STATE OF ILLINOIS ) )SS COUNTY OF BUREAU ) In the Matter of the Petition of Cherry Solar 1, LLC Westfield Township Bureau County, Illinois Testimony of Witnesses Produced, Sworn and Examined on this 27th day of November, A.D., 2023, before the Bureau County Zoning Board of Appeals Present: Shirley Ann Smith Dave Bickett Bill Jensen Mike Stutzke Barry Welbers, Chairman Val Beattie, Secretary Kristine Donarski, Zoning Enforcement Officer

INDEX 1 2 Examination 3 Witness 8 4 Troy Snyder . . . . 9 By Kristine Donarski . By Barry Welbers . . 15 5 . • • By Neil Gillan . . 16 By Nanette Gillan. 19 6 . By Jessica Carls . . . 22 7 By Neil Gillan . . 24 By Jessica Carls . . . 26 By Nanette Gillan. 27 8 By Connie Stetson. . . 28 9 By Dave Bickett. . . . 32 By Shirley Ann Smith . 33 By Mike Stutzke. . 34 10 By Barry Welbers . . . . 35 . By Kris Donarski . . . . 11 35 Connie Stetson. . . . 37 12 Neil Gillan . . 39 • . . . . By Kristine Donarski 41 By Connie Stetson 42 13 • By Barry Welbers . 42 Nanette Gillan. . . . . . . 14 43 • Beth Stanley. . . . . . . . . 48 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 End . 58 22 23 24

> In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

MR. WELBERS: And that moves us to one 1 more, and we hopefully can do it. I'd like to 2 begin, if I can just read it right in. 3 The name of the Applicant is Cherry Solar 4 1, LLC. The Parcel Numbers are 12-21-200-017 5 and 12-21-200-016. 6 7 The common location is the southeast corner of the intersection of Illinois Route 89 8 9 and Township Road 2100 North Avenue. Property presently is zoned as 10 11 Agriculture. And this is a request for a Conditional 12 Use to build and operate a 4.99-megawatt AC 13 14 commercial solar energy facility for the purpose of generating electric power on a portion of the 15 subject property. The project will consist of 16 17 solar panels, racking, foundation piles, 18 inverters, overhead poles and lines, and perimeter fencing. This also requests a 19 Variation -- a setback Variation to construct 20 21 proposed solar farm as close as 3,970 feet from the corporate boundary line of Cherry. 22 The 23 Zoning Ordinance requires a setback of 1.5 miles (7,920 feet) from the municipality's 24

> In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

corporate boundary line. Requesting up to a 1 3,950-foot setback Variation. 2 The present use is farmland for annual 3 4 grain crop, with one metal building. From the Bureau County Regional Planning 5 The Commission found that the Commission: 6 7 application for Conditional Use as listed above was consistent with the applicable goals, 8 9 objectives and policies of the Comprehensive Plan, and was recommended for approval with 10 these attached stipulations. 11 12 Which we'll get to. From the Village of Cherry, Mayor Robert 13 14 McCook: Our municipality has no objection to the above application. 15 From the Westfield Township Supervisor 16 17 Lynn Bonnell: Our Township has no objection to 18 the above application. From Hall High School District Number 502: 19 Our School District has no objection to the 20 21 above application. Dimmick Community Consolidated School 22 District Number 175: Our School District has no 23 objection to the above application. 24

> In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

The Bureau County Soil and Water 1 Conservation District Board of Directors, in 2 their opinion this report, as summarized below, 3 is pertinent to the zoning request: 4 Culture Resource Information. Upon 5 review of the historic 1822 plat map, we 6 7 found no historic sites on the property. Biological Resources. Historically 8 9 the site was of prairie landscape. We recommend planting a pollinator mix for 10 ground cover around and underneath the 11 12 solar panel arrays to improve the biological resources onsite and to 13 14 protect the soil. Common management of 15 pollinator planting at soil sites is routine mowing and occasional 16 17 inter-seeding. Our office can provide 18 seed mixes and a management plan upon 19 request. Wetland and Floodplain Information. 20 The site is within an area of minimal 21 flood hazard, Zone X. Consultation with 22 23 the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Floodplain Permit Program should 24

> In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

happen before finalization of the work plans to see if any permitting will be required. The site does not contain wetland areas within the footprint of the construction site. Please contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to determine your responsibilities going forward with the project site.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9 Erosion Control. The building site is located on gently sloping ground. Care 10 should be taken to cover bare soil during 11 12 construction whenever possible. Grading should be kept to a minimum. The 13 landowner and Cherry Solar 1, LLC, should 14 15 agree upon a reasonable method to control erosion on the landowner's property. 16

Soils Information. All but 17 approximately three acres of the soil on 18 the site are considered Prime Farmland or 19 Prime, if Drained, by the USDA. 20 Much of the soils on the site are highly suitable 21 for agricultural production. Some soils 22 are not suitable for shallow excavation 23 due to the depth of saturation, the zone 24

> In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

1	or ponding. Additional building and
2	engineering considerations may be needed
3	in these locations.
4	Soil Health Assessment. A site visit
5	was conducted on October 17th, 2023, to
6	further evaluate potential natural
7	resource concerns of the zoning request.
8	Current soil health conditions are
9	considered moderate based on the field
10	indicators and were tested on the site. A
11	pollinator planting within the solar
12	project would help to maintain and
13	possibly improve the soil health on the
14	site.
15	AIMA. Refer to the specifications
16	outlined in the Agricultural Impact
17	Mitigation Agreement with the Illinois
18	Department of Agriculture for the minimum
19	standards applied to all construction or
20	deconstruction activities. We emphasize
21	that construction activities should not
22	occur when normal farming operations,
23	such as plowing, disking, planting or
24	harvesting, cannot take place due to

1	weather conditions. If an AIMA is still
2	needed, the appropriate forms can be found
3	on the Illinois Department of Agriculture
4	website.
5	And the proof of publication is here, as
6	is the witness.
7	Come back forward, sir.
8	TROY SNYDER,
9	being first duly sworn, testified as follows:
10	MS. BEATTIE: Could you state your name
11	and address for the record, please.
12	MR. SNYDER: Troy Snyder, 3519 NE 15th,
13	Portland, Oregon.
14	So as mentioned, I'm here on behalf of
15	Cherry Solar 1. We're developing a solar
16	facility. It consists primarily of steel posts
17	and racking put in the ground, with panels that
18	sit atop. They are wired together into an
19	inverter, a transformer, and then goes into
20	Ameren's electrical field.
21	It will be fenced, and it will be
22	replanted with a pollinator-friendly seed mix.
23	MR. WELBERS: Okay. Questions from our
24	Zoning Enforcement Officer?

1		EXAMINATION
2	BY M	S. DONARSKI:
3	Q.	Okay. On this one, will the location of the
4		array cause any kind of a visual obstruction at
5		the corner of Route 89 and the east-west road
6		there on the north side?
7	Α.	I don't believe so.
8	Q.	Okay. 2100 North Avenue.
9		Okay. Have you talked to the road
10		commissioner in regards to getting an approved
11		entrance?
12	A.	I personally, no, but a colleague has talked
13		with Alfred Hewitt in August about a Road Use
14		Agreement, yes.
15	Q.	Okay. Are these the basically the same
16		project as the others you have described
17		tonight? Basically the same racking, the same
18		solar panels, the same way that they are moving
19		and installed and the pile driver and all of
20		that?
21	Α.	Yes, they are substantially the same.
22	Q.	Okay. And so have you done a looking out
23		for pipelines, buried electrical, gas lines,
24		drainage tile? Do you have a drainage tile map

1		or anything for this property?
2	А.	We have a survey by a licensed professional
3		surveyor.
4	Q.	Okay. Do you have you checked to see if
5		there was any buried utilities in the vicinity
6		of the proposed project?
7	Α.	Not within our project area.
8	Q.	So when do you do that?
9	Α.	Our surveyor would have picked that up on a
10		survey. And then also prior to construction, I
11		believe in Illinois it's JULIE that we call.
12	Q.	Okay. And then how many solar panels will be
13		on this project?
14	Α.	This one will be approximately 12,000, I
15		believe. Yeah, plus or minus.
16	Q.	Okay. And, now, are you proposing a battery
17		energy storage system, or a BESS, at this site?
18	Α.	No.
19	Q.	Okay. Will the site be lighted?
20	Α.	No.
21	Q.	Are you planning what type of height and
22		type of perimeter fence are you planning on
23		installing for this project?
24	Α.	7-foot tall woven wire fence.

