I'm an elected  
16                  official in the Village of Burr Ridge. I'm a  
17                  trustee. I'm also chairperson of the Village of  
18                  Burr Ridge Environmental Quality Commission. I've  
19                  been a Village of Burr Ridge resident for 40 years.  
20                  And I live 1.7 miles downwind of Sterigenics and  
21                  I've lived there for 30 years as a guinea pig.

22                  Questions on the application. In the  
23                  Sterigenics permit application Exhibit 199-1,  
24                  page 9, it is stated that outdoor ethylene oxide's

1 drum storage will comply with NFPA 55,  
2 Paragraph 14.

3 For those of you who don't -- aren't  
4 familiar with NFPA 55, Chapter 14, it provides  
5 industry standards -- codes of standards in the  
6 storage, handling, and use of ethylene oxide in  
7 sterilization and fumigation applications.  
8 Specifically, one element of NFPA 55, paragraph 14  
9 provides guidance for the outside storage of  
10 ethylene oxide.

11 In my opinion, as a licensed professional  
12 engineer in the State of Illinois, those guidelines  
13 are weak. How will the Illinois EPA ensure  
14 ethylene oxide storage at this facility is  
15 accomplished applying the best and safest practices  
16 possible?

17 Mr. Brad Musch, engineering director of  
18 Sterigenics, is listed as a member of the technical  
19 committee overseeing NFPA 55, Paragraph 14. Did he  
20 author that paragraph?

21 I'd like an answer to that. You can  
22 respond to it later.

23 Again, NFPA 55, Chapter 14, provides codes  
24 and standards for storage handling and use of

1 ethylene oxide in sterilization in the fumigation  
2 operations. In the event of a leaking drum of  
3 ethylene oxide that has been stored outside of the  
4 PTE, explain the methods by which these will be  
5 detected and also the methods -- or methods which  
6 will -- the leak will be contained on-site and not  
7 be emitted to the environment.

8 In the event of a leaking drum of ethylene  
9 oxide that is inside of the PTE, explain the method  
10 or methods by which the leak will be contained  
11 inside the PTE and will not be emitted to the  
12 environment.

13 Is this purpose -- and these are all  
14 additional questions.

15 Does the purpose of this that he proposed  
16 to be modified have the capacity to contain and  
17 treat a catastrophic drum failure that has occurred  
18 and it could occur inside the PTE. If it does have  
19 the capacity, why are -- I'm sorry. If it does not  
20 have the capacity, why aren't the residents  
21 protected? Was a process hazard analysis performed  
22 for this scenario of a catastrophic drum failure?  
23 If so, what are the recommendations of the process  
24 hazard analysis?

1 Thank you.

2 MR. STUDER: Thank you. I was going to ask if  
3 you'd consider doing that.

4 Tony will be followed by Yvonne. It  
5 looks like -- I can't read the last name.

6 MR. SCHIAPPA: Mayer.

7 My name is Tony Schiappa, T-o-n-y,  
8 S-c-h-i-a-p-p-a.

9 Two comments and a question. I am also a  
10 trustee with the Village of Burr Ridge. I  
11 represent the residents of the Village of Burr  
12 Ridge.

13 This application includes outside storage  
14 of EtO drums. There is a unanimous consent from  
15 the Commission to agree that they find -- that they  
16 find any outside storage of EtO unacceptable. It  
17 should be noted in the form of a statement. No  
18 outside storage of EtO.

19 And the amount of EtO that would be  
20 allowed to be emitted per month -- per year was  
21 discussed. The Commission agreed that the permit  
22 should be clear that it is intended that no more  
23 than eight and a half pounds may be permitted per  
24 month and that total per year should not exceed

1 85 pounds.

2 And then my question is more for the  
3 audience. Do we want Sterigenics to open again?

4 (Audience outburst.)

5 (Chorus of noes.)

6 MR. SCHIAPPA: You've got hundreds of people  
7 here that don't want it open. Do your job. Keep  
8 them closed. We're scared and we're mad. We want  
9 them closed. It's not safe for us. It's my  
10 understanding EtO is banned in the European Union.  
11 Why can't we be like them?

12 There are other ways to sterilize this  
13 equipment. We have self-driving cars. Let's  
14 figure it out. Those are my comments. Thank you.

15 (Applause.)

16 MR. STUDER: Thank you. And Yvonne will be  
17 followed by Jennifer Hough.

18 MS. MAYER: Yvonne Mayer, Y-v-o-n-n-e,  
19 M-a-y-e-r. I've lived in Burr Ridge, less than two  
20 miles from Sterigenics, since 2001. Moved to this  
21 community right before 9/11. Never thought I would  
22 see another devastation like 9/11 and this is our  
23 9/11. You're killing us.

24 I want to follow up with a couple of

1 questions that have already been asked which I  
2 don't think you guys answered. That exhibit that  
3 you asked for -- 2220-A, I think it was -- if you  
4 could let us know before tonight is over whether  
5 you have it, whether it's part of the application.  
6 So if you can have one of your minions start  
7 looking or if you look yourself, if you could  
8 please find that.

9 Then Ms. Howard stepped up here, and she  
10 asked a question about that March 2019 date as the  
11 beginning of the 12-month monitoring period, and  
12 you basically said oh, it's just March to next  
13 April. But I think you missed the point. The  
14 point was if you're measuring 85 pounds, and say  
15 Sterigenics reopens next January, they're going to  
16 just pump it out really fast and furious at a rate  
17 much higher than if they had a full 12 months. So  
18 you really shouldn't be giving them more than  
19 12 months from the day they open. That's when the  
20 monitoring period should start.

21 MR. ROMAINE: And for that, beginning the day  
22 the monitoring period would require, if -- assume  
23 they would reopen -- for that month and then the  
24 next 11 months or 12 months total, the emission

1 would have to be no more than 85 pounds.

2 MS. MAYER: But why are you putting -- why did  
3 you put that into the permit then? Say that.  
4 Instead of starting with March 2019. It doesn't  
5 make sense to have March 2019. It gives them  
6 another loophole, and we're trying to close all  
7 available loopholes. They will come back to you.  
8 They will say, "We pumped it out faster than if  
9 you'd spread that 85 pounds over a 12-month window.  
10 And you allowed us to do it because you put the  
11 March 2019 date in there," a date that you should  
12 modify.

13 If you really care and you really want it  
14 to be 85 over 12 months, just make that change. It  
15 doesn't make sense not to.

16 MR. ROMAINE: We will consider the  
17 recommendation, the suggestion. However, the flaw  
18 that you have identified does not exist.

19 MS. MAYER: Then it will be easy for you to  
20 fix it by making it very clear that it doesn't  
21 exist. Thank you.

22 MR. STUDER: Thank you. Jennifer will be  
23 followed by another Jennifer. It looks like  
24 McConahy.

1 MS. HOUCH: Hello. My name is Jennifer Houch.  
2 My last name is spelled H-o-u-c-h. I'm a mother  
3 and I live 1.8 miles from Sterigenics and sent my  
4 two-year-old to preschool within a mile of  
5 Sterigenics.

6 Mr. Frost, many months ago, I had several  
7 conversations with you and you assured me of my  
8 family's safety. Now, Illinois IDPH has confirmed  
9 increased cancer cases in our area. Do you still  
10 stand by your earlier statements?

11 MR. FROST: I don't believe in any  
12 conversation I've had with any resident that I've  
13 ever used the term "safe." That is not -- that's  
14 not a term that we use. We talked about risk.

15 (Audience outburst.)

16 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Liar.

17 MS. HOUCH: Here's my questions. According to  
18 the Matt Haller Act, this facility must use the  
19 best available technology to reduce emissions.  
20 What research has been done to ensure what  
21 Sterigenics is using is indeed the safest that's  
22 out there?

23 MR. ROMAINE: The Agency has conducted a  
24 review and analysis of the technology that's being

1 used and the typical limits in other jurisdictions.  
2 The facility would have an incredible control  
3 trains to control emissions, in particular the  
4 sterilization evacuations, in light of the  
5 scrubber, followed by a scrubber, followed by a dry  
6 bed absorber, followed by a dry bed absorber.

7 So for the principal source of emissions  
8 from the facility, they have a control train with  
9 four devices in series.

10 MS. HOUCH: So you know that that's the safest  
11 that's available in the nation? That's validated?

12 MR. ROMAINE: Based on our research, that is  
13 the case.

14 MS. HOUCH: My next question is where is the  
15 data for the dispersion modeling that you refer to?

16 MR. FROST: I think that that's something that  
17 we'll have to respond to in the Responsiveness  
18 Summary. I don't have it here today.

19 MS. HOUCH: And then who did the dispersion  
20 modeling?

21 (Audience outburst.)

22 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Sterigenics.

23 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Sterigenics.

24 MR. FROST: Sterigenics. And then --

1 (Audience outburst.)

2 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Shame.

3 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Shame.

4 (Audience outburst.)

5 MR. ROMAINE: The initial dispersion modeling  
6 was conducted by Sterigenics.

7 (Audience outburst.)

8 MR. ROMAINE: The Illinois EPA conducted  
9 independent audit modeling to confirm that  
10 dispersion model.

11 (Audience outburst.)

12 MR. STUDER: Jennifer will be followed by Tom.  
13 It looks like Hayden.

14 MS. McCONAHY: Good evening. Jennifer  
15 McConahy, M-c-C-o-n-a-h-y. Resident of Burr Ridge.  
16 I'm here on behalf of Stop Sterigenics as well as  
17 the Burr Ridge Environmental Quality Commission  
18 Committee.

19 You're probably well aware that we've had  
20 a lot interaction with the federal EPA. I'm  
21 wondering what thought has been given to delaying  
22 consideration of the permit in light of the fact  
23 that the rule-making process for national EtO  
24 standards has not yet begun, nor have we received

1 our total risk assessment by the federal EPA.

2 MR. FROST: So as has been mentioned several  
3 times tonight, we statutorily, under the law, have  
4 90 days to review applications.

5 MS. McCONAHY: That didn't really answer my  
6 question, I don't think.

7 MR. FROST: I think you asked for us to delay  
8 our decision on the permit. We have 90 days.  
9 Under the Illinois Environmental Protection Act, we  
10 have 90 days to make a decision on an application.

