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IN RE THE PUBLIC HEARING OF THE )  
CALFED BAY-DELTA PROGRAM )  
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TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS  
University High School - Auditorium  
4771 Campus Drive  
Irvine, California

Tuesday, May 5, 1998, at 7:00 p.m.

REPORTED BY: MELINI A. CARREON, CSR NO. 7511

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1 (All parties present, the following proceedings were had  
2 at 7:00 p.m.)

3  
4 MR. BODOVITZ: If everybody will come in  
5 and take a seat, we'll try to get started right on time.  
6 There may be some people out in front, so we'll ask them  
7 to come in.

8 Those of you who think you've come to the  
9 graduation play are clearly in the wrong room. We will  
10 hope to be at least as entertaining as that might have  
11 been, however, but you all are the cast of tonight's  
12 performance.

13 I'd like to welcome everybody to the seventh  
14 of 17 public hearings that the CALFED Bay-Delta Project is  
15 holding all over the State. We have been in Ontario and  
16 Burbank, and a week from tonight we'll be back in  
17 San Diego, in Encinitas.

18 We will talk, in a moment, about the ground  
19 rules for tonight's hearing, but the key one is that, if  
20 you wish to speak, it's necessary to sign one of these  
21 yellow cards that are on the table in the foyer, so if you  
22 wish to speak, please sign one and give it to the young  
23 ladies out there. We take speakers in the order in which  
24 we receive their cards.

25 My name is Joe Bodovitz, and I will preside at

1 tonight's hearing. As some of you know, I'm not a part of  
2 the CALFED Bay-Delta Project; rather, I work for a small  
3 nonprofit that tries to help people find as much agreement  
4 as possible on contentious issues of the economy and  
5 environment of California.

6 My own background is that I was the first  
7 Director of the State Coastal Commission and later  
8 Director of the State Public Utilities Commission and more  
9 recently involved in helping to get the natural  
10 communities conservation program of State and Federal  
11 agencies working in Southern California.

12 I have been asked to conduct the hearings to  
13 further ensure that they are independent, unbiased, and as  
14 complete as we can make them.

15 Now the decisions on the CALFED Bay-Delta  
16 Project will be made by a number of people representing a  
17 number of Federal and State agencies, and we'll talk a bit  
18 more about that in a second. Not all of the decision  
19 makers can be at all of the 17 hearings, but some are  
20 attending all of them, and I'd like to introduce now those  
21 who are up here with me, who are part of the -- of the  
22 CALFED Policy Group. Wayne White, Assistant Regional  
23 Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, to my left;  
24 Kathy Kelly, Chief of the Division of Planning with the  
25 Department of Water Resources, and Carl Enson, Director of

1 Engineering and Technical Services for the Corps of  
2 Engineers.

3 There's one more thing I would like to do  
4 before we get to your comments and ask -- that is ask  
5 Rick Breitenbach of the CALFED Bay-Delta staff to quickly  
6 summarize the draft environmental documents and the issues  
7 they consider that are before us tonight.

8 As you know, this is a hearing on the draft  
9 environmental documents prepared by the CALFED Bay-Delta  
10 Project, so Rick...

11 MR. BREITENBACH: Thank you, Joe.

12 I haven't been on stage since I was about in  
13 the third grade, and there's probably a good reason for  
14 that. I'll find out shortly.

15 What I want to do is -- is just take a few  
16 minutes to talk about a few of the items with the -- about  
17 the program and then give you plenty of time to -- to  
18 offer up your comments on what you think about what we  
19 have been doing so far.

20 To begin with, we'll talk a little bit about  
21 the people that are involved in the program. Up at the  
22 top of this chart, you see both the Governor and the  
23 Secretary of Interior, and they are actively involved in  
24 the program, and the fact that they are a part of it  
25 speaks volumes to the importance that both the State and

1 the Federal Government place on this program and getting  
2 resolution to the problems in the Delta.

3 Embodied within this CALFED Bay-Delta Program,  
4 obviously, are the CALFED Bay-Delta Program staffs, but  
5 there's also five State and ten Federal agencies, all with  
6 either regulatory or management responsibilities in the  
7 Delta, that work with us on a daily basis to get to some  
8 final answer about the problems in the Delta.

9 In addition to working with agencies, we're  
10 spending a good deal of time interacting with the public,  
11 and the example that I'd like to talk about is the  
12 Bay-Delta Advisory Council. These folks were appointed by  
13 the Governor and by the Secretary of Interior to work with  
14 the program. We provide them information. They review  
15 it. They provide us advice. They carry that advice home  
16 to their various constituents, and they also are involved  
17 in a number of work groups, working directly with us to  
18 come to some answers about the problems and solutions to  
19 those problems in the Delta.

20 So what are those problems?

21 Basically there's four distinct problems in  
22 the Delta that we are dealing with in the program: The  
23 reduction and the availability and reliability of water to  
24 ag and municipal users, the degradation of the ecosystem  
25 in the Delta, the decline in water quality in the Delta,

1 and last, and -- and just as important, the deterioration  
2 of levees that surround the islands in the Delta.

3 So we're trying to tackle all four of these  
4 problems.

5 In the past, there have been efforts. People  
6 have -- have looked at finding ways to improve water  
7 supplies. They've looked at ways to improve habitat,  
8 rebuild levees, and they've come up with good solutions,  
9 but those solutions usually wind up in conflict with  
10 something else that's going on in the Delta.

11 What we're trying to do, and what we believe  
12 we have done, is come up with a solution that tackles all  
13 four of these problems so there aren't conflicts among the  
14 problems when we come up with -- with the answer.

15 So what are the alternatives?

16 We have three comprehensive alternatives.

17 They are made up of eight different pieces. Six of them  
18 are common. They are the same for each alternative, and  
19 when you review our documents, we call those the common  
20 programs. They occur in each alternative. There are two  
21 of them, storage and conveyance, that differ among the  
22 alternatives.

23 When you came in today you saw our poster  
24 boards out there, and what we're representing there are  
25 the differences with respect to conveyance, that one part

9

1 of the alternative, how we might move water through the  
2 Delta.

3 Let me focus on these and ask you, when you  
4 get a chance, if you haven't yet, to go out and look at  
5 what these two are all about on the poster boards, because  
6 I think you'll get a much better idea of what we're  
7 talking about there.

8 When I talk about these, I also want to talk a  
9 little bit about potential land-use changes. We're  
10 getting a lot of questions about what type of land-use  
11 changes might occur if we implement our different common  
12 programs, as well as the -- the variable programs, so I'm  
13 going to try to highlight those, as well as talk a little  
14 bit about each of these.

15 Water use efficiency program: Obviously what  
16 we're trying to promote is a maximum efficient use of the  
17 existing water supplies and any water that we develop with  
18 the program. The water use efficiency program does not  
19 have any land-use changes proposed with it.

20 We wrote a "white" paper awhile back where we  
21 talked about the possibility of retiring farmland to get  
22 some water for water conservation. That effort did not  
23 wind up in the environmental document, so right now we do  
24 not have any proposals associated with water use  
25 efficiency that would change any land uses.

10

1 Ecosystem restoration: What we're trying to  
2 do is restore habitat in the Delta and then the species that  
3 go along with that habitat. There is a sizable amount of  
4 potential land-use changes associated with the ecosystem  
5 restoration program. If we implement that fully, we could  
6 wind up changing a lot of land use in the Delta, in the  
7 Sacramento Valley, and in the San Joaquin Valley.

8 Watershed management: What we're interested  
9 in doing there is -- is pulling together the local  
10 communities and have them come up with activities in the  
11 watersheds that improve what -- improve upon the Bay-Delta  
12 system. There could be some land-use changes associated  
13 with some of those activities. Right now we're not  
14 certain what they might be.

15 The levee system integrity program: Obviously  
16 what we want to do is rebuild the levees, make them  
17 stronger so that they're not going to collapse. There is  
18 a sizable amount of land-use change that could go along  
19 with those levee rebuilding. If you make those levees  
20 wider, you're going to encroach on land on the -- on the  
21 water side -- excuse me -- on the land side, and you'll  
22 probably encroach on water as well.

23 Water transfers: What we're hoping to do is  
24 find ways to move water between the various users on a  
25 willing, voluntary basis, while at the same time

11

1 protecting the resources in the area where the water comes  
2 from. Now water transfers obviously could wind up with  
3 some interim fallowing of land. If you -- if you grew --  
4 grew water -- if you grew crops on your land and you  
5 decided that year you weren't going to be doing that and  
6 you transferred your water, obviously you wouldn't have  
7 anything growing on that field. You'd have a temporary  
8 fallowing of -- of the land.

9 Water quality program: What we want to do  
10 there is improve the quality of the water by going back to  
11 the problem areas and treating them at the sources,  
12 treating those problems at the sources. The water quality  
13 program could involve a land-use change in the west side  
14 of the San Joaquin Valley.

15 I don't know how many of you remember  
16 something called the "Rainbow Report." It came as a  
17 result of the San Joaquin Valley drainage studies, where  
18 they recommended a number of lands be retired. The  
19 program has picked up on that and is -- is intending to  
20 look at retiring some of those lands in order to improve  
21 the quality of the water that gets to the San Joaquin  
22 River.

23 Storage and conveyance also could effect land  
24 use. If you build a large channel, you adjust the  
25 channels in the Delta. You build reservoirs in the

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1 Sacramento or the San Joaquin Valley, you could effect  
2 land use or current land uses.

3 Just a couple of minutes about the content of  
4 a couple of these documents.

5 The main document is our document wherein we  
6 describe the consequences of the alternatives, and I know  
7 when most of you have read environmental documents, you've  
8 probably read very site-specific documents, very  
9 project-specific documents, wherein the description of the  
10 alternatives and the description of the consequences is  
11 very clear to you. You know exactly what's going to  
12 happen.

13 When you've read our document, I'm certain  
14 you've gotten a good idea what we're about; you've gotten  
15 a good idea what the consequences are, but it's -- it's  
16 not as specific as you would have gotten if -- if we had  
17 written a project-specific document, and that's because we  
18 wrote a programmatic document.

19 We're not ready to make a decision about a  
20 particular action at this time. We're going to make a  
21 partic -- a decision about a course of action, a direction  
22 that we're going to follow, and when we start to implement  
23 the program, we're going to start doing subsequent  
24 environmental documents, so we do get to those  
25 project-specific documents and clearly identify any

1 consequences of those actions, as we start to build them  
2 or as we start to plan for them, to eventually build them.

3 The last one is the Phase II Interim Report,  
4 and this is available, if any of you want it, out -- out  
5 at the front table, if you haven't received it yet. I  
6 think that this is probably one of the -- the best  
7 documents to look at, in that it builds upon what was in  
8 this document, the analysis in this document. It takes it  
9 a step farther, in terms of the consequences of the  
10 alternatives, and then it goes into the issues that we  
11 need to deal with in order to get to a preferred  
12 alternative.

