

In The Matter Of:

*Elevator Safety
Public Hearing*

*Vol. Open Session
March 13, 2008*

*Marzullo Reporting Agency
345 North LaSalle, 1605
Chicago, IL 60610*

Original File ELEVATOR1.001

Min-U-Script® with Word Index

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[1] [2] [3] ELEVATOR SAFETY DIVISION PUBLIC HEARING
[4] March 13, 2008
[5] 8:30 a.m.
[6] [7] [8]
[9] The Report of Proceedings had in the
[10] hearing of the above-entitled cause, taken before
[11] KATHLEEN T. MUHNE, a Certified Shorthand Reporter and
[12] Notary Public in and for the County of Cook and State
[13] of Illinois, at 100 West Randolph Street, Suite 900,
[14] Chicago, Illinois, on March 13, 2008, at the hour of
[15] approximately 8:30 a.m.
[16] [17] [18] [19] [20] [21] [22] [23] [24]

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[1] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Good morning, everybody.
[2] We are going to begin the meeting. I would like
[3] everyone to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.
[4] (WHEREUPON, the Pledge of
[5] Allegiance was recited.)
[6] Has everybody reviewed the minutes from
[7] February 14th, 2008?
[8] MR. GREGORY: There were some corrections.
[9] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: You got to wait on that.
[10] Is there a motion to accept the minutes?
[11] MR. GREGORY: I move that they be accepted
[12] after some corrections are made.
[13] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Okay.
[14] MR. GREGORY: Every place where it says,
[15] K-o-n-e, space A, Kone A, it's pronounced Kone. So it
[16] is not Kone A. That would be the Canadian method --
[17] No. So that --
[18] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: So it is just K-o-n-e?
[19] MR. GREGORY: Just K-o-n-e, but a lot of people
[20] pronounce that cone as in cone heads, but it is not.
[21] Just K-o-n-e.
[22] MS. DEL GRECO: Thank you.
[23] MR. GREGORY: Mr. Tom Manning is shown here as
[24] an elevator inspector. I believe he is an elevator

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[1] PRESENT:
[2] ILLINOIS ELEVATOR SAFETY BOARD
[3] MR. FRANK CHRISTENSEN, Chairman
[4] MR. KELLY WELLER
[5] MR. RICHARD GREGORY
[6] MR. DARREL SWIENTON
[7] MR. TOM JIRIK
[8] MR. MARK HERTSBERG
[9] MR. RICHARD MAYER
[10] OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL
[11] MR. ROBERT CAPUANI
[12] MR. JIM AUBIN
[13] MR. CHET JANUS
[14] MS. ELAINE DEL GRECO
[15] MR. JOHN FENNELL
[16] MR. JOSEPH AUGUST
[17] [18] [19] [20] [21] [22] [23] [24]

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[1] instructor.
[2] MS. DEL GRECO: Okay.
[3] MR. GREGORY: That's all that I have.
[4] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Anybody else have
[5] additions or corrections?
[6] (No response)
[7] MR. GREGORY: I move that they be introduced as
[8] corrected.
[9] MR. SWIENTON: Second.
[10] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Any other additions or
[11] corrections?
[12] (No response)
[13] None?
[14] All those in favor, say aye.
[15] (WHEREUPON, there was a
[16] chorus of ayes.)
[17] All those against?
[18] (No response.)
[19] Ayes have it.
[20] MR. CAPUANI: If you noticed, the corrected one
[21] from November is on the website.
[22] MR. GREGORY: I can go on the website right
[23] now. You changed my name?
[24] MR. CAPUANI: Yes. We changed your name.

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[1] MR. GREGORY: I made this error. I apologize.
[2] My name is Dick Gregory, and we are supposed to
[3] identify ourselves so the court reporter has a half
[4] chance. We only give her a half, but...
[5] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Moving on to old
[6] business, A, elevator safety program progress report
[7] from Bob Capuani.
[8] MR. CAPUANI: Current state licenses,
[9] mechanics, 1641; apprentices, 1681; contractors, 85;
[10] inspectors, 116; conveyance registrations, 15,479 with
[11] about 2500 yet to enter. Municipality agreements, we
[12] are up to 82.
[13] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Is that it on that?
[14] MR. CAPUANI: Yes.
[15] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Do we have your response
[16] from Joliet Fire Department regarding the Otis request
[17] to install a computer?
[18] MR. CAPUANI: That would be ongoing.
[19] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Do you have an update on
[20] the test for the mechanics?
[21] MR. CAPUANI: Yes. We are still shooting for
[22] April 1st to have it on the website and for the first
[23] test to be on June 1st.
[24] MR. GREGORY: I have a question.

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[1] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: State your name.
[2] MR. GREGORY: Dick Gregory. I'm the guy who
[3] made the original motion that we go through this --
[4] whatever. CIT program.
[5] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Correct.
[6] MR. GREGORY: And then give this test, and it
[7] was my understanding that the people who were going to
[8] be tested would have gone through their program
[9] before, but they would get a test from us.
[10] MR. CAPUANI: No, because you voted against
[11] their program. You only voted on their test. We
[12] didn't accept the program. We only accepted the test.
[13] MR. GREGORY: So any -- If I'm an elevator
[14] company or if I get my granddaughter in Boston to
[15] start up an elevator company, even though she is only
[16] in Second Grade, she can say I have had this guy
[17] working for me for five years and we want you to give
[18] him a test and we are going to give him a test; he has
[19] got no training?
[20] MR. CAPUANI: Three years work experience.
[21] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: On his own. Does it
[22] state, "on his own"?
[23] MR. CAPUANI: It is documented by a company.
[24] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Work experience on his

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[1] own.
[2] MR. CAPUANI: Right.
[3] MR. GREGORY: I'm personally uncomfortable with
[4] that. I would -- I will make a motion that we delay
[5] this for consideration of the requirement that they
[6] have the training first before we retest them.
[7] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: I think that's part of
[8] the bill itself.
[9] MR. FENNELL: That's in the act.
[10] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: So the act would have to
[11] be changed?
[12] MR. GREGORY: The act is --
[13] MR. FENNELL: The act spells out the
[14] specifications, the qualifications for a mechanic.
[15] That sets out the experience, the training or they're
[16] tested by us.
[17] MR. GREGORY: Well --
[18] MR. FENNELL: I can't -- if it is not in line
[19] with the act, we can't --
[20] MR. GREGORY: I understand.
[21] MR. FENNELL: Yes. Okay.
[22] MR. GREGORY: You said trained, retested by us.
[23] Where does the training coming from?
[24] MR. CAPUANI: Not the training. Someone has to

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[1] document it. If you own a company, you have to send
[2] documentation in that you worked three years in the
[3] elevator business unsupervised.
[4] MR. FENNELL: Or he would have had to have
[5] completed an apprenticeship program. That is either
[6] an apprenticeship program that's approved by the
[7] Department of Labor --
[8] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Correct.
[9] MR. FENNELL: -- or one that is a union program
[10] essentially is what it is.
[11] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Right.
[12] MR. FENNELL: I don't have the act right in
[13] front of me. I apologize for that.
[14] MR. GREGORY: Where would I find it quickly?
[15] Here's the act on the website.
[16] MR. FENNELL: Yes. That's where it would be.
[17] It is in 225 ILCS. Open up Professions and
[18] Occupations and you will come up with --
[19] MR. GREGORY: I have State of Illinois General
[20] Assembly. Elevator Safety and Regulation Act.
[21] MR. FENNELL: You got it there, Joe?
[22] MR. AUGUST: Yes.
[23] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: I believe there are four
[24] different things.

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[1] MR. FENNELL: Okay. "Applicants for an
[2] Illinois mechanic's license must demonstrate one of
[3] the following qualifications: An acceptable
[4] combination of documented experience and education
[5] credits consisting of not less than three years work
[6] experience in the elevator industry, in construction,
[7] maintenance or service and repair, as verified by
[8] current and previous employers licensed to do business
[9] in the State or in another state if the Board deems
[10] that out-of-State experience equivalent; and
[11] satisfactory completion of a written examination
[12] administered by the Elevator Safety Review Board or
[13] its designated provider and referenced codes, or
[14] acceptable proof that he or she has worked as an
[15] elevator constructor, maintenance or repair person."
[16] Just making sure I got the right page
[17] here.
[18] "And such acceptable proof shall consist
[19] of documentation that he or she worked without direct
[20] and immediate supervision for an elevator contractor
[21] who has worked on elevators in this State for a period
[22] of not less than three years immediately preceding the
[23] effective date of the rules adopted by the Board."
[24] MR. AUGUST: That's the grandfather clause.

