

EXHIBIT NUMBER: BRA -01:4
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(Commission Secretary)

Gordon
White

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE MEMBERS OF THE C.E.C. FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THIS HEARING.

I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK ALL THE PEOPLE INVOLVED IN AGRICULTURE WITH ACTUAL HANDS ON EXPERIENCE FOR TAKING THE TIME TO MAKE PRESENTATIONS.

I SYMPATHIZE WITH THE COMMISSION ON HAVING TO LISTEN TO SCORES OF CONCERNED CITIZENS MAKING PRESENTATIONS BASED ON POOR INFORMATION AND NO EXPERIENCE WITH VIABLE FARMING PRACTICES OR THE REAL FACTS.

I COULD HAVE SPENT HOURS SEARCHING THE INTERNET FOR LOADS OF ARTICLES AND PICTURES TO FLOOD YOU WITH DATA THAT MAY OR MAY NOT BE TRUE. FOR I CAN POST AN ARTICLE ON THE INTERNET AND MOST PEOPLE WHO READ SOMETHING IN PRINT BY WHOMEVER BELIEVE IT MUST BE TRUE. EVEN PICTURES CAN BE EASILY ALTERED TO MAKE THEM APPEAR TOTALLY DIFFERENT, TO MAKE A POINT.

I DECIDED TO MAKE A PRESENTATION ON FARM PRACTICES THAT I AM WILLING FOR YOU TO COME OUT AND VERIFY ON MY OWN FARM THAT HAS BEEN IN MY FAMILY FOR OVER 100 YEARS.

A LITTLE HISTORY ON MY FARM. MY GREAT GRANDFATHER BROKE MOST OF MY FARM IN THE EARLY 1900'S AND IT HAS BEEN MOSTLY GRAIN FARMED EVER SINCE. SMALL AMOUNTS OF FERTILIZER WERE FIRST USED IN THE FIFTIES SO SOME OF THIS LAND WAS DEPLETED OF NUTRIENTS AND ORGANIC MATTER BY REMOVAL OF CROPS, HAY, AND BEEF FOR OVER FIFTY YEARS. SUMMERFALLOW WAS USED TO GIVE THE LAND TIME TO BREAK DOWN ORGANIC MATTER INTO NUTRIENTS TO GROW A CROP. WITH THIS PRACTICE CAME SOIL EROSION BY WIND AND WATER, THERE ARE FENCELINES OVER 8 FEET HIGH IN MY AREA FROM WIND EROSION AND LOTS OF GULLIES WASHED OUT FROM THE WATER. IN THE 70'S MY FATHER AND GRANDFATHER WERE USING MORE CHEMICAL FERTILIZERS TO GROW A BETTER CROP, BUT ONLY REPLACING WHAT EACH CROP USED. EG. GROW A GOOD CROP ADD MORE FERTILIZER/ GROW A POOR CROP ADD LESS FERTILIZER WHICH WORKED WELL BECAUSE AFTER A GOOD CROP YOU COULD AFFORD A LITTLE MORE INPUTS. IN THE LATE 70'S WE WENT ZERO OR MINIMUM TILL. WHICH MEANS LEAVING THE STUBBLE IN PLACE, TO ELIMINATE WIND AND WATER EROSION, PLUS LIMITING EVAPORATION OF WATER SO THE CROP HAD MORE TO USE. THIS STAGE IN THE FARM'S HISTORY ALSO SAW THE ELIMINATION OF

SUMMERFALLOW AND THE BEGINING OF CONTINUOUS CROPPING. THIS ALSO MEANT MORE COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS AND WEED CHEMICALS. BUT ONLY MAINTAINED THE FARM AND SLOWLY STARTED TO IMPROVE THE SOIL.

