PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING

LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT FACILITIES ACT

IN RE:

SIX FARMS, LLC

SEPTEMBER 24, 2014

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PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING, produced, sworn, and examined on the 24th day of September, 2014, between the hours of 6:00 P.M. and 7:30 P.M. of that day, at the Morgan County Courthouse located at 300 West State Street, Jacksonville, Illinois, before Kelley J. Olroyd, a Certified Shorthand Reporter, and a Notary Public within and for the State of Illinois.

APPEARANCES

FOR THE DEPARTMENT:
Mr. Scott Frank
Mr. Brad A. Beaver
Illinois Department of Agriculture
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FOR THE APPLICANT:

Ms. Jenny Six
Mr. Brian Six
Mr. Matt Henry
Mr. Patrick Maschhoff

(ATTENDANCE SIGN-IN SHEET IS ATTACHED AS EXHIBIT NUMBER FIVE.)

Court Reporter:
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IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between Parties that this hearing may be taken in shorthand by Kelley J. Olroyd, CSR and Notary Public, and thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

* * * * * * * * * *

(Hearing began at 6:01 P.M.)

MR. FRANK: Good evening. On behalf of the Bob Flider, Director of the Illinois Department of Agriculture, we thank you very much for the invitation to come to Morgan County today. My name is Scott Frank. I'm with the Illinois Department of Agriculture, and I'll be serving as the hearing officer for tonights informational meeting. Also with me on behalf of the Department is Brad Beaver, manager of the Bureau's livestock program. Before we go any further Brad Zeller, Chair of the County Commissioners has a few comments.

MR. ZELLER: I would like to welcome everyone here for attending the meeting. According to the rules of the department this is not a mandatory public hearing, but the county board felt that it was our duty and obligation to have a transparency and openness about this process so we appreciate everybody

coming. Jane Manning is here, another board member, and Bill Meyer is our third board member. We also have coming in just stepped in the room our representative for this district. So once again the county board appreciates everyone being here. We want public input. We feel that we need to have this process out in the open, and we hope that everything goes well. Morgan County is a large livestock producing county in the state and it's hard work and I appreciate the citizens willing to do that hard work to help feed the State of Illinois and the United States. Thank you for your time and coming over to Morgan County.

MR. FRANK: Thank you. This meeting is being conducted pursuant to Section 12 of the Livestock Management Facilities Act. The informational meeting is being held at the request of the Morgan County Commissions and it is to afford members of the public an opportunity to ask questions and present oral and written testimony regarding the proposed construction of 1,861 animal unit swine finishing facility owned by Six Farms, LLC. My task this evening is to insure that this meeting is conducted in an orderly fashion and to ensure that all comments and testimony received are entered into the record. Tonight's meeting is being transcribed. The transcript of this meeting will be

sent to the Morgan County Commissioners, as well as used by the Department of Agriculture in making its determination regarding the proposed construction of this facility.

In order to insure that we have an orderly process I will quickly explain how the meeting will proceed this evening. First following my comments Brad Beaver will provide an overview of the provisions of the Livestock Management Facilities Act as it relates to this particular project specifically outlining the current status of the project and how the process will proceed following this meeting. Following Mr. Beaver representatives for the proposed construction project will be given an opportunity to describe the project and demonstrate how they believe it meets the siting criteria of the Livestock Management Facilities Act. After their presentation I will open the meeting to questions. Anyone wishing to ask questions of the facility representatives or of the department will be given an opportunity to do so.

During the question and answer session I will ask that you state your name and spell your last name. You then may ask your question. Depending upon the number of people who wish to testify in the oral testimony phase of the meeting, which is after the

question phase, there may be a time placed on this questioning phase. Please keep in mind that we are not here to discuss or debate the perceived inadequacies or merits of the regulations. The Livestock Management Facilities Act and accompanying rules have been enforced for over 15 years. Some people like them, some people don't. We cannot change anything here in that regard, so we will not take the time to get into a discussion about changes. We are here tonight to receive information on this particular livestock facility to determine compliance with the existing regulations. Following the question and answer session I will ask for oral testimony from the public. Sign-in sheets were placed in the hallway as you came in, one sheet for attendance and another sheet for testimony. People who wish to provide comments during this oral testimony phase are asked to sign the oral testimony sheet. People providing oral comments will be sworn in and will be subject to questioning from the public. Each person will be given three minutes to provide his or her comments. Legal counsels speaking on behalf of multiple clients will be given a total of 15 minutes for all clients and asked to state the names of all of the persons on his behalf he or she is speaking. Deferring time to other speakers will not be allowed. If you

signed the oral testimony sheet you may either speak or you may pass. You may not give your time to someone else. Also, please keep in mind that if you do not wish to be asked regarding your oral testimony do not sign the sheet or if you have signed it already indicate you would like to pass when I call your name.

Following the oral testimony I will ask for written testimony. Written testimony will be accepted in paper form and will be entered into the record for this proceeding. The meeting will then conclude with closing comments from the facility and the Department of Agriculture.

