

PH2—Los Angeles, CA, January 25, 2006

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6	PUBLIC HEARING	
7	IN RE SOUTH DELTA IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT	
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14	REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS	
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16	WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2006	
17	1 GATEWAY PLAZA	
18	LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA	
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21	Reported by:	
22	Mary K. Medley, CSR 9557	
23	Hutchings Number 118097-NO	
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1 APPEARANCES:
2 AL CANDLISH, HEARING OFFICER
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4 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
5 2800 Cottage Way, MP-140
6 Sacramento, California 95825-1898
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1 LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA - WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2006
2 10:03 A.M.
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3 ***

4 MR. CANDLISH: Welcome to today's public hearing on

10:03 5 the South Delta Improvements Program Draft Environmental

6 Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement.

7 This is one of three hearings being held to receive

8 comments on the draft documents under the National

9 Environmental Policy Act and the Environmental Quality

10:03 10 Act.

11 A court reporter is here today recording these

12 proceedings. My name is Al Candlish. I'm the regional

13 planning officer for the Bureau of Reclamation,

14 Mid-Pacific Region, in Sacramento. I'll be serving

10:03 15 today as the hearing officer.

16 On my right is Kathy Kelly, Chief of the Bay Delta

17 Office of the Department of Water Resources in

18 Sacramento.

19 And on my left, Sharon McHale from the Bureau of

10:03 20 Reclamation, project manager on this project.

21 The comment period for the South Delta Improvement

22 Program began on November 10th, 2005 with a notice of

23 availability published in the Federal Register and

24 filing with the State clearinghouse.

10:04 25 Comments will be accepted on the draft document

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10:04 1 through Tuesday, February 7th, 2006. We'll be accepting

2 both verbal and written comments at today's hearing and

3 the hearing we held yesterday in Sacramento and then

4 tomorrow night in Stockton.

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10:04 5 To provide verbal comments, you will need to
6 complete and submit a speaker's card (indicating).
7 Speaker cards are available at the registration table.
8 I saw a number of you signing up when you arrived.
9 If you've not submitted a speaker's card, if you'd
10:04 10 proceed -- and wish to provide comments today, if you'd
11 proceed to the registration table and fill out a comment
12 card now.
13 Also, at the front table were a -- actually, a
14 comment card for those of you who want to submit written
10:05 15 comments, not necessarily verbalize them. This is
16 available and this will also go on the record. Written
17 comments can also be submitted outside of the hearing
18 either through fax, e-mail or by mail.
19 There is a sheet, also, at the front desk
10:05 20 (indicating), indicating process in terms of submitting
21 any comments of -- written comments.
22 Please understand that the purpose of today's
23 hearing is to receive comment on the draft document, and
24 for that reason we're hearing from you today, not
10:05 25 providing much additional information.

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10:05 1 However, before we proceed, Kathy is going to give
2 a short presentation relative to what the project is.
3 MS. KELLY: You can all hear me, I assume.
4 I'll just give a brief description of the South
10:05 5 Delta Improvements Program and our decision process,
6 which is critical to this project.

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7 This is the South Delta project area.
8 Maybe could we dim the lights or something?
9 That's helpful.

10:06 10 So this is the project area, we have the
11 San Joaquin River over on the right and then the export
12 facilities over here on the left with Clifton Court
13 Forebay for the Central Valley water project.
14 The area of concern for us is right in here
10:06 15 (indicating).
16 The objectives of the project are threefold: The
17 first is to prevent the strain of San Joaquin salmon
18 that are migrating down the San Joaquin into the South
19 Delta. These are the small smolts that are heading out
10:06 20 to sea.
21 The second objective is to provide adequate water
22 levels and water quality through circulation for the
23 farmers that divert off of those South Delta channels.
24 And then the third is to increase the delivery
10:07 25 reliability and the amount of supply from the State

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10:07 1 water project to the Central Valley project and State
2 water project water users, and provide opportunities to
3 export water for fish and wildlife purposes by
4 increasing the operational export limit for the State
10:07 5 water project to 8,500 cfs. So we have three
6 objectives.
7 And our proposed project is divided into two
8 components: A physical/structural component that is
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10:07 9 designed to meet the first two objectives, and then an
10 operational component that is designed to meet the third
11 objective.

