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ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
HEARING

In the Matter of:

Proposed Revision of the Construction  
Permit for LaFarge Corporation to Increase  
Production at its Cement Manufacturing Facility  
Located at 2500 Portland Road in Grand Chain,  
Illinois

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS of the Illinois  
Environmental Protection Agency Hearing was taken  
on the 16th day of May, 2007, commencing at the hour  
of 7:00 p.m. at the Metropolis Community Center,  
516 Market Street, Metropolis, Illinois, before  
Kristy Casey, Certified Shorthand Reporter,  
#084-004065, and Notary Public in and for the County  
of Johnson, State of Illinois.

A P P E A R A N C E S

MR. BRADLEY FROST, Hearing Officer  
ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
1021 North Grand Avenue, East  
P.O. Box 19276  
Springfield, IL 62794-9276

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(618) 997-8455

1                   HEARING OFFICER FROST: Good evening.  
2 My name is Brad Frost. I'm the presiding officer of  
3 the hearing tonight. I'd like to thank everyone for  
4 coming. We have other Illinois EPA employees here,  
5 and I'll introduce them in a moment.

6                   First, I'd like to go through the  
7 agenda and a few ground rules for the hearing. The  
8 hearing is being held by the Illinois Environmental  
9 Protection Agency Bureau of Air. And the hearing is  
10 being held to accept comments on LaFarge  
11 Corporation's request to revise their construction  
12 permit, which the Illinois EPA issued in August of  
13 2006, for its facility at 2500 Portland Road in Grand  
14 Chain. The previously issued permit allowed the  
15 construction of two new kilns at LaFarge. Primarily,  
16 the revision would instead allow the construction of  
17 one larger kiln, rather than the two smaller kilns.

18                  Other agency staff present will explain  
19 the project in a little more detail. Then, if  
20 LaFarge wishes to make a brief presentation for the  
21 record, they may. And then we'll open up the hearing  
22 to comments. We have a few people that filled out  
23 comment cards, and we'll go through those comment  
24 cards. And then if anyone else has comments, then we  
25 will get those on the record.

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1                   We have a court reporter tonight  
2 transcribing a verbatim record of the hearing, so I'd  
3 request that you keep conversations to a minimum.  
4 Any person who wishes to make oral comments or ask  
5 questions may do so as long as the comments are  
6 relevant to the issue before the Illinois EPA, which  
7 is the revision to the permit.

8                   We have registration cards at the table  
9 outside and I ask that you fill one out. There is  
10 two purposes for that. One, it holds your place in  
11 line, as I just mentioned. And then also we'll issue  
12 a response to all the comments that we receive,  
13 either orally tonight or in writing during the  
14 comment period, and we'll send that to you if you  
15 fill out a registration card.

16                  If you have a time constraint tonight,  
17 please let me know. Although, I think we'll be done  
18 here pretty quickly. But if you do have a time  
19 constraint and you need to get on the record, let me  
20 know and I'll get you up here to make your comments  
21 and out. When you come up to the microphone, please  
22 speak into the microphone, state your name and spell  
23 your name for the court reporter. And, again,  
24 questions and comments should be relevant to the  
25 subject and not repetitious. Also, arguing or

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1 dialogue with any speaker will not be allowed.  
2           Again, the hearing is being held by the  
3 Illinois EPA Bureau of Air. Representatives from  
4 LaFarge are here tonight. However, it's not  
5 mandatory that they respond to comments. All  
6 questions and comments should be directed to me and  
7 then I will direct them to whoever is appropriate to  
8 answer them. Once the hearing is adjourned this  
9 evening, the hearing record will remain open until  
10 June 15th, 2007. During this time, all relevant  
11 written comments, documents, and data will be  
12 accepted and entered into the hearing record as  
13 exhibits. Please send all comments to my attention,  
14 which is Brad Frost, the Illinois EPA Hearing  
15 Officer, 1021 North Grand Avenue, East, P.O. Box  
16 19276, Springfield, Illinois, 62794-9276. And that  
17 address, you'll find on several of the documents out  
18 in front. Written comments need not be notarized and  
19 should be postmarked by June 15th, 2007.

20           I'd like now to introduce the Illinois  
21 EPA staff. Bob Smet is here on my right, and he's  
22 the engineer that reviewed the application and wrote  
23 the draft. And then Mike Toniolo is the acting  
24 community relations officer at the table outside.

25           I'll now turn the microphone over to

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1 Bob.