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[1] MR. FENNELL: "Or a certificate of successful
[2] completion of the mechanic examination of a
[3] nationally-recognized training program for the
[4] elevator industry, such as the National Elevator
[5] Industry Educational Program or its equivalent; a
[6] certificate of completion of an elevator mechanic
[7] apprenticeship program with standards substantially
[8] equal to Illinois."
[9] MR. GREGORY: So what you are saying is that
[10] somebody with three years of experience documented and
[11] verified by current and previous employers licensed to
[12] do business in the state and successful completion of
[13] an exam, yes, they could get a mechanic's license?
[14] MR. FENNELL: So the granddaughter, if she gets
[15] a contractor's license and verifies employment and the
[16] person passes the exam, yes.
[17] MR. GREGORY: And that's in the law?
[18] MR. FENNELL: That's in the law.
[19] MR. GREGORY: Withdraw my motion.
[20] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Okay. That was an
[21] update on the mechanic's test.
[22] Now, John Fennell's report.
[23] MR. FENNELL: Almost ready to go. Just not in
[24] yet.

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[1] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: All right. Now we are
[2] going to go back to approval of meeting dates for
[3] September, October and November of 2008. We never
[4] came up with a date for those.
[5] MR. WELLER: I thought we threw some dates out
[6] when we were looking for rooms.
[7] MR. SWIENTON: The ones on here.
[8] MS. DEL GRECO: They were approved through
[9] August.
[10] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Okay. Does anybody have
[11] a problem with those dates?
[12] MR. GREGORY: Well, the September one I think
[13] you already know that I will be at the ASME Standards
[14] Committee meeting in Moncton, New Brunswick, which is
[15] not the world's easiest place to get to.
[16] MR. FENNELL: You can't commute?
[17] MR. GREGORY: I asked one Canadian how do you
[18] get to Moncton, New Brunswick. He said you go to
[19] Montreal and you turn right.
[20] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Did you want to change
[21] the date for the September meeting?
[22] MR. GREGORY: It's up to you guys because there
[23] is a lot of other people. I'm not the only one, okay,
[24] because the week before is the NEAC.

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[1] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: So you can't do it then
[2] either?
[3] MR. GREGORY: No. So it could be the week
[4] after.
[5] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: I don't have a problem.
[6] It is up to the rest of the board.
[7] MR. JIRIK: No problem.
[8] MR. SWIENTON: Change it to what?
[9] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: You are going to give us
[10] a date for September?
[11] MR. GREGORY: I would say Thursday, the 25th.
[12] MR. WELLER: I remember back -- wasn't there a
[13] problem with the rooms? Isn't that why we picked
[14] these?
[15] MS. DEL GRECO: It is very hard to get rooms.
[16] That's why I have these dates, because meetings --
[17] MR. WELLER: I think we are working backwards
[18] into these instead of forward into these.
[19] MR. CAPUANI: If you change the date there is a
[20] possibility, you know, you won't get a room.
[21] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Anybody got a problem
[22] with September 23rd?
[23] MR. GREGORY: I can make it the 22nd or 23rd.
[24] MR. FENNELL: The issue is with the rooms. If

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[1] we change the dates, we might not get a room.
[2] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Okay.
[3] MR. FENNELL: And we don't know right now
[4] whether we could get one or not.
[5] MS. DEL GRECO: It usually takes three or four
[6] days to find out if you can.
[7] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: All right. So what you
[8] are saying is just leave the date?
[9] MS. DEL GRECO: That would be the easiest thing
[10] to do.
[11] MR. AUGUST: Or move the location of the
[12] meeting.
[13] MS. DEL GRECO: Then you would have to move it
[14] to Springfield, Joe.
[15] MR. WELLER: Could we see if she can find an
[16] alternate date that works for Dick? Can you make a
[17] tentative change and then make the formal change?
[18] Would they let you do that?
[19] MS. DEL GRECO: Usually I ask for a date and
[20] they come back and say no. I say, what's available?
[21] And they give me dates, and by the time we pick a
[22] date, it is gone because they don't hold.
[23] MR. WELLER: I think there is enough of us. I
[24] won't be able to make one of the ones in October

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[1] and --
[2] MR. GREGORY: Yeah.
[3] MR. WELLER: We won't do anything technical
[4] that day.
[5] MR. GREGORY: I just don't want to be the guy
[6] that creates the problem by not having a quorum. I
[7] mean, that's what I'm looking for.
[8] MS. DEL GRECO: It was very difficult to get
[9] these three dates.
[10] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: We will just leave that
[11] date, okay. Is there a motion to accept those days?
[12] MR. GREGORY: So moved.
[13] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Is there a second?
[14] MR. WELLER: Second.
[15] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: All those in favor, say
[16] aye.
[17] (WHEREUPON, there was a
[18] chorus of ayes.)
[19] All those opposed?
[20] (No response)
[21] The ayes have it.
[22] I do have to move the date in April, and
[23] the dates for Springfield are a little easier than
[24] they are here.

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[1] MS. DEL GRECO: Right. Right.
[2] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: So the date was the
[3] 17th.
[4] MR. GREGORY: 10th.
[5] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: If no one has a problem
[6] with that.
[7] MR. SWIENTON: I do.
[8] MR. WELLER: I thought we were looking at the
[9] 22nd.
[10] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: The 22nd. I'm sorry,
[11] The 22nd.
[12] MR. SWIENTON: Still can't.
[13] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Still can't do it?
[14] MR. SWIENTON: Not the 22nd, no.
[15] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Does anybody else have a
[16] problem with the 22nd?
[17] (No response)
[18] Is there a motion to accept?
[19] MR. GREGORY: I move that we move -- this is
[20] Dick Gregory. -- the meeting to the 22nd of April in
[21] Springfield, Illinois.
[22] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: All those in favor, say
[23] aye.
[24]

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[1] (WHEREUPON, there was a
[2] chorus of ayes.)
[3] I should have said, is there a second to
[4] that. I'm sorry.
[5] MR. WELLER: Second.
[6] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: All right. Any
[7] questions on it?
[8] (No response)
[9] All those in favor, say aye.
[10] (WHEREUPON, there was a
[11] chorus of ayes.)
[12] All those against?
[13] (No response)
[14] Ayes have it.
[15] Okay. Now to new business. Is there any
[16] new business, Bob?
[17] MR. CAPUANI: Yes. For the board's
[18] information, the new inspection forms are on the
[19] website that we voted on at the last meeting. There
[20] is an application for a certificate of operation for
[21] these conveyance owners that are not in a municipality
[22] that signed an agreement with the state. The variance
[23] form was changed to a variance exception form. That
[24] is on the web also.

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[1] At the last meeting we had a full hour
[2] conversation about the pressure tests and there was
[3] nine new pressure tests in the state that needed to be
[4] done. Well, I got a response from two of the
[5] companies probably for about eight pressure tests. So
[6] that's where we are at right now.
[7] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Well, we gave them the
[8] final word on that, right?
[9] MR. WELLER: August 14th, right.
[10] MR. GREGORY: You got it. You remembered.
[11] MR. CAPUANI: I guess it is not that big of an
[12] emergency.
[13] Replacement tags. We send out a tag for
[14] each conveyance, correct? We are getting conveyance
[15] owners that lost them, can't find them. I have one
[16] here where they can't find 38. So what I'm asking the
[17] board is for a price to replace these tags.
[18] MR. GREGORY: What are they made out of?
[19] MR. CAPUANI: The tag costs us 65 cents.
[20] MR. GREGORY: Five dollars.
[21] MR. CAPUANI: Plus we have --
[22] MR. GREGORY: Twenty-five dollars.
[23] MR. CAPUANI: It has to be done manually.
[24] MR. WELLER: What do you mean, you have to go

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[1] out and do it?
[2] MR. CAPUANI: We have to go out and print it
[3] manually.
[4] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: So there is time
[5] involved besides the 65 cents for each tag.
[6] MR. CAPUANI: Right. And the mailing.
[7] MR. GREGORY: Which is going up to 42 cents.
[8] MR. CAPUANI: It is not like we are getting one
[9] or two of these. We are getting them every day
[10] calling in.
[11] MR. GREGORY: Where are the tags supposed to be
[12] posted?
[13] MR. CAPUANI: In the upper right-hand corner of
[14] the controller.
[15] MR. GREGORY: Of the controller.
[16] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Do you have a suggestion
[17] for each tag, how much we should charge? A dollar,
[18] two dollars?
[19] MR. CAPUANI: I would suggest 10.
[20] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: \$10 a tag?
[21] MR. GREGORY: I suggest 20.
[22] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: They wouldn't lose them,
[23] right?
[24] UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: There is a recession on,

