

1 you are going to consider
2 alternatives that don't include a
3 tunnel?
4 FACILITATOR: So at the moment, we're looking for
5 alternatives. So if you have a
6 preference about an alternative
7 specifically that doesn't include a
8 tunnel, please submit that as part of
9 your scoping comments.
10 PROGRAM MANAGER: Other questions?
11 DAVID FRIES: Thank you. My name is Dave Fries.
12 I'm with San Joaquin Audubon. I know
13 in the WaterFix scenario, Governor
14 Brown set it up so that there would
15 be no public money, only rate payer
16 money to pay for the project.
17 Therefore, there would be no
18 statewide vote.
19 Is this project set up the same way?
20 FACILITATOR: This is a beneficiary project, so
21 those that receive the water would
22 pay for it.
23 DAVID FRIES: So Metropolitan Water is paying for
24 your salary now; is that right?
25 FACILITATOR: So right now, that is being paid for

1 by the water contractors that may
2 receive water.

3 DAVID FRIES: Thank you.

4 ~~PROGRAM MANAGER: Other questions?~~

~~5 Okay. Okay. So I think we'll go
6 ahead and move into comments.~~

~~7 And what I think I will do, I will
8 call you up three at a time, which is
9 what I've been doing at other
10 meetings. That seems to work really
11 well. And you can either sit in one
12 of these front things, or you can cue
13 up here where Annie is, and just stand
14 here and use the mic that way. As
15 these ladies were suggesting, put the
16 mic real close, project, so that they
17 can hear and our court reporter can
18 hear.~~

~~19 So we'll do three at a time. So I
20 have Nicholas Hatten, Martha Valdez
21 and David Scatena. And I apologize
22 now if right there -- I apologize
23 now if I mispronounce your name.
24 Sorry, and this will be your timer.~~

25 ~~NICHOLAS HATTEN: So hello, I'm Nicholas Hatten. I'm~~

1 ~~dilemma and you care about those~~
2 ~~people down south. They will find a~~
3 ~~way. There are hundreds of billions~~
4 ~~of people that within 30 years will~~
5 ~~be displaced all over the world.~~
6 ~~Maybe Los Angeles was not the place~~
7 ~~to settle in the place--~~

8 ~~PROGRAM MANAGER: --thank for your comments.~~

9 **DAVID FRIES:** Thank you. My name is David Fries.
10 I'm the Conservation Chair for the
11 San Joaquin Audubon Society. And the
12 Audubon Society submits the following
13 concerns relative to construction of
14 a single tunnel water conveyance
15 structure through the heart of our
16 Sacramento San Joaquin Delta.
17 First of all, there needs to be
18 protection for all the bird species
19 there. The project proponents cannot
20 rely on the California Natural
21 Diversity Database to determine
22 whether species are present.
23 Thorough surveys must be done before
24 the project design is determined and
25 the EIR is written, so that the

1 habitats -- so that full cost and
2 extent of destruction and/or
3 disruption of the birds species and
4 the habitats on which they are
5 dependent for their survival can be
6 evaluated, and they can be avoided,
7 and they have to be mitigated before
8 construction can start. This is
9 especially necessary for all species
10 that are endangered, protected, and
11 are listed as species of special
12 concern. And there's a number of
13 them in the Delta.

14 Humans have the right under the
15 Public Trust Doctrine to observe and
16 enjoy wildlife and natural beauty of
17 the Delta. The wildlife habitat is a
18 recognized beneficiary used under the
19 Bay Delta Water Quality Control Plan.
20 Access and quality of individual use
21 of the Delta for fishing, boating,
22 birdwatching, hiking, photography, or
23 just watching a sunset is guaranteed.
24 This must include impacts on travel
25 by road or by water caused by truck

1 and barge traffic or other
2 disruptions caused by construction
3 and operation activities related to
4 the project. Impacts by climate
5 change must be considered at least to
6 the year 2100. To avoid
7 dissemination of endangered species
8 and threatened bird population,
9 mitigation for lost habitat must be
10 completed and proven effective before
11 construction can start. Birds that
12 have their habitat taken away can't
13 wait ten years for the new habitat to
14 be constructed.

15 A couple of more quick things. The
16 Delta Reform Act mandates that flow
17 criteria for survival of the Delta
18 must be determined before the water
19 board approves potential operation of
20 a new conveyance system. The Delta
21 format also mandates the best
22 available science be used in the
23 design and operation of a conveyance
24 project. Monitoring programs must be
25 established and functional before

1 construction starts. And then full
2 transparency for the project and
3 planning construction and operation
4 must be observed. This includes
5 financial costs, as well as
6 monitoring and adaptive management
7 events. And monitoring of adaptive
8 management must include members of
9 all concerned persons.

10 ~~PROGRAM MANAGER: Thank you.~~

11 ~~Thank you. Ms. Wagner-Tyack.~~

12 ~~JANE WAGNER-TYACK: Thank you. I'm Jane Wagner-Tyack.~~

13 ~~I'm a board member of the Legal Women~~

14 ~~Voters of San Joaquin County. I'm~~

15 ~~also Water Program Codirector for the~~

16 ~~League of Women Voters of California.~~

17 ~~The League of California has~~

18 ~~long-standing policies supporting~~

19 ~~nonstructural alternatives for water~~

20 ~~supply in California.~~

21 ~~With respect to the Delta, these~~

22 ~~policies align with principles~~

23 ~~established by the 2009 Delta Reform~~

24 ~~Act that are now part of the~~

25 ~~California Water Code and the Public~~

1 SAN JOAQUIN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

2
3 CERTIFIED COPY
4
5
6
7
8

9 PUBLIC MEETING

10 STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA

11 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2020
12
13
14
15
16
17
18

19 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.
20 (800) 288-3376
21 www.depo.com

22 REPORTED BY: MARY GONZALEZ CORBITT, CSR NO. 6696

23 FILE NO.: AE014C7
24
25

1 half a century of laws and promises
2 were made to ensure that they would.
3 Instead, their plan is to take that
4 water that we need to keep the Delta
5 fresh and put it in the tunnel. And
6 so that's devastating to our area.
7 And for the scoping comments, I would
8 request that you explain how not one
9 drop of water will be exported with a
10 tunnel that is needed to maintain
11 adequate Delta water quality. And I
12 would suggest that you include
13 alternatives that will ensure that
14 not one drop of water is exported
15 that is needed to maintain adequate
16 Delta water quality. Now, to us,
17 that means you need non-tunnel
18 alternatives, and a lot of them.

19 Thank you.

20 PROGRAM MANAGER: Thank you.

21 Proceed.

22 **MARJIE FRIES:** I'm Margie Fries, representing the
23 San Joaquin County Climate Action
24 Coalition and the Peace and Justice
25 Network. For decades of

1 environmental justice advocacy has
2 confirmed the gross inequality
3 between project proponents who always
4 have vested interest in the common
5 good. So here we go again. It seems
6 just yesterday, that the stewardship
7 council confirmed the twin tunnel
8 project was not feasible without
9 essentially destroying the Delta.
10 One tunnel now proposed does not
11 lessen the destruction by half, nor
12 improve an already degraded Delta. I
13 believe free access to clean drinking
14 water is a human right throughout the
15 world, let alone California, the
16 fifth largest world economy.
17 I know that tunneling through the
18 resiliency of the Delta will not
19 ensure that right for Californians.
20 Meanwhile, the last century, the San
21 Joaquin-Sacramento Delta Estuary has
22 not benefited from California Public
23 Trust Law, which states its role in
24 protecting navigatable waters and
25 waterfronts for the purposes of

1 public use and enjoyment, such as
2 commerce, navigation, fisheries,
3 recreation and preservation.
4 Tonight, as we meet in Stockton, the
5 San Joaquin River ends, just maybe a
6 mile down Weber Avenue. The
7 beautiful and historic San Joaquin
8 water reaches into our downtown. But
9 I urge you not to jump in it on a
10 summer day. It's highly polluted.
11 Unfortunately, we cannot offer our
12 kids and families inexpensive
13 swimming and boating and exploring
14 fun in the downtown waterways. They
15 could get sick, even die from
16 exposure to green algae. Sucking the
17 purest snow melt out of the
18 Sacramento River before reaching the
19 Delta and tunneling it south has no
20 benefit to the Delta at our front
21 door. We believe a priority of the
22 Governor and the State of California
23 is to protect public trust resources.
24 The San Francisco Bay Delta and
25 estuary is that resource. We support

1 a no tunnel alternative.

2 ~~PROGRAM MANAGER: Thank you.~~

3 ~~Mr. McGraw.~~

4 ~~JAMES MCGRAW: Hello, everybody. My name is James~~

5 ~~McGraw. First, I would like to ask~~

6 ~~you two to put a smile across your~~

7 ~~guys's faces. You've been frowning~~

8 ~~almost this whole night. Secondly,~~

9 ~~you're going a great job typing. No~~

10 ~~one has said anything about that.~~

11 ~~Now I'm going to start off with a pro~~

12 ~~and the cons list. Now, the pro of~~

13 ~~the tunnels: Los Angeles gets water.~~

14 ~~That's it. That's all I've seen,~~

15 ~~really.~~

16 ~~Now, let's talk about the cons.~~

17 ~~Because, really, I had something~~

18 ~~written down, but I can't really do~~

19 ~~that. I don't want that.~~

20 ~~Anyways, what I've looked at and I've~~

21 ~~been hearing all around everybody is~~

22 ~~everybody is saying not to build~~

23 ~~these tunnels. Yet, like other~~

24 ~~people are mentioning, you guys have~~

25 ~~it set in your heads that oh, we're~~

1 SAN JOAQUIN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

2

3 CERTIFIED COPY

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

PUBLIC MEETING

STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2020

ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.
(800) 288-3376
www.depo.com

REPORTED BY: MARY GONZALEZ CORBITT, CSR NO. 6696
FILE NO.: AE014C7

1 ~~make it even more expensive and more~~
2 ~~difficult for people in our community~~
3 ~~to have clean water. Thank you.~~

4 ~~PROGRAM MANAGER: Thank you.~~

5 PHILLIP MERLO: Thanks. My name is Phillip Merlo,
6 and I'm the Director of Education at
7 the San Joaquin Historical Museum in
8 Stockton and Lodi. And my training
9 is in history and education, which I
10 feel are two fields that the
11 Department of Water Resources and
12 Delta Conveyance Authority would
13 benefit from studying.
14 According to the Notice of
15 Preparation and the DWR, this project
16 is needed because the existing water
17 system is not prepared for a future
18 with climate change and the rising
19 sea levels. And, furthermore, new
20 diversions in the northern Delta will
21 promote a more resilient and flexible
22 state water project in the face of
23 unfavorable conditions.
24 Again, the DWR states in section two,
25 what is the importance of Delta

1 conveyance, that state water project
2 is delivered by state and federal
3 agencies to more than 27 million
4 Californians and three million acres
5 of farmland.

6 And, you know, one thing I would
7 state, the state water project on its
8 website actually says seventy percent
9 of the water will go to urban use and
10 thirty percent of it goes to
11 agricultural use. That's seventy
12 percent of urban use. The people who
13 really advocate for it down in the
14 Metropolitan Water District are, of
15 course, housing developers in the
16 Imperial valley.

17 So the urban communities and desert
18 agricultural businesses that rely on
19 the state water project, I argue will
20 not in fact become more resilient
21 through this project. They become
22 more dependent on Delta water. And
23 the construction and operation of
24 this project to prop up these
25 unsustainable businesses and

1 developments in the Southern part of
2 the state will lead to the release of
3 tens of thousands of acre feet of
4 peat dirt into Delta air. The
5 barrage of Delta communities with
6 drilling sound and the decline of
7 local water quality which, of course,
8 the City of Stockton relies on, will
9 also lead to the flooding of our
10 roads with diesel trucks.

11 The public health field has reached
12 consensus that noise, water, and air
13 pollution lead to cardiovascular and
14 cognitive health problems, as well as
15 poor academic performance in
16 students.

17 And so this project, which will only
18 benefit agricultural firms in the
19 desert and developers in Los Angeles,
20 would cause irreparable harm to our
21 communities.

22 And the 14th Amendment of the
23 Constitution states that no state
24 shall make or enforce a law that will
25 deny any person within its

1 jurisdiction the equal protection of
2 the law.

3 So I conclude that I can only state
4 that this project will be a severe
5 miscarriage of justice as understood
6 by both the law of the land and the
7 moral essence of our democracy.

8 Thank you.

9 ~~PROGRAM MANAGER: Thank you very much.~~

10 ~~We are almost at eight o'clock. I've~~
11 ~~run out of cards.~~

12 ~~Did I miss anyone that wanted to make~~
13 ~~a comment that hasn't made a comment?~~

14 ~~Okay. I want to thank you all very~~
15 ~~much for coming out tonight, for your~~
16 ~~thoughtful and very creative~~
17 ~~comments, much appreciated.~~

18 ~~Thank you for being here. Goodnight.~~

19 ~~(Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.)~~

20

21

22

23

24

25

1 SAN JOAQUIN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

2

3 CERTIFIED COPY

4

5

6

7

8

9 PUBLIC MEETING

10 STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA

11 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2020

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.
20 (800) 288-3376
www.depo.com

21

22 REPORTED BY: MARY GONZALEZ CORBITT, CSR NO. 6696

23 FILE NO.: AE014C7

24

25

1 MARTHA VALDEZ:

I'm not a very good public speaker,
2 and so when I get nervous, I start
3 speaking really fast. So please have
4 some patience with me.

5 My experience with climate change and
6 all that B.S. that the government
7 uses to put taxes and regulation on
8 us is just that.

9 There are just as many scientists
10 that are against climate change that
11 are for climate change. But this
12 government that we are -- that's in
13 control of California uses it to
14 regulate us and take control of our
15 waterways.

16 Gov- -- or, sorry, President Trump
17 has water going through federal land
18 in Southern California that is in
19 aquifers going underneath the desert
20 and going right out into the ocean.
21 He offered that to Gavin Newsom. And
22 Gavin Newsom just politely --
23 actually, not politely, just scoffed
24 at it and just said no.

25 The devastation that you are going to

1 cause to the Delta is going to be
2 unreparable, [sic] and the fact that
3 they made it that the people buying
4 the water are the only ones that are
5 going to vote for it or pay for it,
6 isn't that convenient that the whole
7 State of California is going to be
8 impacted by no more Delta, and they
9 don't even get a chance to vote on
10 it? This is a travesty.
11 You are going to cause irreparable
12 damage.
13 I was driving down the Delta last
14 year, and I was stuck in traffic,
15 because it is a traffic problem. And
16 something caught my eye out of --
17 just out of the corner of my eye.
18 And there were baby otters jumping up
19 and down. It was one of the greatest
20 things I've ever seen. Do you know
21 nobody will ever see that again?
22 How dare you try to take our water
23 and ruin our Delta?
24 And I am so opposed to any of this,
25 and I will fight you all the way.

1 SAN JOAQUIN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

2

3 CERTIFIED COPY

4

5

6

7

8

9 PUBLIC MEETING

10 STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA

11 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2020

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.
20 (800) 288-3376
www.depo.com

21

22 REPORTED BY: MARY GONZALEZ CORBITT, CSR NO. 6696

23 FILE NO.: AE014C7

24

25

From: [tb sletteland](#)
To: [DWR Delta Conveyance Scoping](#)
Cc: [mark rockwell](#); [Jonas Minton](#)
Subject: Delta Conveyance Scoping Comments
Date: Friday, March 20, 2020 7:14:46 AM
Attachments: [CA Dept. of Water Resources, March 20, 2020.docx](#)

The attached comments are directed to the attention of Ms. Renee Rodriguez, California Department of Water Resources, Sacramento, CA. Please confirm receipt to the sender and signers, Trygve Sletteland, Mark Rockwell, and Jonas Minton. Thank you.

March 20, 2020

Attn: Renee Rodriguez, California Department of Water Resources, Sacramento, CA

Subject: **Delta Conveyance Scoping Comments**

emailed to: DeltaConveyanceScoping@water.ca.gov

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these Delta conveyance scoping comments.

The Delta Tunnel Environmental Impact Report (EIR) must consider the following points:

1. The EIR must analyze the considerable impacts to California's salmon people, who include salmon dependent Native American Tribes and coastal fishing communities.
2. The EIR must analyze alternatives that would increase California Delta outflow and reduce water exports as compared to current conditions in the Delta. Specifically, the EIR must examine a "no tunnel" alternative.
3. The EIR must analyze the impacts to watershed source waters and their reservoir storage, including the Trinity, Klamath, Sacramento, Feather, Yuba, American, and San Joaquin rivers. Water quality impacts from any increased diversions must be included in this analysis.
4. The EIR must analyze the cumulative impacts of the Delta Tunnel with the new Trump Administration Biological Opinions for the Trump Water Plan, the long-term operations of the State Water Project (SWP), the Shasta Dam raise project, and the proposed Sites Reservoir project. Would these new projects and rules be used to fill the tunnels?
5. The EIR must analyze water conservation, efficiency, and additional demand reduction measures that would be less environmentally harmful, more economical, and achieve the same water supply reliability goals and targets.
6. The EIR must analyze the tunnel's consistency with the Delta Reform Act's policy of reduced reliance on the Delta.
7. The EIR must adequately analyze the effectiveness of proposed mitigation and conservation measures over the term of the tunnel project, and include mitigations and protections for every impacted watershed.
8. The EIR must analyze the economic costs and benefits of the single tunnel project, as well as those of a "no tunnel" alternative and investment in water conservation and efficiency improvements to meet water supply needs.
9. The EIR must analyze the tunnel's cumulative impacts, with particular focus on:
 - water quality, including effects of increases in salinity, toxic hot spots, pesticides, mercury, and other pollutant discharge that will not be flushed due to lack of freshwater in the Delta;
 - biological resources, especially all endangered aquatic species that may be impacted by the SWP-- Sacramento River winter, spring & late fall-run Chinook salmon; Delta smelt and green sturgeon--as well as species in upland habitats that may be affected by the project.
 - Impacts of various possible tunnel alignments
 - Impacts incurred during construction of the tunnel; and
 - global climate change impacts.

(more)

Delta Conveyance Scoping Comments, page 2

Sincerely,

Dr. Mark Rockwell, D.C.
President & VP Conservation
Northern Calif. Council, Fly Fishers International
mrockwell1945@gmail.com

Jonas Minton
Senior Water Policy Advisor
Planning and Conservation League
jminton@pcl.org

Trygve Sletteland, M.A.
Founder & Executive Director, Sacramento River Council
(merged with Sacramento River Preservation Trust in 1996)
tbsletteland@gmail.com

From: [Emily Gingras](#)
To: [DWR Delta Conveyance Scoping](#)
Subject: Letter of Support
Date: Thursday, March 19, 2020 11:42:23 AM
Attachments: [DWR's DRAFT SCOPING LETTER - RBCC\(1\).pdf](#)
[Letter of Support MWD HAIC.pdf](#)
[Letter of Support MWD SBACC.pdf](#)

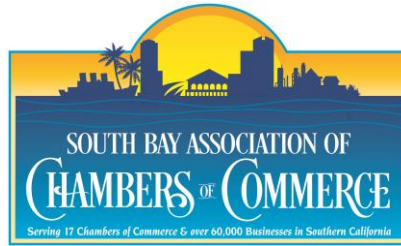
Dear Ms. Rodriguez:

I am reaching out on behalf the following organizations to provide the attached letters of support from our Boards. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Emily Gingras

PEAR Strategies



Sent Via Email: DeltaConveyanceScoping@water.ca.gov

March 18, 2020

Ms. Renee Rodriguez
California Department of Water Resources
Post Office Box 942836
Sacramento, California 94236

RE: Delta Conveyance Scoping Comments

Dear Ms. Rodriguez:

On behalf of the South Bay Association of Chambers of Commerce (SBACC), Board of Directors, I am pleased to provide input for the scoping process of the single-tunnel Delta conveyance project being advanced by the California Department of Water Resources. We appreciate Governor Newsom's leadership to help ensure, safe, affordable and reliable water supplies to much of California.

We are not alone in our support. There is widespread backing for the project in Southern California and throughout the state from diverse and prominent interests, ranging from labor and business to public agencies, nonprofits and agriculture. We all recognize that a severe water shortage would come with an enormous economic cost and the time to move forward is now.

This project is not the only step we must take to ensure water resiliency. Ensuring Southern California has a reliable water supply in the future requires a diverse portfolio of both imported and local supplies and conservation. Much progress and significant investments are being made on a wide range of local projects and water efficiency, but the Delta conveyance project remains vitally important.

We support the Newsom administration's work to move forward in the planning process in a manner that achieves the goals of water supply reliability and ecosystem restoration. With our largest and most affordable supply at risk, we need the reliability the proposed Delta conveyance project will provide.

Sincerely,

John Heffernan
SBACC Chair

From: [Emily Gingras](#)
To: [DWR Delta Conveyance Scoping](#)
Subject: Letter of Support
Date: Thursday, March 19, 2020 11:42:23 AM
Attachments: [DWR's DRAFT SCOPING LETTER - RBCC\(1\).pdf](#)
[Letter of Support MWD HAIC.pdf](#)
[Letter of Support MWD SBACC.pdf](#)

Dear Ms. Rodriguez:

I am reaching out on behalf the following organizations to provide the attached letters of support from our Boards. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Emily Gingras

PEAR Strategies



Sent Via Email: DeltaConveyanceScoping@water.ca.gov

March 18, 2020

Ms. Renee Rodriguez
California Department of Water Resources
Post Office Box 942836
Sacramento, California 94236

RE: Delta Conveyance Scoping Comments

Dear Ms. Rodriguez:

On behalf of Redondo Beach Chamber of Commerce (RBCC) Board of Directors, I am pleased to provide input for the scoping process of the single-tunnel Delta conveyance project being advanced by the California Department of Water Resources. We appreciate Governor Newsom's leadership to help ensure, safe, affordable and reliable water supplies to much of California.

We are not alone in our support. There is widespread backing for the project in Southern California and throughout the state from diverse and prominent interests, ranging from labor and business to public agencies, nonprofits and agriculture. We all recognize that a severe water shortage would come with an enormous economic cost and the time to move forward is now.

This project is not the only step we must take to ensure water resiliency. Ensuring Southern California has a reliable water supply in the future requires a diverse portfolio of both imported and local supplies and conservation. Much progress and significant investments are being made on a wide range of local projects and water efficiency, but the Delta conveyance project remains vitally important.

We support the Newsom administration's work to move forward in the planning process in a manner that achieves the goals of water supply reliability and ecosystem restoration. With our largest and most affordable supply at risk, we need the reliability the proposed Delta conveyance project will provide.

Sincerely,

Dominik Knoll
President/CEO

From: [Emily Gingras](#)
To: [DWR Delta Conveyance Scoping](#)
Subject: Letter of Support
Date: Thursday, March 19, 2020 11:42:23 AM
Attachments: [DWR's DRAFT SCOPING LETTER - RBCC\(1\).pdf](#)
[Letter of Support MWD HAIC.pdf](#)
[Letter of Support MWD SBACC.pdf](#)

Dear Ms. Rodriguez:

I am reaching out on behalf the following organizations to provide the attached letters of support from our Boards. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Emily Gingras

PEAR Strategies

Harbor Association of Industry and Commerce
6216 E. Pacific Coast Hwy. #407
Long Beach, CA 90803
info@harborassn.com
www.harborassn.com



Sent Via Email: DeltaConveyanceScoping@water.ca.gov

March 18, 2020

Ms. Renee Rodriguez
California Department of Water Resources
Post Office Box 942836
Sacramento, California 94236

RE: Delta Conveyance Scoping Comments

Dear Ms. Rodriguez:

On behalf of the Harbor Association of Industry & Commerce (HAIC), Board of Directors, I am pleased to provide input for the scoping process of the single-tunnel Delta conveyance project being advanced by the California Department of Water Resources. We appreciate Governor Newsom's leadership to help ensure, safe, affordable and reliable water supplies to much of California.

We are not alone in our support. There is widespread backing for the project in Southern California and throughout the state from diverse and prominent interests, ranging from labor and business to public agencies, nonprofits and agriculture. We all recognize that a severe water shortage would come with an enormous economic cost and the time to move forward is now.

This project is not the only step we must take to ensure water resiliency. Ensuring Southern California has a reliable water supply in the future requires a diverse portfolio of both imported and local supplies and conservation. Much progress and significant investments are being made on a wide range of local projects and water efficiency, but the Delta conveyance project remains vitally important.

We support the Newsom administration's work to move forward in the planning process in a manner that achieves the goals of water supply reliability and ecosystem restoration. With our largest and most affordable supply at risk, we need the reliability the proposed Delta conveyance project will provide.

Sincerely,

Henry Rogers
Executive Director, HAIC

1 ~~the alternatives? And they are out there. Emily~~
2 ~~Pappalardo talked about Dr. Pike's western intakes~~
3 ~~concept. That's a dam viable alternative, if you ask me.~~
4 ~~But nobody's looking at it. We've got the same darn~~
5 ~~thing we started out in the first place.~~

6 ~~And it is wrong -- it is the absolutely wrong~~
7 ~~place to take the intakes. If you have a through-Delta~~
8 ~~system that lets the Delta do its job environmentally,~~
9 ~~agriculturally and recreationally, then you got the right~~
10 ~~concept. But this does none of that. It is detrimental~~
11 ~~to everybody involved that has any kind of economic stake~~
12 ~~in this Delta region and in this state. It is a bad, bad~~
13 ~~choice and concept. Thank you.~~

14 ~~MS. BARBIERI: Thank you. Mr. Armstrong?~~
15 ~~Daniel Armstrong?~~

16 MR. **ARMSTRONG**: My comment's gonna be pretty
17 quick, so I don't think you need to start the timer for
18 anything.

19 California Department of Water Resources, you're
20 on the side of shame of history, basically, by going
21 forward with this project.

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: We can't hear you.

23 MR. ARMSTRONG: So you guys are on the side of
24 shame of history if you go forward with this project.
25 And that's nothing against you four people as the

1 employees of the Department of Water Resources. How is a
2 department that works alongside the Bureau of
3 Reclamation, that frequently dewateres salmon runs in the
4 Feather River, the American River, how are you to be
5 trusted with something as far as one of the biggest
6 estuaries on the West Coast? How are you to be trusted
7 with any sort of environmental plan that's gonna be
8 helpful and beneficial to, like, the environment and
9 people in the future? It's astounding.

