

COLES COUNTY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
HEARING ON COLES WIND, LLC'S, APPLICATION TO CONSTRUCT
AND OPERATE A COMMERCIAL WIND ENERGY FACILITY (WIND
FARM) UPON CERTAIN PROPERTIES IN COLES COUNTY

April 22, 2025
6:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.

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E X H I B I T S

NO EXHIBITS ADMITTED THIS DATE

1 MR. WATTS: Good evening. I will -- I always
2 forget what I'm supposed to say -- reconvene this
3 meeting of the Coles County Planning and Development
4 Committee to take up the license application for WECS
5 project from Apex Clean Energy, and if you would please
6 stand and join me in the Pledge of Allegiance.

7 (Pledge of Allegiance.)

8 MR. WATTS: I'll take roll call.

9 Mike Clayton.

10 Darrell Cox.

11 MR. COX: Here.

12 MR. WATTS: Jeremy Doughty.

13 Tad Freezeland.

14 And I'm Michael Watts, chairman, presiding. At
15 this time, I will turn the meeting over to Scott Kains,
16 our hearing facilitator.

17 MR. KAINS: All right. Thank you, Mr. Chairman,
18 and good evening. It looks like this is the eighth
19 night of this public hearing. We're making good
20 progress through this. I hope everyone had a wonderful
21 Easter. I know we did. When your son-in-law is a
22 pastor, it's always a great day.

23 All right. Before we resume with Ms. McKeough on
24 the witness stand for cross-examination, I will ask
25 counsel from the Applicant, any preliminary matters?

1 MR. HESS: Yes, sir, Mr. Kains. You've given me
2 two pieces of homework.

3 MR. KAINS: Over Easter weekend, man, I am tough.

4 MR. HESS: So I have two short proffers whenever
5 you would like.

6 MR. KAINS: Yes, go right ahead, Mr. Hess.

7 MR. HESS: Thank you, Mr. Kains. Question number
8 one is the cut-out speed for each wind turbine model.
9 The cut-out speed would be the wind speed at which those
10 turbines, as they are designed by the manufacturers,
11 automatically shut off. We looked it up for the GE
12 model. The cut-out speed is 25 meters per second, which
13 is 55.9 miles per hour, and the Vestas model is almost
14 the same. It's 24 meters per second, which is 53.6
15 miles per hour.

16 MR. KAINS: And those are the speeds at which the
17 turbine will shut off?

18 MR. HESS: As designed by the manufacturers, yes,
19 sir.

20 MR. KAINS: All right. Second proffer.

21 MR. HESS: Second, I believe in a question from
22 Mr. Sherman, we were asked to provide the OSHA forms
23 that Apex Clean Energy has submitted, so I looked it up.
24 This is not my area of expertise, but Apex Clean Energy
25 files what's called an OSHA's Form 300A, which is a

1 summary of work-related injuries and illnesses.

2 Mr. Kains, if you like, I have copies of the
3 submittals for calendar year 2023 and 2024. It's a
4 one-page for each year, so I can give one to
5 Mr. Sherman, I can hand one out, whatever you would like
6 me to do.

7 MR. KAINS: Yeah, could you -- are you planning
8 on marking it?

9 MR. HESS: I was going to ask you your pleasure.

10 MR. KAINS: I think you should, and give a copy
11 to Mr. Keyt, also to Mr. Sherman, to each member of the
12 committee, and the county board members who are here.
13 And then if you could, just put a few on the podium if
14 you have any extra --

15 MR. HESS: I believe I do, yes, sir.

16 MR. KAINS: -- if anybody is interested in this
17 particular piece of information.

18 MR. HESS: And I apologize, I don't know what
19 exhibit number it should be marked as.

20 MS. ANTONIOLLI: We haven't done exhibit numbers
21 yet, but we can tonight, if we finish testimony.

22 MR. KAINS: Well, we'll see.

23 MR. HESS: Thank you, Mr. Kains. That's all we
24 have.

25 MR. KAINS: All right. Very good.

1 Mr. Keyt, anything?

2 MR. KEYT: Nothing from us.

3 MR. KAINS: Thank you for distributing those,
4 Mr. Moore. When last we met, Ms. McKeough was on the
5 witness stand.

6 Ms. McKeough, if you could come forward for
7 cross-examination.

8 All right. Ms. McKeough, do you recall on the
9 evening of April 17th, 2025, being sworn in in this
10 hearing?

11 THE WITNESS: Yes.

12 MR. KAINS: And that you promised at that time to
13 tell the truth?

14 THE WITNESS: Yes.

15 MR. KAINS: And you understand you remain under
16 oath, and you're still obligated to be truthful in your
17 testimony tonight?

18 THE WITNESS: Yes, I do.

19 MR. KAINS: Okay. Very good. All right, then
20 counsel had completed its direct examination.

21 Ms. McKeough had completed her PowerPoint presentation
22 and testimony, and it is now time for questions, and the
23 first questions come from members of the Coles County
24 Planning and Development Committee.

25 Gentlemen, any questions from the committee for

1 Ms. McKeough regarding her testimony relating to the
2 decommissioning of the project and the decommissioning
3 cost estimate?

4 EXAMINATION

5 BY MR. MICHAEL WATTS:

6 Q. My only question at this point is that the cost
7 estimates for the decommissioning can be reviewed
8 annually if so requested by the County?

9 A. Yes. I believe Apex has said that would be the
10 case. Yes.

11 Q. Okay. Very good. I wanted to make sure. Thank
12 you very much.

13 A. Yeah.

14 MR. KAINS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

15 Any other questions from members of the
16 committee?

17 All right. Questions from members of the Coles
18 County Board?

19 Yes, Mr. Shook.

20 MR. SHOOK: Thank you, sir. My name is Rick
21 Shook, District 8, county board member, Mattoon.

22 EXAMINATION

23 BY MR. RICK SHOOK:

24 Q. You said before that you will be working on a lot
25 of roads because with the equipment coming in will be

1 awful heavy and all that stuff. How many folks will be
2 working all the time? I thought you said maybe between
3 -- or someone said between 8 and 10, maybe 12?

4 A. For decommissioning specifically, or is this for
5 --

6 Q. This is when the turbines are up and people are
7 still there.

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. How often will they be working on the roads if
10 they need it and all that, because with the weight --
11 with the weight of the turbines and all that stuff, I'm
12 sure -- I'm sure the roads will take a beating.

13 A. Yeah, so for the original construction and
14 operations, that isn't my purview, but I believe Adam
15 next will talk about construction. For decommissioning
16 specifically, I don't know about the amount of people,
17 it's about -- a large-scale deconstruction, so it will
18 probably be a few more than 8 to 10. Any road
19 improvements, so any work that would need to be done to
20 repair the roads that AIMA says to an existing or
21 greater than condition prior to that, that is covered in
22 the costs, but they will also likely undergo a road use
23 agreement at that time. So that would all be covered in
24 that. As far as initial construction and operations, I
25 can't answer that, but I think Adam could.

1 MR. KAINS: Mr. Hess, if you -- do you have any
2 other further response to Mr. Shook's question?

3 MR. HESS: I sure do, yes, sir. Thank you. So,
4 Mr. Shook, during operations, you're exactly right, it's
5 8 to 10 full-time employees. That's for operations.
6 For construction, it will be a whole lot more, and
7 Mr. Carlson is going to talk about that next. I would
8 just say also, the road use agreement will require that
9 when we're done with construction, we have to get the
10 roads back to a state that's satisfactory to your county
11 engineer. That's basically how a road use agreement
12 works, is the county engineer has to sign off that we
13 fixed everything under the road use agreement.

14 MR. SHOOK: Okay. What if after everything is
15 done -- you know, we get a lot of rain around here and
16 all that stuff, and the roads mess up again and all that
17 needs some attention, the folks that are still working
18 full-time all the time, between 8 and 10, will they also
19 be maintaining these roads after everything is complete?

20 MR. HESS: Yes, sort of. So they don't maintain
21 all county roads on behalf of the county, but certainly
22 any roads that they're using --

23 MR. SHOOK: Right.

24 MR. HESS: Absolutely, yes, sir.

25 MR. SHOOK: Okay. Thank you. Thank you, folks.

1 MR. KAINS: Thank you, Mr. Shook. Any other
2 questions for this witness from members of the County
3 Board?

4 Questions for this witness from members of units
5 of local government, including school districts?

6 All right. Then questions from members of the
7 public. First, residents of Coles and Douglas counties.

8 Mr. Sherman and then Mr. Hendrix, Ms. Winslow,
9 and we'll go on down the line, Ms. Taylor.

10 EXAMINATION

11 MR. TOM SHERMAN:

12 Q. Excuse me. Tom -- I'm going to lose my voice.
13 Not a good time to lose your voice. Tom Sherman,
14 northern Coles County. Just to make sure on the wind
15 ordinance, page 5, section 5, it says: A proposed
16 Decommissioning Plan for the WECS Project including cost
17 estimations, and then in your application D-1
18 attachments A and B -- and I guess I'm going to more of
19 your application than the Wind Ordinance itself.
20 There's two different dollar amounts. The Vestas at
21 164,767 and the GE at 180,104. But then on the slide
22 presentation you had the other night, it was a different
23 amount than that. Could you explain what the
24 differences were between what was presented in the
25 application and what you presented on the slide back on

1 whenever that was?

2 A. Yeah, so are you referring to table -- the table
3 on page 10 of the plan?

4 Q. I believe so. Yes, right here in front of me.
5 Yes, page 10 of your application.

6 A. Okay. The total estimate is in the back of the
7 plan, so attachment A and attachment B.

8 Q. Okay.

9 A. I don't have the slides in front of me, but those
10 numbers are the same as the table. I'm not sure what
11 the slides exactly said, since I don't have those in
12 front of me, but those would be the numbers that would
13 be part of that agreement.

14 Q. The ones in the slide are the most current or the
15 ones in your application?

16 A. So the application itself if you -- are you
17 referring -- which page? Sorry.

18 Q. I'm looking on page 10 of the Decommissioning
19 Plan Coles Wind Project right before it gets to
20 attachment A, and you have the Vestas cost and then you
21 have the GE cost. It's on page 10 of the -- of the
22 application.

23 A. Okay. If that -- could you --

24 Q. It's right above where it says "financial
25 assurance" 7.0.

1 A. Yes. So could you go to the first page, if
2 you're looking at the one in the application, do you
3 know if that one is dated 12/20/2024 or 3/12/2025?

4 Q. The one I'm looking at is 12/20/2024.

5 A. Okay. Yeah, no, I can -- so the initial one that
6 was submitted with the application that you're referring
7 to, that was before we did those revisions as I
8 mentioned. So there was a \$0 cost amount for aggregate.
9 That was the initial one submitted right before
10 Christmas. This one from the 12th, which is the
11 screenshots that were in the slides, and I think I have
12 an extra one here if we want to pass it out, but that
13 would be a new exhibit to here. It's a revised version.
14 The costs in there are from the revised version, dated
15 -- yes. So I think there was probably a five and half
16 million-dollar difference. The one in the slides and
17 the ones in the revised cost estimates that would be
18 entered in as a new exhibit, those are the costs that
19 would be utilized with the County, not those ones.

20 Q. So okay, so this has changed since December 10th,
21 correct?

22 A. Yes, that's correct.

23 Q. How often do these numbers change?

24 A. So we actually just got a question about updates
25 on a yearly basis. The first one I would say between

1 this initial estimate as the cost estimate and the plan
2 are required with the application, that whole
3 decommissioning agreement step will have been prior to
4 the issuance of the building permit. One thing that
5 will definitely happen with that is that they will nail
6 down the turbine type. So I can say from now until the
7 building permit, if this project were to go through,
8 that would be one change made. There might be some
9 design changes that are nailed down. Let's say they
10 don't use any LiDAR towers or something, or foundation
11 volume were to increase, that would be a change we would
12 show, and then we would also address -- it would
13 probably be Q2 of 2025 financial wages. So this one is
14 from the original date, so that financial wages are from
15 the original date. We'd update all of those. From then
16 on, the County just asked if we can do it on a yearly
17 basis. The Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement in
18 many other counties would do it on the 10th year of
19 operations. Those estimates would need to be updated to
20 usually just reflect the wage increases or decreases,
21 anything that might change in the world outside or if
22 there happened to be a design change or facilities or
23 anything like that, that would be then, and then every
24 five years after that process would occur. So we're
25 talking about something that could happen 30 years in

1 the future, and doing it now, you know, we might miss a
2 few things if you were just to look at 30 years down the
3 road, so they build in those periodic updates to account
4 for any changes that could happen.

5 Q. And you just said there could be a lot of
6 different changes. Even -- and a list of them, such as
7 wages, could be a change?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. The -- like if the county landfill goes out of
10 business and we don't have a landfill, that could
11 change?

12 A. Yes. Any of those we'd always reevaluate when
13 those periodic changes would happen and update as
14 needed. Say there's a new method for taking down
15 certain materials or something like that, we'd also make
16 sure those are reflected just to reflect what would
17 currently happen to be accurate for our estimates, yes.

18 Q. Okay. So is it always in your experience that
19 the Vestas model is cheaper to decommission than the GE
20 model? Is that a safe assumption?

21 A. If they have the same design. So a Vestas model
22 versus a GE, you could be comparing two different Vestas
23 or a different Vestas than a different GE, so it would
24 be specific on which specific Vestas model and which
25 specific GE.

1 Q. Using what you have in your application -- you've
2 got GE158 and V162 -- will the GE158 always be more
3 expensive than a Vestas V162?

4 A. So the biggest difference between those two is
5 the things like the turbine height, so more tons of that
6 material could be hauled off site for a more expensive
7 one. Same with blades. So those would be the biggest
8 differences between those two. The physical makeup of
9 those turbines depending on how much weight you're
10 hauling or how much material you need to be dealing
11 with. Any of those differences could impact the
12 estimate, yes.

13 Q. Do you know when that decision is going to be
14 made between the two types?

15 A. I do not know the exact time.

16 Q. Or is that a question for Mr. Carlson?

17 A. I believe so. It would be made prior to the
18 issuing of the building permit.

19 Q. And the reason I bring that up, because that is
20 to your statement that is a huge piece of this value,
21 correct?

22 A. Overall, it is more of a drop in the bucket, but,
23 yes, it is an important piece, as you said.

24 Q. How many years has your oldest wind turbine
25 project in Illinois been running -- not yours, Apex.

1 MR. KAINS: If you know.

2 A. I don't know Apex's specifically. I believe the
3 oldest wind turbine running versus wind facility, wind
4 facility I think is around 2003. I could be wrong
5 though, but I don't know Apex's first.

6 Q. Okay. The decommissioning process of a wind
7 turbine, what's the procedure to extract/remove the
8 excess oil that is within these internally when they're
9 taken down? How do you get the oil out?

10 A. Yeah, so I've seen that process. I'm very
11 familiar with it. My recommendation, as what I've seen
12 on these sites, is they will extract the oil before they
13 do anything. So they typically use a vac truck or
14 something that can suck down that material, and they
15 will have a licensed waste hauler, something like a
16 Safety-Kleen, who has expertise in handling hazardous
17 materials. They might take a vac truck or some other
18 method to suck down that oil, store it, usually in
19 portable totes or some other portable container. That
20 container should be placed in a secondary containment
21 measure, depending on how quickly it is hauled off site.
22 If it's staying on site and just going on the bed of a
23 truck, they may place them in tubs that can hold enough
24 of the containers. So if you have a 300-gallon
25 container, those tubs are supposed to total 330 or

1 another 10 percent. And they may keep that temporarily
2 on site just to reach a certain threshold until their
3 licensed waste hauler comes on site, and that would be
4 stored at something like the laydown yard in a
5 containment berm, and then that licensed waste hauler
6 could take that off site and dispose of it per their
7 regulations.