13 These are some of the issues that we're going  
14 to have to deal with to get the preferred alternative, and  
15 these are the same issues that I think most of you are  
16 going to speak to tonight. You're going to talk to us  
17 about what you think about what we've done in the  
18 document.

19 Have we gone a good analysis? Have the -- the  
20 assumptions that we've put forth, are they -- they  
21 accurate? The tools that we used to evaluate the  
22 consequences, are -- are they appropriate?

23 I think you're going to talk to us about  
24 willingness to pay. Who should pay for this program?  
25 It's going to cost quite a bit of money. You know, should

1 the public foot the bill? Should the beneficiaries foot  
2 the bill? Should it be a mixture of both? We'd like your  
3 ideas about that.

4 Assurances: This program is going to take a  
5 long time to put together. Some of the things are going  
6 to be started earlier. Some things are going to take a  
7 while. It may be eight, ten years before we get to some  
8 things.

9 How are we going to make sure we keep all the  
10 people at the table? How are we going to make sure all  
11 the people get what they want, that they all agreed to up  
12 front? Any ideas you have about how we can hold everybody  
13 together, hold that coalition together, we'd sure like to  
14 hear about them.

15 Selection of preferred alternative: Obviously  
16 that's where we're going. These are some of the questions  
17 we have to deal with, but you've read the document. What  
18 do you think should be the preferred alternative? Which  
19 of those pieces that I talked about should be a part of  
20 the preferred alternative? Which shouldn't, or should  
21 they all?

22 Last one, "What's next?"

23 Well, tomorrow night we go to Walnut Grove,  
24 and it will be a different story than -- than what we hear  
25 tonight. I can assure you of that, and I would invite all

1 of you to come with us people, you know, to go to the  
2 Delta and -- and get a sense of what the Delta is all  
3 about and the people that live in the Delta. I think  
4 you'll get a whole different perspective.

5 What we're going to be doing is taking all  
6 those public comments, the ones from the hearings, the  
7 ones from -- the written comments that are due by  
8 June 1st, and adjusting the reports that we have prepared  
9 to reflect the comments that we hear from the public and  
10 from the agencies.

11 We're going to select a preferred alternative,  
12 and we hope to do that by the end of this summer, and  
13 we're not going to do that in isolation, obviously. We're  
14 going to work with as many people as are willing to work  
15 with us, elected officials, local interests, stakeholders,  
16 whoever wants to come. We're interested.

17 By the end of the year, we hope to certify the  
18 EIS/EIR, and then next year we're going to start to  
19 implement the solution, if everything goes right, and  
20 that's over a period of 25 to 30 years, the cost, again,  
21 of about nine-and-a-half to ten billion dollars.

22 That concludes my presentation.

23 MR. BODOVITZ: Thanks very much, Rick.

24 I will now quickly go over the ground rules  
25 for tonight's hearing. Again, those of you who came in

1 late, if you wish to speak, it's necessary to fill out one  
2 of these yellow cards, and we will take speakers in the  
3 order in which we receive the cards. They are out on the  
4 table in the foyer.

5 First, we have a court reporter transcribing  
6 the comments for tonight, so all the people involved in  
7 making the decision will have access to a complete record  
8 of what everyone says in all 17 of the hearings up and  
9 down the State.

10 Secondly, written comments of any length may  
11 be submitted by June 1st, written comments of any length,  
12 as long as they arrive by June 1st. We ask, however, in  
13 the hearings -- and ground rules are the same everywhere  
14 we go in the State -- that each speaker keep his or her  
15 comments to three minutes. I will stipulate that that's  
16 not a long time to cover an important subject, but we've  
17 learned already how succinct comments can cover a great  
18 deal of ground in three minutes. As I say, we agree that  
19 wouldn't exhaust anybody's comments, and, thus, the  
20 written comments.

21 As you know, in environmental documents, there  
22 is a legal requirement that every comment be considered  
23 and responded to, so you may be assured that the comments  
24 you are making tonight will receive attention, both by the  
25 decision makers and the drafters of the final documents

17

1 which will then go to the decision makers.

2 Next, some of the comments and questions that  
3 we get raise questions or invite discussion and debate.  
4 In fairness to the speakers who will come later, we won't  
5 try to answer questions or conduct discussions in the  
6 middle of the testimony. At a break, however, or after  
7 the hearings, members of the CALFED Bay-Delta staff are  
8 here and would be available to receive your questions and  
9 discuss what may be on your mind.

10 Now, finally, we have a little gadget here  
11 that helps everybody stay within three minutes. I'll turn  
12 it on when you start to speak. A green light means your  
13 three minutes are underway. A yellow light means you have  
14 one minute, and a red light means please conclude your  
15 remarks, wrap up the sentence or so, try to conclude your  
16 thought, so that people who come later will also have a  
17 chance to have their three minutes heard.

18 We've got a bunch of cards tonight, so without  
19 further ado, we will begin.

20 I will call the first three speakers, so that  
21 you will know where in line you are, and we'd appreciate  
22 your coming to the microphone quickly when we call your  
23 name.

24 First, Robert Anslow of Trabuco Canyon Water  
25 District, followed by Robert Huntley, Municipal Water

18

1 District of Orange County, followed by Dennis MacLain,  
2 Capistrano Beach Water District.

3 Thank you, sir.

4 MR. ANSLOW: Good evening members of the  
5 Commission. My name is Robert Anslow. I am an attorney  
6 with the firm of Bowie, Arneson, Wiles & Giannone, general  
7 legal counsel to the Trabuco Canyon Water District.

8 These comments are presented on behalf of the  
9 Trabuco Canyon Water District to the Commission to attempt  
10 to summarize the District's position and concerns relative  
11 to the CALFED Bay-Delta process and proposal.

12 By way of background, the Trabuco Canyon Water  
13 District is a county water district which has been  
14 operating in the Santa Ana mountains area of Orange County  
15 since the early 1960s. The District currently has  
16 approximately 3800 customer connections. It serves an  
17 area of approximately 11.5 square miles and a population  
18 of 18,000. The District currently provides water and  
19 wastewater service to customers within its boundaries.  
20 The District utilizes a number of sources of water supply,  
21 including imported, treated water, reclaimed water for  
22 irrigation and non-potable purposes, recycled water for  
23 irrigation and not -- and non-potable purposes,  
24 groundwater production and purpose -- and purchase of  
25 water from neighboring districts.

19

1 The District uses these methods in order to  
2 fully and efficiently utilize the water resources  
3 available to it. The District's Board of Directors  
4 pursues a long-term approach to identifying sources of  
5 supply and providing service to its customers in a  
6 cost-efficient manner.

7 In the last few years, the District has  
8 broadened its water resources base, while at the same time  
9 reducing costs to customers on an overall basis.

10 The District Board, recognizing the need for  
11 environmental consideration as part of this process,  
12 nevertheless believes that the overall cost of the project  
13 and the resources for funding therefore must be considered  
14 in terms of their impact or potential impact on the  
15 citizens of California, including District customers.

16 The District is aware that there are currently  
17 three facility proposals relative to addressing the  
18 Bay-Delta issues which are considered in the EIR, slash,  
19 EIS. The District would like the Commission to be aware  
20 that it supports a decision-making process which is based  
21 on scientific and factual information and review. The  
22 District believes that any solution to the Bay-Delta  
23 concerns will -- which will utilize financial and  
24 political support and resources for Southern California  
25 must also take into consideration the water resource needs

20

1 and reliabilities of this area, both current and future.

2 The District supports solutions to the  
3 situation and involvement with a project that will  
4 increase the reliability of water "area" to all areas of  
5 the State Water Project on a fair and equitable basis;  
6 result in a long-term, cost-efficient solution and  
7 contribution based on the interests of both Northern and  
8 Southern California; take into consideration the  
9 contributions of local agencies, and consider input of  
10 water service providers to this process.

11 The District further supports the -- the  
12 involvement of the public as part of this process to  
13 consider their views, input, and contributions to this  
14 process.

15 The District strongly requests that additional  
16 public hearings be held in Southern California to  
17 accomplish this.

18 Thank you very much for your attention and  
19 consideration.

20 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Anslow.  
21 That was a perfect three minutes, and you did, indeed,  
22 cover a great deal of ground.

23 MR. HUNTLEY: Good evening.

24 MR. BODOVITZ: Well, let --

25 MR. HUNTLEY: My name is --

21

1 MR. BODOVITZ: -- let me --

2 MR. HUNTLEY: -- Robert --

3 MR. BODOVITZ: -- call --

4 MR. HUNTLEY: -- Huntley.

5 MR. BODOVITZ: Let me call the third  
6 speaker, if I may, Mr. Huntley.

7 Robert Huntley, Dennis MacLain, followed by  
8 Trudy Ohlig-Hall.

9 Fire away.

10 MR. HUNTLEY: My name is Robert Huntley.  
11 I am a director of the Municipal Water District of  
12 Orange County, or MWDOC for short, and one of that  
13 District's appointees to the Board of Directors of the  
14 Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

15 Both of these districts have been heavily  
16 involved in the technical work of the EIR, and each will  
17 be submitting specific technical comments in writing.

18 We, in Orange County, value the Delta not only  
19 as an ecological treasure but as a source of two-thirds of  
20 the State's drinking water. These two elements, ecology  
21 and water supply, are inextricably linked. Any successful  
22 solution of Delta problems must balance them.

23 The challenge for CALFED is to recognize the  
24 importance of both fish and people and to allow both to  
25 prosper.

22

1 We appreciate the difficulty in developing the  
2 common programs and the alternatives developed in the EIR.  
3 We want you to know we support the restoration of the  
4 Delta's ecology. We agree with the high emphasis placed  
5 on conservation and reclamation, but we also need to  
6 improve the Delta's water quality and reliability as a  
7 source of water supply. The linkage between these three  
8 goals is critical, especially if we are to be successful  
9 in building support, both political and financial, for the  
10 selected CALFED solution.

11 The buzz phrase going around is that we must  
12 "all get better together." For CALFED to be successful,  
13 it's vital that compromise and balance be integrated into  
14 the final program.

15 You will hear from others tonight about how  
16 Southern California is developing and augmenting local  
17 supplies for its 16 million residents, about how we have  
18 invested hundreds of millions of dollars in conservation,  
19 water recycling, groundwater recharge and storage,  
20 especially here in Orange County.

21 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you.

22 MR. HUNTLEY: In order for these local  
23 programs to be successful, we must have reliable access to  
24 good quality water from the State Water Project. We, in  
25 Orange County, recognize that any new water supply will

23

1 involve water transfers. We support that, and that's why  
2 we stress the importance of facilities that will enable  
3 transfers.

4 In closing, let me say that my Board  
5 colleagues and staff look forward to continuing to work  
6 with you and with interest groups throughout the State to  
7 develop a Bay-Delta solution that will provide both  
8 environmental restoration as well as high quality reliable  
9 supplies of affordable water for California.

10 Thank you very much.

11 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Huntley.

