In The Matter Of:

DNREC - NaturaLawn America Surface Water

Transcript of Proceedings November 13, 2019

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Min-U-Script® with Word Index

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE SURFACE WATER DISCHARGES SECTION RE: NaturaLawn of America Application for a Distribution and Marketing Permit for the Distribution and Marketing of Class A/Exceptional Quality Biosolids Fertilizer Products throughout the State of Delaware. DNREC Richardson & Robbins Building 89 Kings Highway Dover, Delaware 19901 Wednesday, November 13, 2019 6:49 p.m. **BEFORE:** Theresa Newman, Hearing Officer -- Transcript of Proceedings --WILCOX & FETZER 1330 King Street Wilmington, DE 19801 (302) 655-0477 www.wilfet.com

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1 MS. NEWMAN: Again, before we start 2 the hearing, if everybody can sign in, because I will need to use the sign-in sheets 3 4 for public comment. Even if you don't want to make a 5 comment, I will still need you to sign in for 6 7 our record. 8 So I will give you a few minutes to 9 do that. 10 (Sign-ins) 11 MS. NEWMAN: We are going to go 12 ahead and get started. Please allow the record to reflect the time is now 6:52 on 13 14 Wednesday, November 13, 2019. 15 I want to thank you all for taking 16 the time out of your busy schedules to be 17 here today. 18 We are here this evening to provide a formal platform for the State of Delaware 19 Department of Natural Resources and 20 21 Environmental Control to receive public comment on an application submitted by 22 23 NaturaLawn of America for a distribution and 24 marketing permit for the distribution and

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1 marketing of Class A exceptional quality biosolids fertilizer products throughout the 2 State of Delaware. 3 4 My name is Theresa Newman, and 5 Secretary Garvin has appointed me to serve as the hearing officer for tonight's formal 6 7 proceeding. I would like to address for the 8 9 record that the public meeting for tonight's 10 hearing is separate, and any comments made 11 during the public meeting are not a part of the public hearing and will bear no wait for 12 the record of this hearing unless provided 13 14 again during the public comment period 15 towards the end of this hearing. In addition, this hearing will 16 17 require all members of the public who plan to 18 attend the hearing to please sign in on the formal sign-in sheets marked as the DNREC 19 public hearing for this proceeding, which is 20 21 located at the front of the room. 22 This is a separate sign-in sheet 23 from the public meeting that was just held 24 and is required to be completed, as well.



1 If you haven't already -- and I 2 think most of you have -- but if you need to, please sign in and mark whether you would 3 4 like to provide comment. The persons wishing to offer formal 5 comment for the record will be given an 6 7 opportunity to do so following the brief 8 presentation given by the Department and the 9 applicant, and will be recognized by the 10 hearing officer accordingly at that time. 11 Even if you do not wish to offer 12 comment, it's important that we have an accurate record of attendance at tonight's 13 14 hearing; so, again, I would ask you to please 15 sign in if you haven't already done so. At the conclusion of these 16 17 introductory remarks, I will be turning the 18 hearing over to the Department's Division of Water staff, who will be making a formal 19 presentation to help everyone understand the 20 21 scope of tonight's hearing, specifically the permit application currently before the 22 23 Secretary in this matter. 24 There will then be a brief



1 presentation from the applicant's 2 representatives. Following the presentations, we 3 4 will then accept comment for the record from 5 those tonight who have indicated the desire to do so. 6 7 The order of the commentators will be given directly from the sign-in sheets in 8 9 no particular order. Again, please sign in 10 if you haven't already done so. 11 With regard to the public comments 12 wishing to be offered tonight, there are, and as is any case in DNREC public hearings, 13 14 formal protocols which must be adhered to to 15 this -- to this hearing today. 16 Please be advised of the following rules which are in place for tonight's formal 17 18 proceedings. With regard to the public comment 19 wishing to be offered tonight there are, and 20 21 as in all cases for DNREC public hearings, formal protocols which must be adhered to. 22 23 The first one consistent with 24 public hearings held at DNREC, all comments



