

## Weaver, William

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**From:** Kai Rose <clientservices@sargents.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 03, 2013 4:42 PM  
**To:** Weaver, William  
**Subject:** DEP Public Hearing - Perdue Grain & Oil Feed - 12/13/2012

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Please let me know if there is anything else I can do for you.

Thanks,

*Kainani S. Rose*

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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

\* \* \* \* \*

IN RE: PERDUE GRAIN AND OILSEED PERMIT APPLICATIONS

BEFORE: LISA KASIANOWITZ, Chair, Community  
Relations Coordinator  
ERIC LINGLE, Chief of the Registration,  
Permitting and Certification Section  
TOM HANLON, Chief of the Facilities  
Permitting Section  
AMANDA WITMAN, Office of Communications

HEARING: Thursday, December 13, 2012  
6:10 p.m.

LOCATION: Hellam Fire Company Hall  
163 East Market Street  
Hellam, PA 17406

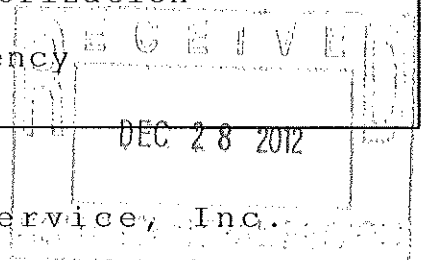
ORIGINAL

WITNESSES: Wayne Black, Michael Martin, June Evans,  
Judy Nissely, Carole Bromer, Nick Bromer,  
Dean Burkholder, Jennifer Ericson, Warren  
Evans, Barbara May, Tammy Baer, Pat Lemay,  
Chief Fred Smeltzer, Steve Izzo, Steve  
Wolf, Seth Grove, John Eifert, Jane Heller,  
Richard King, Annette Logan, Kevin Stewart

Reporter: Jolynn C. Prunoske

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## P R O C E E D I N G S

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CHAIR:

All right. We're going to go ahead and begin here. Thank you all for coming. My name is Lisa Kasianowitz. I'm the South Central community relations coordinator for the Department of Environmental Protection. You all are here tonight for a public hearing on Perdue Grain and Oilseed, recent application submitted by them for air quality and storage tanks. We are here to receive comments from residents and interested parties regarding the air quality and storage tank permits, for which Perdue Grain and Oilseed have applied, to construct a grain elevator, a soybean oil extraction facility and also there will be storage tanks located there for the holding of hexane. This is located in Conoy Township, Lancaster County.

I would like to begin by thanking Hellam Township for the use of the facility tonight and Hellam Fire Company. Next I'm going to introduce who I have here with me from DEP and then I will introduce who I have here from Perdue.

So first off, again, my name is Lisa Kasianowitz, South Central community relations

1 coordinator and I have here with me --- I have Tom  
2 Hanlon, who's the permitting section chief for our air  
3 quality program, H-A-N-L-O-N. And then I also have  
4 Bill Weaver. He's with our air quality program. He's  
5 the program manager for air quality. From DEP's  
6 storage tanks program I have Eric Lingle, L-I-N-G-L-E.  
7 I also have my office of communications, Amanda  
8 Witman, W-I-T-M-A-N, and she will be helping to  
9 facilitate the hearing tonight. Last from Perdue I  
10 have Wayne Black who will be speaking on behalf of  
11 Perdue.

12                   Since this may be your first experience  
13 at a public hearing I want to take a few minutes to  
14 talk about how our time will be spent here together  
15 tonight. We'll begin by explaining how comments are  
16 recorded in what's called our administrative record.  
17 DEP staff will then provide information on the permits  
18 for which we receive applications on. Please note  
19 that staff will not entertain questions during their  
20 speeches. After DEP gives the speeches, I will invite  
21 Perdue up to give a speech as well. No questions will  
22 be entertained during the speech as well. This is  
23 necessary so that we can share additional information  
24 on the program for you.

25                   It is important to note that DEP is

1 holding this hearing to allow interested parties the  
2 opportunity to comment on the air quality and storage  
3 tank permits so that our staff can listen and gather  
4 the comments and respond to them in our written  
5 response comment document. Questions posed at any  
6 time during tonight's hearing will be addressed in our  
7 comment response document. The Department will wait  
8 until all comments are received, whether spoken  
9 tonight or sent in writing up until December 17th,  
10 before we make any responses. So let me just be clear  
11 on that again. Questions posed at any time tonight  
12 will be responded to in our comment response document,  
13 which can be made available by request. And it'll  
14 also be posted on our website.

15           DEP will review all of these comments,  
16 all the relevant comments, given tonight on air  
17 quality and storage tanks and have them in our  
18 consideration of our permit review applications. Next  
19 I'm going to invite Tom Hanlon up to speak a little  
20 bit about the air quality permits that we have  
21 received from Perdue.

22           MR. HANLON:

23           Good evening. Thank you everybody for  
24 coming tonight. As Lisa said, my name's Tom Hanlon  
25 and I am a permitting chief in the air quality program

1 of the DEP's South Central Regional Office. And  
2 currently Perdue Grain and Oilseed have submitted two  
3 air quality plans to our office referred to as phase  
4 one and phase two of the project for the proposed  
5 facility in Conoy Township in Lancaster County.

6           The first plan approval, generally  
7 referred to as phase one, was received on June 27th of  
8 this year and it was determined to be administratively  
9 complete on July 2nd of 2012. The phase one plan  
10 approvals is proposed for the installation of a grain  
11 elevator and equipment associated with that would  
12 consist of grain loading, unloading areas, dryer  
13 screens and storage bins. And we reviewed that  
14 application and prepared a draft plan approval back in  
15 October. And we published notice of our intent to  
16 issue the plan approval in the Pennsylvania Bulletin  
17 on October 13. And we are currently in a comment  
18 period for that plan approval.

19           The second plan approval referred to as  
20 phase two, was received on August 13th of this year  
21 and determined to be administratively complete on  
22 August 23rd. And the phase two application are for  
23 the installation of the soybean processing facility  
24 including an oil extraction operation. The equipment  
25 with that would include cracking rolls, conditioners,



1 extractors as well as heaters and dryers. And  
2 currently we're in the technical review phase of that  
3 application.

4           And so as part of this public hearing  
5 we're here to solicit comments on those two  
6 applications and we'll also receive written comments  
7 on those applications by December 17th of this year.  
8 And, as Lisa eluded to, a copy of the phase one  
9 application that was submitted by Perdue as well as a  
10 copy of our draft plan approval and support of  
11 technical review memo, as well as a copy of the  
12 application submitted as phase two are located on our  
13 website, on DEP's website at DEP.state.pa.us under the  
14 heading of regional resources. We're in the South  
15 Central region, so if you go right to that site  
16 there's a section for community information. So if  
17 you click on that, you'll find a copy of the two  
18 applications as well as our draft plan approval for  
19 phase one and supporting information on those. Thank  
20 you.

21           CHAIR:

22           Thank you. Next by Eric Lingle of  
23 storage tanks to speak about the permits received from  
24 Perdue on the storage tanks.

25           MR. LINGLE:

1           Good evening, everybody. My name is Eric  
2 Lingle. I'm with the division of storage tanks out of  
3 DEP's central office in Harrisburg. I'm the permit  
4 chief there and the reason we're here tonight is  
5 because Perdue applied to us for what we call a site  
6 specific installation permit, otherwise known as ---  
7 by the acronym of an SSIP. They applied to us on  
8 October 2nd of this year for the installation of two  
9 20,000 gallon hexane tanks, above ground storage tanks  
10 storing hexane, what we consider regulated, hazardous  
11 substance in liquid form.

12           The reason the SSIP was required was  
13 because the two 20,000 tanks break our threshold of  
14 what we consider a new large above ground storage tank  
15 facility, which is set at 21,000 gallons. So having  
16 the aggregate capacity of 40,000 gallons at a new  
17 above ground storage tank facility cracked our  
18 regulatory threshold for them to meet by applying for  
19 a site specific installation permit. The SSIPs are  
20 reviewed by a number of individuals both in Central  
21 Office as well as out in our South Central Office by  
22 our tank folks out there. We also enlist the  
23 assistance of professional geologists and professional  
24 engineers in the review of these plans.

25           The overall scope of the SSIP itself, we

1 don't do a lot of these permits. A lot of folks  
2 aren't real familiar with them. The scope of the  
3 permit is essentially to determine the suitability of  
4 the site for the installation of the tank that is  
5 proposed. We look at issues such as geology, flood  
6 plains, wetlands, that kind of thing. Currently we're  
7 in the midst of the technical review phase of their  
8 SSIP application and that's why we're here tonight is  
9 to take into account your comments as well as comments  
10 already received and any comments we receive up  
11 through December 17th.

12                   Just to go beyond, just to give you some  
13 information on the storage tank program, in a case  
14 where an SSIP is issued and the applicant goes on to  
15 install the tanks, we do have a certification program  
16 which requires them to use DEP certified installers as  
17 well as a registration program that requires them to  
18 register the tanks with us. Along with that our  
19 ongoing regulatory requirements on tanks of this size  
20 would require generally a monthly maintenance check as  
21 well as a periodic tank integrity inspections. The  
22 tanks, of course, must be installed to meet all  
23 applicable industry standards for fire explosion, et  
24 cetera. Thank you.

25                   CHAIR:

1 Wayne Black, do you want to come up here?

2 MR. BLACK:

3 Yeah.

4 CHAIR:

5 Thank you.

6 MR. BLACK:

7 Lisa, thank you, ma'am.

8 CHAIR:

9 Uh-huh (yes).

10 MR. BLACK:

11 Thank you everyone for the opportunity to  
12 be able to speak tonight. Good evening. My name's  
13 Wayne Black. I'm the environmental director for  
14 Perdue Agribusiness, one of the Perdue family of  
15 companies. I'm here tonight on behalf of the company  
16 to give an overview of the proposed soybean process  
17 that's going to be located in Conoy in Lancaster  
18 County.

19 For those of you who aren't familiar with  
20 Perdue aggregates we provide agriculture, service and  
21 products to food and feed markets throughout the U.S.  
22 and the world. We currently operate four soybean  
23 process facilities and over 45 grain handling  
24 facilities with the capacity to store over 70 million  
25 bushels of grain and annually handle more than 250

1 million bushels.

2           The proposed facility will receive in  
3 processed soybeans from local and regional  
4 origination. It has two distinct, but equally  
5 important operations, the grain receiving and soybean  
6 processing. Each of these processes has specific  
7 emission sources that are significant to each  
8 operation, and thereby have emissions at each one of  
9 these sources. These emissions are subject to state  
10 and federal regulation, and therefore, we have applied  
11 for plan approvals with Pennsylvania DEP. These plan  
12 approvals would involve control technologies, emission  
13 monitoring and recordkeeping to be associated with to  
14 name a few. And before we can construct either of  
15 these two phases of the project we must receive  
16 approval from DEP.

17           The grain elevator that I spoke of will  
18 receive beans in. They will be dried and stored there  
19 prior to processing. The processing plan will take  
20 those bean, crack those beans, condition them, form  
21 them into flakes and then wash them with hexane. This  
22 hexane will remove the oil. At this point the flakes,  
23 which will be eventually dried and ground into meal  
24 and the oil itself, will go through hexane recovery.  
25 And this hexane recovery will go back to be reused and

1 processed again and again.

2           Over 90 percent of all the oil that's  
3 produced today in the world is produced by this type  
4 of method, by the hexane extraction method. The  
5 hexane extraction method is very effective and  
6 efficient in the removal of soybean oil. There are  
7 other means out there that are able to do this such as  
8 mechanical extrusion. The mechanical extrusion is  
9 much more energy intensive and thereby produces a  
10 large environmental footprint. Several things were  
11 considered in the citing of our facility and control  
12 and pollution prevention is just one of them. It's  
13 just as important as the engineering and the control  
14 technology in the process itself.

15           The South Central region in Pennsylvania  
16 is one of the largest producers of soybeans in the  
17 state. By citing the facility here we can ensure that  
18 vehicular transport of these beans to their final  
19 destination results in lower emissions from transport.  
20 We further minimize our environmental footprint by  
21 locating near the LCSWMA Waste-to-Energy facility.  
22 The energies from this facility in providing steam to  
23 our operation will reduce our need to combust fossil  
24 fuels for our operation. And the water that is used  
25 in our process will also come from --- it'll be

1 recycled and reused, thus diminishing any negative  
2 impacts on water resources.

3           Ozone Depletion is a complex issue and it  
4 comes from a varying number of sources depending on  
5 the photochemical reactivity and their location.  
6 These sources are diverse and include stationary  
7 sources such as power plants and industrial facilities  
8 and also mobile sources such as buses, trucks, car,  
9 passenger vehicles. The VOCs, which can potentially  
10 lead to ozone depletion from this facility are minor  
11 when considered to the other stationary sources that  
12 are located in this area, in the region. In designing  
13 the facility we've maximized hexane recovery. In  
14 doing that it reduces the VOCs and thereby we reduce  
15 our contribution to any type of ozone formation.

16           We are confident that the hexane levels  
17 or emissions from this plant will be well below those  
18 thresholds that are set by EPA for public health. To  
19 confirm this we've gone beyond what is required in the  
20 air approval --- air approval plan process or  
21 application by conducting modeling to ascertain what  
22 those levels are and their effect on air quality  
23 surrounding the plant. To do this we have retained  
24 nationally renowned experts in modeling and risk  
25 assessment to accomplish this. In doing this they

1 will conduct this model using EPA protocols set up by  
2 EPA and this model will take into account things such  
3 as meteorological data, which will include wind  
4 direction and temperature diversion. We also  
5 evaluated several other facilities, similar facilities  
6 to our own, and the controlled technologies that they  
7 employ. From the aspect of the practicality of  
8 permitting, permitting that source and its  
9 effectiveness as controlling emissions in the field,  
10 we evaluated the energy consumption, the efficiency of  
11 the device and the safety and operational safety  
12 aspect of the device as it relates to our process.  
13 And we are confident that we have selected in moving  
14 forward the correct control technology for our  
15 application that's included in our permit.

16           Our site specific storage plan will also  
17 include the submission of a spill response --- a spill  
18 prevention and response plan. The spill prevention  
19 response plan along with any other plans of safety in  
20 nature will be coordinated with local emergency  
21 planning commission and Conoy Township authorities.  
22 We believe that the control and the pollution  
23 prevention technology that's been submitted in our  
24 permits application, that being the air permit  
25 approval application and the site specific



1 implementation plan for the tanks, will meet or exceed  
2 the state and federal regulations in regards to air  
3 and meet or exceed the state regulation in regards to  
4 the storage tank. In addition these devices and the  
5 process will be constructed to meet national codes of  
6 which --- meet or exceed these national codes of which  
7 is the National Fire Protection Association. We have  
8 over 50 years of experience in operating these  
9 facilities, so we're not new to this game.