IN 1999 MY FARM STARTED USING HOG MANURE AS A NUTRIENT. THIS MEANT QUITE A FEW CHANGES FOR THE FARM. MANURE MANAGEMENT PLANS AND SOIL TESTS HAD TO BE DONE EACH YEAR WHICH WERE ONLY DONE EVERY FIVE OR SO YEARS BEFORE. WITH EACH PASSING YEAR OR SO THE RULES WOULD BE INCREASED, TO WHERE THEY ARE TODAY, THE MOST STRINGENT ON THE CONTENENT. THIS IS FINE AS LONG AS THEY STAY SCIENCE BASED AND LOGICAL.

YES I HELPED BRING THESE HOG BARNES TO MY AREA FOR MULTIPLE REASONS. THE BARNES IN MY MUNICIPALITY CREATED 26 FULL TIME JOBS PLUS SOME STUDENT SUMMER JOBS WITH A PAYROLL CLOSE TO \$1 MILLION AND PAY \$80,000 IN TAXES THAT HELP NOT ONLY THE MUNICIPALITY BUT ALSO THE SCHOOL DIVISION.

PERSONALLY THE BIGGEST ADVANTAGE TO MY FARM HAS BEEN THE MANURE. WITHOUT IT I PROBABLY WOUDN'T BE HERE TODAY MAKING THIS PRESENTATION AS I WOULD LIKELY NOT BE FARMING. I PAY FOR THE MANURE BASED ON APPLIED NITROGEN AND I PAY 60 PERCENT OF NH3 PRICE. WHICH IS ANHYDROUS AMMONIA A DEADLY CHEMICAL FORM OF NITROGEN THAT IS SAFE IF HANDLED PROPERLY.

I HAVE SUPPLIED YOU WITH 3 FIELD HISTORIES FROM MY FARM SO YOU CAN SEE ACTUAL APPLIED NUTRIENTS, MANURE AND CHEMICAL OVER THE PAST 9 YEARS AND THE CORRESPONDING SOIL TESTS. AS YOU GO OVER THESE YOU MAY WONDER WHY THE SOIL TESTS FLUCTUATE UP AND DOWN, SOMETIMES REGARDLESS OF WHAT WAS APPLIED FOR INPUTS. WELL ANYONE IN AG KNOWS THAT MOTHER NATURE IS NOT ONLY INCONSISTENT BUT SOMETIMES DOWN RIGHT MEAN TO FARMERS. SO IF YOU GROW A GREAT CROP THE NUTRIENTS AFTER TEND TO BE DOWN AND IF YOU HAVE A WRECK THEY TEND TO GO UP. AND SOMETIMES THE SOIL TEST JUST DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE BUT IT IS THE BEST SCIENCE AVAILABLE TO MAKE OUR DECISIONS ON. AS YOU CAN SEE THERE IS NO PROBLEM USING HOG MANURE AS A FERTILIZER. THERE ARE SOME YEARS WHERE THE RESULTS GET HIGH BECAUSE OF A POOR CROP BUT WITH ADJUSTING THE FOLLOWING YEAR THE PROBLEM DISAPPEARS. THE FIELD - NORTHWEST 14-6-23 YOU MAY NOTICE HAS AN INCREASE IN P OR PHOSPHATE AND THIS IS DUE TO THE FACT THAT I DIDN'T CONCERN MYSELF WITH THE AMOUNT OF P APPLIED UNTIL THE REGULATIONS CHANGED. IT STILL IS NOT HIGH BUT I WILL BE ROTATING THE HIGHER P MANURE TO OTHER FIELDS AND APPLY LOWER P MANURE TO THIS ONE TO ALLEVIATE THIS BEFORE IT GETS TO BE A CONCERN. SO YOU SEE THE RULES DO WORK AND FARMERS DO PAY ATTENTION. THE HIGHER P IS

MOSTLY LOCATED IN THE SOLIDS, SO YOU CAN MANAGE WHICH FIELDS THESE ARE APPLIED TO. MY SOIL TESTS ARE ALSO G.P.S. BENCHMARKED. THIS ALLOWS ME TO GET THE MOST CONSISTENT RESULTS POSSIBLE, FROM A SOMETIMES VARIABLE SCIENCE.