12 You're entitled to a couple of extra seconds  
13 for passing us the brochures, I think.

14 Dennis MacLain, then Trudy Ohlig-Hall, then  
15 Neil Horgan.

16 Mr. MacLain.

17 MR. MACLAIN: Mr. Chairman, I'm  
18 Dennis MacLain, the General Manager of the  
19 Capistrano Beach Water District, and I'm here representing  
20 the Water District in making my comments tonight.

21 I apologize. I don't have prepared comments,  
22 but one of the reasons the Director of my district wanted  
23 me to appear here together is that I started 38 years ago  
24 as a young engineer on the State Water Project, and two of  
25 the 12 years I spent with the Water District I spent

24

1 studying the levees in the Delta, and I guess my -- in  
2 summarizing that, I want to point out that I think an  
3 excellent number of studies have been made on the Delta.  
4 In fact, it's been studied this way, that way, and every  
5 way, and all of the work, in my opinion, has been  
6 competent work, exemplary work, and I think that your  
7 current studies reflect all of that, but I think it's time  
8 to move on and get to a decision.

9 Our area depends wholly, at the present time,  
10 on state project water. We're willing to pay for that  
11 water that we get for our area. We're looking for  
12 assurances, if we pay for the other benefits, the  
13 environmental benefits, the enhancements of the Delta,  
14 that there's some assurance that the water supply aspects  
15 will also be addressed and will be completed and, when the  
16 next dry period comes around, that there will be water to  
17 deliver to our customers.

18 And give the extra two minutes to somebody  
19 else. Thank you.

20 MR. BODOVITZ: All right. Thank you,  
21 Mr. MacLain.

22 Trudy Ohlig-Hall, Neil Horgan, and Ed Fawcett.  
23 Thank you very much.

24 MS. OHLIG-HALL: I'm short.  
25 Good evening. I'm Trudy Ohlig-Hall, Director

25

1 of Mesa Consolidated Water District.

2 I have provided you with a copy of our letter  
3 of May 5th, 1998. I would like to point out some of the  
4 important parts of this letter.

5 At our April 8th, 1998, meeting we adopted a  
6 position calling for a plan to include the following: Be  
7 based upon the best science and technology; provide the  
8 highest quality water; provide certainty of water  
9 deliveries through the State Water Project; develop the  
10 reforms necessary to institute a water transfer process;  
11 and recognize the current implementation of  
12 Best Management Practices and other methods to void or  
13 reduce reliance upon import water by water agencies.

14 Mesa is the only local water agency that has  
15 followed this process for the last five years.

16 Thank you so much for hearing us tonight.

17 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Ms. Ohlig-Hall.

18 Neil Horgan, then Ed Fawcett, then Jay Yett.

19 Thank you, sir.

20 MR. HORGAN: I'm Neil Horgan, past  
21 president of Mesa Verde Homeowners Association, a  
22 community of 3,000 single-family homes and a rate payer of  
23 Mesa Consolidated Water District.

24 I'm here to let you know that  
25 Mesa Consolidated has implemented procedures to help

26

1 alleviate the stress on the Bay-Delta and -- such as we've  
2 adopted the Best Management Practices program as  
3 instituted by the California Urban Water Conservation  
4 Council -- Council. In fact, a year ago we went on a --  
5 started selling the ultra-low-flush toilets, and we sold  
6 so many, we -- we got a 20-acre-foot credit from the  
7 Orange County Water District. In fact, I put in three  
8 myself; not three 20 acres, but three toilets.

9 I joined a water issues group at  
10 Mesa Consolidated eight years ago. Mesa started the  
11 program to make us aware of conservation and to bring us  
12 up to speed on water issues.

13 For instance, I installed a new landscape  
14 about a year and a half ago, and my water went up,  
15 naturally, putting in a new landscape, and the District  
16 sent me a letter, saying, "You're" -- "You're using three  
17 times as much water." They didn't know I was doing the  
18 landscaping, of course. They thought I had a leak.

19 One other thing, to let you know that we're  
20 trying to conserve water, last Saturday I attended a  
21 landscape irrigation water conservation seminar held at  
22 the District. Anyway, that -- I'm just giving you an idea  
23 of how we're trying to conserve water, and whichever  
24 alternative that you select, that's all right with us. I  
25 think we can back that financially.

27

1 Also, the Mesa should receive a credit for  
2 having instituted local water, underground water, and  
3 colored-water programs, and I think that, by taking these  
4 steps, we are -- you should be allowing us a -- a credit  
5 for having implemented the programs and saving water, so  
6 we don't drag on the Delta.

7 Thank you.

8 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you very much,  
9 Mr. Horgan.

10 Ed Fawcett of the Costa Mesa Chamber of  
11 Commerce, Jay Yett, and Tom Coughran.

12 Thank you, sir.

13 MR. FAWCETT: Good evening. My name is  
14 Ed Fawcett. I'm President of the Costa Mesa Chamber of  
15 Commerce, and I appreciate this opportunity to present a  
16 business position on the Bay-Delta Program. I'll be brief  
17 in addressing just a few specific points.

18 The Costa Mesa Chamber has been involved with  
19 local water issues for many years and has followed, with  
20 growing interest, the CALFED Bay-Delta Program from its  
21 inception.

22 We believe in the -- in the CALFED program,  
23 and we believe that without a fix in the Delta first  
24 California's water issues cannot be fully addressed.

25 I'd like to stress the importance of water

28

1 transfers as one program element critical to the success  
2 of the Bay-Delta Program to increase water supply  
3 reliability.

4 The issues and concerns of water transfer  
5 framework policy detailed on page 59 of the Phase II  
6 Interim Report must all be resolved, but of particular  
7 importance are the following: Entities receiving  
8 transferred water should be required to show that they are  
9 already making efficient use of existing water supplies.  
10 Do not reward agencies that have not put into practice  
11 both water and cost-saving measures.

12 In addition, transferred water that has been  
13 subsidized by taxpayer money should not be allowed to be  
14 sold without the price being reduced by the amount of the  
15 subsidy. Taxpayers should not have to pay twice for the  
16 same unit of water.

17 Finally, with respect to oversight of water  
18 transfers, I suggest that you do not create a new level of  
19 bureaucracy. Instead, please give serious consideration  
20 to empowering the State Department of Water Resources, an  
21 apolitical entity which already oversees the operation of  
22 the California aqueduct.

23 Reliable water supplies and good quality water  
24 are critical to Southern California. The points stressed  
25 are important in order to achieve this, as well as to help

1 make it possible for the Bay-Delta Program to restore the  
2 Delta and to ensure a healthy ecosystem.

3 Thank you.

4 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you very much,  
5 Mr. Fawcett.

6 Jay Yett, Tom Coughran, and Richard Bell.  
7 Thank you, sir.

8 MR. YETT: Good evening. My name is  
9 Jay Yett. I'm a geology instructor at Orange County Coast  
10 College, which is one of the community colleges down the  
11 road here, and I have been following this process for a  
12 number of years, and I'm very impressed with the action  
13 that has been taken, and I would like, first of all, to  
14 commend all of you that have worked on this, in bringing  
15 this what I think is an incredibly complicated process to  
16 the point where we are today, and so I commend you on  
17 that.

18 I have incorporated a lot of the work that's  
19 been done, preliminary work that has been done, in some of  
20 my course work, and last year a group of my students did  
21 a -- a fairly detailed research project on colored water  
22 in the local water, and this is the water that is found in  
23 the deeper part of the coastal basin here, in the  
24 groundwater system, that is slightly colored, but can be  
25 treated by ozonation and other methods to produce clean,

1 good drinking water, and the City of Long Beach has  
2 invested quite a bit of money, in excess, I believe, of  
3 50 million dollars for this process, and Mesa Consolidated  
4 Water District has invested in excess of seven to eight  
5 million dollars, or will invest that much in the near  
6 future, to produce this water that has, up to this point,  
7 not been utilized from our basin.

8 And it appears that there's really quite a  
9 large quantity of this water that could be utilized, and I  
10 think that that resource ought to be considered in the  
11 Bay-Delta overall program, because I know that you're  
12 looking for communities, agencies, local groups to develop  
13 their own water resources, to conserve the water, and you  
14 have mentioned urban recycling and reclaiming of water and  
15 conservation, and yet here is a particular resource that  
16 has not been, I don't think, fully recognized in the  
17 process and perhaps ought to be considered.

18 And certainly I think you ought to look at  
19 those areas or those districts that have stepped forward  
20 to develop these resources, and perhaps, as has been  
21 mentioned by others, there should be some sort of credit  
22 given to those who have, before the CALFED process, gone  
23 forth and tried to develop and efficiently use the local  
24 water resources.

25 So I would ask the Bay-Delta process and the

1 groups to consider those ideas, that you ought to look  
2 into credits for those districts throughout the State that  
3 implemented Best Management Practices already, and that  
4 have developed their resources, so that they can be given  
5 credit for doing this work ahead of time.

6 One other area that I would like to -- to just  
7 comment on very quickly, that has not -- not to do with  
8 local processes here, is the levee stability issues that  
9 have been developed in looking at the Delta.

10 As a geologist, I have not seen a lot of work  
11 done on the seismic risk to the -- to the levees, and I  
12 know that's part of your process; that you will be looking  
13 into it, but I personally would like to see a lot more  
14 work done on it, because I think there is a considerable  
15 seismic risk there, particularly with some of the faults  
16 that run along the western side of the valley there.

17 So I thank you for letting me comment on this,  
18 and I appreciate all the good work that you have been  
19 doing. Thank you.

20 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Yett.

21 Tom Coughran -- I hope I'm not butchering your  
22 name with my pronunciation -- Richard Bell, Ken Thompson.

23 MR. COUGHRAN: You're one of the few that  
24 got it right. Thank you.

25 Good evening. My name is Tom Coughran. I'm

1 the Water Resources Manager for the City of Santa Ana,  
2 here in Orange County, and a Director for the  
3 Metropolitan Water District of Southern California,  
4 representing Santa Ana.

5 As a civil engineer, I can appreciate what --  
6 the process that's currently going on, particularly going  
7 through EIRs and -- and projects. It's a -- an uphill  
8 battle I can see. It's a process that's long overdue,  
9 and -- and I can certainly value the -- the issues that  
10 are at hand.

11 On some of the overheads that were presented  
12 tonight they talked about water quality. We do, in fact,  
13 agree that the water quality should be enhanced,  
14 particularly to Southern California, to reduce the  
15 "T.D.H." that are -- are coming down into us.

16 As you well know, that there's plans currently  
17 underway to lower the T.D.S. and salt contents for the  
18 Colorado River, that -- imported water to  
19 Southern California.

20 We also need those lower T.D.S., better  
21 quality from the Bay-Delta, and in order to achieve that,  
22 as you well know, it would be able to provide different  
23 turnouts up above the -- the Bay-Delta, so it's not  
24 contaminated with the salts that goes through the -- the  
25 farmlands in that area.

33

1 One of the other overheads that was presented  
2 tonight was "Who pays?"

3 Now that's a real topic -- topic that -- that  
4 everybody is going to come to the table with. It's  
5 expected Southern California will be paying a fair share.  
6 I think that's the -- the key here is fair and to be  
7 sharing.

