

Good afternoon. Thank you all for coming out today.

My name is Ebbie Cook and I am a resident of the 5th & Hill Neighborhood and member of the 5th & Hill Neighborhood Rights Campaign.

As Claudia and Grant have mentioned, the City of Champaign is excavating and plugging a toxic waste pipe that had been used to dump toxic coal tar into the Boneyard Creek for over 100 years.

The 5th & Hill Neighborhood is very pleased that the City of Champaign is doing the right thing to protect the Boneyard Creek and our neighborhood from this part of the toxic waste left behind by the Ameren-owned former gas plant.

The 5th & Hill Neighborhood Rights Campaign fought for this action from the City of Champaign to protect not just our neighborhood, but all the residents in the cities of Champaign and Urbana, and the University of Illinois, from contamination in the Boneyard Creek.

This action is a first step. There is still a lot more to do to protect the health and rights of the people living and working near the toxic waste site, and near the rest of this pipe. We expect the IL EPA to do more.

Thank you.