10 I agree with the people of Sutter Island more
11 than anything that you can go forward with this type of
12 project and there'll be tons and tons of resistance
13 against it in the form of meetings and everything like
14 this, and it's not gonna go away, and people won't stop
15 coming to these meetings. And you can put them on
16 Mondays, Monday nights, and schedule them like Department
17 of Fish and Wildlife does on Wednesdays at ten o'clock in
18 the morning, but people are still gonna show up, and
19 people are still gonna hold opposition against you
20 forever. And that's my lasting sentiment, is that you
21 really are on the wrong side of history if you go forward
22 with this. Thank you.

23 ~~MS. BARBIERI: Thank you. And the last card, I~~
24 ~~have at least, is Mark Goble.~~

25 ~~MR. COBLE: Hi. I'm Mark Goble. I'm just a~~

1 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020

2 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT:

3 SCOPING AND CEQA

4 PUBLIC HEARING

5 **CERTIFIED COPY**

6
7
8
9
10 LOCATION OF HEARING:

11 Jean Harvie Community Center

12 14273 River Road

13 Walnut Grove, California 95690

14
15
16
17
18
19
20 REPORTED BY: BRIANNA RUDD, CSR NO. 13668

21 -----
22 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.

23 www.depo.com

24 (800) 288-3376

25 ABI FILE NO. AE014C6

A P P E A R A N C E S

JANET BARBIERI, Hearing Facilitator

CARRIE BUCKMAN, PowerPoint Presentation

Also Present:

MARCUS YEE, Department of Water Resources

BARBARA JONES, Department of Water Resources

KRISTINA REESE, Department of Water Resources

CONNOR BLOCK, Department of Water Resources

FRANCISCO ADAMA, Interpreter

---o0o---

I N D E X

Q&A SESSION: PAGE:

Nikki Seward..... 17

Jim Wallace..... 20

Brian Dawson..... 22

Mary Elizabeth..... 22

Max DeWalt..... 23

COMMENT BY:

Gregory Robinson..... 24, 57

Mary Elizabeth..... 25

James Motlow..... 27

Russell Oans..... 28

Dave Stirling..... 31

Mariah Looney..... 33

1	I N D E X (Cont.)	
2	COMMENT BY:	PAGE
3	Donald Barnes.....	34
4	Russell van Loben Sels.....	36
5	Stuart Walthall.....	38
6	Peter Stone.....	39
7	Susan Caston.....	42
8	Dr. Jeffrey Michael.....	43
9	Corie Hamer.....	46
10	Emily Pappalardo.....	48
11	Barbara Daly.....	50
12	Douglas Hsia.....	53
13	Brett Baker.....	54
14	Josephine Avila.....	59
15	Tim Neuharth.....	59
16	Daniel Armstrong.....	61
17	Mark Goble.....	62
18	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE.....	66

---o0o---

~~1 don't see how that can be done. So thank you for your~~
~~2 time.~~

~~3 MS. BARBIERI: Thank you.~~

4 MS. AVILA: Good evening. My name is Josephine
5 Avila. I am the town manager of Locke.

6 The few little things that I just want to say,
7 because everybody here has already spoken about all the
8 things and all the reasons why we should not do this, but
9 the other thing is, is that there are so many families in
10 the Delta with children. The Delta is so safe for our
11 kids out here. I know it sounds weird, but I feel the
12 most at home, and I don't want my children to have to
13 lose their homes just to have these tunnels put in -- or
14 anybody else's. Thank you.

~~15 MS. BARBIERI: Mr. Neuharth, yeah, come up. And~~
~~16 then...~~

~~17 MR. NEUHARTH: Good evening, and thank you for~~
~~18 being here. My name is Tim Neuharth. I'm a local~~
~~19 resident of the Delta and a farmer on Sutter Island,~~
~~20 right next door to Brett Baker, as a matter of fact.~~

~~21 So first of all, I want to thank this crowd for~~
~~22 being here. This is the biggest group of people that~~
~~23 I've seen, to date, that -- at least in my experience on~~
~~24 this whole Delta tunnels thing. So thank you for being~~
~~25 here, thank you for your interest, and keep it coming.~~

1 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020

2 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT:

3 SCOPING AND CEQA

4 PUBLIC HEARING

5 **CERTIFIED COPY**

6
7
8
9
10 LOCATION OF HEARING:

11 Jean Harvie Community Center

12 14273 River Road

13 Walnut Grove, California 95690

14
15
16
17
18
19
20 REPORTED BY: BRIANNA RUDD, CSR NO. 13668

21 -----
22 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.

23 www.depo.com

24 (800) 288-3376

25 ABI FILE NO. AE014C6

A P P E A R A N C E S

JANET BARBIERI, Hearing Facilitator

CARRIE BUCKMAN, PowerPoint Presentation

Also Present:

MARCUS YEE, Department of Water Resources

BARBARA JONES, Department of Water Resources

KRISTINA REESE, Department of Water Resources

CONNOR BLOCK, Department of Water Resources

FRANCISCO ADAMA, Interpreter

---o0o---

I N D E X

Q&A SESSION: PAGE:

Nikki Seward..... 17

Jim Wallace..... 20

Brian Dawson..... 22

Mary Elizabeth..... 22

Max DeWalt..... 23

COMMENT BY:

Gregory Robinson..... 24, 57

Mary Elizabeth..... 25

James Motlow..... 27

Russell Oans..... 28

Dave Stirling..... 31

Mariah Looney..... 33

1	I N D E X (Cont.)	
2	COMMENT BY:	PAGE
3	Donald Barnes.....	34
4	Russell van Loben Sels.....	36
5	Stuart Walthall.....	38
6	Peter Stone.....	39
7	Susan Caston.....	42
8	Dr. Jeffrey Michael.....	43
9	Corie Hamer.....	46
10	Emily Pappalardo.....	48
11	Barbara Daly.....	50
12	Douglas Hsia.....	53
13	Brett Baker.....	54
14	Josephine Avila.....	59
15	Tim Neuharth.....	59
16	Daniel Armstrong.....	61
17	Mark Goble.....	62
18	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE.....	66

---o0o---

1 Well, now I'd like to echo with James Motlow's
2 comment today, which is about Congressman John
3 Garamendi's leadership pickup plan, which is a -- taking
4 water from the Deep Water Channel at the intake near Rio
5 Vista, and this is the bridge of our essential corridor.
6 And I think that plan is good because -- I think it is
7 good because I think it will have much less impact on the
8 environment, it's much less work, and it probably have a
9 lot less -- it takes away a lot of caution that the
10 people show here.

11 So I would sincerely like to have John
12 Garamendi's Deep Water Channel plan to put on the
13 stakeholder committee, and we can try to explore and
14 study further. That's all.

15 MS. BARBIERI: Thank you. I'm just gonna call
16 the next three folks up before you start. Josephine
17 Avila, Tim Neuharth and Gregory Robinson for another
18 turn. Please proceed.

19 MR. BAKER: I don't think I need the whole four
20 minutes, so don't even bother starting the clock. My
21 name's Brett Baker. I just came here tonight to share
22 with you my perspective on the Delta and my plan.

23 So today is my 36th birthday. And as you can
24 see, I know how to party. So if you put that in
25 perspective, I came online somewhere between SB 200 going

1 down and the Racanelli decision.

2 And I'm just here today to wish you well with
3 your preparation of your documents, and I -- you know,
4 congratulations to you guys, and I'm glad you're here
5 earning your paycheck. I wouldn't want to be you. I
6 wouldn't trade places with you for all the money in the
7 world. But thank you for coming. You can get this
8 checked off the box, things to do. But what I suggest
9 you put on your list of things to do with -- before
10 deciding to go forward with this project -- or you've
11 already obviously decided.

12 Before going with this project, you should
13 definitely conduct a water availability analysis. I
14 think you've heard time and time again -- you'll hear it
15 again. We have written comments. We're gonna submit all
16 this to you in written comments. In a legal analysis,
17 you're gonna have to change an awful lot of laws or
18 hoodwink an awful lot of judges to get by with the
19 current law, the way it's written.

20 In my 36 years, I don't think there's ever been
21 a real open time or opportunity to actually discuss
22 alternatives. It's nice that you guys present
23 alternatives in your document, but I don't think that's
24 actually ever been a viable discussion. I don't think
25 there's ever been enough air in the room to have that

1 discussion.

2 I studied fish biology in college. I used to
3 think you could fix the fish. And I'm not old and dated
4 yet, but I got over that. And then I used to think maybe
5 you could fix the plumbing. And I worked for John, and I
6 think that, you know, John's heart's in the right place.
7 But it's not a plumbing issue. It's a policy issue.

8 Our state's grown by leaps and bounds in my
9 lifetime. I remember driving down I-5 and going to
10 Disneyland as a five-year-old. It didn't look like it
11 does today. So, I mean, it's a lie that our state can't
12 grow, or won't grow, or wouldn't be able to grow -- or
13 whatever argument you presented in the '80s -- without
14 this facility, with this project.

15 So like I said, we're gonna submit all this in
16 much more cogent, written comments. But I wish you well,
17 and I wanted to leave you with my plan. I come from
18 Sutter Island. My family is a sixth -- I was
19 sixth-generation resident on Sutter Island, and I always
20 refer to that as my little slice of heaven when I tell
21 people where I come from.

22 So this is my plan from Sutter Island: Step No.
23 1, we're gonna fight you to build the canal; if, by act
24 of God or Congress, you ever get built, Step No. 2 is to
25 fight you to operate it; and Step No. 3 is to fight you

1 to tear it down. So thank you very much.

2 ~~MS. BARBIERI: I have three more speakers.~~

~~3 Ms. Avila? Maybe she's changed her mind. Josephine~~

~~4 Avila? Okay. We'll skip Ms. Avila. Mr. Neuharth? I~~

~~5 thought I saw him, but I don't see him now. If anyone~~

~~6 sees them in the hall, let them know. And then~~

~~7 Mr. Robinson, I think you have one more thing you wanted~~

~~8 to say.~~

~~9 MR. ROBINSON: So if the other two people come~~

~~10 back, I'll yield the floor to them. I only talked for~~

~~11 one minute before, kind of glossed over. It was too~~

~~12 quick. So I'm gonna take another two minutes. I wanted~~

~~13 to point out two things.~~

~~14 I love Walnut Grove. And I'm glad you're here.~~

~~15 I hope you're listening. And please be considerate of~~

~~16 the special needs students and what the impact of~~

~~17 construction will be to them. The people whose~~

~~18 retirement homes are here, they've got nowhere else to~~

~~19 go. And I'm sensitive to the water skiers and the salmon~~

~~20 fishers, but I feel I need to speak for those who don't~~

~~21 have a voice, and that's the environment.~~

~~22 At the Cosumnes River Preserve, what we've done~~

~~23 is taken cultivated farmland and restored it to natural~~

~~24 habitat, and it is now home to over 250 bird species,~~

~~25 over 40 fish species, and some 230 plant species. And I~~

1 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020

2 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT:

3 SCOPING AND CEQA

4 PUBLIC HEARING

5 **CERTIFIED COPY**

6
7
8
9
10 LOCATION OF HEARING:

11 Jean Harvie Community Center

12 14273 River Road

13 Walnut Grove, California 95690

14
15
16
17
18
19
20 REPORTED BY: BRIANNA RUDD, CSR NO. 13668

21 -----
22 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.

23 www.depo.com

24 (800) 288-3376

25 ABI FILE NO. AE014C6

A P P E A R A N C E S

JANET BARBIERI, Hearing Facilitator

CARRIE BUCKMAN, PowerPoint Presentation

Also Present:

MARCUS YEE, Department of Water Resources

BARBARA JONES, Department of Water Resources

KRISTINA REESE, Department of Water Resources

CONNOR BLOCK, Department of Water Resources

FRANCISCO ADAMA, Interpreter

---o0o---

I N D E X

Q&A SESSION: PAGE:

Nikki Seward..... 17

Jim Wallace..... 20

Brian Dawson..... 22

Mary Elizabeth..... 22

Max DeWalt..... 23

COMMENT BY:

Gregory Robinson..... 24, 57

Mary Elizabeth..... 25

James Motlow..... 27

Russell Oans..... 28

Dave Stirling..... 31

Mariah Looney..... 33

1	I N D E X (Cont.)	
2	COMMENT BY:	PAGE
3	Donald Barnes.....	34
4	Russell van Loben Sels.....	36
5	Stuart Walthall.....	38
6	Peter Stone.....	39
7	Susan Caston.....	42
8	Dr. Jeffrey Michael.....	43
9	Corie Hamer.....	46
10	Emily Pappalardo.....	48
11	Barbara Daly.....	50
12	Douglas Hsia.....	53
13	Brett Baker.....	54
14	Josephine Avila.....	59
15	Tim Neuharth.....	59
16	Daniel Armstrong.....	61
17	Mark Goble.....	62
18	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE.....	66

---o0o---

1 ~~I'm also very concerned about the construction~~
2 ~~impacts for Delta communities and the urban Delta area.~~
3 ~~There will be heavy truck traffic to all major~~
4 ~~construction sites, competing on I-5 and Highway 4 and~~
5 ~~through major arteries. Right now 30,000 people commute~~
6 ~~from Stockton to Sacramento, and 40,000 people commute to~~
7 ~~the Bay Area. Where are the regional traffic studies?~~
8 ~~This will hurt and not help our local economies. And the~~
9 ~~few hundred jobs from tunnel construction will not offset~~
10 ~~this economic hit.~~

11 ~~And it will also increase air pollution impacts.~~
12 ~~What will the air pollution impacts from construction be~~
13 ~~on rural communities especially, and urban communities~~
14 ~~near the port, which has -- southwest Stockton is now an~~
15 ~~AB 617-designated area by the State. They already have~~
16 ~~some of the worst air quality in the entire state, and~~
17 ~~this project is not gonna help that at all by putting 400~~
18 ~~more trucks on the road. And I can't even imagine what~~
19 ~~that would do to urban -- or rural communities as well.~~
20 ~~So that's all. Thank you.~~

21 ~~MS. BARBIERI: Thank you very much. Mr. Barnes?~~

22 **MR. BARNES:** Good evening. It's great to see
23 such a great turnout from representatives of our Delta
24 citizenship here.

25 In any event, I was asked by Barbara Deaks,

1 who's owner and operator of B&W Resort and Marina just
2 off the Mokelumne River at the Highway 12 bridge, and she
3 asked me to be sure to attend and take some notes. And
4 she expressed some thoughts, so I'll convey some of these
5 to you. I'll be rather brief about it.

6 It's always easy to comment and criticize a
7 project such as the scope as what you're offering here
8 through the California Water Resources; it's a whole
9 'nother thing to come up with alternatives to such a
10 project as you propose. One of them happens to be,
11 there's an ongoing effort to tear down dams here in
12 California, when in fact they should be built. And this
13 would probably being a good time, outside of the weather
14 patterns, to start building dam projects, mainly to offer
15 resources, water resources to Southern California. If it
16 wasn't for the fact that Southern California is in such a
17 mix in this program, none of us would be here. But it
18 seems like Southern California has a lot to say what
19 Northern California does with their water.

20 The other thing is, I think many of you've seen
21 the movie "Grease." You'll see that big ditch running
22 through the center of LA. You know what that ditch is?
23 That is part of the LA basin flood control logistic. And
24 when they have a flood problem, all that excess water,
25 instead of being put in a reservoir system, runs out to

1 the Pacific Ocean. They could somehow -- they can put
2 this water back into a reservoir system for their own
3 use.

4 And there's many other things that Southern
5 California could do in addition to the desalinization, as
6 someone mentioned earlier. I could go on and on, but I'm
7 sure others have comments along the same lines. But in
8 any event, I'm just offering some alternatives as to what
9 can be done here in California.

10 ~~MS. BARBIERI: Thanks so much.~~

11 ~~MR. VAN LOBEN SELS: My name is Russ van Loben~~
12 ~~Sels.~~

13 ~~I have several concerns on the Notice of~~
14 ~~Preparation. The first one is, on page 3, there's an~~
15 ~~assumption that the tunnel muck will be reusable tunnel~~
16 ~~material. It's sort of like: Kazaam, we have tunnel~~
17 ~~muck; now we have reusable tunnel material, without any~~
18 ~~analysis. So I believe, in any environmental analysis,~~
19 ~~you have to assume that this material will not be~~
20 ~~reusable, will have to be stored, will have to be~~
21 ~~treated. And until you even analyze it, I don't think~~
22 ~~you can assume it's reusable tunnel material. So I~~
23 ~~prefer that you call it "tunnel muck," which it really is~~
24 ~~and not, RTM, "reasonable tunnel material."~~

25 ~~Page 2, bullet 3 states that the purpose of~~

1 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020

2 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT:

3 SCOPING AND CEQA

4 PUBLIC HEARING

5 **CERTIFIED COPY**

6
7
8
9
10 LOCATION OF HEARING:

11 Jean Harvie Community Center

12 14273 River Road

13 Walnut Grove, California 95690

14
15
16
17
18
19
20 REPORTED BY: BRIANNA RUDD, CSR NO. 13668

21 -----
22 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.

23 www.depo.com

24 (800) 288-3376

25 ABI FILE NO. AE014C6

A P P E A R A N C E S

JANET BARBIERI, Hearing Facilitator

CARRIE BUCKMAN, PowerPoint Presentation

Also Present:

MARCUS YEE, Department of Water Resources

BARBARA JONES, Department of Water Resources

KRISTINA REESE, Department of Water Resources

CONNOR BLOCK, Department of Water Resources

FRANCISCO ADAMA, Interpreter

---o0o---

I N D E X

Q&A SESSION: PAGE:

Nikki Seward..... 17

Jim Wallace..... 20

Brian Dawson..... 22

Mary Elizabeth..... 22

Max DeWalt..... 23

COMMENT BY:

Gregory Robinson..... 24, 57

Mary Elizabeth..... 25

James Motlow..... 27

Russell Oans..... 28

Dave Stirling..... 31

Mariah Looney..... 33

1	I N D E X (Cont.)	
2	COMMENT BY:	PAGE
3	Donald Barnes.....	34
4	Russell van Loben Sels.....	36
5	Stuart Walthall.....	38
6	Peter Stone.....	39
7	Susan Caston.....	42
8	Dr. Jeffrey Michael.....	43
9	Corie Hamer.....	46
10	Emily Pappalardo.....	48
11	Barbara Daly.....	50
12	Douglas Hsia.....	53
13	Brett Baker.....	54
14	Josephine Avila.....	59
15	Tim Neuharth.....	59
16	Daniel Armstrong.....	61
17	Mark Goble.....	62
18	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE.....	66

---o0o---

1 ~~significant pile-driving noise for years, negatively~~
2 ~~impacting Delta Elementary Charter School in Clarksburg,~~
3 ~~which has many Special-Ed students who would be~~
4 ~~considered sensitive receptors and have very detrimental~~
5 ~~impacts to their education. Thank you.~~

6 MS. CASTON: Hi, my name is Susan Caston. I
7 live right on River Road, about a mile north of Twin
8 Cities Road.

9 And I know when California Fix was being
10 discussed, they were talking about 400 additional trucks
11 carrying heavy equipment and materials 24 hours a day,
12 seven days a week, for ten years. Okay? The levee road
13 in front of me right now is full of potholes. It's
14 obviously disintegrating. The comments that were made by
15 Mr. Stone, I agree with entirely. I think you're gonna
16 have to come up with some other way of conveying
17 because -- I mean, aside from the fact I won't be able to
18 to get out of my driveway, you know. The Waze program is
19 now rerouting commuters off of Highway 5 onto 160 and
20 River Road, so the traffic's already bananas -- technical
21 word.

22 Anyway, so those are my comments. I'm really
23 concerned about the quality of my life there. It's
24 supposed to be my retirement home. I've put a lot of
25 work and love into it. I'm concerned about the value of

1 it. I'm concerned about my well. You know, we're on
2 well water. So I'm really scared. I'm very, very afraid
3 about this. And I'm stressed out about it, and I worry
4 about it all the time. So thank you.

5 ~~MS. BARBIERI: Dr. Michael, before you start,~~
~~6 I'm gonna call the next three speakers. I think this is~~
~~7 Corie Hamer, Emily Pappalardo, and Robert Pope, if you~~
~~8 could be prepared. Please proceed.~~

9 ~~DR. MICHAEL: Thank you. My name is Dr. Jeff~~
~~10 Michael. I'm the executive director for the Center for~~
~~11 Business and Policy Research at the University of~~
~~12 Pacific. Most of my comments here today, I'm gonna be~~
~~13 reading back Department of Water Resources documents to~~
~~14 you, because I know that is very important to you, on a~~
~~15 project of such cost and importance, to proceed in this~~
~~16 process following the highest professional standards.~~

17 ~~The first comment I have is how you're dealing~~
~~18 with finance and how it is typically done in projects of~~
~~19 extreme cost. Financial analysis and feasibility~~
~~20 analysis is usually done in tandem with environmental~~
~~21 analysis or preceding it. This is according to~~
~~22 Department of Water Resources' own guidance as well as~~
~~23 other sister agencies. It can be seen in virtually every~~
~~24 major infrastructure planning process in California and~~
~~25 around it.~~

1 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020

2 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT:

3 SCOPING AND CEQA

4 PUBLIC HEARING

5 **CERTIFIED COPY**

6

7

8

9

10 LOCATION OF HEARING:

11 Jean Harvie Community Center

12 14273 River Road

13 Walnut Grove, California 95690

14

15

16

17

18

19

20 REPORTED BY: BRIANNA RUDD, CSR NO. 13668

21 -----

22 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.

23 www.depo.com

24 (800) 288-3376

25 ABI FILE NO. AE014C6

A P P E A R A N C E S

JANET BARBIERI, Hearing Facilitator

CARRIE BUCKMAN, PowerPoint Presentation

Also Present:

MARCUS YEE, Department of Water Resources

BARBARA JONES, Department of Water Resources

KRISTINA REESE, Department of Water Resources

CONNOR BLOCK, Department of Water Resources

FRANCISCO ADAMA, Interpreter

---o0o---

I N D E X

Q&A SESSION: PAGE:

Nikki Seward..... 17

Jim Wallace..... 20

Brian Dawson..... 22

Mary Elizabeth..... 22

Max DeWalt..... 23

COMMENT BY:

Gregory Robinson..... 24, 57

Mary Elizabeth..... 25

James Motlow..... 27

Russell Oans..... 28

Dave Stirling..... 31

Mariah Looney..... 33

1	I N D E X (Cont.)	
2	COMMENT BY:	PAGE
3	Donald Barnes.....	34
4	Russell van Loben Sels.....	36
5	Stuart Walthall.....	38
6	Peter Stone.....	39
7	Susan Caston.....	42
8	Dr. Jeffrey Michael.....	43
9	Corie Hamer.....	46
10	Emily Pappalardo.....	48
11	Barbara Daly.....	50
12	Douglas Hsia.....	53
13	Brett Baker.....	54
14	Josephine Avila.....	59
15	Tim Neuharth.....	59
16	Daniel Armstrong.....	61
17	Mark Goble.....	62
18	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE.....	66

---o0o---

1 ~~When you look at how you're going to study this~~
2 ~~EIR, it says we're using assumed operations. Operations~~
3 ~~are gonna be a huge impact to the Delta, so the only way~~
4 ~~to really control that is to control where the project~~
5 ~~goes. Because where it currently is, we have to trust~~
6 ~~that the State's not going to violate the North Delta~~
7 ~~Water Agency contract or -- and be consistent with~~
8 ~~current water rights. But we know that laws can change~~
9 ~~and contracts can be violated. So my suggestion is to~~
10 ~~put it down where there's a natural control, where it~~
11 ~~goes through the Delta, it serves all its purposes for~~
12 ~~the ecosystem, agriculture and the communities, and then~~
13 ~~you get water where you should last.~~

14 ~~I would like to thank you for the comments~~
15 ~~today. Please fix the levees and save the Delta. Thank~~
16 ~~you.~~

17 MS. DALY: Thank you. Good evening. My name is
18 **Barbara Daly**. I live and I work in the Delta. I live in
19 Clarksburg, and I work out here in Walnut Grove. And I
20 address you tonight, the people who work for the
21 California Department of Water Resources, once again.

22 My first question is: Are you the same people
23 I've addressed so many times over the past ten years on
24 this subject of tunnels in the Delta? My neighbors are
25 here, and they are the same neighbors. And

1 unfortunately, the message is the same. And if you are
2 also the same people, why are we here tonight to speak to
3 you again, and again, and again?

4 To frame my comments, I wanted to state that
5 this is really important to figure out where this all
6 began, with the state California legislature establishing
7 the Delta Reform Act in 2009, which created the coequal
8 goals of providing a more reliable water supply for
9 California -- which is why we're here -- and protecting,
10 restoring and enhancing the Delta ecosystem, which this
11 will destroy. But the reformat also states -- and this
12 has not been changed or altered since then -- that these
13 coequal goals shall be achieved in a manner that protects
14 and enhances the unique cultural, recreational, natural
15 resource and agricultural values of the Delta as an
16 evolving place. When you described how you were doing
17 this new one-tunnel, you left out those very important
18 details.

19 I understand Governor Newsom is respectful of
20 our past California governors and of their projects and
21 decisions, all of them seeming to be of the same mind and
22 character. I understand that he has a new team of people
23 working on the water issues in California. What I do not
24 understand is why he continues to perhaps avoid or
25 overlook or ignore excellent information submitted in the

1 past about the tunnel project by so many of us who have
2 been working to depend and protect the Delta, its
3 estuary, its people, and century-old farms, its history
4 from the Native Americans to the forty-niners and those
5 who came up the Sacramento River, known as the Argonauts.
6 It's our culture and the region as a whole.

7 We request that the National Historic
8 Preservation Act, section 106 be conducted, as
9 appropriate -- and very soon. A common mantra has been
10 that one cannot take more water from a natural river and
11 estuary and expect it to be resilient. The State of
12 California cannot continue to mismanage the natural water
13 flow and do right by all the people in the State of
14 California. One cannot continue to only study a bad
15 project for a reliable water supply for all of California
16 and expect to find the best way to move forward and to
17 create the best outcome for the estuary, for the Delta,
18 and the people throughout California.

19 One tunnel is no better than two tunnels. It is
20 a bad project. There's incorrect data being used. And
21 we've been trying to get these messages across for ten
22 years and more. Where are the studies on true viable
23 alternatives, and where are they vetted? Why are you
24 here with this monstrously bad plan again, determined to
25 get your way, trample over this area, destroy the water

1 here, as the saltwater would encroach farther into the
2 Delta with this project, and, as the past EIR/EIS stated,
3 that the people in the Delta abandon their homes and
4 buildings during the construction phase.