1 must be limited solely to the subject matter of tonight's hearing, which again is the 2 pending application for distribution and 3 4 marketing permit submitted by the 5 Department -- submitted to the Department by NaturaLawn of America. 6 7 Pursuant to the subject matter of this hearing, all comments produced to the 8 aforementioned permit application will be 9 10 incorporated into the formal hearing record 11 being generated in this manner. 12 As is DNREC's policy at 13 formal proceed -- formal hearings such as 14 this, each person -- person wishing to offer 15 comment tonight is asked to do so in a 16 precise manner as possible. 17 In order to treat attendees at all 18 DNREC hearings equally, each person will be granted a total of three minutes of time to 19 offer comment. 20 21 To facilitate that protocol and to ensure fairness with regards to the amount of 22 23 time each person is allotted to comment, 24 there will be a visual timer in place tonight



1 to help everyone be aware of their time 2 remaining while commenting. 3 If you have brought a prepared 4 written comment or statements with you 5 tonight, I would ask that you present them at that time when you have been recognized as a 6 7 commentator so that the same can be marked into the formal record that is being 8 9 generated for this manner. 10 You may then use your three-minute 11 time allotment to offer a brief summary of 12 your comments verbally for the benefit of those in attendance. 13 14 There will be no yielding of time 15 from one commenter to another, again to 16 ensure fairness and quality for each person 17 offering comment at this hearing. 18 Each person will be granted a total of three minutes, no exceptions. 19 There is only one authentic record 20 21 of this formal proceeding tonight, and it is 22 the official court reporter's verbatim 23 transcript. Please remember that a verbatim 24



1 transcript is created to memorialize 2 tonight's formal hearing by the court 3 reporter. 4 She can only hear accurately and transcribe one voice at a time. 5 In order to ensure accuracy of this transcript and to be 6 7 mindful of the above protocols with the need for order of this formal proceeding, please 8 9 do not speak while another person is 10 speaking, and do not call out from the 11 audience for any reason. 12 Whether you are listening or 13 speaking, we ask that everyone here be 14 respectful and considerate of all comments 15 offered with regard to the hearing matter, 16 even though some comment may differ in 17 opinion from your own. 18 Additionally, I would ask that all cell phones be muted and turned off for the 19 duration of these proceedings so as to avoid 20 21 any disruption of this hearing. The statutory purpose of tonight's 22 hearing is to allow citizens to offer comment 23 24 on the application submitted by NaturaLawn of



America.

2	A record consisting of the
3	transcript of the verbal comments given
4	tonight, all written comments submitted prior
5	to the hearing, all exhibits, and my report
6	will be reviewed by the Secretary.
7	The Secretary will ultimately issue
8	an order following that review process,
9	containing his decision on these applications
10	and the reasons therefore.
11	Myself and DNREC staff members are
12	present to facilitate receipt of public
13	comment and not to participate in the
14	proceedings.
15	There will be no Q and A sessions
16	permitted during the course of tonight's
17	formal proceeding.
18	Lastly, it's important to note that
19	no decision has already been made by the
20	Department, nor will any decision be made
21	tonight with regard to the application of
22	NaturaLawn.
23	The purpose of tonight's hearing is
24	to provide a formal platform for the public



1 to come and offer comments specifically related to the application submitted and such 2 comment to be incorporated into the formal 3 4 hearing record generated in this matter. 5 The hearing record being generated in this matter will close at the end of 6 7 tonight's proceedings. 8 It is important to note that all 9 comment, whether offered verbally tonight or 10 submitted prior to tonight's hearing in 11 writing, will bear the same exact weight and 12 will be considered equally by the Secretary prior to making a final decision to this 13 14 matter. 15 The ultimate decision with regard 16 to this matter is made by DNREC Secretary Garvin. 17 18 Tonight's formal proceeding acts as a mechanism to provide a platform for the 19 public to provide comment for Secretary 20 21 Garvin's consideration if so desired. With that all being said, I am 22 23 actually going to turn it back over to Brian 24 Churchill for the Division's presentation.