12 we have recommended a preferred physical structural
13 component, and it consists of four permanent operable
14 gates in locations I'll show you in a minute, some
10:07 15 localized dredging and some modifications for some of
16 the agricultural diversions in our project area.

17 For the operational component, we have evaluated
18 three ways of using that operational limit. We do not
19 recommend a specific scenario and so -- and we have
10:08 20 moved that into a second stage of a decision process.

21 This is the preferred physical structural
22 component. You see that we have an operable gate at --
23 this is called the Head of Old River. It's the
24 San Joaquin. And this is water flowing into the South
10:08 25 Delta. So we have an operable gate there that is

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10:08 1 operated in the spring to protect the out-migrating
2 salmon.

3 It can also be operated in the fall to increase
4 flows in the San Joaquin and help to provide better
10:08 5 conditions in the lower San Joaquin. We have dissolved
6 oxygen sags there that can prevent the adults -- or hold
7 up the adult salmon from migrating upstream.

8 Then we have three agricultural barriers,
9 agricultural gates that are designed to raise the water
10:09 10 levels and induce circulation in the South Delta

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11 channels, and the circulation would move like this --
12 Let me go back. There we go.
13 And then we have some localized dredging in these
14 channels and some modifications of diversions. So
10:09 15 that's the physical/structural component.
16 we are installing barriers in the South Delta now.
17 we do it for the agricultural season. And they're rock
18 barriers with culverts that have flap gates on them.
19 So this is on Old River near Tracy. The water
10:09 20 comes in this way (indicating), comes through the flap
21 gates, which you can't see. And then when the tide
22 recedes, the flap gates close and this water level's
23 higher than this water level (indicating) so that the
24 agricultural diversions have a level that they need.
10:10 25 we have someone parked with a pickup truck and a

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10:10 1 trailer to help with boat traffic around. And this is
2 through the ag season, which is through the summertime.
3 These are installed with rocks and heavy equipment.
4 And we do it -- we install them early in the ag season
10:10 5 and remove them at the end of the ag season.
6 And for the Tracy -- excuse me -- the Head of Old
7 River barrier, we do this -- this cycle twice a year,
8 once in spring, once in the fall.
9 we would like to stop doing this.
10:10 10 I would like this to stop doing this.
11 It's going to run its course. We want to move from
12 the rock barriers to something that looks like this

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13 (indicating). This is the same location that you looked
14 at before with the rocks. And what we have are
10:11 15 bottom-hinged gates. I'll show you how those work in a
16 minute. And we have a boat lock, so no longer do we
17 have a trailer.

18 This is -- We have no superstructure to flood.
19 Flows aren't impaired with some kind of -- something in
10:11 20 the channel. And this is in the up position. This is
21 operated where the gates are actually preventing flow
22 going back in this direction (indicating).

23 Now, these gates, as I said, are bottom-hinged
24 gates. So when the tide comes in, they're flat on the
10:12 25 channel. As the tide starts to recede, they raise up

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10:12 1 and they capture the flow and keep the water level up on
2 the upstream side and induce circulation through the
3 South Delta to improve -- to remove stagnant areas, and
4 therefore improve water quality. So we have that as our
10:12 5 recommended physical component.

6 The operational component does not have a selected
7 scenario, there's not one recommended, but we do analyze
8 it.

9 In the draft EIR/EIS, we have three scenarios that
10:12 10 we have evaluated, A, B and C. What this shows is that
11 it's a small -- the average export increase associated
12 with any of these scenarios is relatively small compared
13 to what we have under our current capability. And this
14 ranges from 239- -- excuse me -- 119,000 acre feet on
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10:13 15 average up to 290,000 acre feet, which is 3 to 5 percent
16 of an increase.

17 This assumes that we would have transfers from
18 other water sources running through the project as a
19 result of this incremental increase. we don't have that
10:13 20 during wet years, and there's only a few years where we
21 have it. So if you take that out of the equation, we're
22 looking at a 1 to 3 percent increase in the total
23 exports from the delta on average.