8 It doesn't make sense for urbans to be paying  
9 benefits for the agricultural. It should be shared  
10 amongst them. If you get a benefit out of that, that  
11 as -- agricultural or the public should, in fact, be  
12 paying for that. It's only right. We shouldn't be trying  
13 to solve all of the problems for Southern California --  
14 for the State of California on these restorations.

15 One of the key issues that I think that CALFED  
16 needs to address also is conservation. We, in  
17 Southern California, are one of the leaders in the  
18 United States for conservation measures. We spent over a  
19 hundred and sixty million dollars over the last several  
20 years for conservation measures. We've saved as much as  
21 130,000 acre feet. That's the amount that's equivalent to  
22 the -- what the demands are for the City of Long Beach and  
23 Pasadena combined. It's very important to us to conserve.  
24 I think that the State of California should recognize that  
25 and, particularly in this process, to address those

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1 issues.

2 We wholeheartedly support your efforts and  
3 certainly don't envy you what you have to go through in  
4 the remaining ten meetings, but I hope that you do take  
5 note that Southern California is very conscious of  
6 conservation and costs and support the efforts for the  
7 Delta.

8 Thank you.

9 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Coughran.  
10 Richard Bell, followed by Ken Thompson and  
11 Tom Ash.

12 Those of you who have come in late, again, you  
13 need to fill out a yellow card if you wish to speak.

14 MR. BELL: Well, thank you very much.  
15 The Irvine Ranch Water District welcomes you to Irvine.

16 My name is Richard Bell. I am the Manager of  
17 Planning and Resources for the District.

18 In addition to myself, Ken Thompson, our  
19 Director of Water Quality, and Tom Ash, our Manager of  
20 Conservation, will also speak.

21 We basically echo most of the remarks you've  
22 heard. We're going to confine our short statement to  
23 reclamation, conservation, the importance -- the  
24 importance of water supply reliability and water quality  
25 to reuse.

35

1 A little background, the Irvine Ranch Water  
2 District takes great pride in our progressive water  
3 management programs. We have large scale water  
4 reclamation and recycling. You may have heard about some  
5 of those projects. We have done some very progressive  
6 water conservation programs, groundwater development,  
7 environmental management, and advanced technology and  
8 treatment planning and delivery of facilities.

9 A little background, the District is a  
10 multi-service agency that provides potable and non-potable  
11 water supply -- read that as dual water systems --  
12 wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal at  
13 wastewater reclamation services to a current population of  
14 about 180,000 people and to over 3200 agricultural,  
15 commercial, institutional, and industrial users.

16 Last year we served nearly 80,000 acre feet  
17 and about -- and the supply for that came from four  
18 sources: About four percent from native supplies,  
19 31 percent from groundwater, 15 percent from reclaimed  
20 water, and about half our water was imported water.

21 The District is about 60 percent developed,  
22 and we expect build out to occur in about 25 to 30 years,  
23 and with our ultimate demand growing to about a hundred  
24 twenty-seven thousand acre feet. We expect that supply to  
25 be met from both additional imported water, beyond what

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1 we're using now, and as well as increasing our percentages  
2 of reclaimed water and -- and groundwater.

3 We are actively expanding our reclaimed water  
4 supply at this time and -- and uphill system. We have  
5 efforts underway to expand service to include new uses,  
6 such as high-rise office buildings, for toilet flushing  
7 and cooling tower use, car washes, and potential  
8 industrial users.

9 Our reclamation and conservation projects are  
10 driven by economics and environmental considerations. As  
11 we increase our water supply efficiency efforts beyond our  
12 current levels, some reclamation and conservation projects  
13 are becoming more marginal. Without better state and  
14 regional incentives and the sharing of overall benefits  
15 that are being derived throughout the State from these  
16 efforts, increased reclamation and conservation efforts  
17 may slow.

18 Additionally, any non-public health  
19 disincentives to water recycling need to be eliminated.

20 As we expand conservation and become  
21 increasingly inefficient, shortages and the import of  
22 water supply will cause increasingly severe economic and  
23 noneconomic impacts on our community. Therefore, as we  
24 become more efficient, it is important that the imported  
25 water supply must become more reliable.

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1 Ending with that, thank you very much.

2 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Bell.

3 Ken Thompson, Tom Ash, and Don Calkins.

4 Thank -- thank you. Got them

5 MR. THOMPSON: Well, good evening. My  
6 name is Ken Thompson. I am the Director of Water Quality  
7 for the Irvine Ranch Water District.

8 The Irvine Ranch Water District has been a  
9 leader in water recycling for over 30 years. In that time  
10 we've -- we've not only developed an understanding between  
11 water quality and the use of water, but also the  
12 relationship between water quality and the recycling of  
13 water for agricultural use, landscape irrigation,  
14 industrial/commercial uses, and most recently  
15 environmental restoration. In addition, we provide our  
16 customers local well water and imported water.

17 We have surveyed our customers and asked them  
18 what they expect from us and the water we deliver, and the  
19 answers are simple: Water that's clean and clear, tastes  
20 good, is odor free and safe.

21 This evening -- this evening I'm going to  
22 focus on the largest water quality and efficiency use  
23 issue, salinity. When I refer -- when I refer to  
24 salinity, I refer to the total dissolved solids in the  
25 water, without regard to its individual constituents.

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1 From the standpoint of recycling, salinity is  
2 the most single important constituent. Our experience has  
3 shown that all users benefit from low salinity water.  
4 Residential customers are much less inclined to soften  
5 their water. Commercial industrial users are less  
6 inclined to condition the water to meet process  
7 requirements, and those that need to condition their water  
8 save capital and operating when conditioning the lower  
9 salinity water.

10 Salinity is the primary impediment to water  
11 reclamation and reuse efficiency. Historically, water  
12 consumption in California revolved around it, use once and  
13 dispose most of it into the ocean.

14 Water recycling we currently practice in the  
15 State revolves around a single recycling of water  
16 primarily for landscaping/agricultural uses.

17 You know, theoretically, there's no limit to  
18 the number of times water can be recycled, but practically  
19 the number of times it can be recycled is limited by the  
20 final increment of additional salinity that ultimately  
21 renders it unusable. We developed a low salinity  
22 groundwater source in Irvine which has allowed us to  
23 pursue multiple recycling of water through industrial and  
24 commercial uses. Multiple recycling of water  
25 substantially lessens the burden for new water as a

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1 resource in Southern California. That can only happen  
2 when the initial salinity of the source water is very low  
3 and that allows it to happen.

4 On another subject, ecological restoration is  
5 just as important in Southern California as it is in the  
6 Delta. By virtue of rainfall patterns, most of the  
7 wetlands are in the north. However, the loss of  
8 historical wetlands is just as severe in  
9 Southern California as it is to the north. Recycled water  
10 is being used to restore historical wetlands and create  
11 new wetlands in amenable areas. Regardless of their  
12 physical locations, all wetlands are linked by the need  
13 for water, waterfowl, fish, and other biological

14 communities. In this context, recycled water can offer an  
15 important contribution to wetlands restoration and  
16 maintenance and should be encouraged throughout the State.  
17 Wetlands, regardless of their location, have  
18 the capability of improving water quality and, therefore,  
19 should be part of any solution in the effort to reduce  
20 point and non-point sources of pollution.

21 For the record, I've submitted information on  
22 the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary. This is a wetland's  
23 creation, restoration, and maintenance project owned and  
24 operated by the Irvine Ranch Water District.

25 In conclusion, the District offers its

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1 experience in water conservation, water recycling, and  
2 environmental resource development.

3 Thank you.

4 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Thompson.

5 Tom Ash, Don Calkins -- pardon me -- and

6 Terry Hartman.

7 MR. ASH: Good evening, and welcome to  
8 Irvine. My name is Tom Ash. I'm the Conservation Manager  
9 at Irvine Ranch Water District. I also sit on a variety  
10 of conservation committees and task forces, including the  
11 California Urban Water Conservation Council and the  
12 Orange County Water Use Task Force.

13 I'm here to tell you of our District support  
14 for the CALFED process. We can express the support from a  
15 unique position of meeting virtually every urban B.M.P.,  
16 while realizing a positive impact for our agency, as well  
17 as our customers.

18 I.R.W.D., as you've heard, is very pro-active  
19 in tackling water supply, water quality, pricing, and the  
20 use of reclaimed water to ensure an adequate supply for  
21 our growing community.

22 The growth of our district is much like that  
23 of the State of California. Our population will increase  
24 by 48 percent over the next 25 years. Businesses are  
25 running full and even double shifts seven days a week in

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1 our district. Farmers here grow and harvest as many as  
2 three sets of crops in a year, because of our ideal  
3 weather. We, as a public agency, need to make sure that  
4 we can meet the demands of business, agriculture, and our  
5 growing population.

6 We have not waited at Irvine Ranch. Since  
7 1991, I.R.W.D. has utilized an incentive pricing system  
8 that's helped reduce residential demands by 12 percent and  
9 landscape irrigation by 43 percent. This increased  
10 customer efficiency has meant that I.R.W.D. has saved over  
11 55,000 acre feet of water, some 12 million dollars in  
12 avoided imported water purchases over a five-year period.

13 Building an efficiency ethic among our  
14 customers has helped keep our water rates among the lowest  
15 in the County; has helped establish a model for B.M.P.  
16 applications. We see many Orange County agencies moving  
17 down that same path of establishing water budgets,  
18 separate meeting and price incentives.

19 I believe that the methods to increase water  
20 use efficiency among every customer group are at hand.  
21 CALFED is in a unique position to set those standards and  
22 enforce action by agencies all over the State, to help  
23 meet the growing demand for water.

24 If our agency is any example, it is that our  
25 customers -- as our customers become more efficient in

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1 their daily use, our reliance on a reliable, high quality  
2 supply of imported water will be even more important. We  
3 will, in the coming years, in all of our customer groups,  
4 have no excess water, because of conservation, that can  
5 act as a fallback, given shortage or interruption of  
6 supply. It will be very difficult for the people of  
7 Orange County and Irvine Ranch Water District to be told  
8 that their high level of efficiency has not been good  
9 enough.

10 We encourage you to look at the progress  
11 that's been made in this region and to meet water use  
12 efficiency goals and select plans that ensure a safe,  
13 reliable supply for everyone.

14 Thank you.

15 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Ash.

16 Don Calkins of Anaheim, Terry Hartman,  
17 Ron Van Blarcon.

18 MR. CALKINS: Good evening. I'm  
19 Don Calkins with the City of Anaheim Utilities Department.

20 We support the CALFED process. We're very  
21 pleased with the support of the California voters with  
22 passage of Prop 204 and the progress that all of you and  
23 the CALFED program have made.

24 The process is -- this CALFED process is an  
25 excellent opportunity for many diverse interests

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1 throughout California, the environment, agricultural, and  
2 urban, to work together to address many issues that are  
3 important to all of us. This cooperative effort is  
4 positioned to restore the Bay-Delta environment and at the  
5 same time to improve the reliability and the water quality  
6 for agriculture -- agricultural and urban use.