11 MS. McCONAHY: So my question is, we don't  
12 have our full risk assessment, nor has the  
13 rule-making process started on ethylene oxide.  
14 That's not taken into consideration?

15 MR. FROST: That's outside the scope of the  
16 permit.

17 (Audience outburst.)

18 MS. McCONAHY: My other question has to do  
19 with the sterilization process. It's been brought  
20 to our attention that another chemical, ethylene  
21 chlorohydrate, is another gas that sometimes gets  
22 made during the sterilization process. It's a --  
23 deemed extremely hazardous. Are these emissions  
24 being controlled? Are they being monitored? Or

1 are we all just being exposed to another toxic  
2 chemical?

3 MR. FROST: The pollution control equipment  
4 would work on any VOCs coming out of the facility.

5 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Unless they open the  
6 door.

7 MS. McCONAHY: Okay. Thank you.

8 (Applause.)

9 MR. STUDER: Thank you.

10 This person coming to the mic will be  
11 followed by -- it looks like Joan Anton.

12 MR. LAYDEN: My name is Tom Layden, T-o-m,  
13 L-a-y-d-e-n. I am a member of the Environmental  
14 Quality Committee of Burr Ridge. I'm a retired  
15 physician, a former professor of medicine, and  
16 chair of the Department of Medicine at the  
17 University of Illinois.

18 I find all of this conversation very  
19 difficult.

20 MR. STUDER: Can you speak into the mic a  
21 little bit better so that they can hear you in the  
22 back and so the court reporter can hear you, too.

23 MR. LAYDEN: Can you hear me?

24 MR. STUDER: Yes.

1           MR. LAYDEN: I find this conversation very  
2           difficult and I find it very painful to hear from  
3           the citizens of Burr Ridge who have been affected  
4           by ethylene oxide. The reality is ethylene oxide  
5           is a group one carcinogen. It's in the same  
6           category as tobacco and asbestos. We are only  
7           beginning to learn more about it. We know that  
8           every area where the ethylene oxide is used the  
9           cancer risk is enhanced.

10                    So secondly, I want to say that in support  
11           of the Chicago Medical Society and the Illinois  
12           State Medical Society, which made it very clear  
13           that there are other forms of sterilization that  
14           are available --

15           MR. STUDER: You're beginning to drift.

16           MR. LAYDEN: There are other forms of  
17           sterilization that can be used safely, like  
18           hydrogen peroxide, and accomplish the exact same  
19           thing.

20                    Third, for me, it's ethically challenging  
21           to discuss these and to continue to spew ethylene  
22           outside our schools and homes, maybe at a little  
23           bit lower level. It would be like me saying to a  
24           patient it's okay to smoke one cigarette, but just

1 don't smoke a pack of cigarettes. It's the same  
2 thing. You don't know exactly what the long-term  
3 effects of ethylene oxide would be, even at the  
4 lower levels.

5 So I ask you, with regards to your model,  
6 whether it's going to be a 5-foot stack, an 85-foot  
7 stack, do you really know what the cancer risk will  
8 be, that they'll be reduced by going to 85 pounds?  
9 Do you really know that? I mean, we know it's a  
10 carcinogen.

11 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: They don't care.

12 MR. FROST: So, again, what we use is the  
13 ATSDR's IRIS value, their trade value, which is the  
14 1 per million based on the IRIS value.

15 But I think -- but we are not the risk --  
16 the ATSDR does their risk assessment, and our  
17 permitting -- the permitting is based on the new  
18 law and then the current laws and applicable  
19 regulations. It's not -- it's -- so those don't  
20 address risk, but we're -- what we're -- the risk  
21 analysis is done is for -- you know, us looking at  
22 that, is more from an informational, but we're  
23 using USEPA's IRIS value.

24 MR. LAYDEN: Those are laws. They're not

1 science.

2 MR. FROST: USEPA are scientists, yes.

3 MR. LAYDEN: No. I understand they're  
4 scientists, but do you know the science of lower  
5 levels?

6 MR. FROST: We use -- we use the USEPA's IRIS  
7 value. That's the standard that's out there.

8 MR. LAYDEN: Okay. Thank you.

9 MR. STUDER: Thank you. Just for the  
10 record --

11 (Applause.)

12 MR. STUDER: They used the term IRIS. It's  
13 I-R-I-S.

14 MR. GIACALONE: My name is Joe Giacalone,  
15 G-i-a-c-a-l-o-n-e, Jr.

16 I'm just up here for a quick comment.  
17 Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. I only  
18 have a junior college degree. I'm not well  
19 educated like I'm sure you are. But Illinois  
20 Environmental Protection Agency, isn't that an  
21 agency to protect the environment of the Illinois  
22 citizens? Well, help us.

23 I just turned 65 last year. I'm looking  
24 for my golden years, to enjoy life in retirement.

1 Right now I'm battling not one, but two forms of  
2 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. When I found out about  
3 Sterigenics, I was on this bandwagon before I even  
4 had it. Then I was diagnosed in January with one.  
5 I fought that battle with four weeks of  
6 immunotherapy. I go for my PET scan. They found  
7 another one, a second non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

8 I like my new hairdo, by the way.

9 But, Illinois Environmental Protection  
10 Agency, please do your job and protect our  
11 residents. I'm a Darien lifelong -- now 28-year  
12 resident of Darien. I'm self-employed. I belong  
13 to the Willowbrook Chamber of Commerce, Darien  
14 Chamber of Commerce. I work out of my house. I  
15 have an office. I'm there 24/7.

16 Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.  
17 Please protect us. Do not allow this permit.

18 (Applause.)

19 MR. GIACALONE: And if do you allow this  
20 permit, Mayor Frank Trilla, I make a proposal that  
21 we open up a new Environmental Protection Agency  
22 office right next to Sterigenics.

23 (Applause.)

24 MR. GIACALONE: Give you guys a --

1 (Applause.)

2 MR. GIACALONE: -- (Inaudible.) Office.

3 Thank you.

4 MR. STUDER: Judi Kribbs is the next speaker  
5 to be on deck and she'll be followed by Caroline  
6 Nash. Judi Kribbs? She's coming.

7 MS. KRIBBS MACKOWINK: My name is Judith  
8 Kribbs Mackowink, K-r-i-b-b-s, Mackowink,  
9 M-a-c-k-o-w-i-n-k. I am a resident of Burr Ridge.  
10 And I really have a question.

11 If this stuff was not supposed to happen,  
12 why -- I live on a four-house block. Three women  
13 have cancer. Two died. Am I the next? Are you  
14 going to open up Sterigenics so I can be the next?  
15 I can't breathe. I have part of a lung removed.  
16 What else is it going to take? My other part of my  
17 lungs? You can't open up Sterigenics for any  
18 reason. If you do, you're putting a death notice  
19 on all of us.

20 Thank you.

21 (Applause.)

22 MR. STUDER: Thank you, Ms. Kribbs.

23 Caroline Nash is coming forward. She'll  
24 be followed by Catherine Collins.

1 MS. NASH: My name is Caroline Nash,  
2 C-a-r-o-l-i-n-e, N-a-s-h.

3 I have a few statements and questions.  
4 You don't have to answer my questions now. So I  
5 just want to quote Phil Macnabb, the president of  
6 Sterigenics, that you've been working with.

7 Stated last -- actually this week that  
8 they're not reporting emissions in Georgia because  
9 of problematic lawsuits. So they will do the bare  
10 minimum as evidenced by what's happened to this  
11 community, or worse, and I would like you to take  
12 that into consideration.

13 When I went to the EPA presentation this  
14 spring and they didn't receive the appropriate  
15 modeling data prior to review, it was very  
16 concerning. They talked about a system that would  
17 protect us. And in that model that they showed,  
18 they showed an increased stack height.

19 I'd like to know how you can have a permit  
20 application that has an either/or stack height  
21 by -- I think the Village of Willowbrook is  
22 somewhere about 40 feet. That's half. That's very  
23 concerning. I couldn't do that if I was going to,  
24 you know, put something on my home.

1                   Number three, Sterigenics asked years ago  
2                   to remove the back fence because of an explosion  
3                   risk, and that was stated in documents by Kathleen  
4                   Hoffman. I would like to know the pressure  
5                   differential system that you're proposing. It  
6                   doesn't seem like a big enough pressure difference  
7                   to protect the community, and if you put in a  
8                   more -- a better differential for a higher pressure  
9                   difference -- I'm not a scientist -- then we would  
10                  have a risk of explosion. And go back to what  
11                  Kathleen Hoffman stated. They removed those back  
12                  fence because of the risk of explosion. So  
13                  obviously it was a different pressure differential  
14                  than we're looking at now or it puts it at risk  
15                  either way, by ethylene oxide or by an explosion  
16                  risk.

17                  I'd like to know how you know this system  
18                  will work. I sat in this room last August and I  
19                  was reassured that the controls were going to work,  
20                  evidenced by the ambient air results that we  
21                  received. We were reassured those controls would  
22                  work. I thought we would be breathing clean air by  
23                  now. Your system failed. Their system failed.

24                  This is not okay. I'm asking you not to

1 approve this permit not because I'm emotional and  
2 upset about this, as the rest of the community, but  
3 because it is not safe, it has not been proven  
4 safe. This is a company that cannot be trusted.  
5 My first statement, they're not even reporting  
6 their emissions because of problematic lawsuits.  
7 That is not a company that you should be working  
8 with behind the scenes and not protecting this  
9 community. Thank you.

10 (Applause.)

11 MR. STUDER: Thank you. Catherine Collins is  
12 coming to the mic. She'll be followed by Andrea  
13 Collins.

14 MS. C. COLLINS: Hello. My name is Catherine  
15 Collins. That's C-a-t-h-e-r-i-n-e, C-o-l-l-i-n-s,  
16 and I'm going to be a rising senior at Hinsdale  
17 Central High School, which is just down the road.

18 So I know in your earlier presentation you  
19 said that Sterigenics wasn't going to emit a  
20 certain amount of ethylene oxide, but Sterigenics  
21 is the company that's logging and regulating that  
22 amount. And so I'd like an answer for this. How  
23 will you ensure that Sterigenics, which is a  
24 company that hasn't been truthful in the past, will

1 truthfully log their emissions?

