

Community Comments - Greenwood SC

MS. GETTYS: Hello. My name is Tammy 25 Gettys, T-A-M-M-Y G-E-T-T-Y-S. I am here today to Hearing Page 31 Enviva Pellets Greenwood, LLC (Enviva) - Draft Air Synthetic Minor Construction 8/20/2020 803.749.8100 Southern Reporting, Inc. www.southernreporting.net 1 let DHEC know that there is definitely a problem 2 with wood fine, wood fines, and groundwood from 3 the Enviva operations. I submitted a report of a 4 sample analysis that was taken of the wood that 5 came from my pool and from my deck, and those 6 samples came back as being groundwood and wood 7 fines from Enviva's operations. They said another 8 possible source, it could have been trafficked 9 from a nearby road. But my nearby road traffic, I 10 have brush that's high enough that would cover 11 that. The pollution, wood fine and the wood dust, 12 is coming over the woods through some trees here, 13 getting right into my property going up my entire 14 neighborhood. 15 And I'm here, you know, to represent 16 the neighborhood because the wood dust is 17 dangerous. I know it has damaged my -- some of my 18 property. And what I'm asking is I have a -- I 9 would just like for the -- what were you saying 10 earlier, 35 percent? I was told by DHEC that it 11 was only a 20 percent that they needed to meet. 12 And according to my records, they're not meeting 13 the 20 percent all the time. And I would really 14 just ask for my neighborhood's -- that be reduced, 15 that 35 percent should no way be that high at all. 16 And one last thing. I understood that 17 the permit, it's a synthetic minor source, means 18 it's exempt from the Clean Air Act's proposed -- 19 proposed 423. Well, I hope that is not the case. 20 I do want to get that standard down lowered so we 21 can have less pollution in our neighborhood.

MR. RHODES: Thank you for giving me 2 this opportunity to talk. I was at the meeting 3 that we had in town, and I'd like to appreciate 4 Tammy's presentation of the wood that she had 5 collected in her filter in her swimming pool. I 6 actually have a swimming pool myself. And another 7 neighbor up my street, Albert Cullens, which is -- 8 he's deceased now. He was the first one that 9 called me about his situation, and I referred him 10 to DHEC. I've worked with DHEC before. I worked 11 with the South Carolina Regional Housing Authority 12 until the end of March of this year, so we have 13 dealt with DHEC and other members in my line of 14 work. 15 It's appalling to see the things that's 16 going on in our community. When we go outside, 17 the dust is terrible. My wife has asthma. My 18 next door neighbor does. People on up the street 19 here have complained. We've all talked to each 20 other. This is a serious situation for us here in 21 our community. You have drainage from your nose 22 constantly. Your lungs, you can feel. You can 23 feel the dust as you breathe. You can see it in 24 the air early in the mornings. My wife and I has 25 been out on our deck, and you can see it in the Hearing Page 39 Enviva Pellets Greenwood, LLC (Enviva) - Draft Air Synthetic Minor Construction 8/20/2020 803.749.8100 Southern Reporting, Inc. www.southernreporting.net 1 air. Our cars are covered. When you take your 2 car to have it washed, the guy commented about 3 all -- he didn't know whether he could get the 4 wood off of the car. You can take your hands and 5 wipe it off the windows of your car, your vehicle, 6 anywhere you go outside. This is a real concern. 7 We're elderly, late 70s, want to live 8 as long as we can. And I've never had lung 9 problems in my life, but I cough more now. You're 10 constantly sneezing, having to use nasal spray. 11 And I know it's coming for this community because 12 we see it. And I'm really concerned of the -- you 13

know, the -- our property here is going to be 14 devalued. Nobody's going to want to live in this 15 community. It's a serious situation. 16 And I've worked with DHEC before, and 17 I've seen the results that you have got. But 18 we're pleading with you. If these people are 19 calling and saying all these wonderful things 20 about this company, come out here and live with us 21 and just -- 22 (Timer sounds.) 23 -- go through what we're going through 24 here.