7 Because this program will provide benefits to  
8 many, the cost of the project should be allocated  
9 according to the benefits received. Urban water users  
10 should pay for the benefits proportionate to the -- to  
11 those that they receive, and similarly, the environment  
12 and -- and agricultural community should pay for -- for  
13 the benefits that they received.

14 There are many unanswered still -- many  
15 unanswered questions about the project and the associated  
16 costs. These questions must be answered before we can  
17 move forward with local government support.

18 We urge continuation of the CALFED process to  
19 provide those answers.

20 Thank you.

21 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Calkins.

22 Terry Hartman, Ron Van Blarcon, and Marie -- I  
23 believe it's "Dickens."

24 MR. HARTMAN: Good evening. I'm  
25 Terry Hartman. I'm here representing Orange County

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1 Business Council. We are the voice of business in  
2 Orange County. I'm testifying on behalf of the  
3 Infrastructure Committee and our water resources task  
4 force.

5           Since the days when the Colorado River  
6 aqueduct was conceived and constructed, California and  
7 particularly Southern California has been internationally  
8 recognized as a water-wise place to live. Outstanding  
9 water resources planning has been a key to the high  
10 quality of life we enjoy in most parts of California.  
11 However, the great success of this unique advanced  
12 planning seems to have a numbing effect on the level of  
13 understanding of our population and our law makers  
14 concerning the economic importance of water.

15           Because of the CALFED process initiated by  
16 Governor Wilson in 1994, we now have the opportunity to  
17 choose a Bay-Delta solution that not only positively  
18 addresses the environmental issues but also results in a  
19 reliable, adequate supply of good water quality for  
20 Southern California.

21           The economic health of this state depends  
22 greatly on the economy of Southern California, which, in  
23 turn, rests firmly on the assurance of a reliable quality  
24 water supply.

25           The Orange County Business Council supports a

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1 solution that works for all of the economic regions of the  
2 State. CALFED has an awesome responsibility to choose the  
3 right alternative. You must choose a balanced solution to  
4 secure the environmental and economic future of  
5 California.

6           The mission of the Orange County Business  
7 Council Infrastructure Committee includes making sure that  
8 the Bay-Delta solution includes a reliable, sufficient,  
9 and good quality water supply that supports the projected  
10 growth of Southern California.

11           To most completely meet the interests of  
12 Orange County business, the selected CALFED Bay-Delta  
13 Program alternative must include the following elements:  
14 Increased water storage located upstream in-Delta and  
15 downstream; ecosystem and habitat restoration; efficient  
16 water management programs; actions to improve water  
17 supply; actions to decrease the levee vulnerability;  
18 features to assure reliable water deliveries to users, and  
19 provisions for funding and schedules that will achieve the  
20 appropriate balance of fish and wildlife and habitat  
21 restoration in the water supply elements.

22           We have reviewed the Bay-Delta EIS/EIR, and we  
23 have concluded that the water conveyance through the Delta  
24 will be substantially improved by making significant  
25 changes to the existing system of channels and by

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1 construction of a conveyance facility isolated from the  
2 Delta channels to transport part or all of the water  
3 intended for export.

4           The selection of the alternative three as the  
5 preferred alternative is critically important to  
6 Orange County's water future. We believe it represents a  
7 consensus on the most practical and balanced long-term  
8 Bay-Delta solution.

9           Orange County Business Council strongly  
10 recommends that CALFED, as the policy makers and  
11 overseers of the process, select alternative three as  
12 California's preferred solution for the Bay-Delta estuary  
13 problems.

14           MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Hartman.  
15           We'll have Ron Van Blarcom, Marie Dickens, and  
16 Paul Mural, and then we'll let our court reporter have a  
17 short break.

18           MR. VAN BLARCOM: Thank you. Good  
19 evening. I am Ron Van Blarcom, and I serve as the  
20 General manager and the General Counsel for  
21 Coastal Municipal Water District.

22           Coastal is one of the 27 member agencies of  
23 the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.  
24 Our district is responsible for providing reliable supply  
25 of high quality imported water to the south coastal area

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1 of Orange County, which includes the cities of  
2 San Clemente, Dana Point, Laguna Beach, Newport Beach,  
3 portions of Irvine and Costa Mesa.

4           I have not served long as the manager of  
5 Coastal. In fact, I'm rather new to the position. Over  
6 the last 12 years I have been an attorney in private  
7 practice, advising governing boards of many water  
8 districts and cities in Southern California. I served as  
9 Coastal's attorney for over seven of those years.

10           During the course of my legal career, I've  
11 handled more than a dozen lawsuits involving the  
12 California Environmental Quality Act, and it would be fair  
13 to say that I've seen the CEQA process abused, and I've  
14 also seen the process used as an excellent tool for  
15 obtaining public input and gaining consensus.

16           At the outset, I want to commend you and the  
17 CALFED staff for making the most of the environmental  
18 review process; particularly for taking the time to  
19 receive local input on the CALFED program from those of us  
20 here in Orange County, and moreover, I want to compliment  
21 you on the comprehensive environmental review documents  
22 that you've made available.

23           I would like to address some of our general  
24 concerns from Coastal.

25           The Coastal area serves as home to some of

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1 California's most beautiful beaches and coastal  
2 communities. However, we have limited local water  
3 supplies in that area.

4 While we have done probably more than most to  
5 invest in reclamation and conservation programs to stretch  
6 those supplies, it's a fact that millions of people visit  
7 our area every year, and those visitors, together with the  
8 business people who work in the coastal area, the families  
9 that live there, depend on a continued availability of  
10 imported water supplies. Consequently, we, together with  
11 others in the State, have invested significantly to  
12 construct and maintain a reliable imported water supply  
13 system, but one part of that imported water supply is  
14 broken, and that's the Bay-Delta.

15 Coastal looks forward to working with you to  
16 fix the Bay-Delta. We support a Bay-Delta solution that  
17 will provide both environmental restoration and high  
18 quality, reliable supplies of imported water at a  
19 reasonable cost. We understand that you're trying to  
20 present a solution of comprehensive benefits for the  
21 environment and for water users, and we're ready to  
22 support such a solution.

23 However, you must understand that our water  
24 customers demand assurance that the solution will address  
25 water quality and treatment issues, provide water supply

1 reliability, accommodate quality transfers, allocate costs  
2 equitably among those who benefit, and restore the  
3 ecological health of the Bay-Delta.

4 At Coastal, we believe the CALFED process  
5 continues to be the best chance to achieve those goals.  
6 We are committed to the consensus-based solutions and  
7 continue to stand ready to work with all stakeholders in  
8 the CALFED process.

9 Thank you.

10 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you,  
11 Mr. Van Blarcon.

12 Mary Dickens, if I'm reading this card right,  
13 J.H.T.M. & Associates. I'm sorry if I'm not reading it  
14 correctly.

15 All right. We'll assume she is not here, and  
16 we'll hear from Paul Murai and then A.G. Kawamura, and  
17 then we'll take our break.

18 So Mr. Murai.

19 MR. MURAI: Good evening, Council. My  
20 name is Paul Murai, and I'm the President of the  
21 Orange County Farm Bureau, and I feel kind of out place  
22 here, because I'm a farmer in Southern California, which  
23 is a highly urbanized area, and certainly everybody is  
24 concerned about good, clean quality water, and as -- as a  
25 farmer growing up in this area, back in the old days we

1 always had an abundance of water.

2 The water was so clean we used to drink out of  
3 the irrigation ditches, and water was -- it was not a  
4 factor for us for growing our crops here, but as  
5 urbanization has moved in, we're really faced with having  
6 to compete against urbanization against the water --  
7 compete against urbanization for water.

8 Certainly agriculture is still a viable  
9 commodity in -- in Orange County. There's a lot of  
10 nurseries, row crops, avocados, and things -- things that  
11 are for -- we're producing food for -- for the economy,  
12 and I just want to say a few things here, that, as  
13 urbanization moved in, a lot of the farmers that had  
14 water -- it was just conveyed over to the various district  
15 agencies.

16 Water -- these great water systems were --  
17 were created, I -- I -- I assume, back in the '30s for --  
18 for agriculture, to bring water down to  
19 Southern California, and as urbanization has moved in,  
20 they've kind of acquired the -- the use of this -- these  
21 great water structures, and I -- I feel that agriculture  
22 is kind of losing a battle here for competing against  
23 water, and I -- I just want to express my concerns about  
24 this, and -- and -- and as the -- the Cal Bay --  
25 CALFED Delta, I wanted to make sure that agriculture is --

1 is included in some of your thoughts for consideration for  
2 water.

3 Certainly we do need a very viable source of  
4 water and -- and certainly an economical source of water  
5 for us to compete against other nations in producing food,  
6 so I just want you to consider agriculture, not only for  
7 Southern California but throughout the State of  
8 California.

9 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Murai.

10 We've had hearings in Fresno and Bakersfield,  
11 thus far, and have others in the Valley, so we have heard,  
12 indeed, from agriculture.

13 Mr. Kawamura.

14 MR. KAWAMURA: Good evening. My name is  
15 A.G. Kawamura. I'm a farmer here in Orange County, as  
16 well, and also a Director on the State Board of Food and  
17 Agriculture, and I will be speaking today as a grower and  
18 nothing else, from the Irvine area, and you're going to  
19 hear a little bit more about agriculture, but I'd like to  
20 put it in a different perspective.

21 Just a few weeks ago I was interviewed on  
22 national T.V. by a reporter who asked if I thought that  
23 the fact that we put in a very expensive weather  
24 forecasting system in the southern Pacific, that was able  
25 to give us a little heads up on the El Nino situation, and

1 if that -- and the question was do I think, as a grower,  
2 that it's important that farmers understand what's going  
3 to happen with the weather, a fairly odd question, you'd  
4 think, by most people, but the fact that they had to ask  
5 it was kind of proof that we're sitting in a society that  
6 has really forgotten about agriculture.

7           When less than four percent of the population  
8 is actively involved in agriculture, we're -- we're in a  
9 dangerous position of forgetting what -- what position  
10 agriculture plays in any society, in any civilization.  
11 Almost everybody in this crowd, if anybody can remember  
12 the depression -- and I certainly cannot. I'm not that  
13 old, but anybody who has ever dealt with hunger, dealt  
14 with scarcity, has an extreme personal involvement with  
15 what agricultural brings to a society. It -- it -- you  
16 don't forget very quickly when -- when you've been hungry  
17 before.

18           Now I'm not talking about hunger necessarily  
19 for Californians here, when we talk about the Bay-Delta  
20 situation, but I did want to recommend that, to -- to this  
21 Board and to basically the rest of the public, that as we  
22 look at what dependency is -- here we are in  
23 Southern California, dependent on water from the north.  
24 At this point, our country is not dependent on food from  
25 other countries, from other areas, but we're quickly

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1 making it a policy within the country to push our food  
2 producers out of the country. I don't think that's very  
3 wise, if it's not necessary.