10           We have excellent safety and  
11 environmental records at each one of these sites. We  
12 currently have sites in Caulfield, North Carolina,  
13 Chesapeake, Virginia and Salisbury, Maryland where our  
14 corporate offices are directly adjacent from  
15 operations. The individuals that operate and maintain  
16 these systems on a daily basis are highly trained and  
17 skilled especially in the area of process safety  
18 management. And they have years of experience in  
19 operation of these plants.

20           In closing, Pennsylvania has a long  
21 history of preserving its agricultural lands for  
22 future generations and the citizens of York and  
23 Lancaster County have been forefront in that effort,  
24 but preservation alone may not be enough. This plant  
25 will provide the farmer a means to receive an

1 equitable return on their investment, and by Perdue  
2 providing that means, we look to partner in the  
3 state's agriculture preservation efforts. Thank you.

4 CHAIR:

5 Thank you. Okay. We will now begin our  
6 formal comment portion of the hearing. We have a  
7 professional stenographer on hand to record your  
8 comments for administrative record. Please note that  
9 the DEP's hearing process does not enable us to  
10 respond to questions posed while you are giving  
11 testimony. Please, of course, feel free to present  
12 your testimony in the form of a question, but realize  
13 that if you do, no one will respond to it this  
14 evening. I will simply thank you for your question  
15 and you can return to your seat. Response to all  
16 relevant testimony given this evening will be included  
17 in our comment response document.

18 First, I will call the names of those who  
19 pre-registered before the night of this hearing.  
20 Those who signed up this evening at the door will then  
21 next be given the opportunity to testify. So far we  
22 have 16 people registered to testify this evening with  
23 a couple of possibilities, so we'll get to those after  
24 the ones who are pre-registered testify. Please limit  
25 your remarks to ten minutes each. We will have a

1 timer and I will let you finish your thought, but at  
2 ten minutes I will cut off the time. If there are  
3 multiple representatives of a particular group, please  
4 have a representative of your group come up to give  
5 your overall comments. In order to hear from as many  
6 people as possible tonight, please refrain from  
7 repeating comments or concerns raised by previous  
8 speakers and please consider summarizing your remarks  
9 if you are also submitting written comments.

10 All in attending should be considerate of  
11 those presenting testimony by limiting noise and  
12 conversations so that your fellow people here can be  
13 heard and also so that our stenographer can get your  
14 name and your address and your testimony correct.  
15 When testifying, please begin by stating your name and  
16 your address for the record and be sure to spell out  
17 your name. If you forget, I will ask you to spell out  
18 your name and state your address for our stenographer.  
19 If you have a copy of your testimony that you brought  
20 tonight --- and we have a public comments box right  
21 there that you can simply drop off or if you're  
22 reading from it and then you want to drop it off, you  
23 can do that as well, so --- but either way if you  
24 brought any written responses you can drop them off in  
25 that box right there (indicating). Reminder that you

1 can also submit written comment up until December  
2 17th, and if you decided not to speak tonight, you can  
3 still do that. You can still submit written comment.

4                   Please remember there's a ten minute time  
5 frame. State your name, your address and spell out  
6 your last name for the stenographer. So I'm going to  
7 go ahead and start with calling off the names of the  
8 people who pre-registered, which begins with Michael  
9 Martin.

10                   MR. MARTIN:

11                   Thank you. My name is Mike Martin. I'm  
12 the chairman of the Hellam Township Board of  
13 Supervisors. On behalf of the Board I thank the  
14 Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection  
15 and --- for holding this hearing and also for Perdue  
16 for being here. And I'm also very grateful to the  
17 residents of Conoy East and West Donegal Townships,  
18 West Hempfield, Hellam Township, Bainbridge, Marietta,  
19 Wrightsville and Hellam Boroughs for being here this  
20 evening. I know we've all had other things to do and  
21 I thank you very much for taking the time to be there.

22                   If you haven't seen it, I think most of  
23 you already have, there have been maps handed out at  
24 the door. This is a map of Hellam Township. The star  
25 up there (indicating) is where the proposed plant will

1 be. North is that way. Prevailing winds are from the  
2 north and northwest. Prevailing winds will blow any  
3 emissions onto Hellam Township first. Okay?

4            Provided the proposed Perdue facility  
5 does not pose risks to the health of our residents and  
6 to our environment, Hellam Township does not stand in  
7 opposition to it. As a farmer from extended families  
8 of farmers I appreciate the benefit of having a large  
9 local buyer of a staple farm product like soybeans  
10 locally here. And our local economy certainly needs  
11 additional opportunities for employment. However,  
12 from the statements made by Perdue and the research we  
13 have seen, it is clear that the facility as proposed  
14 does indeed pose significant and possibly  
15 insurmountable health risks to our community as well  
16 as very significant risks to the environment. These  
17 risks are predominantly from the release of hexane  
18 from the portion of the proposed plant that would  
19 extract oil from soybeans.

20            It is important for local farmers to note  
21 that Perdue has stated that the grain elevator will be  
22 constructed regardless of whether or not the soybean  
23 processing plant is built, thus the benefits of an  
24 additional large, local buyer of soybeans is not  
25 dependent upon the construction of the soybean oil

1 extraction facility. And that is a portion of the  
2 facility that would emit the large amounts of hexane.

3           Hexane is a nerve toxin, a carcinogen, an  
4 eye, nose, throat and lung irritant. That is exposure  
5 to it can cause cancer, damage human nerves resulting  
6 in conditions like peripheral neuropathy where a  
7 person loses sensation in their limbs, as well as  
8 irritating the eyes, nose, throat, and lungs. Hexane,  
9 along with its close cousin gasoline, is also  
10 classified as a volatile organic compound or VOC.  
11 VOCs combined with nitrous oxide in the atmosphere to  
12 form ozone, a component of smog that is especially  
13 harmful to the lungs. There are already several large  
14 nitrous oxide producers near this proposed Perdue  
15 plant. Lancaster County's mass burn incinerator, as  
16 already mentioned, is located immediately adjacent to  
17 the proposed site of the Perdue soybean processing  
18 facility. And Brunner Island coal fire electric  
19 generation station is in close proximity also. In  
20 2010 the incinerator released 5,359 tons of nitrous  
21 oxide and in 2006 Brunner Island released 12,754 tons.  
22 The Armstrong Marietta ceiling plant, also an emitter  
23 of nitrous oxide and classified as a high emitter of  
24 greenhouse gases, is also located in close proximity  
25 to the proposed site.

1           In addition, the proposed soybean  
2 processing plant itself is anticipated by Perdue to  
3 release 25 tons of nitrous oxide per year. The  
4 figures provided by Perdue as to the amount of hexane  
5 that will be released have been revised multiple  
6 times, as has the hexane rate of recovery. Many of  
7 the provided figures conflict with the 7,000 gallons  
8 per month of hexane that Perdue has stated will be  
9 trucked to the plant every month. In at least one  
10 document Perdue has stated that it will release  
11 220,000 pounds of hexane per year into the atmosphere.  
12 If such a large volume of hexane is released by Perdue  
13 in such close proximity to the existing large emitters  
14 of nitrous oxide, large volumes of ozone will be  
15 produced resulting in very serious degradation to air  
16 quality that is already not in compliance with federal  
17 standards.

18           This soup of chemical emissions from the  
19 proposed Perdue plant and other already existing  
20 facilities would pose an especially high threat to  
21 health because of the high frequency of atmospheric  
22 temperature inversions that trap these hazardous  
23 emissions close to the ground where they have greater  
24 opportunity to combine into ozone and where they are  
25 inhaled by residents. Temperature inversions coupled

1 with ground level toxic pollution emissions are known  
2 to have caused extensive fatalities in the past. One  
3 of the most noteworthy was a temperature inversion of  
4 five days duration in London in 1952 that killed  
5 12,000 people.

6           The DEP already recognizes this region as  
7 an ozone non-attainment area. The addition of 220,000  
8 pounds per year of hexane emissions, which is more  
9 than four times the amount that is allowed without the  
10 use of emission credits, will almost certainly create  
11 very significant health problems for residents of the  
12 region, especially in consideration of the proximity  
13 of these hexane emissions to the previously mentioned  
14 heavy sources of nitrous oxide emissions, and the  
15 frequent and severe temperature inversions experienced  
16 in this region.

17           But VOCs and ozone are not the only air  
18 quality problems we currently experience that will be  
19 exacerbated by Perdue's proposed plan. As recently as  
20 December 1st, 2012 an air quality action day was  
21 forecast by the Pennsylvania DEP for three regions in  
22 Pennsylvania including the Susquehanna River Valley.  
23 That air quality alert was not for ozone, but was  
24 instead for inhalable particulate matter of the type  
25 that would also be emitted by the proposed Perdue



1 plant. This type of particulate matter clogs the  
2 lungs making breathing difficult. In order to  
3 appreciate the seriousness of the air quality  
4 situation in the lower Susquehanna Valley, in addition  
5 to noting that York has often made the list of the top  
6 25 cities in the nation with the most polluted air,  
7 including number 24 in 2011, we must also consider  
8 what is happening in a wider region of Pennsylvania to  
9 our north and west. That is, the type of horizontal  
10 shale gas drilling known as fracking. According to a  
11 report by the U.S. Congress's Office of Technology  
12 Assessment gas field ozone has created a large --- a  
13 previously unrecognized air pollution problem similar  
14 to that found in large urban areas, and can spread up  
15 to 200 miles beyond the immediate region where gas is  
16 being produced.

17           Gas drilling operations also produce  
18 inhalable ten micron particulate matter. In short  
19 air, quality in the lower Susquehanna Valley that is  
20 already among the worst in the nation --- among the  
21 worst in the nation is under heavy and persistent  
22 assault. In addition, it seems there are some very  
23 legitimate questions regarding the legality of the  
24 \$8.75 million grant that Governor Corbett authorized  
25 for the proposed Perdue plant. Some of the concerns

1 are related to the fact that the plant would severely  
2 exacerbate existing very poor air quality conditions.  
3 We also have serious concerns that the phasing of the  
4 project that has been requested by Perdue has been  
5 requested in order to circumvent new source review of  
6 the overall project. The specifics of those concerns  
7 can be found in Hellam Township's written comments  
8 dated 11/12/2012. We are requesting that DEP explain  
9 their justification if Perdue is allowed to phase this  
10 project.

11           The risks of the use of hexane to extract  
12 soybean oil are well known and well documented. They  
13 include the above described air pollution, toxic  
14 exposure and carcinogenic risks for nearby residents,  
15 even higher risks of exposure for plant workers,  
16 hexane explosion risks and the risks posed by residual  
17 hexane that is in the soybeans --- the soybean oil and  
18 the soybean byproducts, some of which is directly  
19 consumed by humans and some of which is fed to farm  
20 animals being raised for human consumption including  
21 chickens.

22           Other alternative extraction methods  
23 exist. We believe that when all costs are considered,  
24 and especially when health risks, explosion risks and  
25 environmental risks are included, hexane based

1 extraction is neither a least cost nor a least risk  
2 extraction mechanism. We prefer our air, our morning  
3 coffee and our oven stuffer roasters without the  
4 hexane aftertaste. Thank you.

5 CHAIR:

6 Thank you. Okay. Next on our list we  
7 have June Evans. June Evans?

8 MS. EVANS:

9 Good evening. My name is June Evans,  
10 E-V-A-N-S. I live at 7160 Roundtop Lane. I'm a  
11 Hellam Township resident. I chair the township's  
12 Environmental Advisory Council and I serve on the  
13 Board of Directors of the Horn Farm Center for  
14 Agriculture Education located in our township.

15 I have a longstanding interest in  
16 responsible, environmentally sound practices that I  
17 believe we all should concern ourselves with as  
18 stewards of this earth's air, land and water. Our  
19 home is in the Hellam hills, crossing down river from  
20 the proposed Perdue soybean crush plant in Conoy  
21 Township. And my comments this evening are based on  
22 personal experiences with air pollution and sources  
23 that affect the place where I live and the quality of  
24 life I experience there.

25 I have a long acquaintance with the

1 Hellam hills. I grew up at one of the most beautiful  
2 spots in York County on Roundtop, which is right here  
3 (indicating), which overlooks the Donahue Valley and  
4 the Susquehanna River. From there you can literally  
5 see for miles and miles on a clear day, now even up to  
6 the TMI Towers.

7                   When I was young the favorite thing for  
8 our family to do was to sit on my front porch at  
9 Roundtop and watch approaching storms and weather  
10 changes come from the northwest and down the river.  
11 It was very clear that the prevailing winds were from  
12 that direction. As a child, I roamed the woods of our  
13 land breathing air that was free of any pollution that  
14 later came with Brunner Island Power Plant, which came  
15 online in 1961, the Armstrong Industry Ceiling Tile  
16 Plant in Marietta, which opened in 1970 and the LCSWMA  
17 Incinerator, which began operation in 1991. I was  
18 away from the area during those years those plants  
19 were built.

20                   We were living in Bethesda, Maryland area  
21 while my husband was employed at the National Cancer  
22 Institute as a research biochemist, but after he  
23 retired we moved back here to a home we built in the  
24 Hellam hills not far from Roundtop. I was delighted  
25 to be back in this township that I love and I looked

1 forward to many hours out of doors relaxing on our  
2 deck, hiking in the woods and especially working in my  
3 garden.

4           Anyone who gardens knows that one of the  
5 best times to be doing that during the summer months  
6 is early in the morning. So imagine my surprise and  
7 dismay when we found the air so polluted at certain  
8 times often daily and especially in the early morning  
9 with an acrid odor that was so irritating to the eyes  
10 and throat that we had to close all our windows and  
11 doors and stay inside until it dissipated. Our  
12 neighbors were also experiencing this discomfort.

13           We called the EPA and a representative  
14 from their office in Lancaster came over to  
15 investigate. We learned that the source from the  
16 pollution was the Armstrong Industry's Marietta  
17 Ceiling Tile Plant, which is located across the ---  
18 and up river from us, not far down river from the  
19 proposed Perdue plant and that the pollution was due  
20 both to particulate matter and to formaldehyde, a  
21 cancer causing chemical that are byproducts of the  
22 ceiling tile manufacturing process, and are released  
23 into the air from the plant's stacks. We also learned  
24 that the pollution is greatly exacerbated by the  
25 frequent temperature inversions, which are common in

1 our region and which trap the pollution close to  
2 ground level.

