

PUBLIC HEARING SCRIPT

**Sumitomo Rubber USA, LLC and/or
Individual(s) or Affiliate(s),
Subsidiary(ies), or Entity(ies) formed or
to be formed on its behalf Project**

Public Hearing to be held on March 29, 2017 at 9:30 a.m.,
at the Town of Tonawanda's Town Hall located at 2919 Delaware Avenue
(Town Board Conference Room #21), Kenmore, NY 14217

ATTENDANCE

Mary Kasprzak – Sumitomo Rubber USA, Inc.
William Jackson – Sumitomo Rubber USA, Inc.
Hon. Joseph Emminger – Supervisor, Town of Tonawanda

1. WELCOME: Call to Order and Identity of Hearing Officer.

Hearing Officer: *Welcome. This public hearing is now open; it is 9:30 a.m. My name is Beth O'Keefe. I am the Business Development Officer of the Erie County Industrial Development Agency, and I have been designated by the Agency to be the hearing officer to conduct this public hearing.*

2. PURPOSE: Purpose of the Hearing.

Hearing Officer: *We are here to hold the public hearing on the Sumitomo Rubber USA, LLC and/or Individual(s) or Affiliate(s), Subsidiary(ies), or Entity(ies) formed or to be formed on its behalf project. The transcript of this hearing will be reviewed and considered by the Agency in determination of this project. Notice of this hearing appeared in The Buffalo News on Saturday, March 18, 2017.*

3. PROJECT SUMMARY: Description of Project and Contemplated Agency Benefits.

Hearing Officer: *The proposed project (the "Project") consists of: (i) a leasehold interest in a parcel of land located at 3333 River Road, Town of Tonawanda, Erie County, New York (the "Land") to be improved thereon with building addition totaling 35,000+/- SF (the "Improvements") to be utilized for*

increased tire manufacturing space, and (ii) the acquisition and installation by the Company of certain items of machinery, equipment and other tangible personal property (the "Equipment," and collectively with the Land and the Improvements, the "Facility").

The proposed financial assistance contemplated by the Agency includes New York State and local sales and use tax exemption benefits and real property tax abatement benefits (in compliance with Agency's uniform tax exemption policy).

4. FORMAT OF HEARING: Review rules and manner in which the hearing will proceed.

Hearing Officer: *All those in attendance are required to register by signing the sign-in sheet at the front of the room; you will not be permitted to speak unless you have registered. If you have a written comment to submit for the record, you may do so. Written comments may also be delivered to the Agency at 95 Perry Street, Suite 403, Buffalo, New York 14203 until the comment period closes on April 25, 2017. There are no limitations on written comments.*

5. PUBLIC COMMENT: Hearing Officer gives the Public an opportunity to speak.

Hearing Officer: *If anyone is interested in making a comment, please raise your hand, state your name and address; if you are representing a company, please identify the company. I request that speakers keep comments to 5 minutes, and if possible, 3 minutes.*

Hon. Joseph Emminger - Supervisor, Town of Tonawanda – I am here on behalf of the entire Town of Tonawanda Board whom wholeheartedly endorse this application by Sumitomo Rubber. Sumitomo Rubber has been a great corporate citizen of the Town on Tonawanda for decades. They are one of our larger employers in the Town and this expansion project and their continued ways to incorporate the Town of Tonawanda in their success is greatly appreciated by the Town and we not only wholeheartedly endorse this project, we are also here to assist them in any way possible that we can and are looking forward to the start and completion of this project.

William Jackson - Vice President of Human Resources, Sumitomo Rubber USA, Inc. - I just want to say that the company appreciates the efforts of the ECIDA and the Town of Tonawanda as Joe has just mentioned. We have been a part of the fabric of life here for decades. We hope to continue to be the fabric of life for many decades to come. Many of our employees live here locally and in town. Being a large employer we also draw from all over Western New York. The final thing I will say is we have been a good corporate citizen. We want to continue to be a good corporate citizen and this project allows us to continue to compete in a highly competitive industry where cost and efficiency matter and we are proud to put into place the infrastructure and equipment that will allow us to continue to be a contributing member of this community.

Mary Kasprzak – Chief Financial Officer, Sumitomo Rubber USA, Inc. – I would just like to say thank you very much for seeing us today and for helping us through the application process. We are somewhat new to some of this and it's very much appreciated. I have been with Sumitomo for a while and newly promoted, when they took over ownership. They are very good people to work for and they are doing a lot of exciting things over at the facility. We have hired new young people looking to the future. We redid the offices and put in a new computer system that goes live April 1. So, we have a lot to do this week. But, a lot of exciting things happening that are good for the employees and for our town and our community. Again, thank you.

6. ADJOURNMENT.

As there were no further comments, the Hearing Officer closed the public hearing at 9:45 a.m.

**SIGN IN SHEET
PUBLIC HEARING**

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regarding:

**Sumitomo Rubber USA, LLC and/or Individual(s) or Affiliate(s),
Subsidiary(ies), or Entity(ies) formed or to be formed on its behalf**

Project Location: 3333 River Road, Tonawanda, New York

Name	Company and/or Address	X box to speak/ comment
Mary Kasprzak	Sumitomo Rubber USA, Inc. P.O. Box 1109 Buffalo, New York 1424	X
William Jackson	Sumitomo Rubber USA, Inc. P.O. Box 1109 Buffalo, New York 1424	X
Hon. Joseph Emminger	Town of Tonawanda Supervisor 2919 Delaware Avenue Kenmore, New York 14217	X