1	Q.	Okay. Would is it your testimony that you
2		intend to build the fence on the property line
3		even though the Bureau County Zoning Ordinance
4		states that it must be 50 feet away from the
5		right-of-way?
6	A.	Our read of the Ordinance is that the fence is
7		not part of the facility.
8	Q.	Is it your intention then to build it on the
9		property line?
10	A.	Our intention is to build it in accordance with
11		the Ordinance.
12	Q.	And which Ordinance is that?
13	A.	The Ordinance that is approved.
14	Q.	The Bureau County Zoning Ordinance?
15	A.	The Bureau County Zoning Ordinance.
16	Q.	Okay. That's what I'm trying to get to.
17		Would moving the fence back to meet the
18		setback requirements kind of cut down on the
19		amount of energy that you can produce?
20	A.	It starts to substantially decrease the size of
21		the facility, but then also it starts leaving
22		vacant land that's outside of the fence that's
23		not harvestable and it's just there that has to
24		be maintained.

In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

1	Q.	So it's just easier for you to do it that way?
2	Α.	For everybody.
3	Q.	Who will be maintaining the vegetation on this
4		property once the solar farm has been installed?
5	Α.	We will enter into a long-term contract with a
6		company to maintain the vegetation.
7	Q.	Okay. So is it your testimony that you intend
8		to get an approved entrance from the governing
9		road authority prior to a building permit being
10		issued and having a Road Agreement with them
11		also prior to the issuance of a building permit?
12	Α.	Correct.
13	Q.	Will the vehicles entering and exiting the
14		property on the gate on 2100 North have room to
15		park their vehicles and trailers off the road
16		right-of-way while the gate is being opened and
17		closed?
18	Α.	Yes.
19	Q.	What are your plans in regards to establishing
20		a decommissioning plan with Bureau County?
21	Α.	We have an executed AIMA, and I believe there
22		was a draft plan attached to the application,
23		and we will be obtaining the decommissioning
24		bond.

In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260 In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV)

1	Q.	Okay. And prior a decommissioning plan with
2		the Bureau County Board prior to the issuance of
3		a building permit?
4	Α.	Correct.
5	Q.	Okay. Has anyone associated with this project
6		met with or spoken to any of the adjoining
7		property owners and asked for their input or
8		addressed questions and concerns with the
9		project?
10	A.	I have not, but I can't speak for the rest of
11		my team.
12	Q.	Would there be any type of noise or sound
13		emitted from inverters, transformers or other
14		electrical equipment to be used for the project?
15	A.	Inverters and transformers do emit a hum that
16		only during the daylight hours when they're
17		operating. It quickly dissipates, and generally
18		once you're outside of the fence it's not
19		audible above the ambient noise.
20	Q.	Will there be any electromagnetic fields, or
21		EMFs, emitted from the inverters, transformers
22		or other electrical equipment that can pose
23		potential health hazards to individuals living
24		or working in close proximity to this project?

In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

1	Α.	No. EMFs don't emit more than a few feet and
2		are no more than most devices we carry around.
3	Q.	Okay. What are the existing land uses in the
4		vicinity around this property?
5	Α.	Generally agricultural and rural residential.
6	Q.	Okay. And what fire district are you located
7		in there?
8	А.	This is in the Arlington Fire District.
9	Q.	Okay. And what would be the time frame for the
10		construction of this project if it's approved?
11	Α.	If it's approved, this one will depend upon,
12		again, Ameren and how fast they can do their
13		work to accommodate the project. But it would
14		start either next summer or the following
15		spring.
16	Q.	Okay. Now, what kind of work does Ameren have
17		to do?
18	A.	As part of developing these projects, they do a
19		study where they work at their own
20		infrastructure, they look at our project and
21		determine what upgrades they need to their
22		infrastructure in order to accommodate this
23		project.
24	Q.	Okay. And where would the interconnection be?

In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

1		Where would this substation be that this project
2		here would hook into?
3	A.	I would have to look, like, where the
4		substation is, but we would interconnect into
5		the existing Ameren lines that are adjacent to
б		the property.
7	Q.	Okay. So you're not sure where the substation
8		is that would serve this?
9	A.	Not off the top of my head.
10	Q.	Okay. And what is your plan for disposal of
11		construction debris during and after the
12		construction?
13	A.	In a safe and lawful manner.
14		MS. DONARSKI: Okay. That's all I have
15		right now.
16		MR. WELBERS: I have one question.
17		EXAMINATION
18	BY M	R. WELBERS:
19	Q.	If you look at your proposed project one time,
20		just to clarify for me, if you had to put the
21		fence 50 feet back from the right-of-way, does
22		that really diminish your capacity of this
23		project?
24	A.	It does start to diminish it, you know, because
1		In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV)

In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

1	it's just fewer because we have to have a
2	space between the fence and our modules all the
3	way around approximately 20 feet. So it does
4	start cutting into the facility. And when you
5	take that all the way around the whole facility,
6	that's actually a pretty meaningful impact.
7	MR. WELBERS: Okay. Any questions from
8	our audience here tonight?
9	We'll start to the left and work our way
10	to the right.
11	MR. GILLAN: Neil Gillan, 32944 - 2100
12	North Avenue, Arlington, Illinois.
13	EXAMINATION
14	BY MR. GILLAN:
15	Q. So a little back story here: I'm an operating
16	engineer.
17	You drive these piles, correct?
18	A. Correct.
19	Q. Okay. So can you tell me, when you're holding
20	that piling with the machine and you're driving
21	it in, you're going to tell me that you can feel
22	when you hit a farm tile?
23	A. No. So, generally not.
24	I'm not a pile driver, so. But the AIMA
	In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV)

815.453.2260 In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV)

1		requires us to work with the landowner and map
2		the farm tiles prior to construction, and then
3		we design to try to avoid the farm tiles.
4		If we do
5	Q.	So how are you going to know if you strike one?
6	Α.	Sometimes you don't know until the next rainy
7		season.
8	Q.	Until my basement is full of water? My footing
9		tile directly drains into that
10		MR. WELBERS: Stop one second. This is
11		your opportunity to ask him questions.
12		MR. GILLAN: Okay.
13		MR. WELBERS: We would love to hear your
14		concerns. It's just the order that I have to
15		keep in accordance for the court reporter to
16		record it.
17		So your question was, you know, How would
18		you know? Well, he said he doesn't.
19		MR. SNYDER: No, I said we work with the
20		landowner to map the tiles prior to construction
21		and engineer to avoid.
22	Q.	(By Mr. Gillan:) So when it's not avoided,
23		then what happens, when the tile is hit?
24	Α.	You know, sometimes they are if a tile

In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

1	we're working in a field and we haven't mapped
2	it and it is hit, you know, sometimes it is
3	picked up during construction, sometimes it's
4	not. And if it's picked up during construction,
5	dig it out and reroute the tile and keep going.
6	Sometimes it's not going to show up until the
7	next wet weather. But this is why we map them
8	prior to construction and then engineer to avoid
9	it.
10	So I would have to get the name of the
11	group that we most likely are going to engage to
12	map them. But they map drain tiles for solar
13	facilities all over the state, and they end up
14	hand-digging them out. So they literally put a
15	hand on every drain tile and they GPS
16	everything. Then once it's GPS'd and we have
17	the exact coordinates, then it's much easier to
18	engineer around that.
19	MR. WELBERS: Your question are you
20	done, sir? Neil, are you done?
21	MR. GILLAN: I'm good.
22	MR. WELBERS: Okay. Next.
23	MS. GILLAN: Nanette Gillan, 32956 - 2100
24	North Avenue, Arlington.