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[1] sir. You guys are so cavalier.
[2] MR. CAPUANI: This is a meeting here. We are
[3] not ready for public comment.
[4] MR. GREGORY: The issue is, we are 25
[5] conveyances behind in typing them into the system,
[6] okay. So we -- you know, we are behind because how
[7] many people can we hire? We just can't go out there
[8] and hire a whole big mob, am I correct?
[9] MS. DEL GRECO: Right.
[10] MR. GREGORY: So if you are going to take
[11] somebody off of doing that already-scheduled work and
[12] you are going to start reissuing lost tags, then you
[13] just put -- you know, it is no different than your
[14] business. If you -- if the mechanic doesn't get out
[15] there and do the work, then it is behind and now you
[16] are two weeks behind instead of one week behind.
[17] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: I say probably \$5 a tag.
[18] It is up to the board. You think it is too little?
[19] MR. WELLER: I think.
[20] MR. GREGORY: I move for \$20 a tag.
[21] MR. WELLER: To replace.
[22] MR. GREGORY: For replacement.
[23] MR. FENNELL: That is unreasonable versus our
[24] cost and time and material. That is unreasonable. \$5

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[1] is reasonable.
[2] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Because you are -- it is
[3] not supposed to be a profit, correct?
[4] MR. FENNELL: Yes. I realize \$20 would be an
[5] exceptional deterrent to losing the tag, but \$5 is a
[6] reasonable cost and we are limited to reasonable
[7] costs.
[8] MR. GREGORY: Well, without asking Bob over
[9] here how much we are paying, I mean, he is getting "x"
[10] amount per hour and his other people are getting
[11] whatever amount per hour. The time is being used.
[12] MR. WELLER: Reasonable is subjective.
[13] MR. GREGORY: I mean, time is being used
[14] that -- you know. So if one of Mark's guys goes out
[15] and gets stuck and he is gone a week, Mark is screwed
[16] because he is -- you know.
[17] MR. SWIENTON: Again, we should say, Bob has to
[18] make these. I'm sure he is making more than \$5 an
[19] hour. So it is an hour's worth of work to do that
[20] so...
[21] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Well, we are talking for
[22] each tag.
[23] MR. CAPUANI: I'm not making the tags.
[24] MR. SWIENTON: I know that, but whoever is

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[1] going to make them is making more than \$5 an hour.
[2] MS. DEL GRECO: Springfield makes them.
[3] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: He made a motion for
[4] \$20.
[5] MR. GREGORY: I will amend my motion to 10.
[6] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: There is a motion for
[7] \$10 a tag. Is there a second?
[8] MR. HERTSBERG: I will second.
[9] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: There is a second.
[10] Any questions on the motion?
[11] (No response)
[12] None? All those in favor, say aye.
[13] (WHEREUPON, there was a
[14] chorus of ayes.)
[15] All those against?
[16] (No response)
[17] Ayes have it.
[18] MR. FENNELL: Make the change in the rules.
[19] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: What's that?
[20] MR. FENNELL: We will make the change in the
[21] rules.
[22] MR. CAPUANI: The board asked me to send
[23] letters out to two inspectors. We did send the
[24] letters out, and I did copy everyone on those.

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[1] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Okay. You had a
[2] question about what should be done.
[3] MR. GREGORY: I talked to John and perhaps we
[4] can't do this because there will be no action taken on
[5] the part of --
[6] MR. CAPUANI: Can you hold that comment a
[7] minute?
[8] (Discussion had off the
[9] record)
[10] We need to bring that up in the closed
[11] meeting.
[12] MR. GREGORY: You mentioned it. I didn't bring
[13] it up.
[14] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: All right. So letters
[15] went out.
[16] MR. CAPUANI: Correct. I did copy the board on
[17] it.
[18] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Okay. Is there any
[19] other business?
[20] MR. CAPUANI: No. I think that's it for me.
[21] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Any other new business?
[22] (No response)
[23] We are going to close this meeting and go
[24] to public comment.

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[1] MR. FENNELL: Hold on. Going to public comment
[2] in this meeting.
[3] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: In this meeting.
[4] MR. FENNELL: You are not closing this meeting.
[5] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: I believe it is Michael
[6] J. Kelly for public comment.
[7] Can you come up?
[8] MR. KELLY: Sure. I'm Michael J. Kelly. I'm
[9] with Bioblend Renewable Resources, and we are an
[10] Illinois manufacturer of biodegradable products, and
[11] we are working with the Lieutenant Governor's Office
[12] in working with relationships on "Going Green" in the
[13] State of Illinois, and we have developed a big product
[14] line for elevators with this in mind, and this being
[15] the safety board, if you want to look at the
[16] biodegradable vegetable-based products.
[17] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Excuse me.
[18] MR. CAPUANI: You have to address the board,
[19] not the public.
[20] MR. KELLY: Okay. I didn't know.
[21] MR. FENNELL: That's all right.
[22] MR. KELLY: All right. And the flash point of
[23] the vegetable-based products are higher, 100 degrees
[24] higher. The biodegradability, mineral oil doesn't

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[1] biodegrade nearly at the rate that ours does. The
[2] viscosity index is greater so when it gets hotter the
[3] viscosity of the oil does not break down. It also has
[4] much better viscosity, probably twice the lubricity
[5] factor than the mineral oil-based product, and they're
[6] nontoxic, non-hazardous and have no VOCs. So for
[7] safety reasons, that would be ideal.
[8] I have a package of information for
[9] everyone that outlines all of the products as well as
[10] our complete product line.
[11] (Booklets passed around)
[12] All of our products meet the ASME
[13] standards for performance, and we have a number of --
[14] we have a number of universities, municipalities,
[15] county organizations that are interested, and the
[16] Lieutenant Governor's office asked that I make the
[17] presentation. We are working with elevator
[18] contractors as we speak in the Chicago area to go
[19] green for the 2016 Olympics, and safety is one of the
[20] reasons that we are able to sell the product.
[21] As you can see, we have the complete line
[22] for chains, guide rails, levers or any moving parts,
[23] conveyor chains, wire ropes, cables, and they meet all
[24] the standards.

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[1] MR. GREGORY: What are you asking from us?

[2] MR. KELLY: I was asked to come present the

[3] products to you because there might not be knowledge

[4] of the vegetable-based products out in the field that

[5] can replace the mineral-oil based product.

[6] MR. GREGORY: Okay. Unless the elevators smell

[7] like McDonalds, I don't have a problem with it.

[8] MR. KELLY: It does not smell like McDonalds,

[9] just so you know. These products work as well as

[10] mineral-oil based products. They will work the exact

[11] same amount of hours as mineral-oil based products.

[12] MR. GREGORY: There is -- there is nothing --

[13] we don't -- we don't approve ---

[14] MR. CAPUANI: We can't endorse a product.

[15] MR. KELLY: I understand. We discussed that on

[16] the phone. I just want to present it, make people

[17] aware. What I found when going out to talk to people

[18] in the municipalities and at the state government

[19] level, they don't know these products are available,

[20] and so one of the ways that we are selling these

[21] products, marketing the product is through the safety

[22] aspect of the increased flash point, nontoxicity,

[23] non-hazardous and no VOCs. So if you do have an issue

[24] like say a fire, this would be almost -- then it would

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[1] smell like McDonalds.

[2] MR. GREGORY: So I will give you the name of

[3] the guy that you can call. His name is Mark Bohlen,

[4] B-o-h-l-e-n, and he is at Argonne National Laboratory.

[5] MR. KELLY: Uh-hum.

[6] MR. GREGORY: They have 25 hydraulic elevators,

[7] many of which have ethylene glycol instead of oil.

[8] MR. KELLY: Okay. And if you spill ethylene

[9] glycol on the pavement and a duck walks over and licks

[10] it, he dies, so...

[11] MR. KELLY: Actually all of our products are

[12] safe on all plant life and dogs. We sell concrete

[13] form release product also. One of the aspects of that

[14] is for safety because dogs will lick the boards and

[15] then they get sick or die.

[16] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: That has been run

[17] through the EPA too?

[18] MR. KELLY: Sure. Do you know anybody I should

[19] talk to at the EPA?

[20] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: No. I'm saying with the

[21] leakage of the hydraulic elevators, it is probably a

[22] pretty important thing.

[23] MR. KELLY: It is. We have done a lot of

[24] research and development. Penn State University has

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[1] our product in it and has had our product in all of

[2] their elevators on their campus for four years. So I

[3] mean it is a proven product.

[4] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Thank you.

[5] MR. KELLY: Sure. Thank you. Thank you for

[6] the opportunity.

[7] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Okay. Bob Capuani says

[8] we need to go back to new business. So we are going

[9] to move it right back to new business. Go ahead.

[10] MR. CAPUANI: At the last meeting the board's

[11] final decision was on periodic testing. We have

[12] companies out there that are going around doing full

[13] load traction safety tests with their in-house QEI

[14] person. Do not call me anymore because you will be in

[15] violation and I will not override anything.

[16] MR. GREGORY: Is this Category 1 or Category 5?

[17] MR. CAPUANI: This is a five-year, full load

[18] safety test.

[19] MR. GREGORY: That was never ever done.

[20] MR. CAPUANI: Correct. We have companies out

[21] there that are doing that.

[22] MR. WELLER: You made that pretty clear last

[23] time.

[24] MR. GREGORY: You are right.

