



Ms. Sarah H. Evans
Lafarge Cement Permit, Project Manager
New York State, Department of Environmental Conservation, Region 4 office
1130 N. Westcott Road
Schenectady, New York 12306

John Reagan 5/11/2010 Title V Public Hearing Comments

Good evening.

My name is John Reagan and I'm the Environmental and Public Affairs Manager for the Lafarge Ravenna plant.

I'm here tonight on behalf of the 180 employees who make cement at the Ravenna plant and the nearly 500 other Lafarge employees across New York State.

I would like to thank the DEC for holding this hearing and everyone in attendance tonight for taking time out of their busy schedules to be a part of this process. There can be no doubt; public involvement in this and other permit renewals is a critical component of the regulatory process.

Lafarge welcomes it, because we know that this process will result in the best permit possible for our facility.

Lafarge acquired the Ravenna Plant only nine years ago. And in that short time, Lafarge has voluntarily invested millions to further improve plant safety and performance, entered into a first-in-the-state – if not the nation – cap on mercury emissions, and proposed an ambitious plan to modernize the existing facility to achieve even greater improvements in air quality.

Lafarge Ravenna, with recent approval from the DEC, is now using nearly half a dozen new alternative raw materials to reduce current air emissions including mercury.

In addition, Lafarge Ravenna is aggressively pursuing new sources of fuel that will further cut mercury emissions between now and the construction of the modernized plant.

Lafarge Ravenna has and will continue to be committed to making improvements that keep our facility operating safely for the environment and health of our community.

Lafarge submitted written comments to the record during the public notice phase of this process.

Lafarge's written comments and my verbal comments today are filed with the hearing officer, and will be part of the official record of this hearing.

Thank you.

John Reagan, Environmental and Public Affairs Manager
Lafarge Ravenna Cement Plant
1916 Route 9W P.O. Box 3
Ravenna, NY 12143