4           I think we need to recognize that agriculture  
5 is a resource and -- and more importantly, in the same way  
6 that you look at the Bay-Delta and the water systems of  
7 this state, as a valuable infrastructure for the State, I  
8 think you need to recognize and remember -- I think the  
9 public needs to recognize and remember, and I think policy  
10 makers need to recognize and remember, that agriculture is  
11 an invaluable part of the infrastructure of any  
12 civilization, and we -- we have a tremendous  
13 infrastructure set up in California. It would be a shame  
14 to lose that by forgetting those things.

15           Thank you very much.

16           MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you very much,  
17 Mr. Kawamura.

18           When we resume, the first speaker will be  
19 Nancy Wheatley, followed by Allan Beek, followed by  
20 Dan "Gimset," I think, of the California Water District.

21           Let's take a short break. We'll resume  
22 exactly at 8:15.

23           Thank you.

24           (A break was taken from 8:03 p.m. to 8:14 p.m.)

25           MR. BODOVITZ: If everybody would take

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1 their seats again, we'll resume and try to stay on  
2 schedule. I'm sure our colleagues up here have not gone  
3 far and will be back, but let's begin with Nancy Wheatley  
4 of the Orange County Sanitation District, then Allan Beek  
5 from Newport Beach, and Dan G -- I think G-u-i-s-e-t of  
6 the Orange County Water District.

7           Ms. Wheatley.

8           MS. WHEATLEY: Thank you. My name is  
9 Nancy Wheatley. I'm the Director of Technical Services  
10 for the County Sanitation Districts of Orange County, and  
11 I'm speaking on behalf of the District tonight.

12           We are involved in water supply issues through  
13 the -- through water reclamation. We presently provide  
14 wastewater -- treated wastewater effluent to the  
15 Orange County Water District for water reclamation and are  
16 involved in planning for the groundwater reclamation  
17 system, which would provide up to 100,000 acre feet  
18 annually to replenish Orange County's groundwater supply.

19           I'm going to address only one -- only one  
20 issue, which was also addressed by Mr. Thompson of the  
21 Irvine Ranch Water District, and that is the quality of  
22 water coming into Orange County's water supply is critical  
23 to our ability to -- to continue our water reclamation  
24 efforts. He -- he had mentioned that it's very important  
25 that you have a high quality input water, in order to --

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1 in order to practice groundwater -- in order to practice  
2 water reclamation, and in our case, we would be doing it  
3 for groundwater recharge. It's -- it's important both in  
4 terms of ability to reclaim the water and also the cost of  
5 the water reclamation project itself.

6           We are supportive of the CALFED process.

7 We -- you have put a number of -- an extraordinary amount  
8 of information on the table which will help the State move  
9 forward. We believe in the use of sound science and in  
10 looking at projects logically and in going forward over  
11 time, and we encourage you to -- to -- in making a  
12 decision about the final solution, which probably will be  
13 somewhat of a compromise, but we hope will include an  
14 opportunity to bring high quality water to  
15 Southern California, you need to be sure that you're using  
16 water -- that you're using all of the State's resources  
17 wisely.

18           Thank you very much.

19           MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Ms. Wheatley.  
20 Allan Beek, Mr. Guiset, and Mike Wellborn.

21           MR. BEEK: Thank you, sir.

22           My name is Allan Beek. I'm here representing  
23 the voices of ignorant paranoia.

24           This program is beautifully presented in terms  
25 of the ecosystem and habitat and the fish and wildlife,

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1 but those of us who have had experience with the water  
2 systems in California know that what California water  
3 really amounts to is the subsidy of agriculture, that the  
4 cities pay for the building of large aqueducts and dams  
5 and projects, and those projects are designed on expansive  
6 scales that will provide the water the cities need 30 and  
7 40 years into the future, and then for 30 and 40 years  
8 they sit there with that surplus capacity, and what are we  
9 going to do with all this water?

10 Well, we will sell it at a very cheap price to  
11 agriculture, and we will justify that because we say,  
12 "Well, agriculture is a second-class user. In case of a  
13 shortage, they can be turned off, and the cities won't be  
14 turned off." And so for 30 years they get their water at  
15 a very -- well, a subsidized rate, a very cheap rate, and  
16 then comes the crisis. There is a water shortage, as  
17 there was three or four years ago, and what happens?

18 The cities ration water, and the city  
19 customers go on Best Management Practices, and agriculture  
20 puts up billboards all over the State pointing out the  
21 importance of water to agriculture, and we don't turn off  
22 the spigot for agriculture. We ration the residents of  
23 the cities, who paid for the water projects in the first  
24 place.

25 Now you might say, "It doesn't really make a

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1 lot of difference whether you pay for it in taxes or  
2 whether you pay for it at the check-out counter; that if  
3 agriculture paid its fair share for the water, it would  
4 raise the price of produce, and you'd pay for it at the  
5 check-out counter instead."

6 Well, first, that's lousy economics. Anybody  
7 who understands the free enterprise system knows that when  
8 you charge one factor of production with the costs of  
9 another factor, you're not going to get sound economic  
10 decisions, but secondly, it's just plain unfair that the  
11 people of the cities paid for the facilities, and they  
12 should have first use on the water, and if agriculture is  
13 going to actually be the prime consumer who doesn't get  
14 turned off and the people in the cities are going to be  
15 the secondary consumers who do get turned off, then the  
16 pricing structure should be reversed, and agriculture  
17 should pay for the facilities.

18 Now there's a lot of projects here for doing  
19 good things for the Delta, and we say these projects will  
20 have the ability to do this and that for the Delta, but  
21 when push comes to shove and there's a shortage, who  
22 controls the spigot?

23 Agriculture has the political power, and the  
24 fact there's the ability to help the Delta won't help a  
25 bit. It's agriculture that will get the water.

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1 So we view this with a lot of suspicion, and  
2 we think that agriculture should pay for it. I appreciate  
3 the gentleman who spoke before on the importance of  
4 agriculture. If it pays its fair share, then it will get  
5 its fair share of water.

6 In the end, agriculture should pay as much for  
7 an acre foot as I pay to sprinkle my lawn, if I choose to  
8 have a lawn, and I am sorry to say that I fear that if  
9 that's the way it's priced, enthusiasm for all this  
10 restoration and ecology is going to -- if you'll pardon  
11 the expression -- dry up.

12 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Beek.

13 Mr. Guiset, Mike Wellborn, and Rod Lewis.

14 I'm sorry I'm mispronouncing your name. It's  
15 hard to read on here.

16 MR. GUISET: Thank you. That's fine.

17 My name is Dan Guiset, and I'm President of  
18 the Board of Directors of the Orange County Water  
19 District.

20 O.C.W.D. was created by a special act of the  
21 State Legislature in 1933 to manage and replenish the  
22 large groundwater aquifer underlying north and central  
23 Orange County. We are one of the few basins in  
24 Southern California which is not adjudicated.

25 The main source of supply to replenish the

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1 groundwater basin is the Santa Ana River, but we also  
2 purchase water imported by the Metropolitan Water  
3 District.

4 The Santa Ana River is fed by natural runoff  
5 from throughout the watershed. Also contributing  
6 significantly to the base flow of the river is highly  
7 treated wastewater from urban users upstream of  
8 Orange County and Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.

9 Due to the increasing percentages of  
10 wastewater to the base flow of the Santa Ana River, the  
11 pollutant load in the river has been increasing and so has  
12 the level of total dissolved -- dissolved solids. Added  
13 to the increase in T.D.S. in imported water, especially  
14 from the Colorado River, salinity is becoming an issue in  
15 the -- in our basin. It is an especially important issue  
16 because of the water recycling that take place within the  
17 users that use the basin by O.C.W.D. and -- and others.

18 I congratulate you on the work so far, by the  
19 CALFED process and the effort put into the program that  
20 we're discussing here today.

21 O.C.W.D. shares the interests and the concerns  
22 of other water managers who have testified and will  
23 testify today, but our special concern is for water  
24 quality. The CALFED process must result in higher quality  
25 source water for drinking water supplies for

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1 Southern California because of the intensity of water  
2 recycling in our region. Higher quality source water  
3 results in less salinity in the Santa Ana River flows and  
4 helps us protect the quality of the groundwater, which is  
5 the principal source of drinking water for over two  
6 million people.

7 We also add our voice to the call for  
8 increased supply reliability and the facilitation of water  
9 transfers through the Bay-Delta.

10 A reliable high quality water supply is the  
11 least we should be able to expect as a result of this  
12 process. It is also the minimum that we expect in  
13 exchange for support of the ultimate -- ultimate plan  
14 generated by this process.

15 Thank you for the opportunity to comment  
16 tonight and for holding a public hearing here in  
17 Orange County. It's all -- always makes us feel better to  
18 have ears come to us locally and -- and listen to this  
19 kind of input.

20 Thanks again.

21 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Guiset.

22 Mike Wellborn, Rod Lewis, Wiley Horne.

23 MR. WELLBORN: Good evening. My name is  
24 Mike Wellborn. I am with the County of Orange Planning  
25 and Development Services Department. I am pitch hitting

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1 tonight for Supervisor Todd Spitzer, who, unfortunately,  
2 could not be here, and as a pitch hitter, I'll take some  
3 liberties and tie primarily my comments to our February  
4 briefing report to the Orange County Board of Supervisors  
5 on the CALFED process, at that time, in preparation for  
6 that exciting box that receive -- we received that  
7 contained the documents, and we do appreciate that. It's  
8 a great opportunity.

9 We'd like to thank the CALFED staff, also, for  
10 getting to this point. It's been a long ways, a lot of  
11 work, and I think it's a great opportunity for all of  
12 California to really start looking at the water issues.

13 As you've heard tonight, there's a lot of  
14 commitment here in Southern California on water, on  
15 providing high quality reliable supplies of affordable  
16 water to the 16 million residents in Southern California,  
17 and in an effort to augment our existing imported water  
18 supplies, Southern Californians have invested hundreds of  
19 millions of dollars in conservation, water recycling,  
20 groundwater recharge, and storage.

21 Orange County and its water agencies are  
22 recognized as world leaders in groundwater management, as  
23 well as being leading investors in recycled water, and  
24 investing in local resources is really vital. We're glad  
25 to see that the CALFED process has made this a prominent

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1 role in your statewide common programs, but that is just  
2 not enough to meet the long-term demands for water quality  
3 and water supply reliability.

4 Local water recycling and recharge programs of  
5 the groundwater basins will be successful in direct  
6 proportion to the availability of good quality source  
7 water; critical issue, that availability.

8 To achieve a CALFED solution, the selected  
9 alternative must be cost effective, with an equitable  
10 allocation of cost among the various interests that will  
11 benefit from it.

12 I want to stress the linkage for high quality  
13 water and the reliability of the State Water Project  
14 water, because it's critical for Southern California's  
15 support, politically as well as financially. We will  
16 continue to invest heavily in water use efficiency  
17 programs, water conservation, all the various components,  
18 to really do the best job we can. We hope the rest of the  
19 State follows suit in the Best Management Practices and  
20 local control for implementing the specific elements.

