1 BEFORE THE STATE OF INDIANA ENVIRONMENTAL RULES BOARD 2 3 4 5 PUBLIC MEETING OF AUGUST 9, 2023 6 7 8 9 PROCEEDINGS 10 before the Indiana Environmental Rules Board, 11 Beverly Gard, Chairman, taken before me, Lindy L. 12 Meyer, Jr., a Notary Public in and for the State 13 of Indiana, County of Shelby, at the Indiana 14 Government Center South, Conference Center, 15 Room A, 402 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, Indiana, on Wednesday, August 9, 2023 at 16 17 1:31 o'clock p.m. 18 19 20 21 ACCURATE REPORTING OF INDIANA, LLC 543 Ponds Pointe Drive 22 Carmel, Indiana 46032 TELEPHONE: (317) 848-0088 23 EMAIL: accuratereportingofindiana@gmail.com

1	APPEARANCES:
2	BOARD MEMBERS:
3	Beverly Gard, Chairman Carrie Kozyrski
4	Ric Zehr Dr. Ted Niemiec
5	Dr. Joanne Alexandrovich Ken Rulon
6	William Etzler
7	Calvin Davidson Chris Horn
8	Jamie Brown John Ketzenberger
9	Dan Bortner, Proxy, Indiana Department of Natural Resources
10	Emily Totten, Proxy, Indiana Economic Development Corporation
11	Brian Rockensuess, IDEM Commissioner
12	(Nonvoting)
13	IDEM STAFF MEMBERS:
14	Christine Pedersen Nancy King
15	Christine Pedersen Seth Engdahl
16	Krystal Hackney Jason House
17	Karla Kindrick
18	DUDITO ODEAMEDO.
19	PUBLIC SPEAKERS:
20	None
21	
22	
23	

1 1:31 o'clock p.m. August 9, 2023 2 3 CHAIRMAN GARD: I'm going to call the 4 meeting of the Environmental Rules Board of 5 August the 9th, 2023 to order. Welcome, 6 This still seems strange to me. everyone. 7 used to have a full room, and now we have people looking over our shoulders to see the rest of 8 9 you, but several of us are here today, and 10 usually we Zoom, so I'm glad to have all of you, 11 whether you're here or whether you're Zooming. 12 We do have a quorum. 13 I'm going to now call on the Board members 14 to indicate their attendance at the meeting, 15 whether you're Zoom or whether you're in person. Comm. Rockensuess? 16 17 COMM. ROCKENSUESS: Here. 18 CHAIRMAN GARD: Mr. Davidson? 19 (No response.) 2.0 CHAIRMAN GARD: I don't think he's 21 going to be with us today. 22 Mr. Etzler? 23 (No response.)

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                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Dr. Niemiec?
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                 DR. NIEMIEC: Here.
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                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Mr. Horn?
 4
                 MR. HORN: Present.
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Mr. Rulon?
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 6
                       (No response.)
 7
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Mr. Rulon?
 8
                       (No response.)
 9
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: He was there --
10
                MR. RULON: Present.
11
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Okay.
12
            Ms. Totten?
13
                     (No response.)
14
                 COMM. ROCKENSUESS: She's on there.
15
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Is she on there?
16
                 COMM. ROCKENSUESS: Yeah.
17
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Your mike's not on,
18
    Ms. Totten.
19
            Mr. Bortner?
20
                 MR. BORTNER: Here.
21
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Ms. Brown?
22
                 MS. BROWN: Here.
23
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: And I'd like to
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1
     welcome Jaime Brown. She is new to the
 2
    Commission, representing manufacturing.
 3
                 MS. BROWN: -- be here.
 4
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Dr. Alexandrovich?
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                 DR. ALEXANDROVICH: I'm here by Zoom.
 6
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Ms. Kozyrski?
 7
                 MS. KOZYRSKI: Here.
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: I'll get this sooner
8
9
    or later.
10
                        (Laughter.)
11
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Mr. Ketzenberger?
12
                 MR. KETZENBERGER: I'm here.
13
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: We're glad to see
14
     you.
15
                 MR. KETZENBERGER:
                                     Thank you.
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: And we have another
16
17
    new member, Ric Zehr.
18
                 MR. ZEHR: And I'm here.
19
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: And he represents
20
    construction. And the Chair is present, so we do
21
    have a quorum.
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           Our first order of business today is the
23
     approval of the summary of the June 14th, 2023
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1
    Board meeting. Are there any additions or
 2
     corrections to the summary as presented?
 3
                 DR. ALEXANDROVICH: Yeah. At the
    bottom of page 1 there's a typo. It says,
 4
 5
     "air -- airport fees." It should be "air permit
     fees."
 6
 7
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: You're always good at
8
    this.
9
            Do we need a motion on that?
10
                 MS. KING: We'll just make the
11
    amendment.
12
                 CHAIRMAN GARD:
                                 Yeah.
13
                 DR. NIEMIEC: If there are no
14
    other -- no other corrections -- this is Ted
15
    Niemiec -- also, I believe there should be a
    correction in the second paragraph of the
16
17
    Commissioner's report. The spelling of
18
    Ms. Rennaker's name does not match what it is in
19
    her e-mail, according to what we've received.
20
     It's spelled with a first name C o l l e n in the
21
    minutes summary.
22
                 COMM. ROCKENSUESS: Oh, Colleen.
23
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: And it should be how?
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1
                 COMM. ROCKENSUESS: C o l l e e n.
 2
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Okay.
 3
                 COMM. ROCKENSUESS: We can --
 4
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: So noted.
 5
            Any other typos or anything like that?
 6
                       (No response.)
 7
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Okay.
                                         Is there a
8
    motion to approve --
9
                 DR. NIEMIEC: So approved --
10
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: -- as --
                 DR. NIEMIEC: -- this is Ted Niemiec.
11
12
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: -- as amended?
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            Is there a second?
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                 MR. RULON: Second, Ken Rulon.
15
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Voice vote. All in
16
     favor, say aye.
17
             (Board members responded, "Aye.")
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                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Opposed, nay.
19
                       (No response.)
20
                 CHAIRMAN GARD:
                                 The summary of the
21
    minutes are approved as amended.
22
            Comm. Rockensuess, your report.
23
                 COMM. ROCKENSUESS: Good afternoon,
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Chair Gard, members of the Board. Thanks for being here or on-line today. Welcome, Jaime and Ric, to the Board. Thanks for being here as well.

