IN RE: BAY DELTA CONSERVATION PLAN

PUBLIC COMMENT MEETING

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ANGELICA R. GUTIERREZ, CSR NO. 13292

JOB NO. 114785
MS. PAM JONES: My name Pam Jones. And I'm the moderator for this evening. I am not an employee of any of the agencies who are here this evening. Some of you may actually know that I have spent 25 years working with the agricultural community. That's said, I would like to not only say welcome -- we've said welcome to other communities. But this is the 12th -- of 12 communities and certainly the community that actually gives evidence that it does care, so compliments to the community that cares. The purpose of tonight is two-fold.

Number one, to give you an update about the status of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan. The second one, is to give you the opportunity to have input into the environmental review process that once that plan is completed -- or at least the first draft -- will be handed off to the environmental team, which is staff and consultants of the agencies for them to review in the context of what does the proposed plan do to the ecosystem, to the communities, to the agriculture, to the economy, and to the entire system, not only in the Delta but throughout the water delivery system that the Delta depends on.

Many of your comments tonight will be best utilized if you can remember when you leave here -- and there will be time at the end -- to speak to the folks out in the hallway who will take your comments in writing -- and we will also have a court report -- or you can fill out a comment card because it's the comments in writing about your concerns and what you would like this environmental team to consider when they're doing the environmental review that will actually constructively guide that environmental team. So that's the official, legal purpose of this meeting is to generate those comments. And I think you will probably have some because of the unique character of Clarksburg and the surrounding area.

The format that we'll follow tonight is we're going to go about half an hour with some presentations, with the update to the plan. And then we're going to turn it over to you for your questions and your comments. Right now I have almost 30 comments. And my goal is to make sure that each of these 30 people who want to speak get the opportunity to do so, that's my primary goal. And in order to do that, we're going to need some -- to follow some ground rules. So as you're thinking about your comments -- and I have, you know, 30 people here who want to make comments -- the ground rules that we will follow is that you may ask a question and a follow-up question. You may make a comment. We'd like those to be limited to three minutes so that the last person gets the same opportunity as the first person. Again, if you can write your comments about the actual environmental review, write them down, we'd appreciate that. Even if you express them here. And third, is kind of rules of the ground rules here. We would like your comments to be constructive. And we would like your behavior to be constructive and not abusive and not illegal. The illegal we kind of have the guidelines. Abusive is a matter of judgment. It's kind of like pornography you know when you see it. With that, I would like to introduce our team up here, our speakers.

Starting with Lester Snow, Director of the California Department of Water Resources. John Engbring U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that's one of the federal partners here. Karla Nemeth, she's with California Natural Resources Agency. She's the BDCP, the conservation plan liaison. Paul Cylinder, is with SAIC, technical consultant. Chuck Hanson, is with Hanson Environmental another environmental consultant. Jerry Johns Deputy Director Department of Water Resources. Who else is going to speak? Keith Coolidge Natural Resources. And we also have some other folks here that will be resources.

If you don't get all of your questions answered, these people will be around, they will take your questions as will the staff in the hallway there the technical staff. The staff out there is there to listen not so much to answer the questions because as the official part of the environmental review process, they're trying to get your questions and concerns. These people will answer your questions. Okay. With that I'd like to turn it over to Lester Snow.

MR. LESTER SNOW: Thank you, Pam. There's a couple of things I noticed about Pam's comments. One the first sentence was to identify herself as not part of the rest of us, which is probably a good move. And then I also noticed that her last sentence had before introducing me had pornography in the sentence. I'll try not to let that affect me. First, I want to reiterate what Pam said how impressive the turn out this is. It speaks well of the community, and it speaks well of your interest in your community and wanting to understand on what's going on and the issues that it may effect -- and also, the T-shirts I don't know -- the person that designed them here this evening. I mean, they're a wonderful T-shirt. And it shows the kind of solidarity that's intended. There's a lot of people standing. And it looks like there's still people in the hallway. And we have looks maybe even ten seats still available. Yeah, four there. There's three over here. Another one there. So maybe some of you in the back want to move up here and more people in the hallway can come in.

As Pam has already indicated, you know, we have a number of people that can respond in detail to the issues that are before us right now, in terms of the Bay Delta...
Conservation Plan on water conveyance, on habitat. What I wanted to do is try to provide a little more broader context of what's going on in water resources in California, not take much time to do that. Water resources -- as many people in this room -- I recognize a lot of colleagues and friends that have worked on water resources issues for a long time. And water resource issues have become more complex. The ecosystem, despite investments that have been made, we have fish species that have continued to decline and have not gotten materially better. At the same time, we have seen a pretty steady erosion of water supply reliability in the state. And I'm not just talking about the Bay Delta system but on a broader basis and so that's a problem that affects ecosystem and it affects the economy of the state. So this issue that's here tonight isn't the only thing that's going on.

And so I want to hit very quickly kind of the four-point program that's underway to try to deal in the long term basis with water resources in California. And the first issue is conservation. Thank you. I'll put it on as soon as I'm done. And I owe you 20 bucks -- or was that 50.

Anyway, the four-point program conservation, that comes up a lot in these meetings. It's an essential part of how the state is going to move forward and in fact it called for a 20% reduction in urban per capita use by 2020. We're seeking legislation to codify that so when we get to the future our urban areas are using less water than they are today on a per person basis.

The second piece of the strategy for the state's future water apply is what we call integrated regional water management. And what's that? It means that each region of the state needs to become more self-sufficient through local conservation through waste water recycling through ocean desal through local ground water storage projects and ground water development -- and we have to invest heavily in that. The third element is storage -- statewide storage. You probably heard the governor and members of legislation and Senator Feinstein talk about needing more storage north of the Delta and more storage south of the Delta to capture the peak flows that we have and use then in drier years.

And then the fourth element, of course, is fix the Delta and that means a lot of different things to a lot of different people. But fixing the Delta means fixing ecosystem issue in the Delta and fixing water conveyance in the Delta. So those are the basic elements that are cuesd up to deal with California's future. Now, very briefly. Some are at a high level the kinds of issues that we're running into. I think the first uniting theme that we hear from people is, "You shouldn't be doing this at all." "You haven't thought about it." "Stop doing that." "Leave us alone." Now, that I have your vote, I'm running for assembly seat.

And then what tends to happen in the next level is, "If you have to do something, we're not convinced you've thought it through very well. In terms of where you're going to put habitat or exactly where you're going to -- how you're going to change conveyance." And in the third level it's kind of a refinement of that, "If you're going to have to build a canal, why are you doing it there?" "That's stupid." "You need to do it in this fashion." And then at that third level of concern -- and we'll hear that tonight. "If you have to do this, you need to think about the impacts you're going to have on communities." "You need to think about what you're going to do to preserve the lifestyle in the Delta." And we know we're going to hear all of those levels. "Don't do it." "You're doing it wrong." And, "If you are doing it, you need to take care of the impacts that you're going to have." So we look forward to hearing that from you tonight after the presentations.

So I'll come back right before the presentations and try to summarize some of the more specific issues that we've seen or heard from people. So at this point let me turn it over to John Engbring, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

MR. JOHN ENGBRING: Thank you, Lester. Yeah, this indeed is an impressive turnout. I think I was at the earlier pre-scoping -- early meeting that we had. And there's a lot more people here tonight than there were then. And I also heard there's another meeting going on up Sacramento. So a lot of interest aren't even represented here tonight. So this does represent a huge display of the -- this does represent a huge display of the interest in the Bay Delta Conservation Plan. Again, my name is John Engbring. I am with U.S Fish and Wildlife Service. I do -- I spent most of my younger life baleing hay and hoeing soybeans, so I know what it's like to make a living off the land. I am now the Assistant Regional Director for Water and Fisheries with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service here in Sacramento. I'm going to try to explain as simply as possible why the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is here, which isn't an easy thing to do because the Endangered Species Act and these environmental review processes are very complex. But I think everybody knows that water is moved from the north of the Delta to south of the Delta through two very large water projects, the federal and state projects. As that water is moved through and pumped out, there are endangered species -- endangered fish in particular winter-run chinook and Delta smelt that are actually killed when these pumps are operating. Now, that's not legal under the Federal Endangered Species Act. But we do have way to permit that kind of take -- that kind of
my name is Karla Nemeth. I'm with the California Natural Resources Agency. The Natural Resource Agency -- I'm going to scoop right here so I can operate this machine.

The California Natural Resources Agency is convening a steering committee that's helping to shape the Bay Delta Conservation Plan. And that committee is made up of water agencies that provide water supplies from the bay area, all the way down to San Diego, farms throughout the central valley, as well as environmental groups, the California Farm Bureau and other folks who are interested in developing a habitat conservation plan for the Delta. All folks recognize that it's a major challenge to restore an ecosystem in an environment such as the Delta. It's home to half a million folks. Many folks who have been here for generations. It supports a vibrant agricultural economy, a recreational economy. And all of these needs need to be balanced against water supply reliability in the ecosystem restoration goals of this particular plan.

The secretary of resources is very interested in engaging the Delta counties in this effort. He's meeting with elected officials from the Delta counties to help lay out a plan for them to be formally engaged in the conservation plan for the purposes of keeping these counties whole as we continue to move through the planning process. As folks indicated, the purpose of this presentation tonight is to really provide you an update with our current thinking on the plan in the context of this environmental review process. So that we can support with the most up-to-date information as possible, support this scoping session. I'm not going to have all the details for your tonight. But I've got some great folks here.

Chuck Hanson, he's a fisheries biologist, who's been working very closely on the plan. And Paul Cylinder over there he's got a lot experience putting these conservation plans. And I really want folks to take advantage of them and ask questions when I finish this presentation.

So why are we here? What is the problem that this conservation plan is attempting to solve? As Director Snow mentioned, many folks are very aware that several native species in the Delta have experienced record low population numbers and that is threatening the water supply reliability for about 25 million Californians.

Essentially, what the courts have said is that how we convey water through the Delta that is through the Sacramento River down through the heart of the Delta to the state and federal pumps here creates a reverse flow situation that pulls fish into the pumps and under the Endangered Species Law, you cannot operate those pumps to provide the reliable water supplies because of the presence of those fish. So the courts have said you need to reduce...
So we're building this conservation strategy, this holistic comprehensive strategy around nine fish species. That includes Delta smelt, longfin smelt, Sacramento splittail, chinook salmon, green and white sturgeon, Central Valley steelhead. And our approach has been to use the decades of science that came out of the CALFED process to start identifying how we might measure the recovery of fish species what are the biological goals and objective of the plan? How do we know they're actually recovering?

There are a couple of ways that we're taking a look at this. That is the distribution of these fish throughout the Delta, their mortality rate, their fitness as a fish species. We're also identifying all the things that stress these fish species. I already showed a slide that showed how the operations of the state and federal water project stress fish species with those flows moving through the southern part of the Delta. That's a key issue we need to address in this plan. There are other things that are also stressing the fish species. And that's a lack of adequate habitat for spawning and rearing. It's a lack of food supply for food species.

As I also mentioned water quality methylmercury production. The presence of invasive species that compete with native species. It's all of these things that we are working to address collectively with the notion that any one of these things addressed individually would not be as effective as if we're able to address them all together all at once because our goal is to contribute to the recovery of the fish species over time.

So I want to say a little bit more about flows and water conveyance in a conceptual way before I get into some of the details of things that we're considering. And that is -- as I mentioned earlier -- water supplies as they're conveyed through Delta now come in through the Sacramento River through the Delta to the state and federal pumps. The San Joaquin River also feeds the system and water is pulled from the San Joaquin River into the pumps there. There are a couple of areas in which we have these reverse flows that affect fish as I mentioned already in this area there are reverse flows. But also water that comes down the Sacramento River and that would otherwise go out to the Bay is also subject to the pull of pumps and comes back into the system here. Also subject to the pull of these pumps are fish species moving down the San Joaquin River. They get pulled into the pumps through these channels here.

So what we're looking at to help this flow situation with the fish is a few things -- and as Director Snow mentioned, we are looking at a canal as part of this conservation plan and in terms of the flows and what we think it will do to change the flows for the fish in this system is that essentially by diverting water north -- at a
northern point in the Sacramento River down to the pumps, it
relieves the reverse flow pressure in this part of the
Delta. It also allows for greater outflows to the Bay
because the pumps aren't working so hard and allows some of
that water to go out into the San Francisco Bay. It also
allows the San Joaquin River to come in through the Delta as
well without the pressure of those pumps. There's a lot of
important details about how this kind of system would be
operated, some of which we have, some of which we have not
developed. They're absolutely essential, critical issues.

Everyone's concerned about that.