3           We contacted Armstrong and met with  
4 engineers and officials at the plant who gave us and  
5 our son, who lives near us and with his family was  
6 also experiencing pollution, a tour of a plant. They  
7 assured us that they would be addressing the problem  
8 through their plan to install required state of the  
9 art scrubbers on the stacks in the near future. This  
10 was in the mid to late 1990s. Late in the 1990s the  
11 scrubbers were installed and the type of pollution we  
12 were experiencing from the ceiling plant has since  
13 diminished remarkably.

14           I share this story with you for several  
15 reasons. First, it illustrates very clearly that  
16 residents from Hellam Township can and do experience  
17 detrimental effects of air pollution sources from  
18 across the river, especially downwind from those  
19 sources. And they have every reason to be concerned  
20 about potential new sources of air pollution. DEP is  
21 responsible to all the persons who can be affected by  
22 this proposed project, not just those in one  
23 politically designated entity. As I noted earlier,  
24 there are now at least three plants in the region in  
25 which I live that can be sources of air pollution and

1 that can affect those of us who live across the river  
2 and downwind from these plants. One of them, the  
3 Brunner Island Power Plant, has been notorious for air  
4 pollution problems. It's striking that, as Mike  
5 mentioned, even as recently as December 1st this year  
6 an air quality action day was declared by DEP for our  
7 Susquehanna Valley region, with cautions to those most  
8 vulnerable to respiratory problems to limit their  
9 activities because of unhealthy pollutions levels in  
10 the air. It's also noteworthy that temperature  
11 inversions are much more common than we realize based  
12 on records kept for many years by Millersville  
13 University's earth sciences department.

14           As we know, these inversions can greatly  
15 concentrate and exacerbate the effects of local air  
16 pollution by trapping this pollution close to ground  
17 level. Specifically the 2011 record for the  
18 Bainbridge area clearly corroborates what I was  
19 experiencing even in the 1990s, that mid to long term  
20 inversion episodes are most common in the summer  
21 months and especially in the early morning and late  
22 evening. The 2011 record indicates that these types  
23 of temperature inversions continue to occur and as the  
24 Millersville report states the mid and long term  
25 episodes have the most potential for trapping

1 pollutants near the surface of the ground. My concern  
2 is that in addition to the temperature inversion  
3 problem adding another source of potential air  
4 pollution to the number of sources we now have in this  
5 region will make an already scary health problem even  
6 worse.

7           I would like to request that DEP take  
8 action now during the request for application for  
9 phase two air quality permit approval and before any  
10 construction begins to require appropriate and  
11 adequate air quality protection technology at the  
12 Perdue facility. I would like to add that so far I've  
13 seen nothing in the applications for this facility or  
14 heard anything from Perdue that mitigates my concern  
15 about the cumulative effort, the cumulative effect of  
16 adding a new source of pollution at any level to the  
17 pollution levels we already have to deal with here in  
18 this River Valley region.

19           There are means to address  
20 conscientiously the control of dangerous air pollution  
21 sources if a company is required to do so. Concern  
22 for the health, safety and well being of the residents  
23 in the region where a company wishes to locate a plant  
24 should be of primary importance to that company.  
25 Surely the cost of adequate state of the art control



1 and capture technology that would eliminate or  
2 severely reduce the amount of hexane that would be  
3 emitted from the proposed Perdue plant would be a  
4 small investment given the large publicly funded grant  
5 the company has received for this project.

6           DEP should insist that concern for the  
7 health and safety of the area's residents come first  
8 when and if they approve Perdue's air quality permit  
9 applications for this project. The DEP owes it to the  
10 residents of this region and that includes not only  
11 those of Hellam Township, but those of any other  
12 townships both across the river and on the same side  
13 of the river of the proposed plant, to strictly abide  
14 by its stated mission. And I quote, to protect  
15 Pennsylvania's air, land and water from pollution and  
16 to provide for the health and safety of its citizens  
17 to a cleaner environment, unquote. I strongly urge  
18 you to consider this as you review the applications  
19 for this proposed project. Thank you.

20           CHAIR:

21           Thank you. Okay. Next on our list is  
22 Steve Wolf.

23           MR. WOLF:

24           I'll yield.

25           CHAIR:

1           Okay. Okay. Next on the list is Judy  
2 Nissley.

3           MS. NISSLEY:

4           Yes. My name is Judith Nissley, 140  
5 Vintage Drive, Bainbridge, PA. So with that address  
6 you can understand I'm in Conoy Township, across the  
7 river. If you were looking through what I wrote, some  
8 of these things I will eliminate because they were  
9 stated so well, first by Mike Martin and then by June  
10 Evans. And so here we go. Here's mine.

11           In the spring of 2010 I was invited to  
12 attend the dinner meeting with Dick Willey who is the  
13 president of Perdue Agribusiness. As he explained  
14 Perdue's plans to build a plant, it would start with  
15 raw soybeans and end up with raw --- with soy meal, an  
16 edible oil, I became very interested. In fact, it  
17 made me so happy that at the end of the dinner I gave  
18 him the biggest hug I could muster.

19           To put that hug into perspective you need  
20 to know that over the past five or more years there  
21 were two different corn to ethanol plants proposed for  
22 this site where Perdue intends to build their plant.  
23 Compared to corn soybeans are soil friendly in that  
24 they return nitrogen to the soil and grow in tight  
25 rows, which minimize soil erosion.

1                   As far as I could tell, the oil  
2 extraction process would not require nearly the amount  
3 of fresh water that ethanol production requires. The  
4 end products would be edible, which means that our  
5 rich Lancaster farm --- Lancaster County farmland  
6 would be used to grow food for livestock and people,  
7 not engines. Local farmers would have a market for  
8 their crop and most importantly the products from the  
9 soybean crush plant would be as economically viable  
10 ten years from now as they are today. That is what I  
11 thought at the time.

12                   As Mr. Willey's guest, I soon thereafter  
13 had the privilege of visiting a Perdue plant at  
14 Caulfield, North Carolina and Salisbury, Maryland. I  
15 was impressed by the efficiency of the process and how  
16 well the facilities were maintained, despite being 20  
17 or more years old. And I also very much liked the  
18 people who devoted their day to showing me around. On  
19 that visit I was excited to share what I had learned  
20 with other members of my community who have a keen  
21 interest in industrial development. Truly this was  
22 the kind of industry we could embrace, but not so  
23 fast.

24                   As we studied the solvent extraction  
25 materials Perdue had provided someone detected a

1 problem and the name of that problem has already been  
2 mentioned, hexane. We needed to know more details  
3 about the plant, so we developed a list of questions  
4 which we sent to Mr. Willey. He and his associates  
5 met with us and tried to answer the questions. From  
6 this meeting we developed more questions, which we  
7 sent to Perdue along with requests that the answers be  
8 given in a forum that would be open to the general  
9 public.

10                   Then there was a very long silence.  
11 Having received only minimal answers from Perdue, my  
12 family decided to seek information on our own. Among  
13 other things that we learned, hexane is a dangerous  
14 neurotoxin. Our area's particularly prone to thermal  
15 inversions. Hexane vapors are potentially explosive  
16 and we already knew that the site is underlaid by  
17 karst topography making the ground unstable. But we  
18 needed experts to advise us in these matters and  
19 assure us that the specific plant proposed by Perdue  
20 would not be a hazard to people and property including  
21 Lancaster County's research recovery facility. It  
22 would be the closest neighbor to the Perdue plant.

23                   For this purpose we engaged the legal  
24 services of Saul Ewing, environmental engineering  
25 services of August Mack Environmental, the explosion

1 expert services of Ballistic Analysis International  
2 and the scientific services of the Department of Earth  
3 Sciences at Millersville University. And these are  
4 the studies in which June Evans referred when she was  
5 speaking.

6           Because I know the importance of jobs and  
7 a tax base for the supervisors of Conoy Township I was  
8 hoping that the experts would tell us not to worry,  
9 that the plant would be fine. Eventually after Perdue  
10 announced the Conoy Township site as their choice,  
11 they did hold an open house for the public, but it was  
12 not the public forum that we had requested. Instead  
13 it was just a public relations event. This approach  
14 was in keeping with the presentation that Perdue made  
15 to Conoy Township Board of Supervisors. Despite it  
16 being a public meeting, questions and comments from  
17 the public were forbidden. Likewise, the same  
18 approach was used at a presentation made by Perdue to  
19 the Lancaster County Local Emergency Planning  
20 Commission. Questions and comments for all to hear  
21 were not allowed.

22           It has lead me to believe that Perdue  
23 cannot actually defend their use of hexane in the  
24 process and made statements such as it's no worse than  
25 gasoline and hexane is not a problem.

1           The one they used the most often, and  
2 which Wayne Black repeated tonight, is if it were a  
3 problem our effective offices not be situated so  
4 close. They're referring to their offices at  
5 Salisbury, Maryland, however, the plant --- that plant  
6 is not situated on karst topography subject to sink  
7 holes and caverns like the site in Conoy Township. It  
8 is not in a climate prone to temperature inversions  
9 like the site at Conoy Township and it is not in an  
10 area that already has degraded air quality like  
11 Lancaster and York Counties. Neither is the plant at  
12 Caulfield, North Carolina. On my visit there I  
13 remarked on how great it would be to take my bicycle  
14 for a spin because the land is so flat with no hills  
15 to climb or trap the air.

16           By now DEP --- you at DEP have received  
17 the technical comments prepared by August Mack  
18 Environmental for phase one in the above ground  
19 storage tanks. August Mack has done a thorough review  
20 of all the permit applications filed by Perdue and its  
21 consultants. They will be filing written comments on  
22 the phase two air permit in the next day or two.  
23 August Mack has significant experience in permitting  
24 facilities and they have found literally dozens of  
25 errors in calculations, emissions and understatements

1 in Perdue's applications. These errors all serve to  
2 whitewash the risks from the Perdue plant.

3                   Included in the August Mack comments are  
4 two significant reports, which I hope that you will  
5 read thoroughly. One is the Ballistics Analysis  
6 International report prepared by Mr. Frank Chiapetta  
7 who is one of the world's leading experts in  
8 explosions. He has concluded that there are  
9 significant, specific potential problems with the  
10 configuration of the proposed Perdue plant. And the  
11 second report on the occurrence of thermal inversions  
12 in the Bainbridge area, which was prepared by  
13 scientist, Professor Richard Clark at the Millersville  
14 University.

15                   And his climatic study concluded that in  
16 2011, an average year, thermal inversions occurred on  
17 313 days with some days having more than one  
18 inversion. My understanding is that there will be  
19 chronic exposure from any permitted hexane emissions  
20 that are trapped close to the ground or inversions.  
21 There's also the risk of acute exposure should an  
22 explosion or accidental release of hexane occur during  
23 a thermal inversion.

24                   For the reasons stated in their comments  
25 already submitted August Mack Environmental concludes

1 that the Perdue applications should be denied.

2 I am extremely disappointed that this is  
3 the case and I'm also disappointed that despite their  
4 claims of being green and environmentally friendly  
5 Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority  
6 agreed initially to help Perdue obtain a permit from  
7 you no matter what. You are the protectors of our  
8 environment and over the past several months when I  
9 presented municipal leaders with information  
10 concerning potential problems I was met with the same  
11 response. We have no authority. This is an issue for  
12 DEP. The DEP has regulations to protect us. Those  
13 leaders firmly believe that you can protect their  
14 citizens. In fact, they are relying on you to do so.  
15 Thank you.

16 CHAIR:

17 Thank you. Next we have Carole Bromer.  
18 Carol?

19 MRS. BROMER:

20 Hi. I'm Carol Bromer, B-R-O-M-E-R. I  
21 thank you for having the meeting and I appreciate that  
22 we get a chance to talk. And as someone already  
23 mentioned, this is the third time for some of us who  
24 have health and safety issues with this particular  
25 site, with the business ventures that LCSWMA has



1 engaged with, previously on two corn ethanol plants on  
2 the same site. And some of those same health and  
3 safety issues repeat every time, just as has been  
4 mentioned, the cumulative effects of the emission from  
5 Brunner Island, from LCSWMA itself and the new plant.  
6 And I do hope that DEP takes that into account.

7           Secondly is the issue you keep hearing  
8 about the thermal inversion. It's a documented  
9 situation where instead of the emissions going up and  
10 being dispersed, they stay at the living, breathing  
11 area where we are. And then, of course, the karst  
12 geology, which has been mentioned, and the possibility  
13 of sinkholes.

14           So those issues come up every time LCSWMA  
15 engages with a bio fuels plant, but right now the new  
16 thing this time is hexane and it's pretty scary. Now,  
17 I live in East Donegal Township and I'm closer to the  
18 plant than most of the residents of Conoy Township.  
19 And it's pretty scary, as I said. My kids are in  
20 college now, but they spend a lot of time at home,  
21 Christmas break, spring break, summer. And so I'm  
22 concerned about hexane. And I am concerned that  
23 Perdue is going to be able to buy pollution credits  
24 somewhere else to pollute in that area. I'm not happy  
25 with Perdue for a couple of different reasons.

1           As I mentioned, these thermal inversions.  
2 The first time they met with some of our residents  
3 back in 2010 Perdue got together with some of us and  
4 they had no clue about thermal inversions. They  
5 didn't know what we were talking about. I'm glad that  
6 you've discovered them now and mentioned them. And  
7 then secondly I'd like to say that, as Ms. Nissley had  
8 mentioned, the format that we were hoping for where  
9 hard questions about health and safety issues could be  
10 publicly asked and answered had never been provided by  
11 Perdue.

12           Also, I don't understand what's going on  
13 with the DEP application, that it was split in two. A  
14 lot of people are saying it's to circumvent the  
15 process and that's a real question that needs to be  
16 answered. One of the things that I did find out at  
17 the open house was --- from Perdue was that Perdue was  
18 a ---. A Perdue representative told me that they were  
19 proud to be taking \$8.75 million of Pennsylvania state  
20 taxpayers' money and I was shocked. Maybe it's  
21 different with corporate welfare, but I never heard  
22 anyone who's on personal welfare who's proud of the  
23 fact that they're taking money and they're on the  
24 dole. I was especially shocked that Perdue, who's  
25 listed in Forbes as one of America's largest private

1 companies and they had a revenue of \$4.6 billion in  
2 2011, is proud to be on the dole with Pennsylvania  
3 taxpayer money especially in such economic difficult  
4 times.