2.0

So, as an update from the agency, the last month and a half or so and then continuing on until later this fall, Drake Abramson, my

Legislative Director, Parvonay Stover, my Chief of Staff, and I have been traveling around the state meeting with legislative leaders just to talk about what issues they're seeing, providing information to them on what we do as an agency, why we do it, how we differ from EPA, what our relationship is like with EPA.

The last couple of years, just listening in and some of the issues Drake has dealt with seems to focus on things where there's confusion on where our authority lies and where EPA begins or vice-versa, or why we do things and how we do things. And so, we thought it was important to travel around the state to meet with people in their districts, to just start building relationships with some of these folks.

There has been a decent number of legislators that have turned over in the last four or five years, and so, a lot of them come in not knowing what every agency does, especially one as technical and sometimes big, at least in topics big, as we are.

2.0

So, so far we've been in New Albany -New Albany and Evansville. Our next stop is in
Portage, Indiana and we're scheduling stops I
know near Goshen and Fort Wayne and Terre Haute.
We're going to be doing some regional ones with
legislators in the donut counties as well. So,
hoping the relationships start getting better and
we start communicating on a better clip than we
have been, because it just helps us stem off
issues before they become issues that the
legislature needs to deal with, which most of the
time they shouldn't have to.

I mentioned last time that, you know, we've been heads down trying to figure out how we're going to implement the new rules process through House Enrolled Act 1623. Nancy and her team recently met with Office of Management and

Budget and the Governor's Office to make sure that the process in which we believe is how we can move forward is correct.

2.0

IDEM's -- or the Environmental Rules
Board's process is still different than all of
the other rules boards, because we flow in and
out of Title 4 and Title 13, where all other
agencies are now under Title 4. So, it does
create a little bit of confusion, but we have a
road map set out.

Our next step is to check in with the Attorney General's Office to make sure they agree with that, because they sign off on all of our rules, so we don't want to have any rules invalidated. And then Nancy's team is working on putting together documentation and flow charts, et cetera, for the Board so everybody knows what the path forward's going to be, and we'll have a better update on that probably at our -- if we have another Board meeting this year -- at our next Board meeting.

We've been super active recently, and I mentioned this a little bit last meeting, on the

topic of wetlands and WOTUS and all of that. The Sackett decision came down, which I mentioned last time, which changed the dynamics on who regulates which wetlands in each state.

2.0

And so, with that discussion, we started engaging with the Builders Association and their members and the consultants to figure out, with the isolated wetlands statutes, what's working, what's not working. Largely what's not working is the form we've been using, and there's confusion on it.

So, the first meeting went really well.

Everybody was freely talking about issues, which was great, because that doesn't always happen, and then we had a subsequent meeting with a smaller team of consultants and IDEM staff, and what I heard coming out of that is there's a lot of agreements on how to move that forward, which is great.

There will be some kind of legislation this next session to clarify some of these things, but I think coming from it together rather than on opposite ends of the spectrum is

super helpful to move whatever we move this next session forward with hopefully low or little amount of resistance.

We are also -- on staffing, a quick update there. I guess I did mention Colleen Rennaker in the last meeting, because we're correcting her name. She is our new Deputy Assistant Commissioner.

We are also working on hiring the 15 new Drinking Water staff that we were -- we got funding for this last session, and because of the duties we're taking on from Homeland Security and some of the other changes to the Excess Liability Trust Fund statute, we'll be hiring another three people in that area.

And I don't think she mentioned this at the last Board meeting, but MaryAnn Stevens, our longtime rule writer, especially on water quality issues, retired after 47 years. She retired last Friday, and what was really cool is I mentioned it to the Governor's Office, and they quickly got me a Distinguished Hoosier to give to her because of her years of service to the state.

And then finally, part of 1623 as well has to do with anybody that collects fines or penalties or fees, anything like that, that stuff has to be in rules now, which our fees are. Our fines are not, our penalty dollars are not.

Those have always been through a nonrule policy document that we've -- we haven't really changed in 25 years.

So, because of that, we are taking that policy, we will be drafting it into a rule form. I actually have to go in front of the Budget Committee to get that approved, and I have to do it by the end of this year, so we will be going — they have a meeting in October — September, October and December, so I'll probably hit the October or December meetings.

But our penalty policy was actually used as the draft that other agencies should look at to draft their own penalty policies. It's pretty well laid out. It gives you like the maximum we can do each day, and then it puts you into a matrix on whether you're a minor/minor violator or a major/major violator, or your violation is

that way.

And so, it should -- we're not changing anything with the policy. It hasn't had any issues over the years, so I'm hoping the Budget Committee will go well and we'll get that moving pretty quickly.

And that is it for my report.

CHAIRMAN GARD: Is there any change to the way that this Board will do business in the new spectrum?

necessarily how you do business. I think there's a potential change in how many hearings we have to have on particular issues. If we don't get substantive comments on a particular issue, so like the air fees, right, because that's coming up today, if we would have gotten substantive comments that were -- in which we would need to change that rule, we would have to have another hearing, which we do anyway. So, that's really not a change.

CHAIRMAN GARD: Uh-huh.

COMM. ROCKENSUESS: If we don't have

to do -- if we don't have substantive comments on things, I think we can do one hearing and then move it forward. So, it does potentially cut down the amount of time that the Board has to spend on a particular topic.