24 we have a decision process that's fairly elaborate.
10:13 25 we are in the final realm of -- final part of our public

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10:13 1 review period, and we would expect to have a final
2 EIR/EIS and a record of decision in August of this year.

3 The decision would only address the preferred
4 physical/structural component. Then once that decision
10:14 5 is made, and hoping that we do get approval to move
6 forward on our recommended alternative, then we would go
7 into a second stage.

8 what this does is it allows us to begin the
9 construction of the barriers in -- this year or early
10:14 10 next year, and it will take us until early 2009 to get
11 those in place.

12 So during this time after we make our decision, we
13 will have a decision -- a public process to address
14 increasing the export limit from the delta, so
10:14 15 increasing the SWP operation to limit to 8,500 cfs.

16 This would -- This allows us to bring in
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17 information on the fish decline in the delta and the new
18 information is being developed on a weekly basis -- we
19 get new information about the causes of what's causing
10:15 20 the decline frequently now.

21 And so we can bring that information in. We can
22 discuss it in public meetings, and eventually we would
23 issue another document, probably a supplemental, a draft
24 EIR/EIS, and have that out for public comment on the
10:15 25 wisdom of increasing the export limit, and then we would

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10:15 1 make a decision. And we have some time to do that,
2 because we would not operate to that higher limit until
3 the gates are fully operational, so that would be 2009.

4 So just to wrap up, we are here in our public
10:15 5 review period. We hope to finalize all of the necessary
6 documents in August or September of this year and then
7 begin constructing the gates, and also begin the stage
8 two decision process on increasing the export limit.

9 Thank you.

10:16 10 MR. CANDLISH: Thank you, Kathy.

11 I'm going to try to do away with the microphone, I
12 hope. Is everybody hearing me okay?

13 We will now proceed in the following manner. First
14 of all, before I do, though, those that arrived -- just
10:16 15 recently arrived didn't hear the initial comments we
16 have.

17 If you're interested in making statements today, we
18 have speaker cards at the registration table. If you'd

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19 fill those out in terms of stating your desire to speak
10:16 20 today.
21 we -- In terms of it -- I will call people to the
22 podium in terms of the order that they turn in cards.
23 If you'll bear with us, some people -- we're trying to
24 accommodate some people that indicated that they have
10:16 25 some flight issues relative to catching. So we may, in

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10:16 1 fact, have moved some of those people up a little bit
2 earlier than you may have signed up.
3 Also, we'll be calling elected officials first in
4 the process. When I call you to the microphone, please
10:17 5 clearly state your name and affiliation, spelling both
6 your first and last names so that the court reporter can
7 get it on the record.
8 Please remember that the court reporter will be
9 recording your comments, and your comments are part of
10:17 10 the official record for these proceedings. It is
11 important to speak clearly so your comments can be
12 accurately captured.
13 Please note that the reporter may interrupt you as
14 needed in order to get some clarification on your
10:17 15 statement.
16 I'll be the timekeeper. Looks like we have quite a
17 few commenters today, so I'd like to hold your comments
18 to no more than five minutes. I'll give you a notice
19 after four minutes to -- asking you to try to wrap up
10:17 20 and provide a summary.

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21 So with that, we'll proceed. And the first person
22 is -- and if you'll -- apologize if I don't read it
23 quite right, Carol Herrera, mayor of Diamond Bar.

24 MS. HERRERA: Good morning. My name is Carol
10:18 25 Herrera, H-E-R-R-E-R-A. I am the mayor of Diamond Bar,

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10:18 1 and I currently serve as the governing board president
2 for the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments.

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3 I come before you as a community leader in support
4 of the Department of Water Resources and United States
10:18 5 Bureau of Reclamation's draft environmental
6 documentation for the South Delta Improvements Program.

7 We are all aware California is facing a critical
8 challenge in the Bay Delta. We need a safe, reliable
9 and high-quality supply of water to keep pace with our
10:19 10 urban and business demands.

11 The city of Diamond Bar, located in the southeast
12 region of the San Gabriel Valley, is strongly dependent
13 on imported water supplies.

14 In 2000, the population of the southeast region
10:19 15 exceeded 340,000 people. And by the year 2030, it is
16 expected to grow by one-third, an additional 126,000
17 people.