5 Please shelve this one and look at better
6 alternatives that will solve the coequal goals presented
7 to the state by the legislature in 2009. This project of
8 single tunnel is not viable, no matter how much you dress
9 it up. And I've listed here six reasons why. I think
10 I'm gonna run out of time, so I won't list them. But the
11 intakes in one tunnel do not protect and enhance the
12 unique cultural, recreational, natural resource and
13 agricultural values of the Delta. We request that you
14 look at other ways, alternatives to one tunnel, to create
15 a reliable water supply for all of California.

16 ~~MS. BARBIERI: Thank you.~~

17 ~~MR. HSIA: Hi. My name is Douglas Hsia. I'm a~~
18 ~~resident of Walnut Grove on Grand Island. I'm also a~~
19 ~~committee member of the stakeholder engagement committee.~~

20 ~~Well, first of all, I'd like to share my~~
21 ~~favorable experience with the stakeholder committee. I~~
22 ~~mean, you guys do a good job, and you guys take a lot~~
23 ~~more seriously with us than I expected. And you give us~~
24 ~~enough great, in-depth explanations of the work in~~
25 ~~progress.~~

1 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020

2 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT:

3 SCOPING AND CEQA

4 PUBLIC HEARING

5 **CERTIFIED COPY**

6
7
8
9
10 LOCATION OF HEARING:

11 Jean Harvie Community Center

12 14273 River Road

13 Walnut Grove, California 95690

14
15
16
17
18
19
20 REPORTED BY: BRIANNA RUDD, CSR NO. 13668

21 -----
22 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.

23 www.depo.com

24 (800) 288-3376

25 ABI FILE NO. AE014C6

A P P E A R A N C E S

JANET BARBIERI, Hearing Facilitator

CARRIE BUCKMAN, PowerPoint Presentation

Also Present:

MARCUS YEE, Department of Water Resources

BARBARA JONES, Department of Water Resources

KRISTINA REESE, Department of Water Resources

CONNOR BLOCK, Department of Water Resources

FRANCISCO ADAMA, Interpreter

---o0o---

I N D E X

Q&A SESSION: PAGE:

Nikki Seward..... 17

Jim Wallace..... 20

Brian Dawson..... 22

Mary Elizabeth..... 22

Max DeWalt..... 23

COMMENT BY:

Gregory Robinson..... 24, 57

Mary Elizabeth..... 25

James Motlow..... 27

Russell Oans..... 28

Dave Stirling..... 31

Mariah Looney..... 33

1	I N D E X (Cont.)	
2	COMMENT BY:	PAGE
3	Donald Barnes.....	34
4	Russell van Loben Sels.....	36
5	Stuart Walthall.....	38
6	Peter Stone.....	39
7	Susan Caston.....	42
8	Dr. Jeffrey Michael.....	43
9	Corie Hamer.....	46
10	Emily Pappalardo.....	48
11	Barbara Daly.....	50
12	Douglas Hsia.....	53
13	Brett Baker.....	54
14	Josephine Avila.....	59
15	Tim Neuharth.....	59
16	Daniel Armstrong.....	61
17	Mark Goble.....	62
18	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE.....	66

---o0o---

1 ~~MR. WALLACE: Thanks.~~

2 ~~MS. BARBIERI: Next question.~~

3 MR. DAWSON: Good evening. **Brian Dawson**, policy
4 counsel for **Sierra Club California**. I was wondering, is
5 there a legally mandated timeline as to when you all are
6 supposed to release both the scoping report and also the
7 Draft EIR after the scoping period?

8 MS. BUCKMAN: No, there is not a legally
9 mandated time.

10 MR. DAWSON: Thank you.

11 ~~MS. ELIZABETH: I'm Mary Elizabeth. My question~~
12 ~~was also about the scoping summary report, the formulate,~~
13 ~~the project development report, and then the technical~~
14 ~~report. So there's going to be a number of associated~~
15 ~~technical reports. And I just wanted to make sure that~~
16 ~~all of those intermediary reports will be available to~~
17 ~~the public before the DEIR.~~

18 ~~MS. BUCKMAN: So some of those reports are part~~
19 ~~of the Draft EIR, so they will be available with it. So~~
20 ~~the technical reports certainly will be part of the EIR.~~
21 ~~They're the direct information that feeds into it, and~~
22 ~~it's all the same piece of the analysis. So typically~~
23 ~~those become appendices to the Draft EIR, and so they~~
24 ~~wouldn't be -- we wouldn't be able to look through them~~
25 ~~preliminarily because they're not gonna be done yet until~~

1 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020

2 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT:

3 SCOPING AND CEQA

4 PUBLIC HEARING

5 **CERTIFIED COPY**

6
7
8
9
10 LOCATION OF HEARING:

11 Jean Harvie Community Center

12 14273 River Road

13 Walnut Grove, California 95690

14
15
16
17
18
19
20 REPORTED BY: BRIANNA RUDD, CSR NO. 13668

21 -----
22 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.

23 www.depo.com

24 (800) 288-3376

25 ABI FILE NO. AE014C6

A P P E A R A N C E S

JANET BARBIERI, Hearing Facilitator

CARRIE BUCKMAN, PowerPoint Presentation

Also Present:

MARCUS YEE, Department of Water Resources

BARBARA JONES, Department of Water Resources

KRISTINA REESE, Department of Water Resources

CONNOR BLOCK, Department of Water Resources

FRANCISCO ADAMA, Interpreter

---o0o---

I N D E X

Q&A SESSION: PAGE:

Nikki Seward..... 17

Jim Wallace..... 20

Brian Dawson..... 22

Mary Elizabeth..... 22

Max DeWalt..... 23

COMMENT BY:

Gregory Robinson..... 24, 57

Mary Elizabeth..... 25

James Motlow..... 27

Russell Oans..... 28

Dave Stirling..... 31

Mariah Looney..... 33

1	I N D E X (Cont.)	
2	COMMENT BY:	PAGE
3	Donald Barnes.....	34
4	Russell van Loben Sels.....	36
5	Stuart Walthall.....	38
6	Peter Stone.....	39
7	Susan Caston.....	42
8	Dr. Jeffrey Michael.....	43
9	Corie Hamer.....	46
10	Emily Pappalardo.....	48
11	Barbara Daly.....	50
12	Douglas Hsia.....	53
13	Brett Baker.....	54
14	Josephine Avila.....	59
15	Tim Neuharth.....	59
16	Daniel Armstrong.....	61
17	Mark Goble.....	62
18	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE.....	66

---o0o---

1 ~~the Draft EIR is complete.~~

~~2 MS. ELIZABETH: Okay. But you're going to be~~
~~3 basing the Draft EIR, the final text, on those technical~~
~~4 documents. And folks that are trying to review these~~
~~5 DEIRs, you know, they have, like, a lot of homework that~~
~~6 they have to do to catch up to what you all have been~~
~~7 doing, you know, for a year, year and a half. Thank you.~~

~~8 MS. BUCKMAN: I appreciate that. Thank you.~~

9 MS. DEWALT: My name is Max DeWalt, and I just
10 have a question about the environmental review. I'm just
11 looking at the topics that are included in that, and I
12 wanted to know if that includes the impact on animal
13 species, like birds, beavers, otters, turtles, things
14 like that?

15 MR. YEE: Sure. So the document will include an
16 analysis of terrestrial resources as well as aquatic
17 resources.

18 AUDIENCE MEMBER: We can't hear you.

19 MR. YEE: Yeah. So the question was whether or
20 not birds and other animals will be evaluated in the
21 document. Yes, there'll be a terrestrial resources
22 section as well as aquatic resources to cover the
23 biology.

24 MS. DEWALT: Thank you.

25 ~~MS. BARBIERI: Okay. Not seeing any other~~

1 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020

2 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT:

3 SCOPING AND CEQA

4 PUBLIC HEARING

5 **CERTIFIED COPY**

6
7
8
9
10 LOCATION OF HEARING:

11 Jean Harvie Community Center

12 14273 River Road

13 Walnut Grove, California 95690

14
15
16
17
18
19
20 REPORTED BY: BRIANNA RUDD, CSR NO. 13668

21 -----
22 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.

23 www.depo.com

24 (800) 288-3376

25 ABI FILE NO. AE014C6

A P P E A R A N C E S

JANET BARBIERI, Hearing Facilitator

CARRIE BUCKMAN, PowerPoint Presentation

Also Present:

MARCUS YEE, Department of Water Resources

BARBARA JONES, Department of Water Resources

KRISTINA REESE, Department of Water Resources

CONNOR BLOCK, Department of Water Resources

FRANCISCO ADAMA, Interpreter

---o0o---

I N D E X

Q&A SESSION: PAGE:

Nikki Seward..... 17

Jim Wallace..... 20

Brian Dawson..... 22

Mary Elizabeth..... 22

Max DeWalt..... 23

COMMENT BY:

Gregory Robinson..... 24, 57

Mary Elizabeth..... 25

James Motlow..... 27

Russell Oans..... 28

Dave Stirling..... 31

Mariah Looney..... 33

1	I N D E X (Cont.)	
2	COMMENT BY:	PAGE
3	Donald Barnes.....	34
4	Russell van Loben Sels.....	36
5	Stuart Walthall.....	38
6	Peter Stone.....	39
7	Susan Caston.....	42
8	Dr. Jeffrey Michael.....	43
9	Corie Hamer.....	46
10	Emily Pappalardo.....	48
11	Barbara Daly.....	50
12	Douglas Hsia.....	53
13	Brett Baker.....	54
14	Josephine Avila.....	59
15	Tim Neuharth.....	59
16	Daniel Armstrong.....	61
17	Mark Goble.....	62
18	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE.....	66

---o0o---

1 ~~employees of the Department of Water Resources. How is a~~
2 ~~department that works alongside the Bureau of~~
3 ~~Reclamation, that frequently dewateres salmon runs in the~~
4 ~~Feather River, the American River, how are you to be~~
5 ~~trusted with something as far as one of the biggest~~
6 ~~estuaries on the West Coast? How are you to be trusted~~
7 ~~with any sort of environmental plan that's gonna be~~
8 ~~helpful and beneficial to, like, the environment and~~
9 ~~people in the future? It's astounding.~~

10 ~~I agree with the people of Sutter Island more~~
11 ~~than anything that you can go forward with this type of~~
12 ~~project and there'll be tons and tons of resistance~~
13 ~~against it in the form of meetings and everything like~~
14 ~~this, and it's not gonna go away, and people won't stop~~
15 ~~coming to these meetings. And you can put them on~~
16 ~~Mondays, Monday nights, and schedule them like Department~~
17 ~~of Fish and Wildlife does on Wednesdays at ten o'clock in~~
18 ~~the morning, but people are still gonna show up, and~~
19 ~~people are still gonna hold opposition against you~~
20 ~~forever. And that's my lasting sentiment, is that you~~
21 ~~really are on the wrong side of history if you go forward~~
22 ~~with this. Thank you.~~

23 ~~MS. BARBIERI: Thank you. And the last card, I~~
24 ~~have at least, is Mark Goble.~~

25 ~~MR. GOBLE: Hi. I'm Mark Goble. I'm just a~~

1 lover of the Delta. I don't live out here with y'all
2 lucky folk. I'm a little bit west and a little bit
3 south. But I did want to say you guys have a lot of guts
4 for being here, and thank you for showing up and coming
5 out when people can actually be here and taking comments.

6 I've been researching this project the last two
7 weeks. And I love Google. You know, you can get a lot
8 of information out of it. And this project seems to be a
9 lot like the Water Fix. And then that other thing, back,
10 you know, when I was in high school and dinosaurs roamed,
11 was the Peripheral Canal. This doesn't seem to be much
12 different.

13 And I was reading through some historical stuff
14 and I saw something about the former employee of the
15 Metropolitan Water District from Los Angeles there. He
16 was the director of the Department of Water Resources --
17 and this is 1980-something -- and he was talking about
18 the Peripheral. So this has been going on for 30 years
19 basically, and it's the same plan.

20 I have two alternatives that I wanted to go
21 through. One of the things that I was -- I was rubbing
22 my eyes one night, and my lady friend came in, and she
23 said, "Yeah, why does it have to be underground? Why not
24 do a pipe?" I mean, I did mention that to a lady over
25 here (indicating), and she said, "God, that would be

1 ugly." But do you have any idea how ugly this tunnel's
2 gonna be? I mean, the Delta will be gone.

3 I watched the videos on Metropolitan's website
4 there on the Delta Fix, and what they're gonna do every
5 four miles. They're gonna open a big crater and have
6 maintenance permanently. You're gonna destroy everything
7 here, going south. Why not just stick a pipe on top of
8 it? You can paint it pink if you want to and make it
9 look pretty and put flowers on it, but it'd be a hell of
10 a lot cheaper than \$12 billion.

11 And does anybody else think it's kind of creepy
12 how much Metropolitan Water District has to do with you
13 guys and the water thing in general? I mean, they're,
14 like, everywhere.

15 It's a big pipe, leading to my last statement.
16 It's a really big pipe. It doesn't matter whether you
17 have two tunnels, four tunnels, one tunnel. You're gonna
18 destroy it by digging that out. If you're digging under
19 water and peat soil, you're gonna have to inject grout,
20 so you're gonna kill the groundwater with that. \$12
21 billion doesn't cover it. That's 30 miles you guys are
22 gonna go. It's insanity. If you gotta do something, do
23 a pipe.

24 The other -- and the second and the last thing
25 I'm gonna say is, you have to -- if you really want an

1 alternative, you have to take the money away from selling
2 water. You've got Resnick and Vidovich and all these
3 guys down there making their billions on selling water.
4 They're taking your water. They're taking your water
5 rights, and they're selling it and making money. Until
6 somebody can put a cap -- you have to put a cap on how
7 much money they can make. Until you do that, you're
8 always gonna be in deficit with water. Thank you very
9 much.

10 ~~MS. BARBIERI: Thank you. So I don't have any~~
11 ~~other speaker cards, unless anybody alerts me. I did~~
12 ~~want to acknowledge, just briefly, Supervisor Don~~
13 ~~Nottoli, thank you for coming out tonight. I apologize.~~
14 ~~Are there any other elected officials I should~~
15 ~~acknowledge? I think we did have someone here from~~
16 ~~Representative McNerney's office. I don't know if you're~~
17 ~~still here.~~

18 ~~Okay. So if there aren't any other comments,~~
19 ~~we'll wrap the evening up. We'll stay if you have any~~
20 ~~questions. Thank you so much for coming out tonight.~~
21 ~~Good night.~~

22 ~~(Whereupon the hearing concluded at 7:34 p.m.)~~

23
24
25

1 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020

2 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT:

3 SCOPING AND CEQA

4 PUBLIC HEARING

5 **CERTIFIED COPY**

6
7
8
9
10 LOCATION OF HEARING:

11 Jean Harvie Community Center

12 14273 River Road

13 Walnut Grove, California 95690

14
15
16
17
18
19
20 REPORTED BY: BRIANNA RUDD, CSR NO. 13668

21 -----
22 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.

23 www.depo.com

24 (800) 288-3376

25 ABI FILE NO. AE014C6

A P P E A R A N C E S

JANET BARBIERI, Hearing Facilitator

CARRIE BUCKMAN, PowerPoint Presentation

Also Present:

MARCUS YEE, Department of Water Resources

BARBARA JONES, Department of Water Resources

KRISTINA REESE, Department of Water Resources

CONNOR BLOCK, Department of Water Resources

FRANCISCO ADAMA, Interpreter

---o0o---

I N D E X

Q&A SESSION: PAGE:

Nikki Seward..... 17

Jim Wallace..... 20

Brian Dawson..... 22

Mary Elizabeth..... 22

Max DeWalt..... 23

COMMENT BY:

Gregory Robinson..... 24, 57

Mary Elizabeth..... 25

James Motlow..... 27

Russell Oans..... 28

Dave Stirling..... 31

Mariah Looney..... 33

1	I N D E X (Cont.)	
2	COMMENT BY:	PAGE
3	Donald Barnes.....	34
4	Russell van Loben Sels.....	36
5	Stuart Walthall.....	38
6	Peter Stone.....	39
7	Susan Caston.....	42
8	Dr. Jeffrey Michael.....	43
9	Corie Hamer.....	46
10	Emily Pappalardo.....	48
11	Barbara Daly.....	50
12	Douglas Hsia.....	53
13	Brett Baker.....	54
14	Josephine Avila.....	59
15	Tim Neuharth.....	59
16	Daniel Armstrong.....	61
17	Mark Goble.....	62
18	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE.....	66

---o0o---

1 ~~recommend that you consider that in your alternatives.~~

2 ~~Thank you.~~

3 MS. HAMER: Hi. My name is Corie Hamer. I want
4 to thank you for coming to Walnut Grove. I particularly
5 want to thank everybody here that came to a meeting
6 tonight. I think this is awesome.

7 I have just a basic two comments. My first
8 comment is, Mother Nature took millions of years to
9 create this estuary; we can destroy it in ten years or
10 less. So just be really, really careful and think about
11 how many years it's going to take to restore it if we do
12 mess it up with this tunnel project. It'll never come
13 back. The estuary could never come back in any of our
14 lifetimes if we destroy it. Now, that's my basic first
15 comment.

16 My second comment is that I'm really worried
17 about the fact that you only want to take water during
18 high-water events. That's like saying I'm only gonna
19 feed my family dinner when my boss gives me a bonus; the
20 rest of the time, my family has to go hungry. They're
21 not gonna be too happy about that. They're gonna be
22 hungry all the time because I don't get bonuses all that
23 often.

24 So what's to keep us from being forced to give
25 more and more water that we don't have to Southern

1 California and the users down there? How can you just
2 say oh it's only during high water events? Hey, they're
3 gonna be hungry all the time. I really think that this
4 is not a good plan. Thank you.

5 MR. POPE: ~~Hello, my name is Robert Pope. I'm a~~
~~6 resident of the Delta a little further south than Oakley.~~

~~7 This project seems to me to be a disingenuous~~
~~8 method of achieving just some of the stated -- the newest~~
~~9 version of the stated water goals that we have. It does~~
~~10 not seem to address at all the strengthening of the~~
~~11 current levees. It -- the current exports already have a~~
~~12 damaging effect on the ecosystem. It appears as though~~
~~13 the new system would increase flows even more, further~~
~~14 damaging, further increasing saltwater intrusion into the~~
~~15 Delta ecosystem, harming salmon, the local communities,~~
~~16 other impacted species. It appears the alignment of the~~
~~17 tunnels, once we start shipping it south, is right~~
~~18 through a heron breeding ground, according to the map.~~

~~19 We already seem to have a problem with~~
~~20 prioritizing, where one of the stated goals is to~~
~~21 increase groundwater for drinking water purposes down in~~
~~22 the Central Valley, and we already ship a ton of water~~
~~23 down there that's being used by almonds and the Resnick~~
~~24 empire. The -- let's see -- the planned tunnels -- or~~
~~25 this whole system does not seem to impact where floods~~

1 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020

2 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT:

3 SCOPING AND CEQA

4 PUBLIC HEARING

5 **CERTIFIED COPY**

6
7
8
9
10 LOCATION OF HEARING:

11 Jean Harvie Community Center

12 14273 River Road

13 Walnut Grove, California 95690

14
15
16
17
18
19
20 REPORTED BY: BRIANNA RUDD, CSR NO. 13668

21 -----
22 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.

23 www.depo.com

24 (800) 288-3376

25 ABI FILE NO. AE014C6

A P P E A R A N C E S

JANET BARBIERI, Hearing Facilitator

CARRIE BUCKMAN, PowerPoint Presentation

Also Present:

MARCUS YEE, Department of Water Resources

BARBARA JONES, Department of Water Resources

KRISTINA REESE, Department of Water Resources

CONNOR BLOCK, Department of Water Resources

FRANCISCO ADAMA, Interpreter

---o0o---

I N D E X

Q&A SESSION: PAGE:

Nikki Seward..... 17

Jim Wallace..... 20

Brian Dawson..... 22

Mary Elizabeth..... 22

Max DeWalt..... 23

COMMENT BY:

Gregory Robinson..... 24, 57

Mary Elizabeth..... 25

James Motlow..... 27

Russell Oans..... 28

Dave Stirling..... 31

Mariah Looney..... 33

1	I N D E X (Cont.)	
2	COMMENT BY:	PAGE
3	Donald Barnes.....	34
4	Russell van Loben Sels.....	36
5	Stuart Walthall.....	38
6	Peter Stone.....	39
7	Susan Caston.....	42
8	Dr. Jeffrey Michael.....	43
9	Corie Hamer.....	46
10	Emily Pappalardo.....	48
11	Barbara Daly.....	50
12	Douglas Hsia.....	53
13	Brett Baker.....	54
14	Josephine Avila.....	59
15	Tim Neuharth.....	59
16	Daniel Armstrong.....	61
17	Mark Goble.....	62
18	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE.....	66

---o0o---

1 ~~here, as the saltwater would encroach farther into the~~
2 ~~Delta with this project, and, as the past EIR/EIS stated,~~
3 ~~that the people in the Delta abandon their homes and~~
4 ~~buildings during the construction phase.~~

5 ~~Please shelve this one and look at better~~
6 ~~alternatives that will solve the coequal goals presented~~
7 ~~to the state by the legislature in 2009. This project of~~
8 ~~single tunnel is not viable, no matter how much you dress~~
9 ~~it up. And I've listed here six reasons why. I think~~
10 ~~I'm gonna run out of time, so I won't list them. But the~~
11 ~~intakes in one tunnel do not protect and enhance the~~
12 ~~unique cultural, recreational, natural resource and~~
13 ~~agricultural values of the Delta. We request that you~~
14 ~~look at other ways, alternatives to one tunnel, to create~~
15 ~~a reliable water supply for all of California.~~

16 ~~MS. BARBIERI: Thank you.~~

17 MR. HSIA: Hi. My name is Douglas Hsia. I'm a
18 resident of Walnut Grove on Grand Island. I'm also a
19 committee member of the stakeholder engagement committee.

20 Well, first of all, I'd like to share my
21 favorable experience with the stakeholder committee. I
22 mean, you guys do a good job, and you guys take a lot
23 more seriously with us than I expected. And you give us
24 enough great, in-depth explanations of the work in
25 progress.

1 Well, now I'd like to echo with James Motlow's
2 comment today, which is about Congressman John
3 Garamendi's leadership pickup plan, which is a -- taking
4 water from the Deep Water Channel at the intake near Rio
5 Vista, and this is the bridge of our essential corridor.
6 And I think that plan is good because -- I think it is
7 good because I think it will have much less impact on the
8 environment, it's much less work, and it probably have a
9 lot less -- it takes away a lot of caution that the
10 people show here.

11 So I would sincerely like to have John
12 Garamendi's Deep Water Channel plan to put on the
13 stakeholder committee, and we can try to explore and
14 study further. That's all.

15 ~~MS. BARBIERI: Thank you. I'm just gonna call~~
16 ~~the next three folks up before you start. Josephine~~
17 ~~Avila, Tim Neuharth and Gregory Robinson for another~~
18 ~~turn. Please proceed.~~

19 ~~MR. BAKER: I don't think I need the whole four~~
20 ~~minutes, so don't even bother starting the clock. My~~
21 ~~name's Brett Baker. I just came here tonight to share~~
22 ~~with you my perspective on the Delta and my plan.~~

23 ~~So today is my 36th birthday. And as you can~~
24 ~~see, I know how to party. So if you put that in~~
25 ~~perspective, I came online somewhere between SB 200 going~~

1 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020

2 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT:

3 SCOPING AND CEQA

4 PUBLIC HEARING

5 **CERTIFIED COPY**

6
7
8
9
10 LOCATION OF HEARING:

11 Jean Harvie Community Center

12 14273 River Road

13 Walnut Grove, California 95690

14
15
16
17
18
19
20 REPORTED BY: BRIANNA RUDD, CSR NO. 13668

21 -----
22 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.

23 www.depo.com

24 (800) 288-3376

25 ABI FILE NO. AE014C6

A P P E A R A N C E S

JANET BARBIERI, Hearing Facilitator

CARRIE BUCKMAN, PowerPoint Presentation

Also Present:

MARCUS YEE, Department of Water Resources

BARBARA JONES, Department of Water Resources

KRISTINA REESE, Department of Water Resources

CONNOR BLOCK, Department of Water Resources

FRANCISCO ADAMA, Interpreter

---o0o---

I N D E X

Q&A SESSION: PAGE:

Nikki Seward..... 17

Jim Wallace..... 20

Brian Dawson..... 22

Mary Elizabeth..... 22

Max DeWalt..... 23

COMMENT BY:

Gregory Robinson..... 24, 57

Mary Elizabeth..... 25

James Motlow..... 27

Russell Oans..... 28

Dave Stirling..... 31

Mariah Looney..... 33

1	I N D E X (Cont.)	
2	COMMENT BY:	PAGE
3	Donald Barnes.....	34
4	Russell van Loben Sels.....	36
5	Stuart Walthall.....	38
6	Peter Stone.....	39
7	Susan Caston.....	42
8	Dr. Jeffrey Michael.....	43
9	Corie Hamer.....	46
10	Emily Pappalardo.....	48
11	Barbara Daly.....	50
12	Douglas Hsia.....	53
13	Brett Baker.....	54
14	Josephine Avila.....	59
15	Tim Neuharth.....	59
16	Daniel Armstrong.....	61
17	Mark Goble.....	62
18	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE.....	66

---o0o---

1 ~~it. I'm concerned about my well. You know, we're on~~
2 ~~well water. So I'm really scared. I'm very, very afraid~~
3 ~~about this. And I'm stressed out about it, and I worry~~
4 ~~about it all the time. So thank you.~~

5 ~~MS. BARBIERI: Dr. Michael, before you start,~~
6 ~~I'm gonna call the next three speakers. I think this is~~
7 ~~Corie Hamer, Emily Pappalardo, and Robert Pope, if you~~
8 ~~could be prepared. Please proceed.~~

9 DR. MICHAEL: Thank you. My name is Dr. Jeff
10 Michael. I'm the executive director for the Center for
11 Business and Policy Research at the University of
12 Pacific. Most of my comments here today, I'm gonna be
13 reading back Department of Water Resources documents to
14 you, because I know that is very important to you, on a
15 project of such cost and importance, to proceed in this
16 process following the highest professional standards.

17 The first comment I have is how you're dealing
18 with finance and how it is typically done in projects of
19 extreme cost. Financial analysis and feasibility
20 analysis is usually done in tandem with environmental
21 analysis or preceding it. This is according to
22 Department of Water Resources' own guidance as well as
23 other sister agencies. It can be seen in virtually every
24 major infrastructure planning process in California and
25 around it.

1 The FAQs for this NOI says that economic and
2 cost considerations will be considered after the project
3 is selected. That's inconsistent with the best
4 practices. It's inconsistent with your own guidelines.
5 And there's serious reasons for that. So -- and some are
6 pretty obvious, because finance is gonna drive
7 operations, it's gonna drive project design, and there's
8 a strong reason why those feasibility considerations are
9 done up front.