On our end, on the agency end, there are a bunch of -- a lot of different things that we're going to have to do now; right? So, when we public notice a rule, the first notice is, "Hey, we're thinking about doing a rule. What do you think?"

We can't do that now; right? When we do, we have to have the language with it. It has to be a full rule that we're giving to the public at that time, where today we do a first notice, "Hey, what do you think? We don't have language," then we do a second notice, "Here's the language, what do you think?" And then we have a hearing.

So, it kind of cuts out that -- it combines the first and second notice together, which is somewhat of a streamlined approach, but we also only have a year now to get a rule done.

So, we have to have, on the agency side, all of 2 our ducks in a row before we put out a rule, 3 because we've got to make that year time frame. And if we don't, we have to have a date 4 5 certain in which we're going to get that rule 6 done, and because some of our rules can be 7 contentious at times, we're going to have to do a lot of that background first before we even 8 9 initiate like a first notice, like we would have 10 in the past. 11 CHAIRMAN GARD: So, no more 13-year 12 rules like we had? 13 COMM. ROCKENSUESS: There may be 14 13-year rules, but you won't see them until that 15 last -- that 12th or 13th year. (Laughter.) 16 17 COMM. ROCKENSUESS: Yeah, no more 18 antidegs. 19 CHAIRMAN GARD: Anybody else have a 20 question for the Commissioner? 21 MS. KOZYRSKI: I did have a question 22 on the Department of Homeland Security

responsibilities that are transferring to IDEM.

I'm familiar with the -- with regard to reporting. Is that staying with IDHS?

COMM. ROCKENSUESS: That's staying with them. What we're taking on is: They had a program in which they licensed people that installed underground storage tanks.

MS. KOZYRSKI: Oh.

actually that whole program just fell on the Fire Marshal, who is not in the business of underground storage tanks. Now, why that got put there, who knows? But we met with Director Thacker, who was the Fire Marshal before he was Director of Homeland Security, and he started asking us questions about what we do with tanks.

And the meeting went on forever, because we wouldn't shut up about what we do with tanks, because that's what we do, and he was like, "Well, you should probably take this on." And then a legislator had a constituent issue, and then it became his idea, which was great, that this should move over to IDEM.

And so, that's -- it just made it -- it

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1
    makes it more cohesive, and then we are able to
 2
    see who -- from the minute it gets installed to
 3
    the minute there's an issue, what's going on in
 4
    that -- in the ground, because there's been times
 5
    when we have had people open up the ground to see
 6
    why the tanks were leaking, and the installer
 7
     literally took a pipe and bent it, put it on a
    paint can, and because of the corrosion over
8
9
    time, that was an easy place for it to fail.
10
                 MS. KOZYRSKI: Yeah.
11
                 COMM. ROCKENSUESS: We can hopefully
12
     stop that from happening in the future.
13
                 MS. KOZYRSKI:
                                Thank you.
14
                 COMM. ROCKENSUESS: Yeah.
15
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Any other questions?
                       (No response.)
16
17
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Anyone on Zoom have a
18
    question for the Commissioner?
19
                 DR. ALEXANDROVICH: Yeah.
20
                 MR. RULON:
                             Yeah, I do.
21
                 DR. ALEXANDROVICH: Oh, go ahead,
22
    Ken.
23
                 MR. RULON:
                             Yeah.
                                     So, Chairman Gard,
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I have a quick question for Brian. 2 Have we had any more contact with the 3 people in Carmel? We kind of promised them that 4 we would stay in touch, or IDEM would, and has 5 that still been going on like we promised them? 6 COMM. ROCKENSUESS: Yeah, I actually 7 asked this morning, I met with Aaron this morning, if we had had any more communication 8 9 from them. We did go out and do another 10 inspection. We didn't find issues, and we 11 haven't really heard back from them since we made 12 that initial contact. So, I did ask them to 13 reach back out and just make sure that we're not 14 dropping the ball anywhere, that -- because we 15 want to be responsive. 16 MR. RULON: Thank you. That's great 17 to hear. COMM. ROCKENSUESS: Thanks, Ken. 18 19 CHAIRMAN GARD: Okay. 2.0 Dr. Alexandrovich? 21 DR. ALEXANDROVICH: Yes, thank you. 22 I'm just wondering on that new rulemaking,

is there anything to encourage more public

participation? I know sometimes -- you know, it's been a while since we've really had a lot of comments, and it's a little bit discouraging to me that the public's not involved more.

now with any kind of public notice, there has to be rule language that goes into it, which, on one hand, I can see why the public would maybe not want to participate if you have -- if you don't know our system and you have to comment once about what you think and then comment again, you may think, "Well, I already commented. Why do I need to comment again?" So, that might help encourage it a little bit.

All Board meetings and all across the state now have to be live streamed and we have to keep records of those, so hopefully that will drive more interest into people participating or at least paying attention to what's going on.

And really, it's -- most of the rules we do affect different industries of some kind, and we've been doing a lot of engagement with those different industry groups, so they participate

more. Because the last -- the thing I hate dealing with the most is, you know, that we're passing a rule, and we don't hear about that there's an issue with the rule from X industry or X population of people until after the fact, and then it becomes a legislative issue.

Well, if we would have dealt with that while we were doing the rulemaking, maybe we wouldn't be dealing with it with the legislature. It makes it easier if we do it on the front end than the back end.

DR. ALEXANDROVICH: I'm a fan of streamed hearings. You know, Ken brought it up. I wasn't going to bring it up, but you guys know me. On transport trucks, you know, that are a transporting gravel, what are the -- who enforces the rules to cover all of that, to cover the trucks?

COMM. ROCKENSUESS: Like when you're driving down the road?

DR. ALEXANDROVICH: Yes.

COMM. ROCKENSUESS: DOT.