8 Q. Okay. During any part of the decommissioning
9 process, is there a third party on site, and the only
10 one that comes to mind that I'll reference is the EPA.
11 Is there a third party that comes and watches and makes
12 sure everything you say is exactly how it happens?

13 A. So I don't believe there's any regulatory
14 requirements. If there were to be issues, there's going
15 to be an SPCC plan, that plan I mentioned before, so the
16 Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure Plan.
17 There will be one for this separate from operations,
18 separate from the one for initial construction. So that
19 is their prime -- what the EPA as well as the Illinois
20 EPA have dictated as their primary mode of regulating
21 those materials. Now if something is going wrong, if
22 they have additional spills that they've reported, which
23 I have not seen many that have reached that reporting
24 threshold, then those agencies may come out and do
25 further regulation, but they are not required to be on

1 site, but I should mentioned, that SPCC plan is required
2 to be done by a third party and required to be stamped
3 by a third-party engineer, and in order to stamp that,
4 there is a requirement that their delegee has visited
5 and examined the site. So that process will take place,
6 but they won't be there for the entire process.

7 Q. And is that stamp, that report, is that turned
8 into somebody on the county board or to Kelly or to
9 somebody?

10 A. There's again not a requirement of submittal of
11 that, but that is something that needs to be kept on
12 site and readily available per regulations, so if the
13 county board wanted to see it, they could very well come
14 in and view it at any time. It should be readily
15 available on the site, as well as notices could be
16 posted.

17 Q. Has there been any instance where a
18 decommissioning is -- a situation like that where
19 they're doing oil or whatever that might be, the blades
20 are being taken down, any aspect of the decommissioning
21 and it went against what the stamp was, has there been
22 any instance where something went wrong?

23 A. Not to my knowledge, because if that were to
24 happen, they would reach out to the regulatory bodies.
25 They wouldn't come back to us usually. I can't speak to

1 that, no.

2 Q. Okay. How many decommissioning projects have
3 been done in Illinois by Apex?

4 A. No full wind sites have been decommissioned in
5 Illinois. I'm not sure if certain turbines have been
6 decommissioned at certain projects either fully or so
7 they could replace components.

8 Q. Are there any decommissioning projects in the
9 United States done by Apex?

10 A. I can't speak to that. I don't believe so, but I
11 don't have any -- full Apex knowledge.

12 Q. So not to put words in your mouth, but you're not
13 -- you don't know of any wind turbine decommissioning
14 projects anywhere in the United States that Apex has
15 done?

16 A. Not that Apex has done. I don't know of that, at
17 least from my specific experience.

18 MR. KAINS: Who's your employer?

19 A. Westwood Professional Services.

20 MR. KAINS: Thank you.

21 Q. This may be a silly question, but since you -- to
22 Mr. Watt's question earlier about you update this once a
23 year. So I'm assuming the dollars that you presented on
24 the charts there are in today's dollars, not future 20
25 years from now dollars, and you update that each year?

1 A. Yes, that's correct. That's the reason for that
2 periodic update mechanism.

3 Q. Okay. And this is on one of your slides. It's
4 -- boy, I wish you guys would number pages. Page 4, I
5 think it's page 4 of your slides. You have something
6 about crop loss 102 acres. Can you explain -- can you
7 explain the crop loss calculation --

8 A. Yeah.

9 Q. -- that's on that page?

10 A. Yeah, so we -- that 102 is two times 51, so two
11 acres per turbine site, and the crop loss unit cost is
12 from a study from the University of Illinois,
13 Urbana-Champaign. I don't remember the exact year, but
14 that is specific to Illinois, and that's the cost that
15 they have indicated that cropland is worth.

16 Q. And that 1,300, if I'm reading this right, is per
17 wind turbine?

18 A. That's per acre.

19 Q. Per acre, okay. Do you know -- you just said
20 that's U of I, is that based on soybean prices, corn
21 prices, what determines that number, if you know?

22 A. I didn't author that study, so I can't speak to
23 what exactly went into it, but that was -- I think
24 that's actually a little below the number they gave, and
25 we updated it and rounded it out.

1 Q. Okay. This is a hypothetical, so bear with me.
2 What happens if you get the green light to do the
3 project and then it starts going, and then for whatever
4 reason, the company goes bankrupt, there's an executive
5 order, whatever, tornado, cyclone, whatever, and we have
6 to decommission the project. How do you -- what's the
7 mechanism to start that? Does the county board have to
8 tell you we're decommissioning it, or do you -- does
9 Apex tell the County? How does -- what gets the ball
10 rolling to decommission a wind farm?

11 A. Yeah. First off, I did say that number is
12 below -- that number is above the U of I cost estimate.
13 I just wanted to say that. Sorry if my mind is working
14 while you were speaking.

15 Q. Yeah.

16 A. But the Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement
17 specifically outlines abandonment. I believe for wind
18 sites it's 18 months. So Apex could very well determine
19 in their own right they wanted to decommission. I can't
20 speak for that. My estimates are -- in this plan is
21 primarily in the case that if something happens where
22 Apex does not so the county board is covered. So
23 abandonment is usually that main trigger. If the
24 facility meets the requirements or meets that definition
25 of abandonment, then the County could determine if they

1 want to undertake that decommissioning process.

2 Q. Okay. If Apex were to sell the company, does the
3 decommissioning plan follow to the new owner, or does
4 the new owner come up with their own decommissioning
5 plan?

6 A. The AIMA actually outlines this specifically just
7 if that were to happen, but, yes, as a short answer,
8 this -- anything involved with the decommissioning
9 agreement would go to the new owner, and I can get that
10 exact wording for you, because they have a much better
11 and more legal way to put it than I do.

12 Q. And this is in the AIMA you're looking at?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Okay. While you're looking for that, so if a new
15 owner took ownership of a wind project instead of Apex,
16 they would have to enter in with a new AIMA; is that
17 correct?

18 A. I don't believe. I think since this AIMA is
19 under the Coles Wind, LLC, that would transfer --

20 Q. Okay.

21 A. -- over, as well as the surety bond.

22 Q. So transferability is a pretty big issue then,
23 right?

24 A. I don't know what -- what do you mean by "issue"?

25 Q. Transfer of ownership of Apex owning the wind

1 turbine project to some other entity owning the wind
2 turbine project.

3 MR. HESS: I would respectfully object,
4 Mr. Kains, I think it's beyond the scope of her direct.
5 If he wants to ask how decommissioning would work under
6 that hypothetical, I think that's appropriate, but
7 transferability in general is nothing that she testified
8 to. It's not her expertise.

9 MR. KAINS: I agree with you, Mr. Hess, but I'm
10 going to overrule your objection. I think that -- I
11 think that folks want to know. I think the county board
12 wants to know.

13 So, again, what was your question, Mr. Sherman?

14 Q. If Apex sells the company, sells the wind turbine
15 project to a different organization, a different
16 company, will there be a new AIMA with that new owner?

17 A. So I skipped past it way too far, but on the
18 second page under the conditions of the AIMA, item K:
19 If the Facility is sold or transferred, the Facility
20 Owner assuming ownership of the facility shall provide
21 notice of sale or transfer within 90 days to the County
22 and to the landowners, and the existing Financial
23 Assurance requirements, plus the other terms of this
24 AIMA shall apply to the new Facility Owner.

25 So that would all apply to whoever the new

1 facility owner is.

2 Q. Thank you. Somewhat tied to that, once the
3 decommissioning process is completed, do the property
4 values revert back to the original owners, if -- you may
5 not know that.

6 A. Yeah, I'm not a property value expert, so I can't
7 speak to that.

8 Q. Okay. This is another hypothetical. What would
9 happen in let's say 5, 10, 15, even 30 years, using the
10 30-year number that you've given, when there's no place
11 to get rid of especially the blades, because the blades
12 in looking at your report, they go to Iowa and are
13 buried in some mystical place. What would happen if
14 there is no place to dispose of these blades?

15 A. I guess first, we account for disposal. If all
16 locations -- this is not -- it's very unusual. I can't
17 imagine that happening. If every disposal facility were
18 to stop accepting blades and all blade recycling would
19 close, that would not cause the decommissioning
20 agreement to be defaulted. We would readdress the means
21 and methods needed to remove those blades and update the
22 cost for whatever means or method is available.

23 Q. Now. What you said just triggered another
24 question then. I'm looking at the decommissioning on
25 reclamation cost slide, about the fifth or sixth one

1 down you've got: Haul turbine components for disposal
2 (except blades), and the very next one says: Turbine
3 component disposal (except blades), and then: Haul
4 fiberglass blades for disposal. So the blades are not
5 recyclable?

6 A. So two -- I guess two items there. We break
7 those out because we want it to be known that we are
8 treating the metals differently, so that is one line,
9 the recyclable components. As we dictate per these
10 means and methods, there's a lot of metal, as I
11 mentioned, so that is one of them. The haul turbine
12 components for disposal (except blades), there is some
13 mixed metals that are mixed with non-recyclable metals,
14 so that 4,712 tons reflects what that would be but not
15 the blades. Again, because we want to explicitly say:
16 Okay, now for the blades we are showing these are being
17 disposed of. So those two are going to the same spot.
18 The turbine component disposal (except blades) as well
19 as the fiberglass blades, we want to make it known that
20 we are considering both of those separately, but blades
21 can be recycled. There are currently operational
22 facilities in the U.S., one of them is listed for
23 reference in this plan, though not utilized, and there's
24 one over in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. There's a lot of
25 currently operational non-grant funded blade recycling

1 facilities, they're just a newer industry, so, as I
2 mentioned, we're going with a conservative methodology
3 for getting rid of these blades, disposing of them, but
4 recycling is an option, and I imagine that industry will
5 be more fleshed out in the future and it will be less of
6 a consideration as a conservative methodology in the
7 future.

8 Q. On the basis of estimate page, you say that the
9 project quantities like road lengths and cable wiring
10 are based on the most current project design. This gets
11 back to one of my questions. What would change your
12 decommissioning plan and costs from what's -- what
13 you've presented so far?

14 A. I think it's actually one slide back, first of
15 all. Yes.

16 Q. Yeah, that's it. The number one bullet: Project
17 quantities like road length and cable wiring are based
18 on the most current project design.

19 Since December 20th, now we have two designs.
20 What could change again that would change your plan,
21 change the dollar amounts? What would change?

22 A. Yeah, so those two turbine types, that's the big
23 item. We're kind of -- we have two currently considered
24 in the plan. The whole plan wouldn't say two turbine
25 types at the next iteration or whatever that next

1 iteration would be that was at that stage, it would just
2 reflect the one, because that would be what the
3 financial assurance would be based off of, so we want to
4 make sure that's what the plan is discussing. There
5 could be changes to the design. They don't have an
6 issue for construction design right now. They're in the
7 preliminary stage, so though these turbine locations are
8 the turbine locations, if the turbine location of the 51
9 were to use an alternate location instead, that might
10 require a different access road length, so we would want
11 to make sure that is accurately reflected in the total
12 access road area. So that's just one example, but I
13 can't speak to what design change they might consider to
14 change, but if they do, we would update it and those
15 numbers would be updated.

16 Q. Okay. In the original plan, you have an
17 attachment A and attachment B with a difference between
18 GE and Vestas. Do you know -- maybe this is a
19 Mr. Carlson question -- do you know where those are
20 made? What country is a GE and Vestas made?

21 A. I believe -- and they would know better -- but
22 from my knowledge, they're both made here. They both
23 have manufacturing facilities here.

24 Q. Okay. Very good. Thank you. That's all I have.
25 Thank you.

1 MR. KAINS: Very good. Thank you for your
2 questions, Mr. Sherman.

3 | Mr. Hendrix.

4 MR. KAINS: Could you again, sir, please state
5 your name for the court reporter?

6 MR. HENDRIX: James Hendrix, H-E-D-N-R-I-X,
7 Douglas County.

8 MR. KAINS: Go right ahead with your questions
9 for Ms. McKeough.

10 EXAMINATION

11 BY MR. JAMES HENDRIX:

12 Q. I don't have very many. The first night was very
13 thorough, and Mr. Sherman took care of most of the ones
14 I had asking questions, but I'm going to touch a little
15 bit. So the numbers that you have listed specifically
16 on public road restoration, it shows 237 of appendix B,
17 you have listed 70 miles of road with a cost of \$44,000.
18 Did that change on the new submittal dockets that you
19 just submitted, or is that the same cost?

20 A. They are the same; that didn't change.

21 Q. What is typically involved in public road
22 restoration?

23 A. So, typically involved for a construction that
24 might look a little different from here. If felling is
25 occurring, like we assumed, they wouldn't have oversized

1 loads, so the initial turbine delivery, that's going to
2 look a little different than here. We have an internal
3 road use team transportation team, so they assist with
4 items like this, but that would include things like
5 updating any roads that might have had aggregate, grade
6 issues. Though culverts and things aren't explicitly
7 under this, that could be something that's impacted. So
8 things along those lines. I wouldn't expect turning
9 radii would be needed due to the types of turbines
10 utilized, but whatever is needed to return those back to
11 an existing or better than existing condition before
12 those were to occur.

13 Q. And this will probably be a little bit outside
14 your expertise or scope. Do you know what it's going to
15 cost per mile during the construction phase to do one
16 mile a road?

17 A. I don't know per mile. For construction, I do
18 believe Adam could attest, and I may be throwing him
19 under the bus here --

20 Q. You're good.

21 A. -- but I think he can help with that.

22 Q. But it is safe to assume even though you're
23 felling, the tonnage going out will be the same as the
24 tonnage coming in?

25 A. That tonnage would be broken up into smaller

1 pieces, so the full towers are hauled in much larger
2 pieces initially. They process them on site before
3 putting them into trailer trucks, so the tonnage itself,
4 the overall would be the same, but the -- each truck
5 load would be smaller.

6 Q. Correct. I understand that. So drilling into
7 this 44,000 a little bit harder, is that like in today's
8 numbers? If it's an 18-foot wide road, it roughly is
9 just shy of \$24,000 to oil and chip one mile of road.
10 If you were to look at that cost 30 years from now,
11 obviously, your number is pretty well spot on if you
12 were doing A-1 service coat, and I guess that's where
13 I'm coming from, if your infrastructure is 30 years from
14 now -- because you're going to have general public
15 traffic on these same roads for 30 years -- it just
16 seems maybe slightly a little low if you're trying to do
17 something more than just put a surface A-1 coat on the
18 road.

19 A. So that could be one of those items we update
20 down the road. Obviously, they don't want to be
21 utilizing those roads as well if they have gone through
22 residential or just day-to-day traffic and they need to
23 do a full decommission work on that. So they would
24 obviously want them to be updated to and prior to and
25 restored after, and that would be a number that we would

1 and we have reevaluated each year as means and methods
2 have increased, as well as per unit prices have
3 increased.

4 Q. Okay. That's all I got. Thank you.

5 MR. KAINS: Very good. Thank you, Mr. Hendrix.

6 Ms. Connie Winslow, you're next.

7 Good evening, ma'am. You may go right ahead with
8 your questions for Ms. McKeough.

9 EXAMINATION

10 MS. CONNIE WINSLOW:

11 Q. The blades when they're decommissioned or any
12 part of the turbines, are they ever ground up and
13 utilized in other ways or cut up into pieces to recycle
14 that way?

15 A. Yeah, so for what would happen on site, they
16 wouldn't do any grinding, mechanical sheering, or
17 anything like that. That's not expected, but for
18 recycling methods, from when I've spoken to recyclers
19 and this -- I don't think I can stress enough it's a
20 pretty young industry, so their technology is changing a
21 lot. When I spoke to them, they may grind it up, and a
22 lot of times that manufacturer can -- or the recycling
23 plant can determine how they want to use it at that
24 point, but from what I've seen, they will use it as a
25 tensile strength in concrete or other aggregate, so it

1 helps strengthen other materials in the industry.