1 MR. CHURCHILL: Thank you. 2 Ms. Hearing Officer, I have the following exhibits I would like to officially enter 3 4 into the hearing record. Exhibit Number 1: 5 The permit application and project development report 6 7 for a distribution and marketing permit for utilization of EQ biosolids in Delaware. 8 9 Exhibit Number 2: The August 18, 10 2019 legal notices for NaturaLawn's request 11 for a distribution and marketing permit. 12 Exhibit Number 3: Part five -strike that -- Part 3 of the Guidance and 13 14 Regulation Governing the Land Treatment of 15 Waste -- the Land Treatment of Waste 16 Products. 17 Exhibit 4: The August 25, 2019 18 request for a public hearing by NaturaLawn's permit application per Ms. Maria Payan. 19 Exhibit Number 5: 20 The October 20, 21 2019 public hearing legal notice. Exhibit Number 6: The DNREC State 22 23 Calendar posting of the 2019 NaturaLawn 24 hearing notice.



1 Exhibit Number 7: The October 21, 2019 notification e-mail to Ms. Maria Payan 2 3 of tonight's November 13, 2019 public 4 hearing. Exhibit Number 8: 5 A copy of the Department's Power Point presentations with 6 7 the public meeting and public hearing on NaturaLawn's permit application. 8 And Exhibit Number 9: 9 Comments 10 received on NaturaLawn's permit application 11 and project development report submitted by 12 Ms. Maria Payan, Mr. Christopher Grobbel, and 13 the League of Women Voters. 14 Here are the exhibits. (Handing) 15 MS. NEWMAN: Thank you. Please let 16 the record reflect Exhibits 1 through 9 as 17 the Department exhibits. 18 MR. CHURCHILL: I apologize. This Power Point will be somewhat repetitive, but 19 I want to make sure that the information in 20 21 this presentation is part of the official hearing record. 22 23 Again, my name is Brian Churchill, 24 and I'm an environmental scientist with the



1 Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control in the Surface Water 2 Discharges Section. And I oversee the 3 4 biosolids program. 5 Again, the purpose of tonight's hearing is for the public to have an 6 7 opportunity to comment on NaturaLawn of America's permit application for a 8 9 distribution and marketing permit of EQ 10 biosolids in Delaware. 11 What are biosolids? Well, 12 biosolids are not raw sewage. They are one 13 of the final products from the treatment of 14 municipal wastewater at a wastewater 15 treatment plant. 16 After treatment breaks down and 17 digests the organic compounds and the 18 remaining solids are heat dried, only then are the remaining fine particles ultimately 19 considered Class A biosolids. 20 21 Biosolids are a nutrient-rich, slow-release organic fertilizer product that 22 23 can be utilized like animal manure, but they 24 have minimal odor.



1 The source of biosolids for 2 NaturaLawn, as they propose in their permit 3 application, would be from Chicago's 4 Metropolitan Water Reclamation District. 5 The wastewater treatment plant services approximately 2.3 million people. 6 The treatment process involves 7 water entering the plant where trash, 8 plastic, grit, fats, and oils are removed. 9 10 Then the wastewater continues under 11 aerated digestion, where the solids are 12 broken down and the odors are greatly reduced. 13 14 Pathogen reduction also occurs 15 However, that's not the primary method here. 16 of pathogen reduction for NaturaLawn's 17 biosolids product. 18 The treated wastewater then goes in the clarifiers where the solids are settled 19 20 out. 21 The solids from the plant are then piped to centrifuges and also air dried to 22 23 remove the liquid and concentrate the solids. 24 At this point the biosolids are the



1 consistency of something like a moist soil. 2 From the Chicago Wastewater Treatment Plant, the biosolids, the dewatered 3 4 biosolids are then transported offsite to 5 Metropolitan Biosolids Management and processed further, where they are heated to 6 7 at least 176 degrees Fahrenheit, which is 80 8 degrees Celsius. 9 They are dried to at least 10 90 percent solids, and they are pelletized. And this process creates what is known as a 11 12 Class A Exceptional Quality product through 13 what is known as a process to further reduce 14 pathogens. 15 After sampling is complete, to 16 demonstrate regulatory requirements, the EQ 17 biosolids can be distributed nationally, of course in accordance with Federal and State 18 19 requirements. Biosolids are transported from MBM 20 21 to blender formulators in Wisconsin, Ohio, and Pennsylvania by truck. 22 23 And then the blending of the 24 biosolids occurs in mixers to specific