2 (Applause.)

3 MR. MATTISSON: So as part of the permit, we  
4 have a continuous emission monitoring system, which  
5 data logs into a system that we have access to. So  
6 it's not something that they can change or modify.

7 MS. C. COLLINS: But --

8 MR. MATTISSON: That's not where the document  
9 out of a stack emissions --

10 MS. C. COLLINS: But this doesn't only apply  
11 to the emissions as well. What they're talking --  
12 what you were talking about before with the  
13 pressure, Sterigenics is the person -- is the  
14 organization that is reporting that to you,  
15 correct?

16 MR. MATTISSON: Well, the data is collected  
17 through the monitoring system that they install.  
18 And then we have the ability and will be looking at  
19 that as well.

20 MS. C. COLLINS: And they'll be reporting that  
21 date to you, right?

22 MR. MATTISSON: Correct.

23 MS. C. COLLINS: Thank you.

24 MR. STUDER: Thank you.

1 Andrea Collins?

2 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Pass.

3 MR. STUDER: Okay. Alexandra -- is it  
4 Collins?

5 (Audience outburst.)

6 MS. KAESEBERG: I just want to say something.  
7 I would like to take her time that she just  
8 yielded. We sat in a -- it's hard to be shocked at  
9 this point.

10 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Microphone.

11 MS. KAESEBERG: It's hard to be shocked at  
12 this point by anything that you guys say. Which  
13 I'm really struggling with the fact that you let  
14 Sterigenics do that dispersion modeling, and  
15 completely, multiple times, have been absolute  
16 liars about it. When we sat in a meeting --

17 MR. STUDER: Can you state your name again,  
18 just so we have it for the record.

19 MS. KAESEBERG: Sure. Lauren Kaeseberg,  
20 K-a-e-s-e-b-e-r-g.

21 We sat in a meeting with officials from  
22 the Illinois EPA and the attorney general's office  
23 and the governor's office, Willowbrook, Darien --  
24 Stop Sterigenics members were there -- when we were

1 told that this consent order was going to be agreed  
2 to. And this 85-pound limit was brought to our  
3 attention for the first time. And I -- and I'm not  
4 crazy. There are other people in this room who  
5 were there for this conversation and I need you to  
6 have my back on this, that I'm correct. Was  
7 85 pounds, that's like a new number. Is that an  
8 arbitrary number that you came up with? Why  
9 85 pounds?

10 And Illinois EPA officials specifically  
11 said, "We did air modeling. We did dispersion  
12 modeling. And that's the number we used, the  
13 finding out as to the 1 in a million cancer risk."

14 And we said -- I said, "Oh, you did a  
15 dispersion model? I thought you guys didn't do  
16 dispersion modeling. Can we see a copy of what you  
17 guys did?"

18 "Yes."

19 The members of Stop Sterigenics have since  
20 then asked for that dispersion modeling data,  
21 whatever reports there are, and we have not been  
22 given them.

23 For you to sit here tonight and say that  
24 Sterigenics did that dispersion modeling -- I don't

1 care if you audited it. Like, what is wrong with  
2 you? Honestly. Like what amount of truth --  
3 actually, people saying to me -- and I sound like a  
4 moron right now because I'm processing this. But  
5 to be lied to face-to-face is so offensive after  
6 the time that we've all given to this, the money  
7 that these communities have spent.

8 It's outrageous. You guys are a complete  
9 mockery of what government should be. And I am  
10 disgusted. And you're telling us that 85 pounds is  
11 the safe amount that gets to us a 1 in a million  
12 cancer risk -- which none of us accept that that's  
13 okay. But let's just say that that's what's there.

14 So Sterigenics not only has their hand in  
15 the legislation by telling IEPA what to veto and  
16 not allowed to be in the legislation, but now  
17 Sterigenics is actually telling you the safe levels  
18 for our community?

19 Like, get people who actually care to do  
20 your jobs because you guys aren't doing them. And  
21 you don't care enough to sit there and have, like,  
22 the decency, then why do you have these jobs? Go  
23 work for a Starbucks or a gas station. Go do  
24 something that people don't rely on you to protect.

1 (Applause.)

2 MS. KAESEBERG: I need to stop. My time limit  
3 is up. I don't know.

4 (Applause.)

5 MR. FROST: I just want to address that. We  
6 have modelers at the Illinois EPA. It's standard  
7 practice, just as it's standard practice for  
8 companies, when they submit their applications, to  
9 do certain -- to submit certain information to us  
10 and then our staff review and verify that.

11 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Why did you lie about  
12 it?

13 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Why lie about it?

14 (Audience outburst.)

15 MR. ROMAINE: That is a misstatement. I also  
16 want to refer people back to the Matt Haller Act.  
17 The Matt Haller Act specifically states that it's  
18 the duty of the source to perform the dispersion  
19 modeling and it's the duty of the Agency to review  
20 and determine whether that model is acceptable.

21 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: If you're doing it, tell  
22 the truth and not lie directly to us.

23 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Why did you lie about  
24 it?

1 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Why did you lie about it  
2 then?

3 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Who are you actually  
4 protecting?

5 (Audience outburst.)

6 MR. STUDER: Okay.

7 MR. ROMAINE: I'm cannot speak to a meeting at  
8 which I was not present. Were any of us present at  
9 that meeting?

10 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Yes.

11 MR. STUDER: We've progressed from being an  
12 orderly chaos to being more chaotic than order.

13 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: The gentleman on the  
14 left, he was there. He was present.

15 MR. FROST: Let me also clarify something that  
16 was said tonight, which we have not said, but it's  
17 being attributed to us, which is that this is a 1  
18 in a million risk. We said it's close to a 1 in a  
19 million risk. We have not the said it was --

20 (Audience outburst.)

21 MS. BACHAN: I'm sorry. I'm sorry. Close to?  
22 We're talking about our lives.

23 MR. STUDER: We have 31 people to speak yet,  
24 ma'am.

1 MS. BACHAN: Seriously. Though.

2 Does anybody care if I take ten seconds?

3 (Audience outburst.)

4 MS. BACHAN: I have one question. How do you  
5 sleep at night? How? Because I grew up here and  
6 all of my classmates have been exposed. My family  
7 has been exposed. My parents are struggling  
8 through cancer.

9 (Audience outburst.)

10 MS. BACHAN: All neighborhoods. Burr Ridge,  
11 Darien, Hinsdale, Clarendon Hills, Willowbrook. It  
12 goes on and on. Where is the safe zone? 20 miles?  
13 50 miles? 100 miles? Because I tell you what.  
14 There's Lake County. There's Will Cook. There are  
15 places all over here that are throwing ethylene  
16 oxide into our air. Illinois Protection Agency?  
17 How do you sleep at night?

18 (Applause.)

19 MS. BACHAN: Sleep in my bed. Come to my  
20 house. Sleep there and breathe the toxin. How do  
21 you sleep at night? Answer me. How do you sleep  
22 at night?

23 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Safe away from here.

24 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Not here.

1 MS. BACHAN: How far do you live? Where is  
2 the safe zone? I want to know because I have a  
3 four-year-old and a husband and I'm trying to get  
4 pregnant and I can't. So tell me where I can live  
5 that's safe. And answer my question. How do you  
6 sleep at night?

7 My name is Rianna Bachan, B-a-c-h-a-n.  
8 Resident since 1987. My four-year old daughter is  
9 breathing the same poison that I did at her age.  
10 I'm done. All of you are failing us.

11 (Applause.)

12 MR. STUDER: Tom Layden is the next person to  
13 speak, followed by Jason Simon.

14 (Audience outburst.)

15 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: You didn't answer her  
16 question.

17 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Answer her question.

18 MS. BACHAN: I'm sorry. I want an answer.  
19 How do you sleep at night?

20 MR. STUDER: Ma'am, you're outside of the  
21 bounds of the permit. But I sleep well at night,  
22 not necessarily this -- I didn't sleep well last  
23 night, knowing what's the situation here, as if  
24 that makes any difference.

1 (Audience outburst.)

2 MS. BACHAN: What town do you live in?

3 MR. STUDER: I don't live here.

4 (Audience outburst.)

5 MS. BACHAN: What town do you live in?

6 MR. STUDER: I live in Springfield, ma'am.

7 (Audience outburst.)

8 MS. BACHAN: Let's find out where the nearest  
9 facility is closest to Springfield and if you're  
10 downwind because maybe then you don't sleep  
11 365 days of the year, like the rest of us.

12 MR. STUDER: Thank you.

13 Is Tom Layden here?

14 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: He already went.

15 MR. STUDER: He's already gone. He's got two  
16 cards.

17 Jason Simon? Jason Simon is not here.

18 Brittany Cummings? Brittany Cummings?  
19 She's also not here.

20 Yvonne Mayer?

21 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Yvonne Mayer spoke  
22 already.

23 MR. STUDER: Yvonne Mayer?

24 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Spoke already. Pay

1 attention.

2 MR. STUDER: Rhonda Kooy? Rhonda? Not here.

3 It looks like Mariann Sreniawski,  
4 S-r-e-n-i-a-w-s-k-i. No?

5 Steve Leopold?

6 MR. LEOPOLDO: Steve Leopoldo, S-t-e-v-e, last  
7 name, L-e-o-p-o-l-e-d-o.

8 I'd like to know where John Kim is.

9 MR. FROST: Directors don't attend permit  
10 meetings. The permit staff that work on the permit  
11 are the ones that attend permit meetings.

12 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: This is not any permit  
13 meeting.

14 MR. FROST: That's exactly what this is.  
15 That's what was requested that the Agency hold, and  
16 that's what this meeting is. It's a permit to  
17 accept comments on the draft construction permit.

18 MR. LEOPOLDO: I'll submit formal comments,  
19 but I have a question regarding seals. Is there  
20 such a thing as a 50 percent seal within a total  
21 permanent enclosure?

22 MR. MATTISSON: I'm trying to understand your  
23 question.

24 MR. LEOPOLDO: Can you have a 50 percent seal

1 within a total permanent enclosure such as when a  
2 semi backs up into a loading dock?

