STATE OF ILLINOIS PIATT COUNTY ZONING BOARD

GOOSE CREEK WIND, LLC APPLICATION FOR A SPECIAL USE PERMIT

11/16/2022, 2022 6:06 P.M. - 9:00 P.M. Held at Monticello, IL, Community Building

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HEARING FACILITATOR:
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PIATT COUNTY ZONING BOARD MEMBERS:

Loyd Wax - Chairman

Jim Harrington - Vice Chairman

William Chambers

Paul Foran

PIATT COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY: Sarah Perry

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- 1 MR. WAX: Let's call the meeting to order,
- 2 please.
- First order of business, would you please
- 4 stand and join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the
- 5 Flag?
- 6 (PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.)
- 7 MR. WAX: Now could we have the rollcall?
- 8 MS. NUSBAUM: Mr. Larson?
- 9 Mr. Harrington?
- MR. HARRINGTON: Here.
- 11 MS. NUSBAUM: Mr. Lovin?
- 12 Mr. Wax?
- MR. WAX: Here.
- MS. NUSBAUM: Mr. Chambers?
- MR. CHAMBERS: Here.
- MS. NUSBAUM: Mr. Foran?
- MR. FORAN: Here.
- MS. NUSBAUM: State's Attorney Perry?
- MS. PERRY: Here.
- 20 MR. WAX: Shall we have a rollcall of the
- 21 county board?
- MS. NUSBAUM: Mr. Spencer?
- 23 Mr. Carroll?
- MR. CARROLL: Here.

- 1 MS. NUSBAUM: Mr. Edwards?
- 2 MR. EDWARDS: Here.
- 3 MS. NUSBAUM: Ms. Jones?
- 4 Mr. Henricks?
- 5 MR. HENRICKS: Here.
- 6 MS. NUSBAUM: Mr. Shumard?
- 7 Thank you.
- 8 MR. KAINS: Thank you. Well, good
- 9 evening, ladies and gentlemen.
- 10 First of all, I would like to apologize
- 11 for being late. It's a heck of a drive from Barnes
- 12 Hospital in St. Louis to Monticello, Illinois, but I
- 13 only exceeded the suggested speed signs just by a
- 14 few miles an hour. So, I'll let the fellows in the
- 15 back know, it wasn't even Piatt County.
- 16 One thing that came to mind after last
- 17 night's session, the first night of this public
- 18 hearing, while folks were speaking in the
- 19 microphones, we up front could hear, Holly, the
- 20 court reporter, who takes everything down could
- 21 hear, but some folks in the back of room could not
- 22 hear.
- So, to remedy that situation, we are just
- 24 going to ask that any folks who are speaking to the

- 1 board, including the board and myself, any of the
- 2 attorneys, any of the witnesses, any persons
- 3 conducting questioning, just hug that microphone so
- 4 everybody in the room can hear.
- 5 All right. The applicant still has a
- 6 number of witnesses who are ready to testify, and we
- 7 will begin tonight with Mr. Gershon.
- 8 OPENING STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF APPLICANT
- 9 MR. GERSHON: Thank you very much. I want
- 10 to first start -- I meant to give this to Phil right
- 11 before we started, a copy of the PowerPoint.
- MR. LUETKEHANS: Thanks.
- 13 MR. GERSHON: Is this microphone too far
- 14 away or can you hear me?
- MR. KAINS: In the back, you can hear him?
- 16 Very good. Thank you.
- MR. GERSHON: Okay. As I said, this
- 18 really isn't testimony. This is just walking
- 19 through sort of a roadmap of what we are going to be
- 20 seeing today. I thought it made more sense
- 21 yesterday to have Alan start to give you the real
- sense of the substance before you have to listen to
- 23 the legal side of this.
- Very quickly, as you know, we've applied

- for a special use pursuant to your WECS Ordinance.
- 2 This group knows that WECS Ordinance more than most
- 3 people because you spent an awful lot of months
- 4 working on it. There was extensive public hearings
- 5 on that ordinance, testimony by both sides, and as
- 6 you know there were a lot of changes in that
- 7 ordinance that were eventually approved by the
- 8 county board.
- 9 You've set, the ZBA and the county board,
- 10 have set those standards. It is the goal and the
- 11 roadmap of our presentation to show that we have met
- 12 those.
- 13 Just so we are clear, our satisfying those
- 14 standards is part of a number of things. One, it's
- part of the hearing binders that you received. It's
- 16 the information that is included in there. It comes
- from our testimony that you will hear, the cross
- 18 examination, etc., so it's all combined together to
- show that but we also have within our application
- your specific particular standards and how we meet
- 21 each one of them. So that information is there for
- you to show what we are doing and is supplemented by
- 23 what we are doing here.
- 24 Hold on a second. I have to move two of

- 1 these at once.
- 2 I think what you passed is critically
- 3 important. What it specifically says -- and I try
- 4 not to read PowerPoints, but on this I would like to
- 5 read the direct quote.
- 6 You stated and the county board stated:
- 7 This ordinance is adopted for the
- 8 following purposes: To assure that any development
- 9 and production of wind-generated electricity in
- 10 Piatt County is safe and effective -- I'll just add
- 11 that is my emphasis on those two terms up there, but
- 12 I think they are critical -- and to facilitate
- 13 economic opportunities for local residence.
- So when we look at your ordinance, we look
- at the standards that you've adopted to ensure that
- development is safe and effective, and that is one
- of the reasons why we respond to those standards.
- 18 We are not here to argue with you about
- 19 what those standards would be. That decision has
- 20 already been made. You made that, so that is why
- 21 you won't hear us arguing or arguing about the
- 22 standards again. We have the standards. We have to
- 23 follow them. You heard that multiple times in
- 24 Alan's testimony yesterday.

- 1 But what we are here for is to make sure
- 2 that we meet both the requirements, and by that I
- 3 mean your height requirements, your setback
- 4 requirements, etc. -- Alan went through a lot of
- 5 those, other people will testify to others -- and
- 6 also you have sort of your standard, your standards
- 7 form and special use which deal with both
- 8 qualitative and quantitative standards that are --
- 9 those are the ones that are also included on the
- 10 application.
- I know that the binders are rather large.
- 12 That's because we need to meet what your
- 13 requirements are and include everything in there,
- 14 and you can imagine that a lot of effort went into
- 15 those.
- You know that we've already submitted as
- our Group Exhibit 1 that application binder. I am
- 18 not going to walk through every single item in
- there, but you've got it; you've got a copy of
- 20 those. I think some of them are critically
- important, and I hope you get a chance to look
- through them.
- 23 Some of them you've already seen in Alan's
- 24 testimony, the maps, the site control documents, the

- 1 evidence of all the property owners who are
- 2 participating as part of this, our participation
- 3 agreements, and we also talked about what is
- 4 appendix C, some of the supporting documentation,
- 5 both community grants that Alan discussed and our
- 6 economic impact analysis which was identified as
- 7 being testified to by Dr. David Loomis later in this
- 8 hearing -- yeah, later in this hearing.
- Also, just so we are clear, every one of
- 10 these items that are in there are there because your
- 11 code requires them to be there. You've never done
- 12 this. You just modified your code so recently. I
- 13 had zoning board members say why in the world did
- 14 you give us so much stuff. I said, to be honest,
- 15 you required that we give you all those items. So,
- that is why they are there. I think you guys know
- that more than most people just because you've had
- 18 that opportunity to walk through it.
- I am finding my limitation is to move
- 20 forward one PowerPoint not two.
- 21 Appendix E we talked about. These are our
- 22 project agreements. We've already talked about the
- 23 AIMA document. I won't go further into that, but
- 24 you heard a lot about that at the last meeting.

- 1 We also have an agreement with the Village
- of DeLand which deals with their compensation and
- 3 waiver of their siting authority.
- In the document, not really a part of your
- 5 review, but one of the things that we have to do
- 6 pursuant to your ordinance is either meet -- get
- 7 their approval or get their waiver of that approval,
- 8 and they chose to waive it.
- 9 The biggest piece in there, beyond all of
- 10 our property memos, are all the project studies and
- 11 reports. You are going to hear more about these.
- The market impact analysis, our expert
- will discuss that when he comes up.
- Our telecommunications studies, Alan
- 15 talked about during his presentation.
- The draft emergency management plan that
- we are required to provide pursuant to your codes,
- 18 you'll hear more about the work we've done with the
- 19 fire departments related to that.
- Our shadow flicker report, depending on
- 21 how far we get through today, you will hear our
- 22 expert on that today or tomorrow on the shadow
- 23 flicker report.
- The sound modeling report, same statement.

- 1 I hope that we'll hear that today or tomorrow. Our
- 2 expert is here for it.
- 3 Wildlife habitat assessment, you'll
- 4 remember there were some questions about wildlife
- 5 where Alan indicated our expert would be here to
- 6 talk about it. That's his report. He'll go through
- 7 that.
- 8 And our draft decommissioning plan, which
- 9 again, we are required to submit to you and which we
- 10 have.
- 11 Appendix G is really dealing with FAA and
- 12 US Department of Defense issues and relates to those
- 13 documents, their determination of no hazard for the
- 14 turbine locations and the filing documents.
- The other part of this is critical. I
- sort of went through it already, but just to
- 17 summarize:
- 18 You have seen testimony and received our
- 19 maps, etc. Our goal here is to confirm for you that
- 20 all of your setback requirements have been met, all
- 21 of your noise and shadow flicker requirements and
- 22 standards have been met and all of your
- 23 environmental requirements have been met.
- We have shown, if you look at Section 2.1,

- 1 at some point when going through the document, that
- 2 shows our meeting your internal standards and
- 3 responses of those in addition, again, to our
- 4 testimony, and I think Alan spoke in some good
- 5 detail, but David Loomis will also talk about the
- 6 obligation in your ordinance to show that there is
- 7 an economic value of this to property owners and the
- 8 community, and I think we've talked extensively on
- 9 those numbers.
- Those numbers, again, that Alan mentioned
- were \$210 million to participants, \$91 million to
- 12 all the taking bodies, that is the schools, that is
- 13 this county, that is fire, to all the taking bodies
- that support this community, creation of quality
- 15 construction of long-term jobs, and we talked a lot
- about those numbers and where those come from, and
- while we talked it before, David Loomis will speak
- in more eloquence about all of the benefits to
- 19 residences, businesses, restaurants and others in
- 20 the community.
- 21 And also meets, as discussed in your plan,
- that first quote I gave to you that talks about it
- 23 being effective, and the way in which we feel this
- 24 is being effective is the generation of significant

- 1 renewable energy as Alan testified.
- 2 At this point we have previously submitted
- 3 to you that binder of exhibits, and for the record
- 4 we asked that that Exhibit, Group Exhibit 1, be
- 5 accepted by the ZBA.
- 6 Do you want to confirm?
- 7 MR. KAINS: It has been accepted by the
- 8 ZBA. Yes, sir.
- 9 MR. GERSHON: Great. Thank you.
- 10 We've got the same request on our
- 11 Exhibit 1, which was the school district resolution
- 12 that we gave to you -- I apologize -- our Exhibit 2,
- 13 the school district resolution we handed to you
- 14 yesterday. We would ask that that be accepted.
- 15 And then I have submitted two additional
- documents, and one is an updated and revised
- economic impact analysis dated October of 2022 by
- 18 Dr. David Loomis. We'll go into the detail on it
- 19 later, but essentially it's the same report as
- 20 before, but back when he created his first report we
- 21 did not know, you'll remember, we are talking about
- 22 60 turbines here, only 50 of which we are going
- build, and now that we are farther along we know
- 24 what those 50 will be. Obviously, final engineering

- 1 may change that, but we asked him. His first report
- 2 talked about the fact that we are looking at 60 but
- 3 we really averaging the minimum of 50 over all those
- 4 properties.
- 5 This new report says, if we assume those
- 6 50 primary ones are the ones that are used, we can
- 7 now show much more direct where all those tax
- 8 dollars go.
- 9 Again, I don't want to testify ahead of
- 10 time -- Dr. Loomis will -- but that is why we've
- 11 submitted that additional document.
- I have also submitted resumes of all of
- our third-party experts, those who are not directly
- employed by the developer, by the applicant.
- 15 For the record, Andy Keyt has asked, and
- we will bring to the next meeting for each of you
- 17 copies of all of those documents for you to have;
- and I can give, since I know Phil is going to ask me
- 19 for it, a copy of all those documents.
- MR. LUETKEHANS: You just saw me move my
- 21 mic.
- MR. GERSHON: That is copies of Exhibits 3
- 23 and 4, the revised impact analysis --
- 24 MR. LUETKEHANS: Which one is 3 and which

- 1 is 4?
- 2 MR. GERSHON: Three is the updated/revised
- 3 impact analysis, and 4 is a Group Exhibit with the
- 4 rest. Thank you.
- 5 MR. KAINS: Mr. Gershon, those have been
- 6 received. They are not -- we'll wait for you to
- 7 move to admit those at the conclusion of the
- 8 testimony of the respective witnesses.
- 9 MR. GERSHON: That will be our pleasure.
- MR. KAINS: Thank you.
- MR. GERSHON: That completes my direct
- 12 testimony, and I would like to ask Dr. -- I
- 13 apologize.
- MR. KAINS: Mr. Gershon, I am not going to
- 15 consider that testimony. That was an opening
- 16 statement, and as an opening statement that was
- 17 fine.
- So, folks, as a matter of procedure,
- 19 attorneys may give opening statements at the
- 20 beginning of their cases or at the beginning of the
- 21 hearing.
- Mr. Luetkehans will have the opportunity
- 23 to give an opening statement as well.
- Do you want to reserve that for the

- 1 beginning of your case?
- 2 MR. LUETKEHANS: Yes, please.
- 3 MR. KAINS: Thank you. All right.
- 4 So that opening statement from
- 5 Mr. Gershon, now you've given us a roadmap of where
- 6 you are going, and you may call your next witness.
- 7 MR. GERSHON: I would like to call
- 8 Dr. Jeff Ellenbogen to the stand.
- 9 JEFFRY M. ELLENBOGEN, MMSc, MD, FAASM,
- 10 an expert witness herein, called by the Applicant, after
- 11 having been first duly sworn, was examined and testified
- 12 as follows:
- MR. KAINS: Mr. Ellenbogen, if you could,
- 14 please speak into the microphone and state your
- 15 first name and last name, spelling both for the
- 16 record, please.
- DR. ELLENBOGEN: Sure. My name is Jeffrey
- 18 Ellenbogen. J-e-f-f-r-e-y, last name
- 19 E-l-l-e-n-b-o-g-e-n.
- MR. KAINS: Thank you, sir.
- 21 Mr. Gerson, you may proceed.
- 22 EXAMINATION
- 23 BY MR. GERSON:
- Q. We are trying to share this microphone

- 1 since there was trouble hearing us before. We have
- 2 arranged for a second mic to be here starting
- 3 tomorrow so that we can do this.
- Dr. Ellenbogen, would you please state
- 5 your background and professional expertise?
- 6 MR. LUETKEHANS: Mark, can I get a copy of
- 7 the PowerPoint? Thank you.
- 8 MR. KAINS: Mr. Gershon, would it be
- 9 easier if you used the podium, or would you rather
- 10 question him from your seat there?
- MR. GERSHON: Let's question him from
- 12 here. I think that is easier.
- MR. KAINS: It's your option, sir.
- 14 Mr. Gershon, you may proceed.
- MR. GERSHON: Great.
- 16 BY MR. GERSHON:
- 17 Q. Dr. Ellenbogen, again, would you please
- 18 state your professional background and expertise?
- 19 A. Sure.
- Good evening, folks.
- 21 I am a medical physician. I went to
- 22 college at the University of Michigan and then Tufts
- 23 for medical school. I did a master's degree at
- 24 Harvard in medical sciences, and then I went on to

- 1 become a neurologist and a sleep specialist through
- 2 training at the University of Pennsylvania and then
- 3 at Harvard as a post doctorate fellow.
- 4 I have board certification in both
- 5 neurology and in sleep medicine.
- I also have a background in acoustics from
- 7 a scientific point of view and from a health point
- 8 of view. I spent three years as a consultant for
- 9 Bose Corporation, and I have a research laboratory
- 10 that looks at the potential health effects of noise
- on sleep.
- MR. KAINS: Mr. Luetkehans, do you have
- any objection to this gentleman testifying as an
- 14 expert?
- MR. LUETKEHANS: No.
- MR. KAINS: Okay. He will be allowed to
- 17 testify as an expert.
- MR. GERSHON: Thank you.
- 19 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
- 20 BY MR. GERSHON:
- 21 Q. If you would, please talk about your
- 22 experience specifically with wind turbine studies.
- 23 A. Sure. I first got into the topic of wind
- turbines and its relationship/potential relationship

- 1 to human health back in 2011. I was asked by the
- 2 commissioners of the Department of Public Health and
- 3 the Department of Environmental Protection in
- 4 Massachusetts where I was living at the time to
- 5 become a part of an independent scientific counsel
- 6 to look at whether or not wind turbines cause any
- 7 health effects.
- 8 At the time, Massachusetts was looking to
- 9 increase turbines in their communities, and their
- 10 commissioners wanted to check to make sure that
- there weren't any known health effects before they
- 12 **proceeded.**
- So, we looked for about a year. We
- deliberated, we received public comment and we
- 15 looked at all of the known scientific literature and
- then put out a publication in 2012.
- 17 Since that time, I've had some opportunity
- 18 to maintain my interest and continue to read works
- that come out on the topic and be aware of them.
- 20 I also got to do some independent medical
- 21 evaluations of people who did live near wind
- 22 turbines and had raised concern about their own
- health, and I'll raise a few examples of those later
- in my relatively brief talk here.