10 Guidance for a state-led feasibility study --
11 this is a Department of Water Resources report from 2016
12 -- on page 26 says, "The most efficient way to prepare
13 environmental documentation may be to initiate the
14 process in the second half of the feasibility study
15 process or immediately after the feasibility study is
16 completed." And I can talk a lot more about why that's
17 true, and I think it's common sense of any sort of
18 project planning why these things need to be considered
19 up front. So you have time to fix that now, and I ask
20 that you follow your own guidelines and deal with finance
21 up front.

22 The second is just talking about alternatives
23 and the consequences. I understand, reading this, that
24 the biggest concern that you're trying to address is the
25 levee system and its vulnerability to an earthquake.

1 I was also looking at Department of Water
2 Resources documents for the Delta risk management study
3 that illustrated the risks and consequences of this
4 from 2006. I'd like to quote from the first paragraph of
5 that study that says "Levee failures and the flooding
6 that follows can cause: (1) fatalities; (2) destruction
7 of property and infrastructure; and (3) interruption of a
8 portion of California's water supplies."

9 This is a Department of Water Resources
10 document, and it got the order of consequences correct.
11 Actually, reading through the analyses [sic] of old
12 consequences, we find that the first two are actually a
13 lot more serious. And I was actually looking at the
14 numbers and comparing them to some recent disasters, and
15 I found the median scenarios for fatalities and property
16 damage to be quite comparable to the Camp Fire that
17 destroyed Paradise.

18 So in light of that, I think it behooves you to
19 consider consequences that are focused on a seismically
20 resistant levee system. And in fact, another Department
21 of Water Resources document, in 2008, submitted to the
22 California state legislature, identified seismically
23 resistant levees as one of three promising strategies to
24 address this risk. Department of Water Resources has not
25 done anything since then to investigate that, so I

1 recommend that you consider that in your alternatives.

2 Thank you.

3 ~~MS. HAMER: Hi. My name is Corie Hamer. I want~~
4 ~~to thank you for coming to Walnut Grove. I particularly~~
5 ~~want to thank everybody here that came to a meeting~~
6 ~~tonight. I think this is awesome.~~

7 ~~I have just a basic two comments. My first~~
8 ~~comment is, Mother Nature took millions of years to~~
9 ~~create this estuary; we can destroy it in ten years or~~
10 ~~less. So just be really, really careful and think about~~
11 ~~how many years it's going to take to restore it if we do~~
12 ~~mess it up with this tunnel project. It'll never come~~
13 ~~back. The estuary could never come back in any of our~~
14 ~~lifetimes if we destroy it. Now, that's my basic first~~
15 ~~comment.~~

16 ~~My second comment is that I'm really worried~~
17 ~~about the fact that you only want to take water during~~
18 ~~high-water events. That's like saying I'm only gonna~~
19 ~~feed my family dinner when my boss gives me a bonus; the~~
20 ~~rest of the time, my family has to go hungry. They're~~
21 ~~not gonna be too happy about that. They're gonna be~~
22 ~~hungry all the time because I don't get bonuses all that~~
23 ~~often.~~

24 ~~So what's to keep us from being forced to give~~
25 ~~more and more water that we don't have to Southern~~

1 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020

2 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT:

3 SCOPING AND CEQA

4 PUBLIC HEARING

5 **CERTIFIED COPY**

6
7
8
9
10 LOCATION OF HEARING:

11 Jean Harvie Community Center

12 14273 River Road

13 Walnut Grove, California 95690

14
15
16
17
18
19
20 REPORTED BY: BRIANNA RUDD, CSR NO. 13668

21 -----
22 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.

23 www.depo.com

24 (800) 288-3376

25 ABI FILE NO. AE014C6

A P P E A R A N C E S

JANET BARBIERI, Hearing Facilitator

CARRIE BUCKMAN, PowerPoint Presentation

Also Present:

MARCUS YEE, Department of Water Resources

BARBARA JONES, Department of Water Resources

KRISTINA REESE, Department of Water Resources

CONNOR BLOCK, Department of Water Resources

FRANCISCO ADAMA, Interpreter

---o0o---

I N D E X

Q&A SESSION: PAGE:

Nikki Seward..... 17

Jim Wallace..... 20

Brian Dawson..... 22

Mary Elizabeth..... 22

Max DeWalt..... 23

COMMENT BY:

Gregory Robinson..... 24, 57

Mary Elizabeth..... 25

James Motlow..... 27

Russell Oans..... 28

Dave Stirling..... 31

Mariah Looney..... 33

1	I N D E X (Cont.)	
2	COMMENT BY:	PAGE
3	Donald Barnes.....	34
4	Russell van Loben Sels.....	36
5	Stuart Walthall.....	38
6	Peter Stone.....	39
7	Susan Caston.....	42
8	Dr. Jeffrey Michael.....	43
9	Corie Hamer.....	46
10	Emily Pappalardo.....	48
11	Barbara Daly.....	50
12	Douglas Hsia.....	53
13	Brett Baker.....	54
14	Josephine Avila.....	59
15	Tim Neuharth.....	59
16	Daniel Armstrong.....	61
17	Mark Goble.....	62
18	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE.....	66

---o0o---

1 ~~I send it in.~~

2 ~~(Collective laughter.)~~

3 ~~MS. BARBIERI: So the next three speakers are~~
4 ~~Donald Barnes, Russell van Loben Sels and Stuart Walthal,~~
5 ~~so if you could get yourselves ready. And please~~
6 ~~proceed.~~

7 MS. LOONEY: Hello. My name is **Mariah Looney,**
8 and I'm with **Restore the Delta.**

9 This is a project that is supposed to protect
10 and ensure a reliable water supply, but so far, from
11 everything that I've read, the tunnel will either not be
12 used half the time or protections for the Delta will be
13 abandoned and the water will just be taken. How does
14 does that serve the entire state? Where are the real
15 studies on additional exports on water quality for the
16 Delta, and the urban Delta, of course? And is this worth
17 disrupting entire Delta heritage communities?

18 By taking more and more Sacramento River water,
19 the Delta will be left with salty, polluted water, loaded
20 with selenium, boron and bromides. Where's the plan for
21 mitigating harmful algal blooms during construction,
22 which will increase in rivers and sloughs as a result of
23 changing flows during construction? And that's all the
24 Delta, even though I mostly focused on Stockton because I
25 live in Stockton.

1 I'm also very concerned about the construction
2 impacts for Delta communities and the urban Delta area.
3 There will be heavy truck traffic to all major
4 construction sites, competing on I-5 and Highway 4 and
5 through major arteries. Right now 30,000 people commute
6 from Stockton to Sacramento, and 40,000 people commute to
7 the Bay Area. Where are the regional traffic studies?
8 This will hurt and not help our local economies. And the
9 few hundred jobs from tunnel construction will not offset
10 this economic hit.

11 And it will also increase air pollution impacts.
12 What will the air pollution impacts from construction be
13 on rural communities especially, and urban communities
14 near the port, which has -- southwest Stockton is now an
15 AB 617-designated area by the State. They already have
16 some of the worst air quality in the entire state, and
17 this project is not gonna help that at all by putting 400
18 more trucks on the road. And I can't even imagine what
19 that would do to urban -- or rural communities as well.
20 So that's all. Thank you.

21 ~~MS. BARBIERI: Thank you very much. Mr. Barnes?~~

22 ~~MR. BARNES: Good evening. It's great to see~~
23 ~~such a great turnout from representatives of our Delta~~
24 ~~citizenship here.~~

25 ~~In any event, I was asked by Barbara Deaks,~~

1 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020

2 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT:

3 SCOPING AND CEQA

4 PUBLIC HEARING

5 **CERTIFIED COPY**

6
7
8
9
10 LOCATION OF HEARING:

11 Jean Harvie Community Center

12 14273 River Road

13 Walnut Grove, California 95690

14
15
16
17
18
19
20 REPORTED BY: BRIANNA RUDD, CSR NO. 13668

21 -----
22 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.

23 www.depo.com

24 (800) 288-3376

25 ABI FILE NO. AE014C6

A P P E A R A N C E S

JANET BARBIERI, Hearing Facilitator

CARRIE BUCKMAN, PowerPoint Presentation

Also Present:

MARCUS YEE, Department of Water Resources

BARBARA JONES, Department of Water Resources

KRISTINA REESE, Department of Water Resources

CONNOR BLOCK, Department of Water Resources

FRANCISCO ADAMA, Interpreter

---o0o---

I N D E X

Q&A SESSION: PAGE:

Nikki Seward..... 17

Jim Wallace..... 20

Brian Dawson..... 22

Mary Elizabeth..... 22

Max DeWalt..... 23

COMMENT BY:

Gregory Robinson..... 24, 57

Mary Elizabeth..... 25

James Motlow..... 27

Russell Oans..... 28

Dave Stirling..... 31

Mariah Looney..... 33

1	I N D E X (Cont.)	
2	COMMENT BY:	PAGE
3	Donald Barnes.....	34
4	Russell van Loben Sels.....	36
5	Stuart Walthall.....	38
6	Peter Stone.....	39
7	Susan Caston.....	42
8	Dr. Jeffrey Michael.....	43
9	Corie Hamer.....	46
10	Emily Pappalardo.....	48
11	Barbara Daly.....	50
12	Douglas Hsia.....	53
13	Brett Baker.....	54
14	Josephine Avila.....	59
15	Tim Neuharth.....	59
16	Daniel Armstrong.....	61
17	Mark Goble.....	62
18	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE.....	66

---o0o---

1 ~~MR. WALLACE: Thanks.~~

2 ~~MS. BARBIERI: Next question.~~

3 ~~MR. DAWSON: Good evening. Brian Dawson, policy~~
4 ~~counsel for Sierra Club California. I was wondering, is~~
5 ~~there a legally mandated timeline as to when you all are~~
6 ~~supposed to release both the scoping report and also the~~
7 ~~Draft EIR after the scoping period?~~

8 ~~MS. BUCKMAN: No, there is not a legally~~
9 ~~mandated time.~~

10 ~~MR. DAWSON: Thank you.~~

11 MS. ELIZABETH: I'm Mary Elizabeth. My question
12 was also about the scoping summary report, the formulate,
13 the project development report, and then the technical
14 report. So there's going to be a number of associated
15 technical reports. And I just wanted to make sure that
16 all of those intermediary reports will be available to
17 the public before the DEIR.

18 MS. BUCKMAN: So some of those reports are part
19 of the Draft EIR, so they will be available with it. So
20 the technical reports certainly will be part of the EIR.
21 They're the direct information that feeds into it, and
22 it's all the same piece of the analysis. So typically
23 those become appendices to the Draft EIR, and so they
24 wouldn't be -- we wouldn't be able to look through them
25 preliminarily because they're not gonna be done yet until

1 the Draft EIR is complete.

2 MS. ELIZABETH: Okay. But you're going to be
3 basing the Draft EIR, the final text, on those technical
4 documents. And folks that are trying to review these
5 DEIRs, you know, they have, like, a lot of homework that
6 they have to do to catch up to what you all have been
7 doing, you know, for a year, year and a half. Thank you.

8 ~~MS. BUCKMAN: I appreciate that. Thank you.~~

9 ~~MS. DEWALT: My name is Max DeWalt, and I just~~
10 ~~have a question about the environmental review. I'm just~~
11 ~~looking at the topics that are included in that, and I~~
12 ~~wanted to know if that includes the impact on animal~~
13 ~~species, like birds, beavers, otters, turtles, things~~
14 ~~like that?~~

15 ~~MR. YEE: Sure. So the document will include an~~
16 ~~analysis of terrestrial resources as well as aquatic~~
17 ~~resources.~~

18 ~~AUDIENCE MEMBER: We can't hear you.~~

19 ~~MR. YEE: Yeah. So the question was whether or~~
20 ~~not birds and other animals will be evaluated in the~~
21 ~~document. Yes, there'll be a terrestrial resources~~
22 ~~section as well as aquatic resources to cover the~~
23 ~~biology.~~

24 ~~MS. DEWALT: Thank you.~~

25 ~~MS. BARBIERI: Okay. Not seeing any other~~

1 Pacific Flyway. Your planned conveyance corridors run
2 right through our preserve and could destroy it. Natural
3 habitats like ours have all but disappeared from
4 California. It's not like we can just pick up our
5 project and move it to get out of your way.

6 Can't you please find another route? There must
7 be another solution that provides the aqueduct with the
8 water you need but also spares the rare biodiversity that
9 we are trying to protect and preserve. Thank you.

10 MS. BARBIERI: Thanks very much.

11 MS. ELIZABETH: Hello. My name is Mary
12 Elizabeth, and I reside in Stockton, California. I'm
13 unable to attend the Stockton meeting, as I teach math to
14 adult GED and high school students in the evenings.

15 Six-thousand cubic feet per second of
16 high-quality water bypassing the Delta is about 2.5
17 million gallons of water a minute, which will have a huge
18 impact on Delta water quality. The disturbance of an
19 unspecified amount of soil to dig down 190 feet below the
20 ground surface, that has yet to have a reuse identified,
21 is unacceptable.

22 DWR must have some better ideas, at this point,
23 on plans for these soils. The areas for the facilities
24 were not well illustrated on the few maps included in the
25 Notice of Preparation. Extensive maps should be prepared

1 based on the existing descriptions and made available to
2 stakeholders so that comments can be prepared before the
3 development of the Draft Environmental Impact Report.

4 Yes, surface water flow changes will be occurring, and
5 these changes should be estimated at multiple points in
6 the Delta and at sites requested by stakeholders to
7 ensure that public health and recreational water quality
8 goals can be achieved.

9 Existing overallocations of surface water and
10 pesticide fertilizer loading have resulted in toxic algal
11 blooms in and around Stockton, which directly impact the
12 ability to use the waterways of Stockton for fishing and
13 recreation. These cyanobacteria produce toxins that can
14 become airborne -- the stench -- degrading air quality in
15 areas already impacted by poor air quality.

16 The Notice of Preparation stated that operations
17 of the conveyance facility are proposed to increase DWR's
18 ability to capture water during high-flow events. These
19 are current high-flow events which will be needed locally
20 as a result of climate changing, snowpack storage, and as
21 groundwater basins get back to sustainable yields.

22 Already the call for systemwide water budgets
23 has been made. The DEIR should assess all reaches of
24 source water and determine high flows that are protective
25 of all resources. These same high flows should not

1 solely be used by DWR but only a percentage that is
2 agreeable to local communities.

3 Special considerations and analysis should be
4 prepared for the disadvantaged communities within the
5 area of construction. The DWR should be preparing white
6 papers that provide information to stakeholders of the
7 Draft Environmental Impact Report progress and initial
8 findings, including the analysis behind these findings so
9 that, when the DEIR is complete, stakeholders have had an
10 opportunity to become educated and provide relevant
11 comments.

12 This project will impact the residents from
13 South Sacramento to South San Joaquin County, all to
14 benefit primarily areas of the South that have used their
15 water resources for economic gain. Water is a human
16 right. Thank you.

17 ~~MS. BARBIERI: If you don't mind, I'm gonna call~~
18 ~~up the next three. Russell Oans, Dave Stirling, and~~
19 ~~Mariah Looney. So please proceed.~~

20 ~~MR. MOTLOW: So thank you for being here. We~~
21 ~~really -- I really appreciate it.~~

22 ~~Two tunnels was a bad idea -- I should also say,~~
23 ~~I'm a resident of Locke, and I'm the co-author of the~~
24 ~~definitive book about Locke called "Bitter Melon." Like~~
25 ~~the two tunnels, this proposed single tunnel is a bad~~

1 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020

2 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT:

3 SCOPING AND CEQA

4 PUBLIC HEARING

5 **CERTIFIED COPY**

6
7
8
9
10 LOCATION OF HEARING:

11 Jean Harvie Community Center

12 14273 River Road

13 Walnut Grove, California 95690

14
15
16
17
18
19
20 REPORTED BY: BRIANNA RUDD, CSR NO. 13668

21 -----
22 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.

23 www.depo.com

24 (800) 288-3376

25 ABI FILE NO. AE014C6

A P P E A R A N C E S

JANET BARBIERI, Hearing Facilitator

CARRIE BUCKMAN, PowerPoint Presentation

Also Present:

MARCUS YEE, Department of Water Resources

BARBARA JONES, Department of Water Resources

KRISTINA REESE, Department of Water Resources

CONNOR BLOCK, Department of Water Resources

FRANCISCO ADAMA, Interpreter

---o0o---

I N D E X

Q&A SESSION: PAGE:

Nikki Seward..... 17

Jim Wallace..... 20

Brian Dawson..... 22

Mary Elizabeth..... 22

Max DeWalt..... 23

COMMENT BY:

Gregory Robinson..... 24, 57

Mary Elizabeth..... 25

James Motlow..... 27

Russell Oans..... 28

Dave Stirling..... 31

Mariah Looney..... 33

1	I N D E X (Cont.)	
2	COMMENT BY:	PAGE
3	Donald Barnes.....	34
4	Russell van Loben Sels.....	36
5	Stuart Walthall.....	38
6	Peter Stone.....	39
7	Susan Caston.....	42
8	Dr. Jeffrey Michael.....	43
9	Corie Hamer.....	46
10	Emily Pappalardo.....	48
11	Barbara Daly.....	50
12	Douglas Hsia.....	53
13	Brett Baker.....	54
14	Josephine Avila.....	59
15	Tim Neuharth.....	59
16	Daniel Armstrong.....	61
17	Mark Goble.....	62
18	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE.....	66

---o0o---

1 solely be used by DWR but only a percentage that is
2 agreeable to local communities.
3 Special considerations and analysis should be
4 prepared for the disadvantaged communities within the
5 area of construction. The DWR should be preparing white
6 papers that provide information to stakeholders of the
7 Draft Environmental Impact Report progress and initial
8 findings, including the analysis behind these findings so
9 that, when the DEIR is complete, stakeholders have had an
10 opportunity to become educated and provide relevant
11 comments.

12 This project will impact the residents from
13 South Sacramento to South San Joaquin County, all to
14 benefit primarily areas of the South that have used their
15 water resources for economic gain. Water is a human
16 right. Thank you.

17 MS. BARBIERI: If you don't mind, I'm gonna call
18 up the next three. Russell Oans, Dave Stirling, and
19 Mariah Looney. So please proceed.

20 MR. MOTLOW: So thank you for being here. We
21 really -- I really appreciate it.

22 Two tunnels was a bad idea -- I should also say,
23 I'm a resident of Locke, and I'm the co-author of the
24 definitive book about Locke called "Bitter Melon." Like
25 the two tunnels, this proposed single tunnel is a bad

1 idea. The three intakes, the construction of it is a
2 destruction to the Delta and would be a destruction to
3 Locke, one of the legacy communities.

4 There is an alternative to this bad idea. John
5 Garamendi has a proposal. Why this wasn't included in
6 these proposals as another alternative, and why it has to
7 wait to be included -- and when alternatives are
8 considered -- is a mystery. It seems that Garamendi, who
9 is our local congressman, and who knows the Delta quite
10 well, has proposed a very comprehensive, intelligent and
11 far-reaching proposal that is based upon science and
12 primarily conservation and the restructuring of the Delta
13 levees. Why this is not being talked about as a
14 reasonable way, in order to save the Delta and provide
15 water to the rest of California, again, it's a mystery.
16 And thank you very much.

17 ~~MS. BARBIERI: Thank you. So our next three~~
18 ~~speakers, Mr. Oans -- whoever wants to go next, it's~~
19 ~~fine.~~

20 ~~MR. OANS: Russell Oans. I live in Locke. I'm~~
21 ~~on the Delta Legacy Committee. I've been thinking about~~
22 ~~the tunnels since we were first allowed to hear about~~
23 ~~them. There was a lot of planning that went on without~~
24 ~~us -- the Delta, I mean.~~

25 ~~I have two points to make. One of them is a~~

1 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020

2 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT:

3 SCOPING AND CEQA

4 PUBLIC HEARING

5 **CERTIFIED COPY**

6
7
8
9
10 LOCATION OF HEARING:

11 Jean Harvie Community Center

12 14273 River Road

13 Walnut Grove, California 95690

14
15
16
17
18
19
20 REPORTED BY: BRIANNA RUDD, CSR NO. 13668

21 -----
22 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.

23 www.depo.com

24 (800) 288-3376

25 ABI FILE NO. AE014C6

A P P E A R A N C E S

JANET BARBIERI, Hearing Facilitator

CARRIE BUCKMAN, PowerPoint Presentation

Also Present:

MARCUS YEE, Department of Water Resources

BARBARA JONES, Department of Water Resources

KRISTINA REESE, Department of Water Resources

CONNOR BLOCK, Department of Water Resources

FRANCISCO ADAMA, Interpreter

---o0o---

I N D E X

Q&A SESSION: PAGE:

Nikki Seward..... 17

Jim Wallace..... 20

Brian Dawson..... 22

Mary Elizabeth..... 22

Max DeWalt..... 23

COMMENT BY:

Gregory Robinson..... 24, 57

Mary Elizabeth..... 25

James Motlow..... 27

Russell Oans..... 28

Dave Stirling..... 31

Mariah Looney..... 33

1	I N D E X (Cont.)	
2	COMMENT BY:	PAGE
3	Donald Barnes.....	34
4	Russell van Loben Sels.....	36
5	Stuart Walthall.....	38
6	Peter Stone.....	39
7	Susan Caston.....	42
8	Dr. Jeffrey Michael.....	43
9	Corie Hamer.....	46
10	Emily Pappalardo.....	48
11	Barbara Daly.....	50
12	Douglas Hsia.....	53
13	Brett Baker.....	54
14	Josephine Avila.....	59
15	Tim Neuharth.....	59
16	Daniel Armstrong.....	61
17	Mark Goble.....	62
18	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE.....	66

---o0o---

1 don't see how that can be done. So thank you for your
2 time.

3 MS. BARBIERI: Thank you.

4 MS. AVILA: Good evening. My name is Josephine
5 Avila. I am the town manager of Locke.

6 The few little things that I just want to say,
7 because everybody here has already spoken about all the
8 things and all the reasons why we should not do this, but
9 the other thing is, is that there are so many families in
10 the Delta with children. The Delta is so safe for our
11 kids out here. I know it sounds weird, but I feel the
12 most at home, and I don't want my children to have to
13 lose their homes just to have these tunnels put in -- or
14 anybody else's. Thank you.

15 MS. BARBIERI: Mr. Neuharth, yeah, come up. And
16 then...

17 MR. NEUHARTH: Good evening, and thank you for
18 being here. My name is Tim Neuharth. I'm a local
19 resident of the Delta and a farmer on Sutter Island,
20 right next door to Brett Baker, as a matter of fact.

21 So first of all, I want to thank this crowd for
22 being here. This is the biggest group of people that
23 I've seen, to date, that -- at least in my experience on
24 this whole Delta tunnels thing. So thank you for being
25 here, thank you for your interest, and keep it coming.

1 And talk to your friends and neighbors and get them to
2 come out and listen to this stuff as well because it's
3 direly important.

4 So very quickly, this whole project, for the
5 last ten years, has been nothing but the same, the same
6 project, the same point of diversion, of taking it out of
7 the Sacramento River before it ever gets into the Delta.
8 We already know that the Delta is hurting and having
9 problems, but yet we're gonna take more water out of it.
10 Really? Does that make sense to anybody? Doesn't to me.

11 So this project is astronomically wrong. It's
12 wrong from its financial costs. If you don't believe me,
13 see what happened to the Bay Bridge, the new Bay Bridge,
14 where that cost originated from and where it now is,
15 which is tenfold of where it started. This'll be the
16 same darn thing. It's astronomical in its impact on the
17 Delta. It's already environmentally fragile. It has a
18 huge agricultural base. It has a huge recreational base.
19 All of that's gonna go down the drain. And that's pun
20 intended.

21 So it is wrong from the get-go. We talked
22 about, in this handout that you have, on page 2, and
23 somebody else talked about it, about alternatives. There
24 are alternatives. I don't see any alternatives. It's
25 the same map we've been looking at for years. Where are

1 the alternatives? And they are out there. Emily
2 Pappalardo talked about Dr. Pike's western intakes
3 concept. That's a dam viable alternative, if you ask me.
4 But nobody's looking at it. We've got the same darn
5 thing we started out in the first place.

6 And it is wrong -- it is the absolutely wrong
7 place to take the intakes. If you have a through-Delta
8 system that lets the Delta do its job environmentally,
9 agriculturally and recreationally, then you got the right
10 concept. But this does none of that. It is detrimental
11 to everybody involved that has any kind of economic stake
12 in this Delta region and in this state. It is a bad, bad
13 choice and concept. Thank you.

14 ~~MS. BARBIERI: Thank you. Mr. Armstrong?~~
15 ~~Daniel Armstrong?~~

16 ~~MR. ARMSTRONG: My comment's gonna be pretty~~
17 ~~quick, so I don't think you need to start the timer for~~
18 ~~anything.~~

19 ~~California Department of Water Resources, you're~~
20 ~~on the side of shame of history, basically, by going~~
21 ~~forward with this project.~~

22 ~~AUDIENCE MEMBER: We can't hear you.~~

23 ~~MR. ARMSTRONG: So you guys are on the side of~~
24 ~~shame of history if you go forward with this project.~~
25 ~~And that's nothing against you four people as the~~

1 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020

2 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT:

3 SCOPING AND CEQA

4 PUBLIC HEARING

5 **CERTIFIED COPY**

6
7
8
9
10 LOCATION OF HEARING:

11 Jean Harvie Community Center

12 14273 River Road

13 Walnut Grove, California 95690

14
15
16
17
18
19
20 REPORTED BY: BRIANNA RUDD, CSR NO. 13668

21 -----
22 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.