5                   And when we speak of this grant, this  
6 \$8.75 million, in the grant there are special  
7 conditions listed that, one, on page 37 of the grant  
8 that a phase one environmental study needs to be done.  
9 And on page 38 that geotechnical --- complete  
10 geotechnical environmental studies need to be done,  
11 and when I talked to --- Perdue's the subgrantee on  
12 this grant and the Redevelopment Authority of the  
13 County of Lancaster is the grantee. And when I talked  
14 to David Brazina at the Redevelopment Authority last  
15 week he hadn't seen any of those studies. Now, that  
16 seems kind of funny to me because Perdue was already  
17 supposed to have broken ground, so I don't know what's  
18 going on with that.

19                   In that grant also Perdue mentions that  
20 they're going to provide 35 jobs to the region and the  
21 average salary of the job is going to be \$18 an hour.  
22 And so that means that some of the jobs will be below  
23 \$18 an hour if that's the average. Now, according to  
24 MIT, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the living  
25 wage for our region for a family of four, mom, dad and

1 two kids, is \$17.31. So that means that some of the  
2 jobs that Perdue's going to be providing will be below  
3 the poverty level. So this is what we're being told  
4 is going to be with the grant. They're going to  
5 provide jobs. Some of them will not be a living wage.

6                   And in the grant application on page 24  
7 they say the entire facility will be constructed using  
8 best available technology. They also say they will  
9 utilize best available emission controls on the same  
10 page and yet my understanding is that Perdue is  
11 refusing to spend a few hundred thousand dollars of  
12 the almost \$9 million grant that they're getting from  
13 Pennsylvania state taxpayers to put a scrubber or a  
14 filter on the meal dryer where 80 percent of the  
15 hexane is going to be released into the air. It just  
16 seems that there should be some way that the  
17 unemployed can have jobs and the farmers can have an  
18 outlet for their product, and we still have air that  
19 doesn't have additional pollutants being brought into  
20 the area. Thank you.

21                   CHAIR:

22                   Okay. Next I have Nick Bromer. Nick  
23 Bromer? And please remember to state your address.

24                   MR. BROMER:

25                   Oh, yeah. Name is Nick Bromer. Same

1 address as my wife.

2                   MRS. BROMER:

3                   I didn't state it.

4                   MR. BROMER:

5                   Oh. 402 Stackstown Road, Marietta, PA.  
6 Need the ZIP? Okay. I was just sitting over here  
7 thinking how it would be, you know, if a company came  
8 to you and said they wanted to dump tons of gasoline  
9 on your property? And I started thinking hexane is  
10 completely gasoline. It's not really that different  
11 and I thought, well, I don't like it. Aside from that  
12 I'd just like to say my wife has researched this very  
13 thoroughly. She's very smart and I agree with  
14 everything she says. That's about it. Thank you.

15                   CHAIR:

16                   Thank you. Next on the list is Dean  
17 Burkholder. Dean Burkholder.

18                   MR. BURKHOLDER:

19                   My name is Dean Burkholder, 1865 River  
20 Road, Marietta. I'm next door to this proposed plant  
21 and I'm just right on the star. I'm not for it, I'm  
22 not against it. I have three kids. I just ask the  
23 DEP to protect my family. I'm taking Perdue at their  
24 word that they're doing everything possible to do so.  
25 And tonight listening to some of the testimony I'm not

1 sure how that is, but I'm also --- you know how people  
2 get when plants like this go in. I've been through  
3 --- as Judy has said, we've been through three of  
4 these plants. Two of them I thank God that they  
5 didn't go in because I don't know what would have  
6 happened if they did. I'm also a little disappointed  
7 that I'm over here tonight instead of my own township.  
8 We have solicitors in our township and I'm quite  
9 concerned why they didn't take the action that they  
10 needed to to get this all done.

11                   You know, \$30,000 in the budget, but here  
12 I am in this township. That's one of my problems.  
13 Like I said, I'm not opposed to it as many of you are  
14 and you can probably say to yourself, well, you're  
15 not, so maybe I am. I come from a farm background.  
16 According to some of the testimony an hour ago my farm  
17 should have went up for sale, but I don't intend to  
18 move. If this plant goes in, it goes in. It's going  
19 to help as far as agriculture goes, but it's also  
20 concerns as many of you have raised the question of  
21 the hexane. I also look at --- I stopped at Sheetz  
22 the other week and I saw a guy get out of his car and  
23 he's puffing away on a cigarette. He's filling his  
24 gas tank.

25                   The Perdue people took myself and my wife

1 on the most terrifying plane ride ever I've taken down  
2 to see their plant. And one thing I did notice when I  
3 walked into that plant was lost time injuries. I  
4 mean, I'm an industrial project manager. I own the  
5 farm beside where the property is going to be, the  
6 plant built, but I also work away. I have 30  
7 employees --- well, 30, 35 employees at the location  
8 that I'm in charge of and I think my lost time injury  
9 right now is 648 days. When I went into the plant  
10 down in North --- South, wherever. Maryland. When I  
11 went down to see that plant one thing that caught my  
12 eye --- and I think the man's name was Greg that I  
13 spoke to was it was over four years without a lost  
14 time injury. And that is astounding.

15 I think about the hexane, but I also  
16 think about things like glycine, which is Roundup.  
17 There's more Roundup used by the average citizen than  
18 there is by farmers, which is kind of scary if you  
19 think about it. There's MEK, which in my business I  
20 have to be trained to use MEK, but many women don't  
21 know that they use it every time they put fingernail  
22 polish on. Like I said, all I'm here for is to state  
23 my fact that I want my family protected. Thank you.

24 CHAIR:

25 Thank you. Next on the list is Jennifer

1 Ericson. Jennifer Ericson?

2 MS. ERICSON:

3 Thank you for having this public hearing.  
4 My name is Jennifer Ericson. That's spelled  
5 E-R-I-C-S-O-N. There's no K. My address is 1080  
6 Lambley Road in Landisville, Pennsylvania. And I  
7 don't make a habit of attending meetings like this,  
8 but when I heard what was being considered, I just  
9 couldn't actually believe that it was being considered  
10 to begin with. And so I felt compelled to come out  
11 and speak against this. Air pollution, of course, we  
12 know increases the rates of asthma and respiratory  
13 illness in children and adults. It also makes  
14 breathing more difficult for healthy individuals.

15 Now, I'm a runner and I'm healthy. I  
16 don't have asthma, but I can tell when we're having  
17 ozone action days just by how difficult it is to  
18 breathe during my morning runs on those days. I run  
19 with my friend, Amy Jordan, who is a neighbor. She  
20 also lives on Lambley Road. She couldn't be here  
21 tonight. She has asthma and she runs with me, and on  
22 ozone action days and days when we're having those  
23 thermal inversions that everybody has talked about  
24 already this evening, she has much more difficulty  
25 breathing and has to use an inhaler. Her son also



1 suffers, so it's real. People are suffering and it's  
2 due to the pollution that is aggravating it.

3           The American Lung Association monitors  
4 air quality, as do many other organizations, and  
5 Lancaster County has received a failing grade, that's  
6 an F, in air quality for several years now. By its  
7 very name the Department of Environmental Protection  
8 is charged with keeping the environment safe for all  
9 living creatures, especially children. That means not  
10 allowing companies to expose even one person, let  
11 alone hundreds of thousands of people to pollutants.

12           Perdue is planning to release an  
13 estimated 245 tons of hexane gas into the air each  
14 year. This is almost five times the allowed maximum  
15 limit. Hexane is a dangerous neurotoxin, as other  
16 people have already mentioned, that when inhaled it  
17 disrupts the nervous system causing paralysis. It can  
18 alter menstrual cycles, reduce fertility in men and  
19 women and cause miscarriages. In short it can kill.  
20 It is a dangerous pollutant.

21           Has the EPA or the DEP conducted any  
22 health risk studies to determine how this plant's  
23 emissions will impact Lancaster and York County  
24 residents, especially given the unique nature of our  
25 area and the thermal inversions that magnify the

1 pollution and keep it down to where we can breathe at?  
2 I can't believe that any study, if it has been  
3 conducted, would find that this plant is going to help  
4 our air quality. It's only going to make it worse.

5           According to the newspaper accounts  
6 Perdue would create about 30 jobs with this new plant.  
7 Honestly I don't believe that 30 jobs is worth the  
8 price Lancaster and York County residents will pay  
9 with their health if this permit is granted.  
10 Actually, there is no number of jobs that would offset  
11 the damage this pollution will cause.

12           Just because another company is greedy  
13 enough, in this case Lancaster County Solid Waste  
14 Management Authority, to sell their environmental  
15 credits to Perdue that doesn't mean we have to allow  
16 it. 245 tons of hexane is 245 tons too much,  
17 especially when we're already suffering from horrible  
18 air quality. If you grant this permit, what will  
19 happen when Perdue emits more than the 245 tons  
20 they've estimated? Their Caulfield, North Carolina  
21 site currently emits 264 tons of hexane gas per year.

22           As for the tanks, Perdue currently has  
23 several --- four processing facilities in Maryland,  
24 Virginia and North Carolina. I believe this would be  
25 their first in Pennsylvania. Hexane, as we've ---

1 some of you have already mentioned, is a highly  
2 explosive chemical making these tanks extremely  
3 dangerous to the workers and residents near the  
4 facility. Allowing these tanks to be placed on this  
5 site and close together is putting nearby residents at  
6 serious risk. If one tank explodes so will the other.  
7 Hexane explosions are deadly.

8           According to the National Fire Protection  
9 Association, hexane has a flammability rating of  
10 three, meaning it is a severe fire hazard. Perdue  
11 does not have a perfect track record when it comes to  
12 handling dangerous chemicals. They had an explosion  
13 in 2005 at their Salisbury, Maryland facility  
14 involving --- it involved sodium chloride.  
15 Fortunately no one died, but several were seriously  
16 injured. Perdue is not the only company that uses  
17 hexane to process soybeans. Other companies have  
18 experienced hexane explosions. Minnesota, a soybean  
19 processors plant in 2009, a soybean oil factory in a  
20 Brazilian City of Hermosa in 2009, the Arkansas  
21 Riceland food plant had an explosion in 2006, the Iowa  
22 Ag processing corporation plant had an explosion in  
23 2003, the Canadian Can American food plant had an  
24 explosion in 2002 and the Indiana Central Soya plant  
25 had one in 1994. While this list may not seem like

1 explosions happen frequently, what had me alarmed  
2 about these hexane explosions was that for many no one  
3 knew what caused them. The workers said, oh,  
4 everything was running just like it always is. All  
5 safety measures were in place. We don't know why it  
6 happened, but it happened.

7           One of them happened when a plant was  
8 actually shut down and not even in operation, so it  
9 really shouldn't have happened. Fortunately that  
10 limited the number of people who were injured. Eight  
11 employees were harmed, five critically in that  
12 explosion. That was the explosion in Iowa. I just  
13 think the risks to the lives of the 30 proposed Perdue  
14 plant employees is too great. I can't believe that we  
15 can't find 30 safer agricultural jobs for these people  
16 even on that same site.

17           Your job, DEP, is to protect us from  
18 this. You have a chance to save us from serious  
19 health risks. Please don't sell out the health of  
20 Lancaster and York County's children for 30 jobs and  
21 some cash. Please don't grant this permit or both  
22 permits. I would hope you will instead urge Perdue to  
23 find an alternative method for processing their  
24 soybeans, one that is safe for everyone young and old.  
25 Thank you very much.

1           CHAIR:

2           Next is Warren Evans.

3           MR. EVANS:

4           My name is Warren Evans, E-V-A-N-S. I  
5 live at 7160 Roundtop Lane, Hellam Township. I've  
6 been a resident of Hellam Township for 23 years. I'm  
7 a retired medical research scientist and spent 30  
8 years in cancer research at the National Cancer  
9 Institute in Bethesda, Maryland. I have a BA degree  
10 in chemistry from Princeton University, received a  
11 Master's degree in medical sciences and a Ph.D. in  
12 biochemistry from the Division of Medical Sciences at  
13 Harvard Medical School. I am also currently an  
14 actively engaged in supporting the local farm  
15 community of York and Lancaster County by serving as  
16 president of the Horn Farm Center for Agriculture  
17 Education, which is located on 187 acre farm in Hellam  
18 Township. Because of my background in medical  
19 research, I will be commenting mainly on the health  
20 hazards associated with hexane emissions that will be  
21 generated by Perdue's proposed Conoy Township facility  
22 if it is built without proper equipment for capturing  
23 hexane emissions.

24           Our township officials and residents are  
25 not fooled by Perdue produced misleading statements to

1 the press that they are removing most of the hexane  
2 from the air by using a scrubber on the part of the  
3 extraction process that removes residual hexane from  
4 soybean oil. This scrubber removes 99 percent of the  
5 hexane from the oil, but only 20 percent of the hexane  
6 emissions from the total plant. The major part of the  
7 hexane emission from this plant would come from the  
8 meal dryer oven, which has no equipment on it to  
9 remove hexane emissions and allows 80 percent or up to  
10 250 tons of the total emissions from the plant to be  
11 dumped in the air that we breathe. Don't be fooled by  
12 numbers.

13           I want to make it clear at the beginning  
14 of these comments that I am for businesses that create  
15 farm related jobs in our local community. Perdue  
16 Agribusiness located in Salisbury, Maryland wants to  
17 bring new jobs to our area, but at the same time they  
18 want to be permitted by DEP to pollute the air we  
19 breathe with toxic waste product such as hexane which  
20 they plan to release into the air at the proposed  
21 soybean extraction factory. I believe, however, that  
22 we can have both clean air and farm related jobs if  
23 Perdue agrees to follow all existing DEP regulations  
24 which require them to install equipment that will  
25 capture or control toxic hexane emissions at key

1 points in their soybean extraction process. This  
2 equipment would enable Perdue to greatly reduce the  
3 toxic hexane emissions and set a new industry standard  
4 nationally for the required lowest achievable emission  
5 rate, which they referred to the number --- the  
6 letters LAER, for their --- for these toxic emissions.