1 formulations for turf grass needs, and biosolids are packaged into 50-pound 2 3 fertilizer bags. 4 At this point some additional contents may be added, such as commercial 5 fertilizer, different micronutrients, 6 7 possibly pre-emergent herbicides, things of that nature, the specific needs of 8 9 NaturaLawn's customers. 10 The materials would then be 11 distributed in Delaware, upon permit 12 issuance, to NaturaLawn's Wilmington and Dagsboro warehouses, where NaturaLawn's 13 14 employees would then transport the fertilizer 15 product to residential or commercial 16 customers' lawns. 17 The product would be applied in an agronomic rate by a Delaware certified 18 nutrient handler to improve the health and 19 20 growth of the turf grass. 21 NaturaLawn's sources of biosolids are outside of the State of Delaware, because 22 23 there are no sources of exceptional quality 24 biosolids in the State of Delaware that meets



their needs.

2	There are three wastewater
3	treatment plants in the State of Delaware
4	that produce exceptional quality biosolids.
5	However, the product is either compost or
6	lime stabilized and a dusty product that is
7	not uniform and does not meet their needs.
8	And that's why the product would be
9	sourced from Chicago.
10	NaturaLawn only proposes
11	distributing a relatively small quantity of
12	biosolids into the State of Delaware.
13	At some point in the future, there
14	may be biosolids in the State of Delaware
15	that meets their needs, but, at minimum,
16	that's several years away.
17	Biosolids are used on turf grass,
18	primarily for their nutrients, fulfills the
19	nitrogen and phosphorous needs of the plant,
20	the crop, the turf grass, but also has other
21	nutrients such as zinc and copper.
22	The nitrogen in exceptional quality
23	biosolids is primarily in the form of organic
24	nitrogen, which is slow release.



1 The organic nitrogen has to be broken down by soil microbes before it 2 3 becomes available to the plant. 4 This is good for a few reasons. It minimizes leaching, but it also basically 5 spoonfeeds nitrogen at a slow rate to the 6 7 crop. Also, over time, it increases the 8 organic content of the soil, which increases 9 10 the water-holding capacity of the soil and 11 helps improve the quality of the turf. What is a distribution and 12 marketing permit? 13 14 Well, in Delaware, any facility 15 that wants to -- any company that wants to 16 distribute an exceptional quality biosolids 17 product in the State has to have a 18 distribution and marketing permit. The permits are in place to ensure 19 that the biosolids meet State and Federal 20 21 requirements and are safe for their intended 22 use. 23 Exceptional quality biosolids are 24 essentially pathogen free.



1 Distribution and marketing permits 2 are issued for five years. 3 And pathogen reduction and vector 4 attraction reduction requirements and metal limits are all based off of EPA's Biosolids 5 Risk Assessment, and those limits are 6 7 mirrored in Delaware's regulations and will 8 be incorporated in any distribution and 9 marketing permit issued in the State of 10 Delaware. 11 Now, once the biosolids has 12 undergone a process to further reduce 13 pathogens, some additional testing is done. 14 The process, itself, has been 15 proven by the EPA to kill off pathogens. 16 However, there is confirmation sampling 17 that's done to ensure that it was successful. 18 So fecal coliform and salmonella 19 are sampled monthly. 20 The solids content is sampled 21 daily. And the temperature of the 22 23 biosolids, as it goes through the process, is 24 monitored and logged at least every 15



1 minutes, but essentially it's actually done 2 continuously. 3 Within the permit there are 4 pollutant limits which are associated with the metals, the limits for metals that can be 5 in the exceptional quality biosolids. 6 Those limits are listed on the 7 slide. Provided that the metals are below 8 these limits, the EQ biosolids can be applied 9 10 indefinitely. The metals will not accumulate 11 in the soil. And EPA has determined that 12 below these limits they pose no adverse affect to human health, the environment. 13 14 Therefore, tracking the total metal 15 loading is not necessary like it would be for 16 a Class B biosolids product that has the less 17 stringent metal requirements associated with 18 it. This is the same list of pollutants 19 or parameters, rather, that are required to 20 21 be sampled for a distribution and marketing permit that NaturaLawn would receive. 22 This is from the draft permit. 23 24 So you have your moisture content,