23 www.depo.com

24 (800) 288-3376

25 ABI FILE NO. AE014C6

A P P E A R A N C E S

JANET BARBIERI, Hearing Facilitator

CARRIE BUCKMAN, PowerPoint Presentation

Also Present:

MARCUS YEE, Department of Water Resources

BARBARA JONES, Department of Water Resources

KRISTINA REESE, Department of Water Resources

CONNOR BLOCK, Department of Water Resources

FRANCISCO ADAMA, Interpreter

---o0o---

I N D E X

Q&A SESSION: PAGE:

Nikki Seward..... 17

Jim Wallace..... 20

Brian Dawson..... 22

Mary Elizabeth..... 22

Max DeWalt..... 23

COMMENT BY:

Gregory Robinson..... 24, 57

Mary Elizabeth..... 25

James Motlow..... 27

Russell Oans..... 28

Dave Stirling..... 31

Mariah Looney..... 33

1	I N D E X (Cont.)	
2	COMMENT BY:	PAGE
3	Donald Barnes.....	34
4	Russell van Loben Sels.....	36
5	Stuart Walthall.....	38
6	Peter Stone.....	39
7	Susan Caston.....	42
8	Dr. Jeffrey Michael.....	43
9	Corie Hamer.....	46
10	Emily Pappalardo.....	48
11	Barbara Daly.....	50
12	Douglas Hsia.....	53
13	Brett Baker.....	54
14	Josephine Avila.....	59
15	Tim Neuharth.....	59
16	Daniel Armstrong.....	61
17	Mark Goble.....	62
18	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE.....	66

---o0o---

1 ~~idea. The three intakes, the construction of it is a~~
2 ~~destruction to the Delta and would be a destruction to~~
3 ~~Locke, one of the legacy communities.~~

4 ~~There is an alternative to this bad idea. John~~
5 ~~Garamendi has a proposal. Why this wasn't included in~~
6 ~~these proposals as another alternative, and why it has to~~
7 ~~wait to be included -- and when alternatives are~~
8 ~~considered -- is a mystery. It seems that Garamendi, who~~
9 ~~is our local congressman, and who knows the Delta quite~~
10 ~~well, has proposed a very comprehensive, intelligent and~~
11 ~~far-reaching proposal that is based upon science and~~
12 ~~primarily conservation and the restructuring of the Delta~~
13 ~~levees. Why this is not being talked about as a~~
14 ~~reasonable way, in order to save the Delta and provide~~
15 ~~water to the rest of California, again, it's a mystery.~~
16 ~~And thank you very much.~~

17 ~~MS. BARBIERI: Thank you. So our next three~~
18 ~~speakers, Mr. Oans -- whoever wants to go next, it's~~
19 ~~fine.~~

20 **MR. OANS:** Russell Oans. I live in Locke. I'm
21 on the Delta Legacy Committee. I've been thinking about
22 the tunnels since we were first allowed to hear about
23 them. There was a lot of planning that went on without
24 us -- the Delta, I mean.

25 I have two points to make. One of them is a

1 comparison and the other one is an analogy. The
2 comparison is other projects that are estimated to be
3 funded, what they are estimated at and what they're
4 finished at. So we'll start with the Bay Bridge. The
5 first estimate was a billion; the cost was 6 billion.
6 There was a "Big Dig," a big tunnel back in Boston years
7 ago, for people familiar -- it was, I think -- let me get
8 the right number here so I don't get questioned. The
9 first estimate was 2.56 billion; 24 billion was the final
10 cost. Little short.

11 In Washington state, there was a "Big Bertha."
12 If you remember, the machine broke down digging the
13 tunnel. It sat there for two years. The
14 80-million-dollar machine cost \$120 million to fix. So
15 I'm just comparing the estimates to what we think this
16 tunnel -- you think, I should say, this tunnel is gonna
17 cost.

18 The second thing is an analogy. When I was
19 young and I would argue with my elders -- myself, at this
20 age -- their common answer to very complex problems, say
21 foreign policy difficulties with another country, we
22 had-- we couldn't -- we didn't -- there was no
23 sensitivity. We didn't work with diplomacy and trying to
24 do economic sanctions. Their answer was always the same,
25 "Nuke 'em." That was a common thought then in the '50s,

1 "Nuke 'em." It was so successful in Japan that they
2 thought everything was a quick fix, big one solution, no
3 subtlety, no -- so this tunnel is the same kind of answer
4 to me. It's like, just nuke the Delta, nuke it, change
5 it. One answer.

6 James brought up the multifaceted approach that
7 John Garamendi has written. It's, to me, the only
8 solution for a future, a sustainable future. This is
9 California. We're technologically advanced. We're the
10 leaders in the world -- and we're gonna build a tunnel?
11 Let's see. One end lower than the other. I mean, hello?
12 Desalination, conservation, reclamation, above-ground
13 storage, below-ground storage.

14 There are so many solutions to what will be a
15 real problem in California in the future. But let's
16 think for the future. If we put the infrastructure up, a
17 pipeline for desalinization plants along the coast, when
18 the technology evolves to make it cheaper, everything
19 will be there. All the work won't be wasted. If the
20 prevailing weather patterns, which I'm reading about, are
21 supposed to dump rain farther north into Oregon and
22 Washington, there won't be water in the Sierra to come
23 down and go into a huge tunnel.

24 Anyway, I just wish you to use your
25 intelligence, so instead of calling it "The Big Dig" or

1 "The Big Bertha," it won't be known as "The Big Stupid."
2 Thank you.

3 ~~MR. STIRLING: Good evening, Ms. Buckman and~~
4 ~~members of the Department of Water Resources staff. My~~
5 ~~name is Dave Stirling, and my family and I have lived in~~
6 ~~Walnut Grove for 35 years. I have been involved in the~~
7 ~~tunnel discussion since 2009.~~

8 ~~We appreciate representatives of the Department~~
9 ~~of Water resources coming out to Walnut Grove this~~
10 ~~evening, and other Delta communities in the next couple~~
11 ~~weeks, to hear what we, the people of the Delta, are~~
12 ~~concerned about regarding the governor's proposed Delta~~
13 ~~Conveyance Project and its impacts on our communities and~~
14 ~~on our way of life. We are ground zero for this project.~~

15 ~~The governor's Delta Conveyance project is an~~
16 ~~enormous, expensive and lengthy process. The Notice of~~
17 ~~Preparation contains many alternatives, expandable and~~
18 ~~flexible aspects, making it difficult for those of us who~~
19 ~~live and do business in the Delta to address at this~~
20 ~~time. For example, two, maybe three intakes, 75 to 150~~
21 ~~acres in size, 3,000 to 7,500 cubic feet per second in~~
22 ~~capacity, two different tunnel alignments, and there are~~
23 ~~others. How can we, here tonight, address any of these~~
24 ~~with any substance in three minutes? That's a rhetorical~~
25 ~~question. I -- there are also many areas that are not~~

1 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020

2 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT:

3 SCOPING AND CEQA

4 PUBLIC HEARING

5 **CERTIFIED COPY**

6
7
8
9
10 LOCATION OF HEARING:

11 Jean Harvie Community Center

12 14273 River Road

13 Walnut Grove, California 95690

14
15
16
17
18
19
20 REPORTED BY: BRIANNA RUDD, CSR NO. 13668

21 -----
22 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.

23 www.depo.com

24 (800) 288-3376

25 ABI FILE NO. AE014C6

A P P E A R A N C E S

JANET BARBIERI, Hearing Facilitator

CARRIE BUCKMAN, PowerPoint Presentation

Also Present:

MARCUS YEE, Department of Water Resources

BARBARA JONES, Department of Water Resources

KRISTINA REESE, Department of Water Resources

CONNOR BLOCK, Department of Water Resources

FRANCISCO ADAMA, Interpreter

---o0o---

I N D E X

Q&A SESSION: PAGE:

Nikki Seward..... 17

Jim Wallace..... 20

Brian Dawson..... 22

Mary Elizabeth..... 22

Max DeWalt..... 23

COMMENT BY:

Gregory Robinson..... 24, 57

Mary Elizabeth..... 25

James Motlow..... 27

Russell Oans..... 28

Dave Stirling..... 31

Mariah Looney..... 33

1	I N D E X (Cont.)	
2	COMMENT BY:	PAGE
3	Donald Barnes.....	34
4	Russell van Loben Sels.....	36
5	Stuart Walthall.....	38
6	Peter Stone.....	39
7	Susan Caston.....	42
8	Dr. Jeffrey Michael.....	43
9	Corie Hamer.....	46
10	Emily Pappalardo.....	48
11	Barbara Daly.....	50
12	Douglas Hsia.....	53
13	Brett Baker.....	54
14	Josephine Avila.....	59
15	Tim Neuharth.....	59
16	Daniel Armstrong.....	61
17	Mark Goble.....	62
18	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE.....	66

---o0o---

1 have occurred over the last 30 or 40 years, which is up
2 in Folsom and north of Sacramento. I don't see how this
3 would impact the control of flooding, which is one of the
4 stated water goals.

5 Seems like it'd be a much better plan to
6 increase the size of storage and start shipping water
7 from south of the Delta, let's say, from, you know, the
8 southern Sierra Nevadas, from places like New Melones
9 Dam, Don Pedro, Pine Flat, Lake McClure, perhaps increase
10 those. Right now, we're -- I just read today we are
11 looking at increasing the size of the dam up at Lake
12 Shasta another 16 feet or something, which would increase
13 the exports of water through the Delta.

14 And last, I also firmly believe Southern
15 California needs to start working on desalinization.
16 Thank you.

17 MS. BARBIERI: Thank you. I'm just going to
18 call up the next three speakers real quick: Barbara
19 Daly, Douglas Hsia and Brett Baker, if you could be
20 prepared.

21 MS. PAPPALARDO: Hi. My name is Emily
22 Pappalardo. I grew up on Steamboat Slough. I also work
23 for MBK Engineers. We're district engineers for several
24 reclamation districts in the Delta. I wanted to urge you
25 to include a few other alternatives. I'll also be

1 providing a written comment because I have a lot more to
2 say than four minutes here.

3 But when considering the project's objectives,
4 one of the objectives is to guard against an earthquake
5 that could cause multiple levee failures and disrupt
6 water supply, citing that the levee system we currently
7 have -- that currently conveys the water, I would say,
8 quite reliably -- is not sufficient for that kind of
9 event.

10 So I would like to echo what Dr. Jeffrey
11 Michaels said in looking at bringing up the levees to
12 those seismic standards so that you look through a
13 through-Delta Conveyance, given that we're already -- the
14 project proposal is for a dual conveyance option. So you
15 have to look at the levees, no matter what option you're
16 looking at. And furthermore, for the ten to 20 years
17 we're gonna be fighting about this, the levees still need
18 to be improved to keep conveying that water to the south.
19 So you need the levees no matter what.

20 Second, to look at capturing storm flows, I
21 would suggest that you look at the -- an intake on
22 Sherman Island this was proposed by Dr. Bob Pike in the
23 lost go-around. I think he was told that he was too late
24 in the process to include this as alternative, but I hope
25 we are early enough now that we can.

1 When you look at how you're going to study this
2 EIR, it says we're using assumed operations. Operations
3 are gonna be a huge impact to the Delta, so the only way
4 to really control that is to control where the project
5 goes. Because where it currently is, we have to trust
6 that the State's not going to violate the North Delta
7 Water Agency contract or -- and be consistent with
8 current water rights. But we know that laws can change
9 and contracts can be violated. So my suggestion is to
10 put it down where there's a natural control, where it
11 goes through the Delta, it serves all its purposes for
12 the ecosystem, agriculture and the communities, and then
13 you get water where you should last.

14 I would like to thank you for the comments
15 today. Please fix the levees and save the Delta. Thank
16 you.

17 ~~MS. DALY: Thank you. Good evening. My name is~~
18 ~~Barbara Daly. I live and I work in the Delta. I live in~~
19 ~~Clarksburg, and I work out here in Walnut Grove. And I~~
20 ~~address you tonight, the people who work for the~~
21 ~~California Department of Water Resources, once again.~~

22 ~~My first question is: Are you the same people~~
23 ~~I've addressed so many times over the past ten years on~~
24 ~~this subject of tunnels in the Delta? My neighbors are~~
25 ~~here, and they are the same neighbors. And~~

1 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020

2 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT:

3 SCOPING AND CEQA

4 PUBLIC HEARING

5 **CERTIFIED COPY**

6
7
8
9
10 LOCATION OF HEARING:

11 Jean Harvie Community Center

12 14273 River Road

13 Walnut Grove, California 95690

14
15
16
17
18
19
20 REPORTED BY: BRIANNA RUDD, CSR NO. 13668

21 -----
22 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.

23 www.depo.com

24 (800) 288-3376

25 ABI FILE NO. AE014C6

A P P E A R A N C E S

JANET BARBIERI, Hearing Facilitator

CARRIE BUCKMAN, PowerPoint Presentation

Also Present:

MARCUS YEE, Department of Water Resources

BARBARA JONES, Department of Water Resources

KRISTINA REESE, Department of Water Resources

CONNOR BLOCK, Department of Water Resources

FRANCISCO ADAMA, Interpreter

---o0o---

I N D E X

Q&A SESSION: PAGE:

Nikki Seward..... 17

Jim Wallace..... 20

Brian Dawson..... 22

Mary Elizabeth..... 22

Max DeWalt..... 23

COMMENT BY:

Gregory Robinson..... 24, 57

Mary Elizabeth..... 25

James Motlow..... 27

Russell Oans..... 28

Dave Stirling..... 31

Mariah Looney..... 33

1	I N D E X (Cont.)	
2	COMMENT BY:	PAGE
3	Donald Barnes.....	34
4	Russell van Loben Sels.....	36
5	Stuart Walthall.....	38
6	Peter Stone.....	39
7	Susan Caston.....	42
8	Dr. Jeffrey Michael.....	43
9	Corie Hamer.....	46
10	Emily Pappalardo.....	48
11	Barbara Daly.....	50
12	Douglas Hsia.....	53
13	Brett Baker.....	54
14	Josephine Avila.....	59
15	Tim Neuharth.....	59
16	Daniel Armstrong.....	61
17	Mark Goble.....	62
18	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE.....	66

---o0o---

1 ~~California and the users down there? How can you just~~
2 ~~say oh it's only during high water events? Hey, they're~~
3 ~~gonna be hungry all the time. I really think that this~~
4 ~~is not a good plan. Thank you.~~

5 MR. POPE: Hello, my name is Robert Pope. I'm a
6 resident of the Delta a little further south than Oakley.

7 This project seems to me to be a disingenuous
8 method of achieving just some of the stated -- the newest
9 version of the stated water goals that we have. It does
10 not seem to address at all the strengthening of the
11 current levees. It -- the current exports already have a
12 damaging effect on the ecosystem. It appears as though
13 the new system would increase flows even more, further
14 damaging, further increasing saltwater intrusion into the
15 Delta ecosystem, harming salmon, the local communities,
16 other impacted species. It appears the alignment of the
17 tunnels, once we start shipping it south, is right
18 through a heron breeding ground, according to the map.

19 We already seem to have a problem with
20 prioritizing, where one of the stated goals is to
21 increase groundwater for drinking water purposes down in
22 the Central Valley, and we already ship a ton of water
23 down there that's being used by almonds and the Resnick
24 empire. The -- let's see -- the planned tunnels -- or
25 this whole system does not seem to impact where floods

1 have occurred over the last 30 or 40 years, which is up
2 in Folsom and north of Sacramento. I don't see how this
3 would impact the control of flooding, which is one of the
4 stated water goals.

5 Seems like it'd be a much better plan to
6 increase the size of storage and start shipping water
7 from south of the Delta, let's say, from, you know, the
8 southern Sierra Nevadas, from places like New Melones
9 Dam, Don Pedro, Pine Flat, Lake McClure, perhaps increase
10 those. Right now, we're -- I just read today we are
11 looking at increasing the size of the dam up at Lake
12 Shasta another 16 feet or something, which would increase
13 the exports of water through the Delta.

14 And last, I also firmly believe Southern
15 California needs to start working on desalinization.
16 Thank you.

17 ~~MS. BARBIERI: Thank you. I'm just going to~~
18 ~~call up the next three speakers real quick: Barbara~~
19 ~~Daly, Douglas Hsia and Brett Baker, if you could be~~
20 ~~prepared.~~

21 ~~MS. PAPPALARDO: Hi. My name is Emily~~
22 ~~Pappalardo. I grew up on Steamboat Slough. I also work~~
23 ~~for MBK Engineers. We're district engineers for several~~
24 ~~reclamation districts in the Delta. I wanted to urge you~~
25 ~~to include a few other alternatives. I'll also be~~

1 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020

2 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT:

3 SCOPING AND CEQA

4 PUBLIC HEARING

5 **CERTIFIED COPY**

6
7
8
9
10 LOCATION OF HEARING:

11 Jean Harvie Community Center

12 14273 River Road

13 Walnut Grove, California 95690

14
15
16
17
18
19
20 REPORTED BY: BRIANNA RUDD, CSR NO. 13668

21 -----
22 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.

23 www.depo.com

24 (800) 288-3376

25 ABI FILE NO. AE014C6

1 questions. We're gonna go ahead and move into the
2 comment portion. Any other speaker cards, just so I can
3 gauge how many? Anybody think they might want to speak,
4 who hasn't turned one in? Okay. I think we could
5 probably do four. We'll go four minutes instead of three
6 minutes. I just want to make sure we don't run out of
7 time. So if you could switch that, that would be great.
8 And then what I'll do is, I'll call you by three. I'll
9 do the first three, and then we'll just keep going,
10 cycling through three by three. And that's how it'll go.
11 So if you decide you want to speak, you have your speaker
12 card, just wave it around, somebody will collect it from
13 you. And we'll go ahead and get started.

14 So first up, I have Gregory Robinson, Mary
15 Elizabeth, and James Motlow -- "Motlaw"? Sorry. I
16 apologize if I mispronounce your names.

17 MR. ROBINSON: Good evening. Thank you for
18 visiting us tonight. My name is Greg Robinson. I'm a
19 citizen of Walnut Grove, and I'm also volunteer with the
20 Cosumnes River Preserve. The preserve is a conservation
21 partnership of seven different agencies who privately own
22 land in the Delta.

23 The sole objective of this partnership is to
24 restore this land to natural habitat. This habitat is a
25 refuge for many native species and a vital part of the

1 Pacific Flyway. Your planned conveyance corridors run
2 right through our preserve and could destroy it. Natural
3 habitats like ours have all but disappeared from
4 California. It's not like we can just pick up our
5 project and move it to get out of your way.

6 Can't you please find another route? There must
7 be another solution that provides the aqueduct with the
8 water you need but also spares the rare biodiversity that
9 we are trying to protect and preserve. Thank you.

10 MS. BARBIERI: Thanks very much.

11 ~~MS. ELIZABETH: Hello. My name is Mary~~
12 ~~Elizabeth, and I reside in Stockton, California. I'm~~
13 ~~unable to attend the Stockton meeting, as I teach math to~~
14 ~~adult GED and high school students in the evenings.~~

15 ~~Six thousand cubic feet per second of~~
16 ~~high-quality water bypassing the Delta is about 2.5~~
17 ~~million gallons of water a minute, which will have a huge~~
18 ~~impact on Delta water quality. The disturbance of an~~
19 ~~unspecified amount of soil to dig down 190 feet below the~~
20 ~~ground surface, that has yet to have a reuse identified,~~
21 ~~is unacceptable.~~

22 ~~DWR must have some better ideas, at this point,~~
23 ~~on plans for these soils. The areas for the facilities~~
24 ~~were not well illustrated on the few maps included in the~~
25 ~~Notice of Preparation. Extensive maps should be prepared~~

1 ~~to tear it down. So thank you very much.~~

2 ~~MS. BARBIERI: I have three more speakers.~~

3 ~~Ms. Avila? Maybe she's changed her mind. Josephine~~

4 ~~Avila? Okay. We'll skip Ms. Avila. Mr. Neuharth? I~~

5 ~~thought I saw him, but I don't see him now. If anyone~~

6 ~~sees them in the hall, let them know. And then~~

7 ~~Mr. Robinson, I think you have one more thing you wanted~~

8 ~~to say.~~

9 MR. ROBINSON: So if the other two people come
10 back, I'll yield the floor to them. I only talked for
11 one minute before, kind of glossed over. It was too
12 quick. So I'm gonna take another two minutes. I wanted
13 to point out two things.

14 I love Walnut Grove. And I'm glad you're here.
15 I hope you're listening. And please be considerate of
16 the special needs students and what the impact of
17 construction will be to them. The people whose
18 retirement homes are here, they've got nowhere else to
19 go. And I'm sensitive to the water skiers and the salmon
20 fishers, but I feel I need to speak for those who don't
21 have a voice, and that's the environment.

22 At the Cosumnes River Preserve, what we've done
23 is taken cultivated farmland and restored it to natural
24 habitat, and it is now home to over 250 bird species,
25 over 40 fish species, and some 230 plant species. And I

1 would feel than an environmental impact study would be
2 inadequate unless you consider all the species that live
3 and are preserved. And if you need help, I'll send you
4 an e-mail, and I'll put you in touch with the management
5 from our preserve, and we'll get together. We'll work on
6 those. We don't want to go to the courts. Cooperation
7 is what it's all about. And maybe we can work together.
8 But we need to save the environment. This is a very
9 delicate ecosystem, and we don't want to lose it again.

10 Another thing I wanted to mention, I heard about
11 something that triggered my memory. The biggest problem
12 with the tunnels project was not engineering. That's
13 just science. It wasn't -- environmental impact studies
14 were done. The problem was management and control. You
15 can tell us you're only going to take water during peak
16 periods. You can even write laws saying that water can
17 only be taken during certain flow rates. But what's to
18 prevent anybody from, once you turn this thing on, just
19 to leave it on so it drains the river? It's gonna happen
20 innocently enough. There's gonna be a fire. There's
21 gonna be a drought. Some farmer is gonna to lose their
22 crops. You need more water. You're gonna change those
23 requirements.

24 What can you possibly do to maintain management,
25 to install controls and protect everybody's interest? I

1 don't see how that can be done. So thank you for your
2 time.

3 ~~MS. BARBIERI: Thank you.~~

4 ~~MS. AVILA: Good evening. My name is Josephine~~
5 ~~Avila. I am the town manager of Locke.~~

6 ~~The few little things that I just want to say,~~
7 ~~because everybody here has already spoken about all the~~
8 ~~things and all the reasons why we should not do this, but~~
9 ~~the other thing is, is that there are so many families in~~
10 ~~the Delta with children. The Delta is so safe for our~~
11 ~~kids out here. I know it sounds weird, but I feel the~~
12 ~~most at home, and I don't want my children to have to~~
13 ~~lose their homes just to have these tunnels put in -- or~~
14 ~~anybody else's. Thank you.~~

15 ~~MS. BARBIERI: Mr. Neuharth, yeah, come up. And~~
16 ~~then...~~

17 ~~MR. NEUHARTH: Good evening, and thank you for~~
18 ~~being here. My name is Tim Neuharth. I'm a local~~
19 ~~resident of the Delta and a farmer on Sutter Island,~~
20 ~~right next door to Brett Baker, as a matter of fact.~~

21 ~~So first of all, I want to thank this crowd for~~
22 ~~being here. This is the biggest group of people that~~
23 ~~I've seen, to date, that -- at least in my experience on~~
24 ~~this whole Delta tunnels thing. So thank you for being~~
25 ~~here, thank you for your interest, and keep it coming.~~

1 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020

2 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT:

3 SCOPING AND CEQA

4 PUBLIC HEARING

5 **CERTIFIED COPY**

6
7
8
9
10 LOCATION OF HEARING:

11 Jean Harvie Community Center

12 14273 River Road

13 Walnut Grove, California 95690

14
15
16
17
18
19
20 REPORTED BY: BRIANNA RUDD, CSR NO. 13668

21 -----
22 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.

23 www.depo.com

24 (800) 288-3376

25 ABI FILE NO. AE014C6

A P P E A R A N C E S

JANET BARBIERI, Hearing Facilitator

CARRIE BUCKMAN, PowerPoint Presentation

Also Present:

MARCUS YEE, Department of Water Resources

BARBARA JONES, Department of Water Resources

KRISTINA REESE, Department of Water Resources

CONNOR BLOCK, Department of Water Resources

FRANCISCO ADAMA, Interpreter

---o0o---

I N D E X

Q&A SESSION: PAGE:

Nikki Seward..... 17

Jim Wallace..... 20

Brian Dawson..... 22

Mary Elizabeth..... 22

Max DeWalt..... 23

COMMENT BY:

Gregory Robinson..... 24, 57

Mary Elizabeth..... 25

James Motlow..... 27

Russell Oans..... 28

Dave Stirling..... 31

Mariah Looney..... 33

1	I N D E X (Cont.)	
2	COMMENT BY:	PAGE
3	Donald Barnes.....	34
4	Russell van Loben Sels.....	36
5	Stuart Walthall.....	38
6	Peter Stone.....	39
7	Susan Caston.....	42
8	Dr. Jeffrey Michael.....	43
9	Corie Hamer.....	46
10	Emily Pappalardo.....	48
11	Barbara Daly.....	50
12	Douglas Hsia.....	53
13	Brett Baker.....	54
14	Josephine Avila.....	59
15	Tim Neuharth.....	59
16	Daniel Armstrong.....	61
17	Mark Goble.....	62
18	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE.....	66

---o0o---

1 ~~decide you want to make a comment, let me know so that we~~
2 ~~can sort of gauge the time. And if we can, we'll try to~~
3 ~~extend that three minutes.~~

4 ~~So then the last thing -- sorry -- before we get~~
5 ~~into the questions, that I wanted to mention, this room,~~
6 ~~the acoustics in this room are kind of funny, in that~~
7 ~~every little whispered conversation sort of bounces all~~
8 ~~over the walls. And because we have a court reporter~~
9 ~~here, we do want her to be able to hear, so try to~~
10 ~~minimize that as much as you can, and I'm sorry if that's~~
11 ~~an inconvenience.~~

12 ~~So before I call the names up for comments, if~~
13 ~~anyone has a question, please use the cue here, yeah.~~
14 ~~Just stand up at the microphone and we'll start with~~
15 ~~that. Thank you.~~

16 MS. SEWARD: So I'm Nikki Seward with Snug
17 Harbor over on Steamboat Slough, and this is a clarifying
18 question. I did read the NOP. I looked at your maps and
19 all that. And I'm also looking at a different map. It's
20 called "Delta Conveyance Soil Investigations." And if
21 other people have seen this, there's about 200 different
22 borings planned to pop into all of our drinking water
23 aquifer all over the Delta, and it is a different series
24 of borings than what your map just shows.

25 So my question is: What's the purpose of

1 popping into our drinking water aquifer all over the
2 Delta if you're only going either of those two locations?

3 MS. BUCKMAN: So the soil investigation initial
4 study and mitigated negative declaration is a separate
5 project, and the comment period for that is closed.
6 We're working on addressing comments on that document.

7 So I did want to just highlight that the purpose
8 of that is a little different, so it's to really develop
9 a better understanding of geo-technical information
10 throughout the Delta. And as such, the -- what was done
11 is a lot of the geologists went through and looked at
12 graphs and information that was still useful within the
13 Delta and highlighted those locations. We are working
14 within the ISMND to make sure we aren't affecting
15 drinking water with any of the actions that we take, and
16 we'll make sure that we have a full assessment there.
17 But the purpose of that is a little different, and that's
18 why the maps do not line up.

