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4 STATE OF MICHIGAN  
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7 In the Matter of:  
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9 Department of Agriculture and Rural Development  
10 Pesticide and Plant Pest Management Division  
11 Administrative Rules for Seed Potatoes  
12

13 PUBLIC HEARING - SEED POTATOES

14 Conducted by the Department of Agriculture and  
15 Rural Development on Thursday, December 19, 2019,  
16 at Greenstone Farm Credit Services, 3515 West Road,  
17 East Lansing, Michigan at 9:00 a.m.

18 APPEARANCES:

19 Bradley Deacon, Hearing Officer

20 Robin Rosenbaum, Department of Agriculture  
21 Jamie Guardiola, Department of Agriculture  
22 Elizabeth Dormand, Department of Agriculture

23 Public Forum Attendees:

24 David Konarske  
25

1 Thursday, December 19, 2019

2 9:00 a.m.

3 East Lansing, Michigan

4 R E C O R D

5 HEARING OFFICER DEACON: Good

6 morning. My name is Brad Deacon, and I am the hearing  
7 officer for the Michigan Department of Agriculture and  
8 Rural Development. Today I am conducting the public  
9 hearing on the proposed new ruleset for seed potatoes.

10 For the record, the date is December  
11 19, 2019 and the time is 9:08. We are present at  
12 Greenstone Farm Credit Services, 3515 West Road, East  
13 Lansing, Michigan.

14 Present today from the Michigan  
15 Department of Agriculture and Rural Development are  
16 Robin Rosenbaum, Jamie Guardiola and Elizabeth Dormand.

17 On behalf of the Michigan Department  
18 of Agriculture and Rural Development and its director,  
19 Gary McDowell, welcome to today's public hearing. We  
20 very much appreciate your interest and attendance  
21 today.

22 This hearing is being conducted under  
23 authority provided to the Director in Section 7(b) of  
24 Act 94 of 2018, the Seed Potato Act. The proposed  
25 rules are to regulate distribution and planting of seed

1 potatoes that meet the requirements of certified seed  
2 in the Certification of Seed Act, 1959 Public Act 221,  
3 and the rules promulgated under that Act. These new  
4 rules, required by Act 94 of 2018, will regulate  
5 exceptions that would allow farmers to plant  
6 uncertified seed in instances where there are  
7 insufficient volumes of any cultivar of certified seed  
8 potatoes and on lots of one acre or greater.

9 Notice of this public hearing was  
10 published in the Michigan Register on December 1st,  
11 2019. Legal notices were also published in the  
12 Kalamazoo Gazette on November 22st, 2019; the Cadillac  
13 News on November 22nd, 2019; and the Escanaba Daily  
14 Press on November 25th, 2019.

15 This hearing is being recorded. A  
16 transcript will be prepared and will serve as the  
17 official record of today's proceedings.

18 Copies of the proposed new set of  
19 rules for seed potatoes as well as the Regulatory  
20 Impact Statement and Cost Benefit Analysis developed by  
21 the Department are on the table in front of me. They  
22 have been available on the website for the Michigan  
23 Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules and by  
24 request through contacting this Department as outlined  
25 in the Notice of Public Hearing.

1                   Written comments must be received by  
2                   the close of business today, Thursday, December 19th,  
3                   2019, until 5 p.m. If anyone has written comments,  
4                   they may be provided to me. If anyone would like to  
5                   send comments in writing, please see me after the  
6                   public hearing, and I would be able to provide an email  
7                   address and fax number.

8                   With -- with the preliminaries  
9                   completed and no members of the public in attendance,  
10                  at this time we will go into recess. The time is 9:10.

11                  (Brief recess.)

12                  HEARING OFFICER DEACON: At this  
13                  point we will reconvene. The time is now 10:04.

14                  At this point we have still no one  
15                  from the public here to speak, so a reminder that we  
16                  will take written comments until 5:00 today, Thursday,  
17                  December 19th, 2019.

18                  Thank you all for attending and this  
19                  -- today's hearing is closed at 10:04.

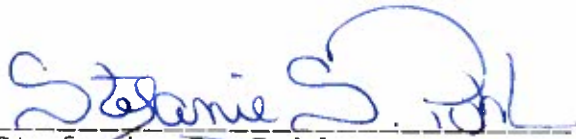
20                  (Whereupon the hearing was concluded  
21                  at about 10:04 a.m.)  
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4 CERTIFICATE OF NOTARY - COURT REPORTER  
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6 STATE OF MICHIGAN )  
7 COUNTY OF CLINTON )  
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9 I, Stefanie S. Pohl, a Notary Public in and for the  
10 above county and state, do hereby certify that the foregoing  
11 statements were taken before me at the time and place  
12 hereinbefore set forth, which were duly recorded by me  
13 stenographically; that it was later reduced to written form  
14 under my direction and supervision, and that this is, to the  
15 best of my knowledge and belief, a true and correct  
16 transcript.

17 I further certify that I am neither of counsel to  
18 either party nor interested in the event of this case.  
19

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21   
22 Stefanie S. Pohl  
23 CSR #5616  
24 Notary Public, Clinton County,  
25 Michigan  
My Commission Expires: 6/21/25