- 1 I also have provided testimony from time
- 2 to time here. This is my second time here in the
- 3 great State of Illinois this year.
- And then, finally, there was a sleep
- 5 article that came out relatively recently. It was a
- 6 recent article on sleep and wind turbines that was
- 7 published, and I was asked to write an editorial for
- 8 that scientific journal.
- Just by way of background, in terms of my
- 10 relationship to paying attention to this topic, it's
- of great interest to me primarily because of the
- 12 sleep issue and potential neurological issues. I
- 13 have a passion for helping people sleep in noisy
- 14 environments.
- Okay. This is really the primary slide to
- 16 kind of introduce the concept and really what are we
- 17 talking about.
- 18 The two main potential sources of problems
- that a wind turbine could do to a person, they are
- 20 primarily the noise and vibration, on the one hand,
- and shadow, on the other, as we talk about shadow
- 22 flicker and the potential problems that might emerge
- 23 from those. They are quite broad, and people have
- 24 talked about them. And if you go online, you'll see

- 1 lots of discussion about a whole broad range. These
- 2 are just some examples that I put here: Neurologic
- 3 diseases of various kinds, pain, seizures,
- 4 dizziness, vertigo, and so forth, cardiovascular
- 5 disease, asthma, headache. So there is a long list
- of potential problems, and so it's not a trivial
- 7 task to try to tackle this topic.
- 8 This is just a map from the US Wind
- 9 Turbine Database as a reminder to me that there are
- 10 more than 70,000 wind turbines that are spinning
- here in the United States, so it's not a rare thing,
- and we do our best to pay attention to as many
- 13 projects and what and how people talk about them.
- Now, if we focus in on the studies that
- 15 have been done looking at these various questions
- about whether or not wind turbines might cause human
- 17 health effects, there are a handful of studies.
- 18 Most of them are low or sometimes even very low
- 19 quality.
- 20 And remember, like buying a car, peer
- 21 review publications come in a variety of shapes and
- 22 sizes and quality, and the ones that were out there
- on the topic of wind turbines were very poor
- 24 quality.

- One thing that I was reassured by, and our
- 2 commission was, in 2012 in Massachusetts is that
- 3 there is no such thing as wind turbine syndrome and
- 4 that there is no support for shadow-related
- 5 flickers -- sorry -- shadow-flicker-related
- 6 seizures, and I want to go into that in a bit so
- 7 that I can give you the reassurance of why I am so
- 8 certain.
- 9 There is a recent paper in looking at
- sleep and wind turbines that I think is of interest.
- 11 But by far the largest, most rigorous, most well
- done set of studies was that done by Health Canada
- back in 2012 to '14, and so I want to spend just a
- 14 little bit of time introducing you to that study
- because I think it will come up a lot for you, and
- it should because it's an outstanding set of studies
- and it can help clarify some of the issues that are
- 18 at play. Okay.
- 19 First, I won't get into the weeds of it
- too much. I would be happy to, if you have
- 21 questions about it, but let me just introduce you to
- 22 it because it will come up a lot. First, the design
- of the study. It's called actually the Community
- Noise and Health Study, which is kind of a mouthful.

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1 Most people, including myself, will refer to it
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- 2 colloquially as Health Canada. It was done in 2012
- 3 to 2014. They studied over 1200 people, so it's an
- 4 enormous study. It was adults aged 18 to 79 and
- 5 done in Ontario and Prince Edward Island in Canada.
- 6 The goal was to determine -- to clarify,
- 7 these are communities in which the wind turbines are
- 8 actually spinning and the people are actually living
- 9 near them. This was not a study about the
- 10 possibility of them, and so they were looking at the
- 11 health of the people living near wind turbines in
- 12 Canada.
- 13 It's a cross-sectional exposure response
- design, which is a mouthful to say, that we know
- that these disorders, insomnia, heart disease,
- diabetes, headaches and so forth are in the general
- population, and what they were going to do is say,
- okay, given a group of people who live far enough
- 19 away from a turbine that the noise is trivial versus
- 20 people that have moderate noise or louder noise, are
- 21 there people living near louder and louder noises
- 22 that are more apt to have headaches, seizures --
- 23 they didn't study seizures -- excuse me --
- 24 headaches, sleep loss, cardiovascular disease,

- 1 stress, I mean physiological stress.
- 2 One of the things that was unusual about
- 3 this study is the magnitude, the size, and the other
- 4 is the scientific rigger, but the third thing that
- 5 you need to know about the Health Canada that was
- 6 essential with that interviewing is that they were
- 7 doing subjective measurements, how is your sleep
- 8 quality, and objective measures where you are
- 9 looking at sleep physiology of people as well.
- 10 When they studied stress, they asked
- 11 questions about stress, do you experience or feel
- stressed, but they also had objective measures; they
- were doing hair cortisol loads.
- When they were looking at cardiovascular
- disease, they were asking questions about
- 16 cardiovascular disease but they were also measuring
- 17 blood pressure and heart rate, so they did a really
- 18 good job. This was a comprehensive and major
- 19 undertaking. They also looked at things like
- tenonitis, annoyance and quality of life.
- The findings are easy to get caught up in
- 22 the details, but I want to just show you the big
- 23 picture because the picture was a clear picture that
- 24 emerged at the level of the noise that was

- 1 experienced in the Health Canada study. There were
- 2 no associations between the noise levels that people
- 3 experienced and the health effects that they were
- 4 looking at. They didn't have a community problem
- 5 with sleep loss. They didn't have an increase in
- 6 cardiovascular disease. They didn't have headaches
- 7 more in the louder conditions. They didn't have
- 8 higher level of stress cortisol levels. So that
- 9 part is clear in their study.
- 10 They did have an increase in annoyance for
- 11 some of the folks, and we can talk about that. I
- don't consider that a health effect, but I would be
- happy to address issues on annoyance as well.
- But from all of the health issues that
- they addressed, and there were many, there were no
- 16 associations between wind turbine noise and human
- 17 health problems.
- 18 One thing they didn't address, and I
- 19 wouldn't have thought to bring it up in detail but I
- think that it comes up in these meetings so much
- 21 that I want to kind of get ahead of it and share my
- 22 perspective on the physiology of seizures just for a
- 23 minute -- it is a brief tangent -- because there are
- 24 people that have concern about this, and that would

- 1 be a reasonable concern if you had a known family
- 2 member with seizures or you have a risk factor for
- 3 seizures.
- 4 I first wanted to show, too, for
- 5 perspective, the blue circle is just the entire
- 6 population of the United States, and that little
- 7 orange sliver at the top is the number of people in
- 8 the United States that have epilepsy. It is about
- 9 one percent of our population, so not a small
- amount, but in the grand scheme of things it's quite
- small.
- Now, if you blow out that orange section,
- 13 which is all of the people in the United States that
- have epilepsy, now let's look at the orange circle.
- 15 Among all the people that have the
- diagnosis of epilepsy, how many of those people will
- have something called photosensitive epilepsy?
- 18 How many people with the disorder of
- 19 seizures will respond to the flashes of light that
- 20 cause them to go into a seizure, which would be a
- 21 concern? And that is about three percent. This is
- from the Epilepsy Foundation and a lot of other
- 23 sources. So, it's a small percentage of a small
- 24 percentage. In other words, it isn't every person

1 that has seizures that would respond to flashes of

- 2 light by having a seizure.
- 3 Just a little more information about that:
- 4 So, the frequency of the flashes matters a great
- 5 deal, and we know that the frequency has to be about
- 5 hertz or even 10 hertz, meaning 5 to 10 flashes of
- 7 light or more, in order to trigger seizures in a
- 8 person that has photosensitive epilepsy.
- 9 Most of the population doesn't have
- 10 epilepsy. Most of the people that have epilepsy
- 11 don't have photic seizures. And if among the people
- that do have photic seizures, it matters the
- 13 frequency composition, the quality of life and so
- 14 forth.
- 15 That is kind of a mouthful. It's a whole
- lot of information, but you don't need to pay any
- 17 attention to any of that because the shadow -- the
- 18 flicker that is created by wind turbines is at about
- 19 1 hertz or a little bit less, which is which below
- 20 the threshold that a person who had photosensitive
- 21 epilepsy would have a seizure.
- So, I just wanted to be clear about that
- 23 because this is a topic of, I think, a lot of
- 24 misunderstanding, and I wanted to be able to walk

- 1 you through that to reassure you that shadow flicker
- does not cause seizures even among those people that
- 3 are at risk.
- 4 Okay. Let me make some concluding
- 5 remarks. I know you have a lot of other information
- 6 to get to. I am not in a hurry to leave, and I
- 7 would be happy to answer any questions tonight or
- 8 whenever.
- 9 There is a lot of poor quality work out
- 10 there on this topic and you really need to dig into
- 11 it if you are going to be an active reader on the
- topic, but I'm delighted that Health Canada helps
- anchor us to noise levels.
- I should take a pause for a second because
- I am not sure I qualified it. In Health Canada,
- 16 they were -- to remind you -- they were studying
- 17 wind turbines that actually existed and homes that
- 18 actually existed near them, and the sound levels
- that people were exposed to were simply to sound
- 20 levels that actually existed. They didn't dial it
- 21 up and down to test. The highest sound level that
- they tested in Health Canada was 46 dBA.
- 23 And so they didn't -- so, I want to
- 24 clarify. They weren't saying that after or higher

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than 46 dBA is when health consequences would
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- 2 happen. They made no -- they were silent on that
- 3 topic as am I, but they were -- they did demonstrate
- 4 that at 46 dBA there were no known health effects.
- Now, that links us to what I'll call, for
- 6 lack of a better expression, a reasonable level that
- 7 we all can agree to, hopefully, or that I would
- 8 share as a professional opinion of reasonable level
- 9 that health effects would not take place, and I
- 10 think that links nicely here in Illinois to the
- 11 Illinois Pollution Control Board, which provides
- thresholds in octave bands, and you'll hear about
- that problem from, I think, their acoustic
- specialist that set the threshold at or below the
- same threshold as the Health Canada study.
- So, at reasonable levels, there are no
- 17 known health effects. The Illinois Pollution
- 18 Control Board is at a reasonable level, so I think
- you are in very good shape here in Illinois.
- 20 As I said, shadow flicker, just to
- 21 conclude, does not cause photosensitive epilepsy.
- If I could just share two brief antidotes,
- and then I'll stop. One is, coming back to those
- 24 independent medical evaluations that I had done some

- years ago; one was in 2014 and another in 2019.
- 2 The first was a farmer, a machinist, in
- 3 his early 60s, and he had an imbalance, and it was
- 4 his understanding that the imbalance was due to the
- 5 turbine that was near him. It became a legal
- 6 matter. I don't know the details of it, but I was
- 7 asked to come and evaluate him and to provide my
- 8 perspective on his case.
- 9 In examining him, it was clear that his
- 10 imbalance was due to a very serious neuropathy that
- 11 he had in his feet. And, unfortunately, he had
- 12 issues with alcoholism and diabetes, which are two
- 13 known causes for neuropathy.
- And from my perspective, it was a shame
- 15 that he was not aggressively pursuing his medical
- 16 care but instead, rather, was focusing on the
- turbine, which he had, I believe, been misled to
- 18 think that there was a relationship between the
- imbalance and the turbine that was near him, which
- 20 is a shame.
- 21 The second case is a gentleman in New York
- 22 who was in his thirties and felt that his sleep
- 23 problems were due to the turbine that was near him.
- 24 Again, I was able to speak with him. He

- 1 told me that he felt that it was due to the turbine
- 2 because he was trying to figure out what his sleep
- 3 problem -- what was causing his sleep problem, and
- 4 he had reached out to a gentleman named Jerry Punch
- 5 who provided him insight that the turbine that was
- 6 near him was causing his sleep problem.
- In interviewing him, it was clear to me
- 8 that he has a completely different sleep disorder,
- 9 one that was quite treatable, and he had been living
- 10 with it for quite some time thinking that it was due
- 11 to the turbine that was nearby, and that was my
- 12 professional opinion and still is today.
- 13 And I think it's just another example of
- 14 someone living with a disorder that they didn't
- 15 necessarily need to, not pursing their medical care
- 16 because of information that they were misled to
- 17 believe or think that they found in the internet or
- among their community.
- So, I guess that's a way to conclude that,
- 20 with Health Canada not showing health effects, with
- 21 shadow flicker not causing seizures, I think that
- the conversation can be much more nuanced and much
- 23 more narrow, and I wish you all best of luck in your
- 24 process.

- 1 MR. KAINS: Thank you, Doctor.
- 2 Mr. Gershon, do you have any other
- 3 questions of Dr. Ellenbogen?
- 4 MR. GERSHON: No further questions at this
- 5 time.
- 6 MR. KAINS: Very good. Thank you.
- 7 Members of the Zoning Board of Appeals, at
- 8 this time do you have any questions of
- 9 Dr. Ellenbogen?
- 10 EXAMINATION
- 11 BY MR. CHAMBERS:
- 12 Q. I have a few questions.
- 13 Is this mic on?
- I am a little bit newer to the process
- 15 here. I started in February, which was after the
- zoning ordinance was already put together and then
- came into the process when we started with the
- 18 shadow flicker, so that is when I started kind of
- 19 diving into some stuff, and actually I might
- 20 surprise you that I am not going to ask you anything
- 21 about shadow flicker because everything that I've
- been able to find points to that not being an issue.
- What I would like to ask you about is
- infrasound, so low frequency noise. I agree with

- 1 you that there is a lot of bad research out there
- 2 that is kind of hard to read through, but I did put
- 3 together some notes from what I believe are some
- 4 decent sources that at least have been published or
- 5 come from someone who is an expert in the field. So
- a few questions I have off of that is: There's some
- 7 literature I read that points to a tie between low
- 8 frequency noise and sleep disturbance or
- 9 specifically infrasound, which is defined as noise
- 10 at a frequency less than 20 hertz, that is
- inaudible, of course, but can permeate structures
- and cause disturbance to the inner ear and the way
- 13 that communicates with your brain while you are
- 14 sleeping.
- Do you have -- so to put that into a
- 16 question form: What experience, what knowledge do
- 17 you have specifically on infrasound, disruption of
- 18 sleep in that, you know, 20 hertz range for
- 19 individuals within the radius where that infrasound
- 20 would be detectable?
- 21 A. Great. Yeah. Thank you for that. That
- is a great question and a really important one. Let
- 23 me walk through some important thoughts and get to
- 24 the conclusion.