DR. ALEXANDROVICH: Because it seemed

to be one of the complaints of those folks, and the videos we got from the companies there, you couldn't see it till the very end, and the one truck that they showed wasn't covered, and I've kind of noticed around my town that there must be something that those people don't want to cover their trucks. You would think that there could be something simple, that we could encourage them to make sure that the trucks don't leave the property without being covered. So, that was just my observation and concern.

COMM. ROCKENSUESS: Yeah, we can definitely reach out to the folks at INDOT about that. I know when I'm driving down the road and there's a truck that's not covered, I quickly pass them, because I don't want the rocks hitting my windshield.

DR. ALEXANDROVICH: Well, there must be something hard about covering the trucks, because --

COMM. ROCKENSUESS: It's not hard.

DR. ALEXANDROVICH: -- more and more are not covered than are covered.

COMM. ROCKENSUESS: Yeah, it's not --1 2 most of them have to have -- a certain size, they 3 have to have the screens that go over them. 4 DR. ALEXANDROVICH: Thank you. 5 COMM. ROCKENSUESS: Yeah. 6 CHAIRMAN GARD: Anybody else? 7 (No response.) CHAIRMAN GARD: Okay. We'll move on. 8 9 Chris Pedersen for Rulemaking Report. 10 MS. PEDERSEN: Hello. I'm Chris 11 Pedersen, the Rules Development Section, Office 12 of Legal Counsel. 13 Before I start, I wanted to mention that 14 it appears that Bill Etzler and Cal Davidson are 15 both on the Zoom call now. 16 CHAIRMAN GARD: Okay. 17 MS. PEDERSEN: They weren't before, 18 but they appear to be on there now. 19 We do not have a recommendation for a date 20 for the next Board meeting, and this is in part 21 because with our rules that are currently in 22 process under the old rulemaking process, we just 23 don't have anything where we can predict when

they're going to be ready to come to the Board 2 meeting. 3 And then, as the Commissioner mentioned, 4 with the new rule process, we're still working 5 out some details, and those rules will have to be 6 fully developed before they can be noticed and 7 then brought to the Board. So, we don't have a predicted date for the 8 9 next Board meeting to recommend, but as soon as 10 we have rules that are ready, then we will be in 11 touch with the Board and work out a schedule to 12 have another Board meeting. 13 CHAIRMAN GARD: Okay. 14 MS. PEDERSEN: That's all I have. 15 CHAIRMAN GARD: And --MS. PEDERSEN: Any --16 17 CHAIRMAN GARD: And we don't know if 18 this will be your last Board meeting or not --19 MS. PEDERSEN: No. 20 CHAIRMAN GARD: -- because we don't 21 know when we'll have another one.

Chris is retiring, too, at the end of the

year, which we're going to really miss you.

22

MS. PEDERSEN: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN GARD: Okay. Any questions

for Chris, either here or Zoom?

2.0

(No response.)

CHAIRMAN GARD: Okay. Today we have hearings for the following regular rule board actions: Final adoption of the Title V

Permitting Fees, Wastewater Treatment Plant

Operator Certification. There will be -- also be a presentation on the Nonrule Policy Document:

Allowable Substitutions for Prerequisite

Education and Experience, Wastewater Operator

Certification.

As a reminder, if you wish to testify at any of today's hearings, please fill out a comment card and give it to Karla Kindrick at the sign-in table.

The rules being considered at today's meeting were included in the Board packets and are available for public inspection at the Office of Legal Counsel, 13th Floor, Indiana Government Center North. The entire Board packet is also available on IDEM's Web site at least one week

prior to each Board meeting.

A written transcript of today's meeting will be made. The transcript and any written submissions will be open for public inspection at the Office of Legal Counsel. A copy of the transcript will be posted on the rules page of the agency Web site when it becomes available.

Will the official reporter of the cause please stand, raise your right hand, and state your name?

(Reporter sworn.)

CHAIRMAN GARD: Thank you.

And I might add that those of you on Zoom can also testify; you just have to hit the little thing on the screen so they know you want to speak.

This is a public hearing before the Environmental Rules Board of the State of Indiana concerning final adoption of 326 IAC 2-1.1-7, Title V Permitting Fees.

I'll now introduce Exhibit A, the preliminarily adopted rule, into the record of the hearing.

Seth Ingersoll [sic] will present the rule.

2.0

MR. ENGDAHL: Members of the Board, good afternoon. My name is Seth Engdahl, and I am a rule writer in the Rules Development Section within IDEM's Office of Legal Counsel.

The rulemaking currently under consideration is statutorily mandated and would increase the annual base fee for two permit types: Title V Operating Permits and Federally Enforceable State Operating Permits, or FESOP's. Currently, there are around eleven hundred sources in Indiana that would be impacted by this increase.

This rulemaking would increase the annual base fees for these permits from the current fee of \$2,381 to \$6,100, resulting in roughly 4.3 million dollars per year in revenue to support the Title V permitting program.

For some background on this rulemaking, the Clean Air Act requires state air permitting programs to be supported by fees sufficient to cover all direct and indirect costs incurred in

the development and administration of the program. Without proper funding, the management of the program would be ceded to U.S. EPA.

2.0

Currently, IDEM charges Title V sources two fees: An annual fee and a fee based on the tonnage emitted. Over the past decade, the agency has seen a steady decline in billable emissions. While a reduction in overall emissions is certainly beneficial, it has resulted in a growing deficit, currently two to three million dollars, for the Title V permitting program at IDEM.

Accordingly, the agency worked with the Indiana General Assembly and interested stakeholders to pass legislation to raise the annual base fees to allow for a more predictable income stream for the program and prevent the program from being ceded to U.S. EPA.