WITH THE ADVANTAGE OF MANURE I AM HOPING TO TRY AND GET MY FARM BACK TO SIMILAR HEALTH THAT IT WAS WHEN MY GREAT GRANDFATHER FIRST BROKE IT. I FIGURE IT SHOULD TAKE CLOSE TO 50 YEARS OF APPLYING MANURE AND ZERO TILL TO GET IT EVEN CLOSE TO RESEMBLE THE NICE RICH PRAIRIE SOIL IT WAS AT THE TURN OF THE CENTURY.

THE SO CALLED SCIENCE THE PROVINCE IS USING TO SAY THAT THE NUTRIENT LEVELS IN THE LAKES AND RIVERS HAS GONE UP SINCE THE 70'S COULD BE RIGHT, AND IF IT IS THEY NEED TO START POINTING THE FINGER SOMEWHERE ELSE OTHER THAN AG, AT LEAST IN THIS PART OF THE PROVINCE, BECAUSE ALL THE LAND AROUND MY AREA IS WAY MORE ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY NOW THAN IT HAS EVER BEEN. AS YOU LIKELY KNOW CATTLE WERE FED ON THE RIVERS ALL WINTER, AND CROP LAND BLEW AND ERODED DEPOSITING NUTRIENTS IN THE AIR AND WATER UP TO THE LATE 70'S. NOW YOU RARELY SEE A DIRT PLUME FROM A BLOWING FIELD OR HUGE DELTAS OF SOIL WASHED DOWN STREAM BY WATER EROSION LETTING THEIR NUTRIENTS CONTINUE TO THE LAKES. SO IF THE LEVELS HAVE INCREASED THAT MUCH THEY NEED TO LOOK AT DIFFERENT AREAS AND CAUSES NOT THE EASY ONES TO PICK ON.

ON THE TOPIC OF SMELL, HARMFULL EMISSIONS, AND POOR WORK PLACE I ALSO HAVE A FEW COMMENTS, BY LIVING LESS THAN 1 KILOMETER FROM 6,000 FINISHER HOGS. YES, THEY SMELL LIKE PIGS. THE ODOR IS STRONG ESPECIALLY WHEN THE LAGOONS ARE AGITATED WHILE APPLICATION IS DONE BUT ARE NOT A HUGH PROBLEM FOR MOST OF THE YEAR. I HAVE RARELY BEEN BOTHERED WHEN THE LAGOONS ARE STRAW COVERED AND THE SMELL ONLY LASTS AS LONG AS THE WIND STAYS IN PERFECT ALIGNMENT WITH THE YARD. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR ANYONE EVEN IF YOU LIVED BESIDE THE WORST OPERATION IN THE WORLD TO SAY YOU ALWAYS SMELL THEM. THIS IS RURAL LIFE WITH DIFFERENT SMELLS, NOISES, DUST AND TRAFFIC THAN IN TOWN OR CITIES SO GET USED TO IT OR MOVE TO THE CITY FOR YOUR PERCEIVED LIFESTYLE.

AS FOR THE WORK ENVIRONMENT I COULD TELL YOU BIG STORIES GOOD AND BAD BUT WILL ONLY TELL YOU ONE OF MY FAMILY'S OWN. MY YOUNGEST DAUGHTER WORKED AT A 3,000 SOW BARN FOR TWO SUMMERS FOR A SUMMER JOB AS A FARROWING TECHNICIAN. SHE HAS HAD ASTHMA SINCE A YOUNG AGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT IN THE BARN DID NOT BOTHER HER NEARLY AS MUCH AS GOING TO UNIVERSITY IN DOWNTOWN TORONTO AT THE U. OF T., [SMOG CAUSED BY PEOPLE

MAYBE] SHE LEARNED TO WORK IN A TEAM ENVIRONMENT AND GAINED SOME JOB SKILLS THAT SHE WILL USE THE REST OF HER LIFE. NO SHE DID NOT WANT TO MAKE A CAREER OUT OF IT BUT SHE ALSO DOESN'T WANT TO BE A DOCTOR EITHER. BUT HER ABILITY TO WORK WITH OTHERS AND HANDLE ANIMALS HAS GOTTEN HER A SUMMER JOB AS A USHER FOR THE TORONTO BLUE JAYS HANDLING DRUNK AND DISORDERLY HUMANS WHICH SHE SAYS IS WORSE.

