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ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
METROPOLIS, ILLINOIS

The following is a transcript of a
public hearing held in the above-entitled matter
at the Metropolis Community Center, Metropolis,
Illinois, on the 7th day of June, 2006, commencing
at the hour of 7:00 p.m.

1 HEARING OFFICER FROST: Good evening, my
2 name is Brad Frost, I am the presiding officer at
3 the hearing tonight. I'd like to thank everyone
4 for coming to the hearing. We have other
5 employees here from the Illinois EPA and I will
6 introduce them in a moment after this segment.
7 The hearing is being held by the Illinois
8 Environmental Protection Agency Bureau of Air and
9 the hearing is being held to accept comments on
10 LaFarge Corporation's application to increase
11 production at their facility located at 2500
12 Portland Road in Grand Chain.

13 LaFarge is required to obtain a
14 construction permit because the production
15 increase will result in an increase in air
16 emissions. A verbatim record of this hearing is
17 being taken tonight so I request that you keep
18 conversations and noise to a minimum so that the
19 court reporter can easily transcribe the hearing.
20 Any person who wishes to make oral comments or ask
21 questions may do so as long as the comments are
22 relevant to the issue before the Illinois EPA and
23 that's the proposed production increase.

24 We have registration cards at the table

1 outside and I ask that you fill them out, there is
2 two purposes for that, one of them is if you want
3 to come up and make comments tonight to keep your
4 order in line and then the other is that we will
5 send you a response to all the comments that we
6 receive tonight and in writing while the comment
7 period is open, put together a response to those
8 and we will send them out to everyone who fills
9 out a card.

10 If you have a time constraint, please
11 let me know because I will try to get you up at
12 the front of the line so that you can get your
13 comments made or questions asked and get going.
14 When you come up to the microphone please speak
15 into the microphone, please state your name and
16 any affiliation. If you don't have an
17 affiliation, you can just say you represent
18 yourself or what have you. Again questions and
19 comments should be relevant to the subject and not
20 repetitious and also arguing or dialogue with any
21 speaker will not be allowed, also please respect
22 anyone who comes up to the microphone, you know,
23 sometimes it's difficult to come up and speak in
24 front of people so let's respect everyone who

1 comes up to the microphone to make comments or ask
2 questions. 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
7 and then I will direct whoever is appropriate to
8 answer.

9 Once the hearing is adjourned this
10 evening, the hearing record will remain open until
11 July 7, 2006. During this time all relevant
12 written comments, documents and data will be
13 accepted and entered into the hearing record as
14 exhibits. Please send all comments to my
15 attention Brad Frost, Hearing Officer, Illinois
16 EPA, 1021 North Grand Avenue, East, P.O. Box
17 19276, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276. Written
18 comments need not be notarized and should be post
19 marked by July 7, 2006. I'd now like to introduce
20 the Illinois EPA staff present, to my right,
21 immediately to my right is Bob Smet who is the
22 engineer who drafted the permit and reviewed the
23 application; Chris Romaine who is his manager, the
24 manager of the construction permit unit and

1 Rebecca Bandy who is acting community relations
2 officer, she's at the table outside. That is it
3 for my presentation, we also have hearing agendas
4 at the table. The next item on our hearing agenda
5 is a description of the project by Mr. Bob Smet.

6 MR. SMET: Good evening, my name is
7 Bob Smet, I am a permit engineer in the Illinois
8 EPA's Bureau of Air. I will be giving you a brief
9 description of the project. LaFarge has requested
10 a construction permit to expand its Joppa Portland
11 Cement Plant located near Grand Chain. The key
12 part of the expansion project is the installation
13 of two new preheater/precalciner kiln systems.
14 This will be accompanied by the shutdown of one of
15 the two existing kilns, kiln No. 2.

16 Because of the shutdown of kiln No. 2
17 the removal of other units at the site and
18 enhanced controls to be utilized at the expanded
19 plant, the annual emissions of key pollutants,
20 namely sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides,
21 particulate matter and volatile organic material
22 will not increase significantly. This is the
23 result of the use of low-nox burners on all kilns,
24 selective catalytic reduction on the new kilns and

1 multiple baghouses throughout the plant.