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1 First, just to clarify for everyone,
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- 2 infrasound -- it's called infra because it's below
- 3 sound. It's a vibration like any other vibration.
- It's just the human ear is tuned to hear certain
- 5 frequencies and not others, and there are animals
- 6 that are tuned to hear those very low frequency
- 7 sounds. So, we typically hear between 20 hertz and
- 8 20,000 hertz give or take.
- 9 If the sound -- I just want to clarify.
- 10 It isn't that below 20 hertz you can't hear it; it's
- that we are so tuned away from it that the energy
- would have to be exceedingly high for you to hear it
- 13 or feel it, and by feel I mean when you are sitting
- in the car next to or in the cab of a tractor
- trailer, for example, when you kind of feel that
- vibration in your chest, that is like a high-energy
- infrasound or low-frequency sound, sometimes called
- 18 UC, which is on the lower range, and you can
- 19 sometimes feel it.
- 20 And you are right to say it isn't about
- 21 perception, but I want to first clarify that there
- is the capacity to perceive. It's just the sound
- levels have to be just really booming for you to
- hear it at those low frequencies.

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1 The frequencies that we know for the
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- 2 threshold of hearing or, for that matter, tactile
- 3 sensation because you can feel vibrations not just
- 4 hear them. The threshold to hear or feel is way off
- 5 the charts above where the minor amount of
- 6 infrasound coming from wind turbines is in general.
- 7 So, just off the bat, it is imperceived.
- 8 So now we shift from a sensation of
- 9 vibration or the hearing of this sound to it's
- getting into our body in some other way that is
- imperceptible to causing problems.
- 12 There is some literature that very high
- 13 infrasound can cause problems. I have worked for
- 14 many years for the Department of Defense, and I can
- tell you that an F-18 blowing by is no friend of --
- you can really hear and you can feel it. It's
- serious stuff. So, you work with rockets and so
- 18 forth, and there is heavy machinery at high
- amplitude. That is not what is happening here with
- 20 wind turbines.
- So we are at very low levels,
- imperceptible and at very common everyday levels,
- the refrigerator that is near, the ocean, when you
- sit at the beach, that sort of thing.

- 1 Now, we could have a back and forth about
- all of that, but I want to share something that is
- 3 really important and I want to bring it back to
- 4 Health Canada.
- 5 Health Canada was studying wind turbines
- 6 that were spinning and people living near them.
- Now, the wind turbine produces a broad range. The
- 8 wind turbines you might have, if you choose to have
- 9 wind turbines, and the turbines that were in Canada
- spinning and the 70,000 or so here in the United
- 11 States, they produce a sound spectrum. We don't
- 12 control -- and that has a property to it. Just like
- 13 I have a stature and gray and black hair and I am
- about 6'1" and when I move all of me moves together
- as a whole, the sound spectrum from wind turbines
- carries forward a wide range of frequencies, the
- 17 audible range as well as the inaudible infrasound.
- 18 So, if infrasound from wind turbines were
- 19 to be causing health effects and perceptively so,
- 20 they were not revealed in Health Canada who studied
- 21 a very wide range of health effects.
- So, the infrasound is there, and they
- weren't having cardiovascular problems, headaches,
- 24 sleep loss, cortisol levels, high stress levels and

- so forth, so I feel very encouraged. It wasn't as
- 2 if Health Canada did this theoretical study on only
- 3 audible sound. They did a study on existing
- 4 turbines and existing people, so I feel very
- 5 reassured that infrasound is not -- from wind
- 6 turbines, is not a health risk.
- 7 Q. Okay. The second part of that question
- 8 would be: So, the infrasound that would be
- 9 generated from the generator portion of, obviously,
- 10 not from the blades whipping through the air but
- from the generator portion is usually described as
- 12 having kind of a pulsating pattern to it.
- Some of what I was reading was attempting
- 14 to link that pattern of sound and the inner ear and
- the imperceptible infrasound like we were talking
- 16 about to confusion and between the brain and the
- inner ear during sleep.
- 18 Do you have any background, any knowledge
- of specific sleep studies that talk about the actual
- 20 brain activity and sound relationship for sleep
- 21 disturbance and how that would relate with
- 22 infrasound?
- 23 A. Yeah. Another good question.
- 24 The only experience that I have with that

- 1 are my patients who have had blast exposure in
- 2 combat, which is, you know, light years away from
- 3 what we are talking about.
- 4 Should infrasound from wind turbines,
- 5 which is exceeding low, cause some sort of a problem
- 6 in the inner ear or the brain or the connections to
- 7 them?
- 8 I would expect that to manifest in some
- 9 way, and it just hasn't. And I wouldn't -- at the
- 10 level that it exists at these reasonable levels, I
- 11 wouldn't expect it to cause a problem, and it hasn't
- shown to have that problem.
- 13 Q. Okay. Let me double check my notes here
- 14 and see if I had any other things here.
- I did have this: You know, there is the
- term that you referred to, wind turbine syndrome,
- 17 which would be a newer term that someone tried to
- 18 attach to this topic. Predating wind turbine
- 19 syndrome that monitored the research was already
- there for what's referred to as noise annoyance or
- 21 vibroacoustic disease. I don't know if you are, but
- I assume you are familiar with those terms as well.
- 23 **A. Yes.**
- 24 Q. What experience do you have with any of

- 1 those topics and past research there?
- 2 And is any of that related to
- 3 low-frequency noise research on the turbines like
- 4 the study, the Canada study, for example?
- 5 A. Right. So, from a wind turbine syndrome
- 6 perspective, I think we are in agreement that there
- 7 is no syndrome of wind turbine.
- 8 Q. Right.
- 9 A. But we certainly can just in general talk
- 10 about noise annoyance as a conversation and noise as
- 11 a general topic. I am not saying that isn't a
- thing. What I am saying is there isn't an entity
- 13 called wind turbine syndrome. It was a very catchy
- phrase, and it attempted -- if I were to be
- generous, it attempted to encapsulate a lot of the
- symptoms that people were having in that long list
- and had to kind of put them all to one disorder.
- 18 That has been, fortunately, debunked, and so we can
- really focus more on noise.
- Vibroacoustic disease is another one of
- 21 those. It's the same lab in Europe that produced a
- 22 couple of papers. It was coined vibroacoustic
- disease by the lead scientist, and that also has not
- 24 been become a vetted and accepted disorder. I

- 1 couldn't find it anywhere in the medical literature.
- 2 It was explored and not shown to be -- it did not
- 3 demonstrate itself to be a real thing.
- 4 There are probably many instances. I gave
- 5 a couple examples of blast exposures, say from an
- 6 IED, or working on the tarmac near an F-18, or some
- of the rocket systems or working with high-capacity
- 8 blasts for which energy can be severe enough that it
- 9 can cause a lot of health problems, but I just --
- 10 because of that extreme, I just want to bring it
- 11 back to altitude zero here. That is not -- you are
- 12 nowhere near -- you are out of the stratosphere of
- that level of concern, and so I don't want to
- confuse those any more than I would want to confuse
- driving a car on the highway at the speed of an
- airplane because they are really night and day.
- MR. CHAMBERS: No further questions.
- 18 MR. KAINS: Okay. Thank you,
- 19 Mr. Chambers.
- 20 Any other questions?
- 21 Mr. Harrington?
- 22 EXAMINATION
- 23 BY MR. HARRINGTON:
- 24 Q. Thank you for your presentation. I have a

- 1 couple questions in regards to it.
- 2 At one point there you mentioned -- and
- 3 correct me here if I am wrong, if I didn't get the
- 4 note right -- 5 to 10 hertz of frequency to trigger
- 5 some sort of shadow flicker issue; is that accurate?
- 6 A. The Epilepsy Foundation puts out between 5
- 7 and 30. It's usually people usually test around 15
- 8 hertz.
- 9 Q. So, that is what you are saying, the
- 10 bottom of this band is the 5 to 10 range, right?
- 11 A. Yes, sir.
- 12 Q. I think you followed that up with saying
- it's approximately a 1 hertz shadow flicker created
- by these proposed windmills; is that right?
- 15 A. That is exactly right or a little bit
- 16 less, actually.
- Q. So, out of curiosity, what RPM are these
- 18 proposed ones at versus Health Canada or whatever
- other studies were being compared to here?
- 20 A. That's a good question, and I don't know
- 21 the answer to that, but I am confident that someone
- in Apex can get back to you with that.
- 23 Q. That is fine. That would be good to know.
- A. Yeah. I expect a wing tip would be pretty

- 1 fast, but the over -- because they are large, the
- important thing from my -- as an end user, looking
- 3 at shadow flicker, the important thing is that
- 4 however fast it's going its relationship to its size
- 5 is such that when it passes, the blade passes in
- 6 front of the sun, that that creates a flicker at a
- 7 less than 1 hertz event. That is the critical thing
- 8 I am paying attention to.
- 9 Q. That is your goal, right?
- 10 A. For this. You may have other questions
- about shadow flicker for your own, but from the
- seizure point of view that is a singular goal
- because, once you are so far outside of the range of
- flickering, it's not really, to the brain, it's not
- 15 really a flicker anymore.
- 16 Q. Uh-huh. Okay. I get that. But yeah, I
- 17 think that would be probably important to the
- 18 surrounding residents -- right? -- is to know what
- 19 speed these are and what that creates in relation to
- these other reference points.
- 21 So, then I would have to think, in that
- 22 discussion, time of day, time of year, season
- 23 affects all of these, correct?
- 24 A. Definitely.

- 1 Q. Right.
- 2 A. Cloudy conditions.
- 3 Q. So, in regard to, like, Health Canada,
- 4 which is sort of your key reference point, do they
- 5 say this was in the fall or the spring or these
- 6 hours of the day or I mean --
- 7 A. Yeah. That is a great question. They
- 8 were actually looking back retrospectively over
- 9 multiple years that the residents were there, so
- 10 it's kind of a long --
- 11 Q. Culmination of days and times?
- 12 A. Yeah. Exactly.
- 13 Q. Okay.
- 14 A. I just want to clarify: Health Canada
- 15 didn't look at seizures.
- 16 Q. They didn't look at what?
- 17 A. They didn't look at seizures.
- 18 Q. No. I think we are just talking flicker
- 19 in general.
- 20 A. Right.
- 21 Q. Yeah. I am not focusing on seizures
- 22 alone.
- 23 A. I understand.
- Q. So that is good to know, that it was

- 1 really an average of all that timeframe sort of
- 2 given there, right?
- 3 A. Yeah.
- 4 Q. So, I think you went on and then we talked
- 5 about, you know, that shadow flicker, and then we
- 6 were talking about the noise level, and we say the
- 7 Illinois Pollution Control Board mandates -- correct
- 8 me if I am wrong -- is it 45 is their mandate? Or
- 9 is that number off?
- 10 A. Actually, they are a little bit different.
- 11 Their mandate is an octave band, and the acoustician
- and their team are going to discuss that.
- 13 But what ends up happening as a result of
- 14 -- you can't exceed the limit in this band of
- frequency and this band of frequency and this one,
- and it just so happens that the pattern of the wind
- 17 turbine noise hits its ceiling before it meets the
- 18 limits on all of those bands, and so the average of
- 19 that comes to a 46 or maybe 45 dBA --
- 20 Q. Okay.
- 21 A. -- equivalent, which puts it right smack
- on where the Health Canada can become a relevant
- 23 insight for you folks here in Illinois.
- 24 Q. Okay. Okay. So you are saying it's, once

- 1 again, a sort of average of the bands there?
- 2 A. For Health Canada it was an average of all
- 3 the bands within the audible range or the Illinois
- 4 Pollution Control Board that looked at individual
- 5 bands, but when you marry the two, meaning you take
- 6 the sound quality that turbine produces and put it
- 7 up against the Illinois Pollution Control Board's
- 8 limitations. The output is that you can't exceed 46
- 9 dBA, which is great for this conversation because it
- 10 makes it, unlike in other states or counties, it
- 11 makes it for easier conversation about health.
- 12 Q. Okay. I hear ya. So I think Will brought
- 13 up some great topics there. I guess one thing that
- maybe you said it and I didn't hear it and I want to
- 15 hear it again: So, what is the infrasound created
- 16 by the windmill?
- 17 A. What is the level?
- 18 Q. I think you said it's low, but is there a
- 19 number attached to it?
- 20 A. There certainly is, and I do believe I
- 21 spoke to the acoustician here on the Apex team who
- has a figure for you. I don't want to make up a
- 23 number. I have one that I am typically willing to
- share, but I don't want to get it wrong.

- 1 Q. They are going to testify at a later time,
- 2 so we'll let it go at that.
- 3 A. It will be quite low.
- 4 Q. I guess the point I am making is there is
- 5 infrasound?
- 6 A. Definitely.
- 7 Q. It is low, but there is some?
- 8 A. That is a good point. I am not saying
- 9 there isn't infrasound. I am saying infrasound at
- 10 the level from the turbines produced here is not a
- 11 health concern, but there absolutely is going to be
- 12 some. Yes.
- 13 Q. And I am sure that, you know, you can't
- 14 cite all the information out there, and I am not
- 15 trying to discredit Health Canada, but out of all of
- them you showed a map of these other referenced wind
- 17 farms in the continental US. Are there any studies
- 18 closer to the Midwest to reference our seasonality?
- 19 A. From a health point of view?
- 20 Q. Just in general. I mean health or other
- 21 citings but, obviously, yours is going to be focused
- on health.
- A. Believe it or not, there aren't that many
- 24 studies on health and wind. There are some. Many

- 1 of them are exceedingly poor-quality and nothing
- 2 that would be worthy of discussing here, off the top
- 3 of my head. I don't think any of them were done in
- 4 the Midwest, but I could check that and get back to
- 5 you on that.
- 6 Q. I guess I would just be curious. Right?
- 7 Because if you were going to have one of these next
- 8 to your house, you would say, well, I would want to
- 9 have a comparison similar to my situation.
- 10 A. Absolutely, but I want to reassure you one
- 11 thing, which is, no matter -- because Health
- 12 Canada's main focus is the noise piece, that whether
- 13 the turbine is, you know, to my northwest or to my
- 14 southeast, the sound that they were looking at is at
- 15 the home.
- 16 O. Uh-huh.
- 17 A. And so, to the extent that the level of
- 18 noise at the home does or doesn't influence health,
- 19 I think it does have good, what they would call in
- 20 nerd speaking, generalized ability. It does extend
- 21 -- in that respect, it extends to the Midwest or
- 22 really anywhere.
- Shadow flicker, maybe you could argue
- 24 whether it's different or not because they are in a

- different part of the hemisphere.
- But noise, it really should generalize --
- 3 Health Canada should be on point for you folks even
- 4 with different turbines in different locations.
- 5 Q. Okay. I hear ya.
- 6 So, this may or may not be a question for
- 7 you, but I think it's the right time to bring it up.
- 8 As part of our wind ordinance here, some
- 9 of the language we stated was "shall appropriately
- 10 demonstrate compliance." And I guess my question
- 11 would be: How is that being administrated by
- 12 yourself or Apex or whoever is going to
- 13 appropriately demonstrate compliance?
- A. You are right. That is not my lane, but
- 15 it is a good question, and I look forward to hearing
- the question myself.
- 17 Q. I'll let it go.
- In addition to that, we also have language
- 19 following that, which, obviously, you would have to
- 20 hear the first names, but we also say: With the
- 21 conditions at homes and families that are affected
- 22 by wind turbine noise levels are given due
- 23 consideration as it relates to the health and
- 24 enjoyment of those individuals, so I guess maybe

- 1 could you, as a professional, as a key witness,
- 2 maybe give an example to us of how you would measure
- 3 that or what you would use as a metric? Maybe it's
- 4 not the answer you want to give yet. I don't know.
- 5 A. Would you mind reading that again? I only
- 6 caught the tail end of that.
- 7 Q. So let me start here at the beginning. It
- 8 says: Noise levels from each wind WECS or WECS
- 9 project shall be in compliance with applicable
- 10 Illinois Pollution Control Board (IPCB) regulations.
- 11 Applicant, through the use of qualified professional
- 12 -- use of a qualified professional as part of the
- special use application process shall appropriately
- demonstrate compliance with the above noise
- 15 requirements with the condition that homes and
- families that are affected by wind turbine noise
- 17 levels are given due consideration as it relates to
- 18 the health and enjoyment of those individuals.
- 19 A lot to say, right?
- 20 A. I understand it now.
- 21 Q. The key concern here particularly for us
- is we are saying to the community we are giving
- 23 those people due consider. It's my job to say: How
- 24 are we administering that? How are we making good

- 1 on that?
- 2 A. I am going to give the same answer: I
- 3 look forward to the answer to that question too. I
- 4 don't know. I am not the compliance guy.
- 5 MR. HARRINGTON: Thanks so much.
- 6 MR. KAINS: All right. Thank you,
- 7 Mr. Harrington.
- 8 Any other questions for Dr. Ellenbogen
- 9 from members of the board?
- 10 FURTHER EXAMINATION
- 11 BY MR. CHAMBERS:
- 12 Q. I have one more. This may be out of your
- 13 field, but I think now would be the time to ask it.
- I don't know if it would fit in anywhere else.
- 15 You talked a little bit about noise
- annoyance, and then this kind of moves from the
- 17 purely medical field, the health effects field, into
- maybe some psychology a little bit to where you say
- 19 you have someone who's annoyed, and that becomes
- 20 more of, you know, a counselor type thing, the
- 21 psychology end of it. But someone who has
- 22 experienced a high amount of stress or annoyance
- 23 about something in this case, say the wind turbine
- 24 shadow flicker, just the fact that they are there in

- 1 general, that, you know, that stress, you know,
- 2 there is plenty of medical documentation to support
- 3 the idea that prolonged stress, long periods of
- 4 stress equals adverse health effects on individuals.
- 5 Do you have any -- have any of your
- 6 research or any of your sectors you are familiar
- 7 with overlapped with those types of things with the
- 8 health effects, the annoyance factor, if you will?
- 9 A. Yes, sir. I like that question. I had
- 10 the same question myself. So the key thing that,
- 11 (1) we should know is that there is a -- just to
- rehash what I am hearing you say is that annoyance
- is on, for lack of a better way to put it, the
- causal pathway to bad health, meaning I get annoyed
- and it causes me stress, stress leads to elevations
- 16 in body cortisol levels and so forth, and that leads
- 17 to bad health outcomes, and that is a theoretical
- 18 concern.
- 19 And so, I looked back on it, specifically
- 20 looking at stress. So Health Canada was looking at
- 21 it, and the way that they phrase the question, I
- 22 think the quote was: Does looking at the past
- 23 year -- how much does this noise from the wind
- turbine bother or annoy you?