1		EXAMINATION
2	BY M	S. GILLAN:
3	Q.	You mentioned that you work with the landowner
4		and he helps you map out where those are at. So
5		are you telling me I have to trust that that
6		landowner is going to know where my tile goes
7		through or tell you that?
8	Α.	If they don't have a map, then we will work
9		with a third party. Some farmers have
10		sophisticated maps, some have no maps, some have
11		hand-drawn maps. It's all over the
12	Q.	Am I allowed to ask how many people you spoke
13		to that declined your offer of having these
14		solar panels in that in Westfield Township?
15		Am I allowed to ask that?
16	A.	I don't have an answer for you. I don't know.
17	Q.	How do you decide who to approach?
18	A.	It's a combination of are they on in Ameren
19		territory; no environmental issues on their
20		land; you know, a willing landowner; are they on
21		existing Ameren lines? If not, then we have to
22		build new lines, and we don't want to do that.
23		We want to use what's already there. And do
24		those lines have sufficient capacities to

1		support our project without significant
2		upgrades?
3	Q.	Okay.
4	Α.	A lot of it is driven by Ameren's grid and what
5		it can support.
6	Q.	How deep do you put these pilings in?
7	A.	Yeah, it depends on the exact soil conditions,
8		but generally a depth of 6 to 10 feet.
9	Q.	Okay. And they spoke before about concern,
10		like your the map says you're putting a chain
11		link fence in. On Route 89 where this is going
12		to be, you come over a hill and then that ground
13		is actually lower.
14		So don't you feel there would be a concern
15		of snow piling up there too? I mean, Route 89,
16		there's difficulty getting through that when
17		there's normal circumstances, so. The same with
18		2100 North. The drifting is always bad.
19	A.	Yeah, just based on looking at this map, and I
20		don't have the survey in front of me, but it
21		appears that the right-of-way is substantially
22		wider than on County roads here. So there is a
23		lot more, sort of, natural setback from the
24		pavement.

1	Q.	Then I also have a question in regards to the
2		glare that you spoke of. So these basically
3		face more towards the south; is that correct?
4	Α.	These are going to track throughout the day, go
5		from the east to the west throughout the day.
6	Q.	Okay. And, again, there's no concern that
7		like I said, where the Romanellis' property is,
8		which is going to go right up to it, is on a
9		hill. When you come over that hill on Route 89
10		and come down, have they done any testing to see
11		if there's going to be a glare hitting drivers
12		as they drive down that road?
13	A.	You have to be from a pretty elevated position
14		in order to experience that glare.
15	Q.	Well, it is a pretty elevated position from
16		where this ground is and where you come over
17		that hill.
18	A.	Like, when you're at if you think about it,
19		like, even at the lowest and I have to get my
20		orientation on the sun and when it's at the
21		lowest time of year.
22		So the sun reflects; hits the panels,
23		reflects up. So it goes up. So you have to be
24		elevated. And the further you're out from the

In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

1		project, the higher you have to be. And
2		generally, like, unless you're standing right
3		next to the facility or you are flying over it,
4		you're never going to experience glare.
5	Q.	Okay. And my last question is, has your
6		company done any sort of studies on the effects
7		of the noise from these you keep saying it's
8		minimal but with autistic children?
9	Α.	I have not seen a study with on autistic
10		children. But I believe in the application, we
11		do say we will have a professional go out there
12		and measure the sounds after construction to
13		confirm we're compliant with the State law.
14		MR. WELBERS: State your name, please.
15		MS. CARLS: Jessica Carls, C-A-R-L-S,
16		3461 East Cleveland Street, Ladd.
17		EXAMINATION
18	BY M	S. CARLS:
19	Q.	First is a follow-up to what Mr. Welbers asked
20		you before. You said that the 50-foot the
21		requirement of a 50-foot right-of-way would
22		diminish the facility as you have it laid out
23		right now, correct?
24	Α.	Correct.