1 again daily. The nutrients are monthly. So 2 that's your total nitrogen, organic nitrogen, 3 ammonia, nitrate, nitrite -- it only does 4 nitrate. Nitrite is a very small amount. 5 It's not really significant. Phosphorous, potassium, volatile 6 7 solids, and fecal coliform is also required, PH. 8 9 Then there is the ten metals, 10 arsenic through zinc. They are monthly, 11 as well. PCBs are monthly. I'm sorry. They 12 are annually. 13 And the priority pollutant scan is 14 at least once every three years. 15 This concludes my presentation. 16 Thank you. Next we will have the 17 MS. NEWMAN: 18 applicant's representatives provide their 19 presentation. 20 MR. PAULSON: Hi. My name is Chuck 21 Paulson. I'm an independent consultant with professional turf industry. My background is 22 23 fertilizer research and development. 24 I spent the last five years as an



1 independent consultant. Twenty-eight and a half years prior to that, I worked in the 2 3 fertilizer market as a product development 4 manager, sales and marketing. But I spent 5 most of my time in research. In the early days in the 1980s, we 6 7 were looking at organic fertilizers, and 8 that's what got me to where I'm at today, 9 down here in Delaware talking about 10 biosolids. 11 I tested pretty much every organic 12 fertilizer that was available to me, whether 13 it be plant-based, animal-based, or 14 manure-based, and I saw some really special 15 attributes with these biosolid products that led me to continue to do more and more 16 17 research with them. 18 During the period of 2009 to 2014, I had 650 datasets, over 50 products being 19 tested at 13 universities. 20 21 And what we found was we were able to take conventional fertilizers and make 22 23 them a lot more efficient with the use of 24 other additives, biocompounds, biostimulants,



and organic fertilizers like biosolids. In fact, we were able to reduce fertilizer rates by 30 to 40 percent.

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When you do that, you are taking soluble nutrients that normally work their way into our waste stream, and you turn them into beneficial nutrients that are far better for us than when we collect them in these wastewater treatment facilities in the first place.

11 So we have evidence that these 12 products work. I'm a big fan of biosolids, but the one unfortunate thing with biosolid 13 14 or any other organic fertilizer that we 15 source to blend with the commercial 16 fertilizers is that it's very difficult to 17 find one that has the particle size, density, 18 and nutrient load rates that we require for use in commercial fertilizer applications. 19 20 So that's why we are asking to 21 bring product from Chicago into Delaware. We are always on the search for new 22 23 organic fertilizers that we can use to 24 replace biosolids, but until -- until we have



1 evidence that we have organic fertilizers 2 that are better than what we have right now, 3 this is what we are stuck with. 4 It's a darn good pellet. We like It's doing what we want it to. We are 5 it. re-purposing product that would normally go 6 7 in the landfill. We are finding beneficial uses for it. And that's a good thing. 8 9 Thank you. 10 MS. NEWMAN: Thank you. Is there 11 anything else you would like to add, Brian? 12 MR. MCNELIS: No, thank you. 13 MS. NEWMAN: Okay. Thanks. I will 14 now open it up to the public for public 15 comment by calling those individuals who 16 signed in and checked that they would like to 17 speak. 18 Please keep in mind that there is a timer set for three minutes per person. 19 And 20 when you have reached the three minutes, we 21 ask that you complete your statement and submit a handwritten comment if you have 22 23 so -- if you have one. 24 We are going to start with Shelly

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1 Cohen. Can I say it from here? 2 MS. COHEN: 3 I'm just going to read a couple of documents. 4 They are not real long. MS. NEWMAN: 5 Sure. MS. COHEN: Shelly Cohen, Sussex 6 7 County, concerned citizen. 8 So the first thing I want to read 9 is just a brief letter. It's actually from 10 the EPA to a farmer who is asking them are 11 these biosolids that people want me to apply 12 to my fields, are they safe. So it's from Elizabeth Rezik, I 13 think from the EPA. 14 15 "Good morning. Right now the EPA 16 cannot say the pollutants found in biosolids 17 will not cause harmful effects to you, your crops, or your livestock. We will know more 18 when we assess these chemicals, something we 19 are actively working on." 20 21 "You are asking important Your decision to use or not use 22 questions. 23 biosolids will have to be based on how 24 comfortable you are with not knowing what