- 1 And in some ways, you could think of it as
- 2 whether you like the turbine or not. I am not
- discounting annoyance when I say it's not a health
- 4 thing.
- I mean to say that, to your point, it goes
- 6 way into the range of things well outside of health.
- 7 It may annoy me that my neighbor has a dog or a pink
- 8 house.
- 9 Q. Yeah. For us, part of our idea here is
- 10 the zoning factors talk a lot about enjoyment of
- 11 property, you know, the neighborly considerations of
- something like there where you are talking about the
- 13 surrounding landowners and their enjoyment of
- 14 property which will, obviously, have differing
- perspectives on that based on in favor or not in
- 16 favor of the project. So, that's part of the
- 17 reasoning behind the question there.
- 18 A. Understood, and I am probably not the
- 19 person to ask about enjoyment of property and that
- 20 sort of thing. There may be others.
- 21 But from the health point of view, if I
- 22 could zero in for a moment and then also talk about
- 23 annoyance in the Health Canada because they did show
- 24 an increase. At the higher noise level, there was

- 1 more annoyance. I think the number was something
- like 13.9 percent of people at 46 dBA reported that
- 3 the noise was highly bothering them.
- Now, Health Canada dug into that, and one
- 5 of the things that you need to know about that is --
- 6 and this is so important -- the annoyance that
- 7 people experienced was due to a long number of
- 8 factors. When they modeled it out in a couple of
- 9 different ways, one of the ones that came out on top
- 10 as causing the annoyance was concern for personal
- safety or health.
- 12 Q. Right.
- 13 A. So that's why I bought up those individual
- 14 medical examinations because there is -- if you
- Google wind turbine noise, wow, what pops up, you
- 16 know, I would think that I am in serious jeopardy,
- and now, when I hear that noise, I am reminded of my
- 18 personal safety and concern and now it's really
- 19 bugging me.
- So, there is an element -- so in one of
- 21 the models that they looked at, it was like you're
- 22 14 times more likely to express annoyance if you
- 23 think that turbines are going to cause a problem for
- 24 physical health or safety.

- 1 And so, I think, when someone has the
- wrong information but the right intent of how to use
- 3 that, I can understand why that would become
- 4 annoying.
- 5 And so very little -- some of the
- 6 annoyance had to do with blinking lights. Some
- 7 people just plain don't like the look of them. So,
- 8 there was kind of a long list of things that went
- 9 into it.
- 10 One of the things from the health point of
- view, because it's sort of entering outside of the
- health point of view, but the health point of view
- among the people that were annoyed, you might think
- they had more stress, but when the folks in Health
- 15 Canada measured heart cortisol levels, even just
- looking at people with an annoyance, it did not have
- an increase in stress factors.
- 18 So, I think this was really mostly a story
- of people who had a fixed false belief about the
- 20 health or just didn't like them, and it annoyed them
- 21 and it bothered them.
- 22 And that is a real thing. I don't mean to
- dismiss that, but it did not amount or rise up to
- the amount of the health problem.

- 1 MR. CHAMBERS: Thank you.
- MR. KAINS: Thank you, Mr. Chambers.
- 3 Any other questions from the members of
- 4 the zoning board?
- 5 Questions for Dr. Ellenbogen from members
- of units of local government, including school
- 7 districts?
- 8 Any questions for the doctor from those
- 9 folks?
- Then Mr. Luetkehans?
- 11 EXAMINATION
- 12 BY MR. LUETKEHANS:
- Q. Nice to see you again. How many times
- 14 have you testified for wind companies in Illinois in
- 15 the last year?
- 16 A. I believe twice.
- 17 Q. For whom? Which company? What counties?
- 18 A. Oh, it was Tazwell County, and the other
- 19 hearing was here, and I don't remember --
- MR. GERSHON: I am not trying to give an
- 21 answer, but since I am aware of it, I believe your
- 22 other hearing was in Livingston County, and the
- 23 testimony here occurred I believe as part of a text
- amendment which was a couple of years ago.

- 1 MR. KAINS: Thank you for the
- 2 clarification, but we are going to let the doctor
- 3 testify.
- 4 MR. LUETKEHANS: Yeah.
- 5 MR. GERSHON: I am sorry. Correction.
- 6 Did you not -- you were there to answer questions
- 7 but did not testify?
- 8 THE WITNESS: That is correct.
- 9 MR. KAINS: Thank you for the
- 10 clarification.
- Now, Mr. Luetkehans, your cross?
- 12 BY MR. LUETKEHANS:
- 13 Q. Thank you. Here you are testifying on
- 14 behalf of Apex, correct?
- 15 A. I was asked by Apex to come here tonight,
- 16 **yes**.
- 17 Q. And in Tazwell County you were asked to
- 18 come on behalf of New Energy, correct?
- 19 A. I believe so. Yes.
- Q. How many times throughout or have you
- 21 testified in counties or cities on behalf of wind
- companies this year throughout the country?
- A. Approximately six.
- 24 Q. Okay. Let's talk about the Health Canada

- 1 study for a couple of minutes. In that study, the
- 2 levels of noise were based on modeling, correct?
- 3 Not actually measured; is that correct?
- 4 A. They did do some measurements to confirm
- 5 their modeling, but the main study was done through
- 6 modeling. That is correct.
- 7 Q. And people under 18 who had abandoned
- 8 their homes were excluded from the study, correct?
- 9 A. I don't know anything about abandoning
- 10 homes, but the study was looking at people 18 to 79.
- 11 Q. Okay. So people below 18 and people above
- 12 79 were excluded, correct?
- 13 A. Correct.
- Q. Do you recall that the authors themselves
- indicated that, "Results may not be generalized to
- areas beyond the sample at the turbine locations in
- 17 the study and were not randomly selected from all
- 18 possible sites operating in Canada." Do you recall
- 19 that statement?
- 20 **A. I do.**
- 21 Q. They also said -- did they not? -- that
- the "Results do not permit any conclusions about
- 23 causality," correct?
- A. I don't remember that, but it wouldn't

- 1 surprise me.
- 2 Q. Did you also recall them saying, "Results
- 3 should be considered in the content of all
- 4 published, peer-reviewed literature on the subject"?
- 5 Do you recall that?
- 6 A. I don't recall that, but it sounds
- 7 reasonable.
- 8 Q. You have no reason to doubt those are
- 9 actually statements that those authors have made,
- 10 correct?
- 11 A. Correct.
- 12 Q. The raw data of the Health Canada study
- 13 has not been available to other researchers who have
- 14 requested them, has it?
- 15 A. I believe it's public data.
- 16 Q. The raw data. To your knowledge, has the
- 17 raw data been made available to other researchers?
- 18 A. It was my understanding it was public
- 19 data. I would be happy to look into -- what do you
- 20 mean by raw? Versus what?
- 21 Q. The underlying data. The actual
- 22 underlying data. The raw data that goes into the
- 23 report.
- 24 A. I would be happy to check on that for you.

- 1 I am pretty sure they made it publicly available,
- 2 and I can get back to you on that.
- 3 Q. That's okay. We'll have someone testify
- 4 on that.
- 5 The Health Canada study as it related to
- 6 cortisol has been criticized -- has it not? -- for
- 7 excluding or discarding hair that the cortisol
- 8 levels were unusually high. Do you recall that?
- 9 A. I do not.
- 10 Q. Okay. You're a sleep medicine specialist;
- 11 is that correct?
- 12 A. Correct.
- 13 Q. And as a asleep medicine specialist, would
- 14 you agree that sleep is essential for the
- restoration and health of a person's wellbeing?
- 16 **A. Yes.**
- 17 Q. In fact, disruptive sleep is known to be
- 18 associated with several health ailments, correct?
- 19 A. Could you define disruptive sleep? There
- 20 are several forms of disruptions, some are more
- 21 worrisome than others.
- Q. Well, let's deal with the worrisome ones.
- What are those?
- A. I think the most worrisome probably is

- 1 severe sleep apnea where someone has disrupted sleep
- in combination with the inability to respirate or
- 3 oxygenate.
- 4 Q. How about other obstructive sleep?
- 5 A. There is a textbook, a long number of
- 6 them.
- 7 Q. But certainly, those disruptive sleeps
- 8 have been known to be associated with hypertension,
- 9 correct?
- 10 A. The best-known literature on that is with
- 11 sleep apnea.
- 12 Q. But it is true -- is it not? -- that the
- 13 disruptive sleep is known to be associated with
- health ailments such as hypertension?
- 15 A. I think you are asking a very broad
- 16 question. You can have disrupted sleep from
- 17 restless leg syndrome. I am not aware of any
- 18 relationship to hypertension. There is disruptive
- 19 sleep from circadian misalignment. I am not aware
- of a relation to hypertension. If you could ask
- 21 something more specific, I could be --
- Q. Well, here. I have asked the question
- 23 before: Do you recall being asked these questions
- 24 and giving these answers back in Livingston County

- 1 in December of 2014:
- In fact, disruptive sleep is known to be
- 3 associated with several health elements, correct?
- 4 ANSWER: Yes.
- 5 QUESTION: It's known to be associated
- 6 with hypertension, correct?
- 7 ANSWER: Yes.
- 8 QUESTION: It's known to be associated
- 9 with cardiovascular and coronary disease, correct?
- 10 ANSWER: Certain kinds of sleep problems,
- 11 yes.
- Do you recall being asked those questions
- 13 and giving those answers?
- 14 A. Because I recall that conversation, I am
- now more aware of how you could over generalize, and
- 16 I am trying to answer the question as it should be
- answered.
- Q. Right now I am just asking: Do you recall
- 19 being asked those questions and giving those
- 20 answers? That is the question before you.
- 21 A. I do recall you asking those questions,
- 22 and I am giving you my answer now which is more
- nuanced, and I stand by what I said then and now.
- 24 This is exactly what I mean now. I haven't changed

- 1 my position.
- 2 Q. Disruptive sleep is also known to be
- 3 associated with elevated stress hormones, correct?
- 4 A. It can be.
- 5 Q. It's also known to be associated with
- 6 attention and memory deficits, correct?
- 7 A. That is complicated.
- 8 Q. But it can be known to be associated with
- 9 those type of deficits, correct?
- 10 A. Depending on the circumstances, yes.
- 11 O. And it can also be known to be associated
- 12 with depressed moods, correct?
- 13 A. "It" meaning what?
- 14 Q. Disruptive sleep.
- 15 A. You know, I am trying to be reasonable
- 16 with you, but if I were to ask you a question about
- 17 breaking the law causing a problem to you lawyers,
- 18 you would say I am aware there is a whole lot of
- 19 things that happen to get to that outcome.
- I think I need -- I really -- I am not
- 21 trying to get around your answer. I could use a
- 22 more specific question.
- 23 Q. Okay. Chronic frequent disruption or
- 24 prolonged disruption can cause depressed moods,

- 1 correct?
- A. Again, it's complicated. Can it? Yes.
- 3 Q. Thank you.
- 4 A. Can it also not? Yes.
- 5 Q. Here: I can drive over the speed limit or
- 6 I can drive under the speed limit, as Mr. Kanis
- 7 mentioned to us earlier tonight.
- 8 In fact, sleep loss causes profound
- 9 impairments and cognitive behavioral performance,
- 10 correct?
- 11 A. For the most part, that is incorrect; but
- 12 it can be in extreme situations, which we are
- 13 certainly not talking about today.
- Q. As a doctor, I assume one of your general
- goals is to promote the wellbeing of your patients,
- 16 correct?
- 17 A. Yes, with the stipulation that my role is,
- within the lane of that role, is primarily through
- 19 health.
- Q. And as a sleep medicine specialist your
- 21 focus is trying to help your patients improve their
- 22 sleep, correct?
- 23 A. Definitely.
- 24 Q. And that is because you know that the loss

- of sleep or poor sleep can have profound impairments
- on people's health and their cognitive abilities,
- 3 correct?
- A. Depending on the circumstances, yes.
- 5 Q. The Massachusetts panel that you talked
- 6 about that got you started on this, one of their
- 7 conclusions was that it was possible that noise from
- 8 some wind turbines can cause sleep disruption; is
- 9 that correct?
- 10 A. Yes. I would add a clause that that was a
- 11 comment that was made in 2012. Health Canada came
- out since then, and that has allowed me to
- 13 understand that the sleep consequences from wind
- turbines are not in reasonable conditions. We now
- have data to support that under 46 dBA would not be
- 16 expected to disrupt sleep.
- 17 Q. We have no data on 47 dBA, do we?
- 18 A. Health Canada is silent on that because
- 19 they didn't have data to support. They didn't have
- 20 data at all to support or refute that.
- Q. Or 48 dBA, they had no data one way or
- another, correct?
- 23 A. Correct.
- 24 Q. And all of the Health Canada, as we said,

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- or a large majority of the Health Canada study was
- based on modeling, not actual measurements, correct?
- 3 A. Correct.
- 4 Q. Would you agree that any noise during any
- 5 form of sleep, night, nap or day can disturb sleep
- if it's of the correct pressure and characteristics?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 MR. LUETKEHANS: Nothing further.
- 9 MR. KAINS: Thank you, Mr. Luetkehans.
- 10 Questions from interested parties who are
- 11 represented by licensed attorneys?
- 12 Any other attorneys with questions for
- 13 Dr. Ellenbogen?
- 14 All right. Now questions from interested
- parties, members of the public who are either
- opposed to the application or neutral on the
- 17 application?
- 18 Yes, ma'am. Would you please step
- 19 forward?
- 20 And I know you spoke or had questions last
- 21 night, but I have forgotten your name. If you
- 22 could, please your state first and last names and
- 23 spell them for the record.
- 24 EXAMINATION

- 1 BY MS. CLAUDIA COIL:
- 2 O. Claudia Coil. C-l-a-u-d-i-a C-o-i-l.
- Going back to the Canadian study, I have
- 4 also read that independent researchers, however,
- 5 have found limitations in this study. They
- 6 recommend the results should not be -- which should
- 7 be considered with caution and not generalized
- 8 beyond the sample taken from Canada.
- 9 And then I had some other concerns. The
- 10 concern is with adults, anyway, is always the
- 11 long-term effect of whether it's the ultrasound and
- 12 the noise levels.
- Most examples that are cited are, you
- 14 know, even in battle, it's, you know, a one-time
- 15 explosion, not that that is not serious.
- But it's the constant production of
- infrasound or, you know, noise that has the
- 18 cumulative effect on the human body.
- Would you say that there are no definitive
- 20 long-term studies that say that wind turbines do not
- 21 cause health issues? Definitive?
- 22 A. Yes, ma'am. Thank you for that question.
- For just clarification, because I probably didn't
- 24 represent my experience with the defense department

- 1 well: Many of these people are having blast
- exposure from shooting heavy machine guns and heavy
- 3 artillery that is repeated and repeated. I do
- 4 appreciate what you mean when you say that because I
- 5 think that matters.
- 6 Q. So, they have experienced issues from
- 7 repeated --
- 8 A. Absolutely. Yes.
- 9 Q. So, would you say that, if I am living
- 10 near a turbine and I am constantly being exposed to
- 11 ultrasound and noise, that I can have a long-term
- 12 effect?
- 13 A. Well, two things: 1.) Whereas blast is
- 14 very high energy --
- Q. Right, but I am just asking --
- 16 A. I know. Pardon me. I am just giving some
- 17 context. I didn't want to compare the two where the
- 18 comparison would not be --
- The noise from the wind turbines below 46
- dBA, they are exceedingly low numbers of infrasound
- 21 are just that, number 1.
- 22 And number 2, Health Canada was a
- 23 long-term study.
- Q. Okay. How many years was it?