2 That's one method I've seen. I can't speak to what all
3 manufacturers -- all recycling plants do, but that is
4 something when I've spoken to them and been to seminars.

5 Q. Is that just the blades or also the metal and
6 other parts?

7 A. That's just from what I've seen for the blades.
8 The metals would go the route of typical scrap metal.
9 So depending on the type of metal, I think there's
10 probably a variety of uses that they might utilize them
11 for, and that would again be up to that recycling plant
12 to decide what they do with them, but they -- it's good
13 steel, cast iron. They could use it a variety of ways.

14 Q. Is one of the recycle locations between
15 Charleston and Mattoon?

16 A. The recycling location given is in Mattoon, yes.

17 Q. I thought that one was full.

18 A. The day-to-day availability of a site is too
19 volatile of something for us to consider. If they --
20 the realistic way decommissioning would occur wouldn't
21 be that they just show up the day of and pass off
22 everything. So a lot of these things would be worked
23 out far in advance if that were to be the case next time
24 we do an update and the next time, then that might be
25 something we reevaluate, but at this time, judging the

1 day-to-day availability of materials, that's not
2 something we consider to be a useful metric.

3 Q. How do they decommission the concrete, a
4 jackhammer, is that how they do it?

5 A. Yes, it's typically hand done. There's a decent
6 amount of rebar, so that's the method, yes.

7 Q. Do you remove all the rock and roadway, and where
8 does it go?

9 A. Yeah, I believe you'd asked this question before
10 -- and I meant to cover it in my presentation -- but all
11 of that aggregate is removed. The AIMA does allow for
12 landowners to request in writing that it remain. So
13 that's something that could happen. They could ask to
14 reuse that aggregate elsewhere, but we accounted for all
15 of that aggregate being removed, all of it being hauled
16 off site, again to a disposal facility, incurring a
17 cost.

18 Q. Do you find that finding a landfill is a little
19 more difficult because of the size of equipment they
20 would need to work with such big pieces and -- from the
21 decommissioning? Are there just a handful of places you
22 can take things?

23 A. So from what I've seen with other sites that have
24 undergone removing of some materials from their sites,
25 it depends on the landfill, it depends on the area, but

1 -- and it depends on the load of material, so I can't
2 speculate exactly on what this landfill might do in
3 however many years, but they take in a variety of
4 materials. I believe wind materials to be disposed at a
5 landfill at this time is projected in 50 years if all of
6 it went into landfills to not even account for .2
7 percent of all municipal waste across the country, so it
8 would be a small percentage of the overall mass of
9 landfill waste at a disposal facility.

10 Q. Do any other countries ever purchase anything you
11 decommission?

12 A. I do not know the answer to that.

13 Q. How long does it take to decommission one
14 turbine?

15 A. It depends on if they are doing certain
16 activities concurrently, so they -- for construction,
17 for instance, they have a phased approach. So they will
18 do a lot of access roadwork all at once, but as certain
19 accesses come in, they might start doing concrete pours
20 there, and then as certain concrete pours are finished,
21 they might start turbines. So that is most likely what
22 we see on the decommissioning side. So it's hard to say
23 on a per-turbine basis because a lot of turbine
24 activities will overlap and occur concurrently.

25 Q. Can you give an approximate how long it would

1 take to decommission 50 to 60 turbines?

2 A. About a year in good conditions, but the
3 Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement I believe
4 allows 18 months. I might be mixing up my ordinances,
5 but we project, I believe -- let me make sure I'm
6 quoting this. We projected a year, so 12 months.

7 Q. How much noise disturbance does decommissioning
8 cause the area residents? What would they expect to
9 hear?

10 A. So typical construction activities, like hauling,
11 it would be a little less. I think Adam can give a
12 better picture of what that looks like. As I mentioned,
13 concrete removal is -- tends to be the loudest part of
14 it, because they have to jackhammer, so that would be a
15 little louder. If anyone's heard a jackhammer, it's not
16 exactly quiet, but that would be probably the loudest on
17 top of just general construction traffic and hauling.

18 Q. So it would be louder than the dynamite to defell
19 it?

20 A. Well, that would also be probably loud, but
21 that's -- happens and that would have whatever permits
22 needed for any noise.

23 Q. Happens faster?

24 A. Yeah, in an instance, if that.

25 Q. Regarding pipelines, how do you protect the

1 vibration from traveling over and maybe cracking or
2 doing something to affect pipelines?

3 A. Again, I think Adam is better to talk about this.
4 I do know from within my company there are things like
5 pipeline discovery plans. They will do all of that to
6 make sure all of those in the area are surveyed. I
7 can't speak to the exact methods for vibration and
8 things like that, but it would depend on the pipeline,
9 and it would depend on the site, and I think Adam is
10 prepared to answer that a little better up next.

11 Q. Okay. Thank you.

12 MR. KAINS: Thank you very much, Ms. Winslow.

13 Meg Taylor.

14 EXAMINATION

15 BY MS. MEG TAYLOR:

16 Q. My first question, the decommissioning, is it in
17 stages or all at once?

18 A. I'm thinking of it from a construction mindset.
19 So there might be phased items, but, like I said, they
20 usually overlap. They'll try to -- there will be
21 different crews sometimes. So someone might be working
22 on a portion of the site doing one thing, and at a
23 different portion of the site, they've already moved
24 past that, so we're moving to the next. So I would
25 assume they would do regular business hours, just like a

1 construction site working throughout all of it.
2 Obviously, I can't speak to "all at once". They're not
3 going to work every day after each other, but it would
4 likely follow what a typical construction project would
5 look like. There's no official phase 1, phase 2, I'm
6 just using construction phasing as a term for all of
7 those activities happening one after the other.

8 Q. Okay. I guess I just mean like do you -- do they
9 do all 51, or, you know, do they say: This year we're
10 going to do 10; next year, we'll do 10, or do they just
11 try to do it all at one decommissioning 18 months or
12 whatever it was?

13 A. Yeah, so if this is the case, that would be the
14 decommissioning of the facility, say with the County
15 where they would be doing it this way as triggered by
16 that Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement
17 abandonment, that would be required to be done in 18
18 months. So they would need to do that all at once.
19 They couldn't do some one year, some the next. I mean,
20 weather-wise that might be what happens, but it would be
21 that same overall period, yes.

22 Q. Okay, and do -- are -- have you ever heard of
23 like the local landfill or the recycling -- I think you
24 listed Harris Recycling. Do they ever reject? Say our
25 area, rural/small area, we're not able to handle that.

1 Have you heard of the local places rejecting the
2 materials?

3 A. Yeah, so I have had those discussions, and they
4 haven't ever rejected it outright just because this is
5 projecting far in the future, so I haven't come across
6 an instance where they said: Do not put us in there.
7 That's not to say that may not be the case when a
8 decommissioning does occur, but I've never had that
9 happen where they say that: We won't -- don't put us in
10 there; we don't expect to be a facility that's able to
11 assist you in the future.

12 Q. So like the two of the local ones that I
13 recognize, the Harris Metals in Mattoon and the WM in
14 Coles, were they contacted? You know. Were they told:
15 We're listing you as two of the places. You know, were
16 they given any sort of heads up or asked, I guess?

17 A. Yeah, we -- I spoke with Harris. The WM one has
18 a lot of people that puts you through, so we utilized
19 their publicly-available data, and like we said, we
20 choose facilities that meet our threshold for acting as
21 a facility. As far as asking if they accept -- would
22 accept those materials in the future, no, we do not ask
23 that.

24 Q. Okay. I was just wondering, because I asked -- I
25 called Harris Metals, and Tony Harris said he wasn't

1 contacted, and then WM, the lady said she would be very
2 shocked if they could accept it, and that -- I mean, I
3 didn't understand this either, a transfer station, so we
4 don't even have a local landfill, it's all transferred
5 farther out anyway, so I was wondering if we're not
6 keeping it in those local distances shown in the table,
7 you know, if you're having to haul it even farther, does
8 that affect the price of things too then?

9 A. So my understanding with a transfer station is
10 that material would still be hauled there and they would
11 transfer it, so you wouldn't haul it there and then be
12 responsible for hauling it elsewhere, they would capture
13 that.

14 Q. Okay. Okay. And then can you help me
15 understand, you said there was a difference between
16 felling and craning and that felling was more beneficial
17 for the cropland, and so it's 102 acres of crop loss for
18 cranes, and felling is more beneficial. Do you know
19 about how many acres of crop loss there would be for
20 felling then?

21 A. The 102 is for decommissioning assuming felling.

22 Q. Okay.

23 A. I don't know the exact crane paths. It would be
24 a lot more. 18-foot crane walks. That's not a number I
25 have off the top of my head, but it would be additional

1 to that 102. So that 102 acres is a two acre-per
2 turbine for felling.

3 Q. For felling?

4 A. I don't -- yeah. If we had a site that was using
5 that, we would address adding whatever additional
6 acreage would be impacted by those crane paths and crane
7 paths.

8 Q. All right. Can you help me understand for
9 felling. You know you're demo-ing it, it falls over.
10 If you're not using a crane, what kind of equipment are
11 they taking into the field to get all of the particle
12 matter back out of the field?

13 A. Yeah, so since it's equipment, the people going
14 up to torch cut, they don't need equipment, they're
15 usually just torch cutting from the inside, so
16 additional equipment isn't typically needed. To clean
17 up after since that material is on the ground, they
18 don't need additional cranes, they can just break them
19 down into smaller pieces and haul them, but usually that
20 -- I can't remember which equipment we specifically
21 say -- I believe it's a bulldozer. I can get that for
22 you though, but it wouldn't need a crane to move that
23 equipment since it's already on the ground.

24 Q. Okay. And then let's see, how much material is
25 left below ground?

1 A. Yeah, so there will be the five-foot depth is
2 from the Illinois Department of Agricultural, so that's
3 the depth we have to go for decommissioning. There will
4 be a lot of turbine foundation left below it, so
5 anything from that grade to below five feet will be
6 removed, and turbine foundation is typically one of
7 those that is lower than that. The Agricultural Impact
8 Mitigation Agreement also requires underground cabling
9 be placed below five feet so as to not interfere with
10 farming operations, so that may be left in place.

11 Q. Okay. So I just want to make sure I understand.
12 So everything five foot is removed, but below that it
13 stays?

14 A. Yes, that's required from the Illinois Department
15 of Agricultural, they set that.

16 Q. Okay. I think I'm getting there. With regard to
17 replacing the topsoil, where do you get that?

18 A. So topsoil -- I want to find the -- sorry. I
19 want to find my exact legal language. So topsoil is
20 typically stockpiled on site. A lot of that will then
21 be reutilized and respread, so that is usually where it
22 comes from. I want to try to find my exact part in
23 referencing that in the AIMA.

24 Yes, so topsoil will likely stay with each
25 landowner. The Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement

1 outlines topsoil preservation and then that adequate
2 topsoil will be reapplied and decompacted per the
3 Illinois Department of Agricultural regulations.

4 Q. Okay. And then let's see, when it talks about
5 tilling to farmable conditions, let's see -- if I'm
6 understanding the chart correctly, which it's kind of
7 confusing, it's only 36.8 acres that would need to be
8 tilled. Is that correct?

9 A. So that one is just for turbines, so for the
10 turbine area, the work area, we assume a certain radius.
11 I don't want to say the wrong number, but we assume a
12 certain radius of work area, and that work area would
13 then be tilled after, and so that acreage that you're
14 referencing, that is only for that turbine area.

15 Q. So there will be more acres that need to be
16 tilled just outside of actual turbine spot then; is that
17 right?

18 A. That is typically where the agricultural areas
19 are located, which is why that tilling is required. The
20 rest of these areas are usually just needing regular
21 revegetation. So tilling is usually needed because
22 those are located where they would perform agricultural
23 activities following decommissioning.

24 Q. Can you help me understand how is it \$177 -- am I
25 reading that right, or is that --

1 A. Yes, \$177.52.

2 Q. Can you just explain how for the 40 acres you get
3 that it takes less than \$200 to till it? I'm just
4 curious from a farmer perspective, how you reached that.

5 A. Yeah, so with the topsoil and revegetation being
6 on a separate line, as well as grading being on a
7 separate line, that tilling line would just be for the
8 tilling activities specifically. So topsoil and
9 revegetation would cover a decent amount of it. I can
10 -- that is for -- on a per-acre basis. I believe we --
11 I can't -- sorry, a lot of these functions are short
12 circuiting in my head, but I can't remember the exact
13 function, but I could work with you on that one.

14 Q. Okay, and I think I'm just about done. And I'm
15 not a hundred percent sure if you're the person to ask,
16 but will we get to know where the total amount of the
17 decommissioning funds are placed? Like will it be in a
18 local bank, or does it stay with the company for 30
19 years, or does it go to a local bank now to gain
20 interest, or how does that work?

21 A. Yeah, so all of that will be figured out with
22 that decommissioning agreement. There is a surety bond
23 example in the financial assurance attachment.
24 Attachment C sets an example of what that could look
25 like and certain considerations listed within it, but

1 the county board will ultimately decide with Apex what
2 method that will be kept.

3 Q. Okay. So it's the county board's decision to
4 decide where the funds are placed then?

5 A. And every member of Apex, yes.

6 Q. Okay. Thank you.

7 MR. KAINS: Very good. Thank you, Ms. Taylor.

8 Mr. Hess or Ms. Antonioli, do you want to
9 explain how a surety bond works? If one of you has
10 expertise in that area, because I don't think that a lot
11 of folks understand that, and I'm not entirely clear on
12 it. Mr. Hess.

13 MR. HESS: I can try. So a surety bond is a
14 financial instrument that is held for the benefit of
15 Coles County. So you'll have it. It's an instrument
16 that you will have in your hands, and it allows you to
17 make a claim on a completely different third party, like
18 an insurance company, basically. And you can go make a
19 claim if Coles Wind or Apex fails to do its
20 decommissioning. So Apex violates the AIMA, violates
21 the decommissioning agreement, violates your ordinance,
22 violates your permit, you have several options. You can
23 come after Apex, just like you always could, or in the
24 scenario where Apex has filed for bankruptcy, let's say
25 -- we get that question a lot -- you would have an

1 independent financial instrument issued by a completely
2 third party. That's called a surety. So it's often
3 sureties are very similar to insurance companies, and
4 people often think of it as like an insurance policy. I
5 think it's -- it's actually better than an insurance
6 policy because what the surety bond says --- this is
7 what we included in our application. The surety has to
8 make the decommissioning happen. So they don't just
9 like, you know, respond to a claim, they are
10 contractually obligated to you as Coles County to making
11 sure that decommissioning happens or paying you the full
12 amount of money so you can go hire a company to make it
13 happen. So the whole idea is that gives you a remedy
14 not just against Apex but another company. That company
15 would then turn around in that hypothetical and go after
16 Apex or Coles Wind and seek recovery there, but that way
17 you don't have -- you're not the middleman, the surety
18 is.