3 MR. MATTISSON: So in this, are you asking  
4 that the semi backs up to the loading dock?

5 MR. LEOPOLDO: Can that be a permanent seal?  
6 Is there such a thing as a 50 percent seal in a  
7 total permanent enclosure? Is there -- is it a yes  
8 or a no? Can there be a -- is there such a thing  
9 as not a permanent -- a total seal?

10 MR. MATTISSON: I'm having a difficult time  
11 understanding the actual question as you're  
12 phrasing it.

13 MR. LEOPOLDO: Okay. A semi backs up --

14 MR. MATTISSON: Correct.

15 MR. LEOPOLDO: -- to a building.

16 MR. MATTISSON: Correct.

17 MR. LEOPOLDO: Is that a complete seal or is  
18 that a partial seal?

19 MR. MATTISSON: It can be designed to have a  
20 seal and there would be natural draft openings  
21 where there is no seal.

22 MR. LEOPOLDO: So you're telling me a semi can  
23 create a complete seal against a dock?

24 MR. MATTISSON: They can be designed with a

1 seal in place, but there would be gaps that would  
2 be considered to be a natural draft opening which  
3 would be then calculated as part of the permanent  
4 total enclosure calculation.

5 MR. LEOPOLDO: Thank you.

6 MR. STUDER: It looks like Kovas McCann.

7 MR. K. McCANN: My name is Kovas McCann,  
8 K-o-v-a-s, M-c-C-a-n-n.

9 Please look at some solutions that do not  
10 include kids getting cancer.

11 (Applause.)

12 MR. STUDER: Thank you.

13 I have another one for Luke Stifflear  
14 here.

15 MR. STIFFLEAR: Pass. She has a couple more.

16 MR. STUDER: I was going to say that name is  
17 familiar because I think we called it already.

18 Aleksandra McCann.

19 She'll be followed by Ellen Baer.

20 MS. A. McCANN: Hello. My name is Aleksandra  
21 McCann. I am nine years old and I represent  
22 children. I do not want EtO. Please protect me  
23 and other children.

24 (Applause.)

1 MS. A. McCANN: A-l-e-k-s-a-n-d-r-a,  
2 M-c-C-a-n-n.

3 MR. STUDER: Thank you. Ellen will be  
4 followed by it looks like David and the last name  
5 is Zupancic.

6 MS. BAER: My name is Ellen Baer, E-l-l-e-n,  
7 B-a-e-r. I'm here tonight on behalf of the Village  
8 of Western Springs. President Gallagher and the  
9 Village Board of Trustees want to send their strong  
10 support to our neighboring communities, and we  
11 appreciate the statements that have been made  
12 earlier tonight. We will submit our comments with  
13 regard to the permit and its requirements in  
14 writing, and we will yield the rest of our time to  
15 the other residents who are here to speak tonight.

16 (Applause.)

17 MR. STUDER: Thank you.

18 And he will be followed by Ray Cesca.

19 MR. ZUPANCIC: Good evening. I'm David  
20 Zupancic. D-a-v-i-d, last name is Z-u-p-a-n-c-i-c.

21 I'm a retired administrative law judge  
22 from the Illinois Department of Employment  
23 Security. I was a --

24 MR. STUDER: Can you move to the mic just a

1 little bit.

2 MR. ZUPANCIC: I'm a retired lawyer. I'm a  
3 retired administrative law judge with the Illinois  
4 Department of Employment Security and former real  
5 estate broker. My wife and I live in Darien at  
6 1109 Tamarack Drive. There are three houses for  
7 sale that have been for sale for quite a few  
8 months. No action. No sold signs.

9 I turn down side streets. I see other --  
10 three or four other signs. No action. No sold  
11 signs. No one is exactly selling houses in Darien  
12 to move to Willowbrook. That's the gist of what I  
13 want to point out and comment. I believe real  
14 estate values have plummeted because of the actions  
15 of our Willowbrook Sterigenics location.

16 Sterigenics just has no credibility in my  
17 mind. They blame pollution in the air on  
18 Interstate 55. They go for seal verdicts and seal  
19 court orders. They have done nothing to increase  
20 their credibility since 1980. And you've heard the  
21 other speakers. I agree very much with what our  
22 elected officials and our representatives have  
23 said.

24 I feel sorry for the employees, the

1 government employees of Willowbrook. There's a --  
2 their office is a block away from Sterigenics. I  
3 mean, you know, you can say about shortcomings of  
4 various officials.

5 But I thank you, the EPA, the Illinois  
6 EPA, for your services here tonight and the  
7 services of the young ladies working for your  
8 organization. Thank you very much.

9 (Applause.)

10 MR. STUDER: Thank you.

11 And on deck will be it looks Yon Lee.

12 MR. CESCA: I'm Ray Cesca, C-e-s-c-a, from Oak  
13 Brook, Illinois. And I do represent an  
14 organization called the human race.

15 One year ago this past July, the EPA  
16 stated that it was returning to its core mission of  
17 protecting human health and the environment. In a  
18 press release EPA also stated that it's committed  
19 to providing clean air and safe water -- safe air,  
20 water, and land for all Americans.

21 Now I'm asking that you get on with your  
22 mission and not sign a construction permit to allow  
23 Sterigenics from opening again in Oak Brook, if  
24 they even consider using ethylene oxide as a

1 sterilization agent.

2 Now, you heard Mayor Grasso talk about  
3 alternatives, and you said, oh, no. This is the  
4 best one. Well, over the past decade many  
5 hospitals have successfully moved away from the use  
6 of ethylene oxide due to its toxicity, cost, and  
7 inefficiency.

8 Early implementers include Mary Hitchcock  
9 Memorial Hospital in Lebanon, New Hampshire. It  
10 documented its efforts in 2002. This hospital  
11 implemented use of both peracetic acid and hydrogen  
12 peroxide plasma devices and was able to  
13 significantly reduce, if not eliminate, its  
14 reliance on ethylene oxide.

15 In 2008, the Kaiser Health System, the  
16 country's largest nonprofit health plan and  
17 delivery system, documented its effort to reduce  
18 their ethylene oxide burden.

19 By 2014, St. Joseph Hospital and Medical  
20 Center in Phoenix demonstrated even further success  
21 in reducing of ethylene oxide's sterilization  
22 usage. St. Joseph was able to eliminate  
23 100 percent of its use on ethylene oxide by  
24 substituting it with a hydrogen peroxide

1 sterilization system. After implementation, they  
2 were able to increase the output of sterile devices  
3 by 250 percent.

4 In many Chicago-area hospital systems  
5 there have been or has been a large shift away from  
6 ethylene oxide consistent with the above-mentioned  
7 efforts. Advocate Good Samaritan, right here in  
8 Downers Grove, and the entire Advocate system,  
9 shifted away from ethylene oxide approximately a  
10 decade ago.

11 Saint Anthony Hospital in downtown Chicago  
12 eliminated use of it in 2014. And Swedish Covenant  
13 Hospital terminated its use in 2015. Additionally,  
14 the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease is  
15 working now with the Villages of Willowbrook, along  
16 with the DuPage County Health Department, the  
17 Illinois Department of Public Health, and the  
18 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, including  
19 yourself, to determine whether ethylene oxide  
20 released into the air from the Sterigenics  
21 International facility may further cause health  
22 problems in people who live in the Willowbrook  
23 community.

24 So we need to let them play out their

1 ongoing research before allowing any license to be  
2 awarded. My gosh. How can we turn a blind eye on  
3 research?

4 So in summary, the job is not done yet.  
5 The EPA's stated mission is to provide clean and  
6 safe air for all Americans, not modified air or a  
7 little toxic air, but clean air.

8 (Applause.)

9 MR. STUDER: Thank you.

10 MR. CESCA: There is also much needed research  
11 to be done by the Agency for Toxic Substance and  
12 Disease. And finally, a detailed review of all of  
13 the proven safe alternative systems that are  
14 available.

15 So based on that, please do not approve a  
16 construction permit until all of the work is done.

17 (Applause.)

18 MR. FROST: I just want to mention because  
19 several people -- first, there are improvements  
20 always ongoing where there are new sterilization  
21 processes that come along, and FDA, you know, is  
22 looking into that and that's all very good.

23 And as has been mentioned several  
24 times, for certain things there are alternatives.

1           There's -- the company would not be able to provide  
2           a certification if there is an alternative.

3                           (Audience outburst.)

4           MR. STUDER:   Is Yon Lee here?

5                           (Audience outburst.)

6           UNIDENTIFIED PERSON:   What did you just say?

7           MR. FROST:   Under the new law the facility is  
8           required to provide a certification for if it wants  
9           to -- a certification that ethylene oxide is --

10                          Evan, can you put the language up?

11           UNIDENTIFIED PERSON:   Have they done that?

12           MR. FROST:   No.   They haven't --

13                           (Audience outburst.)

14           UNIDENTIFIED PERSON:   There are alternatives.

15           MR. FROST:   Yes.   That's my point.   If there  
16           are alternatives, they would not be able to provide  
17           a certification, as required by the law.

18           UNIDENTIFIED PERSON:   Have they provided a  
19           certification?

20           MR. FROST:   They do it -- they do it on the  
21           products.

22           UNIDENTIFIED PERSON:   Have they done that?

23           UNIDENTIFIED PERSON:   No.

24           MR. FROST:   They haven't -- they haven't --

1           they're not --

2                   UNIDENTIFIED PERSON:  They, they, they, they.

3           MR. FROST:  They're not sterilizing anything  
4           right now.  They provide the certification before  
5           they can sterilize.  That certification is not a  
6           part of the permit.

7                   UNIDENTIFIED PERSON:  Well, make it.  Make it  
8           part of the permit.

9                   UNIDENTIFIED PERSON:  It's an exception.

10                  UNIDENTIFIED PERSON:  It's part of the law.

11                                   (Audience outburst.)

12           MR. FROST:  It is part of the law, and they  
13           have to comply with it.  That's my point.  They  
14           have to comply with it.  It's not part of the  
15           permit.  It's part of the law, and they will have  
16           to comply with it.

17                  UNIDENTIFIED PERSON:  So the law is amended to  
18           include --

19           MR. STUDER:  Okay.  We're speaking from out  
20           here and it's not going to be on the record because  
21           the court reporter doesn't have it.  The responses  
22           will be.  But you're going to get a response  
23           without the question, is how that works.  So that's  
24           not a good way to do this.

