

Scott Lins

- Introduction and thank you
  - I hear a lot of talk about the nameless/faceless corporations that are being referred to by many presenters
  - Well I am here to put a name and a face to it
  - Worked in industry for 14 years
  - 100% of my household income comes from raising hogs
  - I started by working in the barns and over the years have been given opportunities to do many different things
  - I feel fortunate to work in an industry that produces two great products
    1. pork to feed people
    2. natural fertilizer in the form of hog manure to grow crops
  - I am here today feeling that I have to defend my industry and my company
  - I find it disappointing to be in that position
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- Over my career I have worked with people who grew grain to feed to hogs and used the manure to fertilize the field to grow grain to feed more hogs
  - These were people who understood what sustainable agriculture was all about
  - This was and still is the model that we use today
  - People have been doing this for years
  - It is a model that works and can continue to be sustainable for everybody, small or large
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- I hear criticisms about these so-called mega barns
  - Do you know why they built the way they are today
  - They built to lower the influence of micro organisms on the food that we eat
  - They were built to maintain good environmental control for the animals so that they are not subjected to the elements
  - Ultimately they were built to help create a safer product for the consumer
  - And yes they were built to make money
  - And there is no need to apologize for that
  - If we didn't make profit...I wouldn't have my job
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- Over the years I have had the honour of serving on industry committees that looked at providing solutions to issues that have arisen within our industry
- I have dealt with issues ranging from unjustified trade restrictions to developing new environmental regulations
- If the industry is doing something now that can be improved then we want to be able to target new standards
- We have one of the most proactive industries in Manitoba
- If we are doing things now that require improvement, this industry has shown its commitment to change for the better

- I live in this province...my family recreates on this land and in its water ways
  - I am not looking to create challenges
  - I want to be part of the solutions
  - But first let's understand what these challenges are and who are the players involved so that we are not going on some kind of witch hunt
  - I find it unfortunate that people can make outrageous claims without ever having at any real evidence to back up what they are saying
  - Attacking the swine industry is just an example of good politics but bad public policy
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- In summary I have witnessed a lot of changes over my time in the swine industry
- Changes that have moved the industry toward more progressive ideas and **progressive thinking**
- My challenge to the Committee members is to come out to see how the industry works
- Come see what processes are in place
- Visit the barns
- See the manure being applied to the fields to grow the crops
- Review the research
- And then make your recommendations after you have collected all of the relevant information
- We have nothing to hide
- And after you have done that work you'll realize it too

CEC HEARING.

EXHIBIT NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

File Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Emerson

Date: MARCH 15 | 07

Received by: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Commission Secretary)

- I am concerned with these hearings because they will affect all livestock producers
- I am an egg producer in the Morris area together with my wife and 2 children
- We operate a barn with just under 20,000 layers which is about 165 animal units
- We want to do our part in helping to protect our water in MB.
- We have retooled our barn with a dry manure system and manure storage in 2002
- No manure spills
- We have purchased a special spreader that will make a better job of getting a nice even spread pattern
- We know that manure is a valuable fertilizer and treat it that way
- We have our manure tested for values (nitrogen currently)
- We work together with neighbors who are cropping to get as even and accurate application as possible (depending on the crop to be grown)
- Stay 10 feet away from all ditches
- Try to make sure manure is worked into the land as soon as possible to get full value
- MEP. CHAIR.

TAKA CARE OF THE BIRDS.

I RECOGNIZE I NEED TO DO MY E FARM PLAN.

REASONABLE RULES FOR PHOSPHORUS.

CHALLENGES TO CHANGE WITH NEW GUIDELINES.