To summarize the procedure tonight we will have comments from the Department, comments from the facility, questions directed to the Department and the facility, remember to state your name and spell your name, oral testimony from the public, people will be sworn in and questions may be asked following the testimony, written testimony accepted and then finally closing comments.

Again, we very much appreciate your hospitality inviting us here tonight to consider the proposed construction of Six Farms, LLC swine facility. Please remember to confine your comments and questions to that subject as we continue. I will now turn the

proceedings to Brad Beaver from remarks from the Illinois Department of Agriculture.

MR. BEAVER: As Scott indicated, I'm Brad Beaver. I'm the program manager for the Livestock Management Facilities Act program. Once again, I would like to welcome you to this evening's public informational meeting.

The Livestock Management Facilities Act was originally passed and became law on May 21st of 1996. Since that time the Act has been amended four times, first during the General Assembly fall session, second a major revision during the General Assembly's 1999 spring session, and most recently two minor amendments in '07 and '09. The current Act can be generally described as covering five major areas, those being facility design standards, waste management plan requirements, facility operator training and testing and anaerobic financial responsibility administration and facility setback requirement. Each of these divisions impacts various types of facilities in different ways depending upon their size, their special handling and with the proposed facility considered as a new facility, a modified facility or an expansion of existing site. The Livestock Management Facilities Act is quite complicated and specific facility designs in situations certainly

can differ. It is, however, the Department's intention to always fairly and educationally to apply the requirements to the livestock industry in the state.

Now regarding the current status of this project the Department received a formal notice of intent to construct application of the proposed construction of the swine finished facility on July 9, 2014. The proposed project is to consist of construction of one swine building measuring 102 by 304 with an eight foot under building livestock waste handling facility. The proposed project is located approximately 4.4 miles Northeast of Meredosia, Illinois in Northwestern Morgan County. The application was submitted by Maschhoff Environmental, Incorporated on behalf of Six Farms, LLC, Chapin, Illinois.

The maximum design capacity of the proposed facility is 1,861.2 animal units or equivalent to 4,653 head of swine weighing greater than 55 pounds. As I mentioned earlier, the Department received the notice intent to construct application on July 9, 2014 and reviewed compliance provisions of the Act. On August 15th the Department determined that the notice was complete and forwarded a copy of the completed application to the Morgan County Board. Notice of that application was also published in appropriate newspaper.

The design capacity proposed facility requires compliance with a residential setback of 1,320 feet and a populated area setback of 2,640 feet.

On September 5th the Department received notice from the Morgan County Board requesting that a public informational meeting be scheduled regarding the proposal. After further consultation with the county board the Department scheduled this meeting and caused notice of the meeting to be published in the appropriate newspapers.

An additional requirement of the Livestock Management Facilities Act deals with the design and construction plan of the livestock waste management facility. The Department has received the formal submittal of the design and specifications for the project's under building livestock waste management facility, however, detailed review of the plans has not been completed at this time, as such the Department is currently unable to comment on the compliance with the statutory compliance of the Act.

We are here to receive testimony regarding the livestock management's compliance with the eight siting criteria as defined in Section 12 of the Livestock Management Facilities Act. In general, information regarding facility would be appropriate for

this evening's meeting dealing with inter-management planning, potential impact of the proposed facility on the surrounding area's character, whether the proposed facility is located in any flood plains or other sensitive areas, odor control plans, possible impact of proposed facility on existing area traffic patterns, possible impact of proposed facility on community growth, tourism and economic development of the area.

Finally, the process we follow after this evening's meeting is as follows, the county board will have up to 30 business days from tonight's meeting to submit to the Department a nonbinding recommendation relative to the proposed siting of the facility. Thus, the recommendation is due at the Department on or before November 7, 2014. After the close of the county 30 business days comment period the Department will have 15 calendar days or until November 22nd to review all of the information submitted to date, including the notice of intent to construct, construction plans, transcript from this evening's informational meeting and the county board's recommendation and any other information submitted at the request of the Department. Based on that review the Department will determine whether the cited criteria had been met. Once that determination has been made the Department will notify both the county

board and the applicant of the Department's decision.

At this time, Mr. Hearing Officer, I would like to submit the completed notice of intent to construct application and its corresponding application.

MR. FRANK: Entered into the record as Exhibit Number One is the completed notice of intent to construct, including correspondence between the Department and the Morgan County officials and the applicant. Also entered into the record as Exhibit Number Two is a copy of the power point slides that were just presented.

MR. BEAVER: That concludes my formal remarks. I'll turn it back over to Scott.

MR. FRANK: Thank you, Mr. Beaver. At this time we will hear comments from facility. Just one second here while we get the slides changed. Before you begin, for those who will be presenting information would you each please state your name and spell your name for the court reporter and then I will swear you in?

MS. SIX: Jenny, J-e-n-n-y, Six, S-i-x.