7           I also believe that it is premature and  
8 inappropriate for Perdue representatives to talk about  
9 jobs and money to Conoy Township officials and the  
10 media when they have not yet submitted a thorough  
11 analysis of the potential health and environmental  
12 impacts of the proposed facility as is required by DEP  
13 regulations that deal with the proposed hexane storage  
14 tanks on this site. Unless this information is  
15 supplied to the DEP I request that DEP deny Perdue's  
16 applications for phase one, phase two plan and  
17 approval of the application and for their above ground  
18 storage tank permit. Perdue certainly has a right to  
19 profit from their business investment, but they should  
20 not be allowed to do this at the expense of the health  
21 and safety of the people who live in Hellam Township  
22 and other communities in our area. So far in their  
23 statements to the press and to the Conoy supervisors  
24 Perdue representatives list only the benefits of this  
25 factory without revealing the real and potential

1 dangers hexane emissions pose to the health of the  
2 people who live in surrounding communities.

3           Hexane is a liquid solvent derived from  
4 petroleum and has properties similar to gasoline.  
5 Hexane in the vapor form is highly explosive and  
6 constitutes a major safety hazard in and around the  
7 proposed soybean extraction facility. Hexane is a  
8 toxic chemical that is listed by the EPA as a  
9 hazardous air pollutant. It is a neurotoxin known to  
10 have harmful effects on humans such as nerve damage,  
11 muscle paralysis and mental abnormalities in cases of  
12 chronic exposure and even death at higher  
13 concentrations.

14           Because humans vary widely in their  
15 susceptibility to chemical exposure due to age,  
16 gender, genetics and poor existing health, it cannot  
17 be presumed that even a low level exposure to a  
18 chemical such as hexane is risk free unless there are  
19 sufficient data to contradict this assumption. To my  
20 knowledge, there have been no --- there have been few,  
21 if any, serious public health studies of human  
22 populations exposed to various levels of hexane  
23 emissions around soybean extraction plants. According  
24 to the U.S. News and World Report this is partly due  
25 to the aggressive chemical industry lobbying to exempt



1 suspected toxic chemicals from regulation. Perdue's  
2 choice to locate their new plant right next to the  
3 Lancaster County incinerator and just a few miles down  
4 river from the Brunner Island coal burning plant could  
5 lead to another type of hazardous air pollution,  
6 namely elevated levels of toxic ozone smog. This  
7 incinerator and the Brunner Island plant are among the  
8 largest generators of nitrous oxide in Lancaster  
9 County.

10           Both of these facilities release millions  
11 of pounds of nitrous oxide per year, which in the  
12 presence of the hexane emissions released into the air  
13 from the Perdue factory could result in elevated  
14 levels of toxic smog. If you look on the plan, the  
15 two smokestacks are right next door to each other  
16 practically, so you have nitrous oxide coming out of  
17 one stack and hexane coming out of the other. And  
18 guess what they do on a sunny day? Form smog and it  
19 goes right down to the ground. If there's an  
20 inversion, people are exposed to that.

21           People's choice to --- Perdue's choice to  
22 locate this new plant next to the Lancaster --- sorry.  
23 The smog makes the air dangerous to breathe and leads  
24 to asthma attacks, emphysema and other lung diseases,  
25 particularly among young children and the elderly.

1 Residents in the Lancaster/York area already suffer  
2 from high levels of smog and are advised to stay  
3 indoors on hot and hazy days to avoid breathing smog  
4 polluted air. The healthcare costs and premature  
5 deaths caused by this smog pollution are costs to the  
6 unsuspecting public that have not been reported by  
7 Perdue to the press or to the county township  
8 officials. You never hear about that. They're  
9 externalizing their costs onto us. We pay the medical  
10 bills. Go out to Apple Hill and look at the parking  
11 lot out there. Can't even find a parking place.

12                   It should also be noted that smog levels  
13 are greatly elevated at ground level during  
14 temperature inversions that are known to occur in the  
15 region. According to Perdue officials, get this,  
16 Perdue has had no previous experience with temperature  
17 inversions in places where their existing soybean  
18 facilities are located. In view of the potential  
19 health hazards caused by smog I would ask the DEP to  
20 require that Perdue carry out an air bodily screening  
21 study on the hexane emissions released from their  
22 proposed plant in Conoy Township. I recommend that  
23 you don't to Lancaster Airport to get the data. Go to  
24 Bainbridge because that's where the temperature  
25 inversions are. You'll see it all washed out. If you

1 go to try to get your meteorological data from up  
2 there at the airport, it's not --- there's no hill  
3 there. There's no river there. That's what causes  
4 the inversion.

5                   This study should take into consideration  
6 the effect of the numerous temperature inversions and  
7 high levels of nitrous oxide that are known to occur  
8 in the region around the proposed new plant. Excuse  
9 me. I'm getting a little out of breath here. The  
10 footnotes in section D, page 72 of Perdue's phase two  
11 plant approval application state that the Department  
12 may request additional information to evaluate the  
13 application such as air quality modeling and a plan  
14 for air pollution emergencies. If we are lucky,  
15 perhaps such a study will help us to avoid the type of  
16 deadly smog that hung over Donora, Pennsylvania out  
17 near Pittsburgh in 1948 due to a severe temperature  
18 inversion.

19                   So you don't have to go to London to find  
20 out where the troubles were. So there was a severe  
21 temperature inversion in Donora. The chemical smog  
22 that usually dispersed into the atmosphere around  
23 Donora was trapped in the inversion and accumulated  
24 until a rainstorm ended this inversion and dispersed  
25 the smog after four days. Twenty (20) residents of

1 Donora died and 14,000 --- not 1,400, 14,000 people  
2 suffered severe respiratory illness such as asthma in  
3 the aftermath of this tragic event. I cite this worse  
4 case scenario not as a scare tactic, but as a warning  
5 that we cannot go on casually dumping more and more  
6 chemicals such as hexane into the air we breath and  
7 not expect serious impacts on our health. These  
8 impacts can come on us suddenly over a short period of  
9 time as it did in Donora with little warning of the  
10 grave dangers that lie ahead. I earnestly request  
11 that the DEP keep this in mind when they reply to our  
12 comments. Thank you. Thank you for holding the  
13 meeting.

14 MS. WITMAN:

15 Thank you, Mr. Evans. Next we have Dr.  
16 Barbara Martin. Okay. We got Christopher Martin.

17 MR. HOFFMAN:

18 Dr. Hoffman.

19 MS. WITMAN:

20 We have Martin here, but perhaps the ---  
21 yeah, perhaps it was ---.

22 MR. HOFFMAN:

23 I have a comment.

24 MS. WITMAN:

25 Okay. No problem. All right. We have

1 Barbara May.

2 MS. MAY:

3 Hi. Good evening. My name is Barbara  
4 May, M-A-Y. I live across the river in Lancaster  
5 County in Millersville and I've lived there all my  
6 life, most --- almost all my life. And like several  
7 other people have mentioned, I first became aware of  
8 air pollution possibilities in Lancaster County when  
9 proposed ethanol plants were brought before the  
10 community. What caught my attention about the current  
11 one, as several other people mentioned, was the 200  
12 tons of hexane emissions that are likely.

13 And reading about the nature of hexane  
14 and its potential for destruction, I got even more  
15 concerned, but then I was relieved to hear that there  
16 were mineral scrubbers that can remove the hexane,  
17 almost all of it, from the air. But then I learned  
18 that Perdue doesn't want to do that. And then I  
19 thought what possible use can I be? How useless I am,  
20 how useless we all are in the face of large  
21 corporations like Perdue. And then we spent  
22 Thanksgiving on the other side of the country. My  
23 husband has COPD. That stands for chronic obstructive  
24 pulmonary disorder. It's a respiratory condition and  
25 it's progressive and there is no cure. Granted he was

1 a smoker. He earned it, but that's water over the  
2 dam.

3           The symptoms are coughing with or without  
4 phlegm --- his is with phlegm --- fatigue, chronic  
5 shortness of breath with even mild activity, frequent  
6 respiratory infections, trouble catching your breath,  
7 wheezing. The only symptom he doesn't have is  
8 wheezing. In basic training in the Navy he won an  
9 award for being the most physically fit. Now walking  
10 up a driveway is impossible for him. Walking the dog  
11 became a miserable ordeal instead of the evening  
12 pleasure he used to enjoy. So what's it like in  
13 addition to living with COPD? We're lucky. He  
14 doesn't yet have to be on oxygen, but often he has to  
15 stop midway up the stairs to catch his breath.

16           Imagine how you feel after running or  
17 walking faster than you really can. Just imagine  
18 that. That's his day a lot of the time. The biggest,  
19 the nastiest one is the gut wrenching coughing when  
20 he's trying to get up the phlegm that comes with this  
21 condition. Sometimes it sounds as if he's going to  
22 choke. I've accepted all this as part of the illness,  
23 just the consequences of having --- his having been a  
24 smoker.

25           And then we went to Seattle. Our first

1 two days he coughed, but it was getting less. By the  
2 third day the coughing had almost disappeared and he  
3 had no trouble keeping up with the rest of us on city  
4 streets. We didn't have to walk slowly and wait for  
5 him. He felt great. His energy was high. He  
6 actually enjoyed the museums and other tourist  
7 activities.

8                   And then we came home. The coughing  
9 started on the way home from the airport. A day later  
10 the phlegm, the breathlessness, everything, it was all  
11 there. It was the most dramatic illustration I've  
12 ever had of the hideous difference in air quality  
13 between where we live and where you live and where my  
14 son lives --- one of my sons. I'm pretty healthy for  
15 my age. I walk my dog several miles most days, but I  
16 can tell --- now, what do they call it? An ozone  
17 something? I call it a bad air day and I can tell  
18 when it's a bad air day. Walking up to the mailbox my  
19 lungs burn, I'm out of breath, my legs are weak and my  
20 first thought is, oh, geez, what's wrong with me now?  
21 And then I realize, oh, it's a bad air day. And I can  
22 also tell a bad air day when I look at my husband.  
23 There's no color. His face is a little blue sometimes  
24 and, of course, his breathing is a lot more difficult.  
25 I'm telling you this because I want you to realize

1 what it's like on a daily basis to live in a place  
2 where the air is chronically bad. And we take it for  
3 granted.

4                   When I say, oh, it's a bad air day, I'm  
5 taking it for granted. That's what really gets to me.  
6 We take it for granted that we have to live in a bad  
7 air place. So when I hear about 100, 200 tons of  
8 hexane going into our air and the combination, as  
9 people have said, about hexane and nitrous oxide, and  
10 what a wonderful soup of smog we're going to have, I  
11 get angry. And then I hear Mr. Black say we believe  
12 everything is going to be okay. And I don't want my  
13 --- I don't want to live with their beliefs. I want  
14 him to tell me we know beyond a shadow of a doubt that  
15 you're going to be okay and that we're not going to  
16 pollute your air. I want to know the DEP is going to  
17 know that our air is not going to get worse. I want  
18 to know that Perdue is going to take genuine  
19 responsibility for our air quality and I don't want it  
20 based on belief. Thank you.

21                   MS. WITMAN:

22                   Next we have Tammy Baer.

23                   MS. BAER:

24                   My name is Tammy Baer. I live at 4700  
25 Bear Ridge, Hellam Township. That's B-A-E-R. I grew



1 up here and currently live in Hellam Township. My  
2 German and Scottish ancestors settled here and many  
3 are buried in the Dietz Cemetery. My papa Charlie  
4 Scott lived right across the street and was a lifelong  
5 volunteer here at this station. I have invested  
6 interest in this community. I am a landowner and  
7 landlady and hope one day to extend an invitation to  
8 the Horn Farm community to organically farm some of my  
9 acreage. I have two granddaughters living here and I  
10 am concerned for their health if they continue to do  
11 so.

12                   How can we tell our children drugs are  
13 bad for you when adults --- when we are assaulting  
14 them with the very air they breathe, the water they  
15 drink and the food they eat? Everyone's eager to  
16 support breast cancer awareness and wear a pink ribbon  
17 and hold fundraisers for children with leukemia. It's  
18 a noble cause, but I say let's eradicate the causes at  
19 their source.

20                   156 tons of hexane a year, it makes me  
21 sick. Until these corporations are held liable for  
22 the destruction they leave in their wake, the deaths  
23 and disease of our loved ones, I don't see anything  
24 changing. They are making a profit and we are dying.  
25 We have natural gas extraction running rampant in the

1 northern western PA. We have three nuclear reactors  
2 in our vicinity. I have friends sitting here who  
3 could list numerous other industries that are  
4 polluting our beautiful state in order to line their  
5 pockets with fortunes and leaving us with the toxic  
6 air, water and food.

7                   We have the richest farmland in the state  
8 right here in PA. I think that is a treasure we need  
9 to take seriously and preserve. Maybe it's already  
10 too late for PA, and the country for that matter, but  
11 it's going to get far worse if we don't stand up and  
12 say stop right now. This world isn't the world my  
13 papa lived in. It's not the same world I grew up in  
14 and it makes me very angry to think that I have to  
15 consider moving away from the United States of  
16 American in order to have my grandchildren grow up in  
17 a toxic free community. 150 tons of hexane a year, I  
18 can't believe this. Thank you.

19                   MS. WITMAN:

20                   Thank you, Ms. Baer. Next we have Pat  
21 Lemay.

22                   MS. LEMAY:

23                   Pat Lemay, L-E-M-A-Y, 78 Sun Lane,  
24 Millersville. You've heard many excellent points  
25 tonight, so this is going to be very brief. It is

1 well established that south central Pennsylvania has  
2 some of the worst air quality in the nation and that  
3 according to the American Lung Association the causes  
4 of asthma --- the cases of asthma are higher here than  
5 in the national average. It is also well established  
6 that there's a link between poor air quality and  
7 multiple sclerosis and there's a higher incidence of  
8 that disease in Lancaster County than other areas of  
9 the country.

10                   Further, it is well accepted that air  
11 pollution contributes to cardiovascular disease and  
12 heart attacks. My questions for the DEP are given  
13 that hexane is a neurotoxin and given that Lancaster  
14 County is already a non-attainment zone due to the  
15 toxic emissions that already exist here, why would you  
16 not require Perdue to really use the best available  
17 technology to minimize the adverse effects of its  
18 emissions? And given that the air pollution is right  
19 here in York and Lancaster Counties, how would  
20 Perdue's buying pollution credits from a business in  
21 another state or even next door help the pollution  
22 problem here? As a regulatory agency charged with  
23 protecting the health and welfare of the public here  
24 in Pennsylvania, DEP has a morale burden to require  
25 Perdue to use the best available technology throughout

1 its entire operation. Thank you.