This culminated in the passage of Senate Enrolled Act 155, which was signed by the Governor on April 20th of this year. This rulemaking, and the legislation mandating it, are necessary to fully fund the Title V permitting

1 program. 2 This is only the third time IDEM has 3 raised its Title V fees in the past 30 years, 4 with the most recent increase in 2019. A 5 statutory cap of one increase of ten percent or 6 less per five-year period remains in place; 7 however, the cap was bypassed by Senate Enrolled Act 155 for this increase. 8 9 IDEM requests that the Board approve this 10 rule as presented, and I'm happy to answer any 11 questions that you may have. 12 CHAIRMAN GARD: Are there any 13 questions from anybody here? 14 (No response.) 15 CHAIRMAN GARD: Anybody on Zoom? 16 (No response.) 17 CHAIRMAN GARD: Okay. Thank you very 18 much. 19 The hearing is concluded. The Board will 20 now consider final adoption of 326 IAC 2-1.1-7, Title V Permitting Fees. Is there Board 21 22 discussion?

(No response.)

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1
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Okay. I need a
 2
    motion to final adopt the rules as presented.
 3
                 MR. BORTNER: Motion to approve.
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                 MR. RULON: Ken Rulon, so moved.
 5
                 MR. BORTNER: Second.
 6
                 CHAIRMAN GARD:
                                Okay.
 7
            Did you get that?
8
                 THE REPORTER: Yes.
9
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Okay. Thank you.
10
            Any further discussion?
11
                       (No response.)
12
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Okay. I'll call the
13
    roll.
            Mr. Davidson?
14
15
                       (No response.)
16
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Mr. Davidson?
17
                    (Inaudible response.)
18
                 THE REPORTER: I couldn't hear that.
19
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: I couldn't hear that,
20
              Well, we'll check and see if he's really
    either.
21
    here or not.
22
           Mr. Etzler?
23
                 MR. ETZLER: Aye.
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                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Dr. Niemiec?
2
                 DR. NIEMIEC: Yes.
 3
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Mr. Horn?
 4
                 MR. HORN: Yes.
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Mr. Rulon?
 5
 6
                       (No response.)
 7
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Mr. Rulon?
8
                       (No response.)
9
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Mr. Rulon, do you
10
    want to vote?
                 MR. RULON: Yes.
11
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Ms. Totten?
12
13
                       (No response.)
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Mr. Bortner?
14
15
                 MR. BORTNER: Yes.
16
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Ms. Brown?
17
                 MS. BROWN: Yes.
18
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Dr. Alexandrovich?
19
                       (No response.)
20
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Dr. Alexandrovich, do
21
    you want to vote?
22
                 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.
23
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Ms. Kozyrski?
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                MS. KOZYRSKI: Yes.
 2
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Mr. Ketzenberger?
 3
                 MR. KETZENBERGER: Yes.
 4
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: The Chair votes aye.
 5
            Is Mr. Davidson on?
 6
                       (No response.)
 7
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: I guess --
                 DR. ALEXANDROVICH: Chairman Gard, am
8
9
    I not on your list? Joanne Alexandrovich votes
10
    yes.
11
                CHAIRMAN GARD: I called your name
12
    and you said yes.
13
                MS. TOTTEN: Same here for Emily
14
    Totten with IEDC. I vote yes.
15
                 COMM. ROCKENSUESS: I think there's
    issues with --
16
17
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: I called both -- all
18
    of your names. Just be sure that your mike's on.
19
                COMM. ROCKENSUESS: Did you call
20
    Mr. Zehr?
21
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Mr. -- oh, I'm sorry.
    You're on this list. Mr. Zehr?
22
23
                 MR. ZEHR: Aye.
```

```
1
                 MR. RULON: Also, Ken Rulon votes
 2
     yes, Chairman Gard.
                          Thank you.
 3
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Yeah, I called your
 4
    name, too.
 5
            Okay. Mr. Davidson, are you there?
 6
                       (No response.)
 7
                 COMM. ROCKENSUESS: Cal, do you want
              You're on mute.
8
    to vote?
9
                       (No response.)
10
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Well, I guess he's
11
    not there.
12
            The rule is adopted twelve to zero.
13
            This is a public hearing before the
14
    Environmental Rules Board of the State of Indiana
15
     concerning final adoption of 327 IAC 5-23,
16
    Wastewater Treatment Operator Certification.
17
            I will now introduce Exhibit B, the rule
18
    as preliminarily adopted with IDEM's suggested
19
     changes, into the record of the hearing.
20
            Krystal Hackney will present the rule.
21
                 MS. HACKNEY: Good afternoon, members
22
     of the Board. My name is Krystal Hackney, and I
23
     am a rule writer in the Rules Development Section
```

within the Office of Legal Counsel.

2

3

4

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23

I am here to present Rule No. 18-365 for Wastewater Treatment Plants and Operators. rulemaking repeals the existing rule at 327 IAC 5-22 and replaces it with 327 IAC 5-23. This rule addresses state statutory requirements made in 2015 and 2018 that affect IC 13-18-11. These statutory changes allow electronic examination through a third-party administrator, add certification examination fees, require proof of compliance with continuing education requirements submitted with certificate renewal applications, update the renewal cycle for operators' certificates from two years to three years, and add reciprocity for certified operators from other U.S. territories applying for a certification in Indiana.

The new rule reorganizes and restructures sections as well as updating them with the necessary changes.

Changes that have been made since preliminary adoption have been indicated in the Board packet on the Rule Information Sheet. A

```
1
     clarification was made at 327 IAC 5-23-10(b)
 2
               These subsections have the same
    and (c).
 3
     intention and IDEM felt that it should be worded
 4
    similarly. There have been no additional changes
 5
    made to this rulemaking since preliminary
 6
    adoption.
 7
            IDEM will present a nonrule policy
    document concerning the education and experience
8
9
    substitutions to the Board here shortly.
10
            IDEM requests that the Board final adopt
    this rule as presented. Program experts and I
11
12
    are available to answer any questions that you
13
    may have.
14
            Thank you.
15
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Is there anyone here
16
    that wants to speak on -- or do you have a
17
    question?
18
                 MS. KOZYRSKI: Oh, I have a question
19
    on the nonrule policy document --
20
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Okay.
21
                 MS. KOZYRSKI: -- not on the rule
22
     itself.
23
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Anybody there have
```