MANURE APPLICATION IS AN EVER CHANGING THING. ON MY FARM WE HAVE GONE FROM DRAG HOSE WITH SMALL CULTIVATOR, TO LARGE TANKERS WITH CULTIVATOR, TO TANKERS WITH AIRWAY APPLICATOR, TO A DRAG HOSE WITH AIRWAY INJECTER APLICATOR. AND I DON'T EXPECT THIS TO BE THE LAST CHANGE BUT IS WORKING WELL. AS BETTER METHODS OF APPLICATION COME ALONG I IMAGINE THERE WILL BE CHANGES. NOBODY WANTS TO WASTE NUTRIENTS THEY ARE APPLYING, FOR THE ALTERNATIVE IS VERY EXPENSIVE [COMMERCIAL FERTILIZER IS GETTING VERY EXPENSIVE].

THE RULES AND REGULATIONS ARE EXTREME IN THIS INDUSTRY AND THE AG PRODUCERS HAVE BEEN COMPLYING WITH THE BEST OF THEIR ABILITY, BUT IF THEY ARE INCREASED FURTHER BEFORE THE SCIENCE CATCHES UP, FARMERS WILL NOT BE ABLE TO CONTINUE TO FARM. IF THIS HAPPENS THEN YOU WILL ONLY HAVE CORPORATE FARMS, EVERYONE'S WORST FEAR. TOO MANY SAY THAT THESE CORPORATE OR LARGE OR MEGA BARNS OR FARMS HAVE DRIVEN OUT THE "FAMILY FARMS". NOT TRUE. I HAVE NEVER SEEN A FARMER DRIVEN OUT BY ANYONE OTHER THAN THE COMPANIES THAT GOUGE US ON OUR INPUTS AND MACHINERY COSTS, AND FUEL ETC. ALSO THE CONSUMER DRIVES MOST FARMERS OFF THE FARM BY ONLY WANTING TO SPEND A VERY SMALL PART OF THEIR INCOME ON FOOD, ESPECIALLY ON LOCALLY PRODUCED FOOD. BY THIS, THE ONLY ONES WHO CAN MAKE A LIVING ARE THE LARGE, LEAST COST PRODUCERS. THESE LARGE PRODUCERS ARE ALSO THE ONLY ONES THAT CAN MANAGE THE EXTRA COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH MORE RULES AND REGULATIONS. MOST SMALL FARMS SELL AND THE ONLY ONES BIDDING ARE THE LARGE OR EXPANDING FARMS, SO IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE THERE AREN'T ANY OF YOUR MEMORIES OF GRAMA'S FARM LEFT TO GO SEE OTHER THAN THE HOBBY FARMS OF PEOPLE PENSIONED OFF FROM THE CITY THAT WANT RURAL LIFE.

IN CONCLUSION, I HOPE THE COMMISSION RECOMMENDS TO THE GOV. THAT THE HOG INDUSTRY ALONG WITH ALL LIVESTOCK AND AGRICULTURE IN GENERAL IS ENVIRONMENTALLY VIABLE AND SUSTAINABLE. THAT IF THEY INCREASE THE REGULATIONS THEY HAD BETTER BE PREPARED FOR MAJOR COSTS OF UPDATING SOIL TEST

TECHNOLOGY, APPLICATION METHODS AND ENFORCEMENT SOME OF WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN DISCOVERED YET. ANOTHER REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF FARMS ESPECIALLY SMALL FARMS AND YOU BETTER FIND THEM JOBS OR INCREASE YOUR WELFARE BUDGET BECAUSE THEY WILL COME TO THE CITY.