2 MS. WITMAN:

3 Now we have Chief Fred Smeltzer.

4 MR. SMELTZER:

5 Good evening. My name's Fred Smeltzer,  
6 fire chief from Hellam Township. S-M-E-L-T-Z-E-R.  
7 I've been involved in the volunteer fire service for  
8 43 years. I served as the chief officer for 37 years  
9 in Wrightsville and Hellam Township. I'm current in  
10 all my NIMS and hazmat certifications and I'm very  
11 familiar with the area of the Perdue plant as we run  
12 mutual aid in East Donegal Township.

13 I want to first say that I personally  
14 confirm the issues raised by the previous speakers and  
15 written comments on prevailing winds and vapors in the  
16 Hellam Township. In my firefighting and fire chief  
17 career we have numerous times we've responded to the  
18 odor of natural gas outside running from Wrightsville  
19 Borough to the west side of Hellam Borough in Hellam  
20 Township, and have traced these natural gases back to  
21 Texas Eastern and Cargill, which are located in East  
22 Donegal Township.

23 I was first made aware of the soybean  
24 extraction facility at the Lancaster emergency  
25 preparedness meeting October 4th, 2012 and I have the

1 information provided by Perdue. The points I wish to  
2 present is to deal with the 20,000 gallons of storage  
3 tanks above ground and the permit zone. This map  
4 previously presents the shown proximity to Hellam  
5 Township and the proposed facility.

6 I wish to express my concerns for a  
7 potential fire explosion of vapors released of hexane,  
8 which can be stored --- or will be stored at this  
9 facility. As many have presented already, neither I  
10 or Hellam Township are proposed (sic) to this facility  
11 at all. We just would like to provide the safety ---  
12 provide that the public safety is satisfactorily  
13 addressed by the DEP and all concerned parties. The  
14 property in this area has sinkhole activity underlying  
15 carbonate bedrock. Will the DEP provide --- or  
16 require Perdue to provide an analysis of soil and  
17 related to safety for the installation of these tanks?  
18 Will spill prevention and preparative response plans  
19 be required? Will risk management plans be required,  
20 a safety security training, plant facility training,  
21 security chain link fencing with cameras? Limited  
22 access point guarded by trained personnel and security  
23 cameras, appropriate identification badges for all  
24 employees and vendors going in and out of the plant?  
25 Security level outside lighting at night,

1 identification and enforcement of restricted activity  
2 areas, security for parking of all tankers remaining  
3 on the facility overnight, blast resistant measures  
4 for the critical plant operations and tank storage  
5 areas? Requirement of chemical security,  
6 vulnerability access to the U.S. Department of  
7 Homeland Security in assistance with the U.S.  
8 Department of Agriculture?

9                   In conclusion, I wish only to say that  
10 these are dangerous times. Both terrorism, domestic  
11 and foreign, is a reality in our world today with  
12 flammable liquids --- with a flammable liquid facility  
13 of this magnitude. The old adage of an ounce of  
14 prevention is worth a pound of cure cannot be more  
15 appropriate in a situation like we have today. Thank  
16 you.

17                   MS. WITMAN:

18                   Thank you, Chief Smeltzer. We now have  
19 Steve Izzo.

20                   MR. IZZO:

21                   My name is Steve Izzo, I-Z-Z-O. I live  
22 at 11079 Gumtree Road in Brogue. I'm here because I  
23 work most of my working life in Hellam. I had a  
24 business in Hellam for a long time. I have a lot of  
25 friends in Hellam. I actually have been to a lot of

1 these meetings and I've spent a lot of time fighting  
2 natural gas extraction, which you know as fracking.  
3 And there are other people in this audience that I  
4 know and I can see that have also had some experience  
5 in that area.

6                   And what I'm here to say is that I don't  
7 --- I no longer believe the DEP is here to protect us.  
8 I think the DEP is here to protect corporations from  
9 us. Time and time again the regulations aren't good  
10 enough to protect us or they're not enforced and it no  
11 longer seems like a coincidence to me.

12                   I don't know whether the results of this  
13 hearing are going to have any effect on the decision  
14 DEP makes. I'll be highly surprised if they do. I  
15 attended many of these for the Susquehanna River Basin  
16 Commission that gives --- allows permits to be given  
17 to the fracking industry to withdraw water from the  
18 Susquehanna River. And I heard comment after comment  
19 at multiple meetings. I mean, almost everyone  
20 opposed, all permits approved. This may sound  
21 negative. Too bad. This is my experience. This is  
22 what I've experienced so far.

23                   I can't imagine why this plant's even  
24 being considered. I really don't. I realize you  
25 guys' job here is to, you know, present Perdue in the

1 best possible light because your work depends on it.  
2 It's your income. I get all that, but producing this  
3 kind of pollution --- I'm sure you've heard the term  
4 sacrifice zones. Well, sacrifice zones used to be in  
5 a third world country. So they used to be out in the  
6 middle of nowhere where there were very few people.  
7 Well, now sacrifice zones are coming to where there's  
8 populations because the need for profit never ends,  
9 you know. And the amount of sacrifice that we are  
10 supposed to make --- I mean, we pay; right? We pay.  
11 The DEP operates because we pay taxes. That's why it  
12 operates, you know. All our government operates  
13 because we pay taxes, yet our governor is given almost  
14 \$9 million to an industry that's already filthy rich  
15 while people don't have homes, don't have jobs. I  
16 mean, it's way beyond anything reasonable. Way  
17 beyond.

18                   You know, and I'm just basically here  
19 asking you guys to do more than just leave here  
20 tonight and say, oh, that's too bad. They shouldn't  
21 be able to do that. You guys need to say something,  
22 you know. You need to write letters to the paper. If  
23 we don't stand up and start talking about this, it'll  
24 never end. It'll never end. I promise you that. If  
25 the DEP was protecting us, then why is it that we



1 already have such bad air pollution and they're  
2 considering even more, you know? What protection is  
3 there really taking place?

4                   At the top levels of government a lot of  
5 money changes hands, you know. I mean, corporations  
6 have way too much influence in our government and  
7 frankly the stories of personal tragedy, you know, of  
8 disease and loved ones getting sick, I don't think it  
9 matters. I think it's the cost of doing business, you  
10 know, and I think we're all expendable. That's how  
11 it's viewed. And if you spend enough time fighting  
12 various corporate industries or whatever, you will  
13 certainly come to find sooner or later that we are  
14 considered to be expendable. And you can't.

15                   I wish Maria Payan was here, you know,  
16 Peach Bottom Concerned Citizens Group. She fights  
17 agribusiness all the time for buying off politicians,  
18 for getting laws changed, for doing tons of things  
19 that are not in the interest of people. So I would  
20 just submit to you that Perdue has no interest  
21 whatsoever in what we think. They just want to make a  
22 bunch of money, you know. That's what their job is,  
23 to make a bunch of money. And I would also suggest  
24 that the DEP, while these are probably very good  
25 people, they're probably, you know, influenced by

1 forces well beyond their control and certainly beyond  
2 ours, you know. And when \$9 million is handed to a  
3 company the size of Perdue, you know, there's no more  
4 chickens left in the chicken house. They're all  
5 foxes.

6 MS. WITMAN:

7 Thank you. Do we have two more? Mr.  
8 Wolf, did you want to say something?

9 MR. WOLF:

10 Yeah, I'll say something.

11 MS. WITMAN:

12 Okay.

13 MR. WOLF:

14 I really didn't prepare anything this  
15 evening and I just thought that I would like to  
16 reiterate some of the items stated.

17 MS. WITMAN:

18 I'm sorry.

19 MR. WOLF:

20 I'm sorry. I'm Steve Wolf, 585 Kreutz  
21 Creek Road, Hellam 17406. I, too, would like to thank  
22 everyone from Conoy Township for attending here this  
23 evening. Believe me, it was not our intent to  
24 overshadow you in this hearing and we wanted to make  
25 sure that you were a part of it. And as Hellam

1 Township supervisor, I am also on the Horn Farm Board  
2 of Directors. I'm also on the Local Government ---  
3 I'm the chairman of Local Government Advisory  
4 Committee for York County and I'm also the first vice  
5 president for the York County Association of Second  
6 Class Township Supervisors and a former Marine.

7 I, too, would like to just say my  
8 research has been as brief as it's been, you only need  
9 to get into some of the areas of the internet. The  
10 internet's a great thing because there's no hidden  
11 secrets. Just look at an MSDA sheet for hexane, n-  
12 hexane and you'll see it's not good stuff. There's 16  
13 parts of an MSDA sheet, one of them being acute and  
14 chronic effects, and if you look at the acute and  
15 chronic effects, you'll notice there's distinct items  
16 that we should all be concerned with the soybean  
17 extraction plant.

18 I think everyone's referring to the  
19 hexane emissions and I believe it's 246,000 pounds of  
20 hexane released. Now, this hexane is not just  
21 smokestack gas going up. It's vapor. It's gasoline  
22 vapor. It's more akin to benzene than it is to  
23 gasoline and we all know what benzene can do. There  
24 is a total of 84,000 gallons of hexane delivered to  
25 the plant a year, 40,000 gallons stored. That would

1 seem a little high to me that if you're only using  
2 7,000 gallons a month why you would have to keep  
3 40,000 gallons on hand in above ground storage tanks.

4           You know, we talk about temperature  
5 inversions and I know that everyone here has probably  
6 experienced a temperature inversion at some point in  
7 their life and your neighbor starts a fire someplace  
8 or has a fire or fireplace and we notice that hundreds  
9 and hundreds of feet away you can smell it in all  
10 directions. I mean, you don't even have to be  
11 downwind. You can go upwind and smell it. I can sit  
12 here tonight and probably smell somebody's cologne  
13 that's 20 feet away. That's the kind of influence  
14 this plant is going to have on your health.

15           Hexane, and from what I read, has little  
16 or no odor, so there we have to worry about that.  
17 Also hexane is --- can land on water and from what  
18 I've read it will stay on the water for several days  
19 before it sinks. So the mighty Susquehanna is now ---  
20 it's not just air, it's water.

21           You know, we talk about corporate welfare  
22 and I, too, am opposed to corporate welfare and I hear  
23 all too often about the poor people who are on welfare  
24 get slammed when we know most of this dollars go out  
25 to corporations. I think of the almost \$9 million

1 that Perdue will have or receive and I think about  
2 what the folks in Conoy Township, the farmers in Conoy  
3 Township can do with \$9 million. This is a  
4 significant sum of money and I know that it would  
5 create more than 30 jobs or 35 jobs if it was  
6 delivered to the community for those leaders to plan  
7 and use.

8                   I'm a community leader. I'll represent  
9 with support of 4 others, 6,000 people. Tonight we  
10 have mayors of both Hellam Borough and Wrightsville  
11 Borough. They represent 3,000 and 3,500 people.  
12 That's quite a few folks tonight that are in support  
13 of this. We hope that we make an impact tonight. We  
14 hope that DEP understands our concerns and we hope  
15 that in most cases that these permits are not looked  
16 at closely --- or they're not looked at closely.  
17 They're looked at probably seldom because of the  
18 technical information on them. It would make it  
19 almost impossible for a citizen to review a plan. It  
20 takes support of your community, it takes support of  
21 your leaders and I'm very proud that we have people  
22 like Mike Martin, Warren Evans to support us in this  
23 endeavor. I'd like to thank you all tonight and thank  
24 you.

25                   MS. WITMAN:

1 Thank you, Mr. Wolf. Matthew Crème?

2 ATTORNEY CREME:

3 It's pronounced Crème and I will yield my  
4 time.

5 MS. WITMAN:

6 Crème. I apologize. Okay. Thank you,  
7 sir. Are there two more?

8 CHAIR:

9 Yes. There were two possibilities that  
10 we'll just check on. Seth Grove? You would like to?

11 MR. GROVE:

12 Yes. My name is Seth Grove, G-R-O-V-E.  
13 I live at 620 Stackstown Road with my parents. I've  
14 lived there for 24 years of my life. I'm a graduate  
15 of Penn State University with a degree in design  
16 construction engineering technology with four years  
17 focus in aerospace engineering also. I have lived  
18 here all 24 years of my life. I am also the assistant  
19 cross country coach at Penn State Harrisburg. I've  
20 roamed the streets in this area all my life. I was a  
21 second team all conference division III runner.

22 When we talk about air quality, I've run  
23 my fastest times on the roads around my house. I've  
24 not run them on tracks miles away, I've not run them  
25 in courses in different states. I've run them right

1 next to my house. You could account this for me  
2 knowing the area better, but I account it for air  
3 quality and exceptional lungs. We talk about hexane  
4 being a very toxic gas and how it can cause cancer,  
5 but we have TMI sitting just miles away from us that  
6 has caused cancer to many loved ones in this area, yet  
7 no one can fight such a large corporation.

8           My sister was diagnosed with thyroid  
9 cancer her senior year of high school and is now five  
10 years clean. She now lives in Wrightsville and is  
11 striving great in a career. You talked about the  
12 Armstrong Ceiling Plant causing pollution in the airs  
13 and how ceiling tiles back in the '80s and early '90s  
14 had asbestos in them, and that could have been a large  
15 quantity of why that had so much pollution then. I  
16 now work in the construction industry and deal with  
17 the DEP daily with different regulations and have had  
18 to fight them on different safety qualities that I  
19 don't want to deal with as a --- in the construction  
20 industry.

21           We also talked about hexane as an  
22 explosive. Yet I live miles from Nissley Vineyard and  
23 several years ago felt the explosion from their tank,  
24 from one of their buildings. It shook the house I  
25 live in, yet I don't know the chemicals that were left

1 off by that explosion or how it affected the air  
2 quality in this area. We know explosions happen and  
3 we know the tanks that will be used are DEP regulated  
4 and approved, but we know that accidents happen and we  
5 cannot control everything 100 percent of the time. I  
6 live literally miles --- a mile or less away from  
7 where this proposed plant is to go in. Like Mr.  
8 Burkholder said, we just want the DEP to protect us in  
9 their decision. And I know with working with them  
10 that they do consider everything.

11           Geotextile studies are done in this area  
12 and we know due to the limestone that there are  
13 sinkholes everywhere including at my own house. We  
14 cannot control these sinkholes and as much geotextile  
15 work we do in the ground, you cannot predict exactly  
16 where every sinkhole will occur. And just like I said  
17 with explosions, you can't predict everything. Some  
18 things just happen out of your own control.

19           You want to say that hexane is a gas that  
20 affects the nervous system, yet we go to dentists and  
21 doctors for surgery and we use laughing gas, which  
22 affects our nervous system. Sacrifice zones were made  
23 in third world countries, yet now we fight the  
24 government day in and day out about big businesses  
25 moving jobs across. Now we bring those jobs back to



1 America and we fight because they are no longer safe  
2 for our people. Maybe that's why big businesses move  
3 them out of the country.