```
any questions?
 2
                       (No response.)
 3
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Is there any -- do we
 4
    have any speaker cards?
 5
                 MS. KINDRICK: No, ma'am.
 6
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: The hearing is
 7
    concluded. The Board will now consider final
    adoption of 327 IAC 5-23, Wastewater Treatment
8
9
    Plant Operator Certification. Is there any Board
10
    discussion?
11
                       (No response.)
12
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Any Board discussion?
13
                       (No response.)
14
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Okay. I need a
15
    motion to adopt IDEM's suggested changes.
16
                 MR. KETZENBERGER:
                                     So moved.
17
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Is there a second?
18
                 MS. KOZYRSKI: Second.
19
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Mr. Davidson?
20
                 COMM. ROCKENSUESS: So, I just got a
21
    text from him.
22
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Huh?
23
                 COMM. ROCKENSUESS: I just got a text
```

```
from him. He's dropping off.
 2
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Okay.
3
            Mr. Etzler?
 4
                       (No response.)
 5
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Mr. Etzler?
 6
                 MR. ETZLER: I vote aye.
 7
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Dr. Niemiec?
8
                 DR. NIEMIEC: Yes.
9
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Mr. Horn?
10
                 MR. HORN: Yes.
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Mr. Rulon?
11
12
                       (No response.)
13
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Mr. Rulon?
14
                 MR. RULON: Yes.
15
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Ms. Totten?
16
                       (No response.)
17
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Ms. Totten?
18
                       (No response.)
19
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Ms. --
20
                 COMM. ROCKENSUESS: Mr. Rulon and
21
    Mr. Totten [sic]?
22
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Mr. Rulon?
23
                 MR. RULON: Yeah, Chairman Gard, the
```

```
1
    mike is not flipping back to you sometimes after
 2
    Chris speaks, so that may be what the problem is.
 3
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Okay.
                                        I'm sorry.
 4
                 COMM. ROCKENSUESS: Do you hear it
 5
    when I speak?
 6
                 MR. RULON: Yes, Brian, very clearly
 7
    when you speak, yes.
8
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Okay.
9
                 MR. RULON: Yeah, I'm having some
10
    kind of problems and I don't know what's going
11
    on, but I appear to have mine set up all right,
12
    but I don't know.
13
                 DR. ALEXANDROVICH: We hear you.
14
    Others may not --
15
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: I think it was the
16
    microphone that I was using is malfunctioning.
17
                 MS. TOTTEN: I think that there may
18
    be some roll-call issues. I haven't heard my
19
    name, and I know Dr. Alexandrovich doesn't hear
20
    her name.
21
                 COMM. ROCKENSUESS: Can you hear --
22
                 MS. TOTTEN: Perhaps it's worth going
23
     over again.
```

```
1
                 COMM. ROCKENSUESS: Can you hear
2
    Sen. Gard now?
 3
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Can you hear me now?
 4
                 MR. RULON: Yes, I can.
 5
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Okay.
 6
                 MS. TOTTEN: Not very well.
 7
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: I'm speaking --
8
                 MR. RULON: The microphone may not be
9
    very close to you.
10
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: It's --
11
                         (Laughter.)
12
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: -- unless I eat it.
13
    What about this?
14
                 MR. RULON: Yes.
15
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Okay. Well, we'll go
16
    with this.
17
           Ms. Totten? This -- we're voting on
18
    accepting IDEM's suggested changes.
19
                 MS. TOTTEN: Thank you. I vote yes.
20
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Mr. Bortner?
21
                 MR. BORTNER: Yes.
22
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Ms. Brown?
23
                 MS. BROWN: Yes.
```

1 CHAIRMAN GARD: Dr. Alexandrovich? 2 DR. ALEXANDROVICH: Yes. 3 CHAIRMAN GARD: Ms. Kozyrski? 4 MS. KOZYRSKI: Yes. 5 CHAIRMAN GARD: Mr. Ketzenberger? MR. KETZENBERGER: Yes. 6 7 CHAIRMAN GARD: Mr. Zehr? 8 MR. ZEHR: Yes. 9 CHAIRMAN GARD: The Chair votes aye. 10 The changes are adopted, twelve to zero. 11 Is there a motion to adopt the final rule 12 as amended? 13 MR. KETZENBERGER: So moved. 14 CHAIRMAN GARD: Is there a second? 15 MS. KOZYRSKI: Second. 16 CHAIRMAN GARD: I'm calling the roll. 17 Mr. Etzler? 18 (No response.) 19 CHAIRMAN GARD: Mr. Etzler? 20 MR. ETZLER: Yes. 21 CHAIRMAN GARD: Dr. Niemiec? 22 (No response.) 23 CHAIRMAN GARD: Dr. Niemiec?