2 BOB SMET: Good evening. My name is  
3 Bob Smet, and I'm a permit engineer in the Illinois  
4 EPA's Bureau of Air. I'll be giving you a brief  
5 description of the project.

6 LaFarge has requested a construction  
7 permit to expand its Joppa Portland Cement Plant,  
8 located near Grand Chain. The key part of the  
9 expansion project is the installation of one new  
10 preheater/precalciner kiln system. This will be  
11 accompanied by the shutdown of one of the two  
12 existing kilns, kiln number two.

13 Because of the shutdown of kiln number  
14 two, the removal of other units at the site, and  
15 enhanced controls to be utilized at the expanded  
16 plant, the annual emissions of key pollutants,  
17 namely, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, particulate  
18 matter and volatile organic material will not  
19 increase significantly. This is the result of the  
20 use of Low-NOx burners on the kilns, selective  
21 noncatalytic reduction on the new kiln and multiple  
22 baghouses throughout the plant.

23 On the other hand, potential emissions  
24 of carbon monoxide, or CO, will increase  
25 significantly with the proposed expansion. As a

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1 result, CO emissions from the kiln will be required  
2 to meet Best Available Control Technology. LaFarge  
3 will be required to use good combustion practices to  
4 minimize CO emissions from the kiln.

5 In addition, the plant, essentially in  
6 its entirety, is required to meet federal emission  
7 standards for control of particulate matter  
8 emissions, which were developed to control emissions  
9 of hazardous air pollutants with the use of Maximum  
10 Achievable Control Technology.

11 The air quality analysis for CO,  
12 submitted by LaFarge and reviewed by the Illinois  
13 EPA, shows that the proposed project will not cause  
14 or contribute to violations of the ambient air  
15 quality standards for CO.

16 The proposed permit contains  
17 limitations on, and requirements for, operation of  
18 the expanded plant. The permit also establishes  
19 appropriate testing, monitoring, recordkeeping, and  
20 reporting requirements. This includes continuous  
21 emissions monitoring for the kilns' emissions of  
22 sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, and  
23 opacity.

24 In closing, the Illinois EPA is  
25 proposing to grant a construction permit for

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1 LaFarge's proposed expansion. We welcome your  
2 comments or questions on our proposed action. Thank  
3 you.

4 HEARING OFFICER FROST: Thank you, Bob.  
5 Does the company wish to make any  
6 statement?

7 Okay. The first card I have is from  
8 Richard Cunningham.

9 RICHARD CUNNINGHAM: My name is Richard  
10 Cunningham. I'm a business representative for the  
11 International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers,  
12 Local 702 in West Frankfort. We have about 4,200  
13 members here in Southern Illinois, and we fully  
14 support this project.

15 HEARING OFFICER FROST: Thank you,  
16 Mr. Cunningham.

17 Next, we have Clifford Johnson, the  
18 mayor of Joppa.

19 CLIFFORD JOHNSON: My name is Clifford  
20 Johnson. I'm the mayor of the small village of  
21 Joppa, just outside of where LaFarge's plant is.  
22 Welcome back to Southern Illinois. We're glad to  
23 have you all here and we're sure glad to have LaFarge  
24 here. And we're very proud of the record that  
25 they've kept down there, and we have employees down

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1 there from Joppa. And they've been very good to us  
2 through our schools and through all of their  
3 participation with all of us in the county, and  
4 especially their tax money. We kind of enjoy that a  
5 little bit. And we thank you all and we're for them.

6 HEARING OFFICER FROST: Thank you,  
7 Mayor Johnson.

8 Next, we have Ronald Duncan.

9 RONALD DUNCAN: Thank you, Mr. Frost.

10 My name is Ronald Duncan, D-U-N-C-A-N.

11 And I'm the associate vice president at Shawnee  
12 Community College. And the college comes this  
13 evening in full support of the renewed permit. And I  
14 just wanted to comment and, first of all, thank the  
15 Illinois EPA for having this hearing. I know it's  
16 required by law, but thank you for your interest.  
17 And, again, it is good to have you back here again.

18 One of the most interesting things that  
19 you might find is that our campus is relatively close  
20 to the LaFarge plant. As a matter of fact, on a nice  
21 day, you can actually see parts of the plant from the  
22 back and highest part of our campus. On any given  
23 day, especially Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays,  
24 from about nine o'clock to one o'clock, we're the  
25 second largest community in Pulaski County, the

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1 college campus is. And being in this proximity and  
2 having the large number of people we have on the  
3 campus grounds, if LaFarge was in any way providing  
4 any discomfort in terms of air quality or other  
5 issues, the people that we have, especially in our  
6 natural resources department, our biology  
7 departments, and medical arts and sciences  
8 department, would be the first people to come and be  
9 here to say or have some issue with those things.