In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

<ul> <li>2 correct?</li> <li>3 A. That's not my interpretation.</li> <li>4 Q. Okay. That is part of the County Ordinance.</li> <li>5 Have you visited the property yourself?</li> <li>6 A. I personally have not.</li> <li>7 Q. Okay. So you can't speak to really, like,</li> <li>8 where she's talking about with the hill coming</li> <li>9 down and how the property is quite a bit lower</li> <li>10 than the road at that point?</li> <li>11 A. I personally have not been to the property.</li> <li>12 Q. Okay. My other question, there's a residence</li> <li>13 just south of there that butts up to that</li> <li>14 residence, the Romanelli residence. Is the</li> <li>15 fence there 150 feet from the outside wall of</li> <li>16 that residence?</li> <li>17 A. I believe</li> <li>18 Q. Or are you saying the solar panel is 150 feet</li> <li>19 from the outside wall of that residence?</li> <li>20 A. Yeah, just to make sure we're talking about <ul> <li>is it this residence?</li> </ul> </li> <li>20 Correct.</li> <li>21 A. Yeah, in this case it looks like the house</li> <li>24 itself, from the outside wall, at least based</li> </ul>	1	Q.	But that is part of the County Ordinance,
<ul> <li>4 Q. Okay. That is part of the County Ordinance. Have you visited the property yourself?</li> <li>6 A. I personally have not.</li> <li>7 Q. Okay. So you can't speak to really, like, where she's talking about with the hill coming down and how the property is quite a bit lower than the road at that point?</li> <li>11 A. I personally have not been to the property.</li> <li>12 Q. Okay. My other question, there's a residence just south of there that butts up to that residence, the Romanelli residence. Is the fence there 150 feet from the outside wall of that residence?</li> <li>17 A. I believe</li> <li>18 Q. Or are you saying the solar panel is 150 feet from the outside wall of that residence?</li> <li>20 A. Yeah, just to make sure we're talking about is it this residence?</li> <li>21 A. Yeah, in this case it looks like the house</li> </ul>	2		correct?
<ul> <li>Have you visited the property yourself?</li> <li>A. I personally have not.</li> <li>Q. Okay. So you can't speak to really, like, where she's talking about with the hill coming down and how the property is quite a bit lower than the road at that point?</li> <li>A. I personally have not been to the property.</li> <li>Q. Okay. My other question, there's a residence just south of there that butts up to that residence, the Romanelli residence. Is the fence there 150 feet from the outside wall of that residence?</li> <li>A. I believe</li> <li>Q. Or are you saying the solar panel is 150 feet from the outside wall of that residence?</li> <li>A. Yeah, just to make sure we're talking about is it this residence?</li> <li>Q. Correct.</li> <li>A. Yeah, in this case it looks like the house</li> </ul>	3	Α.	That's not my interpretation.
<ul> <li>A. I personally have not.</li> <li>Q. Okay. So you can't speak to really, like,</li> <li>where she's talking about with the hill coming</li> <li>down and how the property is quite a bit lower</li> <li>than the road at that point?</li> <li>A. I personally have not been to the property.</li> <li>Q. Okay. My other question, there's a residence</li> <li>just south of there that butts up to that</li> <li>residence, the Romanelli residence. Is the</li> <li>fence there 150 feet from the outside wall of</li> <li>that residence?</li> <li>A. I believe</li> <li>Q. Or are you saying the solar panel is 150 feet</li> <li>from the outside wall of that residence?</li> <li>A. Yeah, just to make sure we're talking about</li> <li>is it this residence?</li> <li>A. Yeah, in this case it looks like the house</li> </ul>	4	Q.	Okay. That is part of the County Ordinance.
<ul> <li>Q. Okay. So you can't speak to really, like, where she's talking about with the hill coming down and how the property is quite a bit lower than the road at that point?</li> <li>A. I personally have not been to the property.</li> <li>Q. Okay. My other question, there's a residence just south of there that butts up to that residence, the Romanelli residence. Is the fence there 150 feet from the outside wall of that residence?</li> <li>A. I believe</li> <li>Q. Or are you saying the solar panel is 150 feet from the outside wall of that residence?</li> <li>A. Yeah, just to make sure we're talking about is it this residence?</li> <li>Q. Correct.</li> <li>A. Yeah, in this case it looks like the house</li> </ul>	5		Have you visited the property yourself?
<ul> <li>where she's talking about with the hill coming down and how the property is quite a bit lower than the road at that point?</li> <li>A. I personally have not been to the property.</li> <li>Q. Okay. My other question, there's a residence just south of there that butts up to that residence, the Romanelli residence. Is the fence there 150 feet from the outside wall of that residence?</li> <li>A. I believe</li> <li>Q. Or are you saying the solar panel is 150 feet from the outside wall of that residence?</li> <li>A. Yeah, just to make sure we're talking about is it this residence?</li> <li>Q. Correct.</li> <li>A. Yeah, in this case it looks like the house</li> </ul>	6	Α.	I personally have not.
<ul> <li>down and how the property is quite a bit lower than the road at that point?</li> <li>A. I personally have not been to the property.</li> <li>Q. Okay. My other question, there's a residence just south of there that butts up to that residence, the Romanelli residence. Is the fence there 150 feet from the outside wall of that residence?</li> <li>A. I believe</li> <li>Q. Or are you saying the solar panel is 150 feet from the outside wall of that residence?</li> <li>A. Yeah, just to make sure we're talking about is it this residence?</li> <li>Q. Correct.</li> <li>A. Yeah, in this case it looks like the house</li> </ul>	7	Q.	Okay. So you can't speak to really, like,
<ul> <li>10 than the road at that point?</li> <li>11 A. I personally have not been to the property.</li> <li>12 Q. Okay. My other question, there's a residence</li> <li>13 just south of there that butts up to that</li> <li>14 residence, the Romanelli residence. Is the</li> <li>15 fence there 150 feet from the outside wall of</li> <li>16 that residence?</li> <li>17 A. I believe</li> <li>18 Q. Or are you saying the solar panel is 150 feet</li> <li>19 from the outside wall of that residence?</li> <li>20 A. Yeah, just to make sure we're talking about</li> <li>21 is it this residence?</li> <li>22 Q. Correct.</li> <li>23 A. Yeah, in this case it looks like the house</li> </ul>	8		where she's talking about with the hill coming
<ul> <li>A. I personally have not been to the property.</li> <li>Q. Okay. My other question, there's a residence just south of there that butts up to that residence, the Romanelli residence. Is the fence there 150 feet from the outside wall of that residence?</li> <li>A. I believe</li> <li>Q. Or are you saying the solar panel is 150 feet from the outside wall of that residence?</li> <li>A. Yeah, just to make sure we're talking about is it this residence?</li> <li>Q. Correct.</li> <li>A. Yeah, in this case it looks like the house</li> </ul>	9		down and how the property is quite a bit lower
<ul> <li>Q. Okay. My other question, there's a residence just south of there that butts up to that residence, the Romanelli residence. Is the fence there 150 feet from the outside wall of that residence?</li> <li>A. I believe</li> <li>Q. Or are you saying the solar panel is 150 feet from the outside wall of that residence?</li> <li>A. Yeah, just to make sure we're talking about is it this residence?</li> <li>Q. Correct.</li> <li>A. Yeah, in this case it looks like the house</li> </ul>	10		than the road at that point?
<pre>13 just south of there that butts up to that 14 residence, the Romanelli residence. Is the 15 fence there 150 feet from the outside wall of 16 that residence? 17 A. I believe 18 Q. Or are you saying the solar panel is 150 feet 19 from the outside wall of that residence? 20 A. Yeah, just to make sure we're talking about 21 is it this residence? 22 Q. Correct. 23 A. Yeah, in this case it looks like the house</pre>	11	Α.	I personally have not been to the property.
<ul> <li>residence, the Romanelli residence. Is the</li> <li>fence there 150 feet from the outside wall of</li> <li>that residence?</li> <li>A. I believe</li> <li>Q. Or are you saying the solar panel is 150 feet</li> <li>from the outside wall of that residence?</li> <li>A. Yeah, just to make sure we're talking about</li> <li>is it this residence?</li> <li>Q. Correct.</li> <li>A. Yeah, in this case it looks like the house</li> </ul>	12	Q.	Okay. My other question, there's a residence
<ul> <li>15 fence there 150 feet from the outside wall of that residence?</li> <li>17 A. I believe</li> <li>18 Q. Or are you saying the solar panel is 150 feet from the outside wall of that residence?</li> <li>20 A. Yeah, just to make sure we're talking about is it this residence?</li> <li>22 Q. Correct.</li> <li>23 A. Yeah, in this case it looks like the house</li> </ul>	13		just south of there that butts up to that
<ul> <li>16 that residence?</li> <li>17 A. I believe</li> <li>18 Q. Or are you saying the solar panel is 150 feet from the outside wall of that residence?</li> <li>20 A. Yeah, just to make sure we're talking about is it this residence?</li> <li>22 Q. Correct.</li> <li>23 A. Yeah, in this case it looks like the house</li> </ul>	14		residence, the Romanelli residence. Is the
<ul> <li>17 A. I believe</li> <li>18 Q. Or are you saying the solar panel is 150 feet from the outside wall of that residence?</li> <li>20 A. Yeah, just to make sure we're talking about is it this residence?</li> <li>22 Q. Correct.</li> <li>23 A. Yeah, in this case it looks like the house</li> </ul>	15		fence there 150 feet from the outside wall of
<ul> <li>18 Q. Or are you saying the solar panel is 150 feet</li> <li>19 from the outside wall of that residence?</li> <li>20 A. Yeah, just to make sure we're talking about</li> <li>21 is it this residence?</li> <li>22 Q. Correct.</li> <li>23 A. Yeah, in this case it looks like the house</li> </ul>	16		that residence?
19 from the outside wall of that residence? 20 A. Yeah, just to make sure we're talking about 21 is it this residence? 22 Q. Correct. 23 A. Yeah, in this case it looks like the house	17	A.	I believe
<ul> <li>20 A. Yeah, just to make sure we're talking about</li> <li>21 is it this residence?</li> <li>22 Q. Correct.</li> <li>23 A. Yeah, in this case it looks like the house</li> </ul>	18	Q.	Or are you saying the solar panel is 150 feet
<ul> <li>21 is it this residence?</li> <li>22 Q. Correct.</li> <li>23 A. Yeah, in this case it looks like the house</li> </ul>	19		from the outside wall of that residence?
<ul> <li>22 Q. Correct.</li> <li>23 A. Yeah, in this case it looks like the house</li> </ul>	20	Α.	Yeah, just to make sure we're talking about
23 A. Yeah, in this case it looks like the house	21		is it this residence?
	22	Q.	Correct.
24 itself, from the outside wall, at least based	23	А.	Yeah, in this case it looks like the house
	24		itself, from the outside wall, at least based

In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

1	upon what is drawn on the site plan, just up to
2	the property line is 150 feet. So everything
3	would be greater than 150 feet.
4	Q. Okay. But the farmland to the east of it,
5	which is what my parents own, the fence would go
6	right to the property line?
7	A. That's how it's currently contemplated.
8	Q. Then being 50 feet back.
9	Okay. Are you aware that the well for the
10	Village of Cherry is directly across Route 89
11	from this property?
12	A. I personally am not aware of that.
13	MS. CARLS: Okay. I think that's all I
14	have.
15	MR. WELBERS: Another one, Neil?
16	MR. GILLAN: Yeah.
17	EXAMINATION
18	BY MR. GILLAN:
19	Q. If one of these panels were broken in a storm,
20	okay, we have a hailstorm, what's inside of
21	them?
22	A. So these panels are made up of three
23	components: primarily polysilicon, glass and
24	aluminum. Aluminium frame, glass on top, and

