



KRISTIN K. MAYES
chairman
GARY PIERCE
commissioner
PAUL NEWMAN
commissioner
SANDRA D. KENNEDY
commissioner
BOB STUMP
commissioner

ORIGINAL

RECEIVED

2010 FEB -1 A 10: 09

AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

RE: DOCKET NO. E-01345A-07-0663
DOCKET NO. T-01846B-07-0663

The societal and environmental health risk due to migratory bird droppings at Hillcrest Bay

Center for Disease Control (CDC) health warning.

Attached are documents pertaining to:

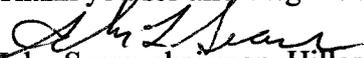
- 1) Cryptococcus Infection, "is a fungal disease associated with wild bird droppings"
- 2) Histoplasmosis, "H Capsulatum grows in soil and material contaminated with bat or bird droppings". "The disseminated form is fatal unless treated".
- 3) A sample of pictures taken 12/28/2009 of migratory birds as they collect on the utility lines here at Hillcrest Bay.
- 4) Letter from a concerned homeowner.

Though these disease's are not well known, they should not be overlooked in evaluating this project. The action of homeowners disturbing accumulated bird droppings, by cleaning the patios, the outdoor furniture or unavoidably walking on it, carries a health risk as documented in these CDC bulletins. These utility lines are numerous and not just located in easements. They attract numerous birds. Hillcrest Bay developed slowly over the last 38 years. As a result the various utility connections over time were done as needed, not in an orderly manner as they would be, if Hillcrest had been developed as a normal subdivision.

It is not in anyone's best interest to leave this aging and some would say dangerous system in place for the next 35 years. To add many more poles and lines here (there will be more than the 42 poles testified to), is a peace meal effort that will not only not solve this potential health problem, it will add societal problems for the present and future owners. Problems not mentioned here.

This health issue is but one of the many reason that our UCSA project needs your support and approval.

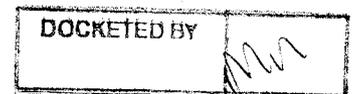
Thank you for allowing me to bring you up to date on this.


John Sears, chairman, Hillcrest Bay UCSA
955 linger drive lot 310-31-144
714 8381551

Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

FEB - 1 2010



cc: Tim Sabo

attachments: pictures 4) CDC bulletins 2), letter 1)



Health Information

- ▶ [Browse by Animal](#)
- ▶ [Browse by Disease](#)

Prevention Tools

- ▶ [For People at Extra Risk](#)
- ▶ [For Health Professionals](#)

Go To...

- ▶ [Glossary](#)
- ▶ [Resources](#)
- ▶ [Foodborne and Diarrheal Diseases Branch](#)

Cryptococcus Infection (cryptococcosis) and Animals

What is *Cryptococcus* infection (cryptococcosis)?

Cryptococcosis (Krip-toe-coc-o-sis) is a fungal disease caused by *Cryptococcus neoformans*. Most people do not get sick with cryptococcosis, but some people are more likely than others to get this disease. For these people, cryptococcosis can cause serious symptoms of brain and spinal cord disease, such as headaches, dizziness, sleepiness, and confusion.

Can animals transmit cryptococcosis to me?

Yes, but not directly. *Cryptococcus neoformans* is found in the droppings of wild birds (such as pigeons). When dried bird droppings are stirred up, this can make dust containing *Cryptococcus* go into the air.

People can stir up this dust and then breathe it in when they work, play, or walk in areas where birds have been. Pets, such as dogs and cats, can also get sick with cryptococcosis from this dust, but people do not get cryptococcosis from dogs and cats.

A person's age and health status may affect his or her immune system, increasing the chances of getting sick. People who are more likely than others to get cryptococcosis include infants, children younger than 5 years old, organ transplant patients, people with HIV/AIDS, and people receiving treatment for cancer.

How can I find out more about cryptococcosis?

Learn more about the disease by referring to CDC's [Cryptococcus](#) site.