19 MS. SEWARD: Okay. So if the document said
20 "Delta Conveyance Soil Investigation" -- it didn't say
21 investigations for tunnels. It didn't say investigations
22 for fish screens. It didn't say investigations for
23 whatever other projects you're talking about. It said
24 specifically related to this project. So again, you're
25 not really -- what are these other projects, then, that

1 you are popping through our drinking water aquifer for?

2 MS. BUCKMAN: So it is related to what we are
3 doing for Delta Conveyance, but we also wanted to better
4 understand -- we don't know what alternatives will be
5 suggested during scoping. We didn't want to limit -- and
6 really, at the time we were developing that map, we
7 didn't have a proposed project yet, so we didn't know
8 where it would be. But we don't want to limit it at this
9 point, given that we don't understand where the
10 alternatives will be. And we know that those areas are
11 areas that need additional information on the geology in
12 order to better inform the geologic information available
13 within the Delta.

14 MS. BARBIERI: So we probably want to try to
15 move on to the next question.

16 MS. SEWARD: Okay. But I just -- to summarize
17 then, you have those two routes you're talking about, but
18 it is possible, from doing the geology, there could be
19 additional routes.

20 MS. BUCKMAN: The geology wouldn't be
21 identifying additional routes, I was saying, during this
22 scoping process. We haven't formulated alternatives yet.
23 We're waiting to hear what comes up during scoping. And
24 so that's where things may come up that we haven't
25 identified yet.

1 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020

2 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT:

3 SCOPING AND CEQA

4 PUBLIC HEARING

5 **CERTIFIED COPY**

6

7

8

9

10 LOCATION OF HEARING:

11 Jean Harvie Community Center

12 14273 River Road

13 Walnut Grove, California 95690

14

15

16

17

18

19

20 REPORTED BY: BRIANNA RUDD, CSR NO. 13668

21 -----

22 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.

23 www.depo.com

24 (800) 288-3376

25 ABI FILE NO. AE014C6

A P P E A R A N C E S

JANET BARBIERI, Hearing Facilitator

CARRIE BUCKMAN, PowerPoint Presentation

Also Present:

MARCUS YEE, Department of Water Resources

BARBARA JONES, Department of Water Resources

KRISTINA REESE, Department of Water Resources

CONNOR BLOCK, Department of Water Resources

FRANCISCO ADAMA, Interpreter

---o0o---

I N D E X

Q&A SESSION: PAGE:

Nikki Seward..... 17

Jim Wallace..... 20

Brian Dawson..... 22

Mary Elizabeth..... 22

Max DeWalt..... 23

COMMENT BY:

Gregory Robinson..... 24, 57

Mary Elizabeth..... 25

James Motlow..... 27

Russell Oans..... 28

Dave Stirling..... 31

Mariah Looney..... 33

1	I N D E X (Cont.)	
2	COMMENT BY:	PAGE
3	Donald Barnes.....	34
4	Russell van Loben Sels.....	36
5	Stuart Walthall.....	38
6	Peter Stone.....	39
7	Susan Caston.....	42
8	Dr. Jeffrey Michael.....	43
9	Corie Hamer.....	46
10	Emily Pappalardo.....	48
11	Barbara Daly.....	50
12	Douglas Hsia.....	53
13	Brett Baker.....	54
14	Josephine Avila.....	59
15	Tim Neuharth.....	59
16	Daniel Armstrong.....	61
17	Mark Goble.....	62
18	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE.....	66

---o0o---

1 ~~"The Big Bertha," it won't be known as "The Big Stupid."~~

~~2 Thank you.~~

3 MR. STIRLING: Good evening, Ms. Buckman and
4 members of the Department of Water Resources staff. My
5 name is Dave Stirling, and my family and I have lived in
6 Walnut Grove for 35 years. I have been involved in the
7 tunnel discussion since 2009.

8 We appreciate representatives of the Department
9 of Water resources coming out to Walnut Grove this
10 evening, and other Delta communities in the next couple
11 weeks, to hear what we, the people of the Delta, are
12 concerned about regarding the governor's proposed Delta
13 Conveyance Project and its impacts on our communities and
14 on our way of life. We are ground zero for this project.

15 The governor's Delta Conveyance project is an
16 enormous, expensive and lengthy process. The Notice of
17 Preparation contains many alternatives, expandable and
18 flexible aspects, making it difficult for those of us who
19 live and do business in the Delta to address at this
20 time. For example, two, maybe three intakes, 75 to 150
21 acres in size, 3,000 to 7,500 cubic feet per second in
22 capacity, two different tunnel alignments, and there are
23 others. How can we, here tonight, address any of these
24 with any substance in three minutes? That's a rhetorical
25 question. I -- there are also many areas that are not

1 addressed at all in the Notice of Preparation: the
2 dewatering of groundwater; our roads and bridges and how
3 they would be affected.

4 So this statement -- short statement is not my
5 comments but to say that I plan to wait a bit longer, try
6 to learn a bit more than I have in the ten years that
7 I've been involved in this process, and to consider, and
8 to prepare in writing my concerns regarding the Delta
9 Conveyance Project's possible or likely environmental
10 impact as I see them. I may learn more by that time.
11 I'll send it in to the Department of Water Resources in
12 one of the means by which they are listed on the forms
13 here, on March -- before March 20th, the deadline. Thank
14 you.

15 MS. BARBIERI: Thank you very much. I'll call
16 the next two speakers.

17 And Mr. Stirling, you said something that I
18 should have said before, which is, this isn't your -- the
19 verbal comments are not your only opportunity.
20 Obviously, if you have longer comments, more thoughtful,
21 to put into writing, please, you know, know that you can
22 do that if you can't get everything into your four
23 minutes here. But thank you for reminding me. I should
24 have done that.

25 MR. STIRLING: You can take it off my time when

1 I send it in.

2 (Collective laughter.)

~~3 MS. BARBIERI: So the next three speakers are~~
~~4 Donald Barnes, Russell van Loben Sels and Stuart Walthal,~~
~~5 so if you could get yourselves ready. And please~~
~~6 proceed.~~

~~7 MS. LOONEY: Hello. My name is Mariah Looney,~~
~~8 and I'm with Restore the Delta.~~

~~9 This is a project that is supposed to protect~~
~~10 and ensure a reliable water supply, but so far, from~~
~~11 everything that I've read, the tunnel will either not be~~
~~12 used half the time or protections for the Delta will be~~
~~13 abandoned and the water will just be taken. How does~~
~~14 does that serve the entire state? Where are the real~~
~~15 studies on additional exports on water quality for the~~
~~16 Delta, and the urban Delta, of course? And is this worth~~
~~17 disrupting entire Delta heritage communities?~~

~~18 By taking more and more Sacramento River water,~~
~~19 the Delta will be left with salty, polluted water, loaded~~
~~20 with selenium, boron and bromides. Where's the plan for~~
~~21 mitigating harmful algal blooms during construction,~~
~~22 which will increase in rivers and sloughs as a result of~~
~~23 changing flows during construction? And that's all the~~
~~24 Delta, even though I mostly focused on Stockton because I~~
~~25 live in Stockton.~~

1 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020

2 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT:

3 SCOPING AND CEQA

4 PUBLIC HEARING

5 **CERTIFIED COPY**

6
7
8
9
10 LOCATION OF HEARING:

11 Jean Harvie Community Center

12 14273 River Road

13 Walnut Grove, California 95690

14
15
16
17
18
19
20 REPORTED BY: BRIANNA RUDD, CSR NO. 13668

21 -----
22 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.

23 www.depo.com

24 (800) 288-3376

25 ABI FILE NO. AE014C6

A P P E A R A N C E S

JANET BARBIERI, Hearing Facilitator

CARRIE BUCKMAN, PowerPoint Presentation

Also Present:

MARCUS YEE, Department of Water Resources

BARBARA JONES, Department of Water Resources

KRISTINA REESE, Department of Water Resources

CONNOR BLOCK, Department of Water Resources

FRANCISCO ADAMA, Interpreter

---o0o---

I N D E X

Q&A SESSION: PAGE:

Nikki Seward..... 17

Jim Wallace..... 20

Brian Dawson..... 22

Mary Elizabeth..... 22

Max DeWalt..... 23

COMMENT BY:

Gregory Robinson..... 24, 57

Mary Elizabeth..... 25

James Motlow..... 27

Russell Oans..... 28

Dave Stirling..... 31

Mariah Looney..... 33

1	I N D E X (Cont.)	
2	COMMENT BY:	PAGE
3	Donald Barnes.....	34
4	Russell van Loben Sels.....	36
5	Stuart Walthall.....	38
6	Peter Stone.....	39
7	Susan Caston.....	42
8	Dr. Jeffrey Michael.....	43
9	Corie Hamer.....	46
10	Emily Pappalardo.....	48
11	Barbara Daly.....	50
12	Douglas Hsia.....	53
13	Brett Baker.....	54
14	Josephine Avila.....	59
15	Tim Neuharth.....	59
16	Daniel Armstrong.....	61
17	Mark Goble.....	62
18	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE.....	66

---o0o---

1 I'd like to go back to Mr. Motlow's point about
2 Congressman Garamendi's prop -- is Water Resources
3 familiar with that 2016 report, the six suggested points
4 for...

5 MS. BARBIERI: You can just --

6 MR. WALTHALL: In lieu -- I mean, in lieu of the
7 Water Fix? Is this question-and-answer, or is this just
8 statement?

9 MS. BARBIERI: It's not. You can just reference
10 it as a part of your comment.

11 MR. WALTHALL: Okay. Very good. I would
12 recommend that Water Resources takes a look at it.

13 I know the emphasis here is on the environment,
14 but I want to stress to the human beings who are in that
15 environment and how important it is for us to retain our
16 history and culture out here. I can't address nearly as
17 eloquently as these other folks regarding the economy and
18 whatnot. But I will say, one alternative is to not have
19 a Delta Conveyance at all. So thank you for your time.

20 MR. STONE: Good evening. I'm Peter Stone, and
21 I am a Delta resident within one mile of the northernmost
22 intake. And I'd like to have the following comments
23 considered during the preparation of this document.

24 But first I'd like to also say, I've been
25 involved way back in the BDCP days, and I put in more

1 comments than you can imagine. And then when we see the
2 EIR that came out from that, my comments are sort of
3 focused on that. I can't get beyond the fact of all that
4 was ignored in that whole process, so that's kind of the
5 context for what I'll say.

6 "Alternatives" -- there's the section in
7 "Alternatives: Viable other options from outside DWR
8 should be considered, not just slight variations on the
9 tunnel proposal." And where are those going to come
10 from? I haven't seen evidence of where they're gonna be
11 coming from.

12 "Potential Environmental Effects": There are 23
13 listed, but they don't explicitly include construction
14 impacts or ultimate direct impacts on residents of the
15 Delta -- and it must. Attempting to dewater 190 feet
16 down will have significant collateral impact for the
17 residential drinking water wells around the tunnel and
18 digging sites.

19 Unlike the prior project, it must be
20 unacceptable in the EIR this time that it is assumed that
21 some people will have to abandon their homes, clearly
22 without any compensation. Wells within an appropriate
23 distance, a mile or two, or whatever, must be tested and
24 documented before work begins so that damage, if any, can
25 be clearly seen afterwards. Loss of drinking water

1 during nine years of construction and/or permanently for
2 residences is not acceptable. If property or its use is
3 to be taken, or assumed that individuals will abandon
4 their property, it should be taken by eminent domain, not
5 effectively confiscated. Mechanism for unhanded takes,
6 compensation should be built in and not requiring people
7 to sue the state.

8 FEMA has decertified the levees, and Sacramento
9 County Water Resource staff now say that some -- by the
10 way, I live right on the levee -- say that some of the
11 levees are so weak that they are only good enough for a
12 one-in-11-year flood situation, even though ten years ago
13 they were good enough for a one-in-a-100-year flood.
14 Since they are that weak, they will not be able to endure
15 nine years of major construction truck traffic on levee
16 roads. Construction trucking during the construction
17 period must have temporary roads provided that are not on
18 the fragile levees.

19 I am also the chief business officer for Delta
20 Elementary Charter School in Clarksburg and want to make
21 the following comment on its behalf. The intake
22 facilities, it's talking about there might only be two
23 facilities. And if only two intake facilities are to be
24 constructed, it's recommended that the northernmost
25 intake be the one eliminated. This will reduce the

1 significant pile-driving noise for years, negatively
2 impacting Delta Elementary Charter School in Clarksburg,
3 which has many Special-Ed students who would be
4 considered sensitive receptors and have very detrimental
5 impacts to their education. Thank you.

6 ~~MS. CASTON: Hi, my name is Susan Caston. I~~
~~7 live right on River Road, about a mile north of Twin~~
~~8 Cities Road.~~

9 ~~And I know when California Fix was being~~
~~10 discussed, they were talking about 400 additional trucks~~
~~11 carrying heavy equipment and materials 24 hours a day,~~
~~12 seven days a week, for ten years. Okay? The levee road~~
~~13 in front of me right now is full of potholes. It's~~
~~14 obviously disintegrating. The comments that were made by~~
~~15 Mr. Stone, I agree with entirely. I think you're gonna~~
~~16 have to come up with some other way of conveying~~
~~17 because -- I mean, aside from the fact I won't be able to~~
~~18 to get out of my driveway, you know. The Waze program is~~
~~19 now rerouting commuters off of Highway 5 onto 160 and~~
~~20 River Road, so the traffic's already bananas -- technical~~
~~21 word.~~

22 ~~Anyway, so those are my comments. I'm really~~
~~23 concerned about the quality of my life there. It's~~
~~24 supposed to be my retirement home. I've put a lot of~~
~~25 work and love into it. I'm concerned about the value of~~

1 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020

2 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT:

3 SCOPING AND CEQA

4 PUBLIC HEARING

5 **CERTIFIED COPY**

6
7
8
9
10 LOCATION OF HEARING:

11 Jean Harvie Community Center

12 14273 River Road

13 Walnut Grove, California 95690

14
15
16
17
18
19
20 REPORTED BY: BRIANNA RUDD, CSR NO. 13668

21 -----
22 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.

23 www.depo.com

24 (800) 288-3376

25 ABI FILE NO. AE014C6

A P P E A R A N C E S

JANET BARBIERI, Hearing Facilitator

CARRIE BUCKMAN, PowerPoint Presentation

Also Present:

MARCUS YEE, Department of Water Resources

BARBARA JONES, Department of Water Resources

KRISTINA REESE, Department of Water Resources

CONNOR BLOCK, Department of Water Resources

FRANCISCO ADAMA, Interpreter

---o0o---

I N D E X

Q&A SESSION: PAGE:

Nikki Seward..... 17

Jim Wallace..... 20

Brian Dawson..... 22

Mary Elizabeth..... 22

Max DeWalt..... 23

COMMENT BY:

Gregory Robinson..... 24, 57

Mary Elizabeth..... 25

James Motlow..... 27

Russell Oans..... 28

Dave Stirling..... 31

Mariah Looney..... 33

1	I N D E X (Cont.)	
2	COMMENT BY:	PAGE
3	Donald Barnes.....	34
4	Russell van Loben Sels.....	36
5	Stuart Walthall.....	38
6	Peter Stone.....	39
7	Susan Caston.....	42
8	Dr. Jeffrey Michael.....	43
9	Corie Hamer.....	46
10	Emily Pappalardo.....	48
11	Barbara Daly.....	50
12	Douglas Hsia.....	53
13	Brett Baker.....	54
14	Josephine Avila.....	59
15	Tim Neuharth.....	59
16	Daniel Armstrong.....	61
17	Mark Goble.....	62
18	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE.....	66

---o0o---

1 ~~the Pacific Ocean. They could somehow -- they can put~~
2 ~~this water back into a reservoir system for their own~~
3 ~~use.~~

4 ~~And there's many other things that Southern~~
5 ~~California could do in addition to the desalinization, as~~
6 ~~someone mentioned earlier. I could go on and on, but I'm~~
7 ~~sure others have comments along the same lines. But in~~
8 ~~any event, I'm just offering some alternatives as to what~~
9 ~~can be done here in California.~~

10 ~~MS. BARBIERI: Thanks so much.~~

11 MR. VAN LOBEN SELS: My name is Russ van Loben
12 Sels.

13 I have several concerns on the Notice of
14 Preparation. The first one is, on page 3, there's an
15 assumption that the tunnel muck will be reusable tunnel
16 material. It's sort of like: Kazaam, we have tunnel
17 muck; now we have reusable tunnel material, without any
18 analysis. So I believe, in any environmental analysis,
19 you have to assume that this material will not be
20 reusable, will have to be stored, will have to be
21 treated. And until you even analyze it, I don't think
22 you can assume it's reusable tunnel material. So I
23 prefer that you call it "tunnel muck," which it really is
24 and not, RTM, "reasonable tunnel material."

25 Page 2, bullet 3 states that the purpose of

1 this project is to protect the ability of the SWP and
2 potentially CVP to deliver water when hydrological
3 conditions result in the availability of sufficient
4 amounts consistent with the requirement of state and
5 federal law, including California and Federal Endangered
6 Species Act, the Delta Reform Act, as well as the terms
7 and conditions of water delivery contracts and other
8 existing applicable agreements.

9 I would encourage you to include the North Water
10 Delta Agency contract. It specifically states the
11 obligations of the State with regards to water, quality,
12 quantity, and how it is moved through the North Delta.
13 It specifically states that you shall not increase the
14 level or decrease the level of the water in the channels
15 in the northern Delta. This project will result in
16 changes in those levels and changes in water quality. So
17 I would encourage you to include that contract, as well
18 as your contracts to deliver water in the South.

19 And the third item deals -- and I'll read it --
20 "Although initial operating criteria of the proposed
21 project would be formulated during the preparation of the
22 upcoming Draft EIR in order to assess potential
23 environmental impacts and mitigation, final" --
24 "final...appropriate water right approvals through the
25 State Water Resources Control Board's change in point of

1 diversion process, and completing the consultation review
2 will occur after the environmental impact [sic]."

3 Those are all -- the operation of this project
4 is fundamental to the impacts on the Delta and cannot be
5 deferred. When you consider what happened with the
6 California Water Fix, the decision tree and -- what is
7 it -- the management of it cannot be determined after the
8 fact. You need to consider that up front.

9 The fourth item I had dealt with, impact should
10 be analyzed not only individually but cumulatively. In
11 the California Water Fix, there were 65 individual
12 impacts that impacted agriculture resources in the Delta.
13 Twenty of those were significant and unavoidable, but yet
14 there was no cumulative evaluation of what that really
15 did to that resource. So I would encourage you to not
16 only do those evaluations individually but also
17 cumulatively. I'm getting beeped at. Thank you.

18 ~~MS. BARBIERI: Thank you.~~

19 ~~I'm gonna call a few more people up. Peter~~
20 ~~Stone, Dr. Jeffrey Michael and Susan Caston, if you could~~
21 ~~get prepared. And please proceed.~~

22 ~~MR. WALTHALL: Hi. My name is Stuart Walthall,~~
23 ~~and I'm chairman of the Locke Foundation, an organization~~
24 ~~whose mission is to primarily educate the public about~~
25 ~~the culture of the town of Locke and the Delta.~~

1 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020

2 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT:

3 SCOPING AND CEQA

4 PUBLIC HEARING

5 **CERTIFIED COPY**

6
7
8
9
10 LOCATION OF HEARING:

11 Jean Harvie Community Center

12 14273 River Road

13 Walnut Grove, California 95690

14
15
16
17
18
19
20 REPORTED BY: BRIANNA RUDD, CSR NO. 13668

21 -----
22 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.

23 www.depo.com

24 (800) 288-3376

25 ABI FILE NO. AE014C6

A P P E A R A N C E S

JANET BARBIERI, Hearing Facilitator

CARRIE BUCKMAN, PowerPoint Presentation

Also Present:

MARCUS YEE, Department of Water Resources

BARBARA JONES, Department of Water Resources

KRISTINA REESE, Department of Water Resources

CONNOR BLOCK, Department of Water Resources

FRANCISCO ADAMA, Interpreter

---o0o---

I N D E X

Q&A SESSION: PAGE:

Nikki Seward..... 17

Jim Wallace..... 20

Brian Dawson..... 22

Mary Elizabeth..... 22

Max DeWalt..... 23

COMMENT BY:

Gregory Robinson..... 24, 57

Mary Elizabeth..... 25

James Motlow..... 27

Russell Oans..... 28

Dave Stirling..... 31

Mariah Looney..... 33

1	I N D E X (Cont.)	
2	COMMENT BY:	PAGE
3	Donald Barnes.....	34
4	Russell van Loben Sels.....	36
5	Stuart Walthall.....	38
6	Peter Stone.....	39
7	Susan Caston.....	42
8	Dr. Jeffrey Michael.....	43
9	Corie Hamer.....	46
10	Emily Pappalardo.....	48
11	Barbara Daly.....	50
12	Douglas Hsia.....	53
13	Brett Baker.....	54
14	Josephine Avila.....	59
15	Tim Neuharth.....	59
16	Daniel Armstrong.....	61
17	Mark Goble.....	62
18	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE.....	66

---o0o---

1 ~~diversion process, and completing the consultation review~~
2 ~~will occur after the environmental impact [sic]."~~

3 ~~Those are all -- the operation of this project~~
4 ~~is fundamental to the impacts on the Delta and cannot be~~
5 ~~deferred. When you consider what happened with the~~
6 ~~California Water Fix, the decision tree and -- what is~~
7 ~~it -- the management of it cannot be determined after the~~
8 ~~fact. You need to consider that up front.~~

9 ~~The fourth item I had dealt with, impact should~~
10 ~~be analyzed not only individually but cumulatively. In~~
11 ~~the California Water Fix, there were 65 individual~~
12 ~~impacts that impacted agriculture resources in the Delta.~~
13 ~~Twenty of those were significant and unavoidable, but yet~~
14 ~~there was no cumulative evaluation of what that really~~
15 ~~did to that resource. So I would encourage you to not~~
16 ~~only do those evaluations individually but also~~
17 ~~cumulatively. I'm getting beeped at. Thank you.~~

18 ~~MS. BARBIERI: Thank you.~~

19 ~~I'm gonna call a few more people up. Peter~~
20 ~~Stone, Dr. Jeffrey Michael and Susan Caston, if you could~~
21 ~~get prepared. And please proceed.~~

22 MR. WALTHALL: Hi. My name is Stuart Walthall,
23 and I'm chairman of the Locke Foundation, an organization
24 whose mission is to primarily educate the public about
25 the culture of the town of Locke and the Delta.

1 I'd like to go back to Mr. Motlow's point about
2 Congressman Garamendi's prop -- is Water Resources
3 familiar with that 2016 report, the six suggested points
4 for...

5 MS. BARBIERI: You can just --

6 MR. WALTHALL: In lieu -- I mean, in lieu of the
7 Water Fix? Is this question-and-answer, or is this just
8 statement?

9 MS. BARBIERI: It's not. You can just reference
10 it as a part of your comment.

11 MR. WALTHALL: Okay. Very good. I would
12 recommend that Water Resources takes a look at it.

13 I know the emphasis here is on the environment,
14 but I want to stress to the human beings who are in that
15 environment and how important it is for us to retain our
16 history and culture out here. I can't address nearly as
17 eloquently as these other folks regarding the economy and
18 whatnot. But I will say, one alternative is to not have
19 a Delta Conveyance at all. So thank you for your time.

20 ~~MR. STONE: Good evening. I'm Peter Stone, and~~
21 ~~I am a Delta resident within one mile of the northernmost~~
22 ~~intake. And I'd like to have the following comments~~
23 ~~considered during the preparation of this document.~~
24 ~~But first I'd like to also say, I've been~~
25 ~~involved way back in the BDCP days, and I put in more~~

1 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020

2 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT:

3 SCOPING AND CEQA

4 PUBLIC HEARING

5 **CERTIFIED COPY**

6

7

8

9

10 LOCATION OF HEARING:

11 Jean Harvie Community Center

12 14273 River Road

13 Walnut Grove, California 95690

14

15

16

17

18

19

20 REPORTED BY: BRIANNA RUDD, CSR NO. 13668

21 -----

22 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.

23 www.depo.com

24 (800) 288-3376

25 ABI FILE NO. AE014C6

A P P E A R A N C E S

JANET BARBIERI, Hearing Facilitator

CARRIE BUCKMAN, PowerPoint Presentation

Also Present:

MARCUS YEE, Department of Water Resources

BARBARA JONES, Department of Water Resources

KRISTINA REESE, Department of Water Resources

CONNOR BLOCK, Department of Water Resources

FRANCISCO ADAMA, Interpreter

---o0o---

I N D E X

Q&A SESSION: PAGE:

Nikki Seward..... 17

Jim Wallace..... 20

Brian Dawson..... 22

Mary Elizabeth..... 22

Max DeWalt..... 23

COMMENT BY:

Gregory Robinson..... 24, 57

Mary Elizabeth..... 25

James Motlow..... 27

Russell Oans..... 28

Dave Stirling..... 31

Mariah Looney..... 33

1	I N D E X (Cont.)	
2	COMMENT BY:	PAGE
3	Donald Barnes.....	34
4	Russell van Loben Sels.....	36
5	Stuart Walthall.....	38
6	Peter Stone.....	39
7	Susan Caston.....	42
8	Dr. Jeffrey Michael.....	43
9	Corie Hamer.....	46
10	Emily Pappalardo.....	48
11	Barbara Daly.....	50
12	Douglas Hsia.....	53
13	Brett Baker.....	54
14	Josephine Avila.....	59
15	Tim Neuharth.....	59
16	Daniel Armstrong.....	61
17	Mark Goble.....	62
18	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE.....	66

---o0o---

1 Delta said, this moving water around the state -- it's
2 a large percentage of our electricity use in the
3 state. At least 10 percent of our electricity use in
4 the state is just for moving water. And this is just
5 perpetuating that, and how is that going to allow us
6 to reach our climate goals?

7 And then the Delta Reform Act is a very
8 important policy to reduce reliance on the Delta in
9 meeting California's water supply needs. And it says
10 people should use regional self-sufficiency instead.
11 But state water contractors are counting on the Delta
12 conveyance so they don't have to reduce their reliance
13 on the Delta.

14 Santa Clara Water District recently
15 completed a water supply master plan for the year
16 2040, which they plan to increase the percentage of
17 Delta conveyance supplies from 40 to 41 percent of
18 supplies and increase their overall supplies by
19 50,000 acre feet per month. So this is not giving
20 incentive to do the right thing.