So some of the ideas that we are thinking about that
make up the conservation strategy -- remember I was
mentioning the specific actions that we're considering -- in
the area of conveyance and flow, in the next five to 15
years we're looking at installing gates in the southern part
of the Delta to help manage that flow issue that I was
describing earlier. Gates that could be opened and closed
seasonally depending on the presence of fish in that area.
In the long term that is 15 years and out, we are looking at
northern diversion points off the Sacramento River and the
canal that connects to the pumps here. They're critical
aspects to how we determine how water is diverted out of
this diversion point or the pumps here, and there are couple
of things.

One, it's limited by how wet a year it is. Is it dry,
critically dry, average or wet. But also key indicators for
fish species needs. How much water needs to be flowing by
this kind of a conveyance point so that fish have enough
water in the system to migrate so that there's enough force
for food to be transported into the Delta. They're all very
important pieces of information that we need to pull
together about how we might operate this kind of a
dual-conveyance system. The other important measure is how
we operate a northern diversion point or a southern
diversion point to manage salinity in the Delta for
agriculture uses here in the Delta.

As I mentioned, we also have a need to address the lack
of habitat for fish species in the Delta. And we're looking
at three different kinds of habitat restoration. One is
floodplain restoration. The other is tidal marsh
restoration that's growing cattails and tules to create
spawning and rearing habitats in food production for fish.
The other is restoring the banks of channels to make them
safer for migration for fish less subject to predators. And
we're looking at doing that in a variety of areas. I know
some folks have kind of been around this block before, they
seen these green blogs, they're a little frustrated they
want us to get more specific about habitat restoration. And
what we're really looking at is identifying areas where
restoration could occur in a bigger area but of much smaller
target, which would determine how much we need to make the
plan successful. And that essentially gives the plan some
flexibility in working with public lands and working with
willing buyers and willing sellers to implement the habitat
restoration piece.

But I want to point out a couple of specific areas that
we are considering for habitat restoration in this five to
15 year time frame. And that is in the Yolo bypass area.
Essentially, putting an operable gate on the Fremont Weir
and allowing Sacramento River water when available to come
in and flood a little bit more of the bypass every couple of
years for the purposes of creating spawning and rearing
habitat for fish. We are also taking a look at tidal marsh
restoration in the Cache Slough area and then Suisun marsh
and then portions of the West Delta. Also in the near term,
that is, the next five to 15 years we're looking at some
canal restoration in Steamboat and Sutter Slough area.

We're looking at about potentially ten miles of restoration
in that area. Potentially deepening the channels and making
it safer for fish to migrate through. And Chuck can answer
questions about design and how we might be approaching that.

In the longer term, we're looking at restoring habitat
in this eastern part of the Delta here down in the southern
Delta and then along the San Joaquin River here. As I
mention before, the purpose of this plan is to do a whole
suite of actions that we think will contribute to the
recovery. What we don't want to do is change the flows and
develop habitat that -- but do it in a place where the water
quality isn't so good. Or where we know there's invasive
species. So we're looking at strategically throughout the
Delta, supporting programs that can remove invasive species
such as Quagga mussel or water-hyacinth, Egiria those sorts
of things -- also addressing water toxics in the Delta.

Where we are in the development is we’ve put together
about 50 conservation measures -- ideas that we're
considering. It's all available on our website, which is
www.resources.ca.gov/bdcp. But I would, again, point you to
that summary document that's in your packet. There's a lot
of good information in there that really represents some of
our latest thinking and why we're approaching it this way.

In terms of where we are, we're here on the left with a
lot of different potential conservation measures that we
need to evaluate. We need to evaluate them for their
biological effectiveness. We need to evaluate them for their
practicability. How feasible is it? You know, once
we're out in the ground to actually do them, how cost
effective they would be? A lot of other measures that we
need to think about know that we're getting a sense of
scientifically what we think would be the best approach to
help fish species recover. We expect to have a draft plan available by the end of 2009 in a public draft form. But we're going have a draft of the plan -- a preliminary draft of the plan available this summer. Where we've got all those pieces, not just the conservation strategy but all those other elements that I mentioned in terms of the adaptive management, of governance, of funding all these kinds of elements of the plan will be available in a preliminary plan this summer and expect to bring it out and talk to communities about it, get their input on it in advance of the public draft, send it out for public review and comments, respond to those comments.

Our expectation is that we'll do that by the end of 2009. And then we would have a final conservation plan by mid 2010. And then as Mr. Engbring mentioned, the outcome of the plan is the state and federal fish agencies decide whether or not it passes muster. And they can issue a permit for taking endangered species act, pending the implementation of the conservation plan. It's moving concurrently with EIR and EIS schedule. And the environmental review process will actually issue a Record of Decision on the conservation plan. So I will now open it for questions and comments. I think Director Snow is going to make some summary comments as well. Thank you.

MR. LESTER SNOW: Pam suggested that I very quickly summarize -- since this is the 12th of 12. We've heard a lot of comments. I'll take less than 60 seconds and go through some of the issues that have come up at the other meetings. And certainly one has been -- one theme has been the whole issue of access per surveys and getting on property -- temporary entry permits and what happens in that process. A longer term issue of land purchases -- land acquisition what happens if you're going to acquire land, whether it's for canal or for habitat.

Certainly a theme of opportunities for input and dialogue -- and not just waiting for government to make a decision, but what are the opportunities. And I think Karla -- go on the website and you can see when the meetings are taking place and there are forms that provide more information on that. Certainly a theme in the Delta region in the concern that this is all predecisional, decisions have all been made and kind of going through the motions on this and that's a theme that's come up in a number of places.

Concern that the steering committee, the group that's guiding the conservation plan, does not adequately include Delta interest and specific Delta agriculture salinity you change the flow patterns in the Delta you have to ask the immediate question what's going on with salinity? And how's that going to be dealt with? Impacts on recreation -- you put barriers gates in whatever they are, how does that change recreation patterns in the Delta. Issue of striped bass has come up in a number of fashions. It's a predator to the endangered species, but it's also an important game fish in the Delta.

Alternatives -- and I kind of hit that in very broad way in my initial comments -- "Can't you do more conservation -- and I don't have to worry about this stuff." Project cost. "Who's going to pay for this?" "Big price tag." "Are the water users genuinely going to pay for this fix as has been committed to?" "And how do we assure that they do?" Concerns that a canal will lead to abandonment of Delta issues and Delta priorities. One broad one, of course, is a lack of trust and confidence in government to make commitments and follow through with you. Let the record show, I made a lot of applause tonight. You know, I mean, that issue of confidence and trust -- that's not a Clarksburg issue or a California issue. It turns out to be a kind of a national issue right now with the economy and the condition that it's in.

That leads to this issue of governance. I don't know if you've been hearing that term. But there's an assumption that if you do something like this the existing institutions can't govern this. There has to be some other kind of structure that will govern facilities and how this gets done. Mitigation for land impacts, mitigation for economic impacts in the region. And one issue that's a theme for -- and it's maybe more so central and south Delta.

You probably have seen some of the studies that have been done on earthquake risk and the high risk that there is for some of the subsided islands and there's a response that people don't believe that. That that's just not true, that the risk is not that high. So those are the kinds of themes that we've seen from people. And it sounds like we'll hear some of those themes here this evening. So with that, let me turn it over to Pam.

MS. PAM JONES: Right now we have 35 people who have indicated that they want to speak. That's about 105 minutes. So I would like to ask the speakers if you will stay until 9 o'clock up here officially answering the questions. And then we'll return to a more informal discussion. They'll stay, you can speak to them. And you can also speak to the folks, specifically, about your questions and concerns out there. To get through 35 to 40 is going to take your cooperation. There's no way we can do this, if we have people running on over three minutes. And it means that the people at the end of the line will not get the attention they deserve. So I'm asking you to, please, when you make your comments or questions -- out of consideration for the people at the end of the line be as
into the record as our comments on the EIR/EIS process. This is a letter that actually that we've already sent to Secretary Chrisman and to Secretary Scarborough and members of the BDCP Steering Committee. And it has attached to it a Board Action by the Board of Supervisors of Yolo County regarding Delta related policies, which I won't go through in great detail. But I wanted to highlight some of the concerns that the board has. We feel like Yolo County is in the crosshairs of BDCP's current conservation strategies. The January 12, 2009 draft of the BDCP contains some core elements that -- for example, proposed to inundate -- to modify the Fremont Weir it would inundate the Yolo bypass to the point where we're concerned that we're going to lose agriculture in the bypass entirely. Some of the proposals also would obviously stand to cause significant changes in the Clarksburg area. We feel this deserves direct written assurance from the BDCP Steering Committee that the full impacts of these actions will be completely addressed.

Wanted you to know that the board has appointed Supervisor McGowan as it's lead on Delta issues. He's also the board appointed representative to the five Delta County Coalition. And though the board and our constituents, feel like returning to work with the Bay Delta Conservation process, I will say that lately hope is fading that our efforts to are generating the respect for the important issues that have to be addressed, if the proposals are going to move forward.

We would like to respectfully request that everyone remember that the Delta is more than an ecosystem problem. People live here and the proposals for fixing the Delta are going to have huge impacts on their lives. We believe that there should be a third co-equal goal to the Delta vision, which is sustaining the intrinsic values of the the Delta as a place. The scope of change being proposed is far reaching, but nobody is going to be as affected by the results as those who live here. Thank you.

MS. PAM JONES: And you're welcome to clap in between. It does take up a little more time so however you want to use your time. Steve Heringer, Brett Baker, and DJ Andriessen.

MR. STEVE HERINGER: Thank you for the opportunity to address questions to the BDCP plan this evening. We request herewith, that you make all of our comments and questions tonight part of the record. And address all of them in the final EIR/EIS. I’m Steven F. Heringer, fifth of six generations of the Heringer family to farm Clarksburg soils. At the Clarksburg meeting one year ago I requested economic analysis intended environmental mitigation cross projections and intended economic mitigation on the following issues of immediate concern to residents in the north Delta. To
summarize, we have 17,000 acres of premium wine grapes in
the Clarksburg appellation. Vineyard establishment costs
are in the range of 16 to $20,000 per acre. Vineyard
infrastructure costs alone exceed $340 million in just our
appellation. There are 11,000 local and 13,500 nationwide
jobs created by these grape acres. There is 357
million in statewide taxes and 900 -- I'm sorry -- in wages.
And 900 million in annual wages are paid by these acres.
Taxes generated statewide are 107 million. 64 million
additional nationwide. 17,000 agri-tourism visitors spend
$70 million annually in the Delta. Please complete the
requested analysis for the EIR/EIS. As north Delta water
agency constituents we have paid contractual fees for almost
three decades to the State of California for specific water
quality and water quantity parameters. Outlined in the
EIR/EIS how these quality and quantity parameters will
continue to be met under your various BDC plan options. As
our north Delta contract has no sunset date and we will
fight for proper performance of its provisions. Since the
native soil material along the western route has been deemed
unsuitable for levee construction purposes where will the
estimated 10 million yards of levee material come from? And
how will it be economically moved and placed on the western
conveyance project? We have implored all of you involved in
the BDCP deliberations to consider the Delta as a place in
your planning processes. Outlined in your EIR/EIS report
the measures that you have taken to consider the communities
and peoples of the Delta. What considerations of the social
and econmic fabric of the area you have considered in your
options, what consideration of the businesses that support
our family farms and ranches. And finally, the
considerations of the schools that educate our children.
Letters may save our towns but will not save the Delta
communities. Yolo County supervisors are partnered with us
to keep our unique upper Delta agricultural. We adapted
sustainability generations ago to assure the farming and
enjoyment of our Delta region for the benefit of all people
of our great state. Following the authorizations of the
State Water Project 50 plus years ago the State of
California reneged on its promise to bring 10 million
additional acre feet of water to table through additional
storage capacity and importation of north coast water. We
will not now willingly sacrifice our heritage, our homes,
communities and farms to satisfy the state's thirst at our
sole expense. Outlined in the EIR/EIS how local voices will
be made a significant part of the governance body that will
control the future of our Delta. Thank you for the
attention to these questions.

MS. PAM JONES: Brett Baker, DJ Andriessen and Andy
Wallace.
inquisition regarding the incorporation of south Delta water agency funded independently engineered alternative, noting it was mentioned but not in great detail. To which she responded. And again, I quote, "We have to at least make them think we're listening," followed by a thud, which I'm pretty sure was Karen kicking her under the table. I just want to make sure that made it's way into the public record.

We've seen this before. You are striving for a transparent public process. And I commend you on accomplishing this goal, if only one. It is transparent, all right. We see right through it. We didn't fall off the sugar beet truck yesterday. We see this for what it is, a blatant water grab, and attempt to trump centuries old senior water rights with junior water rights because of a temporary appointment to a position of power of a man who is married into the Kennedy's. Take this message back to him, I don't care how much lipstick you put on this pig or how you dress this mutton up as lamb, we're not buying it. All these pretty colored handouts, maps and dog and pony shows, for what? To grow lawns in southern California. David Nahai, Executive Director of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, the man in charge of asking Los Angelinos to ration their water usage last summer was found to be one the biggest violators of his proposed policy with a daily household water use of up to 2,900 gallons.

UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: I will.
MS. PAM JONES: And your name is?

we're look at taking a new direction. Basically, we're starting again from a ground up, not much process for nine years work. And you're telling us we're supposed to trust our future to a regulatory agency that can't get shit together -- literally. I apologize to the children in the audience and my mother.

I would hope that you folks stop and take time to ask yourselves one crucial question. Is this project beneficial in the long term for California's economy and ecosystem? Or is this just the cheapest quick fix to continue the status quo, poorly planned development of the state south of Tracy being pushed by water peddlers whose primary concern is to provide their users with water at the cheapest rates possible? No wonder they had so graciously offered to pay for this project. Need I remind you of your duties to do what is best for the overall long term health of the state.

Whether you realize it or not, you're shaping the implementation and development of the Federal and State Endangered Species Acts and CEQA and NEPA. I implore you to uphold the spirit of these laws to accomplish the intentions of their authors.

MS. PAM JONES: Do we have someone else willing to give up their time for Brett?
UNIDENTIFIED GENTLEMAN: I will.
MS. PAM JONES: And your name is?

MR. BRETT BAKER: Not to simply go through a long, expensive drawn out process simply to check the boxes on a laundry list of requirements. It pains me to see the way you have twisted the work of honest scientists to fit your plans. In regards to all of your phony science, I have only these two quotes for you, "Essentially, all models are wrong but some are useful." This is George Box, one of the 20th century's most influential statisticians in regard to his father of modern day modeling. The other is, if I knew what I was doing, people wouldn't call it research," by Albert Einstein.

Historically speaking massive water diversions have been the downfall of many empires and this project stands to destroy the World's 6th or 7th largest economy. Mesopotamia spent a great deal too many resources attempting to irrigate salty ag land, and The Roman Empire was plagued with disease for failing to deal with their wastewater issues. There has never been enough upstream diversion in the history of this state that did not result in a major ecological and economical disaster for the people and fish that rely on those systems for their livelihoods. I'm sure all of you are now quite familiar with the parallels between your proposed project and the fate of Owens Valley and Mono Lake. There are real solutions to fixing California's ailing water
getting ahead of yourselves in this planning process. I am curious if you already have names picked out for your facilities? May I make this suggestion? As I'm sure this propaganda in our local paper crossed his desk more than once -- if it did not get its beginnings there, Arnold's partner in crime, who held Jeffery Knightlinger's job prior to him and holds Don Zee's leash. As he is the Harvey Banks of his day. I suggest you name it the Timothy Quinn Pumping Plan for your Schwarzenegger Canal. I will be back.

MS. PAM JONES: Okay. DJ Andriessen, Andy Wallace and Steve Hiromoto. And who was it over here that gave up their time? And what is your name?

UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Nikki.

MS. PAM JONES: And we need one other person.

MR. MARK MOORE: I'm Mark Moore, and I volunteer to give up my time.

MS. PAM JONES: Thank you, Mark. Okay.

MS. DJ ANDRIESEN: Good evening. I appreciate the opportunity to speak again on this issue. I'm a little nervous so bear with me. My name is DJ Andriessen. And I've only lived here 21 years. I plan to spend the rest of my long life in Clarksburg. I'm a survivor of West Nile Virus. Although I suffer from some of the effects of it, I feel fortunate because I did survive. They're many who did not. Since I was diagnosed, over 9,000 people have been diagnosed in the United States with West Nile Virus. Of that 344 were fatalities. Since 2006 West Nile Virus has increased in California by 25 percent, creating any sort of a water refuge in our area would not only affect us but the Sacramento Valley entirely by creating a West Nile Virus incubator.

I don't believe this project is to protect the smelt unless we're talking about the smelt that live in southern California. But even if it were -- and we use the processes that we're using now to eradicate the mosquitoes that process also kills the phantom midge, which is the main food source of the smelt. So we'd be basically breeding fish to watch them starve to death. The last time we met here, I asked you to take these plans to the drawing board and come up with a better solution to your problem. Tonight I'm here just to say shame on you. Shame on you. In what ethical society -- what democracy is it okay to take any number of homes and any number of livelihoods from people for an experiment about fish. My only consolation is that you weren't around when the dinosaurs were dying out because I know you would need a lot more land to keep them alive. It's evolution get with it.

MS. PAM JONES: Andy and -- please do repeat your names. Andy, Steve Hiromoto and then Steve Heringer.

MR. ANDY WALLACE: My name is Andy Wallace. And I live...
Invasive species are likely to require tens of millions of dollars in management and direct control and require these efforts to be continued. Where is the endowment for these efforts? Number six, if West Nile Virus increases in the Delta, it is expected to have significant impacts on native birds such as the Yellow-billed Magpie. How are these impacts to be managed and mitigated? Number seven, converting fresh water habitat to brackish water habitat will have negative influences on the ecosystems of the upper Delta, leaving this area as one of the last reservoirs of species such as listed turtles and birds. Now, the state wants to reduce their habitat for fish. It is largely eliminated by southern California’s water intakes. The sole purpose of this document is an attempt to commingle the issues of habitat restoration and water supply.

Some engineering issues, number one, what is the technical basis for proposing the flood bypass downstream below the city of Sacramento and how is this not accomplished more efficiently by using the existing deep water ship channel? What is the one difference -- I'm sorry -- what is the difference in cost between using the ship channel and creating a new bypass? Number two, creating a new bypass in flood areas -- flooding areas within the existing reclamation districts will constrain or eliminate existing water management through water elevation changes and underseepage. This will require redesign and operation changes throughout the region causing tens of millions of dollars of infrastructure modifications and loss of agricultural use.

Number three, the project minimizes the engineering requirements to achieve and maintain water quality in the Delta and ignore the considerable engineering required to establish new flood routing and manage tidal influence wetlands. To realistically achieve what is being described, would require an engineering feet equivalent of the entire country of the Netherlands efforts of reclamation and a management system beyond the capabilities of the Bureau of Reclamation and the Department of Water Resources.

MS. PAM JONES: Andy, could you wrap up?

MR. ANDY WALLACE: I'll wrap up. Instead the engineering and water management is being treated simply as a conveyance project needed to maximize water transfer -- some social issues. Number one, by improving habitat for Delta smelt other listed species could be using the area and underseepage. This will require redesign and operation changes throughout the region causing tens of millions of dollars of infrastructure modifications and loss of agricultural use.

Number three, the project minimizes the engineering requirements to achieve and maintain water quality in the Delta and ignore the considerable engineering required to establish new flood routing and manage tidal influence wetlands. To realistically achieve what is being described, would require an engineering feet equivalent of the entire country of the Netherlands efforts of reclamation and a management system beyond the capabilities of the Bureau of Reclamation and the Department of Water Resources.

MS. PAM JONES: Andy, could you wrap up?

MR. ANDY WALLACE: I'll wrap up. Instead the engineering and water management is being treated simply as a conveyance project needed to maximize water transfer -- some social issues. Number one, by improving habitat for Delta smelt other listed species could be using the area and potentially be creating new legal issues for the community further reducing our ability to exercise our property rights. How will the community be protected from the consequences of this likely impact? Number two, loss of farmland in the Delta will have ripple effects with Ag equipment, suppliers, truck dealers and etc., where good
the Clarksburg region. The unique soil and climate
conditions in the Clarksburg area enabled growers to produce
high quality Dichondra seed on a consistent basis.
Safflower seed is another important crop in the Clarksburg
area. Most of today’s commercially grown Safflower seed
were first developed and reproduced in the Clarksburg area.
Because of the unique soil and high water table, Clarksburg
area farmers are successful and prosperous today because
they have learned how to adapt and to stay on the cutting
edge. Cal/West and its growers fear that the plans may
develop by the BDCP and the Delta Vision Committees will
destroy this region of the Delta and its growers way of
life.

Question number one, have you considered or studied the
changes to the Clarksburg region hydrology that would result
from the proposed conveyance or habitat restoration
projects? Question number two, what will be the effects to
water quality in the Delta or the north Delta on a
year-round basis from the proposed conveyance or habitat
restoration projects? Will the salt water intrusion
ultimately make the north Delta a region where agriculture
will no longer survive? And then I’d like to concluded by
reading two quotes. And I apologized to Steve before this.
The first quote, "I can run wild for six months, after that,
I have no expectation of success." The second quote, "I
fear all we have done is awakened a sleeping giant and
filled him with a terrible resolve." Both these quotes are
by -- were made by Emperor Yamomoto. The first quote was
made a year before the attack on Pearl Harbor. The second
quote was made immediately after the attack on Pearl Harbor.
I would wish you would heed those fears and resolves from
us. Thank you very much. And I wish you would direct these
questions and answers to the EIR/EIS. Thank you.

MS. PAM JONES: Dave VanMartin and Dave Kopp.

MR. DAVE STIRLING: Good evening members of the Bay
Delta Conservation Panel. I’m Dave Stirling, a 23 year
residence with my family in Walnut Grove. I’m proud to wear
this Delta Care shirt tonight. I’m actually representing an
organization called Save Our Delta’s Future. And it’s an
organization of homeowners and property owners and business
people, many of whom have lived and worked in the Delta for
several generations and many of them are here this evening.

Yolo County Board of Supervisors Chair, Mike McGowan,
speaking for the board of supervisors of the five Delta
counties recently wrote in a Sacramento Bee commentary --
and I quote, attempts to address Delta issues will be
unsuccessful without local involvement and ultimately without
relying those at the local level to help make it happen. We
want the entire state to understand that the Delta is not a
blank slate. People live here. People work here. We are
those people. While we recognize that the Delta and Delta
waters can be improved and we support that, we're not
prepared to see the Delta completely rearranged as to
return it to its natural state. As some hardcore
environmentalist groups clamor for. The time is long ago
passed for the restoring the Delta to what it was before the
hundreds of invasive species made the Delta their home.
We're not prepared to see the public trust doctrine expand
so as to alter or abolish presently held water rights.
We're not prepared to see a government structure imposed on
our Delta region that's made up of appointed and
unaccountable political appointees, similar to the coastal
commission with no effective locally elected representatives
with equal voice in Delta affairs. We support that third
tri-equal goal to protect and enhance the social, economic
and physical viability of the Delta as home for the sake of
maintaining good relation of all regions and people of the
State of California. Please, don't throw those of us who
call the Delta home under the bus. If you do, as a member
of many members that are attending these meetings in the
Delta demonstrate, your mission may become so embroiled in
regional, political and legal ill will that nothing positive
comes out of this effort and that would be a shame. Thank
you all for being here.

MS. PAM JONES: Martin, Dave and then Bob Kirtlan.

MR. MARTIN HILL: Good evening. My name is Martin
Hill. First of all, I'd like to thank you for taking the
evening in our beautiful town that we would like to keep
this way. I was thinking about this country that we fought
for over 200 years and the blood that's been shed for the
right to speak as we're doing tonight. It also came to mind
that we're able build this country with our labor and our
own businesses and pay taxes and profit from the fruits of
our labors. What I do not understand is that we have let
the government get so powerful that they can come to our
land and tell us that they're going to start surveying and
possibly take our land from us. What has this country
become? I would like to think that our friends and family
members that are overseas fighting and giving up their lives
are not giving up their lives for a false sense of security.
That we're seeing right here and right now. And nothing is
yours, if the government decides they want it.

I know that it would be a better idea for this
community, if this whole project were moved further south
into the deep water channel. For us, these are our homes
and businesses that are being affected. And the projects
being affected are not an issue of not being addressed.
Some of the problems here are the local fire
department, which I'm a part of is losing a portion of their
operating expenses. They keep this community safe. And
also keeping our insurance down on a personal level. By
bringing this project into our community and not only taking
our land and our businesses away there are a lot of things
that I don't think have been addressed. So I think it would
be wise that you move this. I'm a dad. I'm a husband. I'm
a firefighter, and a good neighbor in this community. And I
urge you to take a second look in moving this south and
pulling this from our community. Thank you.

MS. PAM JONES: Bob and then Michael Morris.
MR. MICHAEL MORRIS: I gave up mine.
MR. BOB KIRTLAN: Good evening. My name is Bob
Kirtlan, fifth generation Delta farmer, landowner. I'm
proud to say 7th generation of my family is walking the land
for ancestors. Life, liberty and pursuit of happiness. Is
hollow, is without meaning and is subject to interpretation
of a few now. 159 years ago many of the ancestors of people
in this meeting tonight voted on a State Constitution that
granted us inalienable right to acquire, enjoy and protect
property. 159 years ago, when we became a state, all our
public lands were granted to the federal government as a
condition of acceptance.