2 On the other hand potential emissions of
3 carbon monoxide or CO will increase significantly
4 with the proposed expansion. As a result CO
5 emissions from the kilns will be required to meet
6 best available control technology. LaFarge will
7 be required to use good combustion practices to
8 minimize CO emissions from the kilns. In addition
9 the plant essentially in its entirety is required
10 to meet federal emission standards for control of
11 particulate matter emissions which were developed
12 to control emissions of hazardous air pollutants
13 with the use of maximum achievable control
14 technology.

15 The air quality analysis for CO
16 submitted by LaFarge and reviewed by the Illinois
17 EPA shows that the proposed project will not cause
18 or contribute to violations of the ambient air
19 quality standards for CO. The proposed permit
20 contains limitations on and requirements for
21 operation of the expanded plant. The permit also
22 establishes appropriate testing, monitoring,
23 recordkeeping and reporting requirements. This
24 includes continuous emissions monitoring for the

1 kilns' emissions of sulfur dioxide, nitrogen
2 oxides, carbon monoxide and opacity.

3 In closing the Illinois EPA is proposing
4 to grant construction permit for LaFarge's
5 proposed expansion. We welcome your comments or
6 questions on our proposed action. Thanks.

7 HEARING OFFICER FROST: Next, the
8 company has a brief presentation or a few words
9 that they want to say.

10 MR. DEROSE: Again my name is Louis
11 DeRose, I am the environmental and public
12 relations manager for the LaFarge's Joppa Cement
13 Plant. I encourage the Illinois EPA's permission
14 for the construction permit for the proposed
15 expansion and modernization of the Joppa plant.
16 The Illinois EPA draft permit meets all legal
17 requirements. It protects human health and the
18 environment and allows for the expansion and
19 modernization of the existing facility.

20 The proposed investment by LaFarge for
21 the plant is an investment in Southern Illinois
22 and in addition to preserving existing plant jobs
23 additional jobs will be created both at the plant
24 and surrounding communities. I'd like to thank

1 the Illinois EPA for their effort to prepare the
2 draft permit and for holding this public hearing.
3 I'd also like to thank our local communities and
4 members who showed up tonight in support of
5 LaFarge and its efforts, thank you.

6 HEARING OFFICER FROST: Thank you,
7 Mr. DeRose. Now we will have comments and
8 questions. As you come up to the mike state your
9 name for the record and then make your comments or
10 ask your questions and spell your name. The first
11 person is Clarence Russell.

12 MR. RUSSELL: My name is Clarence
13 Russell, I am the president of the Joppa/Maple
14 Grove School Board here on behalf of Joppa/Maple
15 Grove School Board and administration, we are in
16 full agreement with this proposal and we request
17 that you grant the necessary permit, that is all I
18 have.

19 HEARING OFFICER FROST: Next speaker we
20 have is Clifford Johnson, Jr.

21 MR. JOHNSON: My name is Clifford
22 Johnson, I have lived in Joppa all my life. I
23 become Mayor now of Joppa and the village and
24 board members are in agreement with the facility

1 going ahead with their improvement, we have no
2 complaints at all what has happened so far with
3 this plant and they have been very helpful to this
4 village and they have furnished jobs and even
5 trucking jobs for hauling the cement so we
6 appreciate every effort. They have not as far as
7 I'm concerned broken any rules with the EPA and I
8 hope that when they put this in they will continue
9 to do a good job that they have been doing, we are
10 very proud to be part of the plant and part of the
11 area, we thank you all.

12 HEARING OFFICER FROST: Thank you Mayor
13 Johnson. The next speaker we have Mayor McDaniel
14 of Metropolis.

15 MR. MCDANIEL: My name is Billy
16 McDaniel. I am here tonight to represent the city
17 and the city government here. We have written
18 letters of support for this project. The city
19 council which consists of eight council members
20 are totally in agreement with it. We have every
21 confidence in the EPA, the people representing the
22 EPA, we know that you have the best benefit of the
23 citizens and the community at heart, we do know
24 that ever what you decide will be definitely and

1 we do urge you to do what is right. Joppa is a
2 community down in the lower part of the county
3 that does need the economic import, not only the
4 18 jobs that is going to be created from this
5 project, the spin off of \$451 million dollars, I
6 mean is just overwhelming. Right here in the City
7 of Metropolis we have experienced a new hotel that
8 is a 70 million dollar project and the input off
9 of the spin off of those crafts is -- you know,
10 unless you been involved in it, people just don't
11 realize it and we have a work force here in the
12 community that's as good as any place in the
13 country, our men are willing to work, they're
14 willing to work hard, they do a great job, the
15 union representatives there are super to work with
16 and as far as the City of Metropolis, we do
17 encourage the EPA to give every consideration that
18 you possibly can to this project, we do support
19 it.