21 Thank you.

22 MS. CLARK: Thank you, Ms. Irvin.

23 Next speaker, Kelly Abreu.

24 MR. ABREU: Yes. I'm with the water
25 committee in the Sierra Club, a very small group of

1 people but -- people that have been looking at this,
2 and they are very uncomfortable with this project.

3 The goals and objectives of the project are
4 all about security and -- security of supply and
5 stability of supply. That's the wrong goal. The goal
6 should be -- needs to be addressing -- install
7 flexibility into the system, because the future of
8 water supply in the state -- it's going to be very
9 unstable. You need flexibility.

10 The problems -- look, this project only
11 addresses one of the problems. There are three
12 problems in this -- in this -- in California's water
13 system. One is physical infrastructure. That's --
14 this project proposes to address that, supposedly.

15 The other one is ecosystem function. That's
16 completely broken.

17 And the third one is resource allocation
18 policies. And this -- this project has a very unusual
19 and unique and new approach to the resource allocation
20 by using the language of the markets and pretending to
21 have voluntary agreements. Even the kind of words we
22 use, these state water contractors. These are not
23 contractors. We call them contractors in order to
24 give them some security of supply, some right to
25 acquire water no matter what, unlike other people in

1 the -- in the market, who have to buy things and have
2 to face flexible prices and price changes.

3 So the baseline here -- if you compare a wet
4 year ten years ago -- or let's say -- a wet year ten
5 years ago to a dry year recently, what -- what's the
6 difference? Well, urban users dropped significantly,
7 maybe 10 or 20 percent. Environmental use dropped
8 massively, like -- I don't know -- half. Huge drop in
9 environmental use during a dry year.

10 And agricultural use during that ten-year
11 period rose significantly, 20 or 30 percent during a
12 drought year. Why? Because -- I know why. I'll tell
13 you why. Because they don't see the price. They
14 don't pay prices. They get rights.

15 And they -- until we build a system that not
16 only uses the language of the markets but it actually
17 builds -- change our economics, using the -- what we
18 need here is not engineers, and we don't need lawyers
19 and we don't need water -- farmers. We don't need
20 urban users and urban water suppliers from which --
21 the urban water supplier is paying now ten times more
22 than the rural -- than the agricultural users, and
23 that's a testament to the information -- information
24 asymmetry and inequality of bargaining power that is
25 being built into our system, which represents a broken

1 market.

2 We need economists. Until we rebuild the
3 system, use -- putting the ecosystem function as a top
4 priority and putting the flexibility and the -- you
5 know, a free market or a real market mechanism in
6 here, where prices -- price signals are sent.

7 And, by the way, this is an annual system.
8 In the springtime you probably know what your water
9 supply is going to be for the rest of the year, and
10 you would then expect to have massive price changes
11 from that moment. That doesn't happen. It doesn't
12 happen. Why? Because we are not sending the price
13 signals to the major users. And the ones who are
14 getting the price signals is Mr. Joe Homeowner in San
15 Jose, a suburban homeowner, who is getting a price
16 signal that is tiered prices and more -- the more
17 water you use, the more you pay per unit. It's kind
18 of -- and that system is broken.

19 We need -- until we fix those things, which
20 are social and ecological problems, we -- we should --
21 it's like building a 30-lane freeway to fix traffic
22 jams and having everybody drive for free.

23 Thank you.

24 ~~MS. CLARK: Thank you very much, Mr. Abreu.~~

25 ~~And I believe our final speaker -- maybe~~

1 CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

2

3 CERTIFIED COPY

4

5 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT

6 CEQA PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

7 /

8

9

10

11

12 REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC MEETING

13

14 Wednesday, February 12, 2020

15 6:00 p.m.

16 Santa Clara Valley Water District
17 5750 Almaden Expressway
18 San Jose, California

19

20

21

22 REPORTED BY:
23 Noelia Espinola, CSR #8060

24 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.
25 www.depo.com
(800) 288-3376
FILE NO.: AE00EC4

~~1 Thank you. Would you kindly line up behind~~
~~2 Mr. Black and be prepared to speak. That would be~~
~~3 great.~~

~~4 Thank you very much. Please go ahead.~~

5 MR. BLACK: Okay. My name is Carlin Black.
6 I'm only speaking for myself, although the Sierra Club
7 did invite me to this meeting, one of the reasons I'm
8 here.

9 The main reason that I'm speaking is that
10 every time I go down south, I see an incredible amount
11 of water waste that I would very much think we could
12 solve for much fewer dollars than the multi countless
13 billions of dollars this tunnel is going to cost us.

14 First and foremost is the fact that we're
15 running a river down through the desert with no
16 protection at all from evaporation, the aquaduct. If
17 you could -- it would probably pay for itself by
18 putting solar panels over the aquaduct to keep the
19 water from evaporating from the aquaduct. It would be
20 a heck of a lot cheaper than the tunnel.

21 The other thing is that all over the state
22 we're going to have to start reusing all of our gray
23 and dirty water, cleaning it up and dumping it into
24 the aquifer. And until Southern California does that,
25 I don't see any reason at all why Northern California

1 should support their water supply.

2 And those are the two main points that I
3 have. The other people have covered very well the
4 amount of environmental degradation that will happen
5 with these tunnels. And I would very much like to see
6 them use the conservation method instead of exporting
7 water.

8 Thank you.

9 ~~MS. CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Black.~~

10 ~~All right. Our next speaker is Clint~~
11 ~~Steele.~~

12 ~~MR. STEELE: Thank you. My name is Clint~~
13 ~~Steele, and I'm here to represent Operating Engineers~~
14 ~~Local 3 union.~~

15 ~~We are pleased to see that the State has~~
16 ~~initiated an environmental review process for the~~
17 ~~modera -- moderniza -- modernized Delta conveyance.~~
18 ~~Our current system of pipe, pumps and levees is aging~~
19 ~~and is desperate need of repair. Upgrading our water~~
20 ~~infrastructure is a long overdue step toward a more~~
21 ~~secure and resilient water future for California.~~
22 ~~Without fixing our main water distribution network,~~
23 ~~efforts to develop local water supplies, like~~
24 ~~desalination and groundwater recycling, will be less~~
25 ~~effective.~~

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

CERTIFIED COPY

DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT

CEQA PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

/

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, February 12, 2020

6:00 p.m.

Santa Clara Valley Water District
5750 Almaden Expressway
San Jose, California

REPORTED BY:
Noelia Espinola, CSR #8060

ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.
www.depo.com
(800) 288-3376
FILE NO.: AE00EC4

1 don't know it right now. There are harmful algae
2 blooms that are popping up in the Delta right now.
3 They will have a direct impact in real time in Santa
4 Clara Valley.

5 There -- the monetary costs, the
6 environmental costs and the opportunity cost to these
7 Delta tunnels is immense. The opportunity cost is
8 probably the highest because we are walking off of a
9 cliff. And we can easily, under our own power, turn
10 to the side and turn around and go in a different
11 direction.

12 MS. CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Frost.

13 The next speaker is Daphne Frost. And while
14 Ms. Frost gets ready to speak, I'm going to call the
15 next three speakers, who can get prepared, please.
16 Katja Irvin, Kelly Abreu, and Jose Garcia, I believe.
17 Thank you.

18 Please proceed.

19 MS. DAPHNE FROST: Hi. My name is Daphne.
20 I'm six. I want the Delta to be clean for my whole
21 life.

22 MS. CLARK: Thank you.

23 The next speaker, Katja Irvin.

24 MS. IRVIN: Hi. My name is Katja Irvin, and
25 I'm with the -- I'm the conservation committee

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

CERTIFIED COPY

DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT

CEQA PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

/

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, February 12, 2020

6:00 p.m.

Santa Clara Valley Water District
5750 Almaden Expressway
San Jose, CaliforniaREPORTED BY:
Noelia Espinola, CSR #8060ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.
www.depo.com
(800) 288-3376
FILE NO.: AE00EC4

1 mountains that runs through the Sacramento-San Joaquin
2 Delta. As much as 40 percent of the water for Santa
3 Clara's 1.9 million residents comes through this
4 system. Without adequate improvements, this system
5 could collapse in the event of a major earthquake or
6 flood and cut the water supplies off for millions of
7 Californians. This is a real danger and a real
8 threat. The system is antiquated. This would have a
9 devastating impact on California's economy, with
10 estimated costs in the billions and billions of
11 dollars.

12 Major water infrastructure improvements are
13 badly needed to address these pressing issues. The
14 Delta Conveyance Project is the only viable project
15 and plan to protect water deliveries to our
16 communities in the future. We urge everyone to
17 support Governor Newsom's Delta Conveyance Project,
18 and I appreciate your time this evening. And we're in
19 full support, and we look forward to doing whatever we
20 can to help move the process along.

21 Thank you.

22 MS. CLARK: Thank you.

23 Next speaker, Brandon Dawson.

24 MR. DAWSON: Good evening. Brandon Dawson,
25 policy counsel for Sierra Club California, here on

1 behalf of our more than half a million residents -- I
2 mean, members and supporters statewide, hundreds of
3 thousands of whom live here in the South Bay.

4 We're here to urge you to consider a no
5 tunnel alternative in your EIR. The NOP's proposed
6 project and mentioned alternatives will worsen
7 environmental health conditions in the Delta, ruin the
8 quality of life for many Delta communities and
9 increase water rate costs for many Californians,
10 providing these rate payers with no new water.

11 As such, the EIR needs to include a
12 no-tunnel alternative that analyzes the state's use of
13 and investment in local projects and programs relating
14 to water conservation, efficiency, storm water capture
15 and other measures that achieve the same water
16 reliability and supply goals as the proposed project.
17 These types of projects are both less environmentally
18 harmful and less costly.

19 For example, the Santa Clara Valley Water
20 District, which so graciously housed this meeting
21 tonight, is currently investing millions of dollars in
22 projects related to water recycling and water
23 purification to maintain and ensure their region's
24 water supply. Regions all across the state can
25 benefit from doing the same, with more encouragement

1 and investment.

2 Moreover, this alternative should include an
3 analysis of the state investment in restoring and
4 strengthening existing Delta levees and
5 infrastructure. Water imports hard -- due to the
6 system that the State has set up. So making sure that
7 those -- the system is maintained and restored should
8 be a priority as well. This will increase fresh water
9 flows in the Delta and both mitigate damage from
10 seismic activity and increase impacts from saltwater
11 intrusion. And regardless of whether the tunnel is
12 built or not, the Delta levees still need restoration
13 and maintenance. Delta communities as well as the
14 Delta ecosystem depend on it.

15 Thank you.

16 ~~MS. CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Dawson.~~

17 ~~The next speaker is John Delgado.~~

18 ~~And, Mr. Delgado, before you begin, please~~
19 ~~let me call three more folks to line up and get ready~~
20 ~~to speak.~~

21 ~~So the following three speakers will be Elke~~
22 ~~Rank, Stephen Rosenblum and Mr. Paul Sethy.~~

23 ~~Please go ahead and get in line to speak.~~

24 ~~Mr. Delgado, you may go ahead. Thank you.~~

25 ~~MR. DELGADO: Thank you.~~

1 CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

2

3

4

CERTIFIED COPY

5

DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT

6

CEQA PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

7

/

8

9

10

11

12

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC MEETING

13

14

Wednesday, February 12, 2020

15

6:00 p.m.

16

Santa Clara Valley Water District
5750 Almaden Expressway
San Jose, California

17

18

19

20

21

REPORTED BY:

22

Noelia Espinola, CSR #8060

23

ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.

24

www.depo.com

(800) 288-3376

25

FILE NO.: AE00EC4

1 My name is John Delgado. I'm out here as a
2 property owner who lives in South County and relies on
3 groundwater.

4 Looking at the proposal here, the Water
5 Resilient Portfolio in response to the executive order
6 that the governor has signed, the 30-some --
7 40-something page here to look at in terms of how
8 water is going to affect the state and overall
9 operation.

10 Now, I'm very much concerned with this
11 tunnel because -- there are some questions that I'll
12 pose. But I'm holding -- I'm giving you some insight
13 of some of the things that happen when you begin to --
14 begin to deliver water to another area when we are
15 limited with water ourselves.

16 Along with that portfolio, you also have a
17 sustainable groundwater report by the California state
18 Department of Water Resources that wants to make sure
19 that we have a reliable groundwater table. And then
20 we also have, again, our local Santa Clara County
21 Water District looking at potentials of rezoning
22 groundwater areas so that they can levy higher water
23 fees.

24 You know, February -- by all weather
25 indications, it's going to be very dry. And I'm

1 already starting to water my houseplants. I'm already
2 starting to water my pastures. And, again, that water
3 becomes very crucial in our area.

4 So the questions that I have -- and the lady
5 previously made it so we must be in contact with the
6 same organization. These questions that I'm posing on
7 to you -- which papers -- which payers are going to
8 pay for the project and who will get the water in our
9 district? How much will the water district shift to
10 permanent fees and property taxes rather than through
11 water use? Regular rate payers need to know and who
12 they are subsidizing locally as well as statewide.

13 The other one. Why are we moving towards --
14 with this project when there is no contract between
15 water districts and as to who will pay and what the
16 tunnel will cost?

17 I have several others, but I will hold that
18 back. Because, again, the important part is making
19 sure that our local communities have the water
20 necessary to survive. I don't want to move to Arizona
21 or New Mexico. So I want to stay here. And I want to
22 see that water is available in the area in which I
23 live.

24 ~~Thank you.~~

25 ~~MS. CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Delgado.~~

1 CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

2

3 CERTIFIED COPY

4

5 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT

6 CEQA PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

7 /

8

9

10

11

12 REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC MEETING

13

14 Wednesday, February 12, 2020

15 6:00 p.m.

16 Santa Clara Valley Water District
17 5750 Almaden Expressway
18 San Jose, California

19

20

21 REPORTED BY:
22 Noelia Espinola, CSR #8060

23 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.
24 www.depo.com
(800) 288-3376
25 FILE NO.: AE00EC4

1 not. Thank you. The next speaker, then -- is it Jose
2 Garcia?

3 MR. GARCIA: Josue.

4 MS. CLARK: Oh, thank you.

5 MR. GARCIA: Josue, yes, Garcia.

6 MS. CLARK: Please go ahead.

7 MR. GARCIA: Thank you very much.

8 Good evening. My name is Josue Garcia. I
9 represent the Silicon Valley MEPS, an organization
10 that represents four construction units here in the
11 Santa Clara County, and we have a membership of over
12 7,000 construction workers here in Silicon Valley.

13 Thank you for the opportunity to comment on
14 what issue included in the EIR for this critical
15 infrastructure project that will help ensure and
16 secure water and jobs for California, current and
17 future generations.

18 In recognition of the number of jobs that
19 this project will create, in addition to jobs that
20 will help to secure and multiply once it's built, I
21 urge you to include in the EIR analysis of the
22 economic benefits that this project and various
23 alternatives will bring, both to the local communities
24 where the tunnel will be actually built and the
25 greater California economy as a whole, giving a

1 substantial boost to the water reliability that the
2 project will create.

3 This analysis should include not just
4 short-term economic effects during construction but
5 also long-term economic effects following
6 construction.

7 The EIR also should evaluate impact on the
8 project of using different tools -- tools during
9 construction, including project labor agreements to
10 minimize environmental impacts and maximize benefits,
11 such as shorter construction schedules and labor
12 equity.

13 I thank you for the opportunity to provide
14 input on the EIR should include and urge you to give
15 full thought and consider the sweeping economic
16 benefits that this project will provide to all
17 California workers and for families for all -- for
18 this and future generations.

19 ~~Thank you so much.~~

20 ~~MS. CLARK: Thank you.~~

21 ~~So we have one last speaker, Meg Giberson.~~

22 ~~MS. GIBERSON: Giberson (pronunciation).~~

23 ~~MS. CLARK: Giberson.~~

24 ~~MS. GIBERSON: Hard G, long "i."~~

25 ~~MS. CLARK: Thank you very much.~~

1 CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

2

3 CERTIFIED COPY

4

5 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT

6 CEQA PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

7 /

8

9

10

11

12 REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC MEETING

13

14 Wednesday, February 12, 2020

15 6:00 p.m.

16 Santa Clara Valley Water District
17 5750 Almaden Expressway
18 San Jose, California

19

20

21 REPORTED BY:
22 Noelia Espinola, CSR #8060

23 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.
24 www.depo.com
(800) 288-3376
25 FILE NO.: AE00EC4

1 MS. GIBERSON: Thank you very much for the
2 opportunity to comment. My name is Meg Giberson.

3 One thing I would like to see in the NOP for
4 this tunnel project is that the no-tunnel alternative
5 be thoroughly analyzed. And that would be not just a
6 ceremonial analysis, not just a pro forma analysis,
7 but a thorough analysis of a no-tunnel alternative.

8 The problems that currently exist in the
9 Delta that will probably be made worse by a tunnel
10 should be addressed. The algae blooms, the water
11 quality problems, the fact that people have found
12 that -- scientists have found that the Delta needs
13 more water flowing through it, not less, from the
14 tunnel that takes water from the north.

15 Similarly, a cost/benefit analysis for this
16 should be part of the NOP, and that should take into
17 account the cost of environmental and social harms,
18 not just, quote, the cost-effectiveness of the project
19 to the public water agencies funding the project,
20 which is in the literature currently.

21 The tunnel is supposedly intended to help
22 protect existing supplies consistent with existing
23 water right amounts. However, California has
24 allocated 6 million more intervening rights in its
25 rivers and its aquifers can sustainably provide.

1 Therefore, existing water rights cannot be protected.
2 We do not have that kind of water.

3 Climate change impacts should also be
4 considered thoroughly in the NOP, given the newer
5 estimates for hotter weather with temperatures --
6 Fahrenheit temperatures 7 to 10 degrees above the norm
7 from previous.

8 Similarly, operational plans should be
9 specified before permitting is complete. Project -- a
10 project of this scope, rather, should not be permitted
11 without full knowledge of the project's impact, which
12 can't be determined without knowing the operational
13 plans. Otherwise, the result would be even more
14 degraded conditions and reduced Delta outflow.

15 A realistic timeline for all related
16 activities should be included, since the tunnel length
17 is supposedly 40 miles now, not 30 to 35 miles as what
18 I read in the stakeholder engagement committee. There
19 would be a 1.7- to 2-mile-per-year progress on the
20 tunnel. With a 40-mile tunnel, that could mean a
21 20-year tunnel-boring or it could mean two
22 tunnel-boring machines, which could accomplish that in
23 ten years.

24 The finance authority also should not issue
25 bonds that would cover any individual or multiple

1 individual agency commitments to pay for the tunnel
2 that DWR will not be covering.

3 So thank you. I looked for an NOP that
4 would be comprehensive and, however, at least what I
5 asked for.

6 Thank you very much.

7 ~~MS. CLARK: Thank you, Ms. Giberson.~~

8 ~~Okay. At this point in time we have~~
9 ~~completed all of the cards, unless there are any~~
10 ~~additional speaker requests out there.~~

11 ~~If not, I'm going to turn to my colleagues,~~
12 ~~Carrie and Marcus. Given the time, was there anything~~
13 ~~you wanted to add?~~

14 ~~MS. BUCKMAN: Thank you for coming.~~

15 ~~MS. CLARK: Okay. Well, in that case, a~~
16 ~~couple of thank-yous. Thank you again to our hosts at~~
17 ~~the District. We very much appreciate the use of this~~
18 ~~facility today.~~

19 ~~And thank you to our translator, Ms. Vargas,~~
20 ~~and the fine ladies from Ag Innovations in the back,~~
21 ~~Genevieve and Shelly.~~

22 ~~And a huge thank you to our court reporter.~~
23 ~~We very much appreciate you getting all this down~~
24 ~~tonight.~~

25 ~~And thank you to you for coming and~~

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

CERTIFIED COPY

DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT

CEQA PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

/

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, February 12, 2020

6:00 p.m.

Santa Clara Valley Water District
5750 Almaden Expressway
San Jose, California

REPORTED BY:
Noelia Espinola, CSR #8060

ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.
www.depo.com
(800) 288-3376
FILE NO.: AE00EC4

1 don't know it right now. There are harmful algae
2 blooms that are popping up in the Delta right now.
3 They will have a direct impact in real time in Santa
4 Clara Valley.

5 There -- the monetary costs, the
6 environmental costs and the opportunity cost to these
7 Delta tunnels is immense. The opportunity cost is
8 probably the highest because we are walking off of a
9 cliff. And we can easily, under our own power, turn
10 to the side and turn around and go in a different
11 direction.

12 MS. CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Frost.

13 The next speaker is Daphne Frost. And while
14 Ms. Frost gets ready to speak, I'm going to call the
15 next three speakers, who can get prepared, please.
16 Katja Irvin, Kelly Abreu, and Jose Garcia, I believe.
17 Thank you.

18 Please proceed.

19 MS. DAPHNE FROST: Hi. My name is Daphne.
20 I'm six. I want the Delta to be clean for my whole
21 life.

22 MS. CLARK: Thank you.

23 The next speaker, Katja Irvin.

24 MS. IRVIN: Hi. My name is Katja Irvin, and
25 I'm with the -- I'm the conservation committee

1 chairperson for the Sierra Club Loma Prieta chapter.

2 That's our local chapter here. We've been working on
3 this for a long time. Mr. Frost, the last speaker,
4 is -- the board members in the back know.

5 And I agree -- I want to -- so I want to say
6 I agree with some things others have said. First of
7 all, the need for more public input along the way.
8 Not just the Environmental Impact Report but other
9 things. I mean, more input into the environmental
10 issues than the Environmental Impact Report, as Steve
11 suggested. But also just more public input in
12 general.

13 If you look at transportation projects like,
14 say, high-speed rail, they have had a lot of public
15 input all the time and meetings out in the community.
16 So a lot more of that needs to happen.

17 As you see, there's no one here. And that's
18 because nobody knows about this project because
19 there's no meetings.

20 And as far as the cost of this project, I
21 think everybody is kind of kidding themselves, that
22 whatever costs that are going to come out in the next
23 month or two are going to be half of what the cost
24 will be at the end, at least. And the project is
25 going to take twice as long as they say it's going to

1 take. Just look at high-speed rail. Even if it's
2 50 percent better than high-speed rail, it's going to
3 take forever and cost endless amounts of money.

4 As far as alternatives are concerned, I
5 really support a really strong look at the no-tunnel
6 alternative as other speakers have eloquently given
7 reasons why the no-tunnel alternative is a very good
8 alternative. But also a very strongly and unbiased
9 consideration of the east-tunnel alternative.

10 I had a lot of things to say about the
11 scoping document, but that isn't really what this
12 meeting seems to be about. But I did want to say that
13 one of the things I've seen in environmental
14 documents -- I don't know if it's required or not, but
15 talking about the regulatory setting. And this --
16 it's just important to discuss the relationship of the
17 project to a lot of state regulations that are aiming
18 to improve our environment and how the project will
19 contribute to meeting the goals and requirements of
20 those regulations. For example, the California Air
21 Resources Board target, under AB 398, to reduce
22 greenhouse gas -- or maybe AB 32 -- to reduce
23 greenhouse gas emissions to 40 percent below 1990
24 levels by 2030 and 80 percent below by 2050.

25 And, as the speaker from the Restore the

1 Delta said, this moving water around the state -- it's
2 a large percentage of our electricity use in the
3 state. At least 10 percent of our electricity use in
4 the state is just for moving water. And this is just
5 perpetuating that, and how is that going to allow us
6 to reach our climate goals?

7 And then the Delta Reform Act is a very
8 important policy to reduce reliance on the Delta in
9 meeting California's water supply needs. And it says
10 people should use regional self-sufficiency instead.
11 But state water contractors are counting on the Delta
12 conveyance so they don't have to reduce their reliance
13 on the Delta.

14 Santa Clara Water District recently
15 completed a water supply master plan for the year
16 2040, which they plan to increase the percentage of
17 Delta conveyance supplies from 40 to 41 percent of
18 supplies and increase their overall supplies by
19 50,000 acre feet per month. So this is not giving
20 incentive to do the right thing.

21 ~~Thank you.~~

22 ~~MS. CLARK: Thank you, Ms. Irvin.~~

23 ~~Next speaker, Kelly Abreu.~~

24 ~~MR. ABREU: Yes. I'm with the water~~
25 ~~committee in the Sierra Club, a very small group of~~

1 CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

2

3 CERTIFIED COPY

4

5 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT

6 CEQA PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

7 /

8

9

10

11

12 REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC MEETING

13

14 Wednesday, February 12, 2020

15 6:00 p.m.

16 Santa Clara Valley Water District
17 5750 Almaden Expressway
18 San Jose, California

19

20

21

22 REPORTED BY:
23 Noelia Espinola, CSR #8060

24 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.
25 www.depo.com
(800) 288-3376
FILE NO.: AE00EC4

1 and move water during and after storm events that will
2 better prepare us for future dry years. It will also
3 fortify our infrastructure to withstand the hazards
4 post earthquakes and floods, as others have said
5 tonight.

6 With respect to the pumping capacity, we do
7 support the proposed 6,000 CFS because we believe that
8 will ensure our ability to protect and -- excuse me --
9 protect our water quality and reliability in the most
10 efficient manner. We do caution the board against
11 considering lesser -- smaller capacities, because any
12 alternatives under 6,000 could jeopardize the very
13 success and economic feasibility of the project
14 itself.

15 That being said, I just want to close out by
16 saying this bullet proposal is long overdue, and we
17 think that it's urgent. And we look forward to
18 continuing the conversations with the board and other
19 stakeholders throughout the process.

20 Thank you.

21 MS. CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Thuerlachter.

22 Next speaker, Christophe LaBelle.

23 MR. LaBELLE: Good evening. My name is
24 Christophe LaBelle. I'm an environmental policy
25 associate, speaking here on behalf of the Silicon

1 Valley Leadership Group and its members to express
2 strong continued support for modernizing our Delta's
3 infrastructure.

4 The Leadership Group represents more than
5 350 of Silicon Valley's most respected employers, who
6 collectively provide nearly one of every three
7 private-sector jobs in our region and contribute more
8 than \$3 trillion to the worldwide economy. We joined
9 with other business organizations, labor unions,
10 family farmers, water experts, local governments,
11 taxpayer groups and minority groups across the state
12 in strong support of the governor's Delta conveyance
13 plan.

14 California is the sixth largest economy in
15 the world, and Silicon Valley is a primary driver of
16 our state's job creation and growth. Yet our success
17 is at risk unless we move to protect our Delta water
18 conveyance system and water supply. Silicon Valley,
19 as a region, is reliant on the Delta for 40 percent of
20 our overall water supplies and more than 90 percent of
21 our drinking water.

22 We are pleased to see the State of
23 California move forward with the environmental review
24 of Governor Newsom's revised Delta Conveyance Project.
25 This project is a key component of the governor's

1 directives to improve the resilience of California's
2 water portfolio.