1 MS. HOWARD: Can I ask a real quick question?

2 MR. STUDER: However, I do want to state that  
3 that's a lot of people that have comments and  
4 questions. And I mean, we've still got 19 people  
5 to go in 20 minutes. We're not going to get  
6 through everybody tonight. I do remind you that we  
7 do have a comment period open, and you can also ask  
8 questions in that comment period. I encourage  
9 everyone that has questions tonight to do that.

10 We do have to respond to those in writing,  
11 and that will also include some -- or it will  
12 include everything that was also done during this  
13 hearing.

14 MS. HOWARD: Is there any chance we'll get  
15 some of these answers before the --

16 MR. STUDER: Okay.

17 MS. HOWARD: -- period is done so we can  
18 respond to those answers? That's just a simple  
19 question.

20 MR. STUDER: The question, as I heard it was  
21 this, can you get something before the comment  
22 period ends? And I don't know what you're -- what  
23 you're asking when you say something. I mean --

24 MS. HOWARD: Some of the questions tonight.

1 (Audience outburst.)

2 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Can we get a --

3 (Audience outburst.)

4 MR. STUDER: Wait a minute. Wait a minute.  
5 We're getting out of hand again. Because it's  
6 going to be tough --

7 MS. HOWARD: The questions asked tonight.

8 MR. RAO: Can we get an ETA on the answers for  
9 the questions asked tonight?

10 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Before the permit.

11 MR. FROST: All questions and comments we will  
12 respond to in the response to comments. I mean, to  
13 the extent --

14 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: When?

15 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: When?

16 MR. FROST: That's issued concurrent with our  
17 decision.

18 (Audience outburst.)

19 MR. STUDER: So the issue needs to be, if you  
20 start shooting at a moving target, is part of the  
21 problem. The other thing is that it also causes  
22 some other issues as far as comments on comments  
23 and several other issues.

24 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Inconvenient lawsuits.

1 MR. STUDER: Slavka -- I'm horrible at --

2 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Slavka?

3 MR. STUDER: She's not here?

4 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: She's right here.

5 Slavka Jancikova.

6 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: She's here.

7 MR. STUDER: She is here?

8 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: That's you, Slavka.

9 That's you.

10 MR. STUDER: If she's here, she can come to  
11 the microphone.

12 MS. JANCIKOVA: I will pass my time to someone  
13 else.

14 MR. FROST: We have a whole stack of people  
15 here who have not --

16 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Just go.

17 MR. FROST: Someone else can go.

18 (Audience outburst.)

19 MR. STUDER: I just didn't hear you.

20 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Katherine, go.

21 MR. STUDER: Bob Wahab?

22 MS. CAMARENA: I would like to take Slavka's  
23 time if possible.

24 MR. STUDER: We can't do that. We've got a

1 bunch of other people that are ahead of her.

2 (Audience outburst.)

3 MS. JANCIKOVA: You said we could do that at  
4 the beginning.

5 MR. STUDER: Right. But the issue is --

6 (Audience outburst.)

7 (Unreportable crosstalk.)

8 MS. JACIKOVA: Take my time.

9 MS. CAMARENA: You can count me as Slavka.

10 MR. STUDER: You can come in at the end if we  
11 have time.

12 MS. JACIKOVA: Stop wasting the time. Just  
13 go.

14 MS. CAMARENA: I can have her read my  
15 questions.

16 MR. STUDER: Okay. Two minutes.

17 MS. CAMARENA: I didn't plan on speaking  
18 tonight, but since we're talking about  
19 alternatives --

20 MR. STUDER: Spell it for the court reporter.

21 MS. CAMARENA: Excuse me. Katharine Camarena,  
22 K-a-t-h-a-r-i-n-e, Camarena, C-a-m-a-r-e-n-a.

23 I had e-mailed several times and never got  
24 a response back from Illinois EPA regarding the

1 criteria that was certified, a product to be  
2 appropriate for ethylene oxide. I had some  
3 concerns about that.

4 So I'll read my questions that I had  
5 e-mailed and I didn't get a response to, and  
6 perhaps I can get a response in this avenue here.

7 I would like know -- and you can answer  
8 these in writing, as well -- who will be drafting  
9 the criteria to certify that a product is only  
10 ethylene oxide appropriate?

11 My second question is, what criteria must  
12 be met to certify a product as ethylene oxide only?

13 My third question is, will these criteria  
14 be modified as new sterilization methods are  
15 approved for use in -- such as the efforts of the  
16 FDA Innovation Challenge.

17 My fourth question is -- I had a lot of  
18 e-mails that you guys didn't write me back. Even  
19 though a supplier device has been FDA-approved with  
20 ethylene oxide sterilization, but would be  
21 appropriate for alternatives, will implementing the  
22 safer alternatives be a requirement?

23 A sub-question to that is, will  
24 manufacturers and suppliers be required to submit a

1 PMA supplement for sterilization method change if  
2 an alternative is found to be an appropriate  
3 substitute?

4 I have two more questions, and then I'm  
5 done. For permeability issues, supply kits and  
6 packs, for example, will changing their outer  
7 packaging be taken into consideration?

8 And my last question is, who is  
9 participating in the process of drafting these  
10 certifications? Thank you.

11 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Twenty seconds to go.

12 MR. STUDER: Thank you. You did that very  
13 well.

14 MR. FROST: Do you want me to respond to those  
15 now or do you want them in writing? Because you've  
16 got --

17 MS. CAMARENA: It's up to you, whatever your  
18 time will allow for.

19 MR. FROST: I'll try to provide a real short  
20 answer, and then we'll expand on that.

21 In general, what you're describing is the  
22 language of the law is that the supplier has to  
23 provide the certification. If you grab my  
24 preparation from the table over there, it has the

1 language of the law. The supplier has to provide  
2 the certification.

3 And then you also had talked about  
4 alternatives. Well, if there's an alternative --  
5 that's what I was talking about just now. If  
6 there's an alternative, they will not be able to  
7 provide the certification. So if there's something  
8 new that comes on the market, they won't be able to  
9 provide the certification if it treats a certain  
10 device.

11 MR. STUDER: Okay. Michael Ploskonka?

12 Amir Vafa?

13 MR. VAFA: How's it going? Last name is Vafa,  
14 V-a-f-a. First name, Amir. First, regarding the  
15 certification, I was under the assumption that  
16 that's only if they're under a seal order and if  
17 they negotiate -- the way a seal order is that they  
18 don't need certification anymore.

19 MR. FROST: So they're currently under a seal  
20 order. And, you know, I'm not here tonight -- I'm  
21 here tonight to talk about the permit. I can't  
22 really talk about the consent order.

23 MR. VAFA: Okay. The other thing is there's  
24 dispersion modeling that needs to be done. Can the

1 EPA say, you know, this is too harmful a dispersion  
2 model and we're not going to give you the permit?  
3 Is that a possibility or no? Like let's say the  
4 dispersion model pumped out of 20,000 pounds into  
5 the air or something. It was something that was  
6 not acceptable. Could the EPA then deny the permit  
7 and say you can't operate?

8 MR. ROMAINE: The answer is yes. We can issue  
9 a seal order. We cannot issue a permit if there  
10 are unhealthful impact of EtO levels in the  
11 facility.

12 MR. VAFA: Okay. So the current dispersion  
13 model was with an 87-foot stack, correct? That was  
14 the best way of dispersing everything. Since they  
15 don't have a permit for that, can't the logic be  
16 you don't have a permit for an 87-foot stack. Your  
17 dispersion model is really not that good, so permit  
18 denied?

19 (Applause.)

20 MR. FROST: What Chris was just describing are  
21 things outside of the permitting transaction.

22 MR. VAFA: So you can potentially do the  
23 permit and then tell them yeah, your dispersion  
24 model isn't good. You don't have this permit?

1                   You know, it's just, to me -- so let me  
2                   just put it a different way. If I wanted to open  
3                   up a factory in my garage and I needed an 87-foot  
4                   stack, I would think that if I didn't have the  
5                   permit for that, the EPA would say, yeah, you can't  
6                   really do that. Because you're not really  
7                   dispersing the stuff well.

8                   So just I was just wondering if that train  
9                   of logic would work and you would deny it.

10                  MR. ROMAINE: That train of logic would only  
11                  work if Sterigenics was not prepared to submit  
12                  dispersion modeling at the height of stack that  
13                  they can get approved by the Village of  
14                  Willowbrook. Or if they did conduct such modeling  
15                  and the height of the stack provided by the village  
16                  of Willowbrook, it would still be (inaudible).

17                  MR. VAFA: Okay. And then the last thing, and  
18                  this is something you can submit writing is, how do  
19                  you measure the 85 pounds? Since there some  
20                  uncertainty about this continual monitoring and  
21                  whether it's actually going to work, do you just  
22                  take how much is coming out of the stack and  
23                  2 parts per million, or whatever it is, multiply it  
24                  by year, and say it's 85 pounds or 100 pounds? Or

1 I mean, it just seems like it's difficult if you  
2 don't have been the exact science of what's going  
3 out.

4 MR. MATTISSON: So the monitoring system will  
5 not only have the system to measure on-site as a  
6 concentration, but it also will have a flow  
7 monitor. So once you have flow, you know the area  
8 of the stack and you have a volume. Once you have  
9 a volume, you will know how many per minute is  
10 pumping.

11 MR. VAFA: So there can be --

12 MR. MATTISSON: So mathematically you will be  
13 able to know exactly what's coming out of that  
14 stack based upon that monitoring system.

15 MR. VAFA: And then one last thing. I'm  
16 really sorry I'm going over. Is that for -- it  
17 said that they needed a dispersion model, but  
18 there's really no model of -- I mean there's no  
19 real law or anything that says what's acceptable  
20 and what's not. It just says 2 parts per million  
21 or 99.9 percent reduction or something like that.

22 Where is the criteria of, like, what would  
23 be acceptable and what wouldn't in case the 40-foot  
24 stack or whatever they have now is not good enough?

1 MR. MATTISSON: So USEPA, you know, looks at  
2 the risk level scenario. They look at rule,  
3 regulation. They look at 1 in 10,000 risk.  
4 Through our permit transaction and the limits  
5 imposed of the stack on an annual basis, we were  
6 far, far below that.