19 MR. KAINS: Thank you, Mr. Hess.

20 Mr. Keyt, do you have anything to add to that?

21 MR. SHOOK: So is the money just sitting there?

22 MR. HESS: So the surety is required to have so
23 much money on hand, yes, sir. Yes, sir.

24 MR. KEYT: Yes. So typically a financial
25 assurance as related to decommissioning can take a

1 number of different forms. One might be a bond, like a
2 surety bond that they have proposed here. A surety bond
3 works -- like Mr. Hess said, it essentially works like
4 an insurance policy. The developer would have to pay a
5 premium to the surety. The surety then works kind of
6 like an insurance policy, but the surety then if the
7 County goes and makes a claim, if certain conditions are
8 met, the surety either has the option to ensure that the
9 decommissioning is done, they can do that process
10 themselves, or release the funds to the County for the
11 County to capture and utilize for decommissioning.
12 There is -- there is multiple pros and cons to that.
13 There's also a different type of financial assurance
14 that could be a letter of credit, for example. A letter
15 of credit looks a little bit differently in that the
16 funds are essentially with a bank, and then as opposed
17 to like an insurance-type policy, which would be like a
18 bond, the funds would be with the bank, and then the
19 County, if the certain conditions are met, would make a
20 claim, and then there's a very short time frame for the
21 bank to turn those funds back around to the County, if
22 those conditions are met, and it works a little bit
23 differently, because unlike a surety, where the surety
24 is holding -- is collecting premiums and then is paying
25 out like an insurance policy, a line of credit looks a

1 little bit different. There is largely cash on hand to
2 just be deposited or sent to the County. So a letter of
3 credit versus bond, there's pros and cons to both, but
4 there's all sorts of types of financial assurances that
5 can take place. Sometimes it's a mix. Sometimes it's
6 all one or the other. Sometimes it's an escrow amount.
7 There's all sorts of forms that could take.

8 MR. KAINS: Mr. Hess, did you have anything else
9 to add on this subject?

10 MR. HESS: No, sir.

11 MR. KAINS: All right. Very good. Thanks for
12 that brief, three, four-minute primer on how this works.

13 Oh, Mr. Keyt, you have represented a number of
14 counties in these types of hearings. Is surety bond
15 something -- what they're proposing, is that something
16 you've accepted in the past?

17 MR. KEYT: I don't accept anything, but counties
18 have accepted surety bonds in the past.

19 MR. KAINS: As counsel you've advised them?

20 MR. KEYT: Yeah, and some counties accept them,
21 some counties take letters of credit, sometimes it's a
22 mix. It can take all different forms in relation to
23 that bond. In terms of whether counties have accepted
24 them in the past, the answer is yes.

25 MR. KAINS: All right. Very good. Thank you.

1 Additional questions for Ms. McKeough? Anybody
2 else from Coles or Douglas counties?

3 Mr. Shaw.

4 Anybody else? Okay. Mr. Phipps and Mr. Smith.
5 Okay. First, Mr. Shaw.

6 Go right ahead, Mr. Shaw.

7 EXAMINATION

8 BY MR. CLINT SHAW:

9 Q. Clint Shaw, Coles County. So the other day you
10 were talking about the overhead and profit being 40
11 percent. Is that -- for your industry, is that a
12 standard thing?

13 A. It depends on the project, but from what we've
14 seen, that is pretty typical, yes.

15 Q. Okay. The reason why I asked that is most the
16 time when I'm doing like insurance policy work and stuff
17 like that, the industry standard is 10 percent and 10
18 percent, which is a 20-percent total, and I'm just
19 trying to understand where the 40 percent comes from.

20 A. Yeah, so around 32 to 40, depending on the
21 activity. So certain activities -- "overhead" can mean
22 a lot of things. So if certain equipment is utilized,
23 that overhead might be higher because that equipment's
24 typical repair and maintenance is also looped into that
25 overhead. So overhead as we hear it might likely just

1 mean administrative work, but it encompasses a lot of
2 stuff in that. The profit margin I believe is pretty
3 close to that 10 to 15 percent, depending, but that
4 overhead encompasses a lot more for these line items,
5 especially because a lot of them are just -- not just a
6 subcontractor or general contractor but a subcontractor
7 to that contractor as well.

8 Q. Okay. How did you come about the two acres of
9 land? I'm just wondering, is that like when you fell
10 one of these that is, say, 650 foot, is that accounting
11 for 650 foot plus a buffer for the machines to get on
12 the other side of it, and then how far out from the
13 actual structure are you going?

14 A. Yeah, so that -- sorry.

15 Q. You're good.

16 A. So that two acres on average is what we've seen
17 on the sites which -- are you referring to the two acres
18 for the crop loss or the two --

19 Q. Yeah. Yeah.

20 A. That's what we have typically seen it could
21 include for impacting those crop areas, assuming those
22 activities are taking place in there. So that's
23 typical, could be a little less or could be a little
24 more.

25 Q. Okay. So you're just kind of pulling an average

1 on that one?

2 A. No. We've -- that ones we've seen
3 decommissionings occur on certain wind turbines on
4 smaller projects, Westwood has done a lot of work on
5 those, and in agricultural areas, that's pretty typical
6 from what we've seen is two acres.

7 Q. Is that on a wind turbine the same size of these
8 or is that smaller or --

9 A. Those -- it can capture all of those. The blades
10 distance would obviously be a little larger. We've
11 reevaluated those on a site-by-site basis.

12 Q. Gotcha. So when you're felling, you're dropping
13 the blades, the motor, the riser, and everything, right,
14 all at one time?

15 A. It depends on the exact felling method. They can
16 use cables sometimes, but most -- it's all going to be
17 occurring one after the other for the most part, yes.

18 Q. Okay. As far as the people that are going to be
19 on site doing the decommission, is this going to be like
20 union people, or is it going to be local demolition
21 crews, or something like that?

22 A. So for our assessments, we assume standard union,
23 because that is the most conservative wage that we have.
24 I can't speak to what they would do in the future, and
25 if it's Apex or the County or the individual landowner,

1 they may make a different decision, but we account for
2 standard union.

3 Q. Well, I'm not worried so much about like the
4 union costs or the price of that. The reason why I'm
5 asking is because the closest union to us in relation to
6 where we're at is how far away, you have those people
7 coming into town that is taking the money that is going
8 into Coles County and it's leaving Coles County before
9 it gets here, besides lunches and hotels. So that's --
10 I'm just wondering if union labor is going to be used.
11 That money is obviously not coming into Coles County for
12 the most part. Is that something that is being
13 accounted for like in this and saying this money is
14 coming to this area?

15 A. I do not account for where costs might be spent.
16 I think that's more on the -- I don't remember exactly
17 what we looped that in under, but the cost going back to
18 the area, that's not part of my decommissioning plan.
19 Just to be the most conservative, we use standard union.
20 I don't know if that will be the case in the future.

21 Q. Gotcha. Have you or anyone from Westwood been a
22 part of a decommissioning project like this where
23 they're actually on site and witnessing this?

24 A. I have been on site for decommissioning of
25 turbines. The full projects, I haven't been on those,

1 but a lot of the other stuff, the wind turbines, you
2 know, you can see on the variety of sites. Some of my
3 colleagues have, yes, and we speak about these a lot, a
4 lot of them work for general contractors that have
5 performed that.

6 Q. And then I have one other question for you.
7 Let's say you're felling one of these and you are
8 X-amount away from the road or whatnot and you have
9 people driving. Do you guys flag the road off, close
10 the road, something of that nature?

11 A. So a few things. They -- from what I know, they
12 predetermine the way it's going to fall. So they're
13 aware of roadways -- roadways, other stuff that might be
14 in the area, so the way that the turbine would fall is
15 predetermined. They do surveys before. They make sure
16 the wind conditions are good typically, and so that
17 direction would be certain, depending on the -- a lot of
18 demolition requires additional permits. I don't know
19 what the regulatory framework might look like 30 years
20 in the future. That could be an action that's taken to
21 close down roadways. I've seen it where those roadways
22 stay open and people line up their cars to watch, but
23 that's -- you know, it depends on where the turbine is
24 located and what other permits might require those roads
25 closing or othering infrastructure being accounted for.

1 Q. So, they can -- they can basically position the
2 dynamite and create a hot spot to create -- essentially
3 a wedge from what would be a tree -- to felling in the
4 direction they would like?

5 A. They can do that. They also will torch cut to
6 create stress points so that it will fall a certain way.
7 They can also not even use dynamite. Sometimes they
8 connect tension cables from the ground to guide it down
9 instead of using dynamite. So those are all methods.
10 It is depends on the specific site and the contractor
11 and whoever is asking them to perform them what they
12 choose, but those are a variety of methods you could
13 see, yes.

14 Q. Okay. I got one last question for you. You were
15 talking about taking the top five foot of the base off
16 of the structure and then reconditioning the topsoil.
17 Now, in my understanding, the topsoil at five foot is
18 different than the topsoil at four foot is different
19 than three foot, two foot, and the top. How do you stay
20 consistent with the compaction rate of soil that's been
21 there for 50 years, 100 years, 1,000 years, that type of
22 thing?

23 A. Yeah, that's a good question, and it's an
24 important consideration. The Illinois Department of
25 Agricultural has specific decompaction methods, and they

1 have to account for those and keep those standards when
2 doing all of that decompaction work for agricultural
3 conditions following all of that decompaction.

4 Q. The reason I ask that, it's like you dig a trench
5 or you pull a tree out, you fill it with dirt and come
6 back after it rains and now you have a divot. Again, is
7 that something like you compact the dirt, it's down five
8 foot, and you compact at four foot, and you have a
9 certain fluff to it at three, two and one or --

10 A. So different lifts of decompaction will be
11 necessary at different depths. I do have the
12 decompaction. So the appendix A of the AIMA has
13 guidelines to conducting successfully decompaction. So
14 all of that will need to be done in coordination with
15 the Illinois Department of Agriculture's guidance. So
16 whatever that would be at different depths, they would
17 need to abide by that.

18 Q. Okay. I think that's it for now. Thank you.

19 MR. KAINS: Very good. Thank you for your
20 questions, Mr. Shaw.

21 Mr. Phipps.

22 MR. KAINS: Go right ahead, sir, with your
23 questions for Ms. McKeough.

24 EXAMINATION

25 BY MR. NATHANIEL PHIPPS:

1 Q. A couple quick questions. Following
2 Ms. Winslow's question concerning the amount of concrete
3 to cabling left, do you have a rough cubic yardage of
4 concrete and rebar that will still be actually there? I
5 don't know if you know the dimensions at this point of
6 the actual foundations, so if we're removing the top
7 five feet, if that's half of it, if that's 20 percent
8 of, if it's five percent of it?

9 A. I don't, because I just consider what's from five
10 feet and up, but I could get that or we could get that
11 for you. I'm not sure if someone has that off the top
12 of their head, but it would be the spread footing at the
13 bottom.

14 Q. Okay, and is that the same for cabling? Is that
15 something they do, like the next witness would be able
16 to speak to?

17 A. I think so, but I don't know if that's been
18 finalized in their design either, but, yes, it would be
19 the cabling for the collection line.

20 Q. Okay. Just have one other really quick question.
21 You said something about storing the topsoil. So the
22 plan is actually to store and maintain topsoil for 30
23 years?

24 A. That is the plan, yes.

25 Q. Okay. Thank you.

1 MR. KAINS: Thank you, Mr. Phipps.

2 Mr. Terry Smith. Good evening, sir. Your
3 questions for Ms. McKeough. Go right ahead.

4 EXAMINATION

5 BY MR. TERRY SMITH:

6 Q. Yeah, I was kind of wondering, where do they
7 store the soil?

8 A. The topsoil?

9 Q. Yes.

10 A. I -- one sec.

11 Q. I didn't know if it was going to be like within
12 that area, close to the residents' homes. I mean, to
13 me, that's a lot of soil to be trying to store, so I was
14 just wondering where it would be put.

15 A. The Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement 5A
16 says: Best efforts will be made to store topsoil near
17 the excavation site. So it depends where the excavation
18 site and what "near" is determined to be in each case.
19 I think some of that may be outlined in each lease
20 agreement, but that would be predetermined.

21 Q. And that would be stored there until it's
22 replaced, obviously?

23 A. That's the plan, yes.

24 Q. Okay. Now, do you guys have this tested for
25 fungus?

1 A. I don't believe -- are you referring to soil
2 being --

3 Q. Yeah, the topsoil.

4 A. I don't believe -- we don't outline that, no.

5 Q. Well, the reason why I'm asking is because there
6 is a fungus in the topsoil where these farmers have been
7 spreading chicken manure. Well, that's an airborne
8 fungus. So now if you're going to store it above
9 ground, that stays active for 10 years. So what about
10 the people that live around it? Because this soil
11 contaminated with the chicken waste can spread harmful
12 pathogens, likely E. Coli, Salmonella, to other areas,
13 potentially contaminating gardens, crops, and water
14 sources, and it is in the ground.

15 A. I can't speak to what would occur during
16 operations with the topsoil.

17 Q. So the topsoil is stored, and it's an airborne
18 fungus, and you're digging all these holes, that means
19 it's blowing right towards our house out of the south,
20 so that would be a concern for me.

21 A. Yeah. For --

22 Q. The only way to get this out of it is to have the
23 soil burned. Normally, it has to be taken to like
24 Chicago to have it burned.

25 MR. KAINS: I believe that this is beyond the

1 scope of this witness's testimony.

2 Would Mr. Carlson be able to address this,
3 Mr. Hess?

4 MR. HESS: I believe Mr. Carlson will be able to
5 talk about topsoil practices during construction, yes,
6 sir.

7 MR. KAINS: All right. So the next witness will
8 have answers for you on those, because this young
9 lady -- this witness, I'm sorry.

10 A. It's okay.

11 Q. I understand.

12 MR. KAINS: This witness doesn't have --

13 Q. I don't see it up here, and --

14 MR. KAINS: Absolutely. These are the costs of
15 it. But, yes, Mr. Smith, come back with questions for
16 Mr. Carlson on that issue.

17 MR. SMITH: All right. Thanks.

18 MR. KAINS: Very good. Thank you.

19 Additional questions for Ms. McKeough from
20 members of the public, residents of Coles and Douglas
21 counties?

22 All right. Outside of Coles and Douglas?

23 Ms. Miller.

24 Good evening, Ms. Miller. Go right ahead with
25 your questions.

EXAMINATION

BY MS. BECKY MILLER:

Q. You told her who I was? Becky Miller, Vermillion County. Most of my questions have been answered, but I do have a couple more. Is there a demolition company now that's -- that you can name that --

A. I've seen one used in other counties around Illinois, but there has not been one selected for this work, so no.

Q. Okay. A little background and then I'll ask my question. You live on a farm, you have a field fire, you might be picking up corn, and it's backbreaking bending over on your hands and knees. In Iowa -- in I think it's in Mechanicsville, Iowa, they felled a turbine and it left debris everywhere, and the property owner, Sally Freeman, is extremely frustrated because it's still not being cleaned up. So in my mind, I'm thinking somebody has got to go around on their hands and knees and pick up all the debris, but now you're saying you're going to bring in bulldozers. But she said there's also hydraulic fluid, there's oil, there's concrete, there's the blades, all scattered everywhere, and the company they're dealing with hasn't cleaned that up. So what kind of time limit would Apex have to get that cleaned up, and what would be the penalty if that

1 wasn't met, and how are they going to do a huge region
2 of debris?

3 MR. KAINS: That's lots of questions.

4 Q. Yes, it is.

5 MR. KAINS: Okay. First question is how long
6 would it take.

7 A. Yeah, so the bulldozer I mentioned, that was --
8 and I'm not even sure if that's the equipment, I need to
9 check, but that was in reference to cleaning up like the
10 actual turbine, putting it into a truck, something like
11 that. As far as the line item we specifically have for
12 surveying around those areas, we expect a skid steer
13 could be used to assist in that work, but that work will
14 primarily be done by hand, by walking around, surveying
15 the area. We overall expect that to take two days per
16 turbine. It could vary depending on what the conditions
17 are like. We expect felling to occur when there isn't
18 high wind, so a lot of that material should stay in the
19 same place; however, you know, if everything we expected
20 does not happen, as you said with that case, that
21 contingency, that 15 percent if the County were to be
22 undergoing decommissioning could be utilized, but either
23 way, there is a line specifically in the Agricultural
24 Impact Mitigation Agreement that requires they clean up
25 debris and litter from that deconstruction. So they

1 would be held if it's Apex doing that work, and if it's
2 not Apex doing that work, then it would be in the
3 County's interest as well.