21 We look forward to working with your staff and  
22 the interest groups around the State to develop the  
23 solution for fixing the Delta that would provide both  
24 environmental restoration as well as high quality reliable  
25 supplies of affordable water in California.

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1 Thank you.

2 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Wellborn.

3 Rob Lewis, followed by Wiley Horne, followed  
4 by Pete DeSimone.

5 MR. LEWIS: Hi. I'm Rod Lewis. I'm a  
6 resident of Costa Mesa. I joined the Water Study Group  
7 about eight years ago and the Mesa Water --  
8 Mesa Consolidated Water District, and since then I've  
9 probably visited every water facility in the State. Very  
10 fascinating.

11 In my travels, the first question I ask  
12 anybody is, "How is your water supply?"

13 Very interesting conversation piece, and it  
14 really brings me home to a wonderful place, but one of the  
15 things that I noticed in talking with Dave out there, in  
16 the puzzle that you have up there, looking at the number  
17 two alternative, is recreation.

18 Now the recreation can be either a plus or a  
19 minus. The recreationalist is not concerned with water  
20 quality most of the time. He's focused on the recreation.  
21 And the reason I know that is because I lived in  
22 Sacramento, and I've spent a lot of time in the Delta,  
23 Snodgrass Slough, Hood, Walnut Grove, and I'd love to be  
24 there tomorrow night to hear that end of things. It's  
25 a -- such a historic thing, and there are millions of

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1 people that have been there, and when you look at number  
2 two, with lack of "definitive," I could look at that and  
3 say, "Oh, man, they're going to widen that thing out.  
4 That is going to be great," or I could say, "Wow, they're  
5 going to destroy everything," like when they were -- the  
6 engineers got on the levees up there a number of years  
7 ago, and some of you may have remembered this. They  
8 started stripping the levees, because you couldn't get  
9 through the canals up there, and the ground swell, when  
10 the media picked it up, was "You're destroying my  
11 recreational area."

12 And I think that that's something that I'm  
13 looking at tonight, is maybe to see whether or not there  
14 could be either survey of a -- possibly a selling element  
15 to bring the north and the south together, because I'll  
16 guarantee you the southern people are very concerned about  
17 that recreation area, and if they thought they were going  
18 to lose it by this item, there's just millions of dollars  
19 and a lot of political pressure that would come to bear,  
20 so I just point that out as something that may be  
21 something that could help sell it. It could destroy it,  
22 if it's the wrong thing and not defined and people can't  
23 trust it.

24 You guys are doing a great job. I still am  
25 amazed, not being engineer, of how all of our water

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1 systems work as well as they do today, because people did  
2 what you're doing today many years ago, and God bless.  
3 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Lewis.  
4 Wiley Horne, Pete DeSimone, Scott Thomas.  
5 MR. HORNE: Good evening. My name is  
6 Wiley Horne, Executive Assistant to the General Manager  
7 with Metropolitan Water District, and first of all, I want  
8 to incorporate, by reference, and second every last thing  
9 that my directors, Robert Huntley and Thomas Coughran have  
10 just got through saying before me.

11 Now CALFED is an opportunity for this region  
12 to invest in its future. Water quality is -- we believe  
13 to be our most valuable benefit, not only for the -- we're  
14 concerned about the bromide content and the trihalomethane  
15 content, which go to the health of our 16 million  
16 citizens. Beyond that, we require low salinity -- low  
17 salinity water from the Delta, in order to perform our  
18 recycling projects and to manage our groundwater basins,  
19 and I'll say more about that in a moment.

20 Water supply reliability is extraordinarily  
21 important. The costs of being without we have found are  
22 unacceptable and are easily worth the price of a solution.

23 Environmental restoration is also part of the  
24 investment. We will have no quality, and we will have no  
25 reliability, without environmental restoration on the

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1 ground and -- and working in the Delta.

2 Speaking of reliability, we do not view the  
3 Delta as the solution to all of our water supply problems  
4 here. We view it as part of a package, with our local  
5 supplies, conservation, and recycling, and with a full  
6 Colorado -- Colorado River aqueduct.

7 We have not, at this point, made up our  
8 mind -- and I'm speaking for Metropolitan now -- as to the  
9 choice of alternatives. Apparent -- we believe that  
10 alternative three probably is the -- the technically  
11 strongest alternative, but we will make no declaration on  
12 this until the assurance package is in place, not only the  
13 assurance package that protects us in the selection of an  
14 alternative, but also the assurance package that protects  
15 every other participant in the CALFED process.

16 It's been mentioned a couple of times tonight  
17 about the folks in Walnut Grove. We want those folks to  
18 have their assurances, and we value that the same as we do  
19 our own, because we feel there is no sound future without  
20 everyone getting what they require out of the -- the  
21 process, and that was a big mistake in the peripheral  
22 canal venture before.

23 Now a lot has changed since then, since those  
24 days. We have the ecosystem now as a full partner, not  
25 just as an add-on mitigation. We, in this region, are

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1 making investments also in our own local supplies. We are  
2 spending something like -- and have been for the past  
3 eight or ten years -- 50 million dollars a year on  
4 reclamation, 30 million dollars per year on conservation,  
5 and this is not "make work," "short-term fixes." This is  
6 structural changes in the -- in the water supply.

7 Is the CALFED solution worth it? We think  
8 that, on a business case analysis, doing nothing will be  
9 far more expensive.

10 However --

11 MR. BODOVITZ: Mr. Horne, your three  
12 minutes have gone by, if you could wrap up.

13 MR. HORNE: -- it all rests on  
14 assurances, and I will -- I will stop with that.

15 Thank you.

16 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, sir.

17 Pete DeSimone, Scott Thomas, David Richards.

18 MR. DESIMONE: My name is Pete DeSimone.

19 It's nice to see some familiar faces up on the  
20 stage I haven't seen in a while.

21 I represent the National Audubon Society, an  
22 organization that has been an active participant, along  
23 with its chapters, in the process being discussed tonight.  
24 While I, myself, have not been as active a participant,  
25 I'm here to reaffirm our position that there is much more

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1 work needed before any of the three alternatives should be  
2 advanced.

3 Tonight I would just like to mention two of  
4 several concerns. I believe that the puzzle illustration  
5 used in the initial presentation does not fairly represent  
6 the attention -- or, rather, lack of attention that has  
7 been given to water conservation and watershed  
8 restoration.

9 The illustration showed the pieces relatively  
10 equal in size. However, we do not feel they have been  
11 given equal weight in the evolution of alternatives.

12 In particular, we would like to see a fourth  
13 alternative that pays much more attention to water  
14 conservation. For instance, we disagree with the notion  
15 that only one percent of agricultural water can be  
16 conserved. There are already farmers who far surpass this  
17 level.

18 We would also like to see more effort put  
19 toward water -- watershed restoration.

20 Restored wetlands and forest offer -- forests  
21 offer great natural opportunities for water purification  
22 and conservation, and these deserve much more  
23 consideration and restoration plans.

24 And just a last point, we'd like to suggest  
25 that you extend the comment period to capitalize on the

1 abundance of citizen expertise that, given enough time,  
2 could provide you with a broader base of solutions.

3 Thank you.

4 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you.

5 Scott Thomas, David Richards, Tom Zuckerman.

6 MR. THOMAS: Good evening. My name is  
7 Scott Thomas. I came here tonight representing the  
8 Sea and Sage Audubon, a local environmental organization,  
9 and rather than echo the points I had previously planned,  
10 I'd just like to maybe take this from a personal point of  
11 view a little bit, if I can.

12 The first thing I notice is that there's  
13 almost no public in here tonight, and as I started  
14 thinking about that and listening to the previous  
15 testimony, I realized that, "A," I have a different point  
16 of view and that probably most of the public in Orange  
17 County has almost no point of view, whatsoever, and I  
18 think that's a problem with the process right now.

19 The different point of view that I was  
20 speaking of came in the consideration of conservation, and  
21 I do agree that from the standpoint of the water agencies  
22 in Orange County, we've done a tremendous job in improving  
23 in our conservation methods and plans, but we still waste  
24 a lot of water in Orange County, and I think it's because  
25 of the personal issues with people.

1 I heard somebody speak earlier about how much  
2 treated water we drink from the Santa Ana Riverbed, and  
3 most of the residents in Orange County do get water, at  
4 some time, from the Santa Ana River.

5 Well, alternatively, we have a problem on the  
6 other end -- and I think this happens up and down the  
7 coast -- where we dump a lot of water, tens of millions of  
8 gallons of water a day into the ocean, highly treated  
9 water. For some reason -- and it's public education and  
10 perception -- we don't mind drinking treated water  
11 upstream, but when it gets to that coastal point,  
12 Huntington Beach, Irvine, all of the treatment plants  
13 along the coast, the people turn their water up to --  
14 their nose up to it still. It's bad. We can't do it  
15 anymore. And that water gets dumped. And I think, from a  
16 conservation issue, we still have a long ways to go in  
17 what we could do to conserve water, which has a big effect  
18 on your project.

19 And that brings me to the point that I would  
20 like to see maybe some more public education about this  
21 issue, about the conservation issue of water, and bringing  
22 to the -- I guess, the final point that I -- I would like  
23 to ask that we extend the public comment, because I -- I  
24 think, by evidence here tonight, the public's not  
25 involved, and I think you're missing out on a chance for

1 public involvement.

2 Thank you.

3 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Thomas.

4 David Richards, Tom Zuckerman, David Griset.

5 MR. RICHARDS: Good evening. My name is  
6 David Richards. I'm also a member of Sea and Sage  
7 Audubon, a 2,000 member organization concerned mainly with  
8 conservation. I joined that, as a -- I guess, a lifelong  
9 resident of Orange County, because I was concerned with  
10 conservation, seeing where it deals with water, the  
11 changes in our natural waterways, the destruction of our  
12 wetlands, and so, while I want the -- the  
13 Northern California water here to drink and want it to use  
14 for all the citizens here, I am still concerned with  
15 conservation in Northern California.

16 I believe that -- as a consumer of water, that  
17 we can do a lot more to conserve our water. I can show  
18 anyone here, from a water district, how much water goes  
19 down my drains. I've always thought we should redesign  
20 our houses to conserve water better, that much good water  
21 goes right down the drain. Much water that could be  
22 reclaimed at the house and used for irrigation at the  
23 house, maybe through filtration, could be used, which  
24 we -- we don't address. It's nice to have the low-flow  
25 water, the shower heads, and to have the water savings at

1 the toilets and such, but there's so much more that we  
2 could do, and I would hate to see that the -- that we  
3 would make a -- a top priority supplying water, rather  
4 than conserving the water that we have.

5 Thank you.

6 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Richards.  
7 Tom Zuckerman, David Griset, Nita Connelly.

8 MR. ZUCKERMAN: Good evening. I am  
9 Tom Zuckerman, and I am a foreigner here. I -- passing  
10 through. I represent the Central Delta Water Agency in  
11 the heart of the Delta and have for over 30 years, and  
12 I -- recognizing that not everybody here will have the  
13 opportunity to go to Walnut Grove tomorrow night, I  
14 thought it might be interesting, for the -- for those that  
15 can't, to hear a Northern California perspective.