1 harm these pollutants and biosolids might 2 cause." 3 "Pollutants present in biosolids 4 don't automatically mean they will pose harm." 5 And then she wishes she had more 6 7 information for him, and she signs it 8 respectfully. 9 And then just bear with me while I 10 access the other document. 11 The other thing has to do with the 12 PFASs. And this is PFAS toxin transfer. 13 Simply put. So I'm not going to read the 14 whole thing. I'm just going to read the 15 stuff about the PFASs. 16 And I can't pronounce the chemical 17 PFAS, perfluoroalkyl and names. polyfluoroalkyl are manmade, flame-retardant 18 forever chemicals that are bioaccumulative 19 and toxic at low concentration levels. 20 21 That's one thing. The use of PFAS in thousands of 22 23 commercial and industrial applications and 24 products has resulted in detectable



1 concentrations in sewage, sludge, waste, 2 found in drinking water soil and vegetation 3 throughout the country. 4 There is a bit more here. Let me see if there is something else that kind of 5 pertains to this. 6 7 I guess the point of reading that is I don't think, you know, as wonderful a 8 program as the Chicago Wastewater Treatment 9 10 Plants might have, this is something they 11 can't control. 12 Chicago is a huge city. There is 13 lots going on there. There is other things, as well. 14 15 How could they tell, if they sample it --16 you're saying they sample every day, and like 17 you're talking about how Delaware has 18 oversight over this stuff. But that's You don't have oversight over 19 Chicago. 20 there. 21 And when you test, when you get your product, right, you're not -- it's a 22 23 one-time deal. 24 Maybe you're getting one truckload



1 a year, according to the information that you 2 have provided. 3 So that's one test, maybe, if you 4 are doing -- doing it on what you receive. You don't really know what's in there or what 5 people are exposed to. 6 7 So that's all I have to say for 8 now. 9 MS. NEWMAN: Thank you. Next we 10 are going to call -- is it Ken and Joanne, or 11 are you guys providing --12 MRS. HAYNES: He will speak first, 13 and then I will say something. 14 MS. NEWMAN: Okay. So we have Ken 15 Haynes. 16 MR. HAYNES: Yeah. You, DNREC, 17 made a mess of this state already, in my 18 opinion. And you want to bring more arsenic, 19 chromium, cyanide, heavy metals, mercury, 20 21 PCPs, PFAs. Hey, why import it cross country? 22 23 What the heck? Walnut Grove, Warminster, 24 Pennsylvania portion, from the naval air



1 stations that were up there; or, hell, why 2 even import it from Pennsylvania? Import it 3 from Dover Air Force Base. They got PFAs. 4 Let them mess up everybody's water. 5 Hell, Millsboro, we can't even drink the water coming out of our spigots, because we 6 7 have wells. And as the gentleman in front of me 8 9 stated, nothing is truly safe. 10 So now I'm going to sit down before 11 I ruin my gag order. 12 MS. NEWMAN: Mr. Haynes, do you 13 have written comment that you would like to 14 submit into the record? 15 MR. HAYNES: No. 16 MS. NEWMAN: Okay. Thank you. 17 One, you wouldn't be MR. HAYNES: 18 able to read it with my handwriting. Thank you. 19 MS. NEWMAN: Joanne 20 Haynes? 21 MRS. HAYNES: Good evening. Here Delaware Department of Natural 22 we go again. 23 Resources and Environmental, we have been 24 asking for help for a very long time, and we



1 have been shunned. Now, you have been teaching us 2 3 quite well. I don't like what I see. Ι 4 would not like to see it in anytime soon. Ι 5 would maybe look at it in a couple of years. Our water is bad. If you want to 6 7 test your water, I recommend testing it three times a year. And it should be two to five, 8 9 not ten in the hydrates. 10 I don't like this. I am sorry for 11 the two of you taking your time, but I think 12 it's not a good idea for Delaware. Delaware has a lot of baggage right 13 14 And I don't think you want Delaware now. 15 slapped on that. Thank you. 16 MS. NEWMAN: Thank you. Next we 17 have Maria Payan. 18 MS. PAYAN: Maria Payan. I'm submitting comments based on the citizens 19 groups from Sussex Health and Environmental 20 21 Network, as well as from myself as a resident, and on behalf of SRAP. 22 23 So I would like to submit the 24 gravel environmental report, which he has