4 Q. Is there a monetary penalty if it's not done
5 within a certain length of time?

6 A. The -- if those activities were to take greater
7 than 18 months to do decommissioning, then the county
8 board or someone could, if all of the requirements from
9 debris and litter clean up and from decommissioning were
10 to be taken. I can't say if that would be monetary. I
11 don't know what that would be like, but they would be
12 held to that.

13 Q. And I assume this would be a union job of picking
14 the debris up off the ground?

15 A. For our cost estimates, we assumed that because
16 it was the assumptions that we realized from our wages.
17 I don't know if that's realistically what the work would
18 end up being at the time, but that's what is assumed in
19 our estimate.

20 Q. Well, I'm not trying to be a smart-aleck. I
21 really can't figure out what labor union is going to be
22 on their hands and knees picking up debris.

23 MR. KAINS: Okay, Ms. Miller, ask another
24 question.

25 Q. I'm asking is there a laborer's union that goes

1 on their hands and knees and picks up debris?

2 A. I'm not aware.

3 Q. Okay. The other question I have is I know when
4 tree trimmers drop logs, they can actually knock windows
5 -- just because of the vibration -- out of neighboring
6 homes. So if you fell these turbines, what's -- what
7 happens if a non-participating farm family or family,
8 they have damage to their property, their structure, how
9 long before they are put back whole?

10 A. So if there were to be any damage to a property
11 as a result of decommissioning, then Apex would be held
12 liable, and they would be on the hook for that.

13 Q. Okay. Once again, is there a time constraint for
14 how long they have to make things right?

15 A. I am not aware of that specific to that.

16 Q. Okay. Thank you.

17 MR. KAINS: Thank you, Ms. Miller.

18 Mr. Cronkhite is getting up. Good evening, sir.

19 MR. CRONKHITE: Good evening.

20 MR. KAINS: Courtney already has your name and
21 spelling, so go right ahead with your questions.

22 EXAMINATION

23 BY MR. ARTHUR CRONKHITE:

24 Q. Arthur Cronkhite. How deep do the bases go?

25 A. Did you say "bases"?

1 Q. Bases, yeah, the bases of the turbines. I'm
2 talking about the concrete underground. How deep do
3 they go?

4 A. Depends on the turbine model. Adam would be able
5 to answer it for these exact models.

6 Q. You don't know?

7 A. I do not know off the top of my head, no.

8 Q. Okay. How -- when they drop a machine, when they
9 drop one of these turbines, do the blades ever break?

10 A. They can break, yes.

11 Q. Okay. You said that there will be people out
12 there cutting it up. How do they cut it up? Do they
13 cut it up with saws or --

14 A. I want to make sure I'm using the exact wording I
15 have in here. All right. It doesn't look like I
16 explicitly outlined it. We do account for processing,
17 as well as loading in our fees. I don't know the exact
18 equipment type off the top of my head, but I can get
19 that for you. Those costs are accounted for.

20 Q. But do you cut them up into sections?

21 A. Yes, and sometimes that's done on tarps, from
22 what I've seen, and depends on the exact site.

23 Q. Okay. Are you aware that the polymers and so
24 forth from fiberglass goes out into the atmosphere into
25 the ground permanently? When you cut those up like

1 that, you're shredding the material, and it's literally
2 going out into the environment.

3 MR. KAINS: The question is: Are you aware of
4 this?

5 A. From my knowledge -- if you're talking about
6 leaching, that would not occur, no.

7 Q. Okay. How many decommissioning projects have you
8 been associated with?

9 A. Full decommissioning, I don't know off the top of
10 my head. Decommissioning activities like removal of
11 turbines, I've provided services on probably around 10.

12 Q. All right. Okay. Thank you.

13 MR. KAINS: Very good. Thank you, Mr. Cronkhite.
14 Any other questions from the public for
15 Mr. McKeough regarding her testimony?

16 Very good. Thank you.

17 All right. Questions from Coles County Staff and
18 Consultants. First, Regional Planning Executive
19 Director, Mr. Lockhart.

20 MR. LOCKHART: Nothing.

21 MR. KAINS: Okay. Very good.

22 Counsel for Coles County, Mr. Keyt.

23 MR. KEYT: Thank you.

24 EXAMINATION

25 MR. KEYT:

1 Q. Ms. McKeough, you mentioned that you've been
2 involved in some decommissioning projects. Can you
3 describe which ones those are?

4 A. Yes. So the GSG wind site, wind facility in Lee
5 and La Salle counties, I provided the oil containment
6 services for that. So I helped with their plan, which
7 required a site visit, and I was present on site for
8 those activities. There are a variety of other sites
9 throughout my tenure where I've provided that service as
10 well, as well as other services, like erosion and
11 sediment control plans, and things along those lines.

12 Q. Were you at the one at La Salle and Lee County,
13 was it a re-power?

14 A. It was, but they -- so they had 40 turbines.
15 They decommissioned all 40, and then they fully
16 decommissioned 14 of those 40. So the roads in cases
17 where that was agreed to be taken out, those were taken
18 out, and then 26 of those sites, they put in newer wind
19 turbines. They had a higher nameplate capacity. So the
20 overall capacity of the wind site I believe was the
21 same, they could just do it with fewer turbines, but
22 that is what happened.

23 Q. So the 14 of the 40, were those -- were the
24 towers removed?

25 A. They did full tower removal, yes. At 14 of the

1 40, they did full tower removal and partial foundation
2 removal.

3 Q. Those turbines, they're probably about the same
4 size of the turbines proposed here?

5 A. No, they were not.

6 Q. Do you have estimates or cost estimates from
7 contractors that bid any of those projects?

8 A. I don't believe for those exact ones, though I
9 could get those, I think. I'm not totally positive, but
10 we have looked at ones for other sites in other areas of
11 Illinois, as well as across the nation.

12 Q. Have you been -- I'll rephrase that. Have you
13 had ones where a contractor or contractors bid the
14 services for the actual deconstruction?

15 A. Where we bid the services for it?

16 Q. Where any contractors bid the services.

17 A. Sorry, have I been a part of those or --

18 Q. Are you aware of anywhere a contractor came and
19 bid those services to the owner of the site? Second
20 part of it, are you aware of what those bids were?

21 A. In those cases where the owner has elected to
22 demission some turbines, they've put out RFPs and then
23 contractors have bid on those, and we've referenced
24 those in the past, yes.

25 Q. Of those ones, do you have access to what those

1 bids were?

2 A. Not currently or off the top of my head, no.

3 Q. Understood. In terms of the RSMeans versus the
4 prevailing wage, I trying to understand prevailing --
5 I'm trying to understand what you took from prevailing
6 wage for the calculation to compare it to what the
7 RSMeans was, and so can you tell me what items for
8 prevailing wage you've utilized in determining what the
9 prevailing wage rate was?

10 A. Yeah, I used the base wage as well as the
11 pension.

12 Q. Was there a health and welfare benefit calculated
13 into that?

14 A. No.

15 Q. Was there vacation, overtime, et cetera,
16 calculated in the prevailing wage?

17 A. No, we don't consider that on the RSMeans site
18 either.

19 Q. If you broke down -- are you able on the RSMeans
20 -- you have a breakdown from the RSMeans. Are you able
21 to break that down as to each line item as to the
22 profit, the materials, the labor costs? Are you able to
23 do that and provide it to the County's engineer?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. In terms of felling versus dismantling, I know

1 you've mentioned it, but what's the cost difference
2 between felling versus dismantling?

3 A. Yeah, so it would -- there's a few factors that
4 might make them almost equal, one higher than the other,
5 culverts and low-water crossings. So a lot of those
6 storm water controls if they are needing to be inserted
7 for crane crossings, that drastically changes the price,
8 and I'm not entirely sure what that could look like
9 here, but if I assumed, say, 1,500 linear feet per crane
10 crossing with the typical distance, it would be about
11 the same with most moderate controls the same, if a
12 little less, than felling in this case.

13 Q. Is -- in the -- if you know -- and I understand
14 you may not know this, but in the agreement between Apex
15 and the landowner, is there a decision one way or the
16 other whether the landowner would want felling versus
17 dismantling, if you know?

18 A. I do not know.

19 Q. Okay. There is a number of facilities that kind
20 of come up here a few times in relation to where
21 recycling may occur or landfill may occur or where
22 concrete or transformer recycling, et cetera, and I
23 guess my question is in relation to WM -- which I assume
24 is Waste Management -- in relation to them, did you have
25 conversations with someone at Waste Management?

1 A. I did not. I couldn't get ahold of a direct
2 contact. We reference their website in that case.

3 Q. Okay. In terms of Harris Metals, was there a
4 conversation with Harris Metals about recycling?

5 A. There was, yes.

6 Q. In that conversation, did you inform them about
7 the volume of material that you would be seeking to
8 recycle?

9 A. No.

10 Q. Okay. In terms of Springfield Concrete
11 Recycling, did you have a conversation with them?

12 A. I spoke with them, yes.

13 Q. And what was the substance of the conversation?

14 A. I asked if they would accept clean concrete for a
15 price, as well as if they had a difference between
16 crushed and clean, and if they would accept construction
17 demolition materials.

18 Q. Was any substance of that conversation in
19 relation to the volume of concrete they might receive?

20 A. No.

21 Q. In terms of MacAllister Power Systems, it looks
22 like that's the location for the transformer recycling,
23 and did you have a conversation with them?

24 A. No. We have spoke with them before though, and
25 they accept main power transformers, and I made sure

1 they were still operational.

2 Q. In terms of the discussion with them, was any
3 part of that conversation discussed the volume of
4 material they may receive?

5 A. As if it was a singular or two transformers, as
6 is typical, they would accept those, yes.

7 Q. How many transformers would be involved in this
8 project?

9 A. I believe we assumed one. That could be
10 something that is different at this time, but one per
11 the current basis of design I had.

12 Q. With Global Fiberglass in Newton, Iowa, did you
13 have a discussion with them?

14 A. I have had discussions with them in the past, but
15 we didn't utilize them as a facility. We assumed
16 disposal.

17 Q. But in terms of the -- it is -- just to
18 reference, it is listed on your decommissioning plan,
19 it's listed there. Is the assumption there would be
20 material taken there?

21 A. If in the future recycling would be utilized,
22 that could be a facility. I believe there's a -- I
23 actually don't know if the Cedar Rapids facility is
24 closer. That could be one. We have it in there for
25 reference, but as discussions continued, Apex wanted us

1 to assume and we agreed to assume disposal, so we went
2 back to just disposal.

3 Q. That would be at the landfill?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. And if I understand it correctly, you haven't had
6 a discussion with Waste Management, but in terms of on
7 their website, is there any references to the volume of
8 material they can accept at any point in time?

9 A. I don't believe so.

10 Q. So, is it fair to say if there would need to be
11 some adjustment as to those locations based on whether
12 those -- whether a particular location can take the
13 volume of material, which typically is a deciding
14 factor, you would be agreeable to adjusting where that
15 location may be?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And I guess I should probably -- and,
18 respectfully, I think Ms. McKeough is with Westwood, as
19 opposed to with Apex, so I think I probably need some
20 either agreement or statement from them they would be
21 willing to adjust that.

22 MR. HESS: We would stipulate to that, yes, sir.

23 MR. KAINS: All right. Thank you, Mr. Hess.

24 MR. KEYT: If I could suggest, I probably have a
25 number of questions that I want to ask the witness that

1 with -- respectfully, she's with Westwood, as opposed
2 with Apex, so I think it might be appropriate if there's
3 going to be a stipulation as to those questions that I
4 would ask that it be more appropriate that Apex would
5 make that stipulation or agreement on the record, as
6 opposed to Ms. McKeough, because it's not really within
7 her realm; if that's fair?

8 MR. KAINS: Yes.

9 MR. HESS: No objection to that.

10 MR. KAINS: Very good.

11 MR. KEYT: If I could go through those just so we
12 have it. I know we've had some agreement from Apex that
13 -- based on the discussion from March 19th. I could do
14 that now, if that's appropriate.

15 MR. KAINS: Why don't you go ahead and do that
16 now, and as he lists these, if there's anything you're
17 not going to stipulate to, Mr. Hess, if you could just
18 let us know at that time.

19 MR. HESS: Yes, sir.

20 MR. KAINS: Okay. Very good. Go right ahead,
21 Mr. Keyt.

22 MR. KEYT: Sure. In terms of the amount of the
23 financial assurance, if there is a difference between
24 RSMeans and Prevailing Wage Act wages that are listed,
25 the County would want some stipulation that the

1 developer will post whatever the higher of the two would
2 be. Is that fair?

3 MR. HESS: We stipulate, sir.

4 MR. KEYT: In terms of a breakdown of costs, the
5 County's engineer would need some breakdown of cost to
6 each of the line items for discussion purposes for the
7 decommissioning agreement and the cost estimates; is
8 that a fair stipulation?

9 MR. HESS: Yes, sir.

10 MR. KEYT: In terms of the current cost
11 estimates, there may be a period of time between now and
12 when the building permit would be requested. Would Apex
13 be agreeable to updating the decommissioning cost
14 estimates closer to the building permit time?

15 MR. HESS: Yes, sir.

16 MR. KEYT: And if I understand correctly, Apex is
17 also agreeable to updating the decommissioning cost
18 estimates annually?

19 MR. HESS: Yes, sir.

20 MR. KEYT: And also to have the County's
21 third-party engineer review those cost estimates
22 annually?

23 MR. HESS: Yes.

24 MR. KAINS: And reimburse the County for the cost
25 of having that reviewed by the third-party engineer?

1 MR. HESS: Yes, sir.

2 MR. KEYT: And then in terms of whether there is
3 a -- strike that. Apex would be agreeable to the means
4 and methods of decommissioning, in terms of between
5 felling and dismantling, that would be agreeable to the
6 County or the landowners?

7 MR. HESS: Yes, sir. I was only hesitating
8 because I was thinking about the AIMA, but I don't think
9 the AIMA matters in that, so yes, sir.

10 MR. KAINS: Thank you, Mr. Hess.

11 MR. KEYT: Okay. I think the other stipulations
12 have already been done on March 19th or agreements that
13 they were willing to reach. Therefore, I don't have a
14 need to ask a number of questions to this witness on
15 that topic, because it's already going to be to the
16 benefit of the county.

17 MR. KAINS: All right. Very good. Thank you,
18 Mr. Keyt. Do you have any additional questions for this
19 witness?

20 MR. KEYT: I do not.

21 MR. KAINS: All right. Then redirect
22 examination, Mr. Hess.

23 MR. HESS: No, sir.

24 MR. KAINS: Okay. Very good.

25 Final questions for Ms. McKeough come from the

1 Committee.

2 Chairman Watts.

3 MR. WATTS: Thank you

4 EXAMINATION

5 BY MR. MICHAEL WATTS:

6 Q. So am I correct in the conversation that once
7 decommissioning is completed, there's no agency or
8 person that certifies that everything that was supposed
9 to have been done is done?

10 A. So the AIMA has regulations that they require --
11 requirements. If those aren't done, the County can
12 definitely come back. I should also mention there's
13 something called a Stormwater Pollution Redemption Plan
14 that also has different restoration, and what they call
15 plan stabilization requirements that will be taken out.
16 So that's outside of all of this decommissioning
17 agreement. There's an entirely different document that
18 the Illinois EPA will have and have a permit saying that
19 all of that ground has been restabilized. That's only
20 regarding stabilization, but that's another mechanism.
21 But the -- any items that are not fulfilling the
22 decommissioning agreement, that would be under the
23 County.

24 Q. So it would be up to the County to determine
25 whether or not we need to consult other agencies at the

1 state level to make sure that all the conditions have
2 been met and if we think they're not in compliance?

3 A. I believe so, yes.

4 Q. Okay. And I guess I was going to ask about
5 specifying what kind of demolition, but I think that was
6 already covered by Mr. Keyt, so thank you.

