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

STATE OF OKLAHOMA, et al.,
Plaintiff,

vs. CASE NO. 05-CV-00329-GKF SAJ

TYSON FOODS, INC., et al.,
Defendants.

VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF STEVE THOMPSON
TAKEN ON BEHALF OF THE DEFENDANTS
ON APRIL 7, 2009, BEGINNING AT 9:30 A.M.
IN OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

APPEARANCES:

On behalf of the PLAINTIFF:
J. Trevor Hammons
OKLAHOMA ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE
313 Northeast 21st
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105
(405) 522-2801
thammons@oag.state.ok.us

On behalf of the PLAINTIFFS:
Martha Penisten
OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
707 North Robinson
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73107
(405) 702-7184

On behalf of the DEFENDANT-PETERSON FARMS, INC.:
Scott McDaniel
MCDANIEL, HIXON, LONGWELL & ACORD
320 South Boston, Suite 700
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74103
(918) 382-9200
smcdaniel@mcdaniel-lawfirm.com

REPORTED BY: Laura L. Robinson, CSR, RPR

EXHIBIT
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before?

A. Yes.

Q. Okay. When we go through today, and I refer to the lawsuit or this lawsuit, do you understand I'm referring to the lawsuit that's described on this document, that's the State of Oklahoma versus Tyson Foods and a number of other poultry companies?

A. I do.

Q. Okay. So that's the whole reason we are here. That's no big surprise to you.

A. Okay.

Q. Now, this lawsuit, do you know when it was filed?

A. I don't know the specific date. My recollection is that it was sometime in 2004, 2005.

Q. Now, did anyone consult with you before this lawsuit was filed about the filing of this lawsuit?

A. No.

Q. Did you give your blessing to the filing of this lawsuit?

A. In the time frame that the lawsuit was filed, we met with the governor, and we agreed that this was the state of Oklahoma's lawsuit. And being an agency of state government, we are a party to that. We did not request the lawsuit, but we understood that

A. Simply the governor advised the agencies that he was in full concurrence with the suit, and that as agencies of state government, we would be expected to be a part of that suit. And I think that's the gist of what he said. That's my recollection of it.

Q. Were you given any type of technical briefing at this meeting about the underpinnings of the lawsuit?

A. Not that I recall.

Q. Since you have been employed with the state of Oklahoma, have you ever been involved in a natural resource damage assessment?

A. Yes. The agency is involved in natural resource damage assessments.

Q. About how many have you been involved in, or aware of?

A. The largest one is related to the Tar Creek Superfund site. That's the one that I have personally been involved in. There may be others that have occurred, but that's the major one that I have been involved in.

Q. And the Tar Creek natural resource damage assessment is ongoing?

A. It is.