I am writing in response to the recent fish kill in Rook's Creek. We have never had anything like this happen in 30 years of business so we are still adjusting to the shock and disappointment of the event. Firstly, I want to express my deep concern and apology regarding the unfortunate incident and assure you that we are taking immediate action to address the situation. We understand the importance of preserving our ecosystem and ensuring the health of our waterways, and we are committed to identifying and rectifying any factors contributing to environmental degradation as we move forward.

We had a 30,000-gallon diked UAN storage tank that developed a leak in the site gauge. Unfortunately, the valve on the site gauge was not completely shut causing the product to leak into our containment dike overnight. The base of the wall of the containment dike has a water seal around it. With the fluctuation of the temperature, the seal expanded pushing against the base of the wall causing a weak point in the seam at the wall and floor. The pressure from the amount of liquid volume in the dike breached this weak point in the containment wall leaking into our lot with part of it going down a tile hole. We were able to prevent 10,000 gallons of product from leaking out the dike and reaching the tile, but we were unable to distinguish how much liquid actually made it into the tile line and how much was able to be soaked up by oil dry that we used to help contain the leak.

We are working closely with the Illinois Department of Resource, Illinois Department of Ag and the Illinois EPA to assess the extent of the damage in order to make retribution and implement appropriate measures to prevent future occurrences for us and other ag businesses of the same nature. Our priority is to restore the affected ecosystem and mitigate any potential long-term impacts on aquatic life and surrounding habitats. We are actively working with the mentioned environmental organizations to foster transparency and collaboration in our response efforts.

I want to assure you that we are dedicated to upholding environmental stewardship and adhering to best practices in environmental management. We will continue to work with the agencies at hand in rectifying this situation.

Sincerely,

Don Brucker, Managing Member

BCS, LLC