MR. MASCHHOFF: Patrick Maschhoff, M-a-s-c-h-h-o-f-f.

MR. HENRY: Matt Henry, H-e-n-r-y.

MR. SIX: Brian Six, S-i-x.

MR. FRANK: Will you all please raise your right hand?

(Witnesses sworn.)

MS. SIX: Good evening. My name is Jenny Six. Thank you all for being here this evening. I'm going to go over an overview of what our goals are for this meeting this evening. First off to provide a general overview of the proposed project and why I work with the Maschhoff family, two, explain how my proposed project specifically meets each of the eight siting criteria under the Livestock Management Facilities Act and talk about how community consideration that influenced site selection and also about technology and management to protect the environment, and in the end we want to answer any questions and engage our neighbors and community in open discussion.

It's an honor to introduce you to our family. My father-in-law John Six began farming at a young age and raising hogs on a dirt lot. He and his wife Betty brought up their five children on the farm. Their three sons have chosen to come back to work on the farm and raise their families. I am married to their oldest son Ben and Brian is married to Caitlin, and they're here tonight, and Betty and Brandon, the youngest son, is unable to be here tonight as Brandon is

receiving cancer treatment at St. Jude's Hospital.

The Six's began working with the Maschhoffs 12 years ago, and the boys appreciated the opportunity to work with them and pay their way through college. Today as our generation has began raising our own families we see the value of working together and raising our children with the same work ethic. We have seen firsthand the teaching of the transferable skill. When you teach children how to care well for animals it illustrates to them to also care well for the people around them. The veterinaries that visit our farms often comment on the spectrum of shoe sizes in our building. We have toddler boots to men size 12 boots. It's important that we work together and train the next generation. Our husbands often tease their mom that we have the best cared for pigs in central Illinois. Betty, a registered nurse, works diligently in the barns when we receive new baby pigs assuring they receive lots of tender loving care.

Our proposed building is designed with some of the newest technologies in science that will help us become more efficient, provide a better environment for the hogs and keep the manure resources close to the land where it improves the soil quality.

The amount of time that goes into raising

livestock is intense. In the heat of the summer it's common for us to begin working at 3:00 A.M. to avoid shipping in the heat. In the dead of the winter we make frequent middle of the night runs to assure that the barn's proper temperature and that feed trucks are able to deliver feed. We also work until midnight when we have to sanitize our building and make sure they are spick and span for our next group of hogs. Among sickness and exhaustion our family members lace up their boots early in the morning or late at night to ensure that our hogs have the best care. This hard work has been acknowledged as we continue to receive production partner awards from the Maschhoffs.

As many of our classmates have made lives outside of our community we have chose to grow our roots in deeper. Our children of the Six generation do not only raise livestock and care for the land but also to invest in our local community. John Six served on the local school board for 24 years. Each of our families are heavily involved in our local churches and we continue to invest in civic organization, rural water district, Farm Bureau, rural fire district, preschoolers, FFA and local fundraisers to name a few. It is important to us to continue to invest in our area. However, for us to care for our growing families and to

remain in Morgan County we must grow our farm to support everyone. We thank the Lord for the opportunity to farm as a family, and we hope that our children's children have the same opportunity. Now I would like to introduce you to Brian Six to explain more about our project overview.

MR. SIX: I am Brian Six. I'd like to talk about the project overview. We have decided to add on this farm, expand our operation with the Maschhoffs. We will own and operate this farm. The Maschhoffs will provide the pigs and we will provide the care. The pigs will come in at 15 pounds. We will raise them to a market weight of 80 over a six month period. Within that we'll use automated feed systems for pig care and manure will be stored in a pit to be utilized in the fall and spring and applied to the drag line system and injected into the ground for our crops. The above pictures are our clean sanitized barn, our entire family and our existing barn that sits in Morgan County. These farms are ween to market farms. The new barn will be a 4,653 as stated earlier. We use modern technology and concrete for manure storage. Thank you.

MR. MASC HOFF: I'm Patrick Maschhoff. I'm the environmental service manager for the Maschhoffs. We provide consulting service to Six Farms and helped

them with the facility application of this proposed site. Our primary responsibility at this meeting is to provide evidence that Six Farms have met all eight siting criteria. We present the story of how this farm's proposal was developed so we will address the eight siting criteria. Thus dividing the eight siting criteria into four project phases, including site selection, permit application process, design and construction and operation and management. During the site selection phase we will discuss the steps that it will take to evaluate the proposed location. In the permit application phase we will review the steps taken to submit the necessary applications. Phase three goes to the facility design and construction. We will walk through how the facility was constructed from ground up to demonstrate the safety and construction standards that are built into the manure storage facilities. The last phase of the project includes the plans that we have for operations and management of farm that will ensure protection of the environment as well as minimizing odors from the farm. With that I move to the perceived phase one. Phase one of the project will address the selection of the proposed facility. Phase one incorporates five out of the eight siting criteria, design, location and management to protect environment,

compliance with zoning and setbacks, environmentally sensitive areas and construction standards, effects on local traffic and existing economic development plans.