20 HEARING OFFICER FROST: Thank you, Mayor
21 McDaniel. Is Senator Lutchefeld here?

22 MR. FORBY: Senator Forby.

23 HEARING OFFICER FROST: I am sorry, I
24 got it mixed up who was coming, please come up to

1 the microphone.

2 MR. FORBY: I want to thank you here
3 tonight, I want to thank everybody for showing up
4 tonight. When you see a public meeting like this
5 that means things is happening, things we got to
6 do so we're proud. I just got off the phone with
7 Brandon Phelps on the way down here, he had
8 another meeting to go to so I'm down here today,
9 we are both a hundred percent in support of this
10 project. As the legislator Brandon and I's jobs
11 as No. 1 issue for us the State of Illinois, the
12 economic development, economic of the State of
13 Illinois with the budget problem jobs is going to
14 bring us out of that problem so this here is going
15 to help the State of Illinois, it's going to help
16 Massac County, put people back to work, take care
17 of the issues and the problems that we have in the
18 State of Illinois.

19 I have a good feeling about the State of
20 Illinois, I think we hit bottom a couple years ago
21 and I think we are coming out of it now. I think
22 jobs like this is going to show that we are going
23 to come out of it and I think you are going to see
24 more and more in the down part of the State of

1 Illinois and Brandon and I, we are going to work
2 together whatever we can do to work with the EPA,
3 work with the City or anybody else to create jobs,
4 that is what it's all about, we do appreciate you
5 being here tonight, anything you need out of us
6 all you got to do is give us a call, thank you.

7 HEARING OFFICER FROST: Thank you,
8 Senator Forby. The next person I have is Barbara
9 McKasson.

10 MS. MCKASSON: My name is Barbara
11 McKasson and I am representing Sierra Club and I
12 mainly at this point just have questions for you.
13 We would like to know what fuels you are using,
14 the company is now using at the Joppa Plant, what
15 fuels the plant will be allowed to use in the new
16 kilns? What pollutants is LaFarge required to
17 monitor for? How often do the pollutants need to
18 be monitored?

19 HEARING OFFICER FROST: Do you want us
20 to answer these?

21 MS. MCKASSON: Do you want me to pause
22 after each one? I can't write as I am not
23 prepared to write down.

24 HEARING OFFICER FROST: Do you want to

1 read them and hand us your statement and we can go
2 through them?

3 MS. MCKASSON: Sure. Okay, so how often
4 do the pollutants need to be monitored? How often
5 is LaFarge required to perform stack tests? Is
6 LaFarge currently in compliance with all the
7 pollution regulations? When I looked on the
8 internet, it states that LaFarge has some
9 unresolved violations, that is on the EPA web site
10 and we would like to know what these violations
11 are, it does not state that on the web site. Are
12 there any other violations outstanding other than
13 what is on that record on the internet? Has EPA
14 ever received complaints from the public
15 concerning the LaFarge plant in Joppa? What are
16 the other major sources of pollution in the area?
17 Is EPA concerned that the ambient air quality will
18 be impacted by LaFarge to the point that it will
19 be difficult for other industry to settle in this
20 area? Did U.S. EPA or IEPA do air modeling for
21 this area and if not why not? We understand
22 LaFarge plans to net out of the sulfur dioxide,
23 the nitrous and since the LaFarge Joppa plant is
24 close to the significant threshold on these air

1 pollutants we are concerned about this so in
2 relation to this we want to know how will LaFarge
3 be reporting their emissions and what is the
4 hourly slash daily slash monthly limit for these
5 pollutants and how are they measured and how often
6 are these measurements reported? Are there now or
7 will there be continuous emission monitors and if
8 not why not? The carbon monoxide emissions will
9 be significant and what monitoring will be
10 required for the carbon monoxide? How will
11 LaFarge be reporting these emissions and again
12 what is the hourly daily monthly limit for this
13 pollutant? How is it measured? How often are the
14 measurements reported and will there be continuous
15 emission monitors for the carbon monoxide? And
16 just wondering, so you give oral answers now and
17 then written answers at a later date, is that
18 how --

19 HEARING OFFICER FROST: We'll give oral
20 answers at least to some of them, right?

21 MR. SMET: Right.

22 HEARING OFFICER FROST: Certainly all
23 the questions we will respond to in writing at --
24 the comment period closes and at that time we

1 collect all the written comments and oral comments
2 that we have received, we review them and we put
3 together our agency's responses to them, okay?