18 As a community leader actively addressing the
19 challenges within my city of Diamond Bar and within the
10:19 20 San Gabriel Valley, I believe it to be imperative that
21 we have a more flexible water delivery system that can
22 support our population and economy.

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23 I am aware of constraints placed on the State's
24 ability to transport surplus water supplies. I am also
10:20 25 aware of the fact that we have infrastructure to move

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10:20 1 the water.

2 until efforts such as the SDIP are approved, the
3 State's water managers cannot fully or responsibly use
4 the existing system.

10:20 5 SDIP does not require building a new project or
6 major infrastructure, and funding for it has already
7 been secured through the passage of voter-approved bonds
8 in the year 2000.

9 water is critical to our families, businesses and
10:20 10 environment. It's our responsibility to use this
11 precious resource wisely through all possible best
12 management practices, including conservation, recycling
13 and storage.

14 I believe the South Delta Improvements Program to
10:21 15 be the first step in better managing the system while
16 enhancing conditions for fish and the overall
17 environment. I ask that you act to implement its
18 benefits.

19 Thank you very much.

10:21 20 MR. CANDLISH: Thank you, Mayor Herrera.

21 Next, we have Joseph Ruzicka from Three Valley
22 Municipal Water District.

23 MR. RUZICKA: Good morning. My name is Joe
24 Ruzicka. It's spelled R-U-Z-I-C-K-A.

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10:21 25 I am a member of the Three Valleys Municipal water
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10:21 1 District. And as you may be aware, that is an elective
2 position and my constituency is Diamond Bar.
3 The former speaker, Carol Herrera, is the mayor,
4 and I concur in her remarks. I'm here as a community
10:22 5 leader in support of the Department of Water Resources
6 and U.S. Department -- U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's
7 draft documentation for the South Delta Improvement
8 Program.
9 And I also believe the South Delta Improvement
10:22 10 Program to be the first step in better managing the
11 system while enhancing a condition for fish and the
12 overall environment, and I ask that you implement its
13 benefits.
14 MR. CANDLISH: Thank you.

10:22 15 Director Arrighi. Dan Arrighi, did I do that
16 right?
17 MR. ARRIGHI: Exactly. Thank you. Very good.
18 Thank you. Good morning. My name is Dan Arrighi,
19 A-R-R-I-G-H-I. I'm the mayor of the city of
10:22 20 Temple City, a board member of the San Gabriel and Lower
21 Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy. And I am
22 also water resources manager for the San Gabriel valley
23 Water Company, which provides drinking water to over
24 90,000 service connections in portions of 19 cities and
10:23 25 in unincorporated areas located in both Los Angeles and

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10:23 1 San Bernardino Counties.
2 As a water resources manager, I know what it's like
3 to have to provide water to an existing and growing
4 service area.

10:23 5 San Gabriel, like many other water purveyors in
6 Southern California, needs a safe, reliable and
7 high-quality water supply to keep up with the rapidly
8 rising and fast-growing service area and equally growing
9 economy.

10:23 10 However, we have limited water supplies in our
11 state and must better utilize our existing water
12 resources. Conservation efforts and the use of recycled
13 water will help to better manage existing water
14 supplies, but that will only sustain our current
15 population, not the expected growth.

10:23 16 There is not an instant powder that can be mixed
17 with water to make new water. We must make do with what
18 we have. But in order to make do, we must implement the
19 South Delta Improvements Program.

10:24 20 The South Delta Improvements Program will benefit
21 the environment by improving salmon runs in the
22 San Joaquin River and restore flexibility in water
23 resource operations to meet the needs of all
24 Californians, while at the same time protecting other
10:24 25 delta fish species.

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10:24 1 On behalf of the city of Temple City, its residents
2 and the San Gabriel valley water Company, I encourage
3 all key stakeholders to help advance this critically
4 needed project.

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10:24 5 Thank you for both your time and consideration.
6 Thank you.

7 MR. CANDLISH: Thank you.

8 Next we have Mark Kelly.

9 MR. KELLY: Thank you.

10:24 10 Good morning. My name is Mark Kelly, K-E-L-L-Y.
11 I'm a member of the Glendora City Council. I'm here as
12 a community leader to express my support for the
13 Department of Water Resources and U.S. Bureau of
14 Reclamation draft environment documentation for the
10:25 15 South Delta Improvements Program.