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[1] MR. FENNELL: That's clear.

[2] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Well, it looks like

[3] there is no more public comment.

[4] Hold on. Hold on.

[5] MR. JANDORA: Can I come up?

[6] MR. FENNELL: Just fill out a request sheet.

[7] MR. CAPUANI: Yes.

[8] MS. YOUNG: We would like to go after Rick.

[9] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Okay.

[10] MR. JANDORA: Good morning, everybody. Rick

[11] Jandora, Otis Elevator Company. Currently we are

[12] assisting our customers by servicing elevators for the

[13] ASME 17.3 compliance, and it was a -- there was a

[14] discussion two meetings ago regarding the escape

[15] hatches and whether or not they needed a switch. You

[16] were going to report back last month on whether or not

[17] you would require that, and I just wanted to make sure

[18] that's something that you are going to require and

[19] that we include that as far as compliance is

[20] concerned.

[21] MR. GREGORY: It is not in A17.3.

[22] MR. CAPUANI: Right. But we kind of

[23] recommended it at a board meeting and we were supposed

[24] to vote on it at the next meeting.

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[1] MR. GREGORY: You know, we can't -- we can't do
[2] that. We are -- we are adopting national standards.
[3] You would have to get the act changed. I think I
[4] would defer my opinion to the legal people in order to
[5] change the national standards.
[6] MR. FENNEL: I think -- my opinion is that if
[7] it is in the code, it is adopted. If it is not in the
[8] code, it is not adopted. We don't have any basis for
[9] requiring something that is not in the code.
[10] Therefore, I would say we could not require such a
[11] switch if the code doesn't, and I think that --
[12] MR. JANDORA: Thank you.
[13] MR. FENNEL: I think that was going to be my
[14] opinion at the last meeting. It just slipped off the
[15] radar screen. That is what I was going to report to
[16] the board.
[17] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: There is another person
[18] that would like to speak over there so...
[19] MR. JANDORA: Okay.
[20] MR. WELLER: Does that answer your question?
[21] MR. JANDORA: It does answer my question. We
[22] don't see it as being required by code. If it was
[23] going to be required, we wanted to make sure we were
[24] going to incorporate that, so...

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[1] MR. FENNEL: Yes. Thank you.
[2] MR. CAPUANI: Patti, do you want to comment?
[3] MR. THOMPSON: You handled it very well. You
[4] said no so...
[5] MS. YOUNG: I didn't realize he had the same
[6] issue.
[7] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: We got another public
[8] comment.
[9] Did you fill out the sheet?
[10] UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I got the variance
[11] request forms.
[12] MR. CAPUANI: Did you send those variances in
[13] beforehand?
[14] UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No. I was told to bring
[15] it here.
[16] MR. CAPUANI: You need to send the variance in
[17] beforehand.
[18] MR. GREGORY: Where is that in our rules?
[19] MR. FENNEL: We made that announcement at the
[20] initial meeting of the board.
[21] MR. AUGUST: So that we can review.
[22] MR. FENNEL: It has to be submitted to the
[23] board prior to the meeting for consideration.
[24] Now, let's hold on for a second, because

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[1] if this is one of those address variances that we
[2] talked about --
[3] MR. AUGUST: Is this a new system?
[4] MR. FENNEL: When we get to variances --
[5] MR. AUGUST: We will talk.
[6] MR. FENNEL: -- then we will talk.
[7] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: You said you have more
[8] on new business, Bob?
[9] MR. CAPUANI: Yes.
[10] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: We are going back to new
[11] business again from Bob Capuani, Sr.
[12] MR. GREGORY: He is having a senior moment I
[13] think.
[14] MR. CAPUANI: Yes. I'm getting there.
[15] I have a letter here that Mr. Thompson is
[16] sending out to his customers, and basically what it
[17] says is that when we do an annual inspection that we
[18] require the alarm company, a mechanic and inspector
[19] and actually set the smokes off. Not jumping the
[20] smokes out in the machine room, actually setting the
[21] smokes off physically.
[22] It is in the code.
[23] MR. GREGORY: What code?
[24] MR. CAPUANI: Mr. Thompson's letter, right

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[1] here.
[2] (Document tendered do Mr.
[3] Gregory)
[4] MR. GREGORY: Rather than just shooting from
[5] the hip on this, I think that I would like to have a
[6] chance to --
[7] MR. JIRIK: Can I read it, Dick?
[8] (Document tendered to Mr.
[9] Jirik)
[10] MR. CAPUANI: Would you -- Patti, John, would
[11] you like to say anything on this?
[12] MR. THOMPSON: It is in the Section 8-11,
[13] Category 1, and also in the inspector's manual that
[14] gives you the section that it has to be tested, and it
[15] becomes a total liability issue if we don't do it, and
[16] if something happens, then some lawyer and his
[17] consultant could bring it up and throw it all in our
[18] faces, mine, the municipality's, the board's, that it
[19] was never enforced. So we have to address it one way
[20] or the other.
[21] MR. CAPUANI: Let me ask the fire department a
[22] question.
[23] Have you run into smokes where someone
[24] has used let's say a less expensive smoke and they

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[1] jammed smokes and they didn't actually work later? I
[2] have been told this. I'm just looking for advice on
[3] this.
[4] MR. SWIENTON: I would say to actually test it
[5] would be the best way, there is no doubt about that,
[6] because -- Also, I don't know if they -- there also
[7] would be, you know, take them down and clean them and
[8] check them too. That's all part of the process, you
[9] know, because if you jump them, well, that thing can
[10] be clogged with spider webs or anything or whatever.
[11] So if you actually test it, you know, it is working,
[12] but still it should be, you know, looked at, cleaned,
[13] blown out, air, however, that should also be done too.
[14] That's the best way.
[15] MR. WELLER: Can I ask a conceptual question?
[16] A licensed inspector inspecting how he sees fit, not
[17] in violation of any of our rules or not asking for a
[18] variance. Why are we even talking about it? He can
[19] do whatever he wants. It's up to him and his
[20] customers to figure that out, not between us, unless
[21] it is doing something that's --
[22] MR. CAPUANI: The problem comes into where a
[23] lot of companies jump the smokes out. We jump the
[24] smokes out in our machine room, not actually set it

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[1] off.
[2] MR. WELLER: How he inspects elevators, as long
[3] as it is within the code, I don't -- I mean, it is not
[4] up to us to decide it is right or wrong. It is up to
[5] him and his customers to decide.
[6] MR. FENNEL: Correct.
[7] MR. SWIENTON: I would agree with that if he is
[8] not violating -- I mean, what --
[9] MR. SWIENTON: I'm saying that would be the
[10] ideal way, but if they are just jumping it, it's in
[11] the code, for this board's purposes, I have no problem
[12] with it.
[13] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: What did you want -- The
[14] smokes isn't the elevator company, it is the
[15] inspection company.
[16] MR. CAPUANI: The problem is the -- just
[17] bringing this letter out; that it is going out to
[18] companies.
[19] MR. WELLER: Supposedly at some point in time
[20] the customer can say, is this necessary? And the
[21] customer can come in I guess, ask us, is there
[22] something we are requiring, and we can make that
[23] determination, but I don't see how we can get involved
[24] until there is some question of whether it is

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[1] appropriate or not. At least that's my --
[2] MR. CAPUANI: Okay. Does that answer your
[3] question, Patti?
[4] MS. YOUNG: To a certain degree. Is it -- I
[5] guess if we send out this letter, the other inspection
[6] companies, if they are not communicating to their
[7] customers and it is not being required from their
[8] perspective, you know, we have one entity pushing it
[9] this -- pushing the envelope this way, but we are not
[10] having it from the other prospectives, I have concerns
[11] with that because then it becomes one of those, well,
[12] this one is not enforcing it, but yet this one is, and
[13] then it is going to come down to a building owner is
[14] going to look at the ultimate cost. Well, this one is
[15] letting me get away with it.
[16] MR. WELLER: Isn't that how it is supposed to
[17] be? Technically, isn't it supposed to be what's the
[18] best way to get all of these things done within a
[19] reasonable amount of time and meeting the safety
[20] requirement? That's it.
[21] MS. YOUNG: Just like with any of the other
[22] periodic testing, you know, they are to be on a
[23] schedule, whether it is annual or five-year, et
[24] cetera. This has a timetable schedule as well.

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[1] You are the owners of the code and so we
[2] are looking to you, you know, because we act as an
[3] extension out on the side. So we are looking to have
[4] the board support this 100 percent, and it needs to be
[5] communicated to all parties involved, to elevator
[6] repair, maintenance companies, inspectors, et cetera.
[7] MR. FENNEL: Can I recommend to the board that
[8] the board take it under advisement and report back at
[9] the next meeting?
[10] MR. WELLER: What are we going to advise on?
[11] MR. FENNEL: We are going to look at the
[12] issue. The issue has been raised. We are going to
[13] look at the issue.
[14] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: And report on it at the
[15] next meeting.
[16] MR. FENNEL: Correct.
[17] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Is there a motion on it
[18] or anything?
[19] MR. GREGORY: I move that we take this under
[20] advisement until the next meeting.
[21] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Okay. Is there a
[22] second?
[23] MR. SWIENTON: Second.
[24] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Okay. Any questions?