3 We understand and support investments to
4 develop local water supplies, like replenishing
5 groundwater basins, refilling reservoirs and
6 recharging our existing water supplies. But without
7 reliable conveyance, we cannot move water as needed
8 when it's available in abundance.

9 This project will also improve our
10 resilience and decrease salinity due to rising sea
11 levels and safeguard supplies by moving Delta water
12 intakes north.

13 The time to act and make this investment is
14 now, in order to ensure reliable and secure water for
15 our region and to protect the health of the Delta.

16 Thank you very much for you all, agency
17 staff, to work with the community and public on this
18 important process for community work.

19 ~~MS. CLARK: Thank you, Mr. LaBelle.~~

20 ~~Our next speaker is Charlie Black, I~~
21 ~~believe.~~

22 ~~And if you wouldn't mind, Mr. Black, just~~
23 ~~pause one minute and let me call the next three~~
24 ~~speakers, who are Clint Steele, Penelope Frost and~~
25 ~~Michael Frost.~~

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

CERTIFIED COPY

DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT

CEQA PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

/

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, February 12, 2020

6:00 p.m.

Santa Clara Valley Water District
5750 Almaden Expressway
San Jose, California

REPORTED BY:

Noelia Espinola, CSR #8060

ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.

www.depo.com

(800) 288-3376

FILE NO.: AE00EC4

1 ~~Dawson and John Delgado. Okay. Chris Snyder, Brandon~~

2 ~~Dawson and John Delgado. Please come right up behind~~

3 ~~Ms. Looney.~~

4 ~~Please proceed.~~

5 MS. LOONEY: Thank you. My name is Mariah

6 Looney, and I'm here representing Restore the Delta.

7 I'd like to start by saying that we are very

8 appreciative of the meeting in Redding being added to

9 benefit those in the north, especially tribal folks.

10 But in echoing the concerns of others, we're extremely

11 concerned that there are no scoping meetings planned

12 for the environmental justice communities in Fresno or

13 in southeast L.A. The one Los Angeles meeting was not

14 enough, and it was at a time when not a lot of people

15 can get to it.

16 So, with that being said, which taxpayers

17 are going to pay for the project, who will get the

18 water in this water district and how much water will

19 the water district actually receive? How much will

20 the water district shift to permanent fees and

21 property taxes rather than through water use?

22 Regular rate payers deserve to know who they

23 are subsidizing locally. This project is moving

24 forward when there is no contract between water

25 districts as to who will pay for what and who will pay

1 for the tunnel.

2 How much of this water will be going to big
3 ag? Shouldn't rate payers know that before they're
4 forced to pay for this project? There are recent
5 reports from the Metropolitan Water District in
6 Southern California that they already have too much
7 water. So why are they leading the charge for the
8 tunnel and making deals that have given west side
9 farmers more water through the operation agreements
10 for the Central Valley project? Why should urban
11 users like the ones here in Santa Clara Valley Water
12 District have to pay for this agricultural tunnel?

13 A single tunnel was estimated to be an
14 \$11 billion project in 2018. At 5 percent annual
15 inflation, it's now at 12.2 billion. How much will it
16 cost when the construction starts? Construction costs
17 are soaring. Because of construction costs and other
18 elements, the tunnel will only make six to eight jobs
19 per \$1 million spent. And the jobs won't be in this
20 community. Local water projects from conservation and
21 efficiency programs make 15 to 18 jobs per \$1 million
22 spent.

23 To move all of this water and build the
24 tunnel will waste a great deal of energy, and utility
25 companies will have to build more power lines. There

1 will be too many -- too much greenhouse gas emissions
2 for water or for water that will be taken away from
3 others. This project is bad for repairs in Santa
4 Clara Valley Water District, it's bad for residents of
5 the Delta and it's bad for California.

6 Thank you.

7 ~~MS. CLARK: Thank you.~~

8 ~~Next speaker.~~

9 ~~MR. SNYDER: Hi. My name is Chris Snyder.~~

10 ~~I'm here representing the International Operating~~
11 ~~Engineers Local 3. We represent more than~~
12 ~~35,000 members in our jurisdiction, including this~~
13 ~~area. And what our guys mostly do is -- they're~~
14 ~~surveyors, testing inspection, heavy highway, crane~~
15 ~~operators. And we also represent Bargaining Unit 12~~
16 ~~at the State, which runs the Department of Water, the~~
17 ~~system itself.~~

18 ~~So as engineers we understand the urgency of~~
19 ~~our aging water infrastructure and how it really does~~
20 ~~need to be upgraded. The proposed Delta Conveyance~~
21 ~~Project has our Operating Engineers' complete support,~~
22 ~~international support as well out of D.C. Represent~~
23 ~~nationally about 380,000 working men and women.~~

24 ~~Currently more than two-thirds of~~
25 ~~Californians get their water from the Sierra Nevada~~

1 CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

2

3 CERTIFIED COPY

4

5 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT

6 CEQA PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

7 /

8

9

10

11

12 REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC MEETING

13

14 Wednesday, February 12, 2020

15 6:00 p.m.

16 Santa Clara Valley Water District
17 5750 Almaden Expressway
18 San Jose, California

19

20

21

22 REPORTED BY:
23 Noelia Espinola, CSR #8060

24 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.
25 www.depo.com
(800) 288-3376
FILE NO.: AE00EC4

1 We urge the State to move this project
2 forward before it's too late.

3 Thank you.

4 MS. CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Steele.

5 Our next speaker is Penelope Frost.

6 MS. PENELOPE FROST: Hello. My name -- is
7 this better?

8 MS. CLARK: That's better.

9 MS. PENELOPE FROST: Okay.

10 Hello. My name is Penny, and I'm ten years

11 old. I have spoken at a Delta meeting before in

12 public, but -- I loving fishing with my dad and

13 grandpa, and I've spent my whole life in and around

14 wildlife and going fishing. And I want to stop the

15 people who take water from the Delta, and I think that

16 the Santa Clara Valley Water District and state and

17 federal government can help us with that.

18 But the priorities need to change. And it's

19 not good to support the almond farms south of the

20 Delta that take large amounts of water from the Delta.

21 And they kill a lot of wildlife.

22 So yeah.

23 MS. CLARK: Thank you, Ms. Frost.

24 Next speaker is Michael Frost.

25 MR. FROST: Good evening.

1 I went -- and I know these consultants here.
2 You've been on the road show, going around the state.
3 Thank you for doing this.

4 You know, I have deja vu. I was doing this
5 ten years ago. And in my research I figured out that
6 there was also a state referendum in 1982. It was
7 also resurrected for CALFED in the '90s. And the
8 whole plan was dreamed up in 1890, and I think it was
9 a bad idea in 1890. But the external costs didn't
10 catch up to us until recent decades.

11 And in 2020 this is an absolute
12 embarrassment and an insult to my intelligence that
13 we're getting the same talking points again. We're
14 looking at global environmental calamities that we
15 can't even understand the scope of. Those would
16 include the insect apocalypse, bird apocalypse,
17 massive extinctions. And right here, Delta smelt.

18 So with all this water conveyance that we've
19 been doing for all these years to support corporate ag
20 and endless development in every direction -- the
21 Delta smelt are officially extinct, but you're still
22 proposing the same projects and telling us that it's
23 going to -- it's going to help the fish. That's an
24 embarrassment. An absolute embarrassment.

25 We have an entire continent that is on fire

1 right now, and that continent is Australia. And
2 Australia is very similar to California in a lot of
3 ways. Most of the people live on the coast, with a
4 wet season and dry season, and they get around 15 to
5 25 inches of rain per year. Very similar to Santa
6 Clara Valley.

7 There was a millennium drought that lasted
8 15 years in Australia, and they were about 15 minutes
9 away from running out of water at the beginning of the
10 drought. Say three or four years in, they're like,
11 Okay. We're going to do an interbasin pipeline, where
12 they're going to pump water from one side of the
13 continent to the other, and they're going to do a
14 desal plant. Years -- and they said, And this next
15 year we're going to get 15 inches of rain. And then
16 the next year there was three inches of rain. Next
17 year there was four inches of rain. Next year there
18 was two and a half.

19 Okay. Now we're in the middle of this
20 thing, and we're 15 minutes away from running out of
21 water. Everything changed. The strategy changed.
22 The strategy changed to regional self-sufficiency.

23 What can give us the most impact for the
24 lowest amount of money, as quickly as possible? You
25 know, these tunnels are going to -- are going to be a

1 stranded asset.

2 Australia never built the interbasin
3 pipeline because they didn't want to dry out the areas
4 of origin, which California is required to do. And
5 they didn't build a desal plant because it's a waste
6 of money. And their regional self-sufficiency
7 investments saved some of the urban areas.

8 Now, this is a very destructive Australian
9 government that would make Donald Trump blush, and
10 they continued their rapacious activities and are now
11 in a real pickle. Australia is a climate change lab.
12 So if we want to take a glimpse into the future and
13 see what the external landscape is going to look like,
14 Australia is a really good choice.

15 Organized labor. I see organized labor
16 people here. I support organized labor. You protect
17 labor and you protect jobs.

18 The first jobs to be created by these
19 tunnels are going to be in China, to build the boring
20 equipment they're going to use. This is going to be
21 mechanized, industrialized. There are no jobs for
22 you.

23 There is a plethora of jobs in regional
24 self-sufficiency projects like they did in Australia.

25 And our back is against the wall, but we

1 don't know it right now. There are harmful algae
2 blooms that are popping up in the Delta right now.
3 They will have a direct impact in real time in Santa
4 Clara Valley.

5 There -- the monetary costs, the
6 environmental costs and the opportunity cost to these
7 Delta tunnels is immense. The opportunity cost is
8 probably the highest because we are walking off of a
9 cliff. And we can easily, under our own power, turn
10 to the side and turn around and go in a different
11 direction.

12 ~~MS. CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Frost.~~

13 ~~The next speaker is Daphne Frost. And while~~
14 ~~Ms. Frost gets ready to speak, I'm going to call the~~
15 ~~next three speakers, who can get prepared, please.~~
16 ~~Katja Irvin, Kelly Abreu, and Jose Garcia, I believe.~~
17 ~~Thank you.~~

18 ~~Please proceed.~~

19 ~~MS. DAPHNE FROST: Hi. My name is Daphne.~~
20 ~~I'm six. I want the Delta to be clean for my whole~~
21 ~~life.~~

22 ~~MS. CLARK: Thank you.~~

23 ~~The next speaker, Katja Irvin.~~

24 ~~MS. IRVIN: Hi. My name is Katja Irvin, and~~
25 ~~I'm with the -- I'm the conservation committee~~

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

CERTIFIED COPY

DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT

CEQA PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

/

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, February 12, 2020

6:00 p.m.

Santa Clara Valley Water District
5750 Almaden Expressway
San Jose, California

REPORTED BY:

Noelia Espinola, CSR #8060

ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.

www.depo.com

(800) 288-3376

FILE NO.: AE00EC4

1 ~~We urge the State to move this project~~
2 ~~forward before it's too late.~~

3 ~~Thank you.~~

4 ~~MS. CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Steele.~~

5 ~~Our next speaker is Penelope Frost.~~

6 ~~MS. PENELOPE FROST: Hello. My name -- is~~
7 ~~this better?~~

8 ~~MS. CLARK: That's better.~~

9 MS. PENELOPE FROST: Okay.

10 Hello. My name is Penny, and I'm ten years
11 old. I have spoken at a Delta meeting before in
12 public, but -- I loving fishing with my dad and
13 grandpa, and I've spent my whole life in and around
14 wildlife and going fishing. And I want to stop the
15 people who take water from the Delta, and I think that
16 the Santa Clara Valley Water District and state and
17 federal government can help us with that.

18 But the priorities need to change. And it's
19 not good to support the almond farms south of the
20 Delta that take large amounts of water from the Delta.
21 And they kill a lot of wildlife.

22 So yeah.

23 ~~MS. CLARK: Thank you, Ms. Frost.~~

24 ~~Next speaker is Michael Frost.~~

25 ~~MR. FROST: Good evening.~~

1 CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

2

3 CERTIFIED COPY

4

5 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT

6 CEQA PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

7 /

8

9

10

11

12 REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC MEETING

13

14 Wednesday, February 12, 2020

15 6:00 p.m.

16 Santa Clara Valley Water District
17 5750 Almaden Expressway
18 San Jose, California

19

20

21 REPORTED BY:
22 Noelia Espinola, CSR #8060

23 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.
24 www.depo.com
(800) 288-3376
25 FILE NO.: AE00EC4

1 ~~Next speaker, Elke Rank.~~

2 MS. RANK: Hi. Good evening. I'm Elke

3 Rank. I'm with Zone 7 water agency, the wholesale
4 water agency that serves retailers in the Livermore,
5 Pleasanton and Dublin. We are a state water
6 contractor and one of three Bay Area agencies
7 receiving water through the South Bay Aquaduct, which
8 conveys Delta water from Bethany Reservoir through
9 Livermore and down to San Jose.

10 Delta Conveyance and the state water project
11 are critical components to support regional and local
12 water supplies, including the Bay Area. Zone 7
13 receives nearly 90 percent of our water supply from
14 the Delta, making these two components of utmost
15 importance -- excuse me -- importance to us to
16 reliably provide water to over 260,000 residents in
17 the Tri-Valley and also to about 3500 acres of
18 variegated agriculture in the East Bay.

19 We are actively pursuing ways to diversify
20 our water supply and enhancing resilience through
21 local -- locally through the collaborative Bay Area
22 regional reliability partnership. Still the Delta
23 conveyance is an indispensable private product. It
24 serves to protect us against Delta outages due to
25 earthquakes, climate change, et cetera, and it is

1 critical to the Tri-Valley's health and economic
2 cluster. Thanks.

3 ~~MS. CLARK: Thank you, Ms. Rank.~~

4 ~~Next speaker is Stephen Rosenblum.~~

5 ~~Is that correct?~~

6 ~~MR. ROSENBLUM: That's correct.~~

7 ~~Yeah, my name is Stephen Rosenblum. I'm a~~
8 ~~resident of Palo Alto. And I drove here to get here.~~
9 ~~It took me an hour and a half in traffic. And I would~~
10 ~~like to suggest that if you hold more of these~~
11 ~~meetings, that you hold them later in the evening,~~
12 ~~when traffic is abated. People have to come in rush~~
13 ~~hour. It's not -- it's not very sensible. So if you~~
14 ~~want more to people to turn out, I think would be~~
15 ~~better if you held it at 7:00 instead of 6:00.~~

16 ~~Anyway, I came here on my own as a private~~
17 ~~citizen. Nobody is paying me to be here. I came to~~
18 ~~speak for the Delta environment, because the fish and~~
19 ~~wildlife that live there can't speak for themselves.~~
20 ~~As Dr. White pointed out, the fish species are~~
21 ~~collapsing in the Delta already. They cannot stand~~
22 ~~any further stress -- especially in light of the~~
23 ~~reoccurring droughts we seem to be having -- of any~~
24 ~~more water exports to anyplace else.~~

25 ~~The proposed single tunnel will extract the~~

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

CERTIFIED COPY

DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT

CEQA PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

/

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, February 12, 2020

6:00 p.m.

Santa Clara Valley Water District
5750 Almaden Expressway
San Jose, California

REPORTED BY:
Noelia Espinola, CSR #8060

ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.
www.depo.com
(800) 288-3376
FILE NO.: AE00EC4

~~1 critical to the Tri-Valley's health and economic~~
~~2 cluster. Thanks.~~

~~3 MS. CLARK: Thank you, Ms. Rank.~~

~~4 Next speaker is Stephen Rosenblum.~~

~~5 Is that correct?~~

~~6 MR. ROSENBLUM: That's correct.~~

7 Yeah, my name is Stephen Rosenblum. I'm a
8 resident of Palo Alto. And I drove here to get here.
9 It took me an hour and a half in traffic. And I would
10 like to suggest that if you hold more of these
11 meetings, that you hold them later in the evening,
12 when traffic is abated. People have to come in rush
13 hour. It's not -- it's not very sensible. So if you
14 want more to people to turn out, I think would be
15 better if you held it at 7:00 instead of 6:00.

16 Anyway, I came here on my own as a private
17 citizen. Nobody is paying me to be here. I came to
18 speak for the Delta environment, because the fish and
19 wildlife that live there can't speak for themselves.
20 As Dr. White pointed out, the fish species are
21 collapsing in the Delta already. They cannot stand
22 any further stress -- especially in light of the
23 reoccurring droughts we seem to be having -- of any
24 more water exports to anyplace else.

25 The proposed single tunnel will extract the

1 maximum of 6,000 cubic feet per second, and that's
2 already a lot more than can be spared from the low
3 flow that the Delta is presently getting.

4 So, also, we need to remember, as Dr. White
5 pointed out, that 80 percent of California's water is
6 used by agriculture. That means that if agriculture
7 reduces consumption by 10 percent, we would not have
8 any problems. And the reduction can be done in a
9 sensible way, by eliminating crops that are
10 water-retentive. As he pointed out, a single almond
11 requires gallons of water to grow. We're essentially
12 exporting water to China and Japan. It doesn't make
13 any sense.

14 And the same with grass crops like hay and
15 alfalfa, cotton. We shouldn't be growing those. You
16 know, we should be growing crops that are more
17 adaptive to a Mediterranean climate and not a climate
18 of high rainfall or high year-end rainfall.

19 And agriculture also needs to increase
20 efficiency of water use. They can't be spraying water
21 in the air when the outside air temperature is
22 90 degrees. It just evaporates.

23 Governor Newsom, in a recent interview,
24 claimed that this project would create a lot of jobs.
25 And that's total nonsense. It will create a lot of

1 construction jobs, as the people from the union
2 pointed out, but it will not create many long-term
3 jobs. And many of the jobs it creates will be
4 low-paying jobs that are not really career jobs.
5 They're jobs for people that are trying to get a leg
6 up on the economic ladder.

7 Instead the project should be directed more
8 towards fixing the problems of the Delta to protect
9 the existing -- existing islands and shoring up the
10 levees and to protect the water quality from saltwater
11 intrusion. That is really one of the main issues of
12 the collapse of the species, and this project will
13 exacerbate it.

14 I think that the best thing we can do at
15 this point is do that and not build any tunnels. I
16 don't think the Delta can tolerate any more water
17 exports.

18 ~~Thank you.~~

19 ~~MS. CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Rosenblum.~~

20 ~~Mr. Sethy is our next speaker. And if he~~
21 ~~will forgive me -- just one minute, Mr. Sethy. I'm~~
22 ~~going to call the additional three people to line up~~
23 ~~behind you.~~

24 ~~And pardon me. I'm not going to do a good~~
25 ~~job on this last name. It looks like James~~

1 CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

2

3 CERTIFIED COPY

4

5 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT

6 CEQA PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

7 /

8

9

10

11

12 REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC MEETING

13

14 Wednesday, February 12, 2020

15 6:00 p.m.

16 Santa Clara Valley Water District
17 5750 Almaden Expressway
18 San Jose, California

19

20

21 REPORTED BY:
22 Noelia Espinola, CSR #8060

23 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.
24 www.depo.com
(800) 288-3376
25 FILE NO.: AE00EC4

~~1 Thuerlachter, California Alliance for Jobs. That is~~
~~2 Person Number 1. Christophe LaBelle, Silicon Valley~~
~~3 Leadership Group, Person Number 2. And I believe the~~
~~4 name is Charlie Black from the Sierra Club for the~~
~~5 third person. So hopefully you folks can line up~~
~~6 behind the speaker.~~

~~7 Again, James Thuerlachter, Christophe~~
~~8 LaBelle and -- I think it's Charlie Black. Thank you.~~

~~9 Please proceed. Thank you.~~

~~10 MR. SETHY: All right. Thank you.~~

11 Good evening, everyone. My name is Paul
12 Sethy, and I serve on the board of directors at the
13 Alameda County Water District or ACWD. I'm speaking
14 on behalf of our district tonight. I am also a
15 charter member of the Delta Conveyance Finance
16 Authority, representing ACWD.

17 ACWD serves over 350,000 residents and
18 businesses in the cities of Fremont, Newark and Union
19 City. About a third of our customers are commercial,
20 industrial and institutional accounts in our service
21 area. ACWD receives, on average, 40 percent of its
22 water supply from the state water project. So we have
23 a significant interest in the long-term reliability of
24 the state's water system.

25 By the way, we were the first investors in

1 the state water project and the building of Oroville
2 Dam in 1962.

3 Our customers have made significant
4 investments over many years in a diversified portfolio
5 of water supplies, including conjunctive groundwater
6 use and brackish groundwater desalination. In fact,
7 our brackish water desalination plant is the only one
8 in Northern California and has been in operation for
9 17 years and represents about 20 percent of our water
10 delivered to our community. In fact, it was much
11 higher during the drought.

12 We continue to pursue significant water
13 conservation in our service area as well as regional
14 partnerships as well. Even with these intensive
15 efforts, the state water project remains a critically
16 important water supply for our customers and the Bay
17 Area region.

18 With the threat of climate change and sea
19 level rise quickly approaching, the Delta Conveyance
20 Project seeks to address these significant challenges.

21 The project would reduce the risk of
22 disruptions in the state water project supplies to our
23 customers in the event of emergencies such as
24 earthquakes or other water quality emergencies in the
25 Delta. And this is critically important to us.

1 The costs of the Delta Conveyance Project
2 that would be borne by ACWD customers are still being
3 determined, and we're evaluating the business case.
4 ACWD continues to evaluate the cost-effectiveness and
5 benefits of the project as we learn more.

6 That said, based on the information we have
7 now, we anticipate that the Delta Conveyance Project
8 will have significant benefits to our customer base
9 and will be a cost-effective way to maintain a
10 reliable and resilient water supply for our region.

11 ACWD also recognizes the importance of
12 balancing water supply and ecosystem needs, as
13 mentioned by other speakers tonight, and appreciates
14 the State's efforts to collect input from the public
15 on this important project.

16 So thank you for your consideration of
17 ACWD's comments, and we appreciate the opportunity to
18 participate in today's scoping meeting.

19 ~~Thank you.~~

20 ~~MS. CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Sethy.~~

21 ~~All right. Next speaker. And if you~~
22 ~~wouldn't mind clarifying your last name. We would~~
23 ~~appreciate that.~~

24 ~~MR. THUERLACHTER: Yeah, Thuerlachter.~~

25 ~~James Thuerlachter.~~

1 CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

2

3

4

CERTIFIED COPY

5

DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT

6

CEQA PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

7

/

8

9

10

11

12

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC MEETING

13

14

Wednesday, February 12, 2020

15

6:00 p.m.

16

Santa Clara Valley Water District
5750 Almaden Expressway
San Jose, California

17

18

19

20

21

REPORTED BY:

22

Noelia Espinola, CSR #8060

23

ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.

24

www.depo.com

(800) 288-3376

25

FILE NO.: AE00EC4

1 ~~long lists that I'm not going to try to list off in~~
2 ~~the remaining 22 seconds I have.~~

3 ~~But there is a real need for technical~~
4 ~~expertise, and we can't see any of it. Any of it.~~
5 ~~And we won't see it until you give us the Draft EIR,~~
6 ~~which was then too late. So I'm encouraging you to~~
7 ~~open up the process so that experts can help you.~~

8 ~~Thank you.~~

9 ~~MS. CLARK: Thank you, Dr. White.~~

10 ~~And before the second speaker starts, I~~
11 ~~would like to point out that, for your assistance, the~~
12 ~~yellow light will go on when -- I think it's one~~
13 ~~minute is remaining. Okay. So we're doing a~~
14 ~~four-minute speaking segment. The yellow light will~~
15 ~~come on when you have one minute left. And, of~~
16 ~~course, there's that beep noise at the end.~~

17 ~~Thank you.~~

18 ~~Please proceed.~~

19 MR. SMITH: Wonderful. And thank you for --
20 DWR staff, for hosting this open forum for us to give
21 comments.

22 My name is Chris Smith. I'm here on behalf
23 of the Associated General Contractors of California.
24 We represent over a thousand general, specialty and
25 associate members throughout the state. Our members

1 work on infrastructure projects from under a hundred
2 thousand dollars to over a hundred billion dollars.
3 And we're here tonight in support of the proposed
4 Delta Conveyance Project which is identified in the
5 NOP. We believe that infrastructure is vital to the
6 success of California's economy, from the roads we
7 drive on to the systems that connect us, down the
8 pipes that deliver water to our homes and our
9 businesses.

10 Every couple of years the American Society
11 of Civil Engineers issues infrastructure report cards.
12 In 2019 they gave California levees a D rating. Our
13 dams, they got a C minus. And our drinking water
14 systems, they got a C. And I know from at least my
15 school days, Cs and Ds don't get hung up on the
16 fridge. So something to work on.

17 During his 2019 State of the State address,
18 Governor Newsom highlighted that California's water
19 supply has become less reliable over the years for a
20 number of reasons. He also stated that, quote: The
21 status quo is not an option. And we agree with the
22 governor on that point. Without action, water
23 supplies throughout the main distribution system are
24 at risk of collapse in the event of a major earthquake
25 or flood.

1 The proposed Delta Conveyance Project will
2 address many of California's complex water challenges
3 and will be critical in improving infrastructure that
4 supplies water for millions of Californians. Moving
5 forward with a project that does not deliver enough
6 water economically, though, would be a mistake. We
7 know that without proper water infrastructure,
8 California's economic growth can be slowed, rates
9 could rise and the health of the Delta will continue
10 to decline. So we need a project that can run about
11 6,000 to 7,500 cubic feet per second.

12 Acting now to improve the security and
13 reliability of water supplies will support new growth
14 and allow us to continue to move forward in the state.
15 We urge DWR to move forward with the project now on
16 the NOP with the capacity for 6,000 to 7500 CFS. On
17 behalf of ADC and over our 1,000 member companies, we
18 ask you to support this project.

19 And thank you for your time.

20 MS. CLARK: Thank you.

21 Next speaker is Mariah Looney.

22 And, Mariah, please let me pause for just a
23 moment to call up the next three speakers that can
24 line up after her.

25 So the next three are Chris Snyder, Brandon

1 CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

2

3 CERTIFIED COPY

4

5 DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT

6 CEQA PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

7 /

8

9

10

11

12 REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC MEETING

13

14 Wednesday, February 12, 2020

15 6:00 p.m.

16 Santa Clara Valley Water District
17 5750 Almaden Expressway
18 San Jose, California

19

20

21 REPORTED BY:
22 Noelia Espinola, CSR #8060

23 ATKINSON-BAKER, INC.
24 www.depo.com
(800) 288-3376
25 FILE NO.: AE00EC4