- 1 A. Well, they conducted the study over a
- 2 two-year period examining people who live there, so
- 3 many of the people they were looking at --
- 4 Q. But I may be living by these turbines for
- 5 10 years, 20 years, 30 years. So no study has been
- 6 extended that long?
- 7 A. No, ma'am. No study has done that.
- 8 Q. Okay. Would you agree that some people
- 9 are more susceptible than others, in a population,
- 10 more susceptible to disease to be affected by sound?
- 11 You know, it's unlikely that everyone in
- 12 Northern Piatt County is going to have some effect,
- 13 health effect, from turbines.
- But would you say that, you know, in a
- 15 normal population some people are just more
- susceptible, and not in a psychological way, that
- their bodies are, you know, they have decreased
- immune systems, or they have, you know, the
- 19 conditions that they were born with? You know what
- I mean? Would you say that that is true?
- 21 A. I would say that it's true that there is a
- 22 lot of individual variable diseases. I think there
- 23 is also probably some individual variability with
- sound and what people are bothered by. Yes.

- 1 Q. Okay. Now, another concern is pediatrics.
- 2 The study here covered 18 to 7. Dr. Chan was a
- 3 pediatric cardiologist in the Carle system. He has
- 4 often stated children are not small adults.
- 5 So, what long-term effects or studies or
- 6 definitive studies have been done on children whose
- 7 bodies are still developing and cells are still
- 8 growing and what number of studies have been done
- 9 invitro, you know, for a fetus that is growing from
- 10 these things?
- 11 A. Okay. Those are very interesting
- questions. There are no studies, to my knowledge,
- on children or on in utero life.
- 14 And if I could add to that some flavor of
- perspective, I agree that children are not small
- 16 adults, and I share your intuition that the
- development is a part of that process that makes
- them unique, and I think actually at each and every
- 19 step a teenager is not -- a preschooler and so forth
- is quite different.
- 21 Q. Right.
- 22 A. So, it is a shame that Health Canada did
- 23 not look below 18. They did not, so they are silent
- on the topic of kids.

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- 1 Q. That is a shame nobody has studied this.
- 2 A. It is. Yeah. With the slight caveat --
- 3 well, let's take sleep for example. Generally
- 4 speaking, kids sleep deeper and more sound than
- 5 adults. So, if the sounds are not bothering an
- 6 adult, I don't have a strong intuition but that the
- 7 children would be susceptible. I could imagine an
- 8 individual who was unusually susceptible to noise or
- 9 something.
- 10 Q. Well, Bill Mulvaney was a superintendent
- of schools for Armstrong Township, and I believe
- he's retiring or has retired this year. He was a
- 13 proponent of the wind turbine project in his area
- because of the money it could bring into the school
- 15 system.
- And what he ended up finding, you know, he
- 17 might still appreciate some financial benefit for it
- 18 from his school, but he did write to the board at
- 19 one point that he had --
- 20 (PAUSE TO FIX AUDIO ISSUES.)
- MR. KAINS: Back on the record.
- Ms. Coil, you may resume your questioning
- on Bill Mulvaney.
- 24 BY MS. COIL:

- 1 Q. So, he wrote, after the wind turbine
- 2 project had been developed and was working, that
- 3 what he was noticing in his school was that the
- 4 children were having headaches, lack of sleep, jaw
- 5 issues, and they were unable -- they were
- 6 verbalizing they were unable to sleep because of
- 7 noise.
- 8 And then another person, too, Renée
- 9 Taylor, in McLean County, her children all
- 10 experienced certain side effects, headaches,
- 11 irritability, lack of sleep.
- 12 And an autistic child who had a very --
- was very sensitive to stimuli, in a normal situation
- was extremely affected by the turbines.
- MR. GERSHON: I am sorry, Scott. We are
- 16 getting a lot of hearsay and it's either a question
- 17 -- I haven't heard a question yet. I absolutely
- 18 believe in the right for this person to come to
- 19 testify, but I don't know if we can respond to
- hearsay, and we haven't responded to any question.
- MR. KAINS: Hold on, ma'am.
- This is a public hearing, and we are going
- 23 to allow hearsay testimony. This report Health
- 24 Canada could be considered and will be considered by

- 1 this board.
- Okay. But, ma'am, I think the point
- 3 Mr. Gershon is wanting to make, and I am agreeing,
- 4 you may make a prefatory statement before asking a
- 5 question but let's do the questions. I appreciate
- 6 you, though. Thank you.
- 7 BY MS. COIL:
- 8 Q. Now, we can provide the letter from
- 9 Mr. Mulvaney, if that is of help.
- Going back to an autistic child. Well,
- 11 let's not even discuss this one.
- 12 What would you say of autistic children
- who are far more sensitive to stimuli?
- 14 A. Yeah. I have a couple of thoughts. The
- 15 first, I just want to clarify you were talking about
- 16 proponents. I'm not a proponent of anything. It
- makes no difference to me what you guys decide to do
- 18 or have or do not have turbines. I am just here
- 19 talking about answering some questions of the
- science and providing some perspective and giving
- 21 antidotes, if I may.
- These antidotes that you are describing of
- 23 individual people having individual problems is
- 24 precisely the thing that I run into regularly where

- 1 someone, instead of seeing a specialist or a care
- 2 provider to address the specific question and to
- discover the underlying problem, because kids have
- 4 sleep problems, kids have bronchial problems, they
- 5 have enlarged tonsils that lead to sleep apnea.
- 6 Those are all treatable problems, and to assume that
- 7 it's the wind turbine nearby I think would be a very
- 8 big mistake. I have seen it over and over again
- 9 where someone makes that somewhat reasonable leap of
- 10 faith based on the minimal information that they
- 11 have only to discover that the much more compelling
- feature is something completely unrelated, as it
- 13 should be. This is not very loud. Forty-six,
- you'll hear, but it's going to be quiet. I mean we
- are talking like a library speech level quiet, so
- 16 this is not a rocket ship blasting off. This is
- something really within reasonable limits, I guess.
- 18 With regard to autism, I think it is a
- 19 very long question and a very short -- a long answer
- 20 and short answer, and the short answer is no one has
- 21 studied autism with wind turbines, and I wish they
- 22 did because that would help me to answer your
- 23 question.
- 24 Q. Okay.

- 1 A. For some perspective on it, I don't think
- 2 people know what -- some autistic kids may really
- 3 like them. So, I don't know, but I don't have a
- 4 terribly strong intuition that a wind turbine is
- 5 going to cause disruption to autistic children.
- 6 Q. Okay. The World Health Organization had
- 7 recommended that the dBA be less than 30 to protect
- 8 children's health and that they also -- at night, in
- 9 the evening.
- 10 So, I don't look at the World Health
- Organization as very stringent on a lot of health
- issues, but why would they come up with that?
- 13 A. That's a great question. I actually share
- 14 it. I am really concerned about the World Health
- Organization and their inability to weigh in
- 16 properly on this particular issue.
- I am aware of Lden 45 that they
- 18 recommended. I am not aware of a 30.
- 19 If you have some document you would like
- 20 me to look at, I would be happy to.
- 21 What I want to just be really clear on is
- 22 the World Health Organization has made some
- 23 publications over the years about nighttime noise.
- 24 They, finally, in 2018, produced a document that

- included wind turbines specifically and they, in
- 2 their publication, left out incorporating any
- 3 element of Health Canada into their study. They
- 4 said -- in the document, they said they ran out of
- 5 time to incorporate that data, which is really
- 6 striking. At any rate, I think they have a serious
- 7 lack of rigger or credibility on the subject.
- 8 Q. So, just in ending, I guess my big concern
- 9 is for children, with the lack of study for them,
- 10 and invitro. That is a big concern.
- 11 Lastly, I am afraid that too much is going
- to be attributed from wind to psychosomatic disease.
- 13 You know, health care is quick to jump to that.
- If there is not something that can
- 15 actually be, you know, tested, you know, or
- 16 measured, and I hope that that is not the future of
- 17 wind.
- MR. KAINS: Thank you. Thank you,
- 19 Ms. Coil.
- Before we have any further questions of
- 21 the doctor, we are going to take a recess. It is
- 7:42. We will be in recess for 13 minutes, until
- 23 7:55. Thank you.
- 24 (BREAK TAKEN.)

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1 MR. KAINS: Take your seats, please.
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- 2 Folks, just a reminder, when you are
- 3 conducting questions of the witness, at this point
- 4 we are just asking that you stick to asking
- 5 questions. I know it's tempting to start telling
- 6 your side on a particular point, but you can ask
- 7 questions. You can state a remark that leads to a
- 8 question but, you know, you will be allowed to
- 9 testify when it's your turn.
- 10 And about testifying, it came up in a
- 11 question last night that you -- the question was:
- When is the public comment period? And I simply
- 13 stated that, when you sign in to testify, that is
- 14 your time to say whatever it is you want on the
- subject whether you are in favor or whether you're
- opposed or whether you are neutral. That is your
- time to say whatever you want to say on the subject,
- 18 with the caveat that you may be questioned by other
- 19 people on the opposite side, but that's part of this
- 20 process.
- 21 At the public hearing, we want everyone to
- be able to testify. I note from the sign-in sheets
- 23 from last night that a number of people crossed
- their name off, and that is your right. You can

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1 testify or not testify. That is your right, but I
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- 2 don't want anyone to feel like they're shut out from
- 3 testifying or making a comment about how they feel
- 4 on this issue.
- I do know, from previous experience with
- 6 these attorneys, their questioning of, dare I say,
- 7 civilian witnesses/non-expert witnesses, regular
- 8 folk, and they aren't going to beat you up, okay?
- 9 And I am going to make sure of that. They will be
- 10 able to ask you questions, however, and your friends
- and neighbors on the opposite side can ask you
- 12 questions.
- 13 In Mason County a few years ago, I had
- 14 cousins, one testifying and the other asking
- questions on cross examination, and they were on
- opposite sides of the issue, and it's two weeks
- 17 before Thanksgiving. One of the zoning board
- 18 members asked one of them, So are you all getting
- 19 together at the same table for Thanksgiving? And
- 20 the answer, of course, is yes. All right.
- 21 But I want to make sure that, if anyone
- 22 wants to say their peace, that they do so. And they
- 23 can sign in. There are sign-in sheets still back
- there.

- 1 Ms. Gallagher, we will take it up after
- 2 the meeting if you have a question for me.
- 3 MS. GALLAGHER: No. I just want to
- 4 comment that some of the confusion that I had was
- 5 that the three sheets, it's very tiny print.
- 6 MR. KAINS: Okay.
- 7 MS. GALLAGHER: So, it was unclear what
- 8 they were.
- 9 MR. KAINS: That is Kayla Gallagher. You
- 10 probably know her better than a lot of the people.
- 11 That was just a concern of mine. I saw a
- 12 number of sign-in sheets with the names crossed out,
- 13 and that concerned me. Okay.
- But I want to just let you folks know that
- there will be a time for you testify and say your
- 16 comments, and so the testimony and public comment
- will come, and so you get to stand up and say your
- 18 peace once, but you would be subject to people for
- 19 questioning on the opposite side of the issue.
- 20 Like I said, I've conducted hearings as a
- 21 hearing officer with Mr. Gershon and Mr. Jacoby on a
- 22 petition or an application, and I've had two
- 23 hearings with Mr. Luetkehans representing opposition
- 24 groups. They are not going to beat you up, okay?

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1 So, feel free, if you haven't already, to
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- 2 go and hit up one of those sign-in sheets. But,
- 3 yeah, make sure it's the one that is in either
- 4 opposition or in support of or neutral, okay?
- 5 But just a reminder: When you are asking
- 6 questions of witnesses, just stick to the questions,
- 7 all right?
- 8 Okay. Thank you.
- 9 And with that, Doctor, you are still on
- 10 the stand. And just a reminder: You are still
- 11 under oath. Do you understand that?
- 12 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- MR. KAINS: Very good. Are there any
- other questions from members of the audience?
- Okay. And you have to be opposed or
- 16 neutral to his position.
- This lady right here in the blue, you may
- 18 come up, and then this lady, and then I know
- 19 Ms. Vetter is back there.
- 20 All right. Could you please state your
- 21 name, spelling your first and last name for the
- 22 record?
- 23 EXAMINATION
- 24 BY MEG MINER:

- 1 Q. Meg Miner. M-e-g M-i-n-e-r, and I am
- 2 still neutral.
- 3 My question for the doctor actually is
- 4 related to what you have said a number of times now
- 5 about your experience with people who have
- 6 experienced combat-related or
- 7 prolonged-exposure-related problems in the
- 8 Department of Defense, and I am curious now what you
- 9 might have to say about prolonged exposure of people
- 10 who have existing hearing problems to these low
- 11 levels of noises that we are talking about here and
- if there is anything that you have to contribute to
- 13 that because I know there are a number of veterans
- in Piatt County, and I know of at least one that has
- 15 long-term exposure and hearing loss from noise.
- 16 A. Understood, ma'am. That is a really
- interesting, unique question. I would like to
- 18 clarify that the main signal that we have that is of
- 19 concern is the noise, the perception of the noise
- and how that influences my experience of it, whether
- 21 it wakes me up or whether it gets my heart going or
- 22 **something like that.**
- Someone who had hearing loss would be far
- less likely to experience the turbine's presence.

- 1 And I want to clarify for the veterans,
- which has nothing to do with this, but their hearing
- 3 loss is a little bit different because sometimes,
- 4 depending on the cause of their loss, it may not be
- 5 broad spectrum, it may have low notch, which is
- 6 certain frequencies due to repetitive blasts were a
- 7 .50 caliber machine gun or something like that that
- 8 might change the composition of their hearing, but
- 9 in all cases it would be a reduction and you would
- 10 be less likely to hear the turbines.
- 11 Q. And that would be a similar assessment for
- 12 people with tinnitus, too?
- 13 A. Well, first of all, Health Canada did look
- 14 at -- the turbines don't cause tinnitus. But to the
- extent that one has tinnitus, I have no reason to
- 16 believe it should not, it would not make that worse.
- The tinnitus is mostly from noise-induced hearing
- loss, although there are other causes and that would
- 19 be the same situation. They would have a hearing
- loss. They would be less apt to hearing the
- 21 turbine. They would be hearing the tinnitus, which
- 22 may be annoying to them, but it wouldn't have
- anything to do with the turbine.
- Q. Thank you.