4 MS. MCKASSON: Not necessarily all of
5 them will be answered before the end of the
6 comment period?

7 HEARING OFFICER FROST: We'll answer to
8 some extent right now, some of them but certainly
9 if there is a pertinent question that you have
10 that we need to go into detail with you, more
11 detail than maybe we can give right now, then we
12 can sit down and we can talk after the hearing,
13 you can call us, we will try to give you as much
14 detail as we can right now. Can we keep this?

15 MS. MCKASSON: Yes.

16 HEARING OFFICER FROST: I want to enter
17 this into the record as Exhibit No. 128.

18 MR. SMET: Off the top I want to talk
19 about among other things the netting for SO₂ and
20 Nox and how it will be demonstrated that those
21 emissions will be charted, stay with those
22 significant levels, under PSD they went back to
23 look at past actuals and can ensure that emissions
24 after expansion will not exceed those past actuals

1 plus the significance threshold of 40 tons for SO2
2 and NOX and so the way to ensure that they won't
3 exceed the past actuals plus the 39 is through use
4 of continuous emissions monitoring so that's good
5 as it gets for all intensive purposes for ensuring
6 that emissions are not exceeded.

7 Air quality issues, we have run the
8 numbers, we only had to do it for CO, the way the
9 numbers come out there is still plenty of room for
10 increment in the area. The other sources in the
11 vicinity, Chris can help me on some of this, but I
12 am aware of Electric Energy in Joppa, other major
13 sources, I don't have it all in the top of my head
14 what all the major sources are from different
15 parts of the state, I know Electric Energy is down
16 here. For continuous emissions monitoring, we are
17 requiring that they do it for NOX, SO2, CO and
18 opacity.

19 Let's see what else here, the fuels that
20 they're currently using are petroleum coal, coal,
21 diesel oil and natural gas. What fuels to be used
22 in the new kilns we are keeping it at that. They
23 will be required to do stack testing on the kilns.
24 I can't answer the one about violations. I am not

1 aware of anything from the public concerning
2 complaints about the Joppa plant. Illinois EPA
3 has done modeling for the area, yeah, we will have
4 to go into more detail on these, might take a
5 while but those are the short answers for it. We
6 are required to put together a responsiveness
7 summary to all questions raised here so that will
8 be incumbent upon us to take all the questions and
9 develop that summary for you or others that raise
10 questions.

11 MS. MCKASSON: How often does the
12 company have to report all these readings that
13 they get to EPA?

14 MR. SMET: As in providing the
15 information about what is coming off the monitors,
16 right offhand --

17 MR. ROMAINE: Generally when a source of
18 this size is required to do continuous emission
19 monitoring, they are required to submit quarterly
20 reports of their emission data.

21 HEARING OFFICER FROST: As he said we
22 will put together a response, if there are
23 questions that, you know, are more -- obviously in
24 writing we can obviously go into much greater

1 detail but if there are some questions that you
2 feel that you need answered to develop written
3 comments, certainly contact us if you need -- if
4 you need a more detailed answer like compliance
5 history or complaint history or something like
6 that which obviously we don't have the personnel
7 or the data here tonight on the compliance history
8 and data so certainly contact me, I have my cards
9 are out at the table and my name is on most of the
10 documents here and we can get you that information
11 before the end of the comment period if you feel
12 you need it to develop your comments, your written
13 comments, thank you, Mrs. McKasson. The next
14 person I have is James Wells.

15 MR. JOHNSON: There is two other major
16 plants in this area, Honeywell and American
17 Electric Impala, other two major plants in the
18 area.