7 MR. VAFA: Thank you.

8 MR. STUDER: Okay. Thank you. Robert Thomas  
9 and he'll be followed by Mary Bradley. Is Robert  
10 here?

11 Robert, not here.

12 Mary Bradley?

13 Mary Bradley is not here. There's another  
14 one from Robert Thomas.

15 Rebecca Palisoc. And she'll be followed  
16 by Amber McFarlin, it looks likes.

17 MS. PALISOC: Hi. My name is R-e-b-e-c-c-a,  
18 P-a-l-i-s-o-c. I'm a 31-year resident --

19 MR. STUDER: Could you speak into the mic a  
20 little bit?

21 MS. PALISOC: I am a 31-year resident of  
22 Darien, and in those 31 years, I have unfortunately  
23 had to witness my mother be diagnosed be breast  
24 cancer twice. And she did the BRCA test and she

1 doesn't have any of the traits for it, which leads  
2 to us believe that it is environmental.

3 My question is going back to something  
4 that you had said earlier about the word "safe."  
5 Unfortunately, I had to walk out of the room  
6 because I'm here with my newborn son. I was  
7 wondering if you could repeat what you said about  
8 the word "safe."

9 MR. FROST: So what I said is as an Agency  
10 both at the state level and I can speak for the  
11 USEPA, we don't use that terminology. We talk  
12 about risk. So people have said the word "safe."  
13 That's not a terminology that we use as a  
14 regulatory agency. We use the term -- we use "risk  
15 assessment."

16 MS. PALISOC: I think given their storied  
17 history of toxic spills in Lisle and outrageous  
18 numbers being spilled in Willowbrook and into  
19 Darien, I think it's absurd -- the height of  
20 absurdity that we're even here discussing a permit  
21 for them to reopen while not being able to use the  
22 word "safe."

23 (Applause.)

24 MR. FROST: Can I just mention something? So

1           it's not that there aren't levels, as Kevin had  
2           mentioned, there's USEPA's 1 in 10,000. And at  
3           this, we're getting them down close to 1 in  
4           million. So those are terms -- those are  
5           assessments that we looked at to determine -- to  
6           kind of try to look at that. But it's just not  
7           that terminology we use.

8           MS. PALISOC: I think that until it is, I  
9           don't think that there needs to be any discussion  
10          about a permit for them to reopen. That's my  
11          comment. Thank you.

12          MR. STUDER: Thank you.

13          Amber McFarlin, is she here?

14          UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Yes.

15          MR. STUDER: And she'll be followed by -- it  
16          looks like I'm going to try and say it's Ann Swank  
17          or Swunk.

18          UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Stuart.

19          MR. STUDER: Okay. Anabel McFarlin,  
20          A-n-a-b-e-l, M-c-f-a-r-l-i-n.

21                 So I have a question as I sit here and I  
22                 listen to everyone, of course I have new questions.  
23                 One question before I proceed to my questions is  
24                 where is CMS located? On the stack?

1                   And please make it quick. Thank you.

2                   MR. MATTISSON: So the continuous emission  
3 monitoring will be located on the stack prior to it  
4 exiting.

5                   MS. MCFARLIN: So my question then is, your  
6 modeling is based on what comes out of the stack,  
7 but every time something pulls up, something gets  
8 unloaded and reloaded, there is dispersion. There  
9 is a chemical. How do you monitor that?

10                  MR. MATTISSON: That's contained within the  
11 permanent total enclosure and all the initiatives  
12 are contained within the building --

13                  MS. MCFARLIN: Pardon me. Right.

14                         So the question that Mr. Leopoldo asked  
15 you earlier is that a whole seal is not possible.  
16 So clearly, that's not possible. Can we agree on  
17 that?

18                  MR. MATTISSON: So there's a natural draft  
19 opening.

20                  MS. MCFARLIN: Right.

21                  MR. MATTISSON: So within the method 204  
22 you're allowed to have an opening that -- provided  
23 that it meets the criteria.

24                  MS. MCFARLIN: I understand, but that releases

1 EtO into the atmosphere and no one is monitoring  
2 it.

3 MR. MATTISSON: No. It's under negative  
4 pressure so it's not entering the atmosphere.

5 (Audience outburst.)

6 MS. MCFARLIN: So I don't want to keep going  
7 on this. I have a couple of other question. But  
8 as we agreed EtO gives off gas, and that happens  
9 for days. So when it moves, EtO moves with it.  
10 And that's something you can't control and no one  
11 with is measuring. And that's an issue. It's just  
12 an issue. You're asking -- you're asking to  
13 approve a permit for a company that cannot control  
14 its emissions. That's the point. So the  
15 permitting in and of itself is moot. There's no  
16 point to your permit.

17 But moving on. You also stated in the  
18 permit that they're allowed to run 24/7, or at  
19 least in the drafts I've read. My question is,  
20 because I am in research. Marketing research, but  
21 still research. And when I do research, and I do  
22 polling and I think about what something means, and  
23 I do reference it, it matters, the source  
24 information that I'm recessing matters.

1                   So my question to you is this. There are  
2 no chronic studies. There's only acute exposure.  
3 It's eight hours, I believe. So how do you model  
4 without data? How? Somebody please explain this.

5                   Because I have not seen a study that talks  
6 about chronic exposure in humans and you're asking  
7 to run it chronically, 24/7.

8                   MR. FROST: So the permit contains limits.

9                   MS. MCFARLIN: Right.

10                  MR. FROST: And then you do your dispersion  
11 model based on those limits in the permit.

12                  MS. MCFARLIN: Right. And your concern is  
13 with risk, human risk. How are you assessing that?  
14 Are you even qualified to do that?

15                  MR. FROST: Well, I didn't do that assessment.  
16 We have modelers at the Agency whose job is to do  
17 modeling.

18                  MS. MCFARLIN: I understand, but, again, not  
19 to belabor this point. You're talking about human  
20 risk. Right? You're talking about human risk. So  
21 when I've done research, I look at base data and I  
22 make decisions based on base data.

23                  My question to you is, you don't have any.  
24 So how are you modeling 24/7 emissions in a

1 community where there is no study -- and if you  
2 have a study that says it knows the outcome of  
3 chronic exposure, I'd like you to cite it.

4 MR. ROMAINE: I think you're asking -- we're  
5 having a failure to communicate your question. I  
6 don't think it's going to benefit us if we try to  
7 elicit it other than to simply say we rely on the  
8 information from USEPA on concentrations that have  
9 a chronic risk. Using that information of  
10 concentration and chronic risk and what level the  
11 risk is, we can then use dispersion modeling to see  
12 what the concentration is as a result of the  
13 Sterigenics facility that was in operation and  
14 controls.

15 MS. MCFARLIN: And so not to prolong this line  
16 of questioning, but where are you getting the data  
17 for the chronic risk?

18 MR. ROMAINE: As we've explain in the slide,  
19 we're getting it from the USEPA and their risk  
20 intervention system.

21 MS. MCFARLIN: I understand. But where is it  
22 being measured?

23 So I understand what you're saying to me  
24 and I understand what we're talking about. And I

1 understand that you're a scientist. But as a rule  
2 there are other scientists who believe humans  
3 should not be exposed. EPA for a number of years  
4 called it a probable carcinogen.

5 In 2006, a EtO panel said that it was a  
6 known carcinogen, but they didn't move on that.  
7 They waited until 2016 to do something and to say  
8 that it's a known carcinogen. Then they went and  
9 developed new numbers, and now you're telling me  
10 that I have to -- I live and work here. So I'm  
11 here 24/7, too, and you're telling me that somehow  
12 the model was wrong. The base, the thresholds were  
13 wrong. Now you have new thresholds. You're  
14 confident in them. But yet, I'm not sure what  
15 makes you so sure.

16 MR. ROMAINE: I think you're confusing the  
17 dispersion modeling with the risk value.

18 MS. MCFARLIN: I know I'm out of time. I know  
19 I'm out of time. But I want to make sure that  
20 we're clear. Dispersion modeling talks about how  
21 much is dispersed, how much of the product is  
22 dispersed.

23 And what you're -- what we're trying to do  
24 is approve a permit, right? Your role is to ensure

1           that it's the least amount of risk to human health  
2           and the environment. And I'm merely suggesting  
3           that your dispersion model is flawed because you  
4           have no way of knowing the answer.

5                        That's my point. And I apologize for  
6           taking so much time. Thank you.

7                                (Applause.)

8                        MR. STUDER: I'll try to say the last name.  
9           Swank. Okay. She's not.

10                           It looks like M. Headington. She'll be  
11           followed by Vince Headington.

12                           I do want to point out also that we are at  
13           9:00. So we are going to have to move along.  
14           We've got about eight people and I really would  
15           like to give everybody an opportunity to speak.  
16           But we do have a set time to be out of the  
17           building. So go ahead.

18                           MS. HEADINGTON: To get to faster. Because  
19           I'm a former director on the Board of the Illinois  
20           Environmental Council where I served for six years.  
21           And I know something about toxics, and I had  
22           planned on going through something I had prepared  
23           for most of today.

24                           And I am willing to give that up if you'll

1 allow somebody who knows more than I do on this a  
2 question. Because I need her help. And that's  
3 Katherine Howard. She has one question, and you  
4 don't have to put up with me. I want her question  
5 answered because she is a hero here. If you watch  
6 CBS News, Dave Savini, she is a hero. She is  
7 quoted over and over. I think we owe her that  
8 respect, and I want Katherine to be able to ask her  
9 question.

10 MR. STUDER: If it's one question, I'll allow  
11 it.

12 If you can state your name and spell your  
13 last name for the record. Thank you.

14 And if you have something that you wanted  
15 to read and you want to turn it in, we'd also  
16 accept that so that it's in the record. Or you can  
17 submit it in writing during the comment period.

18 MS. HEADINGTON: You would have enjoyed it.  
19 But you'll get it either way with her questions.  
20 Thank you very much.

21 MS. HOWARD: Katherine Howard,  
22 K-a-t-h-e-r-i-n-e, Howard, H-o-w-a-r-d.

23 My question goes back to  
24 the permit. And in most of the items where you're

1 monitoring, you're looking at averages. Now, we  
2 all know that averages, you're going to get some  
3 low numbers. And you're going to get some really  
4 high numbers. And then you're going to take an  
5 eight-hour average or a three-hour average.