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[1] MR. WELLER: I have a question. What are we
[2] going to take under advisement? I mean, I'm having a
[3] problem with what we are delaying.
[4] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: We are going to look at
[5] the codes and see exactly what you can do and what you
[6] can't do, and if there is some inspectors that aren't
[7] doing -- checking it out the right way and others that
[8] are doing it, we need to check into that.
[9] MR. SWIENTON: Review of the code, just make
[10] sure we are all on the same page.
[11] MR. WELLER: Okay.
[12] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Okay?
[13] MR. WELLER: Fair enough.
[14] MR. GREGORY: Just as a discussion on it, look
[15] in 8-11 of the code. The code is the code. A17.1 is
[16] the code. A17.2 is just a guide. It is not the code,
[17] but A17.1 in this section is remarkably useless.
[18] (Laughter)
[19] So it doesn't say anything, you know. So
[20] I mean, that's a problem. So I can understand why --
[21] I can understand why there is a lack of understanding.
[22] MR. CAPUANI: But if an inspector is in a
[23] municipality that signed an agreement and he has
[24] authority, has the jurisdiction, if he wants the

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[1] smokes tested, he can have the smokes tested, correct?
[2] MR. GREGORY: And from the fire point of view I
[3] think there might be some other requirements that the
[4] smokes be tested. I mean, you know, I mean, that's
[5] something -- how do we know any of these smokes work?
[6] How do you know the smokes in your house works? If it
[7] starts beeping you know you need to change the
[8] battery, so...
[9] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: No more questions?
[10] (No response)
[11] All those in favor, say aye.
[12] (WHEREUPON, there was a
[13] chorus of ayes.)
[14] All those against?
[15] (No response)
[16] Ayes have it.
[17] You don't have any other new business?
[18] MR. CAPUANI: No.
[19] (Laughter)
[20] MR. SWIENTON: We can check you off now.
[21] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Do we have anymore
[22] public comment?
[23] (No response)
[24] MR. ROOK: I don't have a sheet. This is just

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[1] a question.
[2] MR. CAPUANI: Can you please stand up and
[3] approach the board?
[4] MR. FENNELL: Please fill out a sheet.
[5] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: The sheet is over there
[6] you can fill out.
[7] UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: What were the dates for
[8] September, October and November?
[9] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: What did we change
[10] September to?
[11] MR. GREGORY: We didn't change it.
[12] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Right now we got
[13] September 17th, October 14th and November 14th.
[14] UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you.
[15] NEW UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Location is?
[16] MR. GREGORY: They are all Chicago.
[17] MR. SWIENTON: Yes.
[18] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: The other two are here.
[19] MR. ROOK: My name is Bill Rook. I'm with Cook
[20] County. We test our fire alarm systems in all our
[21] buildings annually, and at that time we need someone
[22] from the alarm company to come at that time. We also
[23] test elevator recall with it to make sure that they
[24] pick one day where we just do all the elevators in a

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[1] row so we get that out of the way. Is it okay if we
[2] have certification, you know, from the alarm person
[3] that fills out the NFPA form to say it was tested and
[4] in working order? If you were to adopt this, would
[5] that be acceptable so we don't have to pay the alarm
[6] company to come back a second time to retest?
[7] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Do you see a problem
[8] with that?
[9] MR. GREGORY: Fine. When you test them -- so
[10] you are testing just the smokes or whatever you are
[11] using and you are also doing the elevator portion?
[12] MR. ROOK: Yes. That's what I said. We have
[13] the elevator there at a certain time to witness all
[14] the elevator recall. We do that at one time.
[15] MR. GREGORY: So you are doing the whole thing
[16] every year anyway?
[17] MR. ROOK: I know not every building does this.
[18] I'm just -- if you are adopting that and if we do this
[19] and have paperwork that substantiates it passes, would
[20] that be acceptable?
[21] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Who is your inspection
[22] agency?
[23] MR. ROOK: As far as each different alarm
[24] vendor or...

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[1] MR. GREGORY: No. For the elevators.
[2] MR. ROOK: As far as who is witnessing it,
[3] yeah, I usually go with the elevator company.
[4] MR. GREGORY: So you are the inspector or the
[5] AHJ, which is Cook County. You answered your own
[6] question. Sounds good to me.
[7] MR. ROOK: We have two buildings where the
[8] inspection agency is Thompson. They are the
[9] jurisdictional authority.
[10] MR. GREGORY: Tell them to be there.
[11] MR. ROOK: Okay.
[12] MR. GREGORY: On those dates.
[13] MR. ROOK: That's what I'm wondering, can they
[14] dictate the day they want to do it, or do we have them
[15] come when we do it?
[16] MR. GREGORY: That's a business thing that we
[17] are not --
[18] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: We are not going to get
[19] into the dates.
[20] MR. GREGORY: Yes.
[21] MR. ROOK: Okay.
[22] MR. GREGORY: That's business between you and
[23] them.
[24] MR. ROOK: Okay. Thank you.

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[1] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Okay. That's it for
[2] public comment. We are going to -- if there is a
[3] motion to adjourn, then we will go to appeals.
[4] MR. GREGORY: Move to adjourn.
[5] MR. FENNEL: Are we going to have a closed
[6] session?
[7] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Yes.
[8] MR. FENNEL: Then we don't adjourn.
[9] MR. GREGORY: Not adjourn. Let's do everything
[10] and then go to closed session.
[11] MR. FENNEL: Let's do all the variances first
[12] and then we can go to closed session.
[13] We are going to suspend the meeting and
[14] go to consideration for variances.
[15] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Okay. We are going to
[16] suspend the meeting and go to appeals and variances.
[17] MR. FENNEL: Yes.
[18] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Okay.
[19] John Koschack.
[20] MR. KOSCHACK: Here. I will stand over here if
[21] you don't mind. Your necks were probably straining to
[22] go the other way to look at those people.
[23] I'm John Koschack with Thyssenkrupp
[24] Elevator. Good morning. I submitted a variance

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[1] request. It was actually for a new product, but in
[2] the course of the discussion with Mr. Capuani earlier
[3] today and yesterday I would also like to present --
[4] this was thrown together rather rapidly. I promise
[5] you I will send a more complete book, but this has
[6] enough data in it for my request today, and questions
[7] regarding the Isis conversions I think can be answered
[8] in that book.
[9] There was some separate pages looking
[10] like this(Indicating), the Pfeifer Drako rope thing.
[11] This is an excerpt from the Pfeifer Drako catalog. In
[12] essence, the variance is for the product that the
[13] booklet is built around called Synergy L, which is the
[14] use of eight millimeter steel independent wire ropes,
[15] core ropes.
[16] The data for the manufacturer is here,
[17] the certification of the manufacturer. A little
[18] history of eight millimeter wire rope, they have been
[19] used for years. Most elevators actually in the world
[20] run on eight millimeter ropes outside of the U.S.
[21] So the system that we have designed with
[22] steel wire rope this time is Synergy L, which utilizes
[23] that smaller technology. The advantage of that being
[24] you can go with a small diameter sheave and then have

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[1] a smaller machine except at a lower cost. So that's
[2] why, number one, the variance.
[3] The rest of this document before you that
[4] is bound, there is a carbon letter with the request
[5] for different variances. I can walk through them one
[6] by one quickly, and the first one is the reduction of
[7] the steel wire rope. I want you also to be aware that
[8] it is not just a diameter reduction. In the code it
[9] references that steel wire rope is only to be used
[10] presently in the code, and it must be a minimum of 9.5
[11] millimeter. It also specifies the minimum wire size.
[12] The steel wire rope is made up of wires that are wound
[13] into strands and the strands are wound up in a rope.
[14] The minimum wire size is a relevant consideration
[15] because that's the actual piece that contacts the
[16] steel sheave and that's the part that wears. And so
[17] from an inspection and replacement standpoint that
[18] abrasive wear over the life of the rope will
[19] eventually scrape off some of the steel, and that's
[20] where you have breaks and that's where John comes in
[21] and says you got too many breaks in this length of
[22] rope so you got to condemn these ropes.
[23] The minimum wire size goes specifically
[24] to how often that rope may wear or how quickly it may

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[1] wear and how quickly it may be replaced. So the
[2] variance is two-fold. It is for the diameter, but it
[3] is also for the wire size, and as you might guess, the
[4] smaller the wire diameter or the smaller the rope
[5] diameter, to make a smaller rope, you got to use
[6] smaller wires, but again, that's part and parcel to
[7] the eight millimeter technology that has been used
[8] forever.