PH2-MK1

16 water is the lifeblood of California. A couple
17 weeks ago, Governor Schwarzenegger, during the state of
18 the state address, recognized the growing population of
19 Southern California, and he earmarked millions of
10:25 20 dollars for improved infrastructure for this reason.

21 The San Gabriel Valley continues to grow at an
22 alarming rate. As an example, the city of Glendora has
23 five major housing developments that will add over
24 200 housing elements into our community in the next
10:25 25 five years.

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10:25 1 water supply and conservation is always at the
2 forefront in discussion as these developments are
3 underway. It is critical to our families and
4 businesses, and it's our responsibility to use it wisely
10:25 5 through all possible best management practices,
6 including conservation, recycling and storage.
7 The city of Glendora is located along the base of
8 the Angeles National Forest and receives a blend of
9 imported supplies from the Metropolitan Water District
10:26 10 of Southern California's upper feeder.
11 As I understand it, the majority of the water in
12 this system comes from the Sacramento Delta, thus its
13 quality and reliability is of utmost importance to the
14 residents of my city.
10:26 15 I am aware of the constraints placed on the State's
16 ability to transport surplus water supplies. I am also
17 aware of the fact that we have the infrastructure to
18 move the water.
19 Until efforts such as the South Delta Improvements
10:26 20 Program are approved, the State's water managers cannot
21 fully or responsibly use the existing system.
22 The South Delta Improvements Program does not
23 require building a new project or major infrastructure,
24 and funding for it has already been secured through the
10:26 25 passage of voter-approved bonds in 2000.

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10:26 1 I believe the South Delta Improvements Program to
2 be the first step in better managing the system while

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3 enhancing conditions for the fish and protecting the
4 delta ecosystems as well as the overall environment.

10:27 5 In reading some articles regarding the South Delta
6 Improvements Program, I read statements such as the
7 South Delta Improvements Program will provide the State
8 with necessary tools to meet the State's increasing
9 water needs while protecting the delta ecosystem.

10:27 10 The program will improve salmon runs in the
11 San Joaquin River and restore a measure of flexibility
12 in water supply operations to meet the needs of
13 California, and while at the same time protecting
14 another delta fish species.

10:27 15 I am proud to support these improvements because
16 it's not only about improving water flow, enhancing
17 water quality or getting more water, but if this is also
18 being done responsibly, by caring for the ecosystem of
19 the delta and the environment.

10:27 20 We have come a long way. We must be proactive in
21 conserving water and looking for water supply so that we
22 can ensure that our children or grandchildren have water
23 available for generations -- for their generation and
24 generations to follow.

10:28 25 I respectfully ask that you act to implement these

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10:28 1 benefits. Thank you for your time.
2 MR. CANDLISH: Thank you, Councilman.
3 Next is Clayton Miller.
4 MR. MILLER: Good morning. My name is Clayton

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10:28 5 Miller and I am here representing the Construction
6 Industry Coalition on Water Quality, also called
7 "CICWQ." And I'm here to express our support for the
8 Department of Water Resources' environmental review
9 process for the South Delta Improvements Program.

10:28 10 CICWQ is comprised of the four major construction
11 and building trade associations in Southern California.
12 These include the Associated General Contractors of
13 California, the Building Industry Association of
14 Southern California, the Engineering Contractors
15 Association and the Southern California Contractors
16 Association.

17 These associations work collectively to provide the
18 necessary infrastructure and support for the region's
19 business and residential needs. Our coalition
10:29 20 recognizes that a balanced solution to the South Delta
21 is important to California in meeting environmental,
22 water supply and water quality needs.

23 The purpose of the draft EIR and EIS for the South
24 Delta Improvements Program is to provide objective
10:29 25 information about the program.

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10:29 1 Completion of the EIR will allow the public the
2 opportunity to review and comment on the merits and
3 impacts of the program. It will allow the DWR to
4 provide information, respond to questions and concerns,
10:29 5 and solicit ideas and recommendations.