In 1856, the Arkansas Swamp and Overflow Act was
enacted, giving all the swamp and overflow lands back to the
state under the condition that these lands will be reclaimed
for productive agricultural purposes and become economic
viability for the counties and the state they were within.
These lands then came told the state and under our own
government resource code, had a way of selling them to us.
Under conditions and under a contract that we would reclaim
these lands and make them productive and agricultural lands.
It is in the resource code that the common law of public
trust was passed to us without it -- without reservation in
commence navigation and fisheries. I was told that the
California Coastal Commission has determined that you cannot
give away the public trust on tidelands. Tidelands are very
different. It's in the resource code. But I would like to
tell you that the resource code -- let me go back a little
bit. I was told I couldn't give it away.

Arkansas Act was signed by the President of the United
States, passed by congress. Our resources code was passed by
the state legislature. Everyone of our patents, which is
the foundation for ownership of the land was signed by the
governor. Now, I do realize that we are one nation under
God. But if the president, the legislature, congress and
the governor cannot grant these away, I have not seen an
11th commandment saying, "Though shall not give away
the public trust." I am saying to you folks, if you go ahead
with this project, you're not only in violation of federal
law, state law -- but you are in breach of contract with all
of us in this room. It's a mass breach. I would like to
give you another piece of history to wrap up my
presentation. And it goes back World War II.

    The allies thought they had World War II licked. It
was a matter of wiping -- cleaning up going to Germany. The
Germans launched a major offensive. It was called the
Battle of the Bulge, where they overtook the town of
Bastogne. We had American troops at Bastogne. The soldiers
fought brave and hard for what they believed in. When the
German high command demanded them to surrender, the
American general responded with "Nuts." This threw the
German high command in such a disarray, "Nuts." What does,
"Nuts" mean? We don't know. It delayed what they were
going to do. When General Patton heard, "Nuts," he said,
"By God anybody that has such an elegant command of the
English language has to be saved."

    An eye witness -- one of our neighbors that have been
passed on that served under Patton told me point-blank
Patton lead charter himself to save those American soldiers.
And the soldiers and the patriots before them knew the true
meaning of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. We
say to this project and to our governor, "Nuts." Thank you.

MS. PAM JONES: Okay. Did we already have Dave Kopp.
Okay. Dave, Ken Wilson, Bill Wells.

MR. DAVE KOPP: First off I'm going to apologize for my
voice. But when we started off this meeting tonight, I got
out of especially from that one lady that we're worried
about stressing out the smelt and the salmon. Well, I want
you people to know tonight I've come to the conclusion the
reason why my voice is this way is because you guys are
stressing me out.

    Now, I am going to get to a question. And the question
is. Throughout the year when this canal -- if you guys get
it -- how many months out of the year is this canal going to
have water flowing through it? That's my question. So if
you want to answer it now that would be fine. But don't
take too much of my time.

MR. PAUL CYLINDER: Can't answer that directly, I mean,
in terms of how many months. But when you look at overall
we currently we take all of our water out of the south Delta of
the canals. But when we finish, if we are able to do this
conveyance system, we couldn't make use of that storage much
north of the Delta and did not fix the Delta as a
bypass requirements in our proposal that would prevent us
from diverting water unless certain flows are in the Delta.

    Either 5,000 or 11,000 CFS. Right now it's about 14,000
CFS, maybe 12. So if it flow below during months we
wouldn't be able to put water in that the part of the canal.
We'd be forced to use our diversion works in the south
Delta. So -- but we can give you the date on exactly how
much -- we have some modeling so we can give you.

MR. DAVE KOPP: Okay. If the canal was done today, in
the 2008, how many gallon of water would have gone down this
canal that you people want to build?

MR. PAUL CYLINDER: 2008 or 2009?

MR. DAVE KOPP: Well, 2008 or 2009 whatever you want to
use.

MR. PAUL CYLINDER: Don't have any rough time. We can
give you a comparable dry year in our modeling that we've
done. I can point you to a website afterwards.

MR. DAVE KOPP: Now, wouldn't you believe that it would
be smarter to go up north and build storage instead of
hoping that we get enough rain where we can fill your pretty
canal?

MR. PAUL CYLINDER: Like Lester said, storage is
something we need to be considering as a state.

MR. DAVE KOPP: But before you spend our taxpayers
money, why don't you build the dams, the storage. That's
putting the horse before cart.

MR. PAUL CYLINDER: What we found is that if we build
storage north of the Delta and did not fix the Delta as a
conveyance system, we couldn't make use of that storage much
of the time.

MR. DAVE KOPP: Sure you could. We had a few years
that we haven't had that much rain. They're going to raise
Folsom Dam -- the projection is to raise it 4 feet. Why are
they spending all that money to raise the dam, if you guys
plan putting in this canal? Us taxpayers, we get screwed
all the way around. So I'm finished.


MR. KEN WILSON: My name is Ken Wilson, third
generation farmer in the Clarksburg area. And I'm no where
near as eloquent a speaker as all these other folks we've
had. I think they've done a great job. But what I'd like
to do I was going to make another comment or two but after
listening here this evening at the beginning we've heard all
them concern about all these species and how concerned you
are about them. How does taking water from the Delta help
with recovery of all these species that your so concerned
about? We're in a drought right now. And before that canal
and those pumps were put in down south, we were still in
pretty good shape. But now it's -- the burden is on us to
provide water for southern California. And my belief is
that the species are very low on the totem pole and the main
thing is the transfer of water from our backyard to someone
else's so they can fill their swimming pools. Thank you.

MR. BILL WELLS: Good evening. My name is Bill Wells.
I'm the Executive Director of the California Delta Chambers
and Visitors Bureau. I would just like to say a few things.
That Delta agriculture in 2001 was about a $2 billion
business. California's sport fishing is about a $2 billion per year industry. As Karla mentioned, the Delta is home to about 500,000 people. The Delta also attracts about 12 million visitors per year. And the Delta's 5
approximately 95 marinas and about 11,600 permanent boats, which is a huge industry too. So these are all going to be impacted by these plans, specifically, the canal. You hear all the time that the California Delta is the largest on the west/coast. It's 750,000 acres. That's true.

The Colorado River Delta was once 1.9 million acres until water was diverted and was destroyed and turned into a desert in the early part of the 20th century. Some of that water taken by Metropolitan Water District who was a recipient of some of the Delta water. So nobody can predict what the outcome of a canal will be. But you have to look at examples. They mentioned here tonight Mono Lake and some others. I'd just like to mention the current National Geographic April issue has got a big article about the Australian drought and they talk about OGA. And the water was diverted from there for agriculture thousands of fish killed and quote, unquote, the economy was left high and dry.

The Aral Sea in Eastern Europe shrunk 10% of it's size over the last 50 years. Now, it's quote, unquote it's too salty to support fish and vegetation. The water is diverted to grow cotton. In -- just a few weeks ago Jean Fuller Assemblywoman in Bakersfield introduced Bill AB1253 and that's game restrictions on striped bass because they prey on the endangered smelt and salmon. So that's great they're trying save the smelt and the salmon. That's wonderful.

Okay. The striped bass has co-existed since 1879 with the smelt and the salmon. The only thing that's changed since then is more water has been diverted from the Delta and just coincidentally the U.S. Court had thrown out a lawsuit earlier by the Modesto Irrigation District to eliminate federal protection of steelhead. And coincidentally, the bill that Jean Fuller introduced is actually sponsored by the Modesto Irrigation District and supported by the Kern County Water Agency.

I left the Westlands Water District which was another huge recipient of Delta water if you look on their own web page you hear these water folks saying they're going to pay for the canal, whatever it takes to provide the solutions.

Okay. On their website they say the absence of drainage resulted in harm to district lands. Westlands more than 200,000 acres of saline ground water within ten feet of the surface. Many farmers have drainage impacted lands have been able to keep their land in production by improving irrigation efficiency. Okay. If they're willing to pay for a solution, they should be willing to pay right now for

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MS. JAYNE ALCHORN: Good evening. You already heard about West Nile Virus this evening. I think each and every one of us here is part of an endangered species. I will never walk again, without aid. I now wear a brace from my toes up to my hip. Because of one mosquito bite. Tell me that we should really flood areas. The first meetings, there was absolutely no discussion of public health issues until I opened my big mouth. And it really irritated me because for two years I was a spokesperson for Vector Control. And they have been absolutely wonderful. But their resources are stretched to the limit. They simply do not have the trained personnel to take on anything like these areas that we're discussing having flooded. Come on. Is that what we want? Yes, we turn it to its natural state. Think about it. We are being taught or told that it will be all right. It will be just fine. However, it's going to change our lives. We are going to be part of the endangered species. So think about it carefully. I don't want anybody else that I know or any of these river towns to end up the way I am. To go to bed one night in extreme pain and to find when you get out of bed -- or try to get out of bed the next morning to go to the doctor that you can't stand up. You fall to the floor. And that's what it has been for the last -- almost four years and that is what it will be for the rest of my life. It changed overnight because of one mosquito bite. So what are we going flood people? Don't
you want to return it to the natural state? Don't you want
to have marsh land? I don't think so. Thank you very much
for your time.

MS. PAM JONES: Did we miss Glen? Glen, are you here?
Okay. Dominic. And then Sally Christie.

MR. DOMINIC DIMARE: Hi, good evening. Thank you folks
for coming down here. I'm Dominic Dimare a resident here in
Clarksburg. I live about 120 yards down a little further.
These are my neighbors. I've been here about five minutes
compared to many of the people in this town. So I've been
here about three years. I have three sort of general
themes. Theme number one, no good deed goes unpunished.
Yolo County has a very open space in agricultural
preservation component to this general plan process.

I'm on the -- I'm the President of the Advisory
Committee for the general plan advisory to our supervisor
Mike McGowan. I've been reading through the updated general
plan that we are on the verge of approving after 100 years.
And so for about 100 years -- but a long time. And this
county has made a commitment to its detriment in many
instances, particularly, when it comes to generating
revenues through sales tax in preserving agricultural land
and making this -- the county the region's open space of Ag
land leader. And for that good deed, it just so happens
that we have a lot of attractive open space to site

facilities at. And so what I would ask the resources agency
and the Department of Water Resources and all the people who
deliberate over this is please take a look at the economics
of this particular part of Yolo County and what it means to
the county and region.

You heard earlier some of the very successful winery
operators and wine grape growers here. The plan is to build
this into a very viable, successful world renown -- and
we're already there actually. They're using grapes grown
here in Clarksburg in Napa Valley wines all the time. So
think about the economics associated with slicing up large
chunks of land here in this particular region of Yolo County
and what it means for the entire county. Issue number two,
let's bring back an old favorite. Lester will remember
this. "Let's get better together," which was the theme
from that hit show CALFED, which is now off the air. And
not even in reruns actually. Well, actually that's not
true. A lot of what's going on here has somewhat of a
CALFED feel to it. I'm sure that the EIR that will be
produced will be very CALFEDish. So "Let's get better
together."

Personally, this is not my professional opinion. This
is my personal opinion. I've been working in government --
in and out of government for almost 20 years and for that
entirety I've heard, you know, "We're not going to do a dam
or reservoir this year let's just do this bond. Sign out of
this bond. Will give you some conservation money. We'll
give you some money for ground water recharge. We'll do
these -- all these nice things. We're not going to do
storage this year. Well, I'll argue that if you go back and
look at the climate action team's report on what's going to
happen to snow pack, there's no stronger evidence in science
today and in state public policy then what's going to happen
as a result of climate change if the scientists are right in
what happens to snow pack and that's crying out for storage.
It ain't necessarily crying out for a canal. But it is
absolutely crying out for storage. So I would submit to you
that that is somewhere for DWR to go and look at that
report.

And then lastly, the third theme is don't screw up my
town. I really like it here. I got here in December of
'05. And by the 10th of January of '06 I was conspiring
with the locals to put together a charter school and because
we had a difference of opinion with our school board and
they shut down the elementary school here. So we started a
charter school. It's darn difficult to get students because
this isn't a growing area. Because we as people through
our representative elected representatives made a decision
for open space and agricultural preservation, we don't have
a lot of development opportunities here and my great concern

is no matter what we do in terms of facilities, however that
turns out happens is that metropolitan and the other large
sponsors of the BDCP and those desires of the canal will
wash their hands of the actual consequences that come from
those facilities and not think about the long term viability
of the communities in the Delta and sustainability of these
communities. I think that's a very real threat to the
communities in the Delta.

So I would like a feature in whatever final work
product that comes out that ties the sustainability and the
viability of these communities to the ongoing operations of
the facility that is finally selected. And that would be an
official request from a resident of the Delta. And I thank
you once again for your time. And thanks again for coming
down to our town.

MS. PAM JONES: Sally Christie, Don Fenocchio and Mark
Pruner.

MS. SALLY CHRISTIE: My name is Sally Christie. I am a
resident, landowner and parent of two children who are six
generations Walnut Grove pear farmers. I stand up today as
a member of the Save Our Delta's future. I am the Walnut
Grove PTA President.