19 HEARING OFFICER FROST: Mr. James Wells.

20 MR. WELLS: My name is James Wells,
21 although I'm a retired employee with LaFarge
22 Corporation, I am representing no one other than
23 myself tonight. I strongly support LaFarge and
24 their efforts to obtain the construction permit

1 and actually get the project started. I think
2 when the project is actually started and the
3 construction process is over and completed and the
4 new facility is operating, it will be a tremendous
5 asset for this area. It will provide jobs, it
6 will provide many other benefits to local economy
7 and I believe that LaFarge can construct and
8 operate the plant under the guidelines that would
9 be presented in the permit and I urge you to issue
10 the permit for them, thank you.

11 HEARING OFFICER FROST: The next person
12 I have is Mark Donham.

13 MR. DONHAM: Thank you very much, my
14 name is Mark Donham, Rural Route Brookport. First
15 I'd like to say that I'm definitely in favor of
16 jobs, I don't know any person that doesn't think
17 that working people that want to work ought to be
18 able to work and I just want to make some comments
19 from the environmental side, sort of not one way
20 or another, but one thing to pretend or act like
21 these emissions aren't having effects is really
22 not realistic and to me it doesn't seem realistic
23 that LaFarge would want to invest so much money
24 into technologies that aren't going to be able to

1 last real long and one of the things that is
2 missing off of the permit, it talks about all
3 these different emissions but the one emission it
4 doesn't mention different which may be the most
5 important one carbon dioxide and we know that it
6 has become a huge issue because of the climate
7 change and all you have to do is been watching the
8 mainstream media in the last couple weeks to see
9 how important that is becoming. In 1957 when they
10 started measuring the carbon dioxide levels in the
11 atmosphere 24 hours continuously in Montelo it was
12 about 318 parts per million, now we're at about
13 380 parts per million and growing and even if you
14 would stop all of these priority pollutants which
15 are not going to be -- you even admit that even
16 though it's a major source now, there is going to
17 be an increase in these pollutants although it's
18 going to be relatively small but it's not just the
19 one source that's causing the problems, it's all
20 the sources put together all over the world and
21 that's why I would think that a company like
22 LaFarge would want to show that it is actually
23 thinking towards the future and at least take some
24 investment and put towards some sort of

1 alternative energy source so that it can show that
2 it's just not sort of a barbaric type of industry
3 that's burning coal and tires and thinks it's just
4 going to be able to burn that forever because it's
5 not because the world by pressures are going to
6 become so strong that people are not going to be
7 able to continue to put carbon dioxide into the
8 atmosphere willy nilly, it's just not going to
9 happen.

10 Also if you go up to Clingman's Dome or
11 anywhere along the Blue Ridge, you can see massive
12 amounts of trees dead and what is causing that is
13 mostly sulfur dioxide emissions from around here
14 because they have been tracking this for a number
15 of years and this has been reported in such
16 radical publications as National Geographic and
17 Smithsonian, it's no secret that what is happening
18 along the Blue Ridge has connection to pollution
19 that is happening here. Also the acidification in
20 streams and lakes in the Northeast is a serious
21 issue, it also has been tracked from coal fire
22 plants in the Ohio Valley so my question is how
23 long can it keep going and isn't it in the
24 financial interest both of the state and of a

1 large company like LaFarge to start investing in
2 nonpolluting alternative energies? Thank you.

3 HEARING OFFICER FROST: Thank you,
4 Mr. Donham. Does LaFarge want to address any of
5 the comments about --

6 MR. ROMAINE: In terms of the emissions
7 from coal fired power plants that contribute --
8 the contribution to acid rain, finite particulate
9 matter, ozone, those are certainly environmental
10 concerns that are definite interests to us
11 representing the environmental interests of the
12 State of Illinois. They are also great interests
13 of the United States Environmental Protection
14 Agency. The way that those impacts are addressed
15 are with new regulatory programs, we went through
16 a first stage of the acid rain program in 1995, we
17 have had substantial reductions in sulfur dioxide
18 emissions and then nitrogen oxide emissions from
19 coal fired power plants, since then we have
20 completed a first stage of the NOX trading
21 program including Illinois effecting the eastern
22 United States for the last -- this is the third
23 year of that and U.S. EPA has recently enacted a
24 clean air interstate program that will be taking

1 another slash at the emission of carbon dioxide
2 and nitrogen oxides from coal fired power plants
3 so in terms of the overall loading that coal fired
4 power plants contribute to the atmosphere, that is
5 going down. The way it's addressed is by specific
6 programs that target the existing sources that are
7 largely contributing to that problem, it is not
8 something that we worry about simply when we have
9 a new project for us, in that regard this facility
10 is well controlled.