6 The environmental review process should move

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7 forward to fully address any uncertainties with the
8 South Delta project. PH2-CM1

9 In conclusion, I'd like to thank you for the
10:30 10 opportunity to provide our comments today down here in
11 Southern California. Thank you.

12 MR. CANDLISH: Thank you, Mr. Miller.
13 Ronald Gastelum.

14 MR. GASTELUM: Good morning. My name is Ronald
10:30 15 Gastelum. I'm the executive vice president of the
16 L.A. Area Chamber of Commerce, 350 South Bixel Street,
17 Los Angeles, California. PH2-RG1

18 MR. CANDLISH: Did you get a spelling?
19 THE REPORTER: Nope.

10:30 20 MR. GASTELUM: G-A-S-T-E-L-U-M.
21 I'm an attorney. I have been involved in the water
22 business and the environmental field for about 30 years,
23 most recently as the CEO of the Metropolitan Water
24 District of Southern California, now retired.

10:30 25 water gets in your blood, though. And as you can
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10:30 1 see, I'm standing here before you today to talk about an
2 issue that is of vital importance to all of us in
3 California and certainly to the business community that
4 I represent.

10:31 5 I have personal knowledge of this project based on
6 my experience at Metropolitan. I -- I saw the evolution
7 of the CALFED ROD, the coming together of agreement on a
8 record of decision, the scientific debate and discussion

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10:31 9 about the underlying factors that we are needing to
10 address to develop a healthy delta and a healthy water
11 supply.

12 I saw the process evolving for the development of
13 this project and the EIR, the public involvement, and I
14 bring that to you with some very brief conclusions that
10:31 15 I want to put into the record.

16 Certainly the business community supports going
17 forward with this project recognizing that this project
18 is only a small part of an overall approach that we're
19 going to develop and implement for the delta.

10:32 20 I want to say that, in my view, this project does
21 not affect water rights, it does not affect water
22 quality standards. They are what they are and they're
23 going to continue. And if they're going to change,
24 there are regulatory and legal processes that will have
10:32 25 to be used to make those changes. This project does not

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10:32 1 do that.

2 I do not believe that this project increases
3 Southern California's reliance on delta exports or
4 increases the Southern California demand for water from
10:32 5 the State water project.

6 There are other factors at play that will be
7 determinative of increases in demands and how we manage
8 those demands. This project is not one of those
9 critical factors.

10:32 10 I believe this project should be viewed in the

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11 context of broad public policy imperatives. We have a
12 constitutional mandate in California that we shall
13 conserve, not waste water.

14 This project should be viewed in the context of
10:33 15 that overarching constitutional mandate, is it helping
16 us to further meeting that mandate. I believe it does.
17 We have statutory protections for fish and wildlife
18 and water quality standards that we have to meet for the
19 consumption of water by humans.

10:33 20 Does this project advance our ability to meet those
21 statutory requirements? In my opinion, it does, simply
22 because it gives us more flexibility to deal with the
23 highly variable conditions that we find in the delta
24 today, and really the dynamic and changing conditions
10:33 25 that we are anticipating.

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10:33 1 An overarching principle, I think, we need to keep
2 in mind, as well, our public policy is the public
3 expectation that in operating the State water project,
4 we will do so as efficiently as we can to conserve
10:34 5 resources and public funds.

6 Notwithstanding those overarching principles, and
7 as you look at this project, we are at a disadvantage --
8 a distinct disadvantage in the CALFED process. We have
9 not yet agreed on a real vision of what the delta is
10:34 10 going to look like and how it's going to serve the major
11 issues that we say we want to take care of; namely, the
12 environment, water quality and water reliability.