And I want to reiterate the comments of my
superintendent and also fellow community members Mr. Demare
and also Mr. Heringer in the beginning about how this will
impact the ability of our communities to educate our children when so much land will be taken away and land brings job, families, people living in our community. So I just want to make sure -- I did not see in the stations -- and I read every single one that the impact on the local school district was address directly and so that is why I'm up here for the third person saying this. But I was also struck by something else as I was sitting here and I need to tell you a story about when we moved back here from Seattle -- my husband and I to have our children be raised here and attend our schools. When we moved into our home that we lived at the time, which was a family home built in the early 20s, I was wiping a counter top, a shelf, what came down from that shelf was an internment poster from World War II. It was scary because it was like, "Oh, my God, this is a piece of history." But not piece of history. I should be proud of. Please, don't let my children see these shirts and think, "Oh, my God, look what we did to ourselves?" We took out -- the Japanese Americans were citizens who had land. They worked the areas. They were good citizens. And we thought we were doing the right thing. And we were wrong. Let's not doing it again. Thank you.

MS. PAM JONES: Don, Mark and then Nicole.

MR. DON FENOCCHIO: Good evening. My name is Don Fenocchio, long time residence of Clarksburg. My mother actually was born in Clarksburg. We have little history here.

A lot of discussion has been going on this evening regarding habitat and things that are necessary to keep this Delta going. I think one thing that you have forgotten and as I look at your panel and it's obvious to me. The human habitat has actually been forgotten around here, not only in Clarksburg but clear down the river. It's important that you think very, very seriously about getting another party to your organization, maybe Department of Human Resources could help you somewhat. I'm very about long term effects of whatever project may occur. I really encourage you to work very, very hard to including in the EIR long term effects on the social, political, and human resources here in the Delta.

I might also say that I am a fisherman. And I am concern about the fish habitat. I'm very much concerned about what happens with the water and southern California. I might mention too -- I forgot the gentleman's name who is with the Department of Fish and Game -- fishing has somewhat changed in the Delta. I spent two days this week. I caught one fish. My license when I was 16 years old cost $2. I bought it about two months ago and it was $62. In the younger days, I caught all kinds of fish. Today, I caught one.

Something's wrong with the Delta. And it needs to be fixed. And I don't think transferring water from this area without thinking about the human part of the Delta, of people of the Delta, and you can see very, very clearly that the people of the Delta are very concerned. That has to be in your EIR. Work on it. Thank you very much.

MS. PAM JONES: Don, Mark and then Peter Stone.

MR. MARK PRUNER: That was Don. I'm Mark. First all, I want to thank the folks that have come tonight. I know you're required by law to be here. But thank you, anyway. And thank you -- you know these people that you see in the audience are hardworking folks. You heard some of their stories. I can tell you that there are hundreds of stories beyond what you've heard tonight that are just as moving and if not more moving of people that care about the land. They've lived here for generations and have something attached to and grown into the land other than just a dollar sign or something that can be evaluated and purchased.

I've been to a few of the meetings. I met each one of you and spoken with each one of you at length and at multiple times. You might be a little tired of hearing from me. But let me just ask a question or two and Lester you are the highest ranking individual here by the way I agree with the comment that the shirt looks great. And if I could bring one for Karen tomorrow that might be good.

My information looking at the big picture here is that all of this that we're doing, the plans, that binders -- I have two boxes of materials are all about a starting point. In creating a starting point with the caveat that the starting point might be wrong. We might get new information that we might learn that we're completely off base. Is that a fair statement? I see a nod there of Jerry saying, "Yes."

MR. JERRY JOHNS: Starting point. And then develop alternatives around that really evaluate what -- how we move forward.

MR. MARK PRUNER: And the solution that I've heard is that we want to have an adaptive management program. I haven't heard anything about Karla -- I missed some of the presentation -- but about the adaptive management program, which is kind of the -- if we imagine a train, we have the starting point going down the track, and then we the adaptive management program, which says well, we could be completely wrong. So we have to have a system that says we'll take new information. We'll evaluate. And maybe we'll change some things, throw some things out the window and come in with completely new things that haven't been discussed tonight. And if the third part of this triad is that there will be a government system of three tiers and I've seen the charts and the boxes and lines -- and pretty
1. hard to understand -- those people will be making the
decisions about whether the point we're starting -- whatever
that point is -- and the changes are where we end up. Is a
fair statement?

MR. JERRY JOHNS: Well, sort of. Okay. Could I take a
shot at that?

MR. MARK PRUNER: You can. More than one, if you need
to.

MR. JERRY JOHNS: The starting point part is BDCP is
looking at something differently than it usually has done.
And it's looking at how do you deal with ecosystem and water
supply at the same time. So their going to develop a
starting point. But in the EIR/EIS process -- and one's
federal and one is state -- really going to look at the
alternatives. So they'll come up with a starting point that
the evaluation may say, "You've picked a canal, but we think
there's a lot of impacts and you're going to have to go
through Delta with your strategy or you've picked habitat in
this area but after analyzing, we don't think that's right
location." So it's a starting point and then you evaluate
alternatives.

The point you're making about adaptive management is if
we've learned anything about water supplies or ecosystem is
what we know now will be slightly different in the future.
That does bring out the governance issue. And there seems
to be a general concensus that if your going to build a
facility like that, which would have dramatic impact it
probably shouldn't be the Department of Water Resources that
operates it or the contractor that get the water out in some
other organization and some mechanism that has broader
interest then just the water supplies.

MR. MARK PRUNER: With all that said, and this is
really getting to one of my main points here. I'm running
out of time already. But if the government structure -- the
folks that are going to be making the real decisions down
the road -- if, would you be in favor of the department,
would the department be in favor of allowing one or more
people from the Delta itself -- the people who have the most
skin in the game -- to have a voice directly in the process,
not in meetings like this where we give comment and then
somebody goes into a back room and says, "Well, we just
heard a comment but we're going to do what we want to do any
way." But actually of direct voice, a voting voice and we
think and hope a strong voice in the government structure.

Is that something the department would support?

MR. JERRY JOHNS: I have no problem with that. You
probably are aware the legislature has bills dealing with
this as we speak. And I think that's going to be a
consideration of how you come up with the Board of Directors
for whether it's a Delta conservancy or a utility or
counsel, you know, there's a lot of different versions. We
have no problem with that kind of configuration. But there
will be a lot of debate in the legislature. It won't be a
decision that we make.

MR. MARK PRUNER: Absolutely but they're not here. And
I'm just picking on you because you're here. I just want to
say that what I've learned in the process, my conclusion is
that what I observed is this -- if I can over simplify but
still be -- I think it's real truthful to say at baseline
this is a giant experiment. The canal, the fish, that even
the experts like Paul from SAIC and Chuck who are experts in
their fields say, "We don't know if this is going to work or
not we just kind of think so. We got some data, and we know
we're missing a lot of information" -- and correct me Paul
and Chuck if I'm wrong here but -- we just -- this is a --
you haven't used the word "experiment." But I remember from
my science class what experiments are and this seems like
it. I think you could see from people here that we're
asking for a third leg in the process, not just conveyance,
not just habitat. But also the people in the place because
for the people that are here it's not just live and -- it's a
data point on sheet of paper or spreadsheet. It's about
lives and history. And we believe that as the Delta, we
enrich the entire state of California as some of us brought
out tonight. But we really enrich the state. And the state
will suffer. And state will lose something, if the big
project rolled through and we were depopulated. We lose a
base to have schools, we lose a base to have fire
department. We will suffer. And the state will suffer.
And that's, I think -- sort of what I believe, I think that
the great majority of folks believe here as well. Thank
you.

MS. PAM JONES: Peter Stone, Tim Waits and Linda
Robertson.

MR. PETER STONE: I'm Peter Stone. I live across the
river, one mile from here and -- with my family. We lived
here for a number of years. And I agree with so much that's
already been said. But I don't want to repeat it. So I'm
going to say some other things that are not nearly as
important. But I want do make sure that they are brought
forward. First of all, one of the things that hasn't been
said about Clarksburg is it's the home of one of the oldest
Boy Scout Troops in America. It is a troop that has 100
eagle scouts. I have two of them myself in the Clarksburg
troop and I consider it to be a privilege to be a part of
this community. And when we start thinking of terms of
wringing towns -- where's the town? If you haven't lived in
the Delta you don't realize that -- "Well, let's see. I
want to go to lunch. I'll go down to Walnut Grove. It's
just a few doors down." You know, it's there's something
different. I've lived in the city.

Most people in California don't have a clue that there is a place such as this. I've also lived in New Orleans.

There's one other Delta community in the United States and it's down south of New Orleans. But as I've been told, it's a Delta that flows out to the ocean. There's only one of these in the United States of America with an inland Delta.

And we're here talking about its destruction -- or maybe not but as it was just eloquently just said an experiment to play in the backyard. The only one that exists outside of China. There is another inland Delta and it's in China.

And if we were talking about something in terms of ecology, something in terms of anything else where this group of people was coming to the government to say that we wanted to do something to mess with the Delta.

There is no way we would be able to do this. And yet, we are not dealing with the same things that we would be required to deal with. And so one of my themes here is consistency. Just simple things like when I go to the County Planning Department and want to find out if I can put something up on my property. "Well, as long as you don't place it within eyeshot of route 160 on the levee because we don't want to ruin the visual impact." And I'm going -- I'm looking at all these maps we're talking about we're going to put thousand foot wide canals. We're going to put powerlines all down the levee, one of the options. And I'm, saying, "Hmmm, it's interesting." Not one person in a yellow shirt in this room could get done anything close to any of what's going on here.

And then I think about -- I just tried to -- you know. I don't know about all the big initials, and whatever, but I just kind of like to think about some simple things like one thing was really clear this evening. Is -- we are going to guarantee an EIR/EIS and whatever else we're going to do that we are going to make sure that every law associated with a fish is held to the "T." But if it has to do with human beings, forget it. If it has anything the constitution grants it's rights for people, forget it. Now, I don't know about all these other things. I don't know a whole lot about the routes and things. I was asking some folks very helpful explaining things. But we drive right by the Freepoint intake for the East Bay MUD facility.

So I just threw out one thought, "Wow. There's obviously going to be a pathway for water" -- which when they showed me, it's going to get right down to the south part of the Delta. Why couldn't we piggy back on a route that's already established that doesn't destroy the Delta. Now, I know he says it needs 50 times as much water. Well, we've got a route then run 50 times as much capacity that bypasses the Delta. Why do we have to destroy something -- I mean, I looked at the drawings out there. The architectural drawing with thousand foot canal. And it's like crazy to think that that's going to be a good thing for continuing what's going on here in this Delta.

And other thing, I've been here long enough dealing with rising rivers -- when one gentleman talks about hydrology most people don't have a clue, unless you live here -- what in the world that means. And what happens -- and they think quick little fixes to things can do things that just can't. Well, anyway, one other just sort of practical thing. I live right on the levee. I really love the Department of Water Resources guys. The guys who actually come around and try to keep those levees so that the squirrels don't eat holes through them, to make sure they're mowed. I really appreciate that. But I'm frustrated because if I stand at the top of the levee, they can help me on one side. But they can't help me on the other side because the fish and game folks won't let them do this, this and this that will help save the levee from flooding. Now, my point is a very simple one. If we are talking about something as complex as this and we have agencies that don't agree amongst themselves. How are we going to say that this is nothing but a grand experiment where each one is going to do in their side pocket what they want to do, hope it comes together in a document that makes everybody happy. But even, you know, filter the pumps, you know, why can't we figure out -- I can't believe we spent billions and billions of dollars to do all of this -- and maybe it's been thought of just as the gentleman said earlier -- but why can't we do something with modern technology to put things -- to keep the fish out of the pumps out of there -- and I'm sure that's really naive.

MS. PAM JONES: Peter, could you wrap up, please?

MR. PETER STONE: Sure. And finally, assuming this all goes through, I'm very concerned that if we wind up losing and having to lose our properties that we're going to have happen what happened to my grandparents. When they had the interstate systems take their property. They had them sold at eminent domain based upon the values after years of depression knowing that the properties were going to be eminent domain. So who's going to buy property that's -- as it's already been said here in town, if we look at value of what people will pay for 2, 3 years from now then that will be just flat out confiscation of property.

MS. PAM JONES: Peter, could you wrap up, please?

MR. PETER STONE: Yeah. So with that, I -- and the other thing is just, you know, decertification of levees. And just can't see, you know, we just need to have some responsibility put into what's going on here. Thank you.

MS. PAM JONES: Tim, Linda Robertson, and Gary Merwin.
MR. TIM WAITS: Good evening. My name is Tim Waits and I'm here representing Clarksburg wine growers and vineyards association. I want to talk mostly about the economics of the wine, grape crop in this area.