On the screen you will see an aerial photograph illustrating the compliance with the required setback distances as required through the Livestock Management Facilities Act. The proposed farm will have the maximum of 1861 animal units. An animal unit means the unit of measurements. The calculation is completed by multiplying a number by a factor. The factor for pigs with an average weight greater than 55 pounds is. 4. The required setback distance for residence is 1,320 feet, as indicated by the orange circle. The populated area setback is 2,640 as indicated by the red circle. To meet the residential setback requirement there can be no residents within the residential setback. To meet the populated area setback requirement there has to be fewer than 10 non-farm residences and there cannot be a common place of assembly or a non-farm business that is frequented by at least 50 different people at least once per week within the populated area setback.

Second aspect of the compliance setback is making sure that we are compliant with local zoning, which Morgan County has not adopted. I received verbal confirmation from the Morgan County Assessor's office

that county wide zoning is not in effect as of September 8, 2014. The source of this map is from the Illinois Association of County Zoning Officials, January 2009.

The map on the screen is representation of the proposed truck route into and out of the site. The yellow line represents the route that will be used to deliver wheat and feed to the facility. The market volumes will be following the same took into the site. Trucks will travel State Route 67 north and then travel east one mile to Trinity Church Road. They will travel east on Trinity Church Road for 1.7 miles to the driveway of the farm. This truck route has been discussed and approved by the county engineer and road commissioners.

The previous slide was shown because one of the siting criteria requires us to analyze the impact of local truck factors. The information presented here is from the Illinois Department of Transportation. According to the Illinois Department of Transportation Illinois 67 sees on average 520 trucks per week. We estimate that there will be on average 4.3 trucks per week travelling to Six's farm. Therefore, the 4.3 trucks per week increase on Illinois 67 equates to .84 percent increase in local truck traffic, no statistics were available for the areas to be traveled.

Another siting requirement requires us to evaluate the proposed location with respect to the environmental features on the landscape. One of the evaluations is of the 100 year floodplain. This map is based on the 2009 Fema International Flood Insurance Rate. The light blue dotted area represents the 100 year floodplain. The map clearly illustrates that this site is not located within the 100 year floodplain.

Another sensitive environmental issue deals with whether the farm is located within a Karst region. This map shows the proposed location is located within a Karst region of Illinois. The source of this information is from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Frank and West Environment Engineers conducted a visual inspection, investigation and that investigation did not reveal any actual depression within 400 feet of long lagoon livestock handling facility and no voids were found, discovered within the soil borings.

The third potential sensitive environmental feature would be determining from soil boring aquifer material found within five feet of the bottom of the facility. The chart illustrates from site investigation through soil boring it was the conclusions from Frank and West Engineers that there is no aquifer material

found within five feet of the bottom of the structure. The described barn location is described of silt loam and silty clay loam.

If you examine the county breakdown of 2011 study by Goldsmith and Wang with the University of Illinois they explain the economic impact of livestock in Morgan County. You can see the pork production has an economic impact of nearly $9 million. This along with the fact that the project will utilize our cultural land would suggest to us that this project is consistent with the existing economic development.

Phase two of the project would be the permit application phase. Once we have determined that the site is suitable the next step is to prepare the permit application materials. This process includes several of the eight siting criteria. Requirements include registration, location and information, compliance for setbacks and facility design plans. On July 8th the notice of intent to construct was submitted to the Department of Ag. August 15th we received ID of A approval of the notice of intent to construct. August 21st we completed the landowner notification of the populated area setback, and on August 25th we submitted the certified mail receipt to Department of Ag. September 11th the site investigation report and

construction drawings were filed by Frank and West Environmental Engineers, and on September 18th the non-lagoon livestock facility application submitted to the Department of Ag. This slide shows that we have taken the required steps for filing the facility application registration. With that I'll turn the presentation over to Matt Henry to talk about design and construction.

MR. HENRY: Thank you. Good evening. As Patrick mentioned my name is Matt Henry. I'm a senior manager for the Maschhoffs. Phase Three of our presentation covers design and construction. This phase also involves some of the element of the eight Siting criteria, including number two, design, location and management to protect the environment, number four, environmentally sensitive areas and construction standards, and, five, plans to prevent spills, runoff and leaching.

Let's start with an overview of the process that's used to meet the construction standards requirement element that in the Act it references concrete specifications that would meet Midwest Plan Services Concrete Manure Storage Handbook NWPS-36 requirements. These are rigorous construction specifications that ensure safety in manure storage

structure. Midwest Plan Services is a university base publishing of the 12 North Central Region and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. This is a construction standard that the Livestock Management Facilities Act requires and regulates these sites. Those specs that I want to go over with you this evening are water stop at all of the concrete joints, perimeter tile sampling to monitor storage structure integrity and the fact that the storage structure is fully enclosed, therefore, excluding rainfall and minimize odors.