[9] The replacement criteria is essentially
[10] the same. Everything proportionate at least to the
[11] eight millimeter, and then the second variance that is
[12] relative to the Synergy is something that we discussed
[13] in the past and you allowed with the Isis, was the
[14] deflector compensation idler sheaves not being metal
[15] but being a composite material, and they meet all the
[16] factors of safety, the criteria for materials of
[17] elongation.

[18] MR. WELLER: This is the one you brought to us
[19] last fall, is that about right?

[20] MR. KOSCHACK: Yes. A while ago.

[21] MR. WELLER: We already approved that. Has
[22] there been anything that happened with those systems
[23] since then?

[24] MR. KOSCHACK: No.

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[1] MR. GREGORY: Not with the sheaves.

[2] MR. WELLER: Not with the sheaves. All right.

[3] MR. KOSCHACK: Yes. Non-metallic sheaves are
[4] very common elsewhere in the world and there is no
[5] reason in my opinion, professionally, with regard to
[6] that. Maybe other issues with the aramid rope.

[7] So that's the request today. We actually
[8] have a pilot project in Kankakee, I believe out of our
[9] Peoria office, and that will be the first one here in
[10] Illinois. So obviously I have got to ask for a
[11] variance, and until such time as the suspension
[12] standards include eight millimeter rope and also the
[13] non-metallic sheaves, it is going to require a
[14] variance, and I understand it is per address from here
[15] forward, although I would be remiss if I didn't ask
[16] for a blanket.

[17] MR. WELLER: Good job.

[18] MR. GREGORY: But you are not going to get it.

[19] MR. KOSCHACK: So that's my question. That is
[20] actually why I'm here today. Bob also asked me to
[21] speak -- and do you want me to go forward, or do you
[22] guys want --

[23] MR. GREGORY: We should do one thing at a time.

[24] I mean --

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[1] MR. KOSCHACK: I'm sorry.

[2] MR. CAPUANI: Yes. I think we should vote on
[3] the first variance for installing this conveyance.

[4] MR. GREGORY: Yes. Now, is that -- did -- We
[5] call this an exception or is it a variance/exception?

[6] MR. WELLER: I think we decided last time it is
[7] one in the same.

[8] MR. GREGORY: Yes.

[9] MR. WELLER: If I could, now there are two
[10] different things we are talking about here? We
[11] already have given you or we pre-approved in the past
[12] that composite sheave.

[13] THE WITNESS: Yes.

[14] MR. WELLER: All right. Is that different than
[15] this, or is that included in this?

[16] MR. KOSCHACK: I'm asking for in this you -- I
[17] have asked for it in other things.

[18] MR. WELLER: So you want to get that out of the
[19] way first?

[20] MR. KOSCHACK: Sure.

[21] MR. WELLER: I will make a motion that we
[22] accept the composite sheaves as accepted and approved
[23] in the past for this conveyance.

[24] MR. GREGORY: Second.

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[1] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Just for this building?

[2] MR. GREGORY: Wait a minute. Can we approve
[3] this so that he doesn't have to come back here every
[4] month?

[5] MR. WELLER: He has got to come back every
[6] time.

[7] MR. GREGORY: Wait. He doesn't have to make
[8] the presentation?

[9] MR. WELLER: No. That's why I'm making it
[10] easier. We are trying to break it apart.

[11] MR. GREGORY: He has to bring, and that
[12] probably would be somebody else, but somebody from
[13] that elevator company has to bring the request for the
[14] variance each month.

[15] MR. WELLER: In reference to the fact that we
[16] already --

[17] MR. GREGORY: Yes.

[18] MR. WELLER: -- went through the procedure for
[19] that, that's what we were hoping to get to last time.
[20] That's why I want to make it easier for these guys.

[21] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: There has been a motion
[22] made. Is there a second?

[23] MR. GREGORY: Second.

[24] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Any questions? Or we

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[1] have already had the questions.
[2] All those in favor, say aye.
[3] (WHEREUPON, there was a
[4] chorus of ayes.)
[5] Against?
[6] (No response)
[7] MR. CAPUANI: The variance -- let me be clear
[8] on this. The variance has to be submitted to our
[9] office prior.
[10] MR. KOSCHACK: Correct. Prior to the meeting.
[11] Bob, since you brought it up, if you guys
[12] will put the procedures where I can read them, I have
[13] no problem with it. Procedures that are in minutes in
[14] my view are not administrative rules that --
[15] MR. CAPUANI: We will add that to our form.
[16] MR. FENNELL: Yes. That's fine.
[17] MR. KOSCHACK: All I know, last time I was
[18] here I was able to submit it prior and come in and do
[19] it.
[20] MR. CAPUANI: You snuck in.
[21] MR. FENNELL: And we have made a comment at
[22] every meeting that applications for variances along
[23] with the fees have to be submitted prior to the
[24] meeting.

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[1] MR. KOSCHACK: How many days? How many
[2] minutes?
[3] MR. FENNELL: A week before the meeting so the
[4] board has an opportunity to review it before they are
[5] going to consider it.
[6] MR. KOSCHACK: And I can appreciate the
[7] necessity of that.
[8] MR. FENNELL: That's the only reason we are
[9] asking for it.
[10] MR. CAPUANI: I'll add it to the form.
[11] THE WITNESS: Seven days? Seven working days?
[12] Seven calendar days?
[13] MR. FENNELL: Seven calendar days.
[14] MR. KOSCHACK: How many copies, one for each
[15] board member?
[16] MR. FENNELL: It would be fourteen copies --
[17] fifteen copies. Fifteen copies.
[18] THE WITNESS: I apologize. I only brought 10.
[19] Sorry about that. As I said though, I'm going to send
[20] a more complete booklet to all of you.
[21] MR. GREGORY: Now, wait. So we have now
[22] approved --
[23] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Composite sheaves.
[24] MR. FENNELL: For that address.

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[1] MR. GREGORY: Well --
[2] MR. FENNELL: For that address.
[3] MR. GREGORY: Yes, but --
[4] MR. WELLER: In concept.
[5] MR. GREGORY: From concept.
[6] MR. FENNELL: If they want to do another
[7] address, they got to submit another request.
[8] All I'm saying is, please don't expand
[9] the motion bigger than it is. Please. Please.
[10] MR. GREGORY: I don't want him giving me a
[11] presentation every month.
[12] MR. FENNELL: No. He does not have to give a
[13] presentation for this system ever again.
[14] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: You don't want to hear
[15] John speak?
[16] MR. WELLER: We just want to ask the question,
[17] has something happened between the last one and this
[18] one to change our opinion?
[19] MR. KOSCHACK: When we submit a new
[20] application, put an address on it.
[21] You approved this. It is the same thing.
[22] There has been no problem.
[23] MR. WELLER: You put your stamp on this that
[24] you guys are behind this as a firm and --

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[1] MR. KOSCHACK: Understood.
[2] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: And now your second
[3] request?
[4] MR. KOSCHACK: Is for the use of eight
[5] millimeter rope. That doesn't comply with the minimum
[6] wire size and minimum rope diameter as outlined in
[7] Deviation No. 1 of this submittal.
[8] MR. GREGORY: And I will move that we approve
[9] that for this address. I will remark that, you know,
[10] we, the board, that we have already approved this for
[11] another elevator company for some different addresses.
[12] So I mean, it's the same old, same old.
[13] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Is there a second?
[14] MR. WELLER: Second. I just have a question on
[15] that.
[16] MR. GREGORY: Yes.
[17] MR. WELLER: When did we do that?
[18] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: We did that at the last
[19] meeting.
[20] MR. WELLER: Which firm?
[21] MR. GREGORY: Kone.
[22] MR. FENNELL: It was --
[23] MR. WELLER: Even though it is the different
[24] company, it is the same?