My name is 21 Annemarie Humm, A-N-N-E-M-A-R-I-E H-U-M-M. I am 22 here to speak on behalf of several neighbors that 23 live very close to the Enviva plant in Greenwood. 24 Some are very frustrated and many are intimidated 25 and too shy to speak publicly about their Hearing Page 74 Enviva Pellets Greenwood, LLC (Enviva) - Draft Air Synthetic Minor Construction 8/20/2020 803.749.8100 Southern Reporting, Inc. www.southernreporting.net 1 concerns, and few do not know where to turn for 2 help. That's why they asked me to help with their 3 complaint and also with the public comment. 4 We oppose the expansion at the Enviva 5 Greenwood plant. We think that we are not getting 6 heard and that big business, local organizations, 7 and the local government are working together to 8 ignore the simple people living in the area around 9 the plant. We also need to remember there is 10 Woodfields Elementary School close by, and nobody 11 has spoken up for the children that go to the 12 school every day. 13 I will stick to the major concerns and 14 complaints told by Rita DeLoach, Michael Ginn, 15 Forest Alexander, Gale and Donnie Hentz, Donna and 16 Wilbert Hicken, and Connie Martin. Other than the 17 dust and particulates in the air which settle on 18 everything -- especially the cars, the trucks or 19 personal vehicles, metal buildings, the property 20 owners' yards -- the noise is a big issue. 21 Comfort is being outside -- comfort of being 22 outside is limited by the dust particulates which 23 are in the air and are being breathed in along 24 with the pumping and the grinding noise of the 25 plant, especially at night, being the hammering, Hearing Page 75 Enviva Pellets Greenwood, LLC (Enviva) - Draft Air Synthetic Minor Construction 8/20/2020 803.749.8100 Southern Reporting, Inc. www.southernreporting.net 1 the train car noises, and the horn blowing when 2 the train cars are moved, especially from 4 till 3 7 a.m., as Donny Hentz told me. 4 Fires have happened several times, and 5 smoke and musty pine odor is noticed by Michael 6 Ginn and Gale Hentz. "One never knows what is 7 next," Gale said. The constant truck traffic, the 8 consequent road dust pollution, and the wood 9 debris from the transportation trucks are a 10 constant eyesore. Several residents have filed 11 complaints with DHEC before and have even been 12 visited by the department representative, only to 13 be told there's nothing they could do. 14 We are fed up being ignored and overrun 15 by non-caring government officials, DHEC, and the 16 big businesses building up all around us. We feel 17 trapped. We urge you to keep our air clean; our 18 nights quiet, so we and our children can sleep; 19 and our areas safe from fire hazards, black smoke 20 plumes floating through the air above us. 21 (Timer sounds.) 22 Musty odors and (technical difficulty) 23 perfumes coming from the constant lines of trucks. 24 Most of us have lived here before the plant 25 opened, and Enviva has been neglectful in our need for clean air and a comfortable living 2 environment. Thank you.

My name is 2 Erniko Brown. And I'm from McCormick, South 3 Carolina, but I currently live here in Greenwood, 4 about 5 miles from the Enviva plant. A couple of 5 years ago I learned of this plant as part of my 6 previous position as a career coach for SC Works. 7 And like many

others, I thought that bringing more jobs to the community would be what's best for the community. As a career coach for the WIOA and SC Works, my position was to assist individuals with the skills they needed like sending them back to school, finding employment, or both. I did not know the cost of humanity for these jobs being placed in the community. These plants are strategically being placed in low-income communities where people are already trying to figure out how to pay their bills, put food on their tables, and maintain a healthy mental balance to get through the day. Many of the children who live in these targeted communities are predominantly minorities with underlying health issues, with parents who do not know the harm that it -- that has entered into their community. Enviva employs many people who aren't from South Carolina, so they do not know much about the beautiful natural resources that we have. When people who live in these communities hear the word "expansion," they think that it means more jobs, a better economy for the community. Many do not know that this expansion does not include jobs, and it's inclusive of more harmful air pollutants that will cause more health issues for people in these targeted low-income communities. Most of my life has been in some part of South Carolina. And all the places that I have lived are included in that 70- to 75-mile radius that Enviva currently desecrates. Me being from McCormick, I appreciate clean air, the water, the trees, the state parks that provide beauty and history. All these wonderful natural resources protect us from climate change. The forest protects us from ourselves. The people like myself who have lived here most of our lives do not want to see these resources beaten and bruised by big corporations for a few dollars. Lives here are at stake and people are not up for sale. I live in this community, and it's a smack in the face to me and my existence. It is in a large part of environmental racism and continues to separate the haves from the have-nots. We are all a part of one race, the human race, and should have more -- and should have a more equitable future for all of us ahead. I doubt if, excuse me, the people here today holding this hearing live in the area that's being affected by pollution, but I think if you were or your family or your community, what would you do or want to see? We're already dealing with a global -- (Timer sounds.) -- pandemic that has cost us the lives of so many. Why would we want to continue to put more in harm's way? Many people who live in -- many people who live close to the Enviva plant don't have access to Internet and aren't able to attend this virtual hearing. We live in a rural area, and many folks don't have access to broadband, which could be the reason that many of them aren't here. The last thing I had was as a state, we say, "While I breathe, I hope." With industries like this coming into our state and all of the clearcutting and leaving forests and wooden areas damaged and torn apart, we cannot breathe. And without that, there is no hope.