4 I'm not here to sound like I am in  
5 support of Perdue and I'm not here to say that I am in  
6 support of the comments made earlier. I just hope  
7 that Perdue is honest enough and that DEP does their  
8 job correctly to provide us all a safe area to live in  
9 and maintain. Thank you.

10 MS. WITMAN:

11 Thank you very much.

12 CHAIR:

13 The last possibility is John Eifert.

14 MR. EIFERT:

15 Eifert (corrects pronunciation).

16 CHAIR:

17 What?

18 MR. EIFERT:

19 Eifert.

20 MS. WITMAN:

21 John Eifert.

22 MR. EIFERT:

23 Yes. My name is John Eifert. I live at  
24 4819 Tracey School Road right here in Hellam, York,  
25 Pennsylvania 17406. E-I-F-E-R-T. I just have about

1 two or three questions. Then I'll just have a brief  
2 statement and a lot of this, of course, is discussion  
3 that has been tonight about the chemical that's used  
4 in the processing to derive the oil from soybeans.

5           One, in terms of the ventilated product  
6 whether it's in buildings and so forth or whether it's  
7 the drying process where the heat is generated to dry  
8 it out, will that be going to the atmosphere? That's  
9 the first question.

10           Also, the hexane, what I gather, is going  
11 to be in a liquid form as it's in storage tanks in  
12 liquid form. Will those storage tanks have to require  
13 a venting condition or is --- you know, to atmosphere  
14 or to another secondary vessel?

15           Thirdly, based on standard MSDS  
16 publications hexane is very reactive with chlorine,  
17 bromine and fluorine. Now, I know that Norfolk  
18 Southern Railway runs tank cars up and down the river  
19 on a regular basis. So is the location of these two  
20 tanks in an area that would --- in case there was a  
21 derailment there wouldn't be a collision of these  
22 tanker cars with these other chemicals that's highly  
23 reactive with ethane? That should be considered. I'd  
24 like to know that there's precautions being put into  
25 play for that.

1           And now I just have a statement. With  
2 the situation with the use of hexane --- with the  
3 hexane, you know, everyone's here. We're all, you  
4 know, concerned about it. There's a solution for it.  
5 It's not like you can't process this stuff in a safe  
6 manner. It's like, oh, how do you do it? There's  
7 scrubbing technologies there. It can be done right.  
8 Why do we all --- we shouldn't have to worry about it.  
9 EPA should do their job and be responsible and make  
10 sure it's done right. Perdue should be responsible  
11 and make sure they do their job correctly and they're  
12 good stewards of our community. That's it. Done.  
13 There's a solution for it. Let's all do it right.  
14 Thank you.

15                   CHAIR:

16           Thank you. Okay. So because I saw some  
17 people come in late who didn't get to sign it, I'm  
18 going to open the floor and ask if there's anyone else  
19 who wishes to present testimony tonight. Yes, ma'am.  
20 Since you came up, the woman in the red sweater. If  
21 you can, come up, please. And just state your name  
22 and your address, please, when you come up.

23                   MS. HELLER:

24           My name's Jane Heller, H-E-L-L-E-R. And  
25 those that know me would agree that the last name is

1 prophetic to some extent. Mr. Izzo really touched on  
2 some things toward the end of his discussion that I  
3 think are critically important and I think it's  
4 important to remember and I've been involved with the  
5 community of the people who are interested in  
6 environmental issues for some period of time now. I  
7 think it's first important to notice that we probably  
8 do not have a representative from any of the  
9 governments here. Do we have anybody from  
10 Pennsylvania or from York County, any of the  
11 representatives or senators or anyone who's in a  
12 position to exercise any effort in these kinds of  
13 things? Probably not.

14                   I think the big concern we all have is  
15 --- and I can well remember when John Hangar left DEP  
16 several years ago at the onset of Mr. Corbett's entry  
17 into the politics of running the state. I wasn't the  
18 greatest fan of John Hangar. I think he did  
19 reasonably well. He, you know, tried. I don't know  
20 this new person who is running DEP, but I think we  
21 have to be realistic about this and all the speeches  
22 that have been made tonight are well done. The  
23 information is great, but really we have to think up  
24 the food chain, folks. This is much further up than  
25 DEP.

1           When you have a governor who cuts  
2 spending to the public so that the counties have to  
3 cut spending for the senior citizen groups --- and I  
4 guess I would say I qualify in that category, but you  
5 know, there are things that are of concern with those  
6 of us who have lived here for many years or were born  
7 here. That politics seems to be playing a very active  
8 part in a lot of these things. The concern would be  
9 once this goes from this hearing today and goes to the  
10 hands of DEP to make the decision where would the  
11 pressures be placed on DEP to go along with? We've  
12 already had, what, \$8 million, \$9 million handed or is  
13 going to be handed to Perdue and we all like the idea  
14 of promoting jobs. That's great for the economy, but  
15 as everyone has said, and I will say as well, at the  
16 expense of our lungs and those of us who are seniors,  
17 you know, can look forward to breathing issues.

18           I live in East York. Used to live in  
19 Hellam for many years. There certainly is real  
20 concern about that, but the question is, is there  
21 concern at the very top reaches of the political  
22 spectrum here? And we have a county that is typically  
23 run by one party and I don't want to mention which  
24 one, but you know, I'm not sure it's totally echo  
25 friendly let us just say. We have issues with our

1 rivers, we have Chesapeake Bay folks who come up here  
2 and they're very concerned about what's happening with  
3 the fracking that's being done. I've been involved  
4 with those organizations. They are also struggling  
5 with the issues up there in the northern part of the  
6 state and we need to be aware that that can move  
7 further down toward us, that that can destroy our  
8 river. I happen to have a summer place. Not keen on  
9 the idea of losing huge amounts of money because the  
10 river turns into crude, which is sort of what's  
11 happening.

12                   So we have to think not only in terms of  
13 our health issues. We have to think in terms of the  
14 financial issues, you know. Mr. Corbett, pray God,  
15 before too long will be out of office and we will have  
16 somebody new come in, but in the meantime we will have  
17 a corporation spewing contaminants into the air. If  
18 this county is already known as having problems,  
19 environmental problems, let's think about what that  
20 does to the value of our property if we're going to  
21 get, you know, concerned about finances. We're  
22 already looking at \$8 million of our tax dollars that  
23 went to this company or will go to this company. We  
24 might have chosen some other use for that perhaps. We  
25 would prefer to have that go to help the poor, perhaps

1 we would like to see it go to provide job training, et  
2 cetera, et cetera, something to build the community.

3 I'm not sure 20,000 gallon tanks of  
4 killing fumes is exactly what I would call helping the  
5 community, certainly over there in Marietta. And if I  
6 lived in Marietta, I'd be scared to death because, you  
7 know, do you really want that stuff on your side of  
8 the --- I guess my whole point is that without going  
9 up the food chain here, folks, we can sit here and we  
10 can cogitate, we can have all this wonderful  
11 discussion. What is it going to do? Is it going to  
12 change these folks' minds? Because frankly I think  
13 the pressure comes from above, so without any pressure  
14 coming from underneath where is this going to happen?  
15 Are you going to talk to Mr. Gillespie or are you  
16 going to talk to Mr. Wall? Are you going to talk to  
17 Mr. Smucker? Are any of those folks paying any  
18 attention to this? These are the folks we elect. We  
19 send them up there to take care of us, to take care of  
20 our environment, to make sure that we stay healthy.  
21 We pay taxes. We pay their salaries very generously,  
22 as you might notice.

23 So what are we getting for our dollar  
24 here, you know? I hate to sound like a grumpy old  
25 woman, but I am a grumpy old woman. When it comes to

1 stuff like this, I feel it's fair to be a grumpy old  
2 woman. I've earned the years. You need to think  
3 about where do you go next with this? It's great to  
4 sit here and complain and be angry, et cetera, but if  
5 you don't do something beyond this, it's probably  
6 going to happen. And then what? And then we'll all  
7 sit here gasping the air wondering what's --- why  
8 we're suffering with this. There are steps beyond  
9 this that need to be taken. I don't know, you know,  
10 where you're going to go with this.

11           If these folks have the opportunity to  
12 spend a little more money and make it safer, then  
13 that's what should happen, but it ain't going to  
14 happen if you're just sitting here hoping the DEP  
15 folks who are --- let's face it, they're under the  
16 Governor. They're not in a position maybe to make  
17 these kind of decisions, and without pressure from  
18 you, what's going to happen? I mean, I would hope  
19 that they will do the honest thing, but you know,  
20 reality is corporations are corporations. They're in  
21 business to make money. They're not in business to  
22 protect our health. We have to be realistic about it.

23           And so I would say to you, you've got  
24 representatives, you've got senators, you've got  
25 people in Harrisburg who control this group. If you



1 are complaining about it, you need to do more than  
2 come here tonight and then be unhappy when it all goes  
3 through. There are things you can do and I would hope  
4 that you will do it. Thank you. 1819 Idylwyld and I  
5 defy you to spell it because no one I have met since  
6 I've moved there two years ago knows how. Would you  
7 like me to spell it for you?

8 MS. WITMAN:

9 Sure. Why not?

10 MS. HELLER:

11 I-D-Y-L-W-Y-L-D. It is the Scottish I  
12 guess.

13 CHAIR:

14 Anyone else? Yes, sir.

15 MR. KING:

16 Thank you everyone for being so patient.  
17 My name is Richard King, K-I-N-G. My address is 5860  
18 N as in North, River Drive and that would be Hellam.  
19 Thank you, Hellam Township supervisors, Hellam  
20 Borough, Fire Company and you folks for listening to  
21 us tonight. Good evening everyone on the 13th day of  
22 December.

23 I see a lot of familiar faces here from  
24 Conoy Township. We've been through some similar  
25 issues in the past. Here we are again. I hope you

1 all have a safe journey home, by the way. Traveling  
2 over to the other side of the river during those cold  
3 and snowy nights wasn't all that pleasant for these  
4 last two adventures that we went through. Even though  
5 our municipalities are joined by the Susquehanna  
6 River, I know you folks have about 30 minutes coming  
7 up here, so here it goes.

8                   I think it's really essential to take ---  
9 sit up and take notice to the true lack of regional  
10 planning. Okay? It's a common theme that the dirty  
11 business is often performed at the edges of municipal  
12 boundaries. The Lancaster incinerator is at the edge  
13 of Conoy Township and Lancaster County boundaries.  
14 And while it may be true that the river plays a  
15 factor, we also see the same theme with power plants  
16 in the same vicinity on both sides of the river, but  
17 we know that air and water movement did not recognize  
18 these boundaries and their de-cumulative negative  
19 effect.

20                   It seems odd to have that ozone action  
21 day last week. Colder months of the year. Will this  
22 proposed plan increase or decrease more such days in  
23 this area where air quality's already stressed?  
24 Perdue is the newest player to look at the location  
25 presently presented for their scheme to --- for their

1 corporate coppers and, you know, when one looks across  
2 the Susquehanna River and sees these vast hillsides  
3 lined with trees, one might conclude that there isn't  
4 anybody there and nobody cares. Well, I'm here this  
5 evening to tell you that such a notion is patently  
6 absurd.

7                   People live behind those trees and I  
8 happen to be one of them. Hellam Township has gone to  
9 extensive lengths to preserve and zone much of this  
10 area as a continuous canopy. Enjoy the view, but  
11 please don't poop on our doorstep.

12                   My parents who both became educators  
13 descended from law abiding farmers, but they always  
14 continued to farm. I can vividly recall how my mother  
15 was humored with Frank Perdue, the chicken man, who'd  
16 come on the television to speak of his newer, improved  
17 chicken. She thought he was hilarious. She knew a  
18 thing or two about chickens and she found something in  
19 his presentation that was able to make her laugh.  
20 Fast forward to the present day. Jim Perdue, Chairman  
21 of Perdue, who I do not see in the audience and I did  
22 look very carefully, represents to our communities to  
23 be a trusted, corporate citizen and a conscientious  
24 steward of the environment, our vision, values and  
25 aspirations. At Perdue our vision is to be the most

1 trusted name in food and agricultural products while  
2 our reasons for being describes our purpose, that  
3 being to provide innovative food and agriculture  
4 products and services that enhance the quality of life  
5 for everyone we touch. Folks, we've been touched.  
6 We're fighting for our homes here.

7                   Where these two clash is where they meet.  
8 One of their other statements is to our shareholders  
9 to deliver consistent earnings, growth and a strong  
10 balance sheet in pursuit of our vision while remaining  
11 true to our values. They clash. Perdue states that  
12 they strive to be a good neighbor. Some of you read  
13 the newspaper, but they've done very little to earn  
14 our trust. Instead they arrive here with a large  
15 contingent of hired legal guns including Matthew Crème  
16 of Nikolaus Hohenadel, Daniel Bambito (phonetic) of  
17 Post and Schell and Maxine Woelfling of the firm of  
18 Morgan Lewis. Are you people in the audience?

19                   ATTORNEY CRÈME:

20                   I'm the solicitor for Conoy Township, Mr.  
21 King, as you well know.

22                   MR. KING:

23                   Did I miss anyone who is also here with  
24 legal counsel? Good neighbors do not show up with an  
25 attaché of such individuals. The fact is that Perdue

1 has an agenda and they're making it known that they  
2 really would prefer to do things their own way and  
3 that it would go best if we would all step back and  
4 get out of their way.

5                   Perdue's spokesperson, Wayne Black, spoke  
6 to the York Dispatcher Reporter, Candy Woodall, prior  
7 to this meeting. Wayne rebuts all request related to  
8 scrubbers and requests to hexane containment according  
9 to this article. That's just not a good way to arrive  
10 at a meeting. It is obvious you didn't want to come  
11 here and that you don't appreciate our questions.

12                   Is it also true that Perdue will need to  
13 purchase pollution credits from elsewhere so as to be  
14 able to make their sizable hexane discharge here in  
15 Susquehanna River Valley? How many tons of this  
16 noxious, nerve gendering, endangering, flammable, smog  
17 causing according to OSHA, EPA and Material Safety  
18 Data will be brought onto this proposed site in a  
19 year's time? How will it be arriving? Will  
20 containment be in double walled containment vehicles  
21 during shipping and on site? Where and what off site  
22 monitoring is proposed with these releases? How much  
23 of the chemical will be used and released in a 24 hour  
24 period? Is material going to be evaporated, vented,  
25 scrubbed or disposed of and what percentages? How did

1 you obtain your data and what is your reliability  
2 factor for this data?