In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

1		then polysilicon inside with a few little wires.
2		But at the heart of it, polysilicon is
3		just a highly refined sand. So there's no toxic
4		chemicals, if that's what you're asking.
5	Q.	No metals other than the aluminum framework?
б	A.	And the little wires that go through it.
7	Q.	Okay. And if these so these are going to be
8		tracking as well?
9	А.	Correct.
10	Q.	Okay. What kind of mechanism is in there so
11		that there isn't squealing when they track?
12	А.	I have never heard one squeal. But I imagine
13		if it's squealing, it's not working properly
14		and
15	Q.	I mean, is it metal on metal?
16	A.	Yeah, it's just well, there's different
17		types of trackers that are used. Some have
18		motors on each individual row, where it turns
19		the row. Some of them have a central drive
20		train, where it turns multiple rows on a single
21		motor.
22	Q.	So like a carrier bearing going through there,
23		if it had a drive shaft, that turns it?
24	Α.	Yes.

1	Q.	Okay. Are those greased regularly?
2	Α.	They should be.
3	Q.	I mean, to keep the noise down?
4	Α.	Yeah, and ultimately, like, we need it working
5		properly, and, you know, if it's not working
6		properly, it will set off an alarm and somebody
7		will come check it out.
8		MR. GILLAN: Okay. I don't have any more
9		questions.
10		MS. CARLS: I have one more.
11		MR. WELBERS: Go ahead, Jessica.
12		EXAMINATION
13	BY MS	. CARLS:
14	Q.	I know there's a decommissioning process that
15		will be put in place. Does that cover if there
16		was an event of bankruptcy by your company or it
17		goes defunct? Does the decommissioning process
18		address that?
19	Α.	If we were to go bankrupt and abandon the
20		facility, then it does address that.
21	Q.	It does address that?
22	Α.	If we were to abandon the facility, we're no
23		longer operating the facility, and then if we
24		don't remove it, then the County has a bond that

1	can step in.
2	MS. GILLAN: I have two more questions.
3	MR. WELBERS: Okay. Nanette.
4	EXAMINATION
5	BY MS. GILLAN:
6	Q. These projects when they are built, are they
7	built using Union trades?
8	A. Can't guarantee Union, but prevailing wages
9	will be paid.
10	Q. Okay.
11	A. So there's a high likelihood Union will be
12	used. But since we haven't selected the exact
13	contractor yet, I can't tell you. But I can
14	tell you that prevailing wages will be paid.
15	Q. Okay. Then can you tell me when you first
16	approached this area or this bigger parcel to
17	use this as solar? Was it, like, two years ago?
18	three years ago?
19	A. Probably about a year ago.
20	MR. WELBERS: Are you good?
21	MS. GILLAN: Yup.
22	MR. WELBERS: Go ahead.
23	MS. STETSON: Connie Stetson.
24	EXAMINATION

1	BY M	S. STETSON:
2	Q.	You said okay. She mentioned if you go
3	2.	bankrupt. There's decommissioning in the file.
4		Decommissioning is: First anniversary,
5		it's only 10 percent down; is that correct?
6	A.	It's spelled out in the AIMA, but it's
7		something to that effect.
8	Q.	The sixth year is 50 percent decommissioning
9		down; is that correct?
10	A.	I would have to review the AIMA, but that
11		sounds correct.
12	Q.	And the eleventh year is a hundred percent. So
13		if you go bankrupt year five, only 10 percent of
14		the decommissioning fee is put in; is that
15		correct?
16	Α.	That's correct.
17		I would also say that we have a
18		\$10 million facility in this field and probably
19		not going to walk away from that.
20	Q.	Well, you're an LLC, which was mentioned, a
21		limited liability.
22	A.	Okay. But if there's an asset that's worth a
23		significant value, it's pretty tough not to
24		to walk away from that.

1	Q.	You also said that you rearrange your panels
2		for the mapping of the tile. And let me tell
3		you, we bought some land that mapping of the
4		tile was a pencil.
5	Α.	Yes, I have seen some tile maps that
6	Q.	It was an old farmer that did it years ago.
7		And it was the clay tile.
8	A.	Yup.
9	Q.	So those break very easily.
10	A.	Yup.
11	Q.	So you can rearrange your panels for the tile,
12		but you can't rearrange your panels for the
13		50 feet from the fence?
14	Α.	With the panels, it's literally just moving a
15		post in the ground 1 or 2 feet either way. So
16		we're not changing any rows or anything. It's
17		literally just where that single post goes in
18		the ground.
19	Q.	Well, in previous ones you had stated that you
20		would move the panels closer to accommodate for
21		the fencing. Because there is a 50-foot fencing
22		in the Ordinance.
23	Α.	So the panels could be moved closer, but it,
24		too, has an impact on the facility.

In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

1	Q.	There's an incentive for installing these, and
2		it's 30 percent from the government, is that
3		correct, upfront?
4	A.	The Investment Tax Credit is it's actually
5		currently 6 percent, but it has a five times
б		multiplier if you use prevailing wages.
7	Q.	So if you use prevailing wages, you will get
8		30 percent?
9	A.	Yeah, if we use prevailing wages. And there's
10		also an apprenticeship portion, where we have to
11		have a certain number of the labor hours done by
12		apprentice, but then you can get the 30 percent.
13	Q.	So you have to use Union, more or less?
14	A.	We have to pay prevailing wages. So that very
15		likely will be Union.
16	Q.	So you're going to get about 30 percent?
17	A.	Our intention is to obtain a 30 percent tax
18		credit.
19	Q.	And then are you going to use the PTC federal
20		incentive for this?
21	A.	Only the 30 percent Investment Tax Credit.
22	Q.	And a mile and a half around the town, this is
23		really upsetting that the mayor signed off on
24		this. It's for the growth and the benefit of

In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

1		the town to keep that mile and a half intact,
2		and I just that's
3		MR. WELBERS: That's testimony.
4		MS. STETSON: I know, but it's really
5		upsetting.
6	Q.	(By Ms. Stetson:) Does that bother you, that
7		you're impeding into the town, at all?
8	Α.	I am not sure of the growth patterns of that
9		town, but a mile and a half is a ways.
10	Q.	So do you know if the mayor and the council
11		voted just on this?
12	Α.	I don't know what the process is.
13	Q.	Or do you know if they came out to the
14		surrounding people and asked them what they
15		thought? Do you know any of that?
16	Α.	I cannot tell you what their process was.
17		MS. STETSON: Okay. I have nothing else.
18		MR. WELBERS: You're good?
19		MS. STETSON: Yeah.
20		MR. WELBERS: Commissioner, I know this
21		isn't your township, but do you have any
22		questions?
23		MR. STANLEY: No.
24		MR. WELBERS: You ask good questions.

1		MR. STANLEY: I was only representing
2	E	Berlin Township. I really don't have any other
3	c	questions, other than maybe no questions.
4		MR. WELBERS: All right. Everyone done
5	V	with questions?
6		(No verbal response.)
7		MR. WELBERS: Any questions from the
8	E	Board?
9		EXAMINATION
10	BY MR.	. BICKETT:
11	Q. 1	I had a question on the taking care of Neil
12	ł	nad brought up, or maybe it was Kris, about
13	r	moving the fence in, and you had said that, you
14	J	know, taking care of it would be easier to leave
15	i	it out, as well as the you know, taking the
16	f	facility, it diminishes
17	A. V	We have to take care of the land one way or the
18	c	other.
19	Q. 1	I was going to say, so from the fence row out
20	t	to the road, is that still maintained by you or
21	Ė	is that maintained by the landowner?
22	A. 3	In this case, we're leasing that land up to
23	t	the
24	Q. 7	The complete portion of the land?