Per the regulations all concrete construction of the manure structure must be at least 4,000 PSI. Using this type of concrete helps to ensure the proper compressive strength of the cured mix. The strength of the concrete mix used has to be certified in writing from the manufacturer. These steps are required to safety of the storage structure. Illinois Department of Ag conducts an inspection prior to construction, during construction and a final inspection. ID of A also requires photo documentation of these construction standards as well as written documentation. The Six's or their builder will have to collect this documentation during the construction and submit them to ID of A before they will be given approval that their construction is acceptable to be used.

The facility is not only required to use proper concrete mix but it will also have proper footings grade 60 steel reinforcement. As you can see on the picture on the left the site has been leveled and ready for construction of the floor. The square concrete in the photo represents the footing that will be under each column in the structure. These columns carry the vertical load of the flooring as well as the livestock. In the picture on the right you can see the steel reinforcement used in these columns. As we begin to talk about the floor you can see in this photo that it's reinforced with steel mats secured together covering the entire floor. These steel mats are made up six gauge wire in six inch squares. This design feature has additional stability to the manure structure floor. Another point I will make here with you now is that one of the requirements of the Livestock Management Facilities Act that governs this farm a minimum of six month storage capacity. This facility will exceed that requirement.

Another design requirement I mentioned earlier was water stop on all of the concrete joints. We have included a photo to show you exactly what water stop is. This is a six inch vinyl material that's half into the floor when it is poured as shown here and the

other half gets poured into the bottom of the walls, which I will show you in the next slide. This creates a water tight seal at the base of the wall, therefore, sealing the structure to eliminate any leaks or leaching.

You can further see here the extensive grade 60 steel reinforcement I spoke of earlier. The walls of the storage structure have vertical and horizontal reinforcement which is secured together. This steel along with the dirt that is backfilled against the outside of the walls adds additional stability to the structure of the walls. The completed manure storage structure facility is also inspected by the Illinois Department of Ag prior to animals entering the farm. This adds the visual inspection to the other items required such as written certification of the concrete strength and photo documentation.

To finish off the top of our manure storage structure the beams and slats used in these facilities are designed and engineered for the load of the equipment and the animals. The beams will set across the pillars we talked about earlier and then four by ten concrete slats will set on top of those beams. Once the slats and beams are in place all joints are grouted. Grouting these joints gives us a continuous solid

pouring further adding to the strength of the structure. This is also a requirement by ID of A and also inspected by the Illinois Department of Ag.

The last design and construction feature I will go over with you this evening is the perimeter tile monitoring system this facility will utilize. In the picture on the left you will see what is referred to as former drain. What this name references is the fact that concrete forms used when pouring the floor are actually left in place after the floor is done. The forms are slotted on the back side and when put in place they form a continuous water tight tile around the perimeter of the structure.

The two pictures on the right show the monitoring well that is set on top of this tile, therefore, giving consistent access to any water collected in the tile. An initial water sample is required to be taken prior to the Illinois Department of Agriculture's final approval of the construction. The ID of A also requires to take water samples from the monitoring well on a quarterly basis, have them analyzed and sent ID of A should there be any water available.

With some of these design construction features I have gone over with you this evening, hopefully it gives you a better sense of the careful

standards that will be provided of the manure storage facility. These specs were developed to ensure that the best engineer structural integrity and neighbors' piece of mind, but not only are we thinking about the construction of the facility today but also the long-term monitoring and all this will continue to work effectively. With that I will turn it back over to Patrick for phase four.

MR. MASCHHOFF: The final phase of our presentation addresses the operational plan and management strategies used to address the remaining siting criteria. We'll discuss the waste management plan, the environmental protection, operational plans to reduce spills, runoff and leaching and plans to control odor. One of the main points that we want to make with you tonight is that we take the integrated management approach. We want to make sure that we are managing ever facet of the operation in a way that it protects the environment. This starts with feeding the animal, which is a significant impact on the potential odors that may be produced. We will talk about the items that will be utilized in facility digestion and treatment of manure and treatment will be discussed as a practice to improve air quality, nutrient management, as well as barn cleaning and sanitation procedures that are used to

clean the facility are also part of the system. It has been scientifically proven that trees act as natural filters to capture dust that come out of the barn and prevent particles from moving off site.

We have all heard the expression what goes in must come out and it certainly applies to what we feed the animals. One of the most powerful strategies for reducing odor is aggressive management of dietary ingredients. Maschhoff nutritionalists work with modern technologies for feed management tools. Using these tools these professionals can formulate diets designed to meet the nutritional needs of the animal while also minimizing environmental impacts. The end result is the significant reduction of odor and emissions through a variety of mechanisms. We can effectively lower the total nitrogen coming out which in turn lowers ammonia emissions. We can also control of the amount of excreted phosphorus. With this feeding program we have also reduced the amount of volatile fatty acids produces. Volatile fatty acids are the main constitutes of odor. All of these combined strategies this has reduced odor and emissions.