11 I was hoping also that LaFarge would
12 come forward and make some comments about energy
13 efficiency of this new kiln system as it could
14 relate to improved fuel efficiency generating
15 more, creating more portland cement while using
16 less fuel, I think that is something that perhaps
17 LaFarge would like to discuss briefly.

18 HEARING OFFICER FROST: Would anyone
19 from LaFarge like to come up and address that?

20 MR. DEROSE: At this point we are not
21 prepared to make any statements.

22 HEARING OFFICER FROST: The next person
23 I have is Kristi Hanson.

24 MS. HANSON: My name is Kristi Hanson,

1 K-r-i-s-t-i, H-a-n-s-o-n. I live at Rural Route
2 Brookport, I have lived here for 27 years and in
3 those years I have come to understand the problems
4 with pollution that we have in this area. I am
5 also president of Jackson Purchase Audobon Society
6 which is an all volunteer chapter of National
7 Audobon and our group is very concerned with the
8 cumulative effects of the pollution in this area.

9 We have as was stated the two coal
10 plants, we have West Faco, we have the cement
11 plant, we have Yusac (spelled phonetically) across
12 the river, we have Calvert City which is a
13 chemical complex. We have the barge industry that
14 uses diesel. We have the interstate that has a
15 lot of pollution from the traffic and where I live
16 I smell the coal plants, I smell sulfur that
17 rotten egg smell as well as West Faco when I am in
18 the prevailing winds. In this area all you have
19 to do is go across the bridges to see the
20 pollution in the air, sometimes you can hardly see
21 the rivers, you can feel it in your eyes and your
22 lungs, the effects of the pollution in this area.

23 The tire burning is really a huge
24 concern to me and there are baghouses I understand

1 but the baghouses burst, I have learned that from
2 Calvert City from learning about LWD, the wood
3 waste disposal which is now closed. The house I
4 live in has solar panels, we had solar panels for
5 26 years, we are completely off the grid. We have
6 laptop computers and we have lights and, you know,
7 we have regular household and they do work and
8 that is the future and we are going to have to get
9 off these fossil fuels that are polluting and
10 ruining our environment and, you know, it just is
11 getting so serious, you can just not add on more
12 and more pollution in this area. We have high
13 rates of cancer and other diseases, it's just not
14 right and it's not worth it and even though the
15 jobs are really important if the quality of life
16 is unhealthy, it's just not worth it and we will
17 be submitting further comments in the future,
18 thank you.

19 HEARING OFFICER FROST: Thank you,
20 Mrs. Hanson. Next I have Ronald Duncan.

21 MR. DUNCAN: I have great timing with
22 major appliances. My name is Ron Duncan, R-o-n,
23 D-u-n-c-a-n, I am the associate vice president of
24 Economic & Institutional Advancement for Shawnee

1 Community College. LaFarge is within our college
2 district and on the right day at the right time
3 when the trees are blowing you can actually stand
4 in the back of the campus and see the LaFarge
5 plant from where we are so we are in proximity to
6 the plant. I come here tonight representing the
7 administration and the staff of Shawnee Community
8 College strongly encouraging your adoption of the
9 construction permit. By the way thank you for
10 holding this hearing, I think it's a good
11 reflection of opportunity to demonstrate
12 citizenship among the various people of our
13 community, we are glad to hear all sides and all
14 views represented here tonight.

15 I think it's also important to realize
16 probably the development, the recent development,
17 of industry in Southern Illinois for the last 15
18 to 20 years, I can't remember a project that has
19 had more actual real capital investment with such
20 a low environmental pollution as this project has
21 in terms of its overall impact and cumulative
22 impact as we go forward. Again I think that is a
23 very, very important point to realize. Tonight
24 you have heard a lot of comments about other

1 industries we have in the area, again these
2 cumulative effects, we are all concerned about our
3 environment, I don't think anyone living in the
4 southern most part of the state isn't concerned to
5 some degree about the environment we live in and
6 where we live. We think this is a positive step,
7 any time you see a company willing to make a happy
8 dollar investment in their community, that says
9 something about their appreciation of the value of
10 where they are and very few companies these days
11 want to spoil or ruin that by becoming an eye sore
12 within the community.