MS. LIVINGSTON: Yes. My name is Kayla Livingston, K-A-Y-L-A L-I-V-I-N-G-S-T-O-N. And I am very much opposed to this permit. I live across the street from the plant, just up the road going toward Fujifilm. My husband and I have owned this house for 12 years, but over the last couple of years we've had a lot of issues. We've had, of course, the particulate matter that everyone has spoken about has been a major issue. We've had issues with it being on our roof, on our vehicles, all over our son's toys. There were periods of times where we weren't able to spend any time outdoors because of it. We both have to take

Zyrtec every day and 15 have for the last two years, and that was not 16 something we had to do the ten years before that. 17 There have been extreme issues with 18 noise. Particularity at night, the plant seems to 19 be making a humming noise that keeps us and 20 especially our 8-year-old son up at night. 21 There's beating and banging on the railroad cars, 22 which I've heard other people mention. There is 23 also issues with -- just the noise is unbearable 24 for the most part. 25 It's just really been difficult for us. Hearing Page 121 Enviva Pellets Greenwood, LLC (Enviva) - Draft Air Synthetic Minor Construction 8/20/2020 803.749.8100 Southern Reporting, Inc. www.southernreporting.net 1 In general, there are times when there are log 2 trucks lined up and down the road waiting to get 3 into the plant. They live -- they leave large 4 chunks of wood in the road right in front of our 5 house on 246 that we end up -- it ends up in our 6 yard because people run over it, and then we cut 7 it up with the lawn mower. That's posed a lot of 8 issues for lawn mower blades. 9 I've heard no single person that lives 10 in the vicinity of this plant support this 11 ridiculous permit. I understand that you want to 12 improve things, but you have tied improving things 13 in with a permit to produce more. It's all about 14 money, and you care nothing about the people that 15 live around this plant. There is no sense in 16 allowing this permit to go through to produce more 17 when you cannot even control the emissions that 18 are currently being produced. That makes no 19 sense. If you want to put in new sensors, new 20 ways to decrease the particulate matters, then do 21 that. But do not increase production. That makes 22 no sense, and it's not fair to those of us who 23 live around here whose land no longer has value, 24 whose homes no longer have value. I can't sell my 25 house. I can't sell my land. No one wants to Hearing Page 122 Enviva Pellets Greenwood, LLC (Enviva) - Draft Air Synthetic Minor Construction 8/20/2020 803.749.8100 Southern Reporting, Inc. www.southernreporting.net 1 live across the street from that plant. 2 This has become a major issue for 3 everyone in this area. We appreciate Chris Brown 4 trying to come out and talk with us, give cards, 5 things like that. But that's not gonna cut it. 6 It's not fair to increase production, for us to 7 continue to suffer health loss, sleep loss, sanity 8 loss because we live across the street from this 9 terrible plant. Please do not increase 10 production. Please make more efforts to do your 11 part in reducing the emissions that are produced 12 by this plant and make this a liveable area for 13 generations to come, like my son, who's going to 14 be raised in this area. Thank you.

DR. ANORUO: This is Dr. Florence 11 Anoruo. First name is F-L-O-R-E-N-C-E; last name 12 is A-N-O-R-U-O. I'm a plant physiologist, an 13 environmental scientist, and environmental justice 14 advocate. 15 And my comment is that during this 16 pandemic it has been known throughout the nation 17 that black and brown communities have been 18 adversely affected by COVID-19. And the big 19 reason for that is because of all the factors that 20 they have been unjustly impacted by, ranging from 21 pollution to food insecurity to access to health 22 care. And this time, it's the wrong time to put 23 any other additional adverse impact on these 24 communities. With the expansion of Enviva at this 25 time, that would adversely impact the health of Hearing Page 124 Enviva Pellets Greenwood, LLC (Enviva) - Draft Air Synthetic Minor Construction 8/20/2020 803.749.8100 Southern Reporting, Inc. www.southernreporting.net 1 those communities and environments. And I am 2 joining a large group of other scientists and 3 organizations to ask that the permit be halted 4 during this time while we're -- people are still 5 suffering from the pandemic and trying to figure 6 out how they're going to survive and live with

all 7 the other environmental health issues they are 8 facing. 9 So we are asking and joining others in 10 a collective voice to ask that the permit be 11 halted for now and also that the Enviva also look 12 at the impact of their actions and the (inaudible) 13 in these communities, what it's -- how it's 14 affecting the lives of the people. 15 And I hope that also the time that 16 people will have opportunity to air their views 17 about what is going on in their communities should 18 be taken into consideration. The cumulative 19 effects of these impacts along with what's already 20 happening now should all be taken into 21 consideration when these permits are given, and 22 this is the wrong time. There are a lot of cases 23 of cancer and other health-related effects in 24 these communities, and these people cannot afford 25 to be exposed to any more pollution of any kind. Hearing Page 125 Enviva Pellets Greenwood, LLC (Enviva) - Draft Air Synthetic Minor Construction 8/20/2020 803.749.8100 Southern Reporting, Inc. www.southernreporting.net 1 So we're asking for an injunction on the 2 permitting of any expansion or establishment of 3 any wood pellet facility in this neighborhood at 4 this time. Thank you.