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13 we also have a local environment of homeowners and
14 businesses that are existing in the delta today. How
10:34 15 we're going to balance all of that is not yet clear. So
16 as we think about going forward with this project, how
17 does -- how do we do that, given the lack of consensus
18 on a broad vision?
19 well, the test that I think we have to meet is will
10:35 20 we regret going forward with this project given that
21 uncertainty?
22 And I would submit to you we will not regret going
23 forward with this project because it will provide added
24 flexibility, not less, in dealing with the uncertainty
10:35 25 that we face in not having consensus on a vision, the

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10:35 1 uncertainty that we see in climate change, seismic risk,
2 all of those things that we're all aware of.
3 So for all these reasons, the business community in
4 the Los Angeles area is certainly strongly supportive of
10:35 5 going forward with this project and certifying the EIR.
6 Thank you.
7 MR. CANDLISH: Thank you.
8 we have another elected official, Urgan Bakall.
9 MR. BAKALL: I'm not ready yet.
10:35 10 MR. CANDLISH: Okay. Then we will move on with
11 Victor Franco.
12 MR. FRANCO: Good morning. My name is Victor
13 Franco, Jr., last name F-R-A-N-C-O. I'm the senior vice
14 president of government affairs for the Central City

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PH2-RG1

PH2-VF1

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10:36 15 Association of Los Angeles, established back in 1924.
16 CCA's 450 members employ over 300,000 people here
17 in the L.A. region. CCA supports the South Delta
18 Improvements Program and the first of several draft EIRs
19 that have been prepared.

10:36 20 In addition to my testimony now, I've also
21 submitted a letter of support for the record.
22 As you know, our state is growing at a rate of
23 about half a million people annually, most of which is
24 occurring in Southern California, much of which we are
10:36 25 happy to say is in Downtown Los Angeles.

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10:36 1 In addition to the need to address important issues
2 such as housing and transportation, many overlook the
3 need to address an issue vital to our economy, the need
4 for high-quality water.

10:37 5 We need responsible water management policies that
6 improve water quality, increase water supply and allow
7 our water systems to operate efficiently while at the
8 same time preserving a great natural resource.

10:37 9 CCA members believe that the SDIP is a responsible
10 and balanced plan which will achieve these goals by
11 protecting the delta fish populations, maintaining
12 adequate water levels and quality for all stakeholders,
13 and provide flexibility in meeting fish, wildlife and
14 water supply needs.

10:37 15 For nearly 82 years, CCA has been a recognized
16 advocate of water issues for Southern California. Mind

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PH2-VF1

118097.txt

17 you, we are interested in water issues because we need
18 to be. PH2-VF1

19 Water quality is not just a business issue.

10:37 20 Because of our climate and terrain here in Southern
21 California, water quality is an issue for everyone in
22 California.

23 Again, CCA supports the South Delta Improvements
24 Program. Thank you for your time and effort and all
10:37 25 that your department has dedicated toward this effort.

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10:37 1 Thank you.

2 MR. CANDLISH: Thank you, Mr. Franco.

3 Lianne McGinley.

4 MS. MCGINLEY: Hi. My name is Lianne McGinley,
10:38 5 L-I-A-N-N-E, and my last name is M-C capital
6 G-I-N-L-E-Y, and I'm a legislative analyst with Burbank
7 Water & Power. And I'm supposed to be here to offer our PH2-LM1
8 support for the South Delta Improvement Plan and a
9 letter of support has been sent from our general manager
10:38 10 reporting regarding the --
11 For nearly a hundred years, Burbank Water & Power,
12 as a community-owned utility, has been serving water and
13 electricity to over a hundred thousand people in
14 Burbank.

10:38 15 We're dedicated to water conservation and water
16 efficiency, and we look for creative solutions to save
17 water.

18 DWP receives a significant portion of our water

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19 from the Bay Delta and the Central Valley project, and
10:39 20 we support efforts like the South Delta Improvement
21 Program that improve water supply and water quality.
22 we believe this is a responsible, balanced and
23 flexible plan that moves the state in the right
24 direction. PH2-LM1

10:39 25 It represents a first step towards this goal to
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10:39 1 better utilize, integrate and operate our existing water
2 management infrastructure.
3 This is a creative solution to help the California
4 shed advance and we strongly support the South Delta
10:39 5 Improvement Program.
6 Thank you.
7 MR. CANDLISH: Thank you.
8 Ergun Bakall.
9 MR. BAKALL: Thank you.