```
1
                 DR. NIEMIEC: Yes. By the way, I
2
    would say the microphone fades out with each
 3
    person, but yes.
 4
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Mr. Horn?
 5
                 MR. HORN: Yes.
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Mr. Rulon?
 6
 7
                       (No response.)
8
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Mr. Rulon?
9
                       (No response.)
10
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Mr. Rulon?
11
                       (No response.)
12
                 COMM. ROCKENSUESS: Ken?
13
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Mr. Rulon?
14
                 MR. RULON: My mike is on.
                                            I don't
15
    know what else to change on it.
16
                 MS. TOTTEN: We're hearing Mr. Rulon
17
              We are not hearing the room right now.
18
                 MR. RULON: Okay. Thank you.
19
                 COMM. ROCKENSUESS: Mr. Rulon?
20
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Mr. Rulon?
21
                                   Thank you.
                 MR. RULON: Yes.
22
                 COMM. ROCKENSUESS:
                                     Okay.
23
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Ms. Totten?
```

1 MS. TOTTEN: Yes. 2 CHAIRMAN GARD: Mr. Bortner? 3 MR. BORTNER: Yes. 4 CHAIRMAN GARD: Ms. Brown? 5 MS. BROWN: Can I ask you to please 6 repeat what we're answering right now? Because 7 I'm not straight with the vote. 8 CHAIRMAN GARD: This is a -- this is 9 the vote on the final adoption of the rule as 10 amended. 11 MS. TOTTEN: Yes. CHAIRMAN GARD: Dr. Alexandrovich? 12 13 DR. ALEXANDROVICH: Yes. 14 CHAIRMAN GARD: Ms. Kozyrski? 15 MS. KOZYRSKI: Yes. 16 CHAIRMAN GARD: Mr. Ketzenberger? 17 MR. KETZENBERGER: Yes. 18 CHAIRMAN GARD: Mr. Zehr? 19 MR. ZEHR: Yes. 20 CHAIRMAN GARD: The Chair votes aye. 21 The rule is adopted as amended. 22 We will now have a presentation on a 23 nonrule policy document by Jason House of IDEM's

Office of Water Quality regarding allowed substitutions for prerequisite education experience, wastewater operator certification related to the rule adopted today on Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Certification in 327 IAC 5-23.

2.0

MR. HOUSE: Good afternoon, Board members. My name is Jason House. I'm the Branch Chief of Compliance and Enforcement in IDEM's Office of Water Quality.

I come before you today to present the Nonrule Policy Document Water-020-NPD for final adoption. So -- and thank you for doing the final adoption on our rulemaking to change operator certification. This coincides with that rulemaking to allow for substitutions for education and experience for operators to sit for an examination to become an operator in the State of Indiana.

So, the Nonrule Policy Document does set forth the circumstances where individuals applying to become an Indiana certified wastewater treatment operator who do not

currently possess all of the required education and experience required by 327 IAC 5-23-9 may be given credit for these deficits by substitution of other qualifications that they may have.

The Nonrule Policy Document presents specific guidance for allowable substitutions for each of the ten wastewater operator license classifications.

The basis for the language in the NPD was derived from prior guidance, case examples, discussions with individuals from the industry, and considerations from IDEM staff in how to provide better avenues for new individuals to become certified, while maintaining the professional integrity of the certification program.

IDEM's goal with this Nonrule Policy

Document is to be transparent, consistent, clear,

and reasonable when reviewing applications to

determine when and how to apply the substitutions

to sit for the examination.

The document was placed on public notice from June the 6th, 2023 through July the 21st,

2023. No public comments were received during that period.

Thank you. I'd be happy to answer any questions you may have about the Nonrule Policy Document.

CHAIRMAN GARD: Thank you.

Ms. Kozyrski?

MS. KOZYRSKI: I did -- will you be approaching any of the trade associations,
Alliance for Wastewater Treatment --

MR. HOUSE: We worked with the trade associations during the rulemaking process and during the development of the Nonrule Policy Document, so they were involved in the discussions when we were developing the substitution outlines that we have laid out in the Nonrule Policy Document.

MS. KOZYRSKI: Okay. Just -- I know you -- in the past, you've worked with MSECA on other issues related to that. I don't know if there was any rollout other than just posting this on the Web site.

MR. HOUSE: No, we worked directly

2.0

1 with them. They were provided the language and 2 provided input to us as we developed the Nonrule 3 Policy Document substitutions and experience. 4 MS. KOZYRSKI: Thank you. 5 MR. HOUSE: Yeah. 6 CHAIRMAN GARD: Any other questions? 7 (No response.) 8 CHAIRMAN GARD: Any questions from 9 Zoom people? 10 (No response.) 11 CHAIRMAN GARD: Okay. 12 MR. HOUSE: Thank you. 13 Thank you. CHAIRMAN GARD: 14 Okay. This is an Open Forum. There's one 15 thing that I want to mention before I ask for 16 anyone else. There were several questions 17 concerning the issue that we had talked about up 18 on 96th Street with gravel pits. I have had a 19 couple of quick conversations with a resident 20 there who actually is going to be helping them, I 21 think, with the issue and wasn't really 22 previously involved. 23 And the one thing that occurred to me, and I discussed this with Nancy the other day, that it might be -- and I think you agreed with me, and if you didn't, say so, but --

MS. KING: Oh, I will.

CHAIRMAN GARD: -- that we -- that we have just a one-pager that's just suggested guidelines for how you -- how people that are going to bring a petition, citizen's petition, before us, you know, what -- what they need to bring with the original petition to essentially convince us that they have an issue that's not devoid of merit, and that it might be a little bit helpful to have that -- something for them.

And Nancy, do you want to mention that?

MS. KING: Yeah, we did talk about
that, and I do think it's a good idea. I mean
I've given -- whenever we have these, and we
don't have them very often, but whenever we do,
we provide those folks as well as you with what
the statute says. The statute is not
particularly deep in terms of what the discussion
is.

You have to have a certain number of

2.0

petitioners sign off. There's no information as to what the -- the opening statement or what you -- how you explain what you're petitioning for is on there. We've tried to put together a pretty rudimentary, "This is how it works, this is what we're going to do," and we've based that on how this Board, over the years, has handled these, and they don't come by very often, but when they do, it's always sort of a different situation.

The situation we had with the various towns that are working with their long-term control planning is a good example of one that was very different from the ones that we've had in the past, where someone says, "I have a problem with this rule. It seems out of date. You're talking about something that doesn't happen anymore, so maybe we should update it." Something more concrete like that, I think, is what the statute was sort of intended for, to a certain extent, and it hasn't changed in years.