* Links to non-Federal organizations found at this site are provided solely as a service to our users. These links do not constitute an endorsement of these organizations or their programs by CDC or the Federal Government, and none should be inferred. CDC is not responsible for the content of the individual organization Web pages found at these links.

 Please note: Some of these publications are available for download only as *.pdf files. These files require Adobe Acrobat Reader in order to be viewed. Please review the [information on downloading and using Acrobat Reader software](#).

[HHP Home](#) | [Glossary](#) | [Contact Us](#)
[CDC Home](#) | [Search](#) | [Health Topics A-Z](#)

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
[Coordinating Center for Infectious Diseases](#)



Search:



Division of Foodborne, Bacterial and Mycotic Diseases (DFBMD)

[Home](#) > [Disease Listing](#) > [Histoplasmosis General Information](#)

[Email this page](#)

Histoplasmosis

[Printer-friendly version](#)

[General Information](#) | [Technical Information](#) | [Additional Information](#)

Frequently Asked Questions

- [What is histoplasmosis?](#)
- [Can anyone get histoplasmosis?](#)
- [How is someone infected with *H. capsulatum*?](#)
- [What are the symptoms of histoplasmosis?](#)
- [When do symptoms start?](#)
- [Is histoplasmosis treatable?](#)
- [Where is *H. capsulatum* found?](#)
- [What can be done to prevent histoplasmosis?](#)

[About DFBMD](#)

[Programs](#)

[Offices](#)

[Disease Listing](#)

Contact Information

1600 Clifton Road NE
MS-C09
Atlanta, GA 30333
Phone: +1-800-311-1603

What is histoplasmosis?

Histoplasmosis is a disease caused by the fungus *Histoplasma capsulatum*. Its symptoms vary greatly, but the disease primarily affect the lungs. Occasionally, other organs are affected. This form of the disease is called disseminated histoplasmosis, and it can be fatal if untreated.

[Back to Top](#)

Can anyone get histoplasmosis?

Yes. Positive histoplasmin skin tests occur in as many as 80% of the people living in areas where *H. capsulatum* is common, such as the eastern and central United States. Infants, young children, and older persons, in particular those with chronic lung disease are at increased risk for severe disease. Disseminated disease is more frequently seen in people with cancer, AIDS or other forms of immunosuppression.

[Back to Top](#)

How is someone infected with *H. capsulatum*?

H. capsulatum grows in soil and material contaminated with bat or bird droppings. Spores become airborne when contaminated soil is disturbed. Breathing the spores causes infection. The disease is not transmitted from an infected person to someone else.