One of the tools in the tools in the toolbox includes microbial additives that are available commercially. MicroSource S is a blend of six naturally

selected beneficial microbes added directly to reduce odor and ammonia. The microbes help the animal better digest the feed but then also passes through the animal and continue to work to decompose and reduce odor and ammonia.

The second product is known as a probiotic. It is the same kind of thing you can get in yogurt and is meant to enhance digestion. The other product that's utilized is called Accelerator Plus, and it is blended to have enzymes added directly to the manure storage to speed and improve microbial activity to decompose the manure. It gives tools to speed up the process. Perfect analogy of this is Accelerator Plus is Rid-X. If you've ever had an issue with a septic system Accelerator Plus is the same type of product.

Studies have proven that trees act as natural filters to capture dust particles that come out of the barn and prevent those particles from moving offsite. This is an overview of Six's proposed farm. The new farm is located in an area where the existing tree buffer will filter air in all directions of the farm. We do want to point out that all of the barns are -- the barn is cleaned and pressure washed and sanitized between every single production cycle. We want to ensure proper sanitation for the next group of pigs that

come in by cleaning but cleaning is also important for odor control because the potential causes of odor are removed from the interior surfaces of the barn.

Swine manure is unlike any product that can be purchased commercially. It is an organic product and provides a complete nutritional package for plants. Not only do you get your nitrogen, phosphorous and potassium, which are the primary elements for plant, secondary micronutrients are also provided for the plant and the manure also provides organic. Organic matter not only builds soil structure but also improves the health and the ability to maintain and manage water in the soil, which in turn enhances nutrient cycling making more nutrients available for the plants to grow.

Just as commercial fertilizers manage the crop production, manure must also be evaluated for value of nutrient source. This slide illustrates how the nutrient management plan will be developed for Six Farms. We look at the nutrient management as a balancing act where we try to balance crop need with nutrient availability and comply with state and federal regulations. As we look at crop need we consider soil testing, crop rotation and realistic crop yields. Within these fertility recommendations we determine how many nutrients the crop actually needs. On the other

side of the equation is the nutrient availability for things such as annual manure sampling and this all must be taken into account. All of these tasks are completed on the guidance and recommendations published by USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, University of Illinois and other credible sources. The nutrient management plan will then balance all this in accordance to the Livestock Management Facilities Act.

This slide represents the high level nutrient plan for the farm. We have to determine crop need and how many nutrients are available. From that we can calculate the land requirement per year. We set a realistic yield goals off a five year average yield from crop insurance data and then development the nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium recommendations according to the University of Illinois Handbook. The nutrient availability numbers are based on book values in accordance with regulation of the Livestock Management Facilities Act. We then calculate the amount of manure produced per year at the farm. With both pieces of this information the application rate is calculated to 4,902 gallons per acre. This farm will acquire 415 acres on the corn soybean rotation.

Another tool we can use to minimize odor is by using proper application methods. This picture shows

a direct injection of the nitrogen directly into the soil. This technology has been scientifically shown to eliminate 70 percent of all application odors. The plow uses the flow meter to ensure accurate rates and conservation shanks on this particular plow which greatly prevents the disturbance of the soil and soil erosion. Another part of the application is to adhere to all applicable guidelines. There is a 200 foot setback where no application can be performed. The Certified Livestock Manager Program ensures that on farm personnel are properly trained in manure application and regulations.

Waste management plan must be developed and implemented 60 days after commencing operations. Six Farms is required to maintain that plan and keep records. The plan must be regularly updated and available for inspection by regulatory personnel. The farm operator will complete training and pass a written exam every three years to properly be certified to apply manure.

In summary we feel through the four product phases we have addressed each of the eight siting criteria and conclude that we meet all eight of the criteria. With that I would like to thank you for your time and attention.

MR. FRANK: Do you have any copy of your presentation? Entered into the record as Exhibit Number Three is copy of the presentation from the facility.

We will now open the meeting for any questions that you may have of the facility or of the Department. If you have a question that you would like to ask, please step up to the microphone and when called upon please state your name and spell your last name. Please indicate to whom you are addressing your question. I will remind you that this portion of the meeting is limited to questions only. After this question and answer session there be will a session dedicated to public testimony where you can provide your oral comments. So please limit this session to questions only. Are there any questions of the Department or the facility? Any questions at all? I think this is a first. I see no questions. Very good. Last call. This concludes the question and answer session.

Okay. We'll advance to the oral testimony phase. I have the sign-in sheet for oral testimony. I will call the name of the person who wishes to provide oral testimony. When called upon please step up to the microphone, state your name and spell your last name and then I will swear you in. Remember you will have three

minutes to speak. Are there any attorneys representing clients? I see none. Okay. First on the list we have Glen Bowman.