I'm not suggesting that the statute change, but I do think that basically this is

another avenue for people to be able to address the Board, and they don't -- I'm used to you guys and how we do our Board stuff, but people don't get that.

And so, I think that -- as Chair Gard said, we did talk about me putting together something or our office putting together something that explains what it is that makes sense for folks to bring when they have a petition.

Yes, we have to verify that there's enough petitioners on it in accordance with the statute, and basically what the statute requires is: If the Board hasn't had a hearing on this particular issue -- and that is not defined either -- on this issue in the last six months, then they can make a determination as to whether whatever is brought before them is -- has merit or, as the statute says, is devoid of merit.

I did get a question about sort of what that means. I tried to provide a pretty simple just one-pager to the Board members as to what the concept of "devoid of merit" can mean, and

because it is the Board's decision, as bossy as I am, I can't tell you, "Well, this is what you need to do, and do it, and this is fine, and just vote on it." I could never do that.

(Laughter.)

MS. KING: But -- no laughing,

Commissioner. But I do think that this is a good situation that proves that, you know, when someone sees that there's a petition out there, like the quarry folks sent information to the Board members about how they follow the rule and all of that stuff.

You know, I'm not sure the folks that were on the petitioners' side were aware of that, because it wasn't something that we sent out, it was something that they chose to get ahold of the Board members about. And on one hand, we certainly want to encourage people to talk to the Board members; that's why there are various representatives on this Board.

On the other hand, we certainly don't want you inundated with things, you know, that you don't even know -- like "I haven't gotten

anything from IDEM. Why am I getting all of this stuff?" It's a fine line, but by the same token, we certainly want to be as transparent as possible, and we want the Board to have the information necessary to decide whether something is a meritorious thing, too.

And you have to look at it this way: It's only asking to have a hearing, it's not saying, "You have to adopt a rule." Again, the example of the cities and towns working with their long-term control planning, it turned out that it turned into a work group with our folks in Water that has worked out well.

So, it didn't really involve changing rules or anything, but it is the Board guiding the agency on how best to deal with an issue that someone brings up, and I don't think that that has been made as clear as we can make it, and this is an example for us to learn.

I do think that, again, you know, when the Board had the discussion at our last meeting about this particular petition, I think probably the petitioners felt like, "Well, we shouldn't

really get into the whole thing until the Board says, 'Let's have a hearing,'" and they maybe thought, "Well, that's just what they're going to do. That's the next step. They'll say, 'The next thing we'll do is have a hearing.'"

So, I think there was a bit of confusion, you know, from their perspective on that, and I do certainly feel bad that they felt that they were, you know, sort of boxed out. It was not the intent. We were just following how we've done it in the past. So, maybe something like this is something that we can clarify.

And I can draft something up and I can bring it to this Board, you know, at the next meeting, or I can send it out to you beforehand and just get your thoughts on it, but I don't want it to be, you know, a hundred pages or anything, but I want it to be helpful for people, sort of a guidance on how we see this statute and how the process works based on what we've done in the past. So, that's kind of the plan, I think.

CHAIRMAN GARD: Yeah, I think that will be good, and these are so few and far

1 between that we have new people coming on this 2 Board oftentimes --3 MS. KING: Right. 4 CHAIRMAN GARD: -- between petitions, 5 and I'm sure it would help clarify it for them as 6 well, because the statute is a little strange. 7 MS. KING: Well, it happens every 8 once in a while. 9 CHAIRMAN GARD: Yeah. 10 (Laughter.) 11 MS. KING: Thank you. 12 CHAIRMAN GARD: Okay. This is an 13 Open Forum. Is there anyone else that would like 14 to address the Board? 15 DR. ALEXANDROVICH: Chairman Gard, 16 this is Joanne. 17 CHAIRMAN GARD: Yes. 18 DR. ALEXANDROVICH: I'm just going to 19 throw this out there, because I've had this 20 thought, and I already brought it up earlier, 21 after our last meeting, to help with their 22 problem. I don't know if it will or if it won't, 23 but it seems to me that there could be some kind

of a permit requirement, some kind of enforcement mechanism that the trucks have to be covered before they go through the weigh station, that they can't get through without covering the truck. So, that's my idea to throw out there for whoever wants to hear it.

CHAIRMAN GARD: Okay. That -- it would be interesting to see the reaction to that, which I agree, uncovered trucks are a menace. I mean just on the highway I've been hit by stones, and I think most everybody has at one time in their driving career. So, yeah, that -- that that's one thought. Thank you.

Anybody else?

(No response.)

CHAIRMAN GARD: Okay. If there's no other issue to come before the Board, we will be in touch with you as to the next Board meeting. It's a little up in the air right now, depending on what they have to present to us, and we don't need to just be meeting.

So, with that, is there a motion to adjourn?

```
1
                 MR. BORTNER: So moved.
2
                 DR. NIEMIEC: So moved, this is Ted
3
    Niemiec.
 4
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Is there a second?
 5
                 MR. BORTNER: So moved.
 6
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: All in favor, say
 7
     aye.
             (Board members responded, "Aye.")
8
9
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Those opposed, nay.
10
                        (No response.)
                 CHAIRMAN GARD: Okay. Thank you all
11
12
     for your participation.
13
               Thereupon, the proceedings of
               August 9, 2023 were concluded
14
                    at 2:23 o'clock p.m.
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
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CERTIFICATE

I, Lindy L. Meyer, Jr., the undersigned Court Reporter and Notary Public residing in the City of Shelbyville, Shelby County, Indiana, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the proceedings taken by me on Wednesday, August 9, 2023 in this matter and transcribed by me.

Lindy L. Meyer Jr.

Lindy L. Meyer, Jr.,

Notary Public in and for the State of Indiana.

My Commission expires August 26, 2024.

16 Commission No. NP0690003

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