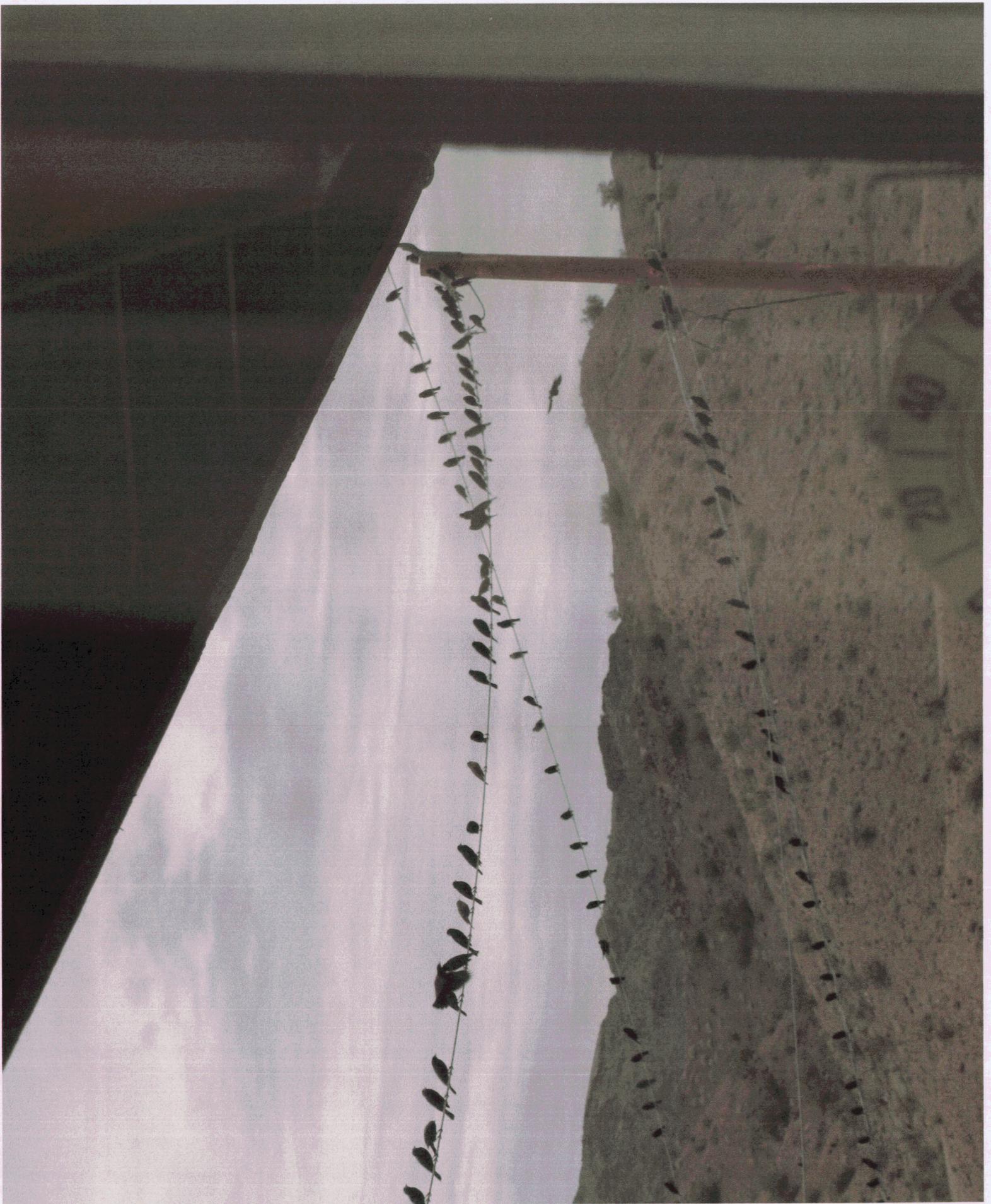
[Back to Top](#)