1	Α.	Yeah.
2	Q.	So really the fence in that particular case
3		doesn't matter, because you're going to take
4		care of it on both sides?
5	A.	We're going to take care of the land on both
6		sides.
7		Where it does is if we have to push the
8		fence further back where you know, the
9		50 feet, then we have to cut off another 20 feet
10		of our project.
11	Q.	Right, I understand that.
12	A.	Yeah.
13	Q.	I just meant as far as
14	Α.	If we put the fence, split the difference at
15		25 feet, we're
16	Q.	You're still taking care of both sides?
17	Α.	We're maintaining both sides.
18		MR. WELBERS: Other questions?
19		MS. SMITH: I have one.
20		EXAMINATION
21	BY M	S. SMITH:
22	Q.	Have you ever started a project and were not
23		able to complete it but had partially started
24		it?

In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

1	А.	Once construction starts, I have never seen a
2		project not be completed.
3		MS. SMITH: Okay.
4		MR. WELBERS: Mike?
5		EXAMINATION
6	BY M	R. STUTZKE:
7	Q.	Just a point of clarification, and perhaps I
8		misunderstood. But on this particular project,
9		you had no problems with the Bureau County
10		setbacks; is that correct? Did you say that or
11		did I I thought I heard you say that you had
12		no problems in complying.
13	Α.	In complying, and then it just moves to
14		interpretation.
15	Q.	Okay. And the reason I'm asking is that you
16		and your colleague were rather adamant in the
17		previous two parcels. You didn't state what you
18		stated on this one. I was just wondering why it
19		was different for this project, that you are
20		okay with complying? Or perhaps I
21		misunderstood.
22		MR. WELBERS: I believe, to clarify, you
23		said that you intend to build on the property
24		line the fence?

1	MR. SNYDER: That's our intention, or
2	somewhere in that first probably 30 feet.
3	But with this one, we do have more space
4	per and we could. With the other two
5	projects, if you take out an extra 50 feet all
6	the way around, that's many acres.
7	MR. STUTZKE: Understood. Thank you.
8	EXAMINATION
9	BY MR. WELBERS:
10	Q. Now, I asked the question earlier that said
11	asked you if you could build this project and go
12	back the 50 feet, and you said you couldn't.
13	Now you indicate you do have a little extra
14	space. Do you or do you not?
15	A. It's not ideal. None of it is ideal.
16	Q. But it is your intention to build the project,
17	the fence, on the property line?
18	A. Within the first probably we can move it
19	back 30 feet and still have our 20 foot around
20	our panels inside the fence. Because we need to
21	circumvent inside the fence.
22	MS. DONARSKI: I have a question.
23	EXAMINATION
24	BY MS. DONARSKI:

In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260 In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV)

1	Q.	Do you understand have you ever heard of a
	ו	
2		term called a Variation? Have you ever heard of
3		that word, Variation?
4	Α.	I have heard of the term variation.
5	Q.	Okay. So if you would like to build closer to
6		the right-of-way of the road or the property
7		line than what the Ordinance allows, the proper
8		thing to do is to file a petition for a
9		Variation.
10		Were not here to play Let's Make a Deal.
11		Oh, yeah, I'll move it back 30. Oh, yeah, we'll
12		do 30 here. Oh, no, I'll do that.
13		No, we can't do that. The Ordinance says
14		50; it's 50. If you want to go closer, a
15		Variation is required.
16	Α.	Understood.
17	Q.	So I just wanted to make sure you understood
18		that there's another process you can go to ask
19		for that relief in those areas where you might
20		need to be building closer.
21	Α.	Understood.
22		MS. DONARSKI: Thank you.
23		MR. WELBERS: Any other questions of this
24		witness?
		In Totidom Norbia IIC (ITV)

In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260 In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV)

Page 37

1	(No verbal response.)
2	MR. WELBERS: Connie, would you like to
3	express a couple thoughts or concern? You were
4	talking about the mayor. You're welcome to do
5	that. Now's the time.
6	MS. STETSON: I just
7	MR. WELBERS: You've got to
8	MS. STETSON: Oh.
9	MR. WELBERS: Yeah, you know the
10	procedure.
11	CONNIE STETSON,
12	being first duly sworn, testified as follows:
13	MS. BEATTIE: Could you please state your
14	name and address for the record.
15	MS. STETSON: Connie Stetson, 6300 - 1050
16	North Avenue, Neponset.
17	I just we just went through an
18	Ordinance in Neponset for solar and wind not to
19	be within the mile and a half. And it's just
20	for more protection of the people, because
21	there's more people in that area that could get
22	hurt with wind or solar. And I just feel that
23	for the growth of the town, that mile and a half
24	is there for a reason.

In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

1	If you go into the Planning Commission
2	book, there's a map that you open up in there
3	I don't know if you know where it's at or if you
4	have it, but there's a map in that, and there's
5	circles where the mile and a half is, and that
б	is for protecting of the town.
7	So I'm very upset that the mayor signed
8	this. And I hope he asked the people that live
9	around there their opinion before he pushed it
10	through. That's really all I have to say.
11	Because there's people around there. It
12	shouldn't just be the mayor and the Council to
13	make that decision. It should be the people
14	that live around it.
15	MR. WELBERS: Okay. Are there any
16	questions of Connie on her statement that she
17	just made?
18	(No verbal response.)
19	MR. WELBERS: Are you good?
20	MS. STETSON: Yes. He has a question.
21	MR. GILLAN: It's not really a question
22	for her, but Arlington is just as close as
23	Cherry. Were the people of Arlington consulted?
24	MR. WELBERS: Well, we don't know.

In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

MS. STETSON: I'm just saying, they should 1 have been asked before that decision was made. 2 Okay. Would you like to 3 MR. WELBERS: come up and say a few things, Neil? 4 MR. GILLAN: Yeah. 5 And you can -- when you're 6 MR. WELBERS: 7 under oath, you can ask that question. None of us know the answer, but you can certainly lay it 8 9 into the record. NEIL GILLAN, 10 being first duly sworn, testified as follows: 11 MS. BEATTIE: Could you please state your 12 name and address for the record. 13 Neil Gillan, 32944 - 2100 14 MR. GILLAN: North Avenue. 15 MS. BEATTIE: And it's N-E-A-L? 16 I-L. 17 MR. GILLAN: MS. BEATTIE: Thank you. 18 MR. GILLAN: So I bought the property from 19 my parents about five or six years ago. 20 I never 21 dreamt that my grandfather, who I'm related to, not by choice obviously or I wouldn't be up 2.2 here, I just -- my understanding, why is it that 23 it needs to be a mile and a half from town but 24

> In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

it can be right at everybody else's doorstep 1 that's in the rural community, you know, within 2 150 feet? 3 So -- and then moving forward, the farm 4 tile that does run through there, if these 5 things are driven in 10 to 15 feet --6 7 Didn't you say 10 to 12? MR. SNYDER: 6 to 10. 8 9 MR. GILLAN: 6 to 10, okay. Most of the farm tile is probably 4 foot 10 11 deep. So when you puncture them, I guess, what's the step? I mean, it's going to happen, 12 I guarantee it will. When my footing tile backs 13 14 up and my basement is full of water, who do I turn to? 15 MR. SNYDER: I'm not testifying right now. 16 Okay. And as far as the 17 MR. GILLAN: relationship between Wes, the landowner, and Bob 18 McCook, they're good friends. So as far as that 19 being pushed through with the mayor, there's --20 21 you know, obvious, they are good friends, so why wouldn't it go through? 22 23 None of the people of Cherry were alerted of this. I only got it because I was in 24