MR. BOWMAN: That's Glen Bowman, B-o-w-m-a-n.

(Witness sworn.)

MR. BOWMAN: I just want to make a couple of comments. The Six's have farmed my wife's farm, my mother-in-law's farm for over 20 years in Morgan County, always been a good steward of the land. They have assisted us with environmental projects to prevent soil erosion, runoff. They have always been helpful with us to the point that we own land in Pike County and they have been farming our farm over there for the last five years. They have helped with CRP. We have granted easements to them for this facility, and we don't see any problem with it so we hope that you have a good outcome on this. That's all I have to say. Thank you.

MR. FRANK: Thank you. Are there any questions for this witness? Next on the list is Diane Bowman.

MS. BOWMAN: Diane Bowman, B-o-w-m-a-n.

(Witness sworn.)

MS. BOWMAN: I would just like to say you couldn't ask for people than the Six's whether it is

working on our property or dire need if our shed collapses from these horrible storms that we had last year or taking down trees or helping with my mother. They are fantastic people and you couldn't ask for better people to work with. You call, they are there. That's basically what I have to say.

MR. FRANK: Are there any questions for this witness? Thank you. Next we have Don Schlieker.

MR. SCHLIEKER: Don Schlieker, S-c-h-l-i-e-k-e-r.

(Witness sworn.)

MR. SCHLIEKER: I have a farm that is within one mile of the facility. I see no reason for them not to build it. They take care of me. I take care of them, and I see no reason why the facility should not be built.

MR. FRANK: Any questions for this witness? Thank you. Next we have Ron Mountain.

MR. MOUNTAIN: Ron Mountain, M-o-u-n-t-a-i-n.

(Witness sworn.)

MR. MOUNTAIN: My name is Ron Mountain. I farm in Pike County. We have been in the contract feeding business for about 19 years. My family, my son, my daughter and everybody is in the operation. We fed

for the Maschhoffs about six years. They -- the way they do things they are number one on everything they do and they want to number one. When it comes to an animal welfare issue to a safety issue, any type of things like environmental issue they are always there and they address these issues like no other producer that I have ever been with. And as far as the Six goes, Six family goes as pork producers we all know who does good jobs and who don't and it's everybody knows it's Six family is top of the line. Any questions?

MR. FRANK: Any questions for this witness? Thank you. Next we have Joe Cebuhar.

MR. CEBUHAR: Joe Cebuhar, C-e-b-u-h-a-r.

(Witness sworn.)

MR. CEBUHAR: My name is Joe Cebuhar. I run Two Rivers Tree and Brush. It's an invasive species company basically here in Morgan County and we cover an area from western Illinois all of the way across the middle of the state. I tell you this because leading into what I want to say, I've worked for hundreds of landowners across the State of Illinois and working for them I get to see every part of their farm, usually the worst parts of their farm. I have been fortunate to know the Six's now 12 years, I went to school with Ben in college over at Western. I have gotten to know his

family now that I've moved to Morgan County and I've worked on a lot of his family's farms. I can't tell you that everything is great about a hog facility but what I can tell you what they do the land is always positive, and what I have seen and learned working on farms and from landowners always say it's not the land that they own, it's not the house that they live in where you want to learn about the people, it's the land that they rent and having those people here and seeing the resources they put into that land. That's when you know they're good steward. You see the farmers that harvest that plant the crops and harvest the crops and go to Florida and that's not sustainable ag, and one last thought I would like to give is the sustainability that Jenny talked about of having a family in Morgan County and wanting to stay here. As citizens of this community if you have board members if you have many more facilities that come up you need to consider agriculture is what carries us often times. When we went through the big market crash with the housing agriculture was good and those dollars come into our community. And if we forget that agriculture has been there for 200 years and will hopefully be there for another 200, 2,000, if it's not we're not. Keep in mind I can't say again that everything is great about a hog farm but it's sure

better than the way it used to be, and not everything is great about the vehicles we drove in tonight so that's not all good for the environment but it's better than it used to be, and way they're doing things is much better than, again, the way it used to be, and they are good people. They take care of everything. I can't say enough good about them. If I were to know that my food I could drive by and look at their farm, you can look them up on the plat book, drive by and look, I would feel whole lot better that my food was coming from a farm that was taken care of like that than farms you see driving down the road with hogs on open lot and wallowing down in the creek. That's all I have.

MR. FRANK: Questions for this witness? Next we have Jerod Fricke.

MR. FRICKE: Jerod Fricke, F-r-i-c-k-e.

(Witness sworn.)

MR. FRICKE: My name is Jerod Fricke. I operate a welding repair business in Concord, Illinois. The Six family is probably one of my best customers. I have been to various places in our local community and I have seen a lot of different operations much like Joe said. I am also in the process of refurbishing a home less than a mile from an existing hog facility operated by the Six family, and I really -- I mean as Joe said,

agriculture is where it's at in Illinois. It's our largest industry. We need to show our support for it ongoing and otherwise. Thank you.