7 MR. KAINS: All right. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

8 Any other questions from members of the Committee
9 for Ms. McKeough?

10 MR. KEYT: Can I clarify one thing?

11 MR. KAINS: Yes, Mr. Keyt, go ahead.

12 MR. KEYT: Typically, in a decommissioning
13 agreement, which if it's approved and we get to that
14 stage, then the decommissioning agreement would spell
15 out the right to inspect by the County, and also at any
16 point in time the County has the right to either consult
17 with or refer matters to, for example, Illinois
18 Environmental Protection Agency.

19 MR. KAINS: Mr. Keyt, when you say matters could
20 be -- there would be remaining a right to inspect, would
21 that be a -- either the county engineer or a
22 privately-retained engineer?

23 MR. KEYT: It could be -- it could be -- if it
24 dealt with the roads, it would be the county engineer,
25 in the sense as the person in charge of the roads, if

1 there's a third party -- necessity for a third party
2 under their ordinance, they have a right to hire a
3 third-party inspection that would then go make that
4 inspection and the cost would have to be borne by the
5 developer. So there's a number of -- there's a number
6 of methods that might take place, so it could be
7 anybody.

8 MR. KAINS: So there's going to be somebody
9 checking to make sure they did it right?

10 MR. KEYT: Correct.

11 MR. KAINS: Okay. I think that's everybody's
12 concern. All right.

13 Any other questions from members of the
14 committee?

15 All right. Ms. McKeough, thank you. You may
16 step down.

17 (Witness excused.)

18 MR. KAINS: It is 7:47. The Planning and
19 Development Committee of the Coles County Board is in
20 recess until 8:00 p.m. Thank you.

21 (Recess was taken.)

22 MR. KAINS: All right, folks, if could you please
23 take your seats.

24 All right, counsel. Are you ready to call your
25 next, Ms. Shapiro?

1 MS. SHAPIRO: I would like to call Mr. Adam
2 Carlson.

3 (Witness sworn.)

4 MR. KAINS: Very good. Thank you. Go ahead and
5 have a seat.

6 Ms. Shapiro, your witness.

7 EXAMINATION

8 BY MS. SHAPIRO:

9 Q. Can you state and spell it for the record?

10 A. Adam Carlson, A-D-A-M C-A-R-L-S-O-N.

11 Q. What is your job title, and what is your
12 educational background?

13 A. Job title, I am a senior project manager with
14 Apex Clean Energy for the construction phase of our
15 projects. Educational background, went to PBL high
16 school in Paxton, and then went to the United States
17 Navel Academy right after high school graduation, got a
18 degree in math and a minor in Chinese. Once I was
19 stationed in Virginia, I ended up getting a master's
20 degree in systems engineering at the University of
21 Virginia, and I'm also a nuclear engineer certified by
22 the U.S. Navy.

23 Q. What are your responsibilities at Apex?

24 A. So, responsibilities, project management in
25 general would be you're managing cost and schedule

1 throughout projects. For me in particular here in a
2 wind farm, I'm -- I'm actually starting very early on in
3 the phase. I'm not just jumping in day one that
4 construction starts, I'm starting off much earlier than
5 that in this phase right around the public hearing
6 portion and then working into building permits. So
7 there's a lot of engineering that gets done in those
8 months between public hearing and building permits.

9 So I'm overseeing a lot of that engineering with
10 what we call a Balance of Plant or BOP contractor. I'm
11 also very involving helping to write those contracts
12 with the general contractor, and then once we get into
13 the construction phase, it's day-to-day operations, even
14 with all the work that we have going on, I'm overseeing
15 all facets of construction. So starting with public
16 roadwork, turbine deliveries, turbine installation, site
17 reclamation, and then even after the job -- and maybe
18 this is just a personal policy, I'm not just going to
19 leave the day that the last turbine is up. I'll still
20 be around for months or even longer, as needed, to make
21 sure the job is turned over in an appropriate manner to
22 our operations team.

23 Q. Just to quickly for those who don't know EPC, can
24 you explain?

25 A. Engineering, Procuring, Construction, so that's

1 kind of like -- we turn a project over to a general
2 contractor, and they take on all facets of all scopes.

3 Q. Thank you. What are your roles and
4 responsibilities at Prosperity? From what I understand,
5 it would be similar to what your roles and
6 responsibilities would be here at Coles.

7 A. Yes. I answered that a little bit about the
8 daily operations during the construction phase. So
9 overseeing all contractors for public roadwork, turbine
10 installation, up through site reclamation. There is a
11 lot of things that happen day-in and day-out on the site
12 that I'm also attending to. I could be talking to the
13 landowners. I could talking to the utility. I could be
14 talking to the county board if there's questions. So I
15 would like to, you know, be very open and honest with
16 everyone and have my phone available for, you know, if
17 there's ever any questions or anything ever comes up
18 that we need to address at the project. So it's very
19 wide reaching. I think it's a lot wider set of
20 responsibilities than most other places I've worked.

21 Q. How long have you held the title as senior
22 project manager?

23 A. The senior project manager about two years. I've
24 been a project manager with Apex for about four years.
25 I've worked on three Illinois wind farms. The first one

1 was Ford County Wind, and then Lotus Wind in Macoupin
2 County, and Goose Creek, which then became Prosperity
3 Wind, in Piatt County. We're just wrapping that one up
4 in construction right now.

5 Q. Have you testified in a hearing in Illinois for
6 wind projects?

7 A. Yes. I testified for Lotus Wind in Macoupin
8 County, Goose Creek and Prosperity Wind in Piatt County,
9 and here, so it would be my fourth.

10 MS. SHAPIRO: Mr. Kains, I'd like to move him in
11 as an expert in construction management.

12 MR. KAINS: Yes. Mr. Keyt, any additional voir
13 dire?

14 MR. KEYT: No, sir.

15 MR. KAINS: I'm familiar with Mr. Carlson and his
16 credentials, and I have qualified him as an expert
17 witness in prior hearings, and so he is in as an expert
18 witness and will be given unlimited time to testify
19 rather than 15 minutes since he's from out of county.
20 So he will have unlimited time to testify. I do want to
21 ask you this, Mr. Carlson, at Prosperity in Piatt
22 County, that's presently under construction; is that
23 right?

24 A. Yes, sir.

25 MR. KAINS: Are you on site there Monday through

1 Friday during the construction?

2 A. No, I am not. I do get this question a lot. We
3 have a dedicated site team that is there all the time,
4 even on the weekends, that are Apex employees. As the
5 project manager, I'm going between Charlottesville,
6 Virginia, and the site quite often, monthly or more
7 often.

8 MR. KAINS: So as senior project manager, you
9 oversee project managers?

10 A. Yes.

11 MR. KAINS: Okay.

12 A. That too, yes, sir.

13 MR. KAINS: While you've been in Coles County --
14 and you've been here most evenings. I've seen you were
15 seated generally in the first row or two. During the
16 day, are you up at Prosperity in Piatt County?

17 A. All last week I was there during the day, a lot
18 going on yes, sir.

19 MR. KAINS: He's in as an expert.

20 Go right ahead with your questions, Ms. Shapiro.

21 MS. SHAPIRO: Thank you. Do you have a brief
22 presentation?

23 A. Yes.

24 MR. KAINS: Go right ahead.

25 A. Okay. We can go back to that first slide. Next

1 one.

2 Okay. So I guess I did cover a lot of this, but
3 I'll start with my script here. So before jumping into
4 my discussions about construction, I do want to give
5 some background on my life and career. I was born and
6 raised in Illinois, grew up on a corn and soybean farm
7 east of Paxton.

8 We can go to the next slide. I'll show you guys
9 that. Yep, there we go. So when I was in high school
10 and college, we had -- there was a wind farm that was
11 developed and constructed in Ford County. As you can
12 see, it's right around the family farm, but we didn't
13 have any wind turbines on our property. I just wanted
14 to illustrate that I was a person -- again, I didn't
15 live there for years at a time, but I was still around
16 this project when it was going through construction and
17 into operations. So whenever I came back from college,
18 I would be at the farm over the summer or over like
19 winter breaks, and yes, I did live near a wind farm, and
20 I can happily answer any questions that the public has
21 on that and what it's like to live around one. So
22 though the larger farm here has passed on, I still own
23 land, and I'm farm manager for some land just in the
24 background of this picture, and I don't know if you can
25 really tell, but Paxton, the grain elevator, is way in

1 the background there, but I just wanted to bring that
2 up, because I am a member of the Illinois Farm Bureau as
3 a farm manager, and I've been very happy to carry on
4 that family legacy as a fifth generation Illinois farm
5 manager and landowner.

6 So with Apex, it was very much a full circle
7 event for my life. Having been stationed in Virginia,
8 find out about Apex Clean Energy, and then the first
9 project I ended up working on was also in Ford County,
10 Illinois, so this project here, this is in eastern Ford
11 County. The one that I was the project manager for was
12 out closer to Gibson City and Sibley, that's western
13 Ford County, but it was great to be back home, great to
14 be back there often and see my family. So I just wanted
15 to give a little background about myself before, you
16 know, explaining how construction works.

17 Next slide, please. Okay. So let's jump into
18 Coles County and the construction for Coles Wind. So my
19 main goal here is to be as transparent as possible and
20 provide open communication about the construction
21 process. First and foremost, there is a long period of
22 engineering and design for these wind projects. Many
23 aspects of design are underway, like public roadwork,
24 electrical systems, turbine foundations, just to name a
25 few. These engineering designs can last months, if not

1 years, and all these designs will be complete prior to
2 the construction period or building permit application.
3 A rough outline of project construction starts with
4 public road upgrades. These lead the way for our
5 project construction. We need improved roads to haul
6 the turbines to their respective turbine sites. After
7 public roads and private access roads are constructed,
8 concrete trucks will have a path to pour turbine
9 foundations. Once we have poured about 10 to 15 turbine
10 foundations, then we can release the turbine suppliers
11 to start their turbine deliveries to site. It's also at
12 this point that a lot of parallel activities start
13 taking place. So, for example, substation work,
14 collection system trenching and installation, and
15 turbine installation.

16 One question I've gotten quite a bit in the past
17 is: Well, we see that a turbine is installed or
18 constructed or multiple but why aren't they operating?
19 This is a very good question, and the main reason for
20 that is there's a lot of internal work that has to
21 happen inside the turbine, so turbine wiring and long
22 checklists to make sure that the turbine is ready to be
23 -- ready to be commissioned and energized, and that
24 process could take months, so I just wanted to put that
25 out to everybody, because it does raise questions in the

1 community: Oh, well, I thought you guys were done, why
2 aren't they operating? There's a lot that goes into it
3 internally that the public doesn't see.

4 So after turbines are installed, there is a
5 several-month period for the testing and commissioning,
6 and then we bring those turbines on -- one by one onto
7 the grid.

8 Next slide, please. So the next few slides I do
9 want to shed some light on some topics we do get a lot
10 of questions on. These topics include public road
11 upgrades, topsoil preservation, dust control, drain tile
12 repairs, and site restoration. The first slide here is
13 on public road upgrades, but to state, simply put, Coles
14 County will benefit from improved public roads, and
15 these roads will be paid for by Coles Wind. They are
16 not paid for by the taxpayers. They're privately funded
17 through road use agreements and -- with the county and
18 the relevant townships that are affected. Our company
19 has been in contact with road authorities and will be
20 starting on the process of road use agreement
21 negotiations probably in May. The RUAs will be
22 negotiated and finalized between this special use permit
23 phase and the building permit phase of project
24 development.

25 Next slide. Next slide is topsoil preservation.

1 So topsoil will need to be stripped at the laydown yard,
2 the turbine sites, operations and maintenance building,
3 and substation. Per our lease agreements and the
4 Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement or the AIMA,
5 which is included in our application, all topsoil will
6 remain on site. We're not taking it elsewhere. It will
7 be stockpiled. So at the end of the job, we restore the
8 topsoil to its original site after decompaction and
9 other reclaim activities are completed. So typically
10 when we are working with landowners, they want us to
11 feather all that topsoil out around the base of the
12 turbines and access road.

13 Next slide. So both public road upgrades and
14 movement of topsoil will stir up dust. We place a large
15 emphasis on dust control. Dust will not only impact the
16 public but it could impact crops, and for these reasons,
17 we have water trucks running daily to keep dust down,
18 and we'll also have dedicated road graders to keep the
19 roads in a safe condition for the public, as well as the
20 agricultural community. The water trucks are typical.
21 There are other methods of dust control, and this will
22 all be agreed to in the road use agreements. I can get
23 into that later.

24 Next slide. Another item that results in
25 questions from the public and landowners relates to

1 drain tile repairs. During installation of the
2 collection system -- so this is the system that
3 electrically connects all the turbines underground to
4 the substation -- drain tiles will be impacted. We will
5 use a trencher to cut through at existing drain tiles,
6 and once we cut through those drain tiles -- we call
7 that a "drain tile strike" in the industry -- we
8 typically repair those drain tile strikes within one
9 business day. The typical practice is we have a drain
10 tile contractor that follows the trencher through the
11 field, and they document their findings through pictures
12 and through GPS. So we know at the end of the job where
13 every single drain tile repair has taken place. Drain
14 tiles are typically repaired 10 feet of either side of
15 that strike, and just a general note, our construction
16 practices will adhere to appendix B9 of the Farmland
17 Drainage Plan in our application and also the
18 Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement with the State
19 of Illinois.

20 For drain tile -- public drain tile, depending on
21 the location and size of the drainage pipe, we bore
22 under the tile while maintaining at least a two-foot
23 separation, and same for drainage ditches. I always
24 called them creeks growing up, but I've gotten used to
25 in Piatt County they're called drainage ditches. I'm

1 not sure here, but we'll just say creek or drainage
2 ditch. We'll bore underneath those.

3 Next slide. All right. Final item we've
4 received questions on is site restoration. Timeline for
5 this activity starts near the end of the construction
6 phase or once most of the turbines are constructed.
7 During the restoration process, we will remove public
8 road radii. So these radii -- or think of it like a
9 cut-through on a country road, you're just cutting the
10 corner instead of doing a right angle, and they just
11 allow for the turn to be wider at these intersections so
12 specifically the big blade trucks can make it through
13 and make the turn. So when we're doing this reclaim
14 work, there will be a lot of excess rock. So this
15 excess rock, along with the excess rock from the access
16 roads and turbines, will be reclaimed.

17 Another item that we complete is decompaction.
18 Mainly along the crane path is where we have most of the
19 compaction, where some of the heaviest loads traverse.
20 We will need to decompact the soil to allow for future
21 farming in accordance with AIMA or agricultural
22 mitigation -- impact mitigation agreement.

23 And then I do have one other item on here that I
24 added in. This is about the ADLS, the Aircraft
25 Detection Lighting System. So this system, as talked

1 about before, it turns off the red blinking FAA lights
2 at night, but that's as long as there is no low-flying
3 aircraft near the wind farm. This system -- this radar
4 system is not looking for commercial airlines, it is
5 looking for the smaller airplanes that are flying around
6 the wind farm at night, if any. So we install this
7 system during construction, and the red blinking lights
8 will still be on during construction. The reason for
9 that, we need all wind turbines to be constructed, all
10 lights to be installed, and then the system will have to
11 run a series of tests that could last 30 to 60 days
12 after the construction phase before it's fully
13 commissioned, but I do think it's a very big benefit to
14 the community, and it will help the issue of the red
15 blinking lights.

16 Next slide. Okay. So none of this work could be
17 completed without the hard work from the men and women
18 who help build our projects. We do intend to use White
19 Construction for this project. This is a company we've
20 partnered with on several Illinois wind projects. They
21 are a union contractor that have built 27 wind farms in
22 Illinois and have had a presence in Illinois for over 15
23 years. We know and I know that they're right for the
24 job since they've built wind farms that have the same
25 size and output as Coles Wind. White is very well known

1 in Illinois, and this next slide highlights all the
2 projects that they've constructed. So it's pretty wide
3 ranging, central and northern Illinois.

