APPEARANCES:

OFFICES OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS
FOR THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT.....By: April Sasso

OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL.....By: Mylene Huybers

SPEAKER.....By: Lars Halverson

COURT REPORTERS:

Aimee LaBorn
Jodie Franzen

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9-12-95

7:00 p.m.

(Comments by Ms. Huybers off the record.)

(Reporter sworn.)

This is a public hearing before the Indiana Department of Environmental Management in the matter docketed before the Agency as the Helmsburg Regional Sewer District. Notice of time and place of hearing is given as provided by Indiana Code 13-3-2-5 by requesting publications of the Brown County Democrat during the weeks of August 30th and September the 6th, 1995.

Proof of publication of the notice has been received by the Department and the notice and the proofs are now incorporated in the record of this cause by records placed in the official files of the department. Notice has also been given to the Office of the Attorney General.

My name is April Sasso. I'm Director of the Office of Community Relations for the Indiana Department of Environmental Management and have been appointed by the commissioner to act as a hearing officer in this cause. Attendance sheets have been distributed in the hearing room for all those desiring to be shown as appearing of record in this cause. If you have not already filled out this form, please do so and indicate, as Mylene said, if you're appearing for yourself, or on behalf of a group or

organization, please identify that organization. Also, please note the capacity in which you want to appear, such as attorney, officer, or authorized spokesperson.

If you fail to put any of this information on the attendance sheet that's already been given, but if you fail to and you want to speak, please come up an sign one of our sheets. Oral statements will be heard but written statements may be handed in to the hearing officer at this hearing or mailed to the Office of Community Relations, Indiana Department of Environmental Management, 100 North Senate Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana 46206 within 10 days after this hearing is adjourned. Comments will be considered by the Agency before final approval of this petition.

This hearing is being held to determine whether a regional sewer district should be formed in this area. Problems due to expansion, a formation of the regional sewer district including the needs of the proposed district, the purpose to be accomplished by the formation of the district, and whether it will be conducive to the public health, safety, convenience, or welfare. How sewage collection, disposal, and personal treatment is provided for. Whether there is currently any outstanding indebtedness for the purpose of the proposed district. How the current situation creates or adds to pollution or

health hazards or impedes development in this area.

The plans for financing the operations of the district until it is in receipt of revenue from the operation of proceeds from the sale of bonds. The manner it's collecting the number in the terms of members of the board of the proposed district or any other issue pertinent to the formation of the district under Indiana Code 13-3-2. So at this time I think we have only one person who would like to speak. Lars Halverson of the Brown County Health Department. And please state your name for the Court Reporter for our transcript, thanks.

MR. HALVERSON: I think everybody here knows who I am. I'm Lars Halverson with the Brown County Health Department. I want to speak on all the 7 items that were on the sheet that I filled out. It says, "One, the need for the District." I think the people of Helmsburg and the people of Brown County have found the need for the district. That it is needed to provide the better main sewage disposal for the community.

The cost for each individual household will be economical and this appears to be a much more financially secure way for fighting sewage disposal for Helmsburg. The purpose to accomplish the formation of the district, it would be conducive to the public health. It would get rid of the leaking septic tanks in fields where we have proven

by water samples of the ditches and the ravines.

Sewage is currently being provided by septic tanks in the field and in some cases maybe not even that much. So that is the way it is being treated now. This is a much better way to treat it. I do not believe there is any proposed indebtness at this point to the district because it has not been formed and there's no bills incurred for the district at this point.

I'm finally being told to speak up, so I guess I have to do that. How the current situation creates or adds to pollution or health hazards or repeated development of the area. This does not impede the development of the area. As a matter of fact, they bring light into the area.

I've heard that some of the people want to tear down the old dilapidated buildings and build new buildings so by no way will it retard those things. The plan for financing the operation of the district is through the community focus fund and also by money given to the community by the Brown County Commissioners and by the Brown County Council using head money to help supplement a community focus fund grant of Helmsburg that was awarded here about 2 or 3 months ago, and the people of Helmsburg deserve all the credit for that for all the work they did for that. And the merits of this are far outreaching.

The community will grow, people will be able to get

a higher resale value from their houses. It will make Brown County a safer place to be, and I would like to thank everybody who has been involved in this and the board members that will be chosen and the attorneys and the engineers, the counsel, the commissioners, Vi Simpson, Linda Henderson, who is the former state representative, and all the other people that helped to make this happen. I would like to thank April and Mylene for their help, and that's all I have to say. Thank you.

MISS SASSO: Thank you Mr. Halverson. I don't have any other comment cards, so is there anyone else who would like to speak? These proceedings pursuant to notice are hereby concluded.

Comments, written comments, will be accepted through September 22nd, 1995. If additional information is needed to complete or review, we will ask for it. At this time, this hearing is adjourned until further notice from the hearing officer. Thank you.

STATE OF INDIANA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF MARION)

CERTIFICATE

I, Aimee E. LaBorn, the undersigned Court Reporter and Notary Public residing and maintaining offices in the City of Indianapolis, Marion County, Indiana, do hereby certify:

That at the time and place described above in this transcript I reported to the best of my ability in machine shorthand (backed up by tape recording) all of the words spoken by all parties in attendance during the course of the subject proceedings, including objections, if any, made by all counsel present;

That I later reduced my shorthand notes into the foregoing typewritten transcript form, which typewritten transcript is a true record of the testimony and/or statements given by those individuals indicated herein;

That I am not a relative or employee or attorney or counsel of any of the parties, nor am I a relative or an employee of such attorney or counsel, and that I am not financially interested in this action.

IN WITNESS HERETO, I have affixed my Notarial Seal and subscribed my signature below this 19th day of October, 1995.

Aimee E. LaBorn
Notary Public

County of Residence: Marion
My commission expires on September 13, 1999.