6 My question is, when those high numbers  
7 are there, how much is going out? If you're  
8 relying on averages, then that means there are  
9 times when those numbers going out could be  
10 extremely high, followed by times when they're very  
11 low. Your water levels, your liquid levels when  
12 dispersed high, low. When they're low, EtO is  
13 escaping.

14 So I'm not sure I understand where you're  
15 saying with continuous monitoring and everything  
16 else, because that's based on averaging. And we  
17 can look at those numbers and we can see that  
18 they're not consistent. They range.

19 So that's my question. Is asking you  
20 guys, do you have something better than averages?

21 MR. MATTISSON: Bless you.

22 We average because that's going to give us  
23 better data.

24 MS. HOWARD: No, it's not. It's going to give



1 care section council of the Illinois State Bar  
2 Association. And I don't pretend to be a  
3 scientist, but I do know in listening to what's  
4 going on here today that we have recent legislation  
5 in June of this year. So what we're getting is  
6 less poison, but poison nonetheless.

7 And it's like telling the people of Flint,  
8 Michigan, well, we're giving you water, but there's  
9 just a little bit of lead in the water and that's  
10 what we're here today hearing.

11 The plan for an enormous stack is not  
12 innovative. It is old school. It's otherwise  
13 known as "not in my backyard." And so while there  
14 may be less emissions that affect Willowbrook and  
15 Burr Ridge, where I live, there's somebody else  
16 this is going to have this poison in their air.

17 And there's plenty of blame to go around  
18 on this. The Illinois EPA has known for years  
19 about cancer risks in Willowbrook, first from a  
20 probable carcinogen, now to a definite carcinogen.  
21 We have the testimony of in this -- this afternoon  
22 of more than one physician about the dangers of  
23 this. We have the Illinois State Medical Society  
24 that has come out and said that EtO is dangerous.

1 And this makes a lot of sense because for a  
2 physician, the rule is first do no harm. What we  
3 have here is a permit to do harm. Thank you.

4 (Applause.)

5 MR. STUDER: Thank you. Sue will be followed  
6 by Denise. It looks like Hoepner.

7 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Can you go through the  
8 other people? I want to make sure everybody has  
9 time.

10 MR. STUDER: Okay.

11 Is Denise Hoepner here? She'll be  
12 followed by Charlotte Krueger.

13 MS. HOEPNER: I don't like speaking in front  
14 of a microphone. My name is Denise Hoepner,  
15 H-o-e-p-n-e-r. D-e-n-i-s-e is the first name.

16 First, I want to thank you all at the  
17 forefront of this fight. I'm so thankful that --

18 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: We can't hear you.

19 MS. HOEPNER: I am so thankful that you are  
20 here, fighting for this community, and I'm really  
21 appreciative of that, number one.

22 And I thank you for being here answering  
23 our questions, as well. I hope that you really  
24 listen to our hearts and to our concerns because we

1 have a lot of them. And we have a lot of evidence  
2 showing the devastating effects of what EtO has  
3 done to our families. Me personally I have a brain  
4 tumor as well. It was the size of a baseball,  
5 about this big (indicating) in my head. I had  
6 seizures. I have gone through -- I still have  
7 devastating effects from it. I can't -- there's a  
8 lot of things that I still can't do.

9 And I fear that when this is allowed again  
10 that I'll get another one. I don't want to do that  
11 again. It was awful. I'm still dealing with that  
12 from 2010. So I just -- I don't understand some  
13 things and part of that is from the surgery that  
14 I've had. But I'm trying to understand. Is there  
15 only one time of year that you guys are going to be  
16 monitoring what they've done? You're only going to  
17 check in on them once a year?

18 MR. FROST: So they have a -- the permit  
19 requires continuous emission monitoring. So as  
20 Kevin said, there's a log on it. Then the law  
21 requires us to inspect them once a year, yes. So  
22 an inspection by our staff once a year where we go  
23 through the facility and we check.

24 Now, there's also recordkeeping and

1 reporting and requirements that are more frequent.

2 MS. HOEPNER: If their history has been lying,  
3 though, how can you trust that? How could you  
4 trust that? This you're giving them this permit,  
5 you're making yourself liable for allowing them  
6 this when we know that they're not honest people.

7 So I'm just curious to know how you're  
8 going to really monitor that.

9 MR. FROST: An inspector, when they go through  
10 the logs, you know, and the reports that they  
11 submit, you can -- you can tell.

12 (Audience outburst.)

13 MR. MATTISSON: So when our inspectors go out,  
14 they go through the conditions of the permit to  
15 make sure that they're complying with those  
16 conditions of the permit. So they'll make sure  
17 that the records are being kept and they'll  
18 evaluate those records and compare those to the  
19 information that they're required to have. That is  
20 mandatory once a year, right. But as Brad said and  
21 I said earlier, it continues with emissions  
22 monitoring that is continuously monitoring  
23 emissions off that stack.

24 (Audience outburst.)

1 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Off the stack. Not the  
2 open garage door.

3 MS. HOEPNER: Is there something that -- I'm  
4 just curious to know --

5 MR. STUDER: Could you speak into --

6 MS. HOEPNER: -- because it does make me  
7 question. Like I don't trust Sterigenics, but I'm  
8 having a hard time even trusting people that are  
9 monitoring them because it doesn't seem like you're  
10 on -- I feel like I'm not -- I don't have anybody  
11 to depend on except for the community that's  
12 fighting for all of us.

13 (Applause.)

14 MS. HOEPNER: And I want to know what are you  
15 going to do to our trust? Because right now, we  
16 don't really have that. And I think a good step in  
17 that direction would be to decline this permit. It  
18 would be at least a step to say, "We listened to  
19 you."

20 Because I mean, we're scared. We have --  
21 I know a lot of people who have had cancer. I know  
22 a lot of people that have had tumors. I've had it.  
23 I experienced it. I still suffer from it. I don't  
24 want to do that again. I'm terrified to do that

1           again. It terrifies me.

2                       And I want you to really think about this.  
3           Please picture yourself in this community. Think  
4           of your families in this community. Would you  
5           approve it if you were living here? Would you  
6           approve it if your family were living here?

7                       Please just think that through very  
8           carefully because we're concerned. Thank you.

9                               (Applause.)

10                       MR. STUDER: Thank you.

11                       And Charlotte is coming. She'll be  
12           followed by Cathleen O'Hare.

13                       MS. KRUEGER: Thank you for working overtime.  
14           My name is Charlotte Krueger, K-r-u-e-g-e-r.

15                       I built my home in '79. In '08, I was  
16           diagnosed with breast cancer. In '15, I came back  
17           with stage IV cancer: Rectal, liver, and kidney.  
18           I've been on chemotherapy for seven hours every  
19           other Monday for the rest of my life. I think it's  
20           because of where I live.

21                       I've been a real estate for 36 years and I  
22           have seen that our values of our houses are going  
23           to go down because questions are asked for  
24           Hinsdale, Darien, Willowbrook, Burr Ridge. This is

1           also part of the problem of Sterigenics. Is the  
2           value of what we're losing on what we live in.

3                       I have been vice president of my  
4           association where I live in Timberlake since 1990.  
5           There are lots of us in Timberlake. We have about  
6           1500 people. There's a lot of us that have cancer  
7           because of where we live.

8                       Our you guys voting tonight if you're  
9           going to give them a permit? Can we go home and  
10          say, "Hurray, we won. We're not going to have this  
11          problem any longer"?

12                      Are you going to vote tonight?

13                      MR. FROST: So, first of all, there is not a  
14          decision made tonight. We have a comment period  
15          that remains open until August 15. Then we will  
16          review those comments and we will make a final  
17          decision. We have 90 days from the date of the  
18          application to make a final decision, but our  
19          decision is not a vote. Our decision is based on  
20          whether the application meets the applicable laws  
21          and regulations.

22                      MS. KRUEGER: Can we come back the 15th to  
23          make the decision?

24                      MR. FROST: Well, if you filled out a card

1           tonight, we will be notifying everyone of our final  
2           decision and we will be sending out our response to  
3           comments to everyone that fills out a card.

4                        So if you have not filled out a card  
5           tonight and you want to be informed directly by the  
6           Agency of its decision or see its response to  
7           comments, you should fill out a card before you  
8           leave tonight.

9                        MS. KRUEGER: Thank you.

10                      MR. STUDER: I want to also add to that if --

11                                        (Applause.)

12                      MR. STUDER: -- you also submit comments by  
13           e-mail or comments in writing, you will also be put  
14           on the notification list.

15                                        Some of the cards are a little bit  
16           difficult to read, but we will do our best at  
17           deciphering those to get information out.

18                                        Is Cathleen O'Hare here? And she'll be  
19           followed by Rick Morton.

20                      MS. O'HARE: Thank you. I really didn't want  
21           to speak tonight, but after seeing Mrs. Haller and  
22           other very sick people go before me, I decided I  
23           can suck it up. The incredible speakers tonight,  
24           the community has spoken and these brilliant minds,

1           amazing researchers. This is advocacy at it's  
2           finest.

3                       I'm hearing that there will be a decision  
4           made at some point, and it sounds like you've  
5           described two options. One is to either accept it.  
6           The other is to deny it. But I would like to add a  
7           that we know what a third one is. It's that you  
8           can modify it by sending e-mails to Mr. Wagner or  
9           e-mails to Mrs. Hoffman and negotiating even these  
10          terms about the construction permit.

11                      We are watching you. We November what's  
12          been going on. We would like to ask that you don't  
13          choose the modification behind closed doors. Many  
14          people tonight have echoed the lack of trust. I'm  
15          one of them.

16                      As the night's gone on, it's gotten  
17          increasingly cold in here, and I can't tell if it's  
18          cold emitting from this panel or from the tumor on  
19          my pancreas. The shirt that I'm wearing I wear  
20          only at negative occasions with the exception of  
21          one of the best nights of my life, which was  
22          February 15th, when we celebrated the seal order.

23                               (Applause.)

24                      MS. O'HARE: I don't want to wear this shirt

1           anymore. As people say, I'd give you the shirt off  
2           my back. I would like someone on the panel to  
3           remember what the take-home message is tonight.