And most of what I'm going to say here in the beginning is a source from the 2008 CRIS report which came out recently and it's done by the USDA. The State of California produces 3,061,000 tons of wine grapes last year. And the average price per ton was $594. Our area, which under the USDA is called District 17, which pretty much includes all of the Delta produced 783,420 tons of grapes. So that's about 25 percent of the state as a whole. So it's a big business down here. And it has a huge economic impact on the people that live here and work here, have businesses that sort of thing. What we see here is if you can't relate to tons it also would be 54 -- no. Yeah. 54,839,000 cases of wine, just what we produced here. A case of wine is 12 and a 750 milliliter bottle. So we've got a substantial benefit not only to the area but to the state.

Wine grapes are one of the -- one of our best exports as far as crops in California in terms of value. And last year, the value of the red wine crop went up 3 percent. The value of the white wine crop went up 12 percent. So it's one of the few things that's actually going up instead of down in this economy. The plans that have been presented today would make it very difficult for the average grower to survive by chopping up our lands, putting canals and diversion systems and all this stuff, you know, right in our way essentially, not to mention what it would take out of production by having these thing there. So we're very concerned about that.

The difference between wine grapes and open ground type crops is that it's very expensive to put them in and it's a very long process to get paid back. Generally, it will take about $10,000 per plant to get it through the growth cycle before it begins to produce. You got a long time that you have to, you know, show the cost one way or the other. And, you know, borrowing money is typically one part of that. And so with all of these rumors and plans that are going on, it makes it very difficult for us to move forward. Yet, despite that, our area is considered one of the best places in the entire state to develop vineyards, even at this point. So we got a lot of interest here in this economically, socially.

Lastly, I'd like to just mention, you know, I have a ranch just down the street here on Willow Point, you know, I've developed 140 acres of wine grapes significant cost there. I built my house, which is also down there. And you know, all of that was done with the proper permits and government okays. And you know, looks like a canal -- if the eastern option is chosen, well, basically go right through that new development. And you know, somehow there's something about that that didn't seem quite fair to me and I would like you to consider those kinds of the issues in addition to the fish and the other sorts of things that seem to be so important to you. Thank you.

MS. PAM JONES: Linda, Gary Merwin and then Russ Van Lobensels.

MS. LINDA ROBERTSON: Linda Robertson. And I'm not from Clarksburg. I'm from Bethel Island. And the changes that we've seen in the last four years in our water quality are astronomical. When you see jelly fish, when you see flounder, when you have seals living near your island on a continual basis, salt water intrusion is already there. This processed plan is going to probably ruin all the small harbors on Bethel Island. While I can appreciate the farmers and what they're going through on the south Delta where this proposed canals going to be shoved under our island. Ten foot diameter pipe is what one estimate was, 42 miles long. We're a bit concerned about our levees. And we do not accept the latest scare tactic about earthquakes. Those levees have been there for close to 100 years. The earthquake thing, all of us that live on levees it's like, "Yeah and so." It's a scare tactic. It's not going to work. We are a really small community of 2500. We're really pissed because it's going to ruin the boats that are in my little eight slip harbor that's what I have as my retirement income. It's going to ruin the salt water intrusion is going to destroy the fishing.

We have friends that drive all the way from Nevada to fish in multiple black bass tournaments throughout the year. They contribute out of state to our little teeny economy on Bethel Island. That's going to be destroyed. There won't be any black bass left. The salt intrusion was bad enough this year, you couldn't find a blue gill with a search warrant. We did not see them except for a two-week period that's from the salt. I have seals swimming up and down past my harbor. That's salt. What you're proposing to do is remove so much more water that I'm a little concern that I may have to tell the kids whose parents have boats in my harbor, "Can't swim today, honey, great white is out." Don't do this.

We are going to fight in any and every way we can to stop the water grab by L.A. That's all this is, nothing more. I have one final question that I need to take home to our little community. How much money is this department going to pay Contra Costa County to put this pipeline in? How much money? You don't know?

MR. LESTER SNOW: We're still in the planning phases.

MS. LINDA ROBERTSON: But it's on a map.
MR. LESTER SNOW: There's alternatives on the map. But there's been no decision on this. And so there's no money that going to be paid to anybody at this point.

MS. LINDA ROBERTSON: Not today. I'm talking when you do this. Because Bradford Island cattle ranchers that have been there 60 years have had you lien their property rather than let you do the survey to take their property. How much money are you going to give the county, when you put this pipeline in? It's not if, we all know it.

MR. LESTER SNOW: Well, it's not in. We have not made that decision.

MS. LINDA ROBERTSON: Why is it on your map?

MR. LESTER SNOW: Because it's an alternative that's being evaluated and the issues that will be evaluated include every thing that you've just raised.

MS. LINDA ROBERTSON: But why are you liening property in Contra Costa County.

MR. LESTER SNOW: Getting access to do the surveys to get the information that you're talking about.

MS. LINDA ROBERTSON: But why are you liening private property for people that don't want to participate in this?

MR. LESTER SNOW: You're using a term I'm not real familiar with liening but we're trying to get access to property that is in those different corridors out there. To get the information that people have brought up here where there's endangered species, what the soils are like, could you actually build anything, could you actually put a pipeline there, what kind of habitat is already there, what's the water conditions?

MS. LINDA ROBERTSON: The water conditions suck now.

MR. LESTER SNOW: Pardon?

MS. LINDA ROBERTSON: The water conditions suck now. When you get down like I said great white is going to be swimming around my island. I have nothing left to say. Thank you.

MR. LESTER SNOW: Thank you.

MS. PAM JONES: Gary, Russ and Tim Newharth.

MR. GARY MERWIN: I'm Gary Merwin, third generation farmer in Clarksburg. I live in the house my grandfather built before there was a Shasta, Folsom or Oroville dam. We -- our family immigrated here from Sacramento because we came in the gold rush. But before we get started, I want to educate -- I know you guys are here to educate you guys on one thing first. Can you step where you could see the screen? And I know all you people -- all you people think that little dot right there is Clarksburg but when you say Clarksburg everybody back here is pretty much -- that's Clarksburg. So I do want to make a comment on the east Bay MUD Facility that was mentioned earlier you know that only takes when it gets operation only takes one percent of the flow of the river which is not a lot of water. It's only all the flow for 3.65 days. But that is not what we're here about. I'm going to do a lot of repetition because everybody else is really made some awesome points that need to be said again because I don't think they're getting heard. Number one -- first one is, there should have been three prong approach to this thing and everybody here knows that. There's no -- there should've been a spot for a third prong, for the social and economic wellbeing of the Delta. And should be an economic impact that goes along with it that has that same representation, that third prong, there needs to be EIR needs to include the impact of building more homes in southern California with increased water supplies from the Delta. Any eminent domain property that gets done around here needs to be valued at a minimum of the same value of the areas that benefit instead of southern California. My final comment is more of a question. I'll start with comment part. Every time I look at a map in this whole process. And I start asking questions usually I get told this is just concept. This doesn't mean anything. When are we going to be looking at something that means something?

MS. KARLA NEMETH: Summer. This summer we'll have a preliminary draft of the plan this summer with all the details.

MR. GARY MERWIN: That's three month period.

MS. KARLA NEMETH: Yeah, July. I don't know. We're working on it. But as soon as it's done, it's going to be made available. As I mentioned we'll be back. I know folks really want to get to those details and they're critical.

MR. GARY MERWIN: The economics of this area are just hanging in the lurch, you know.

MS. PAM JONES: Russ, Time and then Richards Robertson.

MR. RUSS VAN LOBENSELS: My name is Russ Van Lobensels. I'm fourth generation farmer. I'm farming some of the same property my great-grandfather did in 1870. I speak to you today as the president of the Sacramento County Farm Bureau and Chairman of the Delta Caucus. I met with some of you over the period and discussed some of the issues that we're dealing with today. One point of order is the comments that were received in the prior scoping session. Are they going to be part of the continuing record? Yes. Okay. Very good. The organizations which I represent have many, many issues that they are concerned about. And we will be sending you those in written form at some point. However, I'd like to bring up 3 or 4 comments this evening.

The draft EIR must clearly show how each proposed alternative is designed to operate within the multitude of legal restrictions, water quality requirements and contractual constraints such as the North Delta Water Agency...
Contact with the State of California, area of origin priorities, Delta salinity standards just to name a few.
Second, the draft EIR must identify -- and this question has been asked throughout the process and not answered or the answer has been, "We don't know" -- must identify how much Delta outflow is needed to maintain the health estuary and how each alternative will be designed in order to maintain the appropriate outflow and Delta water quality. That's an absolute must and before you can go forward with any alternative, you must know that.

The EIR should compare and contrast water flow and water quality from the two main rivers that run into the Delta -- the Sacramento and the San Joaquin -- and compare why the qualities are different. One of the reasons the San Joaquin County does not have the same quality as Sacramento is that major amounts of water are removed before it gets to the Delta and here we're talking about doing the same thing in Sacramento. Then again, you need to answer what flow needs to be maintained in the Delta to maintain a healthy estuary? Export alternatives cannot be developed or evaluated without this critical information. The appropriate size of facilities cannot be evaluated without this information.

Export quantities cannot be determined without this critical information. And finally, how are even these conceptual ideas being evaluated without this critical information. The draft EIR must show a correlation between tidal wetlands and wetlands and a fish abundance, if it doesn't, we're going into an adaptive process that might try one thing after another, after another and all of them may fail. How do we establish a permit that doesn't have certainty? I challenge the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to look at this process and this plan to determine whether it has certainty.

Finally, the draft EIR must explain why the BDCP isolated facility is designed to convey 15,000 cubic feet per second. Is that volume based upon science to support a healthy Delta? Or achieving maximum exports without regard to the health of the Delta? Now, I understand that they're governance issues that we're supposed to trust the governance issue and so forth. If the maximum export capacity is 15,000 cubic feet per second and the preferred alternative is a dual conveyance system, why isn't the capacity of the peripheral part reduced by the conveyance capacity of the through Delta part to give you a combined capacity of 15,000 cubic feet per second -- a smaller ditch, please. Wouldn't it be more appropriate to size the peripheral part of the dual conveyance system by starting with that critical amount of water that must pass through the Delta subtract the amount that you're going convey through Delta and what is left is what you convey peripherally -- and that may be nothing. Why propose digging a big ditch that you may not even be able to use? Why do that?

If the current system of exports has damaged the Delta, then some of the proposed BDCP alternatives, I believe, could devastate the Delta. Thank you.

MS. PAM JONES: Tim Newarth, Richard and Dan Whaley.
MR. TIM NEWARTH: My name is Tim Newarth. Resident of the Delta and farmer of the Delta. Represent a family that's been here in the Delta since 1948. Long time. Watch a lot of water follow past the levees. But that aside, my concern is the Delta, itself.

The Delta as has been stated before, is a very unique place, a very unique ecological estuary that is unsurpassed in any place in the western hemisphere. And to think that we are going to continue to tweak with it and mess with it and take water out of it, and move it around with no real assurances of the outcome, to me darn near criminal. How effective -- and I have a couple comments along those lines. How effective can this EIR and EIS be if we haven't a specific plan with specific areas in specific parameters? We've got a western conveyance. We got a through Delta conveyance. We've got an eastern conveyance. And nothing's really been settled as to what is going where and how much and how long and so forth.

This scoping is premature and cannot be focused nor thoroughly examined without those specifics. What about other parameters that are not in this scoping? What about the impact of the Sacramento municipal intake that's taking water of the Delta. What about the impact of the sewer treatment plant that's putting high and very excessive and detrimental amounts of ammonia into the system, which is messing up with the food chain in the Delta already. Maybe your smelt needs a little bit more to eat. I don't know.

What about habitat conflicts? We have agencies who are promoting such as you stated in your presentation about restoring habitat. We have other agencies that say, "No, you can't do that." "We don't want any trees on the levees. We don't want anything on there. Spray it. Burn it. Do whatever." "You know, we have to have a clean levee site." I don't know how those two things get resolved when you've got the left not knowing what the right hand is going. It's a contradiction in terms.

And I wonder how you can have such a narrow target on species. You talk about smelt. Smelt, smelt, smelt. I swear if I see one, I'm going to give it to the cats. You talk about salmon, you talk about steelhead, and sturgeon, and splittails. What about the other species that are out there we've got striped bass, which is a huge sport fish? The gentleman before said it adds two million to the...
state's -- is that -- when is that going to be a native species. I think it's here to stay, unless you plan to eradicate the entire bunch. I don't think you can do that. I don't think it's possible. So when are they going to be a native species? Not to mention the thousands of vegetative species hawks, egrets, loons, owls, otters, beavers, ducks.

We are on a Pacific fly away and they prefer fresh water not salt water.

What about human species? Why are we not all on this more of inclusive species list? Why is it limited to smelt?