JUST REMEMBER A FARMER IS A STEWARD OF THE LAND AND IF HE IS NOT, HE WILL NOT FARM FOR LONG. SO YOU BETTER START LOOKING FOR THE REAL CAUSE OF THE PROBLEM BECAUSE YOU HAVEN'T FOUND IT YET.

I AM A FOURTH GENERATION CANADIAN FARMER. I DON'T OWN ANY HOGS, AND I ONLY WISH TO USE MANURE, RESPONSIBLY ON MY LESS THAN 2,000 ACRE FAMILY FARM SO THAT I DON'T HAVE TO EXPAND TO 5,000 ACRES IN ORDER TO FEED, CLOTH, AND EDUCATE MY FAMILY.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME

GORDON WHITE

SOUTH WEST OF 12 - 6 - 23

<u>sample time</u>	<u>soiltest n / p</u>	<u>fert.type n/p</u>	<u>lbs/acre applied</u> <u>N / P</u>	<u>crop year</u>	<u>crop grown</u>
fall 1998	64 / 09	<u>CHEMICAL</u>	<u>70 / 25</u>	1999	CANOLA
fall 1999	23 / 20	MANURE	100 / 30	2000	W. WHEAT
fall 2000	20 / 23	<u>CHEMICAL</u>	<u>55 / 15</u>	2001	FLAX
fall 2001	13 / 14	<u>CHEMICAL</u>	<u>75 / 25</u>	2002	S. WHEAT
fall 2002	37 / 24	MANURE	90 / 26	2003	SUNFLOWERS
spring 2004	113 / 49	<u>CHEMICAL</u>	<u>30 / 20</u>	2004	S. WHEAT
fall 2004	30 / 55	MANURE	61 / 18	2005	FLAX
fall 2005	61 / 75	MANURE	80 / 23	2006	S. WHEAT
fall 2006	51 / 35	MANURE	87 / 25	2007	CANOLA

NORTH WEST 14-6-23

<u>sample time</u>	<u>soiltest n / p</u>	<u>fert.type</u>	<u>lbs/acre applied n / p</u>	<u>crop year</u>	<u>crop</u>
		<u>CHEMICAL</u>	<u>75 / 25</u>	1999	S. WHEAT
fall 1999	36 / 20	MANURE	90 / 26	2000	BARLEY
fall 2000	24 / 20	MANURE	90 / 26	2001	CANOLA
fall 2001	4 / 12	MANURE	86 / 23	2002	S. WHEAT
fall 2002	52 / 16	MANURE	90 / 26	2003	CANOLA
fall 2003	25 / 29	MANURE	96 / 28	2004	S. WHEAT
fall 2004	50 / 24	MANURE	45 / 13	2005	FLAX
fall 2005	97 / 82	MANURE	78 / 22	2006	S. WHEAT
fall 2006	44 / 80	MANURE	102 / 30	2007	CANOLA

NORTH EAST 14-6-23

<u>sample time</u>	<u>soiltest n / p</u>	<u>fertilizer type</u>	<u>lbs/acre applied</u> <u>N / P</u>	<u>crop year</u>	<u>CROP GROWN</u>
FALL 1998	67 / 08	CHEMICAL	<u>72 / 25</u>	1999	BARLEY
FALL 1999	18 / 16	MANURE	90 / 26	2000	CANOLA
FALL 2000	12 / 24	MANURE	90 / 26	2001	W. WHEAT
FALL 2001	16 / 13	CHEMICAL	<u>60 / 22</u>	2002	FLAX
FALL 2002	68 / 17	MANURE	72 / 21	2003	S. WHEAT
FALL 2003	42 / 22	MANURE	102 / 30	2004	CANOLA
FALL 2004	46 / 48	MANURE	103 / 30	2005	S. WHEAT
FALL 2005	88 / 54	MANURE	66 / 20	2006	S. WHEAT
FALL 2006	40 / 24	MANURE	102 / 30	2007	CANOLA