4                           (Indicating).

5                           We don't want to wear our shirts anymore.

6                           Thank you.

7                           (Applause.)

8           MR. STUDER: Is Rick Morton here?

9           MAYOR TRILLA: He is.

10          MR. STUDER: Very good. He'll be followed by  
11          Paul Farber.

12          UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Here's another one.

13          MR. MORTON: Thank you. My name is Richard  
14          Morton, M-o-r-t-o-n. Looking at you tonight, I'm  
15          not inspired with confidence, and here's why.  
16          39 years ago July 6th, 1984, in a letter that IEPA  
17          wrote to Griffith Labs, and they said the toxicity  
18          data provides evidence of human cancers of the  
19          pancreas, the bladder, brain, central nervous  
20          system, and stomach associated with EtO exposure.  
21          35 years ago.

22                           Various animal studies have shown  
23          carcinogenic, mutagenic, leukogenic, and  
24          teratogenic effects. These studies indicate

1           that the acceptable amount of level concentrations  
2           were 0.007 micrograms per cubic. Nothing happened.

3                       On July 31st, in a letter to Mr. Cy Levine  
4           at IEPA from a concerned citizen -- this was in  
5           1989 -- "Since you are not aware of the hazards of  
6           ethylene oxide, I would strongly suggest that you  
7           consult with your expert in Springfield and become  
8           familiar with this deadly chemical. Poisoning of  
9           persons living and working within the proximity to  
10          Griffith and like facilities throughout Illinois  
11          must be stopped.

12                      That was 30 years ago, yet nothing  
13          happened.

14                      This past April, a PhD chemist with are 45  
15          years' experience in chromatography and mass  
16          spectrometry of chemical analysis prepared a summary  
17          critiquing the back vent tests that you were  
18          supposed to oversee. He concluded there may be  
19          reasons to question whether 99 percent efficiency  
20          was demonstrated. The report included an e-mail  
21          from from EPA's Ned Shapely to Sterigenics about  
22          his concerns, and he wrote, "These are not  
23          recommendations. They are requirements and failure  
24          to follow these procedures could be grounds for

1 regulatory authority to invalidate the test. This  
2 is your mandate to oversee and operate these tests  
3 accurately, yet nothing has happened.

4 Director Kim couldn't be bothered to come  
5 here tonight, but on May 7th of 2019 he spoke at  
6 the Chemical Industry Council of Illinois. I can't  
7 tell you how disappointing I find that.

8 So while the past history for IEPA, in my  
9 opinion, is tattered, I hope that you can find a  
10 way to shed and look at the permit, look at the  
11 regulations with a different eye and find reasons  
12 to deny it.

13 I would like to know what steps that IEPA  
14 will take to correct these behaviors. And that's  
15 my question.

16 (Applause.)

17 MR. STUDER: Thank you.

18 MR. FARBER: I'm Paul Farber. P-a-u-l,  
19 F-a-r-b-e-r. I'm a resident of Willowbrook. I  
20 actually live about a 1000 feet from the  
21 Sterigenics plant. Besides that, I'm a  
22 professional engineer in the State of Illinois with  
23 over 40 years of experience in air pollution  
24 control technology, continuous emissions monitoring

1 and source testing. For many years I worked for  
2 Sargent and Lundy and was responsible for the  
3 performance testing of most of the energy and  
4 coal-fired power plants FGD systems.

5 Earlier today the Representative  
6 Mazzochi -- and if I mispronounce your name, I  
7 apologize. Talked about some of the emissions  
8 readings that Sterigenics had put forward. What  
9 the good representative didn't mention and perhaps  
10 did not know, was that that emission date so use  
11 widely (inaudible) was based on testing one -- one  
12 sterilization chamber out of 14. They did not test  
13 at full capacity.

14 If I had tested a power plant at 7 percent  
15 capacity, you would have me wearing an orange  
16 jumpsuit right now. If Sterigenics even proposes  
17 to test that anything less than 90 percent, you  
18 should reject that because that's not right. It's  
19 not professional. And it should be rejected.  
20 Thank you.

21 (Applause.)

22 MR. STUDER: Thank you.

23 Sue, you passed earlier. Did you want to  
24 say anything?

1 MS. KAMULA: Actually, the questions I have  
2 need to be answered by my Urszula, if that's okay.

3 MR. STUDER: Okay.

4 MS. TANOUYE: I have a litany of questions,  
5 but I'll try to hit just the highlights.

6 MR. STUDER: State your name, just so we have  
7 it for the record, and speak into the mic so  
8 that -- your back so towards them. So they can  
9 hear the question.

10 MS. TANOUYE: U-r-s-z-u-l-a. Last name  
11 T-a-n-o-u-y-e.

12 There's a requirement in Section 6-1,  
13 provision (a)(ii), that requires the direction of  
14 the air flow through all the openings to be into  
15 the enclosure at all times. I don't see a  
16 provision in permit to describe how the facility  
17 will attempt compliance with this.

18 MR. FROST: I can respond, but let's recognize  
19 that you have a litany of questions, we're already  
20 over the time that we're supposed to be here. So  
21 if you want to read them into the record. If you  
22 have a litany, we're not going to be able to answer  
23 them all am. But we will read them into the record  
24 and we'll respond in our response.

1 MS. TANOUYE: Thank you. That's fine.

2 If you have a quick answer, sure. But  
3 otherwise thank you.

4 MR. MATTISSON: So that negative flow is it  
5 monitored by the differential pressure showing  
6 negative pressure inside the building through  
7 outside the building, meaning that negative  
8 (inaudible ) is requirement in method 204.

9 MS. TANOUYE: It's interesting that you bring  
10 that pressure and the facial velocity that it is  
11 supposed to be equivalent to. 200 feet per minute  
12 is the floor that the method 204 requires. It  
13 needs to be at least that speed. For comparison  
14 that calculates to 2.3 miles per hour. A typical  
15 walking pace is considered to be 2.1 miles per  
16 hour. So the 200 feet per minute is slower than  
17 the average person walks.

18 So what happens then when a person walks  
19 outside the door and takes a trail of swirling air  
20 behind them or a truck leaves the loading dock and  
21 swirling air follows that truck and a vacuum is  
22 created through that movement? Shouldn't be there  
23 a study done at this facility to determine if that  
24 200 feet per minute is sufficient or if it should

1 be increased in areas like the loading dock for  
2 example?

3 Another issue I have with that is that  
4 that's no monitor in that hallway. The list of  
5 monitors for the pressure drop includes three in  
6 the sterilization aisle, one of which appears to be  
7 optional. For example, if the sterilizers are not  
8 used in the east of the building, that monitor,  
9 according to the permit, could be turned off.

10 Well, that monitor is kind of important  
11 because there's a door that opens out that wall and  
12 several windows. So we would like to know if the  
13 pressure changes in that area when that door is  
14 opened and nobody knows it because there's nothing  
15 there.

16 Another thing that would be useful is if  
17 any doors are not listed as an actual draft opening  
18 have an alarm put in for them that was hooked up to  
19 the fire department. They would like know if there  
20 was such an emergency those doors would be opened.

21 There are one inside the aeration room.  
22 One inside the vacuum room. And another in the  
23 scrubber and the dry bed room and another in the  
24 sterilizer storage room. There's no monitor in

1           that hallway of that loading docks. You wouldn't  
2           know if that pressure changed there. So that's why  
3           I'm suggesting that initial measures be added to  
4           make sure that air is always flowing into the  
5           enclosure. And that could be as simple as a  
6           security camera on it so you can visually see if  
7           that air is flowing inside or not.

8                         There's another cite I referenced earlier  
9           a permit that Illinois gave for a printing press in  
10          which pressure difference recording were made every  
11          one minute. In this permit, it's every five  
12          minutes. Why is this one less stringent than the  
13          printing press?

14                        I want to reiterate also Katherine  
15          Howard's concern about the 3-hour rolling average  
16          for the same reasons. It can mask spikes and  
17          draws. If you're familiar with this, it's very easy  
18          so just spit out mass and a deviation to add some  
19          teeth and force some validity to those averages.

20                        That's another one. There are three dock  
21          bays on each side of the building. Three for  
22          receiving, three for shipping. What mechanism is  
23          going to be proposed? I didn't see in the permit  
24          to ensure that only one of those of those EO which

1 is accounted for by the by the EO calculation.  
2 Only one of them would be opened at one time? Are  
3 there -- is there a condition for alarms that would  
4 prevent more than those to be open at the same  
5 time?

6 I think I'm going to let everybody go this  
7 point because the rest of these can be submitted in  
8 writing and that just gives you some of the flavor  
9 of the little things could be improved in the  
10 permit.

11 MR. STUDER: Great job. Probably be helpful  
12 if you would submit those questions if writing just  
13 to make sure that there's no misunderstanding on  
14 our point what was said or that went through and  
15 wasn't accurately or completely transcribed  
16 correctly. We just wants to make sure that we  
17 address the issues correctly. Thank you.

18 Wow. Thank you everyone for being here.  
19 I appreciate your comments. I appreciate you  
20 taking the time to be here tonight. I know that a  
21 lot the issues that have been raised tonight have  
22 been heart wrenching and very, very difficult. I  
23 thank you for speaking out tonight. I know there  
24 are a lot of cases came forward and speak. And I

1           thank you.

2                           I do remind everyone that the comment  
3           period is open through August 15th. And the  
4           information for providing those comments is on both  
5           notice and on the information that was provided  
6           tonight. Thank you again. This meeting is  
7           adjourned.

8                           (The proceeding concluded at 9:37 p.m.)

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

I, Mary T. Murphy McGuirk, a Certified Shorthand Reporter of the State of Illinois, do hereby certify that the foregoing was reported by stenographic and mechanical means, which matter was held on the date, and at the time and place set out on the title page hereof, and that the foregoing constitutes a true and accurate transcript of same.

I further certify that I am not related to any of the parties, nor am I an employee of or related to any of the attorneys representing the parties, and I have no financial interest in the outcome of this matter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I do hereunto set my hand at Chicago, Illinois, this 8th day of August, 2019.

Mary T. Murphy McGuirk  
Certified Shorthand Reporter  
CSR Certificate No. 84-4160

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