That's all we hear is smelt. As far as I'm concerned, smelt is like the spotted owl. It's just a tool to use to get what you want. In your literature you talk about diversion, diversion, and that to me in this scenario is robbing Peter to pay Paul. How does the Sacramento expect -- Sacramento River expect to survive and the northern Delta expect to survive and to improve, if we're pulling that much water out of the top and trying to put around on the the bottom to make up for water that the San Joaquin river no longer can supply? That is robbing Peter to pay Paul. And today's language it's a ponzi scheme.

That's exactly what this is; it's a water ponzi scheme.

MS. PAM JONES: Could you wrap up, please?

MR. TIM NEWARTH: Number four, when are these diversions supposed to occur? I've heard people say verbally from your group that this is only going to happen when we have excess flows. Okay. That's all good and well. But that means last year after spending billions and billions of dollars initially and ongoing expenses that there wouldn't be diversions made out of the river last year. This year, maybe a month, probably less than a month we had somewhat of a high water flow not really even a high water flow but more flow than usual. That is when we're going to use this? We're going to spend all this time and effort and that's when we're going to use it.

I'll end with this -- and we've talk about quips and quotes this evening. Ethan Allen, after the revolutionary war was sent to England as an emissary to the English and he was the brunt of many a joke from English about the revolutionary war and in particular George Washington. He was pretty silent about it. He took most of it. They decided if they could get his goat they'll hang a picture of George Washington in the outhouse, which they did. Ethan Allen goes out uses the outhouse doesn't say anything. And their waiting, and their waiting doesn't say nothing.

Finally, they said Mr. Allen, what do you think of George Washington's portrait in the outhouse? And he said, "Well, I think it's a very appropriate place for it to be." They were taken aback, puzzled, befuddled. And they said, "Well, explain that." Well, he said, "Nothing would make an English man so quickly shit as a sight of George Washington." I'm hoping that these green shirts and all of this comment would make the proponents of this deal have the same effect. Thank you.

MS. PAM JONES: Richard, Dan and then Peter Finn.

MR. RICHARD ROBERTSON: Hi everybody. I'm from Brentwood. I've live in the Delta. That's Linda. I've been to three of these meetings now. And I haven't been popular at a couple of them -- but anyway. Everybody that I've seen from Brentwood to that end of the Delta to Stockton everybody, all you farmers, have the same criteria. They want to live. They want to do their land. They want to grow their crops.

I used to have a bed and breakfast. I grew lands but anyway for Fish and Wildlife Service, there was 7 million striped bass in the system before they put these pumps southern California. There was salmon. The numbers were untold. Okay. They put the pumps in the fish crashed. Crash and crash and crash. And here we go again. They're going to be pumping water out of the good water, clean water from you guys out of the Sacramento River going south. They can't pump any more water out of the Delta. It's dirty. It's bad. Everybody knows. Salt intrusion. No joke jelly fish.

You guys, Walnut Grove, flounders last year. What's wrong with this picture? Salt coming in because they're pumping too much water out. There was no water coming into the Delta this year. We saw dirt. We see dirt 3 feet down from the sides of the channels that they've never seen before because there's no water. And here they go again, "Okay. We've got no water. Let's go to Sacramento. Let's get that good water." Their water quality be better down south than we have in the Delta because they're pumping it out of here. Okay. I have some numbers and these are questions that people have asked. How much water? How much water is -- how many gallons are in a cubic foot? Anybody know? I do. That was a question asked from Brentwood. Nobody had the answer. How about 54.7 gallons per cubic foot. That's a lot -- that doesn't sound like much water, until you times that times -- this is based on 11,000 cubic feet a second. How about 55,000 gallons per second is going to go down the canal times that per minute 3,300,000 gallons in one minute times that per hour 190,000,000 gallon in one hour going down to southern California. In a 24-hour period how about 475,200,000 gallons going down to southern California every hour. Our computer wouldn't go any higher than that. And I showed my friends this and they said, "I can't even read that number." And then you times that 365 days a year for how long? Every day. And that's low. They're basing 14 -- and they told you, well, it might be --
you know, what is it -- 14,000 cubic feet a second. They
told us in Brentwood, we're going to amp that up, if we
have -- if there's a lot of water in the Sacramento River.
These are low numbers. Think about those numbers. That's
crazy. And you guys are going to get hit. The Delta --
we're not going to get -- there's gonna be no fresh water
going through the system. That we -- at least have some.
They're going to take it all. You think there's salt water
in the Delta now? As Linda said, great white shark sounds
funny, right? They had dolphins in the Stockton harbor this
year. At the boat turnaround. Think about that. A pair of
dolphins in Stockton in the turnaround basin. And you think
we're crazy? No, we're not.
MS. PAM JONES: Richard, could you wrap up? Thank you.
MR. RICHARD ROBERTSON: Thanks guys.
MS. PAM JONES: Okay. Dan, before you begin. Before
you begin. We have about 20 more minutes of comments. We
said we were going to end at 9:00. Are you willing to stay?
Okay. The entire session lasts until ten. We had
originally said 9:00 for comments because the official,
legal part of this does include the comments out there. And
it's very important that these comments -- your written
comment as well as your comments that you want to go for the
record be shared with the folks out there. They will stay
to have one on one conversations with you. But we had
agreed at the beginning end up at 9:00. So I'm asking you,
MR. DAN WHALEY: I'll be quick. I live on Sutter
Island. I also have property at Hood. What's important
here is according to the representatives the EIR/EIS is
being paid for by the water district in the south state.
Shouldn't this be an independent study? When somebody's
paying for a report, often times it's biased. Why should we
trust the south state water districts when the north state
has certain water rights that aren't being addressed? How
do you address the existing contracts?
And how do you address existing water rights for the
people here? All these need to be addressed when your
project has not yet been defined. Who is Delta Habitat and
Conservation Program? And what are they paying for? Where
are the bridges in any of those documents that are showing
essentially a canal that is bigger than the Sacramento River
that exists. So think about that. How are you building a
canal that is bigger than the river that exists now? And
how does that make any sense? Now, I would reference you to
a couple of books to read Jerad Diamond's Collapsed, which
talks about what happens to societies and then within our
own community here Dave Stirling has written a book called
Green Gone Wild. Essentially, talks about humans are
species as well. And they're not being protected.
And then finally, it's very important that everyone in
this room write comments on a card and turn them in.
Because as much as these people are down here listening to
what we're saying, they may not really be listening to what
we say. But if we make a written comment, it is a permanent
record and eventually the lawyers may need to protect your
legal right. So it's very important that everybody make a
written comment and turn it.
And finally people are getting letters that say they're
threatening to lien your property. There are people like
Mark Pruner that will talk to you about how you can protect
yourself against threats from the Department of Water
Resources or any other agency that demands to come on your
property because they do not have the right to do that. And
they may use that information against us in the future.
Fight for your rights. Thank you.
MS. PAM JONES: Before we have Peter Finn and Kathy
Hunn and Mary Paula Carvalho, I just wanted to say as to the
point of whether they're listening, we do have a court
reporter here taking the comments. And so they will be able
to read it in addition. The value of going out and making
your comments there is that it's more directed and more
specific and you can target those comments that you would like.
So Peter. And then Kathy.
MR. PETER FINN: Good evening. My name is Peter Finn.
I'm a resident of the city of Sacramento. Where we are,
we're now getting water meters courtesy of the water
interests that are behind what you folks are doing here. We
don't need water meters. Los Angeles needs us to have water
meters. So -- and that's part of what's happening here.
What's affecting us in the city of Sacramento is affecting
you folks here too. And I'm here because when I first came
a year ago to hear this program with the proposals. There
were four proposals. They varied pretty wildly.
But everyone of the proposals had a peripheral canal,
every one of them. There wasn't a proposal without a
peripheral canal in it. And I came to conclusion at that
point. And I walked away pretty frankly disgusted that what
we had here was a solution that had already been determined
well before the meeting or the proposal or the research was
done. The solution was we're going to build a peripheral
canal. And that solution was handed out to a bunch of good
folks. And you were told okay. Now, go find us the problem
that fits with this solution. And I looked at this map up
here. And what I see, frankly, I consider those blemishes.
I see a lot farmland, a lot of productive land where people
live who are in the way of this canal.
So part of the conservation program -- and I'm going to
get to the conservation in a moment -- part of the
conservation program is, "Let's get rid of these people who
MR. CHUCK HANSON: Well, to improve quality, right. We have salt water intrusion problems today. Every day in the Delta we have to push salt water that would come into the estuary, if the flows weren't high enough.

MR. PETER FINN: So would those gates need to be built, even if this canal is not built?

MR. CHUCK HANSON: Well, actually, these gates at 3-mile slough have been planned for seven years. When we were in the CALFED program and we were looking at the Delta facility --

MR. PETER FINN: So if the peripheral canal does not get built at all for whatever reason, do these gates go forward?

MR. CHUCK HANSON: Well, we'll have to look at those. But they would still be part of the plan potentially to
improve water quality in the Delta.

MR. PETER FINN: All right. So with that firmly established we're talking about salt water intrusion up at 3-mile slough. We're not talking improved flows coming all the way down through to Pittsburg.

MR. CHUCK HANSON: Yes, we are. We're talking about flows of the system that would come through the system to help repel sea water.

MR. PETER FINN: So someone -- yeah -- someone else said it. Thank you. So why do we need those gates there?

MR. CHUCK HANSON: Well --

MR. PETER FINN: See this is my question. With all due respect to Karla. She's pointing down towards the Pittsburg area telling us how this going to improve flows down to Pittsburg area -- that is where she was gesturing. But we're going have to build salt water intrusion gates up at 3-mile slough.

MR. CHUCK HANSON: Okay. The flow part we're focusing on or flows down here in this area.

MR. PETER FINN: Oh, I understand. This is what I've been saying about this. We're getting information that makes this look so great. But then bits and pieces of the truth keep coming out here. Why -- I mean, if this is improving flows down to Pittsburg, why do we need to mitigate salt water at 3-mile slough?

MR. CHUCK HANSON: The issue of improving flows is one of the biggest problems that we have is what we're regulated on as reverse flows in this part of this system. And Old and Middle River, in fact, we have to curtail pumping because there's reverse flows that not only affect smelt -- I know there's no popularity for smelt in the room. But also tends to bring in salinity. There's something called tidal pumping that occurs at 3-mile slough and that is that salt water comes up here more quickly on the tidal surge than it does here because the distance is shorter. But tends to pump salt water across. That's why this gate system that's been identified will go in no matter what happens with the canal because it will reduce the tidal pumping that not only moves salt water but can move smelt and then the issue of improved flows is getting channels to flow in the direction they were supposed to flow. And they don't currently. There's no question -- one of the issues that you've identified that -- we're not hiding from anyone. When you divert more water up here, you damn well better pay attention to what's going on with overall water quality and that's what has to be done in these studies.

MR. PETER FINN: Well, and in closing, if you get all these farmers and all these people out of this area and remove them and inundate this area, water quality doesn't so much matter for the agriculture any more. It doesn't matter if we have salt water flows all the way to right here, if there's no one affected by it.

MS. PAM JONES: Okay. Kathy Hunn, Mary Paula Carvalho and Jeff Merwin.

MS. KATHY HUNN: First of all, I would like to say that I was rather appalled by one of the first speakers that spoke before we started. His statement was, 'Tonight we're going to here about how a dumb idea we have, tonight we're going to hear about the people issues, the job issues.' We were here a year ago and we're here again. And much of that appears to not have been heard.

My name is Kathy Hunn, and I'm a resident of Clarksburg. My husband is a farmer in the area. I wish to speak to the human aspect of this proposal being brought to us tonight. Many more people -- or many people who are being affected are landowners. Far more people who live and work here do not own land. Our farming operation alone has 35 employees, 15 of whom live here year round with their families. Once you have taken our land, or have created circumstances where the land is no longer farmable those families will be left homeless and unemployed. Multiply that by the fact that Clarksburg has 331 farming units.

Then as you move on down the river you have all the farms in the towns of Hood, Courtland, Locke, Walnut Grove, Alton and further south. The human cost is immeasurable, not to mention the economic devastation to the area.

In addition, there are many support businesses which will be gravely affected by the destruction of area farming. For example, equipment sales, repair companies, fuel delivery companies, seed companies, and the list goes on from there. My request and my prayer is that you will hear all the comments that were made tonight and will work to include the residents of the north Delta in the process to come up with workable solutions for all of California citizens. At the end of the day, you folks are all going to go home. You've got your home wherever that might be. You're going to experiment with our homes. And 20 years from now, when you look back -- 50 years from now when we all are gone and our children's children are looking back and this a barren area, you still have your homes. Your children will still have your homes. We will be relocated. Thank you.

MS. PAM JONES: Mary Paula Carvalho, Jeff and Tony Silva Jr.

MS. MARY PAULA CARVALHO: Good evening. Thank you for listening to us once again. And one of these T-shirts happens to be my notes and questions, when I passed them out. So scribbled on this piece of paper.