1 already submitted; the PFAs toxins transfer sheet, and also my September 17th comments in 2 3 which I requested a hearing to Brian, that 4 document, as well. 5 I will give them all to you. MS. NEWMAN: Okay. Thank you. 6 7 In addition, I would MS. PAYAN: like to add that this is industrial waste. 8 9 Cyanide was not mentioned on the sampling 10 requirements, although that is in there. 11 It is toxic to fish, harmful to 12 children. This can be applied on school athletic fields, public parks, golf courses. 13 14 It is industrial waste. I don't consider 15 this an organic product. 16 It is cheap waste disposal. The sites where we have had D&M 17 18 permits have not been managed well. EPA actually inspected the one last year at 19 20 Blessings. 21 DNREC does not seem to have the political will or maybe is not competent to 22 23 be doing their job. It has also horrible odor. 24 And the



1 Class A packages, they reactivate after field 2 application. They can for 30 days. So 3 that's all. 4 MS. NEWMAN: Thank you. Please let the record reflect the documents handed to me 5 are going to be marked as Payan Exhibit 1. 6 7 Is there anyone who -- I have Chuck 8 Paulson. You signed in that you wanted to 9 make public comment, but were you looking 10 to --11 MR. PAULSON: In addition to the 12 comment I made, I would like to make one more 13 comment. 14 MS. NEWMAN: Okay. 15 MR. PAULSON: And that is that 16 Brian brought up that biosolids are not raw 17 sewage sludge. 18 The biosolids that we are talking 19 about here are Class A biosolids. And during that process, what's 20 21 really happening here is we are taking solid waste material out of the waste stream, it's 22 23 dewatered. Your damp material is then broken 24 down with microbes.



1 These are the same microbes that we 2 extract from nature. Anything that's organic in nature that dies will break down, and it's 3 4 these specific microbes that break them down. So what we are stuck with after 5 everything is ingested or digested is this 6 7 organic nitrogen fertilizer. 8 And interestingly enough, this organic fertilizer is really nothing less 9 10 than dead microbes, 100 percent. 11 It's further heat treated and 12 things like that, and it goes through all these tests to make them EPA certified. 13 14 But what we are dealing with here 15 is the same thing that happens in nature. 16 Instead of taking a year, year and 17 a half for this breakdown to happen, this accelerated takes only 22 to 27 days. 18 But these microbes in the process 19 are very, very similar to what's been 20 21 happening for thousands, tens of thousands of years in this environment. 22 23 And I think every wastewater 24 treatment facility that is producing the



1 Class A biosolids is using that same 2 approach, you know, when they develop these fertilizers. 3 4 MS. NEWMAN: Thank you. Is there anyone else who would like 5 to provide a written comment that -- or not б 7 written comment -- who would like to provide a verbal comment that signed in and checked 8 9 no? 10 Okay. With no further comments 11 being offered, I want to thank you all for 12 attending tonight. And this hearing is 13 adjourned at 7:26 - or 27 - sorry. 14 (Concluded at 7:27 p.m.) 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24



1	
2	CERTIFICATE
3	I, Lorena J. Hartnett, a Notary Public and
4	Registered Professional Reporter, do hereby certify
5	that the foregoing is an accurate and complete
6	transcription of the proceeding held at the time and
7	place stated herein, and that the said proceeding
8	was recorded by me and then reduced to typewriting
9	under my direction, and constitutes a true record of
10	the testimony given by said witnesses.
11	I further certify that I am not a relative,
12	employee, or attorney of any of the parties or a
13	relative or employee of either counsel, and that I
14	am in no way interested directly or indirectly in
15	this action.
16	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my
17	hand and affixed my seal of office on this 16th day
18	of November 2019.
19	
20	12 01 100
21	Source Hatter
22	
23	Lorena J. Hartnett
24	Registered Professional Reporter



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