- 1 A. Welcome.
- 2 MR. KAINS: Thank you, Ms. Miner.
- 3 All right. This lady here -- and remind
- 4 me -- let's let you get to the microphone.
- 5 Again, please state your name, your first
- 6 and last name, and spell it, first and last name.
- 7 EXAMINATION
- 8 BY ANNETTE WARSAW:
- 9 Q. Yes. Annette Warsaw. A-n-n-e-t-t-e
- $10 \quad W-a-r-s-a-w$.
- I had a question -- sorry -- I had a
- 12 question in reference to the study, the Canada
- 13 study. And maybe you mentioned it and I missed it,
- 14 so excuse me if I did.
- In part of that study, you talked about
- 16 how long was the study -- how long were those people
- 17 followed?
- 18 A. The study was conducted over the course of
- 19 **2012** to **2014**.
- 20 Q. Okay.
- 21 A. And depends on what they are asked. Some
- of them were survey questions that are just now, so
- they didn't keep asking that same survey question,
- 24 but it was usually about the previous year, thinking

- sort of an evaluation of the last year.
- 2 Q. Okay. And then he had asked you a
- 3 question and I would like to clarify, and it
- 4 referenced a modeling, not measurements.
- 5 So, for those that know a little bit but
- 6 not a lot about studies and surveys, could you just
- 7 give -- and this isn't, obviously, in your expertise
- 8 but just kind of a layman's terms explanation of
- 9 what that means?
- 10 A. Yes. Thank you. I appreciate the
- opportunity to clarify that. And mostly I am going
- 12 to let the acousticians speak to the level of
- detail, but I do just want to give you that
- 50,000-foot perspective.
- 15 Q. Sure.
- 16 A. They did not, could not, it was not
- feasible to put a microphone at 1200 people's
- 18 houses. People don't want it, for their privacy.
- 19 It would be a decade evaluating all of that data.
- 20 It would be a mammoth undertaking.
- 21 So what they did was they validated their
- 22 modeling process by doing some measurements, and
- 23 they demonstrated that their model accurately
- depicts the sound that is measured, and then they

- were able to take that model -- so, in other words,
- what they would do is say, okay, the turbine is
- 3 here, and given some hills and how the ground kind
- 4 of reflects some of that noise and there is another
- one over here, we believe, based on the distance and
- 6 the topography and some other features of sound, we
- 7 can compute or expect or predict what sound they
- 8 would have at their house.
- 9 Q. Okay. So in my language, it's not a guess
- 10 but it's almost like an averaging of --
- 11 A. Okay. I like the not guess part.
- 12 Q. Yeah.
- 13 A. It's not averaging. It's making a
- 14 mathematically calculated, highly educated guess --
- 15 Q. Okay.
- 16 A. -- using a validated model, which is a
- whole lot of a mouthful to say. Like, you know,
- 18 like when you tell your kids, if you have them, I'll
- 19 be home from work in 40 minutes. You looked on
- 20 Google Maps maybe, and they made a calculation and
- 21 estimate based on movements of cars and your road
- and the time of day and the weather, and so there
- 23 was a lot of information that went into that. It is
- 24 a model.

- 1 Q. Right.
- A. But it's a pretty darn good one. I think
- 3 that is maybe the best analogy.
- 4 Q. And then my last question about this
- 5 specific is: You mentioned that these were -- were
- 6 they all homeowners?
- 7 And if they were, did they take into
- 8 account the distance of the turbine?
- 9 I don't know in Canada, specifically
- 10 Ontario and Prince Edward Island, what their
- 11 statutes say about distance, and I don't expect you
- 12 to know that either, but my question is: Was that
- 13 referenced in the study?
- 14 A. To my knowledge, it was not. They were
- focusing on the sound no matter how far or how
- 16 close.
- MS. WARSAW: Okay. That's it. Thank you.
- MR. KAINS: Thank you, Ms. Warsaw.
- Ms. Vetter, you had your hand up.
- 20 As she comes forward, are there other
- 21 questions from folks in the audience for the doctor?
- 22 All right. Yes, sir. You'll be next.
- MS. VETTER: I want to ask you to clarify
- one other thing about the signup for the turbine

- 1 stuff. Do I have to sign in every night?
- MR. KAINS: No, no. You don't have to
- 3 sign in every night.
- 4 MS. Vetter: Because I have been signing
- 5 in every night. That is why I thought it was at the
- 6 end of the sessions. And if you ask questions to
- 7 these professionals over here, then they are only
- 8 asking questions back to clarify what you are here
- 9 to ask them, true? As opposed to --
- MR. KAINS: You go ahead and ask him a
- 11 question.
- 12 EXAMINATION
- 13 BY KELLY VETTER:
- Q. Okay. I was wondering, in reference to
- 15 that study that you talk about in Canada, who was
- the author of that study? What was the doctor's
- 17 name?
- 18 A. To clarify, it's actually an enormous
- scientific undertaking, and they had many
- 20 publications. The lead scientist, his name is David
- 21 Michaud, and that is a spelled M-i-c-h-a-u-d I
- 22 think.
- 23 Q. So out of that study, did that look at did
- 24 wind turbine syndrome come from that?

- 1 A. No, ma'am. The wind turbine syndrome came
- in the middle 2000s, I think maybe the publication.
- 3 The book came out I think in 2009.
- 4 Q. Are you familiar with that publication?
- 5 A. Of course, I am.
- 6 Q. You are?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Yeah. Do you remember the name of the
- 9 lady who wrote that?
- 10 **A.** Yes.
- 11 Q. I am trying to think of that.
- 12 A. I believe her last name is Pierpont.
- 13 Q. That is fine. I read that book just to
- 14 get a handle on what her concerns were, and I am
- surprised you don't quote any of the things that she
- 16 has written in her book about the wind turbine
- 17 syndrome because she has peer reviewed and also has
- 18 a lot of good information.
- One of the things that I was going to ask
- 20 was -- she talks about the vibroacoustic disease.
- 21 Well, there is another scientist in -- I
- think she is from the UK. She has a Ph.D. in
- 23 environmental sciences.
- Do you have a Ph.D. in environmental? Do

- 1 you have anything in environmental science?
- 2 A. No, ma'am.
- 3 Q. So, your only specialty is? Say it again,
- 4 please.
- 5 A. I have a few specialties. Neurology. I
- 6 do sleep medicine, and I do some forms of wilderness
- 7 medicine.
- 8 Q. So, what she talks about, and I wondered
- 9 if you had any information on -- she has been
- 10 investigating low frequency noise since 1988 and she
- 11 talks about the health effects from those turbines.
- 12 Are you familiar with any of that work?
- 13 A. Any of what work, ma'am?
- Q. She talks about the vibroacoustic disease,
- which you talked about earlier. You said there has
- never been anything proven about that, where they
- actually state there has been autopsy proven to show
- 18 tissue proliferation, particularly collagen and
- 19 fibroelastic tissue that causes heart problems,
- 20 hypertension and other psychologic provision
- 21 findings. And this is not just isolated to wind
- 22 turbines, to be fair.
- MR. KAINS: Ms. Vetter, could you ask a
- 24 question, please?

- 1 MS. VETTER: Yeah. The question was, was
- 2 he familiar. He said he had not seen anything
- 3 proven about this.
- 4 And this is something that was proven by
- 5 environmental studies, and I am wondering if he is
- 6 familiar with any of that information.
- 7 MR. KAINS: Are you familiar with that
- 8 information, sir?
- 9 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 10 BY MS. VETTER:
- 11 Q. Okay. Because you didn't say that
- 12 earlier?
- 13 A. Well, I think I did say -- maybe I should
- just clarify.
- Q. You said it wasn't proven. That is why I
- 16 am asking.
- 17 A. Sorry. I was answering the question: Am
- 18 I familiar with the work? I am.
- 19 O. You are not familiar with the
- 20 autopsy-proven information?
- MR. KAINS: Folks, you are stepping on
- 22 each other.
- MS. VETTER: Sorry.
- MR. KAINS: If he's answering a question,

- 1 let him answer. If she is asking a question, don't
- 2 continue on with your answer because Holly has got
- 3 to take it all down. This has to be typed up in a
- 4 transcript to go to these folks and the county board
- 5 members and if there is any appeal of this.
- So, ma'am, ask the question, please.
- 7 MS. VETTER: Want me to ask it again?
- MR. KAINS: Yes, ma'am.
- 9 BY MS. VETTER:
- 10 Q. It can be yes or no. I just want to know
- if you are familiar with the autopsy-proven
- information from this study from the Dr. Mariana
- 13 Alves-Pereira. She is a Ph.D. in environmental
- 14 science.
- 15 A. I believe her name is "Alves-Pereira."
- 16 O. Yes.
- 17 A. And I am familiar with her work. I am
- 18 confident that it is not a disorder, that there is
- 19 no such thing as vibroacoustic disease.
- Q. Well, that wasn't my question. My
- 21 question is: Have you read about autopsy-proven
- 22 information to show about this particular thing
- happening with wind turbines?
- 24 A. I've read her work. Yes. Yes. How about

- just a flat yes?
- 2 Q. You know that that has been there because
- 3 you said, and nothing has been proven. So, this
- 4 says it has been proven. That is what I wanted to
- 5 ask you about to clarify that.
- So, have you ever, in your work, have you
- 7 ever worked with people who have been around
- 8 turbines and they have sleep problems?
- 9 Do you have any patients that you deal
- 10 with that you work with?
- 11 A. Only the ones who I was asked to get
- involved with and perform an independent medical
- 13 evaluation.
- 14 Q. Who offered you or wanted you to do that
- work?
- 16 A. There were several, and these were cases
- in litigation. I don't remember the company, but I
- 18 can look it up for you.
- 19 Q. I am just asking. So you don't deal with
- 20 patients in trying to diagnose and help them? You
- 21 don't deal with any wind turbine patients on that
- 22 level?
- 23 A. My regular, everyday clinical practice
- does not involve anyone near or exposed to turbines.

- 1 **No.**
- Q. All right. Okay. Let's see here. Are
- 3 you aware that there is a number out there that says
- 4 30 percent of the people affected by motion of
- 5 turbines, they are affected by 30 percent, and they
- 6 are usually people who have motion sickness and
- 7 things like that who just that kind of movement
- 8 bothers them, like when they are driving? Are you
- 9 aware of any of those kinds of things?
- 10 A. Could you repeat the beginning of that? I
- 11 am sorry. I missed it.
- 12 Q. That 30 percent of people have issues with
- wind turbines, with the motion of wind turbines.
- 14 And I wanted to know if you are aware of any of that
- information and that it's usually people with
- epilepsy, motion sickness, you know, like if they
- 17 have car sickness or anything like that. Are you
- 18 aware of any information about that?
- 19 A. I am not aware of that kind of
- 20 information. No.
- 21 Q. Okay. Have you ever yourself gone out to
- 22 a farm and experienced any of the shadow flickering
- 23 that people are talking about?
- 24 **A. Yes.**

- 1 Q. And for what period of time have you done
- 2 that?
- 3 A. I would --
- 4 Q. Did you sleep overnight somewhere and get
- 5 it?
- Did you camp out somewhere where they are?
- 7 What has been your experience?
- 8 A. It was about maybe about 10 or 20 minutes.
- 9 I can't remember.
- 10 Q. Okay. Alrighty. Is it true that the
- longer the blade is the more shadow you will have?
- The longer, you know, it reaches further,
- so, you know -- so we are talking about 620 feet?
- 14 Is that what we said?
- So, they are higher than the ones that
- have been some of these studies. I am wondering.
- 17 The shadow flickering is a greater distance than it
- 18 would be with these shorter ones.
- 19 A. That is a good question. That is really
- 20 not my area, but there is someone who is going to be
- 21 speaking about shadow flicker I believe and can
- 22 answer that question.
- MR. LUETKEHANS: Can we ask Mr. Gershon
- 24 not to whisper the answer? I am hearing it over

- 1 here. If he wants to testify, he should testify.
- THE WITNESS: Well, it is unfortunate --
- 3 MR. KAINS: Well, hang on.
- 4 Mr. Luetkehans, that is a very good point.
- 5 The witness is to answer the questions, if
- 6 the witness knows the answer.
- 7 If you don't know the answer, you can
- 8 simply say I don't know.
- 9 But, yeah, let's let -- I want to see the
- 10 witness answer the questions.
- 11 Thank you. All right.
- Ms. Vetter, go ahead and ask the question
- 13 again.
- 14 BY MS. VETTER:
- 15 Q. I am trying to look for it in my notes.
- Because your testimony is about being able
- to sleep and handle the wind turbines, right? And
- 18 shadow flickering, is that part of what your
- 19 testimony should include?
- 20 A. Well, shadow flicker happens at certain
- 21 times of day, usually early morning or early in the
- 22 evening -- late in the evening -- excuse me -- and I
- don't have any reason to believe that relates to
- 24 sleep in any way.

- And, yes, I am here to discuss any of the
- 2 potential health effects, including all of those
- 3 potential from wind turbines, including shadow
- 4 flickering.
- 5 Q. So that was my question. Is the longer
- 6 the blade, the longer the shadow, the longer reach
- 7 that has on to another person's property or
- 8 whatever?
- 9 A. I am really here to talk about the health.
- 10 I would be happy to answer questions about that. I
- don't have knowledge about the length of blades and
- 12 shadow.
- 13 Q. Okay. You say that the study in Canada
- 14 and the study of the wind turbine syndrome you don't
- accept it as any kind of a qualification for health
- issues. But these are specialists in their area, so
- 17 why should we accept what you have to say when other
- 18 specialists are saying the opposite of what you are
- 19 saying?
- 20 A. I am not aware of any --
- 21 MR. GERSHON: I am sorry. I object. I
- 22 would like to know what specialist she is referring
- 23 to and asking him to respond to that.
- MR. KAINS: That is a very good point.

- 1 MR. GERSHON: Okay.
- MS. VETTER: I can talk about the Ph.D. of
- 3 environmental science.
- 4 MR. KAINS: Yeah. It's better if you have
- 5 a specific specialist rather than just generically
- 6 saying specialist.
- 7 MS. VETTER: Okay.
- 8 MR. KAINS: If you have the person's name
- 9 and/or their qualifications that would be helpful
- and then ask to state the person's name and
- 11 qualifications -- I am sorry. I am leaning back and
- 12 not in the microphone. I apologize -- and then ask
- 13 the question based on that, if you could, please.
- 14 BY MS. VETTER:
- 15 Q. Okay. So the Ph.D. in environmental
- science, peer-reviewed and conference presentation,
- 17 Dr. Mariana Alves-Pereira, or however you told me I
- should say it, why should we believe you over her?
- 19 A. I don't think medical science is about
- 20 believing anyone. I think that what we do is
- 21 conduct studies, present them into the marketplace
- of scientists and that it is fully vetted.
- 23 This is not a disorder. Vibroacoustic
- 24 disease is something she had put forward, named a

- disorder that didn't exist. It is not only not
- accepted by me, you couldn't find another physician
- 3 who would name that. There would be no medical
- 4 textbook. There is no billing code. Nobody is
- 5 talking about this as a thing because it isn't.
- 6 That isn't to say that at extreme levels
- 7 of noise that there aren't health effects. I am
- 8 sure there are, but that isn't what we are talking
- 9 about today.
- 10 Q. And that isn't what she was talking about
- 11 either, but she was talking about this particular
- thing, and she was peer reviewed, and she does
- 13 conferences all over --
- MR. GERSON: I am sorry. Again, what is
- 15 the question?
- MS. VETTER: The question was -- he's
- 17 stating that --
- 18 MR. GERSHON: That question has been asked
- 19 and answered.
- MR. KAINS: We have an objection from
- 21 Mr. Gershon. Asked and answered.
- 22 And you have asked the question. Let's
- move on.
- 24 MS. VETTER: I was just trying to figure

- 1 out. He didn't give an answer, so I was just trying
- 2 to clarify it more, but that's fine.
- MR. KAINS: Ma'am, if he doesn't know the
- 4 answer or doesn't give an answer that you are
- 5 satisfied with, then you need to just go on to the
- 6 next question.
- 7 MS. VETTER: Okay. All right.
- 8 MR. KAINS: Thank you.
- 9 BY MS. VETTER:
- 10 Q. Okay. So it was stated about the WHO and
- 11 the health concerns that they have, and you -- you
- 12 agree -- you don't agree with the WHO on the dBA for
- 13 children?
- You thought that they were a little out of
- 15 line on that; is that true?
- We discussed that earlier. It made me
- 17 think about that question.
- 18 A. I am not aware of what document you are
- 19 referring to. I do remember being asked about the
- 20 dBA level. I am not sure where it came from.
- 21 Q. The lady who came here earlier asked you
- 22 to talk about the WHO and was saying that the dBA
- needed to be 30 megahertz.
- And you said, I don't know. I don't agree

- 1 with the WHO, and I don't know where they came up
- 2 with that.
- 3 That was just -- I don't know. I can't
- 4 read these things back in these kind of things, but
- 5 I am just asking you about that.
- 6 A. The only WHO document that I am aware of
- 7 that speaks to wind turbines speaks to a 45 Lden
- 8 level. And, no, I don't agree with their evaluation
- 9 or assessment.
- 10 Q. Okay. So you don't know about any
- 11 addendum that talks about children?
- 12 A. I am not aware of any addendum that talks
- about children at the 30 dBA level, ma'am.
- MS. VETTER: Okay. We'll move forward
- 15 from that. That may be all of it. I think that is
- 16 it for now. Thank you.
- MR. KAINS: Thank you, Ms. Vetter.
- Now the gentleman in the red and gray
- 19 shirt can come on up.
- 20 After this gentleman, does anybody else in
- 21 the audience have a question for Dr. Ellenbogen?
- Thank you, sir, for your participation.
- 23 Please state your name and spell your first and last
- 24 names for the record.