MR. FRANK: Questions for this witness? Thank you. Next we have Jim Kaitschiffe.

MR. KAITSCHIFFE: I'll pass.

MR. FRANK: Kaitschiffe passes. Next up we DeDe Fricke.

MS. FRICKE: DeDe Fricke, F-r-i-c-k-e.

(Witness sworn.)

MS. FRICKE: As landowner of the property that is going to actually butt up to this proposed building site I want to say I have no reservation. I would also say the Maschhoffs' presentation even added to that in talking in laymen's terms we can all understand. My husband and I, Keith is my husband, we both grew up in agriculture or ag related activities. We appreciate them doing this with their children and grandchildren. What is even more dear to my heart is that my son is very active in his 4H livestock project and I want him to grow up in an environment where he sees firsthand that hard work, ethical behavior and that the benefits that agriculture provides and I know that he will get that with the Six's. I'm proud to live in an area that harbors sustainable agriculture ventures

that will keep the family farm going into the next generation. It's because of this hard working family and others like them that we have clothes on our back and food on our table. I hope the company will pass this request and let them get moving on this building.

MR. FRANK: Questions for this witness? Thank you. Next we have Terry Denison.

MR. DENISON: Terry Denison, D-e-n-i-s-o-n.

(Witness sworn.)

MR. DENISON: Good evening. My name is Terry Denison. I am the president of the Jacksonville Regional Economic Development Corporation. I might mention I am a farm boy from many years back. I grew up in Detroit, Illinois, and oh, my, how farming has changed for the good. Our organization is a two county organization that works to improve the economy of Morgan and Scott counties by creating new job opportunities and increasing the tax base. I'm here this evening to speak about the economic impact that this project will have on our region and on our state. First of all, Mr. Zeller has already mentioned this, make no mistake about it we are an agricultural region. Our communities are successful only if the farmers are successful. If not if they aren't then our communities feel it. Four of the top 10 hog counties are adjacent to ours, those

being, Cass, Skyler, Pike and Green counties. Pork production is a big business in our region. On a state level the pork industry provides over 10,000 jobs and over $170 million in taxes. This project has the potential to create some good paying direct and indirect jobs for our region in approximately two and a half million dollars for the state's economy. This investment in Morgan County will have a positive effect on our community. Thank you.

MR. FRANK: Further questions for this witness? Thank you. Next we have Todd Burrus.

MR. BURRUS: Todd Burrus, B-u-r-r-u-s.

(Witness sworn.)

MR. BURRUS: If I was concerned about this facility in our county the construction part becomes very clear. It's going to be well constructed, but the real key element isn't construction, it's how it's going to be operated after construction is over with, and that's the part that I want to address because I feel like I know that the best. It really comes down to a handful of things, character, ability to understand, ability to have the desire to do the right things, and those are the things that I can best address. I know all of the family members. I know Brian the best because Brian works with our business, but the key

elements of character are fantastic. The element of work ethic, again, very easy for me to attest to, a work ethic that says I will do what it takes to get the job done, and then there is this whole thing of is this animal going to be taken care of properly, and you have heard that a lot of different ways but maybe the easiest way to do it would say I trust my grand kids under their care. I trust my animals under their care because they are trustworthy people. For that it's easy for me to look at and say the life of that building, the likelihood of it being operated in a fashion that will not only take care of the animals but the environment I have a very high level of confidence. Thank you.

MR. FRANK: Are there questions for this witness? I see none. Thank you. Is anyone else who would like to provide any oral testimony? I see no one else. Entered into the record as Exhibit Number Four is the sign-in sheet for the oral testimony. Entered into the record as Exhibit Number Five is the sign-in sheet for attendance tonight.

Is there any written testimony that anyone would like to present? Any written testimony? I see none. Are there any closing remarks from the facility?

MR. SIX: On behalf of the Six family I would just like to thank everybody for coming out and

supporting agriculture in our community and please drive safe and thank you for coming.

MR. FRANK: Any closing comments from the Department?

MR. BEAVER: Thanks for coming out and participating. I look forward to working with the county and receiving the recommendations and moving forward as that comes in. Once again, thank you.

MR. FRANK: As I mentioned earlier, a copy of the transcript will be provided to the county commissioners. Others desiring a copy the transcript will be available by contacting the court reporter. Thank you for your attendance here tonight. This public informational meeting is hereby closed.

(Hearing was concluded at 7:07 P.M.)

CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
)
CITY OF SPRINGFIELD)

I, Kelley J. Olroyd, a Certified Court Reporter and a Notary Public within and for the State of Illinois, do hereby certify that the witness whose testimony appears in the foregoing deposition was duly sworn by me; that the testimony of said witness was taken by me to the best of my ability and thereafter reduced to typewriting under my direction; that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to the action in which this deposition was taken, and further that I am not a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel employed by the parties thereto, nor financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of the action.

_____

Notary Public Within and
For The State of Illinois

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