IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

W.A. DREW EDMONDSON, in his)
capacity as ATTORNEY GENERAL)
OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA and)
OKLAHOMA SECRETARY OF THE) 08:38
ENVIRONMENT, C. MILES TOLBERT) 08:38
in his capacity as the)
TRUSTEE FOR NATURAL RESOURCES)
FOR THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA,)
)
Plaintiff,)
)
vs.)4:95-CV-003290-TCK-SAJ
) (VOLUME I)
TYSON FOODS, INC., et al.,) 08:38
) 08:38
Defendants.)

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08:38

VOLUME I OF THE VIDEO DEPOSITION OF ROBERT JAN STEVENSON, Ph.D., produced as a witness on behalf of the Defendants in the above styled and numbered cause, taken on the 8th day of January, 2009, in the City of Tulsa, County of Tulsa, State of Oklahoma, 08:38 before me, Karla E. Barrow, a Certified Shorthand Reporter, duly certified under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Oklahoma.

08:38

EXHIBIT
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1 Peterson Farms, Inc.
2 MR. GRAVES: Telephone?
3 MR. PAGE: Could you say that again? I'm
4 sorry.
5 MS. BRONSON: Yes. Vicki Bronson for 08:40
6 Simmons Foods.
7 MR. PAGE: Is there anyone else on the
8 telephone? Okay. Vicki, we're going to turn down
9 the volume a little bit now, okay?
10 MS. BRONSON: All right. 08:40
11 DIRECT EXAMINATION
12 BY MR. GRAVES:
13 Q Okay. Could you state your full name?
14 A My name is Robert Jan Stevenson.
15 Q And what's your home address? 08:41
16 A 3987 Shoals Drive in Okemos, Michigan.
17 Q And what about your work address?
18 A It's the Department of Zoology at Michigan
19 State University in East Lansing, Michigan.
20 Q Have you ever given a deposition before? 08:41
21 A Yes.
22 Q How many times have you given a deposition
23 before?
24 A Once.
25 Q And what was the nature of that case? 08:41

university developed called the Kentucky Institute for Environment and Sustainable Development, and it was really one of the first institutes that was developed that did interdisciplinary research linking basically business, ecological science, 09:23
human health with the medical school, education, so I worked with the development of that institute and eventually became the executive director of that institute at the University of Louisville.

In 1999, I had the opportunity -- I applied 09:23
for a position at Michigan State University and left the University of Louisville and went to Michigan State University as a full professor there, and I have been there since. Since being at the univer -- at Michigan State University, I've been instrumental 09:23
in developing and I'm a co-director of the Center for Water Sciences, whose mission is to provide the scientific information used to solve environmental problems for both human health and ecological health end points. I'm the ecological expert, and my 09:24
co-director is the expert in linking environmental activities to human health end points, particularly microbial pathogens.

Q Why did you decide to leave the University of Louisville? 09:24

from some agency, state agency people that were involved in the sampling crews, the review of historical sampling results and literature and the modeling that you did?

MR. PAGE: Object to the form. 11:32

A It sounds generally like what I did, yes.

Q (By Mr. Graves) Okay. And then did you also rely on the results of Dr. Engel's modeling?

A Yes, I did.

Q Are you going to be offering opinions in this case on the nutrient concentrations in the streams of the Illinois River watershed? 11:32

MR. PAGE: Object to the form.

A Yes.

Q (By Mr. Graves) And what are those opinions? 11:32

A My opinions are that the nutrient concentrations in the Illinois River watershed are very high. They are higher than other regions that I've done research in the United States, which includes many areas. I do a lot of work with the 11:33 EPA's nutrient criteria group, review a lot of literature. I've done studies like this before. These are higher nutrient concentrations for a watershed as a whole than any other watershed that I've had experience with. 11:33

1 Illinois River watershed, especially with such a
2 simple causal pathway as this. I mean, you've got
3 lots of phosphorus. Phosphorus is the limiting
4 nutrient for algae, stimulates algal growth, changes
5 DO and pH, and that changes the invertebrates and 02:28
6 fish. It's a very simple system.
7 Q Let's look over to Page 9, the middle of the
8 bottom paragraph, the sentence that starts, many.
9 You've just started that paragraph with the phrase,
10 several field studies show the relationship between 02:29
11 algal biomass in streams and total phosphorus. This
12 sentence that starts, many, can you read that
13 sentence?
14 A Many of these relationships have been
15 criticized because of the high variability around 02:29
16 the predicted relationships between nutrients and
17 algal biomass.
18 Q Is that true, that many of the relationships
19 that have been established in the studies that
20 you've been referencing as having established that 02:29
21 type of cause and effect have been criticized?
22 A The Lohman one has and -- but not the Dodds
23 and the Stevenson presentations.
24 Q Okay. We'll talk about those in a little
25 while. 02:30