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[1] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Pretty much the same
[2] concept.
[3] MR. GREGORY: I mean, they're --
[4] MR. WELLER: I'm just -- you tell me they are
[5] the same thing --
[6] MR. GREGORY: There are three international
[7] companies. There is only one U.S. company. That is
[8] Rick over there. Three international companies, and
[9] they are all doing the same thing. So I'm just
[10] surprised that Company C has not shown up, but I don't
[11] know what Company C is doing anyway, so...
[12] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Is there anymore
[13] questions?
[14] (No response)
[15] All those in favor, say aye.
[16] (WHEREUPON, there was a
[17] chorus of ayes.)
[18] All those against?
[19] (No response)
[20] Ayes have it.
[21] MR. KOSCHACK: I thank you very much.
[22] I would like to -- Bob asked me to speak
[23] about Isis conversion. I usually do a full-blown
[24] Power Point. I won't do that. I will make it very

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[1] brief. I would like to report on the incident that
[2] happened in Seattle.
[3] We had -- that property had Thyssenkrupp
[4] send letters to all of our customers saying that we
[5] were going to provide a replacement technology for all
[6] of the Isis, Isis I and II units. In other words,
[7] remove all the core K rope from existence, and from
[8] memory, hopefully, the incident in Seattle began with
[9] apparently one rope of the three breaking and that
[10] rope fell into the pinch point of the moving car, and
[11] that when it did that, when it rolled into that sheave
[12] on top of the car it displaced the two remaining
[13] ropes, pushing them out against the rope guards, and
[14] the constant movement caused enough deterioration that
[15] those two parted. So the failed rope, rope one, fell
[16] in the pinch point, rope two and three parted, the car
[17] and counterweight went down five floors. Nobody hurt.
[18] Four people in the car, hospital duplex situation.
[19] We did an investigation to determine why
[20] the first one broke. We don't know why. I'm not even
[21] going to allude why because we don't know. We took
[22] all of the rope under lock and key with the hospital,
[23] the City of Seattle, the State of Washington,
[24] everybody keenly aware and involved with this, took it

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[1] all to the laboratory, took the ropes off the other
[2] car in the duplex, laid them all out, played Sherlock
[3] Holmes to figure out what happened and we still don't
[4] know what made the first rope break.
[5] However, in that investigation we learned
[6] that the rope was deteriorating at a rate far, far,
[7] far, far greater than any testing laboratory result
[8] had ever shown. We had -- I can tell you that we had
[9] over a thousand samples with over 150 million cycles
[10] at the same test laboratory we took these ropes to,
[11] and they would run a million cycles and have no loss
[12] of tensile screen. The ropes that we pulled off the
[13] running car in Seattle had reduced almost to 20
[14] percent, worst case. In other words --
[15] MR. CAPUANI: How old were the ropes?
[16] MR. KOSCHACK: It's a year -- that's not true.
[17] They were on the car two years, but there was a sheave
[18] change. We started out with a composite sheave, and
[19] if you want me to, I will tell you why we had a
[20] composite sheave but ultimately we changed to
[21] aluminum. The characteristic of aluminum is that it
[22] is not -- as it doesn't have as high coefficient of
[23] friction as the composite, which is why we went with
[24] the composite material, remember your basic physics

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[1] class? The brick on an incline plane, there is
[2] friction, and the higher up the incline, finally the
[3] brick will slide off. Well, that's an indication of
[4] the coefficient of friction of the two surfaces. That
[5] same friction is between the rope and the traction
[6] sheave and that's what makes an elevator not slip.
[7] You got a counterweight. You got a car. They are
[8] in-balanced and the code says it can't slip. That's
[9] the whole basis of a traction elevator.
[10] For aramid rope, in our case, we had to
[11] make a composite that had enough friction that it
[12] wouldn't slip. So when we went away from the
[13] composite material, for stupid reasons in my view, but
[14] we went to an aluminum sheave, then we were kind of on
[15] the edge of what was too slippery. So the designers,
[16] that didn't include me, decided they would put a
[17] little bit of a "V" in the aluminium just to give it a
[18] little more grip, more traction, and in my opinion
[19] what happened was, the aramid was being compressed
[20] with each rotation and that was causing the filament
[21] to begin to abrade and to break because aramid rope
[22] hates compression, loves tension. Hates compression.
[23] So that's what I personally think happened. We don't
[24] know. The testing results are not in, but at the end

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[1] of the day, that job -- other jobs have had reduction
[2] in its tensile strength of the rope. That is why we
[3] are changing all the ropes.
[4] MR. GREGORY: Wait. Ones that had this problem
[5] or ones where you changed to aluminum sheaves with "V"
[6] grooves?
[7] THE WITNESS: The majority of them, but we
[8] actually now have evidence of one or two cases of
[9] composite sheave.
[10] MR. GREGORY: So what are you going to do about
[11] it? That's the --
[12] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: They are changing them
[13] all.
[14] MR. KOSCHACK: We are changing them all. We
[15] sent a letter out with the preliminary results.
[16] MR. GREGORY: Good.
[17] THE WITNESS: Now we got an Isis I machine in
[18] the pit. We got the Isis II in. The building is
[19] built and the elevator is built. You can't put a
[20] bigger machine in because there is no room. So now we
[21] are -- we are left with a situation where all we can
[22] use is a smaller diameter rope in the case of all Isis
[23] II, which are the higher speed cars. Eight millimeter
[24] rope will fix it. Sometimes we still have to change

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[1] the machine, but most times we don't. Sometimes we
[2] have to change the sheave to a bigger slip, but at the
[3] end of the day it has all got to be eight millimeter
[4] rope. The only variance would be on the rope size.
[5] It is going to be same style sheave. It is going to
[6] be everything.
[7] In the case of Isis I, we have to in some
[8] cases go down to five millimeter rope. Now, it sounds
[9] scary. It is really not. In the world of elevators,
[10] the loading of the rope is what the code says you have
[11] to maintain. The rope has a rated strength and you
[12] are only allowed to have a load on it that's a
[13] percentage of that rated strength. So the size of the
[14] rope doesn't really matter if you design all the
[15] characteristics of it correctly, which I believe we
[16] can do that.
[17] So at this point I believe it is five
[18] millimeters for some Isis I, six and half millimeter
[19] for the rest of the Isis I jobs and eight millimeter
[20] for all the Isis II jobs.
[21] MR. WELLER: Now, we are not approving any of
[22] that today? We are just talking about this one
[23] elevator? This is a change because of the Seattle
[24] situation here?

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[1] MR. KOSCHACK: What exactly did you want, Bob,
[2] a formal request? Because right now we have in the
[3] letter to our customers, and we are going to
[4] ultimately need to change all of those aramid ropes to
[5] steel.
[6] MR. CAPUANI: For each conveyance?
[7] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: You are already doing it
[8] right now?
[9] MR. KOSCHACK: At various parts of the world
[10] but not Illinois. We don't have permission.
[11] Are we doing any?
[12] MR. JIRIK: In Chicago.
[13] MR. WELLER: How many are we looking at?
[14] MR. KOSCHACK: Sixty, seventy units.
[15] MR. WELLER: I would prefer in this case,
[16] because that is -- that is a fixed number, it will
[17] never increase, it will never decrease, it is only
[18] going to be those units, and I think the value is for
[19] your time and for our time, that you just say, look,
[20] for the Isis units our goal is to get rid of the
[21] aramid. Can I just get a -- not blanket, but rather a
[22] variance for that fixed number of units.
[23] MR. GREGORY: So send the data to Bob as to
[24] where the units are, how you are going to maintain the

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[1] safety. You talk percentage.
[2] MR. KOSCHACK: Do the calculations.
[3] MR. GREGORY: The safety factor is outlined in
[4] the code.
[5] MR. CAPUANI: Do you have a projection in time
[6] that you will do it?
[7] MR. GREGORY: Sometime after we approve it, if
[8] we approve it.
[9] MR. WELLER: I would like to see it by --
[10] because the eight millimeter, once -- I think we have
[11] already kind of went through that. It's not going to
[12] be a significant issue. So if you can break those out
[13] and get those off of our plate.
[14] MR. KOSCHACK: Sure.
[15] MR. WELLER: I would support you. Even though
[16] we don't like to do this, I can understand the
[17] situation.
[18] MR. KOSCHACK: This is a one-time deal.
[19] MR. WELLER: To replace those. As long as
[20] council is okay with eight millimeter, bring those up
[21] to us so we know you got those done. Going to the six
[22] and half and five is a completely different
[23] technology.
[24] MR. KOSCHACK: Uh-hum.

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[1] MR. WELLER: Maybe the six and half might be
[2] okay. The five might be, I don't know, but I would
[3] like to see each fixed amount broken down in my mind
[4] as a different variance.
[5] MR. KOSCHACK: Understandable.
[6] MR. FENNELL: You can do a variance for eight
[7] millimeter, list the addresses. Variance for six and
[8] a half with the addresses.
[9] MR. GREGORY: Exactly.
[10] MR. FENNELL: Variance for five.
[11] MR. WELLER: I don't want them grouped as one.
[12] MR. FENNELL: They can't be. We have not
[13] researched, reviewed six and a half millimeter and
[14] five millimeter. That is different technology that we
[15] haven't talked about until now.
[16] I would recommend that the board get a
[17] presentation, review the technology, and then make a
[18] decision.
[19] MR. GREGORY: I find that totally good. I
[20] mean, I think that works. Get that eight millimeter
[21] stuff to us along with the addresses and all that
[22] stuff at the next meeting. We have already said eight
[23] millimeter is fine with those addresses. In my
[24] opinion we can just go ahead with those and then at