10 And what I'm here to say tonight is  
11 that we have absolutely no problem with the air  
12 quality where we're at. LaFarge is a wonderful  
13 corporate citizen, a wonderful corporate neighbor.  
14 Other than the fact of visually being able to see  
15 them, we hardly know they're there. So, again, we  
16 stand in full support of their renewed application  
17 here and again look forward to having the economic  
18 development that this project would bring on board.  
19 Thank you very much.

20 HEARING OFFICER FROST: Thank you,  
21 Mr. Duncan.

22 That's all the cards that I have. Is  
23 there anyone else that would like to make any  
24 comments?

25 BILLY McDANIEL: My name is Billy  
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1 McDaniel. I am with the City of Metropolis, the  
2 mayor here. And on behalf of the City of Metropolis,  
3 we would like to echo our congratulations to LaFarge  
4 on this project. This is a very, very worthwhile  
5 project to the community. I have been in business in  
6 this community pretty well all my life. I was in  
7 private business here for 30 years prior to being the  
8 mayor.

9                   And in the 30 years that we have been  
10 in business and the whole length of time that LaFarge  
11 company has been in operation at the Joppa plant, not  
12 only have they provided so many good-paying jobs for  
13 our citizens, not only Metropolis -- and the  
14 sentiments goes along with Joppa and the surrounding  
15 area. They have been more than that. They have been  
16 corporate sponsorship for so many other things  
17 through the college, the school systems, and every  
18 civic group, probably, and nonprofit organization.

19                   To speak of a few, Relay for Life;  
20 Building Together, which takes homes that need work  
21 done on them. They have a team that actually comes  
22 out from the plant. So they do a lot of community  
23 service work in our community and we do thank them  
24 for that. Not only do they do so many things in that  
25 -- plus the tax structure, just like Mr. Johnson

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1 said. That all helps. This would be a tremendous  
2 boost to our economy through the Union Brothers and  
3 -- not only for Joppa and their surrounding area,  
4 but Metropolis would benefit greatly from this.

5 And I see no negatives. All I see from  
6 this opportunity for Joppa to grow is positive. I do  
7 thank the EPA and your time and efforts. I would  
8 encourage that we move as fast as we can. The extra  
9 jobs and the economy boost is a tremendous asset to  
10 the City of Metropolis and the surrounding area.  
11 Thank you.

12 HEARING OFFICER FROST: Thank you,  
13 Mayor McDaniel.

14 Is there anyone else?

15 Mr. Derosé.

16 LOUIS DEROSE: My name is Louis Derosé,  
17 L-O-U-I-S, D-E-R-O-S-E. I'm the environmental public  
18 relations manager at the LaFarge Joppa Cement Plant.  
19 I would like to thank the Illinois EPA for their  
20 efforts in issuing the permit last year and for their  
21 continued and timely efforts in preparing the permit  
22 revision that we're discussing tonight. I'd also  
23 like to thank the local communities for their support  
24 of our efforts and for all of our key supporters,  
25 particularly those who showed up tonight to support

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1 LaFarge in this effort. Thank you.  
2 HEARING OFFICER FROST: Thank you,  
3 Mr. Derose.  
4 Is there anyone else that would like to  
5 make any comments?  
6 If there isn't, then we will close the  
7 hearing. For our director, Doug Scott, I'd like to  
8 thank you all for coming, and the hearing is closed.

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1 STATE OF ILLINOIS )  
 ) SS:  
2 COUNTY OF JOHNSON )  
3

4 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

5 I, Kristy Casey, a Notary Public in and for the  
6 County of Johnson, State of Illinois, do hereby  
7 certify:

8 That the said proceeding was taken before me as  
9 a Notary Public at the said time and place and was  
10 taken down in shorthand writing by me;

11 That the said proceeding was thereafter under my  
12 direction transcribed by the use of computer-assisted  
13 transcription and that the foregoing transcript  
14 constitutes a full, true, and correct report of the  
15 proceedings which then and there took place;

16 I further certify that I am not an attorney or  
17 relative of any party or otherwise interested in the  
18 outcome of this proceeding.

19 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed  
20 my hand and affixed my official seal this the 22nd  
21 day of May 2007.

22 Kristy Casey  
23 Certified Shorthand Reporter  
24 Notary Public in and for the  
25 County of Johnson, State  
of Illinois

My Commission Expires:  
June 18, 2007