1 EXAMINATION

- 2 BY MR. REED:
- 3 Q. My name is Jim Reed. J-i-m R-e-e-d.
- 4 I'm just trying to get a better
- 5 understanding of this Health Canada study and how it
- 6 relates to Piatt County. You mentioned a while ago
- 7 that the topology was taken into consideration. So
- 8 how does the topology from within that study compare
- 9 to the topology of this proposed project?
- 10 A. I would like to clarify two things: 1.)
- 11 I think that it's probably best for the acoustician
- who is here to answer about specific modeling
- 13 things.
- My point is actually simpler. When Health
- 15 Canada made their model, they took a great number of
- variables into consideration for their community,
- but what only matters to Piatt County is what sound
- reaches the household, the place, the dwelling. And
- so, to that extent, when we are talking about what
- 20 levels are whether it reaches a house up and over
- 21 the pine trees or around a crook, a stream or
- through an open field of soil. Whatever sound gets
- 23 to the person at the residence is the thing that I
- 24 care about from the health perspective, which is why

- I feel that Health Canada is an excellent study to
- 2 generalize to Piatt County.
- 3 Q. Are you stating then that the acoustician
- 4 is an expert also in the Health Canada study?
- 5 A. I can't speak for what.
- 6 Q. You referenced he would cover that, so
- 7 that is why I am asking. Do you know that?
- 8 A. I don't know that, but I would except that
- 9 he has working knowledge of the modeling of Health
- 10 Canada, but I will let him answer that question.
- 11 Q. You did just mention that it's all
- 12 relative to the noise reaching the house. So, also,
- 13 I believe it's relevant to understand whether Health
- 14 Canada, those windmills and the setbacks relative to
- those structures to the residences, and the people
- that were studied and how and any effect they
- 17 compared to what is proposed here in Piatt County.
- 18 A. It's sort of -- I am having -- I think
- 19 that might be, from my perspective -- and pardon me
- 20 if I am being overly simplistic, but that feels like
- 21 maybe the same question. It is, from my
- 22 perspective, however far they set these turbines
- 23 back, here or there, I am concerned about what noise
- 24 gets to the residence. So, if it's setback

- 1 three miles and it's a reduced sound at 26 dBA at
- 2 this particular dwelling, I am going to think that
- 3 that is kind of a reasonable model for whatever
- 4 turbine is near a residence here in Piatt County
- 5 that makes a 26, 28 dBA sound at the residence. So,
- 6 the setbacks may be different, the turbine itself
- 7 may be different, the height, the manufacturer, but
- 8 whatever sound gets to the residence is the only
- 9 thing I think that is relevant for the health
- question.
- 11 Q. You don't think that comparing one site
- 12 that maybe is at three miles versus one that is at a
- 13 1000 foot that that's relevant?
- 14 A. I think that might be relevant for a great
- many things but not for the health of these. No.
- Okay. Specifically within the Health
- 17 Canada study, it's kind of hard from the PowerPoints
- 18 and from your presentation -- did they actually
- 19 study shadow flicker?
- 20 A. They did. Yes.
- Q. Okay. Because at one point you referenced
- the Epilepsy Foundation, but I didn't see the data
- 23 specifically on shadow flicker from the Health
- 24 Canada study.

- 1 A. I did not present that because the Health
- Canada paper on shadow flicker is a study of
- 3 annoyance, how much does shadow flicker bother
- 4 someone, and they did not study seizures.
- 5 But since Health Canada was published, and
- I have gone to some of these kinds of meetings, a
- 7 lot of people have themselves raised concerns in
- 8 their community independent of Health Canada saying,
- 9 "Yeah, but, Doc, fine. Whatever noise or not, I'll
- decide whether I like that or not. But is this
- going to causes seizures because that is a serious
- 12 health problem?" And so, I have addressed that
- 13 through my own means not through Health Canada.
- 14 Q. All right. So that was more your opinion
- 15 rather than what came out of the study?
- 16 A. It's my professional opinion as a
- 17 neurologist in which epilepsy is a major disorder of
- 18 our community.
- 19 Q. Do you regularly treat epilepsy patients?
- 20 **A. I do.**
- 21 Q. My brother-in-law had shadow-induced
- 22 epilepsy diagnosed, and that is why I take exception
- 23 to your conclusions because I do know it exists.
- 24 Also, within the Epilepsy Foundation, do

- 1 you think they don't recognize natural light and
- 2 natural light effects as causing epilepsy?
- 3 A. I am sorry. Could you repeat that,
- 4 please?
- 5 Q. Within the Epilepsy Foundation study, do
- 6 you think, or your opinion is that they don't
- 7 reference natural light or natural light effects as
- 8 causing epilepsy, in triggering it?
- 9 A. They are well aware that either natural
- 10 light or synthetic light can cause seizures if the
- 11 right amount of intensity, broad spectrum and right
- 12 frequency, and wind turbines are not even close to
- 13 the right frequency. They just simply wouldn't
- 14 cause seizures.
- Okay. Because when I read from their own
- 16 site, it says natural light such as sunlight,
- especially wind shimmering off the water or other
- 18 reflective items, flickering through even trees or
- 19 through the slats of venetian blinds can trigger it.
- So, I was just wondering if you are aware
- of that opinion of theirs and if that is what you
- 22 are referencing.
- 23 A. I am not aware of that particular
- 24 statement, but I can assure you that they are not

- 1 talking about wind turbines. They are talking about
- an unusually high frequency of flicker. Say, if the
- 3 wind comes blowing by and you have sun coming
- 4 through your venetian blinds and the tree branches
- 5 go this way and that, and you get 15, 20, 30 hertz
- 6 flicker, then, if it's an intense light and you are
- 7 looking right at it and everything is lined up, then
- 8 that is possible. They are certainly not talking
- 9 about wind turbine shadow flicker.
- 10 Q. Well, they certainly do not reference all
- 11 that you just referenced either as being part of
- 12 their statement here.
- 13 A. I think I just -- my only point that I
- 14 would just want to share with you is that talking
- about wind versus talking about wind turbines are
- very different things, and they are talking about
- wind and its interaction with the natural
- 18 environment. We are having a discussion about wind
- 19 turbines, which are going to be flicker at the level
- at, like, less than 1 hertz.
- 21 Q. Also, within the Health Canada study, are
- you aware of the height and length of the blade that
- 23 was within that study versus the height and the
- 24 length of the blade that is proposed for Piatt

- 1 County?
- 2 A. I am not aware of either of those.
- 3 MR. REED: Okay. Thank you.
- 4 MR. KAINS: Thank you, Mr. Reed.
- 5 Then no other questions from the public?
- Are there questions for Dr. Ellenbogen
- 7 from Piatt County staff and consultants?
- 8 Redirect, Mr. Gershon?
- 9 FURTHER EXAMINATION
- 10 BY MR. GERSHON:
- 11 Q. We are going to try and share this mic,
- 12 but if anyone in the back can't hear us, please let
- me know.
- I am going to try and get through a couple
- of these issues here. The first, is Health Canada
- 16 -- I should say you've had a chance during the break
- 17 to go back and review. Did you have a chance during
- 18 the break to go back and review the Canadian
- 19 government page on Health Canada?
- 20 A. I did, yes. Yes.
- 21 Q. Is Health Canada a Canadian government
- 22 federal institution?
- 23 A. It is, yes.
- 24 Q. It was implied that Health Canada hid or

- 1 removed, throughout, the hairs with the highest
- 2 cortisol levels.
- 3 Do you have any reason to believe that the
- 4 Canadian government would manipulate their data as
- 5 was implied?
- 6 A. No.
- 7 Q. Thank you. And I am skipping around
- 8 because I don't want to spend simply more time than
- 9 some of these just to give the context.
- Mr. Mulvaney was identified with respect
- 11 to his quotes. Are you aware that Mr. Mulvaney, in
- interviews since those quotes, has supported the
- 13 California Ridge Wind Farm that was identified?
- 14 A. I actually don't know who Mr. Mulvaney is.
- 15 I apologize.
- 16 Q. I could be mispronouncing his name. It
- was the school official. That was Mr. Mulvaney,
- 18 correct? That was the woman who came and spoke
- 19 about it. We'll provide evidence on that later.
- MR. KAINS: Do you have any further
- 21 questions for the doctor?
- MR. GERSHON: I do.
- MR. KAINS: Very good. Go ahead.
- 24 BY MR. GERSHON:

- 1 Q. Are you a licensed medical doctor?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Do you rely on your license for your
- 4 livelihood?
- 5 **A. Yes.**
- 6 Q. Would your license be in jeopardy if you
- 7 lied under oath?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Would you lie under oath today just
- 10 because Apex hired you?
- 11 A. No.
- 12 Q. Can you confirm, as a licensed medical
- 13 professional, that your expert testimony today would
- be the same no matter who engaged you to provide
- 15 that testimony?
- 16 A. Definitely. Yes.
- 17 Q. Thank you. Sorry. Also, with respect to
- 18 the Health Canada study, have you -- you had a
- 19 chance to review the Canadian government's website
- 20 over the break?
- 21 A. Yes, I did.
- Q. Would you please read their statement with
- respect to the raw data from that study?
- A. Yes, and I am reading from the Canadian

- government's website, and I can provide the URL.
- 2 It's kind of a long one but I can e-mail to you if
- 3 that is okay.
- 4 It says, "Raw data originating from the
- 5 studies available to Canadians, other jurisdictions
- 6 and interested parties through a number of sources,"
- 7 and Statistics Canada Federal Research Data Centers
- 8 is the link that they list.
- 9 And then they go on to talk about the
- 10 Health Canada website for the noise data, open
- 11 access to publications and scientific journals and
- 12 conference presentations.
- 13 Q. Thank you. I believe, in the last person
- 14 who spoke, you provided your professional opinion as
- a neurologist that shadow flicker, at the rates
- generated by wind turbines, did not create epilepsy.
- 17 Is that correct?
- 18 A. That is correct.
- 19 Q. Is it also correct that this is not just
- your opinion; it's also the opinion based on the
- 21 shadow flicker rates identified on National Epilepsy
- 22 -- the Epilepsy Foundation?
- A. Well, just to clarify, the Epilepsy
- 24 Foundation doesn't make comment about the frequency

- of the turbine shadow flicker.
- 2 What the Epilepsy Foundation makes clear
- 3 is that the frequencies in order to induce
- 4 photosensitive epilepsy are greater than 5 hertz.
- 5 And that shadow flicker from wind turbines
- 6 -- I am adding to give relevance to this meeting --
- 7 that is at or below 1 hertz, which is quite far away
- 8 from that range.
- 9 Q. And please feel free to also tell me if
- 10 this is not your area of expertise but should be
- done by our other consultants.
- 12 When we hear 1 hertz, being what is
- 13 generated, actually less than 1 hertz being what
- occurs from the wind turbines and 5 hertz being the
- lowest level identified by the National Epilepsy
- 16 Foundation, should I read that as that's just -- 1
- to 5, is that a ratio or is this an exponential
- 18 level when you are dealing with hertz? Perhaps you
- 19 could explain that.
- 20 A. That is a good question. It's not just a
- 21 couple of hertz higher. It's quite literally 5
- times or more higher. So, to me, moving from
- 23 1 hertz to 5 hertz would be like going from 70 miles
- 24 an hour on the open road here to five times that in

- 1 terms of thinking about the safety and wellbeing of
- 2 a driver. So, it's a very large magnitude
- 3 difference.
- 4 MR. GERSHON: Thank you. No further
- 5 questions at this time.
- 6 MR. KAINS: Thank you, Mr. Gershon.
- 7 Finally, questions, last chance for
- 8 members of the zoning board to ask Dr. Ellenbogen?
- 9 Any other questions?
- 10 All right. Very good, Doctor. Thank you.
- 11 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
- MR. KAINS: You may step down.
- 13 (WITNESS STEPPED DOWN.)
- MR. KAINS: Mr. Gershon, who is your next
- witness and what is the subject matter?
- 16 MR. GERSHON: Our next witness is our
- acoustical noise expert, and he'll be responding on
- 18 the satisfaction of the wind project to the Illinois
- 19 Pollution Control Board and county standards.
- 20 MR. KAINS: How long will the direct
- 21 examination of this witness be?
- What I am getting at, guys, is it's 25
- 23 until 9. I want to get another witness on even if
- 24 we may not conclude.

- 1 MR. GERSHON: I am told his presentation
- 2 should take approximately 15 minutes.
- MR. KAINS: Mr. Luetkehans, what is your
- 4 opinion?
- 5 MR. LUETKEHANS: If you think it's going
- 6 to be done on cross tonight, the answer is no.
- If you want to start, I am okay. It's not
- 8 going to change what I do.
- 9 MR. KAINS: Because I think, if we have a
- 10 witness testify on direct examination giving his
- 11 presentation, and then we come back tomorrow night
- 12 with all cross examination, I think that would be
- 13 appropriate.
- I don't want to leave 20 minutes early
- just because, you know, we are not going to get the
- witness on, thoroughly questioned and off the
- 17 witness stand.
- 18 All right. Mr. Gershon, go ahead and call
- 19 your next witness.
- 20 All right. Sir, would you please raise
- 21 your right hand and address the court reporter to be
- 22 sworn?
- 23 **EDDIE DUNCAN**,
- 24 a witness herein, called by the Applicant, after having

- 1 been first duly sworn, was examined and testified as
- 2 follows:
- 3 MR. KAINS: All right. Sir, please state
- 4 your name for the record, spelling your first and
- 5 last names.
- 6 THE WITNESS: My name is Eddie Duncan.
- 7 E-d-d-i-e and D-u-n-c-a-n.
- 8 MR. KAINS: Very good. Thank you.
- 9 Mr. Gershon, you may proceed.
- 10 EXAMINATION
- 11 BY MR. GERSHON:
- 12 Q. Thank you. Would you please -- actually,
- one question: Would you please state your
- 14 professional background and experience?
- 15 A. Yeah. My name is Eddie Duncan, and I am a
- senior director at RSG or Resource Systems Group. I
- am a board-certified noise control engineer through
- 18 the Institute of Noise Control Engineering, and I
- 19 have been working in the field of acoustics and
- specifically within the field of wind turbine
- 21 acoustics for 20 years.
- MR. KAINS: Do you have anything else on
- 23 his qualifications, Mr. Gershon?
- MR. LUETKEHANS: I am not going to object

- 1 to his qualifications. Let's just get that over
- 2 with.
- MR. KAINS: Mr. Luetkehans, thank you.
- 4 All right. Mr. Duncan will be received as
- 5 that from coming from an expert witness.
- Go ahead, Mr. Gershon.
- 7 BY MR. GERSHON:
- 8 Q. Two items: 1.) Eddie, if you would ask
- 9 for the next slide as you need it each time so she
- 10 will know when to put that.
- 11 And I would ask that you present both the
- work that you were asked to undertake and what your
- 13 findings were.
- 14 A. Sure. So if we could go to the next slide
- here, in general, just to describe, RSG has been
- doing this type of work for 30 years, and you are
- 17 not meant to necessarily list read all of these
- 18 articles here, but this is an example of all of our
- 19 research since 2006 in conducting researching into
- 20 wind acoustics and specifically and especially our
- 21 sound propagation modeling, and so many of these
- 22 papers that are listed here are related to our work
- 23 in validating how sound propagation models. I'm
- 24 here today to talk about the sound propagation