13 LaFarge has been a wonderful corporate
14 citizen, they have done good things within the
15 context of the community and we believe that their
16 best days are ahead in terms of developing this
17 project and other projects they mandated, we thank
18 you for coming and allowing us to have a voice in
19 the process and again if there is anything Shawnee
20 Community College can do to aid your efforts here,
21 we will be more than happy to do that.

22 HEARING OFFICER FROST: Thank you. That
23 is all the cards I had filled out. Is there
24 anyone else here who hasn't made a comment yet who

1 would like to make a comment?

2 MR. POLLACK: My name is Michael
3 Pollack, I also represent LaFarge and I would like
4 to read a letter from Representative Brandon
5 Phelps who asked Senator Forby to state he was not
6 able to make it. Senator Forby is representing
7 Representative Phelps as Representative Phelps is
8 representing Senate Forby at another event. Dear
9 Friends, I'd like to thank Senator Forby for being
10 here tonight in support of LaFarge and
11 representing me in my absence. LaFarge has been a
12 vital employer through the years for residents of
13 Southern Illinois with its products being used in
14 residential, commercial and public works,
15 construction projects throughout North America. I
16 am in total support of expansion, it is my strong
17 hope the EPA does all it can in regards to the
18 expansion project. If there is anyway I can
19 assist you please call my office at 618-253-4189.
20 Sincerely, Brandon W. Phelps, State Representative
21 118th District.

22 HEARING OFFICER FROST: Thank you, that
23 will be added into the record as Exhibit No. 129.
24 Is there someone else, please come up to the

1 microphone.

2 EVERETT: My name is Everett
3 (inaudible). I am trustee of the Village of
4 Joppa. I have lived in Joppa for 52 years. I
5 never want to complain about LaFarge. It appears
6 from hearing this evening that LaFarge is using
7 the latest technology and continues to do so in
8 the future and uses technology to protect the
9 environment as it becomes available, I don't know
10 what else a person can do, I really don't, I say
11 go ahead with the project the sooner the better,
12 thank you.

13 HEARING OFFICER FROST: Thank you. Is
14 there anyone else who would like to make
15 comments?

16 MR. WAGNER: My name is Neil Wagner, I
17 am a business representative for the carpenters
18 here in Metropolis, Massac, I represent five
19 counties. Actually I am here representing 33
20 counties of carpenters in the lower Southern
21 Illinois. I have listened to all the comments and
22 agreed with -- I'd probably make a good
23 politician, I agree with everybody, I know we need
24 the jobs, Senator Forby, my union, my people need

1 jobs too and this would be a great opportunity for
2 that but I also have my wife, children,
3 grandchildren who also live here and we want them
4 to grow up in a healthy environment too so we
5 realize that we must have a good environment and a
6 good economic, must go hand in hand here. With
7 that I say we have every confidence in the EPA to
8 make the right decision regarding that. I am also
9 on the water board and I know that EPA is pretty
10 tough on their standards and I say that I have
11 every confidence that the EPA will make the right
12 decision, thank you.

13 HEARING OFFICER FROST: Thank you, sir.
14 Is there anyone else whether you have made
15 comments or not that has any other questions? If
16 no one has any other comments or questions I will
17 close the hearing. First let me say again
18 comments must be postmarked by July 7, 2006, they
19 don't need to be notarized and should be sent to
20 me, we have hearing agendas out there that have my
21 address and phone number on them and for our
22 director Doug Scott I would like to thank you all
23 for coming here tonight, the hearing is
24 adjourned.

1 STATE OF ILLINOIS)
2) SS.
3 COUNTY OF CLINTON)
4
5
6

7 I, Kimberly Gammon, do hereby certify on
8 oath that the above and foregoing transcript is a
9 true and correct transcript of the proceedings had
10 in the above-entitled cause on the date set forth
11 herein.

12
13 Dated this _____ day of _____ 20__.

14
15
16
17 _____
18 Kimberly Gammon, CSR 084-3586

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