The loss of tourism here in the Delta will be horrendous should this canal go through. I worry about the...
My name is Jeff Merwin. I farm in the Netherlands little bit. Profanity so forgive me I'm going to be jumping around a three iterations that I came up with all ended up in patience and coming and listening to us tonight -- or at least be patient while we say what we have to say. First three iterations that I came up with all ended up in a little bit. My name is Jeff Merwin. I farm in the Netherlands.
MR. PAUL CYLINDER: I'd say yes initially. It's in the list of potential measures under consideration. We've also seen outside that there's an alternative canal route that could run that same route. There's the measure that he's talking about is a draft that's been in the document. It hasn't been removed from the draft. Conceptual measures that are in the document right now from October. That same route would follow what you seen outside as the alternative for canal route on the westside.

The concept that you're referring to is to develop a flood bypass on the eastside as we already have on the westside of the deep water ship channel but as it reads in the document right now, the only way that that would be considered is if the flood control agencies in particular the Army Corps of Engineers felt that concept would add to the flood control benefits for the towns on the westside of the river -- Clarksburg down to Rio Vista.

So the way the measure is written right now is that if it were a benefit as a flood control measure that we would take advantage of that because there's a severe lack of floodplain habitat that has been shown to be very beneficial to a number of the fish species, particularly the splittail and for rearing habitat chinook salmon.

MR. JEFF MERWIN: Which gets back to the 100,000 acres that this fellow would like to see restored and that the Delta vision process recommends doing in our Delta -- 100,000 acres. I guess the 20 or 30,000 acres in the Yolo County bypass aren't adequate. They're already there. The Sacramento -- where it exists it could be reengineered to handle additional flood flows. You don't need to build an additional bypass. Let me get real specific about this, not only am I a Clarksburg resident. I happen to live on the deep water ship channel east levee. Okay. Thank you by the way for putting a bridge in on my driveway, in your drawings. There's a bridge proposed for the eastern -- the western alignment of the peripheral canal.

MR. PAUL CYLINDER: Sorry. I'm not the engineer. They're not my drawings.

MR. JEFF MERWIN: I digress. If you want to see something that will curl your hair, Google SB12, Senate Bill 12. It includes things like language that would change water rights to agriculture. It actually has a paragraph that is very specific about it. And I recommend that you read it and contact your senator. And let's get that thing thrown out. That's how they're going to make this happen. And these guys will all go, "Oh, sorry."

MS. PAM JONES: Jeff, can you wrap up?

MR. JEFF MERWIN: Yes, I'm almost done. That fifth conveyance that I was talking about, I am not an advocate of sending water south. Okay. I agree with everybody in this room. However, if we're going to have it done to us, put it down the deep water ship channel. It already exists it has the most robust levees in the entire Delta. Get Metropolitan Water District or the water purveyors to finance locks down at the bottom. Increase the storage capacity five feet. The port doesn't have to deepen its ship channel. They get 8700 acre feet of storage right in the Delta. And they can have multiple diversions and all that other junk. I don't want to aid the case. But I'm trying to help you with a solutions, if you absolutely insist. I'm not happy about it.

But I'd be far happier with that than ripping out farmland and habitat down the eastside or right through my front yard -- that would be in my backyard. That's acceptable there's already water there. It's a man-made waterway. I was told in the June meeting last year at Walnut Grove, "No, we can't do that there's Delta smelt there." What an idiotic thing is that to say. It's a man-made waterway. Put the lock in down at the bottom of it. And the Delta smelt, they live what a year and then they're gone. Put that in your take permit.

All right. I want to end right now with a little bit of analogy as farmer. Okay. And I want you to ponder this very carefully. And I'm sorry if I'm running a little bit long. How would you feel as a state worker or federal employee, if it was determined that farmers should cut off your food? Sounds like an absurd thought, doesn't it. It's exactly what they are proposing to do to me. Thank you.

MS. PAM JONES: Okay. Tony and Mary, we appreciate your comments at the other meetings. And we ask that you keep your comments here short so that George Daly can speak as our last speaker.

MR. TONY SILVA: Okay. My name is Tony Silva, and I just happen to be a small farmer from Lodi. I walk through all six of your stations and I looked a lot -- I noticed the state seems to have an issue with letters. Everything is abbreviated -- letters. I noticed BDCP, ESA, EIS, EIR, the
whole bit. Why propose a station 7? And I want to call it
BPF that's a ballpark figure. How much is all this going to
cost? Does anybody have an idea? Does anybody read the
newspapers? We have record furloughs, lay offs,
foreclosures, car dealerships closing, corporation closing,
and our state is at a 14 billion dollar deficit. Where are
you going to get this money? And how much is it going to
cost? Anybody? Just throw a number out there -- ballpark
figure. You're taking up my time. I'd appreciate a quick
answer. I've got another question.

MR. JERRY JOHNS: When we look at these costs -- maybe,
if we have any -- we've been looking at these cost. And
we're still refining the cost. I mean, last year -- well,
because it's complicated, right?

MR. TONY SILVA: Well, a ballpark.

MR. JERRY JOHNS: Last year we estimated the cost for
the western alignment that you saw at about 8 billion dollars.

MR. TONY SILVA: Is that if they give you the property?
You're paying for property, also?

MR. JERRY JOHNS: That was actually both. Just a
second. Let me finish. And the eastern alignment was
estimated about 5 billion both of those estimates have gone
up by quite a bit because we've gotten a lot more detail in
it. So I would imagine that it would actually be closer to
11 billion on the west and probably closer to 8 billion on
the east right now.

MR. TONY SILVA: Thank you. Sounds like a lot. Can't
even comprehend it. I've got another statement. In 1961 a
little town called Freeport, Texas built a desalinization
plant that's 48 years ago. They managed to produce 1
million gallons of fresh water a day. During that
dedication our then president John F Kennedy gave a
dedication speech. And I'm going to read that again.

President JFK, "No water resources program has a greater
long range importance than our first to convert water from
the greatest and cheapest natural resource, our oceans. And
to water fit for our homes and our industry such a
breakthrough would end bitter shovel between neighbors,
states and nations." God what a bright guy. 48 years ago
he had enough vision for that. And look where we are at
today. I'm embarrassed.

And does anybody -- I would like to address this to
you. Do you not understand the greatest and cheapest
natural resource? Is there a question of what that means?
I guess not.

You know, last time I spoke up here, I was very
intimidated because I look up here and I see a bunch of
bright people. People with masters degrees, probably MBAs,
PHDs. I don't have any of that. I have common sense and
love for the Delta and northern California. That's all I
have. It may not mean much to you. But I want you to do me
a big favor. I may not speak for everybody in this room or
everybody in northern California but I'd like for you to go
down to southern California and tell those people, all 25
million of them that, "Hey, you chose to build homes in the
desert. You chose to build businesses in the desert, now
you're going to build desalinization plants." That's what
you're going to do. How hard is it? The people in northern
California are sick and tired of poor planning. We're not
turning ourselves into a desert. We're not going to do it.
And especially when you got two-thirds of the planet's total
area, the ocean, in your back door. Think about it. What
are you doing? I thought you guys were educated. Thank
you.

MS. PAM JONES: Mary and George. Okay. George are you
here?

MS. MARY McTAGGART: I have a question. I was reading
the Notice Of Preparation. And the project area part says,
"Any conservation actions outside the statutory Delta will
be implemented pursuant to cooperative agreements or similar
mechanism with local agencies, interested nongovernmental
organizations, landowners and others. Okay. So that sounds
like that would be willing participants outside the
statutory Delta. Does that mean -- is the opposite true
that inside the statutory Delta it's not going to be willing
participants? Would you please answer that question for me?
Because that's the way it sounds here.

MS. KARLA NEMETH: That's a good question, Mary. Right
now part of the plan is to put together implementation
structure to identify that, who implements the plan, how do
we get input as it moves forward. So for conservation
measures inside the statutory Delta we are going to identify
a way in which we work with the local jurisdictions to
implement the habitat restoration pieces of this.

MS. MARY McTAGGART: Well, yeah, but that's what it
says outside the statutory Delta. So why would that
statement be made if it weren't different inside? That's my
question. I mean, it's an honest question.

MS. KARLA NEMETH: No, and I appreciate it. I'm not
sure I fully understand that -- but Paul?

MR. PAUL CYLINDER: When the planning agreement was put
together -- When an HCP is initiated there has to be a
definition of what the planning area is. The planning area
was defined then as the statutory Delta with the focus on
the aquatic ecosystem within the statutory Delta. When --
but the program also recognized because of the species
involved that may be necessary to look for opportunities
outside the Delta -- the statutory Delta for -- to identify
conservation measures to benefit fish. So at this point, we
looked at two areas outside the statutory Delta and included
concepts for conservation measures for fish in those two areas.

One is Suisun Marsh, where there's an active management conservation plan already under development that the Bay Delta program could enhance. And then the other is the northern part of the Yolo bypass because any proposal to improve habitat conditions for fish in the Yolo bypass would include both the north part and southern part. Southern part being the legal Delta.

MS. MARY McTAGGART: Okay. You still didn't answer my question. Does this statement imply then that if the conservation measures inside the statutory Delta would not be with the cooperative agreements or willing, you know, cooperative agreements because that's the way it reads like.

MS. KARLA NEMETH: I think I understand that. And no, it does not imply that. For conservation measures that are inside the statutory Delta, we are required to identify an implementation structure as part of the plan.

MS. MARY McTAGGART: You're not answering my question, please.

MS. KARLA NEMETH: Yeah, that will outline how we interface with local entities under the implementation of particular conservation measures.

MS. MARY McTAGGART: Well, are you saying then that they could be -- they might be voluntarily or they might be not depending on what kind of implementation structure you come up with?

MS. KARLA NEMETH: We're working on a willing buyer, willing seller basis for the habitat restoration pieces. That's policy of the Department of Water Resources.

MS. MARY McTAGGART: Okay. Thank you.

MS. PAM JONES: Mary, could you wrap up because we need to have time --

MS. MARY McTAGGART: Okay. Thank you.

people in this area, can't you give us the same courtesy that the people in all these other islands, which most of them are no bigger or smaller than where we live. Thank you.

MS. PAM JONES: Okay. And George, can you head on up. And then that will be our last speaker.

UNIDENTIFIED GENTLEMAN: I have been here for almost four hours. I put my name in that pile of crap you got there. My name is not in there so all I've got to say to you folks is, I feel sorry for you. I was in The Marine Corps for 20 years. The way you done your planning -- you would all been dead.

MS. PAM JONES: Sir, what is your name?

UNIDENTIFIED GENTLEMAN: You don't need to know it.

MS. PAM JONES: Okay. Go ahead George.

MR. GEORGE DALY: I assure you I'll be brief. Thank you very much for your consideration. My comments revolve around thinking outside of the pipe for the canal, if you will. Fresh water in this state as it is pretty much everywhere is a finite resource. You cannot keep taking it for whatever purpose. I'm for sharing. And I mean that sincerely. We have a great state we ought to share the resources. But it's finite. We cannot keep gobbling up more but we have to conserve. But I think more importantly, we have to look for alternative supplies. And as Tony mentioned, we have 1,000 miles of coastline. I mean southern California or northern California want more fresh water, why don't we take this -- a part of umpteen billion dollars and construct some desalination plant? Why are we pumping water what four or five hundred miles down south, when if you look at a map probably 80 percent of the people from Bakersfield south to the Mexican border live within 50-miles of the border. Crumb put a plant down there.

Let's enhance. Let's improve desalination process, make it a viable option. You have certainly not, in the true sense of the word, an infinite supply of the ocean. But my gosh, we have far more water there than we have fresh water supplies and it's rapidly being eaten up with development in the south and in the north. So I -- not beating you people over the head with it -- but I encourage you to go to the powers that be and say, let's take another look -- Let's open our eyes -- like we do with energy. We're trying to get way to win. Let's do the same thing with our fresh water supply and the sources thereof. I really wanted to say this just to make sure it got on the record because we are all emotionally involved about what is being proposed -- couldn't agree with all of you people more. But the point is, there is only so much fresh water. We need to look for other sources. And it doesn't appear like we're going to find it on the moon or Pluto or anywhere else like that so
let's develop what we have here. Thank you very much.

MS. PAM JONES: Thank you all very much. There is time
left to speak to the folks back there. This isn't your only
chance. If you have comments you want to write them down,
take a comment card, send an e-mail. Thank you very much.

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I, ANGELICA R. GUTIERREZ, a Certified Shorthand
Reporter of the State of California, duly authorized to
administer oaths, do hereby certify:

That I am a disinterested person herein; that the proceeding was
reporter in shorthand by me, ANGELICA R. GUTIERREZ, a Certified
Shorthand Reporter of the State of California, and thereafter
transcribed into typewriting.

ANGELICA R. GUTIERREZ CSR #13292

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