1 modeling that we conducted for this proposed

- project.
- 3 Next slide, please.
- 4 To do that, I am briefly going to cover
- 5 some acoustical concepts so that we are all on the
- 6 same page particularly as they relate to the IPCB
- 7 noise limits, and then we'll talk about those limits
- 8 and then we'll talk about the sound modeling
- 9 methodology that we used, the model results and our
- 10 conclusions.
- 11 Next slide, please.
- So, briefly, I want to touch on frequency
- 13 because the limits that we are talking about here
- 14 are frequency-based limits.
- When we are talking about frequency, we
- are talking about the pitch of sound. You could
- think of this or what is at least easily
- 18 understandable by most people is the different
- 19 sounds that musical instruments make. A piccolo is
- a high-frequency sound, and bass guitar would be a
- 21 low-frequency sound.
- Well, in acoustics, we divide those
- 23 frequency ranges up into what are called octave
- 24 bands or one-third octave bands. The IPCB limit is

- 1 based off of full octave bands or octave band.
- 2 The human ear can hear between 20 hertz
- and 20,000 hertz, and generally speaking we talk
- 4 about the sound range from 20 hertz to 200 hertz as
- 5 being low-frequency noise or low-frequency sound,
- from 200 to about 4,000 as being mid-frequency, and
- 7 4,000 and above as being high-frequency.
- 8 Below 20 hertz is infrasound that is not
- 9 heard by the human ear except at very, very high
- 10 levels.
- 11 And above 20,000 hertz is ultrasonic
- sound, which is also not heard by the human ear.
- Next slide, please.
- 14 The other thing that we need to talk about
- is sound pressure level. So, the sound pressure
- level is the actual limit that you would be
- applying. The limit is the amplitude of the sound.
- 18 Those amplitude limits are applied at each octave
- 19 band, frequency octave band.
- 20 And so, sound pressure level, what we do
- 21 is we hear sound pressure, fluctuations in sound
- 22 pressure. That happens from 20 micropascals all the
- 23 way up to 20 million micropascals. It is a huge
- 24 range. And so, that we can kind of truncate that

- 1 range and have it within a manageable range, we use
- 2 logarithmic functions to convert that sound pressure
- 3 to sound pressure level, which is what is in the
- 4 regulation.
- 5 And for pressure sound levels, we are
- 6 talking about generally 0 decibels, which is the
- 7 threshold of human hearing; and up to 120, maybe 140
- 8 decibels, that would be kind of the threshold of
- 9 pain, something very, very high.
- 10 And the levels we are talking about for
- wind turbines and generally are on the order of 40
- to 50 decibels, just to give you an idea where that
- is on the scale.
- Next slide, please.
- 15 A couple specific things related to wind
- 16 turbines: So, how do wind turbines create sound?
- The main mechanism is through aerodynamic
- sound created by the blades cutting through the air.
- 19 So, that is the primary source of sound. It's
- 20 broadband in nature. It's not tonal.
- 21 There are also secondary and actually at
- this point in wind turbine development very, very
- 23 minor; it's the sound of gears turning and things of
- 24 that nature. The noise control that is built into

- 1 turbines, modern wind turbines, is such that you
- 2 don't typically hear those sounds unless you are
- 3 standing right at the base of it. You may be able
- 4 to hear it there, that type of thing. So what we
- 5 are really talking about when we talk about the
- 6 sound that we are modeling is the aerodynamic sound
- 7 from the blades.
- 8 The last thing I want to touch on is
- 9 masking. There is the possibility of masking to
- 10 occur. It's not a guarantee, but what this chart on
- this presentation points out is that the spectrum of
- 12 the V -- excuse me -- the V62, which is the turbine
- that is proposed here, that spectrum is similar in
- shape to the spectrum of background sound levels
- during a 5 meters per second wind speed. So it's
- just that, if they're comparable in level, those
- spectrums are similar, and so there is some
- possibility that some frequency could be masked.
- Next slide, please.
- 20 So now for the regulation, the local
- 21 regulation here points to the IPCB limits, so that
- is what we are going to be focusing on here. I
- 23 think that's really all I need to focus on in this
- 24 slide here, is to point out that we are really

1 talking about the IPCB limits which are what are

- 2 referenced in the local ordinance.
- 3 Next slide.
- 4 As I mentioned previously, those limits
- 5 are octave band-based limits. Those octave bands go
- from 31.5 hertz up to 8 kilohertz. Those limits are
- 7 shown here on the slide. The limits are not only
- 8 varied by octave band, but they also vary by daytime
- 9 and nighttime, and they also vary by where the
- source is located versus where the receptor that
- 11 would be receiving sound is located.
- To kind of cut to the chase here, we are
- looking at a limit that is class C land, which would
- be farmland or where the wind turbine is located, to
- class A, which would be a residence, essentially.
- So, there are some other Lad uses within
- 17 class E and class A, but that is the more stringent
- 18 standard, and the report just also focuses on that
- 19 nighttime sound limit, but that is the more
- 20 stringent level.
- 21 So, while we are showing both the daytime
- 22 and nighttime here, we are really talking about the
- 23 class C to class A limits at nighttime and
- 24 evaluating as whether the project can meet those

- 1 limits.
- Next slide, please.
- 3 So, for sound propagation modeling, it's
- 4 conducted per international standard, which is ISO
- 5 9613-2. This is the standard for how sound
- 6 propagates outdoors, and that standard is
- 7 implemented into modeling. It's implemented into
- 8 other software as well, but the key thing is that
- 9 those calculations are being conducted in accordance
- 10 with that international standard.
- In addition to that international
- 12 standard, there is also the ANSI, or the America
- 13 National Standard Institute, standard that
- 14 recommends specific model parameters that should be
- 15 used in that international standard to ensure that
- 16 the sound levels from the proposed project or from a
- 17 wind turbine are conservatively accurate, and so we
- 18 are following the model parameters that are in that
- 19 ANSI standard for specific to wind turbine noise.
- 20 The model is a three-dimensional model.
- 21 There is terrain and all that in the modal. The two
- 22 main things that kind of control the levels are the
- sources that you put into the model and where your
- 24 receivers are, your receptors. So, I am going to

- 1 talk about those briefly here.
- The sources are wind turbines, and so for
- 3 this project we are talking about a Vestas V162.
- 4 That is what was modeled, and we did that at 71
- 5 turbine locations throughout the project area.
- To be clear, there is only a proposal to
- 7 build 50, but the modeled report includes a total of
- 8 71 turbine locations.
- 9 In addition to that, we modeled two
- 10 high-voltage transformers located at the project
- 11 substation, and we modeled the turbines that are
- 12 located at the adjacent Sapphire Sky Project as well
- 13 from that border between the two projects in case
- there is potential for cumulative impact. Those are
- 15 the sources.
- The receptors, we modeled over 1200
- 17 receptors across the project area. Those receptors
- 18 are located at primary structures which are
- 19 primarily residences but include businesses and
- 20 things of that nature.
- 21 We also have what are called a grid of
- 22 receptors that is -- I forget the grid resolution.
- 23 I would have to check. But every 40 or 50 meters
- there is another receptor, and what those grid

- 1 receptors do is allow us to generate what our sound
- 2 level contour line will be, which you'll see on some
- 3 maps that we are about to show you.
- 4 So, to be clear, the sound level was
- 5 calculated at both primary structures and throughout
- 6 the project area anyway. You can view those sound
- 7 levels all throughout the project area.
- 8 Next slide.
- 9 I am going to briefly walk us through a
- 10 series of maps. The maps show sound level contour
- lines, and those contour lines represent sound
- 12 levels. So there's different colors that represent
- 13 sound levels ranging from a dark blue line, which is
- 14 3 decibels, all the way up to a dark purple line,
- which is 70 decibels.
- We also show on the maps a black dash
- line, and you are probably about to hear me say
- 18 black dash quite a bit as we go through these
- 19 slides. That black dash line represents the IPCB
- 20 limit. That black dash line is going to change from
- 21 slide to slide because the limit is different for
- each octave band.
- 23 This first slide is 31.5 hertz full octave
- 24 band, and the limit here is 69 decibels. What

- 1 you'll see -- it might be difficult to see on the
- 2 slide here, but it's also available in the report
- 3 that has been submitted -- is that that black dash
- 4 line is not visible on the map, and the reason for
- 5 that is that that sound level at the limit is
- 6 occurring so close to the turbine that you can't see
- 7 it. And the key takeaway here is that there are no
- 8 primary structures within the boundaries of that
- 9 black dash line.
- Next slide, please.
- 11 It's the same story for 63 hertz. The
- difference here is that the limit is 67 decibels and
- 13 the there is no primary residences within that
- 14 **67-decibel limit line.**
- 15 Again, if you are looking, even in the
- 16 report where it might be a little clearer, you are
- 17 not going to see that black dash line because it
- occurs so close to the turbines.
- Next slide.
- 20 At 125 hertz, it's the same story. Black
- dash line there, the limit is 62, and the sound
- levels are so close to the turbines that you can't
- see them, and there are no primary structures within
- 24 that limit.

- 1 250 hertz, if you have very good vision
- 2 and are looking closely in the report, you may be
- 3 able to start to see a black dash line. It's
- 4 essentially a black circle around the icons that
- 5 show the turbines. Again, it's occurring very close
- 6 to the turbines and there are no primary structures
- 7 within the 250 hertz black dash line.
- 8 Next slide.
- 9 This is the 500 hertz slide. This is
- where we start to see the black dash line a little
- 11 more. You'll see it in the reports, and I think you
- can even see it here on this slide here, the black
- dash line is clearly visible. Upon inspection of
- the map, you'll notice that there are no primary
- structures within the black dash line. This is a
- 16 limit of 47 decibels. We might come back to 500
- 17 hertz down the road. It's just important to note
- 18 this is one where the sound level is traveling,
- 19 however limited, it's traveling further than the
- 20 other octave bands.
- Next slide.
- 22 At 1 kilohertz, the black dash line is
- 23 also visible. And if you inspect these maps, you'll
- 24 see that there are no primary structures within that

- 1 black dash line, although it is further from the
- 2 turbines than any of the other black dash lines, and
- 3 the limit here is 41 decibels.
- 4 Next slide.
- 5 Before we go further, I just want to tell
- 6 you that 500 hertz and 1 kilohertz are the two
- 7 frequency ranges where the sound level limit travels
- 8 further from these turbines than the other octave
- 9 bands. So those we'll probably end up coming back
- 10 to it if we talk more about this.
- So, 2 kilohertz, which you'll notice is
- that the sound levels are starting to recede back to
- the turbines, and the same story for the next two
- slides. The reason for that is at 2 kilohertz and
- above atmospheric absorption takes over and sound
- levels attenuate very, very quickly.
- So, for this slide and the next two, you
- 18 can slide through them and pause for just a moment.
- 19 You can see the sound levels receding, and then all
- 20 three of those slides there are no primary
- 21 structures within the black dash line.
- Next slide.
- We can focus in a little bit, though,
- 24 because I know that those maps might be a little bit

- difficult to read from this distance, although it is
- 2 easier in the report. The modeling shows that the
- 3 IPCB limits are met at all primary structures.
- And what this table shows -- and this is a
- 5 reproduced table from the report itself. It is a
- 6 summary of the receptors where the highest sound
- 7 levels occur.
- 8 And in this table you can look at the 500
- 9 hertz and 1 kilohertz octave band, and you see at
- 10 500 hertz the sound level is 45 to 46, and at the 1
- 11 kilohertz octave band is 39 to 40, and those sound
- levels are close to the IPCB limit but are not equal
- to and are, in fact, below the IPCB limit. That is
- where the receptors are for the highest sound
- 15 levels.
- 16 I do want to pause here and be clear. I
- 17 think the previous testimony you just heard was
- 18 referencing a 46 dBA sound level. We are not
- 19 talking about the A-weighted sound levels here.
- 20 The IPCB limits are unweighted sound
- 21 levels by octave. The A-weighted sound level that
- 22 was being spoken about in previous testimony is an
- 23 overall level which is actually A-weighting these
- levels and then summing them together, and that's

- 1 how we arrive at an overall sound level.
- 2 So, there is a clear distinction there
- 3 that the IPCB limits are unweighted sound levels by
- 4 octave bands versus the number we were talking about
- 5 previously at 46 dBA that is a total sound level
- 6 that has been A-weighted to mimic how the human ear
- 7 hears and perceives frequency, which is what we use.
- 8 Next slide, please.
- 9 So, in conclusion, all of the primary
- 10 structures are below the IPCB limits. The areas
- around the primary structures that would be deemed
- 12 as residential are also below the IPCB limits.
- In addition to that, although we didn't
- 14 talk about it, the manufacturer data indicates that
- the turbine is not tonal. We already talked about
- 16 the aerodynamic noise being broadband. And so, the
- tonality limits or tonality limits that are in the
- 18 IPCB limits don't apply.
- 19 That concludes my direct, unless Mark has
- 20 questions for me.
- MR. KAINS: Very good. Thank you,
- 22 Mr. Duncan.
- 23 Do you have questions, Mr. Gershon, of
- 24 Mr. Duncan?

- 1 MR. GERSON: If I could, I would like to
- 2 hold off on those until tomorrow. I think they
- 3 might go past our timing.
- 4 MR. KAINS: All right. All right.
- 5 Besides him, Mr. Gershon, besides
- 6 Mr. Duncan's testimony tomorrow night and answering
- questions, who are your other witnesses that you are
- 8 hoping to have testify tomorrow and the subject
- 9 matter, just so folks know whether they should tune
- in tomorrow night?
- MR. GERSHON: Thank you. On that, first I
- 12 have a question, if I can. Before I answer that, I
- 13 want to clarify, when our prior expert spoke, you
- specifically released him when you were done. I
- don't believe you did that, but I believe that is
- 16 the intent, that he was released.
- MR. KAINS: I said you may step down, but
- I did not release him, but he would be subject to
- 19 recall if you wish to recall him or if the board
- 20 wishes to recall him.
- But yes, Doctor, thank you, and you are
- 22 released from this hearing.
- MR. GERSHON: Thank you. And we certainly
- 24 did not do it on purpose, but I think today is a

- 1 clear explanation of why we can't say what the exact
- 2 schedule will be on each day.
- 3 But I believe that, in addition to Eddie
- 4 Duncan being on tomorrow, we also anticipate Jacob
- 5 Runner, regarding shadow flicker, to be on tomorrow,
- 6 and Jason may also be here on safety issues if we
- 7 get to it.
- 8 MR. KAINS: Jason?
- 9 MR. GERSHON: Connelly.
- 10 MR. KAINS: Thank you. Regarding what?
- MR. GERSHON: Regarding safety.
- I haven't, admittedly, identified him now
- three days in a row. He's still speaking to me, but
- I have to be clear that I am not sure we'll get to
- 15 him tomorrow.
- MR. KAINS: All right. Very good.
- 17 Anything further, Mr. Gershon?
- 18 MR. GERSHON: Nothing from us. Thank you.
- MR. KAINS: Mr. Luetkehans?
- MR. LUETKEHANS: No.
- 21 MR. KAINS: All right. Folks, we are
- 22 going to be in recess.
- MR. LUETKEHANS: You know what? I am
- 24 sorry.

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1 MR. KAINS: Go ahead, Mr. Luetkehans.
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- MR. LUETKEHANS: There is one thing I
- 3 would ask Mr. Gershon: One of the gentlemen who
- 4 asked questions -- and I'll try to be loud.
- 5 Sorry -- gave Mr. Gershon's client an address for
- 6 the amount of shadow flicker. If he could get that
- 7 e-mail to me tomorrow so we can get that to the
- 8 gentleman, I would appreciate it, especially since
- 9 we may be talking about shadow flicker tomorrow. I
- 10 think the gentleman has a right to know what his
- 11 receptor number is at least.
- MR. KAINS: Will you do that, Mr. Gershon,
- or one of your --
- MR. LUETKEHANS: I can give you the
- 15 address if you don't have it.
- MR. GERSHON: We have the address, and we
- are gathering the information, and we can have that
- 18 for tomorrow.
- MR. KAINS: Very good. Thank you.
- 20 Anything further from counsel?
- 21 MR. GERSHON: No. I am sorry. Thank you.
- MR. KAINS: We are in recess. We will
- 23 reconvene tomorrow night at 6:00 in this same room.
- 24 (END OF PROCEEDINGS.)

CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I, Holly Wingstrom, CSR #84-003888, reported in machine shorthand the proceedings had in the above-entitled cause and transcribed the same by computer-aided transcription, which I hereby certify to be a true and accurate transcript of the proceedings had.

Holly Wingstrom, CSR #84-003888 Official Court Reporter

Dated: 11/27/2022

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