4 Next slide. We also couldn't be successful in
5 our projects without our site team. Apex will have a
6 dedicated site team on site throughout the project
7 construction. They're there Monday through Saturday.
8 There will be a site manager, a safety site manager, an
9 electrical coordinator, mechanical coordinator, public
10 road coordinator, and various project engineers, and
11 then I'll be out here often as well. We'll have a
12 laydown yard with an office trailer on site, and anyone
13 who has questions during the construction, they're
14 welcome to reach out to myself or anyone on the site
15 team, just stop by the laydown yard, and we'll -- if we
16 can't answer that question right away, we'll get back to
17 you in a timely manner.

18 Well, in summary, I do want to drive home the
19 importance of transparency and open communication. I'm
20 really big on that. I know at Apex we do this well,
21 and, you know, to highlight that, whether it's our
22 openness in a forum like this tonight or an openness to
23 share the plan-of-the-day paperwork, road use meetings,
24 project updates, we want to see a successful project for
25 everyone involved. We're here to be good stewards of

1 the land and develop relationships with landowners and
2 the community, and we look forward to a longstanding
3 relationship with Coles County.

4 MR. KAINS: Thank you, Mr. Carlson.

5 Additional questions, Ms. Shapiro?

6 MS. SHAPIRO: Yes.

7 EXAMINATION

8 BY MS. SHAPIRO:

9 Q. There were six main questions from the first two
10 nights of the hearings, which you were present at; is
11 that correct?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. So there was a question about grid forming from
14 Mr. Yoder. Do you know what grid forming is, and can
15 you explain that to us?

16 A. Yes. I'd like to start by saying it's one of my
17 favorite questions so far. I can nerd out a little bit
18 up here on how this might work, but I'll give it my best
19 shot, and probably first start talking as to how
20 alternating current systems work. Nikoli Tesla might be
21 rolling over in his grave if he hears my explanation,
22 but the way an alternating current system works -- and
23 especially with a wind farm of this size, there are
24 three phases, Alpha, Bravo, and Charlie phase. So for
25 all turbines, there's three cables dug in the ground.

1 They go to each turbine and over to the substation, and
2 then there's the substation that does switching that
3 puts energy out on the grid. So these three phases,
4 think about it as like sine waves. So in a motion like
5 this, but there's three of them. I can't really
6 articulate. They're all doing this, and it's very
7 important that these phases match up in a certain way in
8 order to close a breaker and bring a turbine onto the
9 grid, and it's not just the phasing that's important,
10 it's the frequency of the electrical grid, and it's the
11 voltage of the electrical grid. So with grid forming or
12 the question that was brought up was: Well, the whole
13 grid goes down, how do you bring a turbine back on line?
14 Well, that turbine -- these turbines now are very, very
15 smart. They can automatically sense frequency, phasing,
16 and voltage before a breaker is shut to bring that
17 turbine back on line. The larger question at hand
18 though is if the whole grid went down, how do you bring
19 a turbine on line? The Midwest grid, called MISO, it
20 ranges from North Dakota all the way down to
21 Mississippi, so it's many, many states. It's not an
22 independent grid. So this grid -- if MISO went down --
23 which would be highly unlikely -- but if it did, we
24 would still be able to get power from grids to the east
25 of us, and that power would be fed into MISO, and then

1 the turbine would be able to sense the grid voltage
2 before it knows to shut a breaker and turn that turbine
3 back on. The reason this question was brought up is
4 because ERCOT, the Texas grid, it's independent of all
5 of the grids. So if the whole grid went down, it might
6 not work the way I'm talking about, but here it -- we
7 would still get power in the very unlikely case the
8 whole MISO grid went down. So I hope that helped answer
9 the whole thing.

10 I would like to draw a distinction between
11 turbines and then a unique example of me being on a
12 submarine and working with an electrical plant for a
13 nuclear reactor. These turbines, like I said, are very
14 smart. They automatically sense frequency, voltage, and
15 phasing. For a nuclear power plant on a submarine, you
16 have what's called a synchroscope, so think of it like a
17 -- just like a clock dial, and that clock dial is going
18 backwards or forwards, and there's different reasons for
19 it to do that, but what an operator had to do, it was
20 not automatic. There was a physical person sitting in a
21 place called the electrical operator. When that dial
22 was between the eleven o'clock position and one o'clock
23 position, that's when you could shut that breaker.
24 That's when you knew your frequency, your phasing, your
25 voltage was all the same to be able to shut that

1 breaker. If you didn't do that, maybe the breaker
2 didn't shut or if you did that incorrectly, you could
3 cause damage to equipment, therefore damage to personnel
4 too. So these systems and these turbines are a lot
5 smarter than what I had been traditionally used to and
6 -- but there's still an operator to back that. We
7 talked about the Remote Operation Control Center. There
8 is someone looking at these system and breaker positions
9 remotely, but you also have MISO, the electrical grid,
10 looking at all that as well, and you also have the
11 turbine manufacturer, so Vestas or GE, they also have
12 their own version of a ROCC. So you have three
13 different people. There's lot of redundancy and backup.
14 I don't think it would ever be an issue. I know it's a
15 long-winded answer, but I did want to explain that.

16 Q. Thank you. There's also some questions from
17 Mr. Keyt. The first was on the cost of construction,
18 there was testimony of the value of \$650 million per
19 project. Approximately how much of that is for the cost
20 of construction?

21 A. I'm tempted to give a very low number and make
22 the contractor sweat, but I can't do that. With a
23 project of this size, we said 650 million for the
24 overall costs, that's not just construction. It would
25 be -- I think it's roughly a quarter to a third of the

1 overall price, so north of 150 million would be typical,
2 yeah.

3 Q. Thank you. Mr. Keyt also asked a question
4 regarding water usage. Can you explain the process or
5 the plan for water usage?

6 A. Yes. So we would need to use water for cement
7 stabilization for public roadways. Similar --
8 similarly, for concrete for turbine foundations, and
9 then water trucks for dust control. Our typical
10 practices -- and there's several to get water. One
11 would be drilling a well near the project site near the
12 project batch plant. Another would be working with a
13 local municipality for extracting water from like fire
14 hydrants, we've done that before, but what's become the
15 primary -- and I already know this would probably go in
16 this direction at Coles County -- we would just be
17 working with a local business to truck in water. I'm
18 certainly hesitant to drilling a well out here due to
19 well drawdown, and we're not over the aquifer here, so
20 it's different. I've already talked to people from the
21 community, and it seems like it would probably be
22 wasteful to try to go about that method, but I do think
23 it would benefit the community if we work with a local
24 business for hauling water. That would be my primary
25 right now. Construction is well over a year away still,

1 so this might evolve.

2 Q. Okay. So to be clear, as of now, Coles Wind is
3 not going to try to dig a high-capacity well?

4 A. I don't think it would be prudent, yep.

5 Q. Mr. Keyt also asked about construction delays and
6 how the public will be alerted.

7 A. Yes, so going back to my topic of transparency,
8 open communication, we put out our plan-of-the-day
9 documentation on the website every day that anyone can
10 access. We also have an e-mail distribution list for
11 the contractor, for emergency responders, county
12 officials -- so county engineer, the post office, the
13 bus garage -- and then over time that list gets longer
14 as more landowner or tenant farmers get added, but it's
15 the same information that's shared. Whether they're
16 getting an e-mail or posted on our website, it's the
17 same information, and it's a lot of information. Some
18 things people might not really understand what's being
19 described on a plan-of-the-day form, but we can always
20 help guide people in the right direction and answer
21 questions.

22 Q. Another question from the first two nights of
23 hearing that was also brought up again last week was a
24 question on the public managing construction to and from
25 the laydown yard.

1 A. Yes. So that -- the answer to that is strict
2 traffic control measures. We follow IDOT traffic
3 control measures. So something that would be unique in
4 the construction phase, you would see traffic control
5 measures like you see on the interstate, but now in the
6 country. Most people have probably never seen that out
7 in the country, but that's what we're adhering to, and
8 that's the best practices that we know and has worked
9 very well for us in the projects that I've worked here
10 in Illinois.

11 Q. Just a few more from tonight. There was a
12 question just a couple minutes ago on the cost per mile
13 of road improvements during construction. Do you know
14 that amount?

15 A. I think that was Mr. Hendrix, right? Yep. So
16 the cost per mile, it depends on the manner of
17 construction. A county road is different than a
18 township road, than a preexisting gravel road, but just
19 to ballpark it, probably hundreds of thousands of
20 dollars for -- I could go into other detail on that if
21 needed, but the -- like a county road, so there would be
22 mixed asphalt paving typically on a county road stretch.
23 That's what we've done on other wind farms. But for
24 road -- like township roads or country roads, like we're
25 just -- we'll go in there, and we will do what's called

1 cement stabilization. So you add cement to the road
2 base, and then you add some aggregate rock on top of
3 that road base.

4 Q. Okay. Thank you. And I know this was in your
5 presentation, but it also just came up on topsoil
6 practices during construction and after decommission.

7 A. Yes, and I note the previous witness was talking
8 about this, and it is difficult to assume what will take
9 place in like 30 years from now during decommissioning,
10 but what we do during construction is we leave all the
11 topsoil on site, and then we feather it back out around
12 the base of the turbine after words. So nothing is
13 leaving site. There might be a little more topsoil in a
14 specific area, but we grade it out well, and we have the
15 farmer's blessing at the end of the job, and I'd just
16 say there might be a little more in a certain area
17 because we excavate for the turbine foundation, so -- it
18 won't be discernible though at the end of the job.

19 Q. So there's not a pile of topsoil?

20 A. There will not be a pile of topsoil at each
21 turbine site, no.

22 Q. Thank you. How are -- another question from this
23 evening, how are pipelines protected during
24 construction, specifically from any type of vibrations?

25 A. Yeah, that was a good question. So setbacks

1 don't just apply to like houses and roads, it's also to
2 pipelines. We would not want a pipeline to be impacted
3 if there was anything that happened to a wind turbine.
4 The -- as for the individual companies, I'm not really
5 sure, I would assume they probably use seismic activity
6 reports, not for jackhammering but for like actual
7 earthquakes. My base assumption is that jackhammering
8 or felling the turbine would not impact a pipeline. The
9 proximity is so far away it would not be an issue. They
10 would be much more worried about a larger -- like a
11 larger-scale earthquake.

12 Q. Okay. Thank you, and then my last question, what
13 countries are the turbines made in, both the GE and the
14 Vestas?

15 A. So GE -- if you compare the two, I think more of
16 the turbines are made in America. GE, I haven't been to
17 the site, but I know of a site down in Pensacola,
18 Florida, at the Ford County wind project that we had
19 sent a group down there, and they did a whole video
20 about the manufacturing facility, and that was really
21 impressive. It was cool; hey, it's made in America.
22 For GE, other products might be made in Mexico, maybe in
23 China, but I don't know. Vestas, it will be a mixture
24 of America and Europe and possibly some in China too,
25 and I want to caveat all of this. I grew up American

1 through and through. I wish everything was made in
2 American. That's just not how the system works at this
3 moment, and eventually, I could see the industry going
4 towards more and more and more made in America, which
5 would be great, but at the current time, there are some
6 components made in other counties.

7 Q. Thank you. No further questions.

8 MR. KAINS: All right. Very good. Thank you,
9 Ms. Shapiro.

10 All right. Questions for Mr. Carlson first from
11 members of the Planning and Development Committee.

12 Do you have questions, Mr. Chairman?

13 Oh, okay. I saw you going through your notes.

14 MR. WATTS: I think they've all been addressed.

15 MR. KAINS: Questions from members of units of
16 local government, members of the county board.

17 Mr. Shook.

18 MR. SHOOK: Thank you, sir.

19 MR. KAINS: Yes, sir.

20 EXAMINATION

21 BY MR. RICK SHOOK:

22 Q. I'm retired from the City of Mattoon Street
23 Department from just about 34 years. I know a little
24 bit about roads. When you do the roads, obviously when
25 you're fixing them back up for what you guys did to tear

1 them up, do you use white rock?

2 A. CA-6 is --

3 Q. White rock?

4 A. Yeah.

5 Q. Okay, you guys don't use pea gravel or gravel or
6 anything like that?

7 A. No. No, it's not typical.

8 Q. Why not? It will keep the dust down, and don't
9 you think it's a little bit stronger than white rock,
10 because white rock is just basically chalk. So you guys
11 haven't used gravel, pea gravel, or anything like that?

12 A. Maybe we have. I can't speak to every site, but
13 it's possible.

14 Q. Okay. When you guys are -- when you guys are
15 done with all the construction and stuff, do you guys
16 come back and -- come back and oil and chip it?

17 A. Typically, yes, yep.

18 Q. All the roads?

19 A. All the roads, all the roads, yes. That's become
20 a pretty standard thing in our road use agreements.

21 Q. Okay. And, again, when you oil and chip it, will
22 you use white rock or will you use a gravel?

23 A. Well, that's where it isn't chipped. That is a
24 little different. I think the manner of construction on
25 that is a little different with the A-1 or A-2 surface

1 treatment. Is that what you're talking about, the chip
2 and seal?

3 Q. Yeah.

4 A. Yeah.

5 Q. Yeah.

6 A. I'll have to get back to you.

7 Q. They have used pea gravel before, and that's,
8 here we go again, a little bit stronger --

9 A. Yep.

10 Q. -- and all that.

11 A. They might actually use pea gravel there, but I
12 can find that out for what we've done on some previous
13 jobs.

14 Q. I think that would --

15 A. I think it's a resource piece as well.

16 Q. Yeah, I think it will make the roads last quite a
17 bit longer too and all that.

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. That's all I have. Thank you.

20 A. Yes, sir.

21 MR. KAINS: Very good. Thank you, Mr. Shook.

22 Any other members of the county board?

23 All right. Members of units of local government,
24 including school districts?

25 Members of the public. We've got about 20

1 minutes until nine, so we're probably going to have to
2 continue this tomorrow night, but let's get some
3 questions in first from Coles County or Douglas County
4 residents.

5 Yes, Mr. Smith. I'm very interested for your
6 question about fungus. I think that's an important
7 issue.

8 EXAMINATION

9 BY MR. TERRY SMITH:

10 Q. Yes. My first question was when you lived near
11 the wind turbines, could you hear them?

12 A. Yes. If we go back to that slide, I can talk
13 through it. It's kind of hard to see. It's not -- do
14 you mind if I go up to the --

15 MR. KAINS: Yeah, you can step down.

16 Keep your voice up though.

17 A. Yeah. So you can't really see it, but we had to
18 tear the house down in 2018 or 2019, but it was right
19 here, and in the foreground, kind of where this drone is
20 at, there was a turbine. So we had heard that turbine,
21 and we had shadow flicker. We had a bay window that
22 faced this direction, and it wasn't all the time, but
23 personally it's something that didn't really bother me,
24 and like I attested, I wasn't there all the time, and
25 it's not something that really bothered my family.

1 That's not why we moved. That's not why my parents
2 moved into town, but one thing I would like to
3 distinguish here, back then it's quite possible the
4 setbacks were different, and we definitely know that a
5 wind farm like this that was built 15 years ago, that
6 density of wind farm, there's just so many turbines than
7 there would be today. So like this wind farm, it's
8 probably over a hundred turbines, maybe a 150-megawatt
9 output, but at Coles it would be 51 turbines over 300
10 megawatts. So you have half the turbines, double the
11 output, and I think that is a benefit for having
12 therefore less turbines that are closer to people's
13 properties.