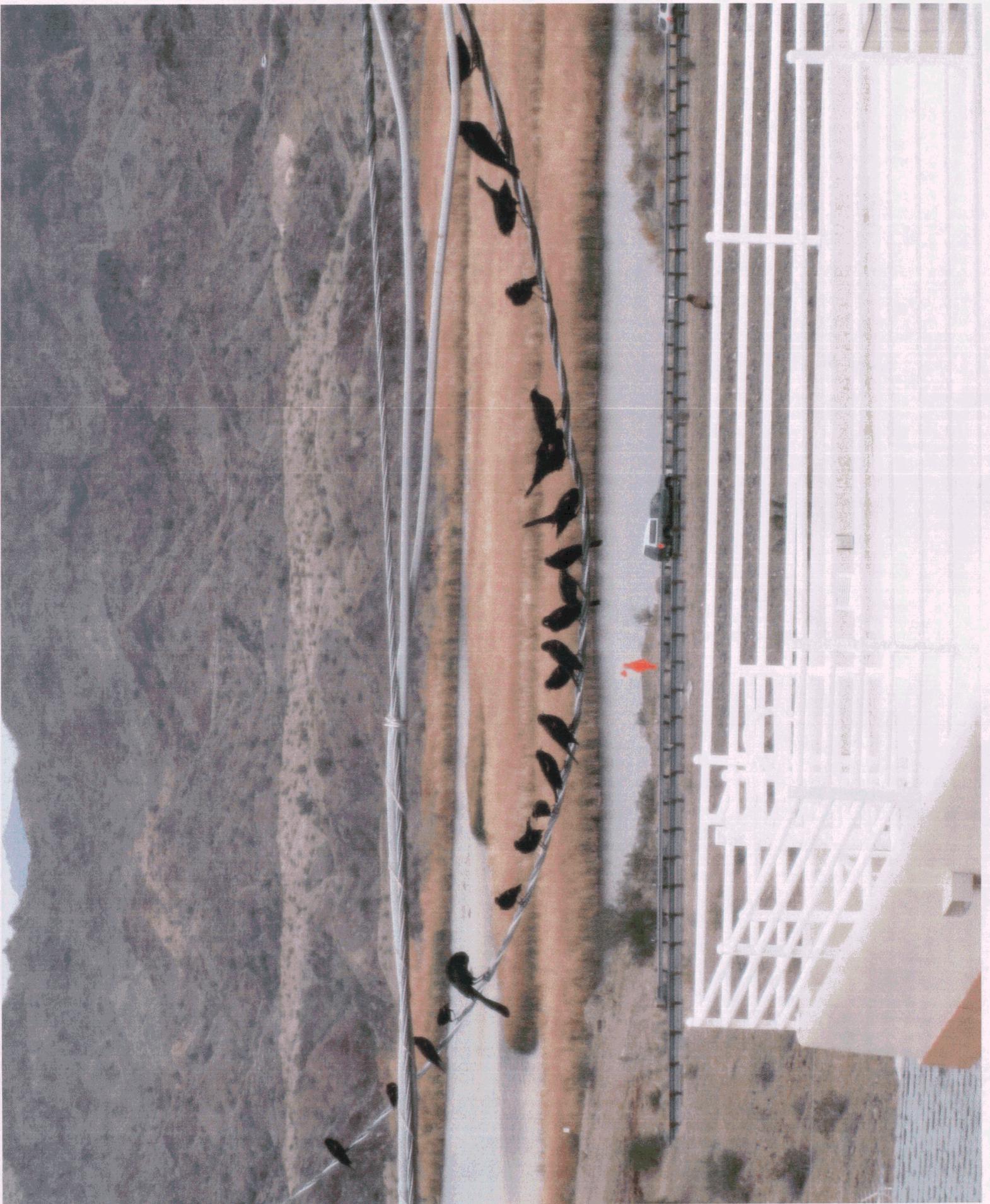
What are the symptoms of histoplasmosis?

Most infected persons have no apparent ill effects. The acute respiratory disease is characterized by respiratory symptoms, a general ill feeling, fever, chest pains, and a dry or nonproductive cough. Distinct patterns may be seen on a chest x-ray. Chronic lung disease resembles tuberculosis and can worsen over months or years. The disseminated form is fatal unless treated.

[Back to Top](#)

When do symptoms start?









**ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
1200 WEST WASHINGTON ST.
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007**

March 27, 2009

**DOCKET NO. E-01345A-07-0663
DOCKET NO. T-01846B-07-0663**

Dear Commissioners,

My name is Dudley Palmer and my wife's name is Jo Ann. We are Oregonians who winter starting November 1st at our new home located in Hillcrest Bay, on Max View Drive. My first experience our first year here was to find to my dismay, that a large portion of my patio was covered with a thick layer of bird droppings from migratory birds who sit on the utility wires that are not only over my patio but, on telephone wires over a concrete walk way along the side of my house. This is where these Grackles and Red Wing black birds like to perch, when they are here. I shoo them away and they just come back on the lines. These bird droppings are a major problem for me to clean up, daily. My property has two utility poles located on it. Pictures enclosed. Some times I cannot keep up with it. I believe that some of my neighbors have the same problem as I do.

I have heard that breathing bird dropping dust can be unhealthy, too.

Over 40 years I have been a builder of manufactured home parks first using overhead and later underground utilities. Relocating our utilities underground would be the answer to my very annoying problem here at Hillcrest Bay as well as the negative environmental impact that this old utility system here has on the surrounding properties.

Please improve our community by approving the underground utility project.

Sincerely,

**Dudley Palmer
867 Max View Dr.
Parker, Arizona 85344
503 357 9759
928 667 7183**