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[1] the same time you can make the presentation on -- you
[2] know, if you want to do both, the six and a half and
[3] the five at the same time, whichever.
[4] MR. KOSCHACK: I understand the task. Separate
[5] the jobs by the rope size.
[6] MR. CAPUANI: Say 10 units. Does he pay for
[7] that one variance or does he pay for 10 units?
[8] MR. FENNELL: That's the --
[9] MR. KOSCHACK: Let's be reasonable.
[10] MR. CAPUANI: He is asking.
[11] MR. FENNELL: That's the board's decision,
[12] because as of the motion of the last meeting each
[13] variance requires a separate fee. Each address
[14] requires a separate variance.
[15] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: That's what we said.
[16] MR. FENNELL: That's what you said.
[17] MR. WELLER: We went back, and at one point
[18] decided we were going to grandfather. I think it
[19] might have been yours.
[20] MR. GREGORY: We grandfathered his units and
[21] now he is coming back in here and saying he is going
[22] to rip them out. He is going to --
[23] MR. KOSCHACK: It's just an alteration.
[24] (Laughter)

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[1] MR. GREGORY: Yes, Kelly, you are exactly
[2] right. We grandfathered his units where they were all
[3] installed already. We had even a code or rules in
[4] place. And now he is coming here and saying I'm going
[5] to take all that stuff you grandfathered in and I'm
[6] going to throw it in the garbage.
[7] MR. WELLER: How many eight millimeter -- how
[8] many are you looking at?
[9] MR. KOSCHACK: I don't know how many off the
[10] top of my head.
[11] MR. WELLER: Well, he can't do it that way. It
[12] is not unreasonable to pay for each one, given the
[13] magnitude of the change, but I'm open to -- I rather
[14] make it easy for you guys, but...
[15] MR. KOSCHACK: These are recessive times.
[16] MR. WELLER: No. Here's our logic for that:
[17] To have each thing that we are approving -- it's
[18] almost impossible for us, as you can tell from
[19] watching these, to keep track of all of the things
[20] that we are doing on an ongoing basis. The more we
[21] can institutionalize our decisions, the better all of
[22] us are going to be. The only way to institutionalize
[23] where you fix this elevator is to put it in writing at
[24] that address and here's the change that we made and

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[1] then that way we know.
[2] You know, it costs you 200 bucks, but at
[3] the end of the day you got a piece of paper that says
[4] we approved your system here, and I think 10 years
[5] from now that \$200 is going to be the best money you
[6] ever spent. That's my opinion, my opinion on it, but
[7] if you want to try to cut corners, and I don't mean
[8] that in a negative way, if you rather box these in, I
[9] got to have somewhere where you break all these out
[10] that we can institutionalize that. I would think this
[11] would be in everybody's best interest, even the
[12] building owner, to have that variance on file, to that
[13] owner, to that elevator. I think it will be well
[14] worth the money you spend to get it done. That's my
[15] opinion.
[16] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: We have already decided
[17] on that it's each address, correct?
[18] MR. GREGORY: Yes.
[19] MR. SWIENTON: No matter how many elevators are
[20] in that address?
[21] MR. GREGORY: Yes. You can have 10 elevators
[22] at one address that might be one variance, but you
[23] might --
[24] MR. CAPUANI: Per conveyance.

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[1] MR. GREGORY: Okay.
[2] MR. WELLER: You got to be consistent.
[3] MR. GREGORY: Whatever we did before is what we
[4] should be doing now.
[5] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: So you will have
[6] something for us at the next meeting, right?
[7] MR. KOSCHACK: Yes, sir.
[8] MS. YOUNG: I will need to ask, in John's
[9] situation, how will it be affecting permitting?
[10] MR. JANUS: You have to get an alteration
[11] permit. You will have to submit a variance and a
[12] permit request.
[13] MR. CAPUANI: Well, depending on which
[14] jurisdiction.
[15] MR. FENNELL: It depends on where the
[16] conveyance is.
[17] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Okay.
[18] MR. KOSCHACK: I'm not fully clear then.
[19] MR. CAPUANI: Any alteration you have to have a
[20] permit.
[21] MR. KOSCHACK: This is a variance request. You
[22] are saying there is no form for alteration?
[23] MR. CAPUANI: For a permit.
[24] MR. KOSCHACK: Oh, just for a permit to do

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[1] work?
[2] MR. CAPUANI: To work, right.
[3] MR. KOSCHACK: That will be done by the local
[4] office?
[5] MR. JIRIK: Right.
[6] MS. YOUNG: I just wanted to make sure
[7] paperwork wise we are all on the same page.
[8] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Are you done?
[9] MR. KOSCHACK: I have an inquiry for the board.
[10] Over the course -- over the last hour you said the
[11] cities are the AHJ. I heard that several times, and
[12] I'm not -- I'm not clear on that.
[13] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: John, I know you want to
[14] answer.
[15] MR. FENNELL: If the city has given the board
[16] an agreement where the city will enforce the code and
[17] maintain their existing elevator safety program using
[18] the codes as adopted by this board, then the city is
[19] AHJ. If they have not, then this board is the AHJ.
[20] MR. KOSCHACK: Okay. So in the code, Section
[21] 1.2.1, it says the AHJ shall have the latitude to
[22] grant exceptions. So if Cicero has signed your
[23] memorandum, do I then go to the city building official
[24] in Cicero and ask him for the variance? Why do I have

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[1] to come here?
[2] MR. FENNELL: No. There is no authority to do
[3] that. The authority is to inspect and get violations
[4] corrected. Is not authority to grant a variance under
[5] our rules.
[6] MR. KOSCHACK: It says -- it is in the code.
[7] It says the authority having jurisdiction shall --
[8] MR. FENNELL: No. Our rules, the only people
[9] who are allowed to grant variances is this board under
[10] the statute. So I don't care what the rules say. The
[11] statute says this board is the only one that has the
[12] authority to grant a variance.
[13] MR. KOSCHACK: All I'm suggesting is the words,
[14] "authority having jurisdiction" duly rests with this
[15] board in the State and the State Fire Marshal and not
[16] with Hoffman Estates or Cicero or...
[17] MR. FENNELL: We delegate certain of our
[18] authority to local municipalities. We are the AHJ,
[19] but we delegate certain authority to the
[20] municipalities if they request it.
[21] MR. KOSCHACK: Okay. That clears it up. Thank
[22] you.
[23] MR. FENNELL: I'm sorry my wording was
[24] incorrect.

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[1] MR. KOSCHACK: I have that same problem.
[2] (Laughter)
[3] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: If there is no more
[4] variances or appeals, we are going to have a closed
[5] meeting now.
[6] MR. FENNELL: You need a motion and a vote to
[7] go to a closed meeting.
[8] MR. GREGORY: I move we go to a closed meeting.
[9] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Is there a second?
[10] MR. JIRIK: Second.
[11] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: For the purposes of
[12] talking about the two inspectors.
[13] MR. FENNELL: Okay.
[14] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: So we will probably
[15] adjourn for probably 15 minutes or half an hour.
[16] All those in favor, say aye.
[17] (WHEREUPON, there was a
[18] chorus of ayes.)
[19] All those against?
[20] (No response)
[21] Ayes have it.
[22] (Open meeting temporarily
[23] adjourned)
[24]

[1] (WHEREUPON, the following
 [2] proceedings were had after
 [3] a closed meeting was held:)
 [4] MR. GREGORY: I will move that we instruct Bob
 [5] Capuani to send a formal complaint to the QEI
 [6] Certifying Agency that certified the two individuals
 [7] with whom we have a problem.
 [8] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Is there a second?
 [9] MR. SWIENTON: Second.
 [10] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Any question?
 [11] (No response)
 [12] All those in favor, say aye.
 [13] (WHEREUPON, there was a
 [14] chorus of ayes.)
 [15] All those against?
 [16] (No response)
 [17] Ayes have it.
 [18] Okay. Is there a motion to adjourn?
 [19] MR. WELLER: So moved.
 [20] MR. GREGORY: Second.
 [21] CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN: Okay. It has been
 [22] seconded.
 [23] All those in favor, say aye.
 [24]

[1] STATE OF ILLINOIS)
 [2] COUNTY OF C O O K) SS:
 [3]
 [4] KATHLEEN T. MUHNE, being first duly
 [5] sworn, on oath says that she is a Certified Shorthand
 [6] Reporter doing business in the City of Chicago, County
 [7] of Cook and State of Illinois;
 [8] That she reported in shorthand the
 [9] proceedings had at the meeting of the above-entitled
 [10] cause;
 [11] And that the foregoing is a true and
 [12] correct transcript of her shorthand notes so taken as
 [13] aforesaid and contains all the proceedings had at said
 [14] meeting.
 [15]
 [16] -----
 [16] KATHLEEN T. MUHNE, C.S.R.
 [17]
 [18] SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO
 [18] Before me this _____ day
 [19] of _____, 2008.
 [20] _____
 [20] Notary Public
 [21]
 [22]
 [23]
 [24]

[1] (WHEREUPON, there was a
 [2] chorus of ayes.)
 [3] Ayes have it. Thank you.
 [4] (Which were all the
 [5] proceedings had at this
 [6] time on the above-entitled
 [7] cause.)
 [8]
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