14 Q. How tall are these turbines compared to the ones
15 going in?

16 A. I don't know, these are probably three, 400 feet
17 maybe.

18 Q. And ours are going to be 700, right?

19 A. 600 -- over 600 feet, yes, sir.

20 Q. Right. Which way -- which direction were your
21 bay windows of your house?

22 A. So they were facing the south. There was a bay
23 window facing south. The turbine is like over here.
24 Frankly, we just -- when that happened, the first time
25 it happened, we thought it was funny. I remember my

1 sister, sitting on the couch, thought it was funny. We
2 really didn't pay much attention, and it wasn't often
3 that that happened.

4 Q. Was it an old house or newer one?

5 A. Over a hundred years old. We had to tear it
6 down, yeah.

7 Q. Well, I live in an old house, and obviously back
8 then the windows, I don't know why, but they put so many
9 of them and so big --

10 A. Yeah.

11 Q. But I have 22 windows in my house. They're all
12 seven, eight feet tall. I've got four in the dining
13 room, and they will all face -- four on top, four on
14 bottom, and they will all face the wind turbine. That's
15 my worry.

16 A. Yeah.

17 Q. Because I don't have the trees. I don't have big
18 trees. I don't have anything blocking it, and living in
19 the country, you know that you could go outside early in
20 the morning and you hear voltage power running through
21 the power lines, and that's -- I am afraid I'm going to
22 hear this too or have the flicker. The other thing is
23 how deep are the bases?

24 A. I'll get back on the stand here, but to maybe add
25 something else on your first point there, I would just

1 recommend you go up to Prosperity Wind, just drive by,
2 go to a location where you are nearest the turbine that
3 you can be from the public road or talk to a farmer or
4 tenant farmer and they might let you go down the access
5 road. Just go and see how it sounds. See what the
6 shadow flicker is like. There's no harm in that. I
7 think you might be pleasantly surprised they're not that
8 noisy.

9 MR. KAINS: Is it in operation now?

10 A. Yes. Whenever you have that first turbine what
11 we call mechanically complete and commissioned, we put
12 it on the grid. So if you went up there today, you'd
13 see over 40 that are operating.

14 Q. Okay.

15 MR. KAINS: Mr. Smith, I'm going to interrupt you
16 again because I want to know where these are. Are these
17 on -- would you go up to Champaign and then over on
18 I-74?

19 A. You could take I-74 or US 150. I-74 you get off
20 at Mansfield or Farmers City. We have 13 turbines north
21 of the interstate and the other 37 south.

22 MR. KAINS: Okay. Thank you.

23 Go ahead, Mr. Smith.

24 Q. Okay. Now back to the bases, how deep are these?

25 A. The base of the turbine foundation is about 12 to

1 13 feet deep.

2 Q. Okay. Have you guys ever had any problems with
3 the vibration breaking the rock of any foundation or it
4 hurting any wells?

5 A. No, we've never had that issue, no.

6 Q. Have you heard of it?

7 A. I've heard of that, but not for Apex or White
8 Construction I haven't heard of that.

9 Q. Because a lot of us live in the houses but back
10 then didn't sign up because our wells never went dry.
11 Now what I worry about is whether or not the well is
12 going to be damaged. Granted, I live a mile away from
13 the rural water, but it costs an arm and a leg to have
14 it brought to the house, so we just stayed on the well,
15 and I would hate for it to be damaged.

16 A. It would be highly unlikely that that would be
17 damaged --

18 Q. Okay.

19 A. -- from a mile away, or even close actually.

20 Q. The well is on my property, but the wind turbine,
21 I don't know how far -- it's not very far away. It's on
22 the same land. It's around our house.

23 The other question I had was back to the dirt.
24 There is a fungus in this dirt. How are you going to
25 stop that from spreading?

1 A. So is this -- you said the nearest turbine is
2 about a mile from your house?

3 Q. No. No, I said the water tower --

4 A. The water -- okay.

5 Q. -- is a mile. This -- this dirt is all around
6 us.

7 A. Okay.

8 Q. This fungus is in all the dirt around, but with
9 this airborne disease, how are you going to stop that
10 from spreading, because that is how it is spread.

11 A. So my initial thought is just water, apply water,
12 keep the dust down. I haven't heard of this issue
13 before, I really haven't, but I could -- we could
14 investigate what we would do in that situation.

15 Q. Well, it is in the ground, and it came from
16 farmers using chicken manure to fertilize the ground.

17 A. For fertilizer. There's also a calcium chloride
18 application.

19 MR. DARRELL COX: I can address that issue.

20 MR. KAINS: This is Darrell Cox.

21 MR. DARRELL COX: That is from a chicken farm in
22 southern Illinois that was brought up here and put on
23 top of the ground, and there is current litigation with
24 the Illinois EPA, and they are in court forcing that
25 farmer that brought that chicken manure and brought it

1 up here and put it on top of his ground, they're in
2 litigation over that, and the Illinois EPA is in charge
3 of that, and they're trying to remedy that situation.

4 MR. KAINS: Thank you, Mr. Cox.

5 Q. Yeah, that's my son who caught the fungus from
6 this farmer doing this, and it is an airborne disease.
7 So it spreads. This stay in this soil, and it spreads
8 for 10 years. The only way -- like I said earlier, the
9 only way to get rid of it is to have it hauled off and
10 burnt, but you guys are going to go south of my house
11 and south of his house and put wind turbines, and that
12 wind out of the south, obviously you're putting wind
13 turbines here because we all know the wind blows
14 constantly, 40 mile an hour, 30 mile an hour. This is
15 going to blow towards our houses every day constantly.
16 The whole time you're out there working on this ground,
17 and there's nobody to stop this from coming. That's
18 what I don't understand. It is killing my son, and now
19 you're going to go out here and dig in it and -- if
20 these people allow you to do it. It's not in one field.
21 This in particular farmer went and bought fields after
22 fields after fields because he knew this was coming, but
23 we can't stop it. So my answer is -- who is going to
24 stop it? What are you going to do with the dirt? What
25 are you going to do with the soil as you stir this up?

1 It is a fungus. It is in the soil.

2 MR. KAINS: Mr. Smith. Would it be helpful if I
3 assign the attorneys to contact the Illinois Attorney
4 General or -- and/or the Illinois EPA to see a status of
5 that case and what their planning on doing with this,
6 because I think that if this project gets approved --
7 and we're not even there yet, that's why we're here. If
8 this project gets approved, it's not going to get
9 started for some period of time, and perhaps by then
10 there can be some kind of legal resolution.

11 Ms. Antonioli, I know you have had experience
12 with the Pollution Control Board and perhaps are
13 familiar with somebody at the Illinois EPA with whom you
14 can reach out or to the Attorney General's Office. I
15 don't expect an answer tomorrow.

16 MS. ANTONIOLLI: That will be my homework. I'll
17 give you a status.

18 MR. KAINS: But, you know, I think we need an
19 answer to this spreading of this fungus. If it's
20 something that is going to affect property owners in
21 this area, you know, what -- what does the Illinois EPA
22 -- what is their plan, what is the Attorney General's
23 plan, because they're representing the Illinois EPA in
24 all litigation, so I really think -- and if you can, you
25 know, it may not be tomorrow, it may be Thursday when we

1 reconvene. We'll be here tomorrow night and Thursday
2 night, but see what you can find out with respect to
3 that, if you could, please.

4 Okay. Mr. Smith, I'm sorry, I keep interrupting
5 you, and you're awfully patient, but I really want to
6 get to the bottom of this.

7 Q. Well, I do too.

8 MR. KAINS: Absolutely.

9 Q. That's my main concern.

10 MR. KAINS: Yes, sir, absolutely.

11 Q. I mean, obviously, they're already doing
12 different things with the ground now, you know, so I
13 just would like to have answers before this gets
14 started.

15 MR. KAINS: Absolutely, and I appreciate your
16 concerns. Okay. Do you have other questions for this
17 witness?

18 Q. No, that's all I have.

19 MR. KAINS: All right. Very good. Thank you,
20 Mr. Smith. All right.

21 Yeah, Ms. Taylor.

22 EXAMINATION

23 BY MS. MEG TAYLOR:

24 Q. I just want to clarify. I could have misheard
25 you, but did you say that more landowners -- "as more

1 landowner or tenants get added". Could you explain?

2 A. I meant to an e-mail distribution, not to the
3 overall project.

4 Q. Not to the overall project?

5 A. The e-mail list for Prosperity is over a hundred
6 people right now for daily updates, though you can get
7 those updates online too. That's what I was talking
8 about.

9 Q. Okay. So for the Apex project, no other
10 landowners or tenants are going to be added?

11 A. That's correct, yes.

12 Q. Okay. Was Apex aware of the current litigation
13 going on?

14 A. I can't speak to that. This is the first I've
15 heard of that. It's a unique case.

16 Q. Okay. And then I just had another question for
17 your centennial farm -- I'm only asking because you
18 brought it up that you lived there and things.
19 Centennial farms are obviously very, very important and
20 usually to family. Was there a specific reason your
21 family left the farm for town?

22 A. Yeah. It breaks my heart, but, yeah, we had a --
23 back to drain tile, we had a drain tile broke and it
24 kept flooding out the basement, got black mold all over
25 the place. The house was already over a hundred years

1 old, so -- yeah, that was tough. My parents were just
2 tired of bailing water out of the basement.

3 MR. KAINS: Who broke the drain tile?

4 A. I don't know. It wasn't --

5 Q. Not the wind farm company surely?

6 A. It wasn't the wind farm company, no. I don't
7 know what happened. There had always been issues where
8 the house was, you know, placed, but my parents moved
9 into town, and then after a few years, it was really
10 sad, my dad died and then my grandma died, so his mom --
11 or his mom and then the extended family sold the farm,
12 and I would encourage anyone to do whatever they can to
13 keep the family farm ground. So it was a tough series
14 of events for me there for our family.

15 Q. Okay. Could you explain to us why a model choice
16 has still not been chosen?

17 A. A really good question. I mean, maybe just to
18 speak in -- just to be general, I would maybe -- well,
19 no, I can't go down that road. I think it's typical
20 that we permit multiple turbine models. It gives
21 options for multiple reasons.

22 Q. Multiple reasons?

23 A. There could be -- well, as you've seen throughout
24 our presentations, like there's slightly -- slight
25 differences with sound and setbacks. They're ever so

1 slight, but there are slight differences. I think
2 you've asked a question beyond my scope. Maybe somebody
3 else could better answer why we typically try to permit
4 multiple turbine types.

5 Q. Okay.

6 A. It's escaping me right now.

7 Q. All right. Could you elaborate, you said you
8 were going to try to use a local business for water. Do
9 you mean provides the water or a local business that's
10 trucking water?

11 A. A business that will provide water that would
12 already have a high-capacity well available.

13 Q. Within Coles County?

14 A. Ideally within Coles County. Yeah, we want to
15 keep everything local.

16 Q. So you would be looking for a company that -- in
17 Coles County that already has a high-capacity well that
18 is willing to work with you?

19 A. Yes. Prosperity Wind, for example, we ended up
20 working with the FS plant. They were only a few miles
21 from our laydown yard, and we tried to drill a well up
22 there. We had the permit to do that, we just weren't
23 getting the volume that we needed, so conveniently right
24 down the road was an FS plant that had -- they pull
25 water out all the time for agricultural uses, so that

1 worked out well. Something like that is what I was
2 thinking we would do here.

3 Q. Okay. Okay, and I think my last question.
4 During construction -- and we're talking about all the
5 roadways and things -- do you ever work with either the
6 local school district or the bus system to maybe reroute
7 kids in a safer way to avoid construction areas?

8 A. Yes, definitely, and that's daily conversations
9 and maybe even multiple times a day, and I say
10 multiple -- let's say the road construction crew, they
11 were planning on working on one road but weather is good
12 and they're able to get on to the next section of road.
13 We'll update the public. We'll call the bus garage. We
14 have a specific person that does that, that's one of
15 their roles, and communication has been really good in
16 that way with the bus drivers, yeah.

17 Q. Okay. Thank you.

18 MR. KAINS: Thank you, Ms. Taylor.

19 Based upon her questions, when is the turbine
20 selection typically made?

21 A. Between permitting and building permit.

22 MR. KAINS: So it's usually not made at the
23 hearing stage?

24 A. I don't -- I don't think so.

25 MR. KAINS: All right, and I have a question

1 about the plan of the day that's posted on the website.

2 A. Plan of the day, yes.

3 MR. KAINS: With respect to Prosperity Wind in
4 Piatt County, where can folks, if they want to, find the
5 plan of the day?

6 A. Yes, so you could just type into Google
7 "Prosperity Wind", and it will be on the project
8 website, and then there's a banner up at the top -- I
9 believe it's the top right of the page. It might say
10 "construction" or "construction updates", and then
11 there's a drop down you can see the daily updates, and
12 it would have been through all of construction.

13 MR. KAINS: Very good. Thank you. All right.
14 It's almost nine o'clock.

15 So how many folks still have questions for
16 Mr. Carlson? 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7. Okay. Just going to
17 have to save it for tomorrow night.

18 The Regional Planning Director -- Executive
19 Director Kelly Lockhart wanted me to announce that all
20 of the documents submitted by the Applicant, Coles Wind,
21 LLC, are on the Coles County website homepage, and
22 documents discussed this evening will be posted on the
23 website tomorrow.

24 Mr. Carlson, can you come back tomorrow night?

25 A. Yes, sir.

1 MR. KAINS: I guess you've been here most nights,
2 so tomorrow won't be any different. All right.

3 We'll come back tomorrow evening and have
4 questions for Mr. Carlson, and then after that,
5 Mr. Hess, you have four participating property owners
6 you wish to have make statements?

7 MR. HESS: Yes, sir.

8 MR. KAINS: Okay. And so we will do that
9 tomorrow night, and it is my hope that Thursday night
10 folks who are opposed to -- yes, Mr. Hess.

11 MR. HESS: Well, I was just going to say, I
12 believe each one of them will be five minutes or less,
13 so I think we might be able to get to the next item on
14 -- in the process tomorrow night.

15 MR. KAINS: We may be able to -- thank you.
16 Thank you, Mr. Hess.

17 MR. KEYT: Just as to that, I assume that doesn't
18 include cross-examination though, so I'm sure people of
19 the public are going to have questions.

20 MR. KAINS: Well, there will be questions.

21 MR. KEYT: As I might have questions.

22 MR. KAINS: There will be question of the
23 participating landowners, but I don't anticipate them
24 being more than a few minutes, so there is a possibility
25 then that tomorrow night folks who are opposed to the

1 project may get to testify.

2 I do want to say this, folks, if you don't wish
3 to testify or don't wish to make public comment, you can
4 submit a written comment to -- go to the Coles County
5 website again and send an e-mail to Mr. Lockhart, the
6 Regional Planning Executive Director. A lot of folks
7 for some -- one reason or another don't want to make a
8 -- don't want to stand up and talk in front of others,
9 and that's perfectly fine. Written comments are
10 accepted, and they will be -- they will be addressed.
11 We're not certain if we're going to read them all into
12 the record or if we will just summarize them, but if you
13 want to make a written comment, you can submit it to
14 Mr. Lockhart, Regional Planning Executive Director.

15 So with that, anything else from you all here?

16 MR. HESS: No, sir.

17 MS. ANTONIOLLI: No.

18 MR. KEYT: No, sir.

19 MR. KAINS: Mr. Keyt, Mr. Ieruilli?

20 All right. Okay. You may step down.

21 (Witness excused.)

22 MR. KAINS: The Planning and Development
23 Committee of the Coles County Board is in recess until
24 tomorrow evening at 6:00 p.m. in this courtroom in the
25 Coles County Courthouse on Jackson Street in Charleston.

1 Thank you.

2

3 (END OF PROCEEDINGS.)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

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Courtney Orman

Official Court Reporter

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Dated this 28th
of April, 2025.

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