> In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

1		proximity, and there was only eight other people
2		that I believe got it, the letter, one being my
3		parents.
4		So I don't does anybody have any
5		questions for me?
6		EXAMINATION
7	BY MS	S. DONARSKI:
8	Q.	How close is your home to the to this? Is
9		it north? south? east? west?
10	Α.	Mine's to the east.
11	Q.	And how close is your home to the perimeter
12		fence or to the property line?
13	Α.	So the property line, it's probably 250 feet
14	Q.	Okay.
15	Α.	from there to there.
16	Q.	Okay. And have you had trouble with flooding
17		in your basement then?
18	Α.	If a tile gets broke, then for sure I would.
19	Q.	So you've gone to extra expense and measures to
20		have a drainage system installed around your
21		home to drain it away from your home?
22	Α.	Absolutely. We have spent thousands of dollars
23		on this tile that runs through that property,
24		drains that one and it drains other properties

In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

1	adjoining ours.
2	MS. DONARSKI: Okay. Thank you.
3	EXAMINATION
4	BY MS. STETSON:
5	Q. Do you know when your Village meetings are? If
6	you don't, I assume that you should and you
7	should go visit them and have your opinions
8	spoke with your other neighbors.
9	EXAMINATION
10	BY MR. WELBERS:
11	Q. We just, not long ago, did a zoning
12	something for you, didn't we?
13	A. Yes. My dad and I had to come in here because
14	we had to rezone for my home property to be
15	parcelled off to five acres.
16	Q. You operate the business there, or does your
17	father?
18	A. No.
19	Q. The Area Wide Septic Service, your father
20	A. My mother and father operate it out there. And
21	the business has been sold since then, so the
22	business is out of there.
23	The other concern is, the road
24	commissioner, that road is 9-ton, posted year

In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

1		round. I mean, these semis, I'm sure they're
2		going to come in right at gross vehicle weight
3		of 80,000 pounds. Normally that's what they
4		run, around that.
5	Q.	That they are.
6	A.	So, I guess, I express concern of the road
7		itself. It's not great to begin with, and they
8		don't maintain it.
9		In a snowstorm which I have seen, I
10		opened that road myself personally multiple
11		times if you put a fence on the right-of-way,
12		right at the edge of that field, my road will be
13		closed in a snowstorm, guaranteed, especially if
14		there's any type of grass or anything that
15		would, you know, restrict.
16		MR. WELBERS: Any other questions of Neil?
17		(No verbal response.)
18		MR. WELBERS: You can sit down. Thank
19		you.
20		Would anyone else like to testify?
21		MS. GILLAN: I do.
22		MR. WELBERS: Come on up.
23		NANETTE GILLAN,
24		being first duly sworn, testified as follows,
		In Totidom Marbia IIC (ITTV)

In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

MS. BEATTIE: Could you please state your 1 name and address for the record. 2 Nanette Gillan, 32956 - 2100 3 MS. GILLAN: North Avenue, Arlington, Illinois. 4 I just want to say that I am definitely 5 against this. You had asked him if he or 6 7 anybody from his company has spoke to any of the surrounding people. I can tell you that he did 8 9 not speak to myself or any of my family that own the farm that's adjoining to this property. 10 I know that there has been, like Neil 11 said, a drainage problem. My husband and I 12 built our house there in -- well, we bought the 13 farm in 1980. We took down fences because we 14 didn't want any fences around the property. We 15 built our home there in 1990, and then we had 16 trouble with flooding off and on and worked to 17 18 put -- we have a drainage pit also out in that yard that's supposed to help with the water. 19 We have backflow valves and everything that we had 20 21 put in. So it's very concerning. My other concern is, I just find it ironic 22 that this has all come about at this time. 23 Because my husband passed away four months ago, 24

> In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

and now his dad is going to do this to us. I mean, I really -- it's a great, big burden to be doing to us during this time.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

But along with that, I'm concerned about the property value. I mean, we worked hard to buy that farm, to build our house. We built that house ourselves, and to see that the value is going to go down on that is just disgusting.

9 My other concern is the snow and the drifting, and then our grandson that lives on 10 the property. He is autistic. So I'm greatly 11 concerned as to what this will do for him with 12 the sound. You can say it's not going to bother 13 14 him. Well, you don't have autism. You haven't done a study with autistic kids. I have read 15 studies online of how it affects them and how 16 17 it's difficult for them. So any kind of change 18 this dramatic, to have this big thing put down, you know, 200 -- less than 200 feet from us, is 19 just terrible. It's ridiculous. 20

And I find it disgusting, as you said, that the mayor of Cherry did nothing. We spoke to a couple of the Board members. They were told that there wasn't enough time to file --

> In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

what did they call it? I can't remember what 1 they called it. 2 MR. GILLAN: Like, an intervention. 3 MS. GILLAN: It wasn't an intervention, 4 but it was something to that -- an objection, 5 basically. 6 7 They were told that they had to go along with this because there was not enough time to 8 9 object to it. This is what the Board members were told. 10 Because we -- the Board members we talked 11 to, we considered putting up notices in town 12 saying, you know, this is going to come in, it's 13 14 going to be too close, and your well where your water comes from is right across the road from 15 16 this. So there's all sorts of, to me, environmental reasons. 17 18 A question I didn't ask earlier that I probably should have asked you about was, 19 where -- I know you have to get permits from 20 21 Bureau County, but do you have to get permits from the Illinois Department of Public Health, 22 23 you know, as to what this is going to do? My husband and I ran our business for over 24

> In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

30 years and, I mean, the hoops that we had to 1 jump through with the State of Illinois and 2 permitting and everything that we ever installed 3 4 for any homeowner was just above and beyond anything that you're going to have to do, from 5 what I have seen so far. 6 7 So I just -- I hope that you don't agree that this can go through, because it 8 9 just -- I hope you deny it, because it just -it's heartbreaking. 10 You know, the other people with the 11 Zearing one said they took it personal. Well, 12 they think they take it personal? We are 13 14 related to the guy, unfortunately -- I'm not; my husband was. 15 So, you know, it's sad to think that money 16 17 is that important over your family and what's 18 best for a whole community, just to fill your wallet. I think that's sad. 19 Okay. Any questions for 20 MR. WELBERS: 21 Mrs. Gillan? (No verbal response.) 22 23 Thank you, Mrs. Gillan. MR. WELBERS: Jessica, would you like to? 24

In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

MS. CARLS: No. I think they covered 1 2 everything. Well, all subject to the 3 MR. WELBERS: 4 same conditions that you have read into the record? 5 MS. DONARSKI: Yes. 6 7 MR. WELBERS: You don't need to reread that? 8 9 MS. DONARSKI: I have another sheet here to hand out. It's exactly the same, except I 10 11 changed the name of the project and the date it 12 was filed. MS. STANLEY: Can I ask one question? 13 Go ahead. 14 MR. WELBERS: MS. STANLEY: My name is Beth Stanley. 15 Is Mr. McCook a County Board member? 16 17 MR. WELBERS: He is. 18 MS. STANLEY: That's all I -- I just wanted to know. 19 There technically wasn't a 20 MR. WELBERS: 21 witness up there, and I'm not a witness, but I did answer your question. 2.2 23 Thank you. MS. STANLEY: Kris, I'm puzzled. MR. WELBERS: 24 You

> In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

know, when I load into my Google maps the 1 address where Neil lives, it is equidistant to 2 Arlington. Arlington is not mentioned here as 3 to even have an opinion. Why would that be? 4 MS. DONARSKI: Well, when it was measured 5 in my office, we -- it was determined that it 6 7 was more than a mile and a half from Arlington. So if it was an error, then we did not 8 9 intentionally leave Arlington out. But it was measured that it was more than the mile and a 10 half. 11 MR. WELBERS: Well, there's two questions 12 before us; one is the Conditional Use and the 13 14 other is a Variation. So I suppose what we're talking about is 15 16 the corporate boundary line from Cherry, and we 17 may not have looked at the corporate boundary 18 line for Arlington or maybe we did overlook it, we just don't know. 19 It's a significant distance north of 20 21 Cherry, so I don't know how far the corporate boundary line goes out. It's more than a mile 2.2 23 and a half from downtown Cherry out to there. And it actually seemed closer to Arlington to 24

> In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

me, instinctively.