3           Where can we see air modeling, I didn't  
4 see any of it here this evening, specifically related  
5 to seasonal and weather patterns specifically related  
6 to where this material will be dispersed? Do you have  
7 charts of cumulative emission data and prevailing wind  
8 direction from the many other pollution sources  
9 already at this location? And where did you say that  
10 you were venting or allowing this material to escape  
11 to? Also, who and what is the source of the hexane  
12 and what is the pathway of its journey to arrive at  
13 this proposed location? And will any of this residual  
14 chemical be transported off site? If so, where to and  
15 by what method?

16           User information related to hexane states  
17 close neighbors are not desirable around such  
18 facilities. This includes data relating to isolation  
19 from railroads and truck traffic along with the  
20 potential for flash explosions. Yet your proposed  
21 location is adjacent to a consistently operated mass  
22 burn facility. How many trains will pass this site  
23 daily? How many trash trucks visit and idle at this  
24 mass burn facility? This seems such an odd location  
25 to site a refinery of this nature.

1                   Let's get back to that ring of being a  
2 good neighbor. I'm not going to ask, but I still have  
3 this question. I was kind of interested. By a show  
4 of hands that those people who are here tonight on  
5 Perdue's nickel, legal, subcontractors, et cetera, how  
6 many of you reside within a one mile radius of this  
7 proposed facility? Two miles? You're here on  
8 Perdue's nickel. Perdue is paying you to be here  
9 tonight. Three miles, five miles? Now, who's the  
10 good neighbor? Both of you do not reside here, but  
11 are more than willing to take the money and run.

12                   This proposed area for this plant is in a  
13 very unique location. The river hills, the  
14 Susquehanna River, the adjacent valley and plains  
15 cause micro-climate temperature inversions, weather  
16 patterns and other oddities. I had tried very hard to  
17 step back and allow others to deal with this proposed  
18 refinery. My phone rang on a cold November Sunday  
19 morning from a neighbor. I stepped outside my deck  
20 and I'm listening to post refinery concerns. I'm  
21 about two miles away as eagles fly from this location  
22 and I smelled the industrial smell of cakes baking.  
23 It must be crazy. It was one of those damp, overcast  
24 days common for that time of year, but I smelled the  
25 industrial cake baking that day and the next day. I

1 never smelled that before and it went on for like two  
2 days and then it stopped, and I had no idea where any  
3 industrial cake baking facility is. I don't have  
4 neighbors that close.

5           That's what happens in these areas where  
6 we live. It got my attention. It got me to thinking,  
7 you know, what if it was hexane that was hanging  
8 around out there instead of the cake baking stuff? So  
9 I thought, you know, I'm going to find out what this  
10 hexane stuff is and I started reading all the  
11 information that I could about it. And I started  
12 going, oh, I don't think this is good. We have  
13 similar oddities for smell, sound and lighting that  
14 are magnified and trapped. Voices on the other side  
15 of the Susquehanna River can on occasion sound as if  
16 they are near 10 to 15 feet away from you. Industrial  
17 sounds, smells, emissions and lighting can be  
18 overbearing and very intrusive.

19           Then we also have individuals who enjoy  
20 the recreation of swimming, fishing, hiking, boating  
21 and hunting. What of their safety? Again, while one  
22 may look across the Susquehanna River and see trees on  
23 the York County side, we look back across and see  
24 unshielded lights, hear industrial noise and  
25 experience emissions from increasing numbers of



1 stacks. And these stacks which reach skyward they're  
2 about on level with our hills. They're shooting these  
3 stacks way up into the air, but we're looking down  
4 onto them and into them.

5                   Mr. Black over here went so far to state  
6 on record in the newspaper that there are no problems  
7 in their facility in the Salisbury, Chesapeake and the  
8 two in North Carolina, but there's more to that  
9 equation. Flat locale, flat locale, close to the  
10 Atlantic Ocean, some swamplands in North Carolina, but  
11 again flat. Nothing similar to what we're talking  
12 about here.

13                   MS. WITMAN:

14                   You're past your time.

15                   MR. KING:

16                   It is?

17                   MS. WITMAN:

18                   Ten minutes.

19                   MR. KING:

20                   Okay.

21                   MS. WITMAN:

22                   Please wrap it up.

23                   MR. KING:

24                   Well, I'll wrap it up. To use the old  
25 adage, it's like comparing apples to oranges or

1 chicken talk roosters to hens. Then there's that  
2 major issue of the \$8.75 million. That's a lot of  
3 zeros. It's not free money. It didn't drop out of  
4 the sky, and while Governor Corbett may have had some  
5 wonderful thoughts about all of it, had he taken that  
6 money instead of using it as corporate welfare, it  
7 sure would have helped to have taken care of pensions  
8 for state employees and other people instead of trying  
9 to say that you're not worth what you're working for.  
10 PA State Constitution says we're entitled to clean air  
11 and clean water. We're asking you to do that.

12                   This is not a matter to be taken lightly.  
13 We need to double check. We want the best available  
14 technology, not the cheapest available technology.  
15 Let's double check who's footing a big part of this  
16 bill because what you're proposed is unacceptable,  
17 it's dangerous, frivolous and it's an unhealthy  
18 pursuit, and if you can't meet the conditions that are  
19 being put out, take your business elsewhere because we  
20 really don't want it here. Again, good neighbors do  
21 not hide behind a mirage of legal hired guns.  
22 Further, they don't report to the press what they will  
23 and won't be willing to do prior to sitting down at a  
24 public meeting with those who are the stakeholders.  
25 Perdue should be ashamed of its actions. Thank you.

1           CHAIR:

2           Thank you. I think I saw one --- was  
3 there anyone else? Yes, ma'am.

4           MS. LOGAN:

5           Annette Logan, 5874 River Drive. The  
6 mailing address is York, but it's Hellam Township.  
7 And I'm going to speak on behalf of those who live on  
8 the river. Sometimes in the river when it floods,  
9 which it does fairly often. I actually live more or  
10 less next door to Mr. King and we're kind of here ---  
11 I can't look at the ---. I don't want to take the  
12 time to look at the map to be specific. However,  
13 we're going to get whatever it is first. If you drive  
14 along the river and you notice all the smokestacks on  
15 the other side, we don't need anymore crap in the air.  
16 We don't need what we already have.

17           Now, the trains go by. I can set my  
18 watch by them. I grew up in a railroad town, so I  
19 understand that concept. There is a freight train  
20 that goes by at least every hour all night long. It's  
21 been mentioned that they carry things that could  
22 affect and mix with the nitrous oxide and hexane if  
23 there was a derailment.

24           All right. The other thing I wanted to  
25 bring up. I am so impressed with the research that

1 the citizens of this area have done on this project.  
2 And, Mr. Black, you need to understand we have very  
3 highly educated people and we have very determined  
4 people and sometimes they're the same people. We  
5 don't want you here. All right? We don't want your  
6 plant over there. We don't want to risk the explosion  
7 if it should happen. I don't know what exploded that  
8 night. He said it was Nissley. I thought it was the  
9 gas line. It could have been emissions. Whatever, it  
10 shook my house. Another explosion that's going to put  
11 all that stuff into the air. We don't have sirens.  
12 We had sirens for Three Mile Island that we can't hear  
13 on the river. We're not going to hear your siren  
14 either.

15                   June Evans mentioned about an acrid odor.  
16 We have an odor that's fairly consistent, comes and  
17 goes. It smells like a combination of chocolate and  
18 cat poop. I have no idea what it is, but let me  
19 mention one more thing and then I'll stop. That's the  
20 wildlife in the area. Mr. King mentioned the eagles.  
21 We have eagles. They seem to be protected. Maybe we  
22 can use them to protect us from this. We have fish in  
23 the river. We have all kinds of little critters. We  
24 have raccoons that get into the garbage, but they're  
25 raccoons. We have a lot of wildlife in that area.

1 They can use some protection from this, too, because  
2 they don't even know what's happening, nor do we. So  
3 go away, Mr. Black. Take your plant and put it  
4 somewhere else. We don't want it.

5 CHAIR:

6 Thank you. Anyone else? Yes, sir, in  
7 the back and I believe that was like the last comment.  
8 I saw no one else raising their hand. And then I'll  
9 wrap up.

10 MR. STEWART:

11 Good evening. I'm Kevin Stewart,  
12 S-T-E-W-A-R-T. I'm here tonight as a representative  
13 from the American Lung Association in Pennsylvania. I  
14 am a resident of Lancaster County in Manor Township at  
15 720 Roara Road, Lancaster.

16 The American Lung Association is the  
17 oldest voluntary agency in the United States that is  
18 protecting lung health. We were founded in 1892 in  
19 Philadelphia and --- our oldest predecessor agency was  
20 and we are representing approximately ten percent of  
21 the population who suffer from chronic lung disease.  
22 That certainly includes people with asthma, chronic  
23 bronchitis, emphysema, also people who are interested  
24 in protecting their health, and that should include  
25 the rest of us.

1           Lancaster County is named in our state of  
2 air report. I think some people have cited that.  
3 Around the end of April the American Lung Association  
4 publishes this report taking a look at air quality.  
5 Just from the point of view of Lancaster and York  
6 Counties, we have a record since the first report came  
7 out in 2000, these areas have all received straight Fs  
8 for ozone air pollution. Lancaster County in the 2012  
9 report was ranked 29th worst metro area in the United  
10 States for ozone air pollution.

11           Right now I should also point out that  
12 we're at the cusp of new air pollution standards for  
13 fine particle pollution. Perhaps as soon as tomorrow  
14 morning the administration should be announcing those.  
15 And the American Lung Association would like to see  
16 stronger air pollution standards for fine particle  
17 pollution. That's why we sued the EPA to approve  
18 that.

19           Also, next year the EPA is supposed to  
20 conduct its review for ozone air pollution and the  
21 American Lung Association is also on record there to  
22 indicate that the ozone air pollution standard is  
23 currently too weak to protect public health  
24 adequately. In other words, even when we are getting  
25 ozone action days and fine particle pollutions days

1 or, as Barbara May said, bad air days, we are not  
2 really telling the entire truth about how bad the air  
3 quality really is. And so those are some things that  
4 are coming down the pike.

5           A couple principles here. The American  
6 Lung Association through our clean air policy  
7 position, which are available on our website,  
8 basically the basic idea is that we want to minimize  
9 exposures, hazards. Basically everyone has the right  
10 to clean air. Everyone has the right to know what  
11 they may be exposed to, the maximum and average  
12 concentrations, the accompanying risks from a  
13 particular facility. And, you know, once a community  
14 has been made aware of these, then they can make  
15 informed choices as to the costs and benefits. And  
16 certainly that applies --- you know, although  
17 explosion and fire hazards are not within ALA's  
18 purview, the same principle, of course, applies to  
19 those kinds of risks.

20           We also believe that that information  
21 should be made available to the public for their  
22 review prior to asking for action on air quality  
23 permits and those things. We don't want to sort of  
24 find out after the fact more information that pertains  
25 to a particular facility that would then give us a

1 much better picture about what the true risks are.

2           I understand and there was a statement, I  
3 believe, from Mr. Black who indicated with respect to  
4 the modeling and risk assessment is that their  
5 consultant will, I believe was the verb you used,  
6 conduct this model using EPA protocols. Well, our  
7 position is that that model should be conducted in  
8 advance of requesting the assessment. It is critical  
9 also to recognize that as we see elsewhere in  
10 Pennsylvania anyone who's familiar with the Pittsburgh  
11 area, the Mon Valley area, is familiar with the whole  
12 issue of air inversions and people living at the  
13 height of smokestack, effective smokestack fumes. We  
14 know that topography in an area is a critical issue  
15 and so that's something that must be included in any  
16 kind of proper modeling.

17           We also recognize that this is an area  
18 where we have multiple sources and because of that and  
19 other things there's an issue of environmental justice  
20 that starts to become clear here. Emissions from  
21 those sources need to be understood. Certainly the  
22 issues of multiple sources, not only industrial, but  
23 also transportation orientated. We've heard about the  
24 trains, we've heard about the truck trips necessary to  
25 supply the facilities, the associated hazards with



1 respect to any accidents that might occur with respect  
2 to any of those kinds of sources, those are critical  
3 issues as well.

4           I did want to indicate as well that there  
5 were some --- oh, yes, one other thing here. Excuse  
6 me. The question does remain about why the plant  
7 should emit so much hexane in this day and age. This  
8 hardly seems to me what should be permitted under  
9 layer. And certainly when we heard from Dr. Evans,  
10 there was certainly a point to be made in what he said  
11 with respect to the unscrubbed meal dryer. That is a  
12 critical issue that needs to be addressed properly.  
13 The idea of also using --- I think you mentioned using  
14 local meteorology data for modeling was another point  
15 that he mentioned there.

16           But the bottom line in my brief  
17 presentation is just simply to indicate that we need  
18 to have adequate information on which to base our  
19 decisions and that information should include enough  
20 information to understand what the risks may be and  
21 what the proper kinds of controls may be, what the  
22 costs for those controls are and a proper kind of a  
23 dialogue. Any kind of good neighbor approaching a  
24 community should have that kind of dialogue. I  
25 encourage that kind of dialogue. I don't believe that

1 the best solutions are done through an adversarial  
2 process. The best solutions are done in questions and  
3 answers and proper respectful conversation.

4 Certainly the Lung Association wants to  
5 support the finding of a good solution here that does  
6 recognize the environmental and respiratory health  
7 needs of this community. Thank you.

8 CHAIR:

9 Okay. I have to give it last chance.  
10 Anyone else? Okay. That concludes the formal comment  
11 portion of tonight's hearing. Just a few reminders.  
12 Written comments can be submitted up until December  
13 17th. Even if you've spoken here tonight, you want to  
14 submit something additional, you can do that as well.  
15 Located here on the table are two forms that give the  
16 addresses of where to mail the comments to. There's  
17 also an e-mail address for storage tanks. Both of  
18 those are located there in case you need them to mail  
19 your comments in. And comment response documents will  
20 be made from this hearing and they can be available if  
21 requested. Thank you for attending this hearing and  
22 have a good night.

23 \* \* \* \* \*

24 HEARING CONCLUDED AT 8:38 P.M.

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CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing proceedings, hearing held before Chairman Kasianowitz was reported by me on 12/13/2012 and that I Jolynn C. Prunoske read this transcript and that I attest that this transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceeding.

*Jolynn C. Prunoske*