16 Let me just start out by saying that we are  
17 impressed with the efforts to which the water leadership  
18 in this area has embraced conservation, reuse, recycling,  
19 and so forth, but there's -- there's a lot of work that  
20 remains to be done.

21 The -- the alternatives that are presented to  
22 you are a good effort by a group of knowledgeable people  
23 to try to find ways of fixing the Bay-Delta.

24 One thing that you should understand is that  
25 the third alternative is extremely controversial in

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1 Northern California, and I was intimately involved in that  
2 battle of 16 years ago and -- and can promise you that I  
3 would be again if -- if the peripheral canal rears its  
4 ugly head through this process again.

5 I think the thing you need to understand, or  
6 what would be helpful to understand in that regard, is  
7 that we're dealing pretty much with a finite water supply  
8 in Northern California, and when the State Water Project  
9 and even the Central Valley Projects were authorized, they  
10 were done with the promise, to the areas of origin and to  
11 the Delta, that as they developed the needs for water in  
12 Northern California that they would have first call on the  
13 supplies, and it was recognized, at that time, that the  
14 water supplies in the State Water Project would diminish  
15 over time, not increase, because Northern California would  
16 surely develop its own needs and is very much rapidly in  
17 the process of doing that.

18 So it's -- it's one thing to talk about water  
19 quality, and we're all working hard on solutions for that,  
20 but to -- to be thinking about increasing the supplies  
21 from the State Water Project over the Tehachapis is  
22 undoubtedly unrealistic, and it is important that these  
23 billions of dollars that we're proposing to expend at this  
24 time on this project begin to focus in on ways of  
25 stretching the local water supplies here, of devoting time

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1 and money to the desalting technologies that are  
2 developing so rapidly so that Southern California really  
3 can have a reliable long-term supply of water, which,  
4 unfortunately, it can't really look to Northern California  
5 for.

6 I realize these comments may not be the most  
7 popular of the evening, but it, perhaps, adds a dash of  
8 reality to the evening's affairs.

9 Thank you very much.

10 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Zuckerman.  
11 Perhaps someone from here can come to  
12 Walnut Grove tomorrow night.

13 MR. ZUCKERMAN: I'm sure they will.

14 MR. BODOVITZ: David Griset, if I'm  
15 pronouncing your name correctly, Nita Connelly, and  
16 John Connelly.

17 MS. CONNELLY: Hi. My name is  
18 Nita Connelly.

19 MR. BODOVITZ: Well, David Griset --

20 MS. CONNELLY: Oh.

21 MR. BODOVITZ: -- was first.

22 MS. CONNELLY: Yes. Sorry. I didn't see  
23 him coming.

24 MR. BODOVITZ: Okay. No. I don't  
25 either.

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1 MS. CONNELLY: Well, is he coming?

2 MR. BODOVITZ: All right. Thank you,  
3 Ms. Connelly. Go ahead.

4 MS. CONNELLY: Okay. My name is  
5 Nita Connelly. I'm President of Quiet Hills Ranch  
6 Company. We're located in Tehama County in  
7 Northern California, and I also bring a  
8 Northern California perspective, although I live half the  
9 time down here, grew up in Corona Del Mar, and my -- you  
10 know, my needs for turning on the faucet are the same as  
11 anyone else in this room.

12 I would -- I would just like to say that we,  
13 in Northern California, are tremendously concerned, and  
14 I'd -- I'd just like to point out that we're located very  
15 close to the proposed Newville Dam, the proposed  
16 Tehann Dam, the canal that goes to the Black Butte Dam,  
17 and the Sites Dam, and there's also a great deal of  
18 conversation about the enlargement of the Shasta Dam, and  
19 I -- I, unfortunately, got here a little late. I don't  
20 know if you discussed it at all, but I notice your  
21 alternatives out here, the three alternatives, don't  
22 really address the source. You -- you simply address the  
23 Delta.

24 Now I am a third generation of rancher, and we  
25 find ourselves as good stewards of the land. We love the

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1 land. We take care of the land, and we find ourselves in  
2 a minority situation here, because I think we're just kind  
3 of forgotten citizens down here in the south.

4 I think you have to understand that there are  
5 people in Northern California who completely missed out on  
6 this whole process. Now I was fortunate enough to get  
7 involved -- yes, late in the process, but get involved.  
8 There were people in a meeting I went to, attended to --  
9 attended in Orland, California, where people had just no  
10 idea of the scope of the magnitude of the impact on their  
11 lives, and I think it's important for people down here to  
12 recognize that fact, that it's not just water out of the  
13 Delta. We're talking water out of the whole State of  
14 California. We're talking resources that -- as a  
15 gentleman who spoke before I spoke mentioned, this --  
16 the -- we're -- we're up there, and I don't -- I don't  
17 really think I -- I know of anyone who's wasteful with  
18 water, but we're now -- we're -- we're facing a situation  
19 where you're talking damming up of resources. You're  
20 talking of diverting 97 percent of a stream called  
21 Tom's Creek, which borders the north end of our ranch,  
22 which will divert water into the Neville Dam.

23 I -- I -- I've heard all kinds of arguments  
24 about the salmon, about -- I don't know -- any number of  
25 fish, flora, fauna, you know, and I love flora and fauna.

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1 I love fish, but, you know, you -- you have to have a  
2 balance here. You -- you can't rob Peter to pay Paul.  
3 You can't keep the same -- the same quality of life in  
4 California if you just suck the energy out of the north  
5 and bring it down to the south. You have to be fair.  
6 And what about desalinization? What about it?  
7 Thank you.

8 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Ms. Connelly.  
9 Let me remind any of you who may have come in  
10 late, if you wish to speak, please sign one of the yellow  
11 cards.

12 John Connelly, followed by Margaret Strubel.  
13 MR. CONNELLY: Thank you. I'd like to  
14 talk, too, about the quality of life for Californians, and  
15 I'll choose as a subject the California cattlemen.  
16 The statistics show that the average owner of  
17 cattle, throughout the United States, as well as in  
18 California, has 50 or fewer head of cattle, not a huge  
19 agricultural conglomerate or anything of the sorts, and --  
20 and the statistics and prices are very simple to  
21 understand. When you have 50 head of cattle and you're  
22 growing to 600 pounds, you have a certain amount of  
23 poundage which are selling at 80 cents a pound, with  
24 respect to half of your cattle, because half will be  
25 heifers, females, half will be steers, and you're

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1 generally only selling the steers, so when the price of  
2 water goes up for those people, essentially they're out of  
3 business, and an argument can be made, "Well, that's  
4 our" -- "our capitalist system."

5 However, not only does it put people of  
6 multi-generations out of business, but, in addition, it  
7 forces them to the cities with the consequence of social  
8 problems that occur, on top of which, if you want to  
9 broaden the analysis, the -- the interest of the  
10 United States generally involves having substantial  
11 exports to offset our balance of payments, and California  
12 exports many billions of dollars. It's one of the few  
13 industries that, in fact, has a positive balance of  
14 payments for the United States, and I think, in the longer  
15 term yet, it's not in the interest of the United States to  
16 have all their food imported from other places around the  
17 world.

18 Consequently, I think a very strong concern  
19 should be expressed in the program for continuing  
20 agriculture and not on the "Gallo" or other large  
21 conglomerate frame, but in terms of quality of life for  
22 many, many, many Californians, not only in  
23 Northern California, but as some of the gentlemen have  
24 said, in Southern California.

25 When you have a-hundred-dollar-an-acre water,

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1 that's simply going to be sold, and it's going to be sold  
2 down here, and those people will be out of business.  
3 Thank you.

4 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Connelly.  
5 Margaret Strubel.

6 This is the last card I have, so, again, if  
7 anyone else wishes to speak, please fill out a yellow  
8 card.

9 MS. STRUBEL: Yes. I'm another token  
10 member of the public here, so I -- first of all, I wanted  
11 to say, "Please extend the period," because I just learned  
12 about this meeting yester -- yesterday, and I -- I'm not  
13 prepared at all, and I'd like more of my friends to hear  
14 about this.

15 Second of all, about the -- the -- the Delta  
16 itself, I -- I'm a northern -- I'm a former  
17 Northern California resident, and really -- I'm really  
18 concerned about the recreation and the environment up  
19 there. Recreation, I think, is inter -- you know, totally  
20 intertwined with the environment, because people won't go  
21 and, you know, do their water skiing on -- on -- on the  
22 Delta if the -- if it's really -- if it's really horrible  
23 water quality, so that's one concern.

24 Another one is the geologist spoke earlier  
25 about the seismic concerns on the -- the levees. I'm also

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1 concerned about the -- these invasive crabs that have  
 2 gotten into the levees. I don't know if you're con -- if  
 3 you're familiar with these, but they've caused some dam  
 4 breaks, and I just wondered how that -- how you work into  
 5 the -- the -- the an -- the animals. I mean these are --  
 6 these are Asian crabs that have -- you know, are not  
 7 indigenous, so, anyway, I was wondering how that would  
 8 work into your plan.

9 Another thing is Steinbeck's people in the  
 10 "Grapes of Wrath" didn't come here to look at urban sprawl  
 11 in -- in Los Angeles. They came here to -- for the  
 12 agriculture, and I think that's one thing we really need  
 13 to concern ourselves with. I mean it's very -- we have to  
 14 keep in -- in mind that we have this -- these urban  
 15 populations that we have to, you know, maintain, but I  
 16 think that agriculture is so important in California. I  
 17 don't know if the person mentioned, but it is one of  
 18 our -- it - I think it's our number-one industry, and I  
 19 think we need to pay more attention to that side, and,  
 20 also, I -- some -- I feel that urbanization kicks out the  
 21 farmers in many ways, because there's more money in that,  
 22 and I feel that if there was a -- if agriculture was given  
 23 the breaks that has historically been given with the  
 24 water, maybe it would give a certain amount of population  
 25 control, which the State desperately needs.

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1 And thank you very much.  
 2 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you.  
 3 Thanks to all of you who spoke tonight, all of  
 4 you who came. This has been one of our more informative  
 5 hearings, and we appreciate you taking part.  
 6 If you wish to come to Walnut Grove, we'd be  
 7 delighted to see you again tomorrow night.

8  
 9 (End of proceedings: 8:51 p.m.)

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OF  
CERTIFIED SHORTHAND REPORTER

I, MELINI A. CARREON, a Certified Shorthand Reporter, License No. 7511, do hereby certify:

That the proceedings of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program Public Hearing, made at the time and place therein set forth, was recorded stenographically by me and thereafter transcribed into typewriting under my direction and supervision.

That the foregoing transcript is a full, true, and correct record of the proceedings.

I further certify that I am neither counsel for nor related to any party to said action nor in any way interested in the outcome thereof.

EXECUTED this 8th day of May 1998,  
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MELINI A. CARREON, CSR No. 7511

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