1

2	But at any rate, first of all, again I
3	inspected. Closest to my residence down by
4	Spring Valley. And again I believe that the
5	Applicant has not met the Zoning standards. And
6	so when it comes to the Conditional Use, I am
7	going to move that we recommend that the Bureau
8	County Board decline the application for
9	Conditional Use to build and operate a
10	4.99-megawatt AC commercial solar energy
11	facility for the purpose of generating
12	electrical power on a portion of the subject
13	property. The project will consist of solar
14	panels, racking, foundation piles, inverters,
15	overhead poles and lines, and perimeter fencing.
16	So that's the motion on the Conditional
17	Use. Is there a second?
18	MR. BICKETT: I'll second.
19	MR. WELBERS: Dave is the second.
20	Val, please call the roll.
21	MS. BEATTIE: Mr. Jensen?
22	MR. JENSEN: No.
23	MS. BEATTIE: Mr. Bickett?
24	MR. BICKETT: Yes.

In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

MS. BEATTIE: Mr. Stutzke? 1 2 MR. STUTZKE: No. Mrs. Smith? 3 MS. BEATTIE: MS. SMITH: I'm rejecting it. 4 5 MR. WELBERS: So the answer is yes on the motion --6 7 MS. SMITH: Yes. MR. WELBERS: -- to send it 8 9 nonrecommended? And of course I will vote yes; I made the 10 motion. 11 12 (By voice vote three ayes, two nays.) 13 14 MR. WELBERS: So that's three-to-two, right? 15 Yes, sir. 16 MS. BEATTIE: MR. WELBERS: So it does advance on to the 17 County Board not recommended by this Board. 18 When it comes to the Variation, I don't 19 know what to do. I am tempted to continue it, 20 to table it to another time, because I think we 21 need to clarify whether Arlington is involved or 22 23 whether they are not. No one from Cherry is here tonight. 24 And

> In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

1	normally when no one objects to a Variation, we
2	usually go along with it. But we do have some
3	testimony here that concerns me. If the Cherry
4	Board was misadvised, all they had to do was say
5	they don't approve and it would be done.
6	So I'd like to table that Variation to our
7	next regular meeting and then we'll look at it
8	again.
9	MR. BICKETT: Do you need a second?
10	MR. WELBERS: In the meantime, we'll look
11	to see if Arlington should be notified.
12	MR. STUTZKE: I have a question,
13	Mr. Chairman. If we have already voted and we
14	have a vote taken that we nix it, why are we
15	looking at
16	MR. BICKETT: It's recommended to not
17	approve it. They make the decision.
18	MR. WELBERS: We still have to vote on the
19	Variation, one way or the other.
20	MR. STUTZKE: So we send a Variation
21	MR. WELBERS: But I don't want to vote to
22	recommend the Variation, which I normally would
23	do if there's no one here, but there's testimony
24	that indicates that maybe there's some unholy

In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

alliance here, but also testimony, which I have 1 verified, that Arlington appears to be just as 2 close, and they have not been asked. So I think 3 they should be. 4 Well, what -- I believe MS. DONARSKI: 5 what Mr. Stutzke is saying, if this is going to 6 7 go to the County Board and it's going to go with a recommendation for denial, you recommend it 8 for denial, why would you grant a Variation if 9 you recommend a denial? Is that what you're --10 11 MR. STUTZKE: Yes. That's what he said. MR. WELBERS: 12 MS. DONARSKI: That's what I was --13 Okay. 14 MR. WELBERS: But we have had these issues before in various other types of applications, 15 where we had Conditional Use requests and we 16 17 also had Variation requests, and we still acted 18 on the Variation requests. Those were cases where Judge Slavin was here facilitating for us 19 and advised us to recommend both. 20 21 I mean, if your advice is we do nothing and not recommend anything on the Variation --2.2 23 No, I'm not giving advice. MS. DONARSKI: I was just clarifying what he was saying, to 24

> In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

make sure I understood. 1 2 MR. WELBERS: Somebody else on the Board can make a recommendation to approve or 3 disapprove that Variation, if they want to. 4 MS. DONARSKI: The Variation is granted or 5 denied by this group here. 6 7 That's correct, it's up to MR. WELBERS: 8 us. 9 MS. DONARSKI: It's up to you. MR. WELBERS: So we want to be sure that 10 what we have done is right, and I don't feel 11 sure that granting a Variation, just in the 12 absence of someone from Cherry tonight, is 13 14 right. Again, I think we need to look to see if 15 16 Arlington is affected by this, if it's in their 17 corporate limit, if they have such a thing, and 18 ask them. Second, you know, maybe the people of 19 Cherry need to take one more look at this. 20 21 MS. DONARSKI: Okay. Well, this is -- the next regular hearing is on December 21st. 22 23 Thursday, December 21st, at 7 p.m. That's when I would MR. WELBERS: 24

> In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

recommend continuing the Variation request, 1 2 until then. MS. DONARSKI: Tabling it. 3 MR. WELBERS: Right. Tabling it, yes, 4 tabling it. 5 And then in the meantime, we should take a 6 7 look to see if Arlington needs to be asked. MR. BICKETT: If we table it, will they 8 9 still vote on the Conditional Use at the County Board meeting or will they table it a month? 10 MS. DONARSKI: Well, I can't say what the 11 12 County Board will do, so I don't know the answer to that. 13 MR. WELBERS: Us tabling this Variation 14 request, in my opinion, would not stop them from 15 acting on the Conditional Use --16 17 MS. DONARSKI: On the Conditional Use, 18 correct. MR. WELBERS: -- either in favor or not in 19 favor. 20 21 If they acted not in favor, then there wouldn't be any need in December --22 23 MR. BICKETT: Well, that's what I was wondering. 24

> In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

MR. WELBERS: -- for us to do anything 1 2 more than just to close it out. But if they 3 were to go ahead and approve it, then --The Variation wouldn't then MR. BICKETT: 4 matter. 5 MR. WELBERS: -- the Variation decision 6 7 needs to be made. MR. BICKETT: Do you need a second? 8 9 MR. WELBERS: I don't remember. MS. DONARSKI: I had you down as a second, 10 11 yeah. 12 MR. WELBERS: So this is tabled until December 21st, the Variation request, here, at 13 14 7 p.m., Bureau County Courthouse. And other than that, I guess we are done 15 tonight, right? 16 17 MS. DONARSKI: Yes. 18 MS. BEATTIE: You've got to move to adjourn. 19 MR. WELBERS: Because I certainly am 20 21 tired. Motion to adjourn. I'll make it. MR. BICKETT: 2.2 23 MS. SMITH: Second. Shirley Ann and Dave. MR. WELBERS: 24

> In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260

1	(The hearing was concluded at
2	9:58 p.m.)
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
	In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV)

815.453.2260 In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV)

1	Now on this 27th day of November, A.D., 2023, I
2	do signify that the foregoing testimony was given
3	before the Bureau County Zoning Board of Appeals.
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	Barry Welbers, Chairman
9	
10	
11	
12	Vaisting Dependi
13	Kristine Donarski, Zoning Enforcement Officer
14	
15	
16	An enter (1) Dender of
17	Callie S. Bodmer
18	Callie S. Bodmer Certified Shorthand Reporter
19	Registered Professional Reporter IL License No. 084-004489
20	P.O. Box 381 Dixon, Illinois 61021
21	
22	
23	
24	
	In Totidem Verbis, LLC (ITV) 815.453.2260