10:39 10 My name is Ergun Bakall. I'm an elected official
11 with the Municipal Water District of Orange County, and
12 also sit on the Metropolitan Water District board of
13 directors, and I'm the chairman of the subcommittee on
14 CALFED and Bay Delta affairs. PH2-EB1

10:39 15 THE REPORTER: Can you spell your name for me,
16 please.
17 MR. BAKALL: E-R-G-U-N, B-A-K-A-L-L.
18 South Delta Improvement Program is a responsible
19 and balanced plan to better utilize and integrate our
10:40 20 existing water management infrastructure in the delta.

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21 Collectively, it will improve our state's water
22 supply reliability, water quality and overall health of
23 the Bay Delta ecosystem.
24 Currently, the state is constrained in its ability
10:40 25 to use surplus water supplies. We have the
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PH2-EB1

10:40 1 infrastructure to move the water. But until the South
2 Delta Improvement Program is approved, the State's water
3 managers cannot fully or responsibly use the existing
4 system.
10:40 5 South Delta Improvement Plan calls for only a 3 to
6 5 percent increase in the average amount of water pumped
7 from the delta.
8 More significantly, SDIP will provide the
9 flexibility to shift the timing of water deliveries when
10:40 10 surplus is available and when environmentally safe to do
11 so.
12 SDIP is the ideal option for California to advance.
13 It will not require building a new project or
14 construction of a new major infrastructure.
10:41 15 That concludes my testimony.
16 MR. CANDLISH: Thank you.
17 Gregory Wright.
18 I'll move him to the back in case he arrives back.
19 Eugene Talmadge.
10:41 20 MR. TALMADGE: Good morning. My name is Gene
21 Talmadge, G-E-N-E, T-A-L-M-A-D-G-E, and I'm here
22 representing Las Virgenes Municipal Water District.

PH2-GT1

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23 Our water district is a retail operation serving
24 through 20,000 connections over 70,000 people. Our
10:41 25 service area is 122 square miles in the western part of
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10:42 1 Los Angeles County, and we are 100 percent reliant on
2 imported water to meet our demands.
3 We have no sources of ground water or other surface
4 water, so any discussion about importation of water is
10:42 5 vital to our interest.
6 The water district is in support of the South Bay
7 Delta Improvement Program as identified in the draft EIR
8 and draft EIS proposed by the California Department of
9 water Resources and the U.S. Department of the Interior,
10:42 10 Bureau of Reclamation.
11 The management of water resources is vital. We
12 need safe, reliable, high-quality drinking water. We
13 must better utilize existing water resources and
14 infrastructure and the importance of water conservation
10:42 15 measures, including recycling, is paramount.
16 The South Bay Delta Improvement Program is a
17 necessary step forward in long-term planning for the Bay
18 Delta and water resource management overall in the state
19 of California.
10:43 20 The key is how to manage and use surplus waters
21 that are available at certain times of the year.
22 They're not available all the time, but sometimes they
23 are.
24 And we must do so in an environmentally-sound

PH2-GT1

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10:43 25 manner to protect the resources not only of the water,
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10:43 1 but other natural wildlife and other considerations.
2 The impacts identified to the fisheries for PH2-GT1
3 protecting the salmon, steelhead and other fishes in the
4 Bay Delta area, the impacts to other wildlife concerns
10:43 5 of birds, animals and reptiles in the area of
6 consideration have all been addressed in the EIR and
7 suitable mitigation measures have been proposed.
8 The impacts to vegetation and visual and aesthetic
9 impacts are temporary in nature and are mitigated
10:44 10 properly.
11 In sum, the district fully supports adoption of the
12 draft EIR and draft environmental impact statement for
13 the South Bay Delta Improvement Program.
14 Thank you for your time.
10:44 15 MR. CANDLISH: Thank you.
16 Ed Royce.
17 MR. ROYCE: Thank you.
18 Good morning. I'm Ed Royce, senior director for PH2-ER1
19 the Municipal Water District of Orange County, and also
10:44 20 I'm a council member of the City of Stanton.
21 And on behalf of the Municipal Water District of
22 Orange County, I would like to express support for the
23 Department of Water Resources' South Delta Improvements
24 Program.
10:44 25 This program represents a unique opportunity to
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10:44 1 provide water supply reliability, water quality
2 improvement and environmental benefits all in one
3 program.
4 MODOC or Municipal Water District -- MODOC is our
10:45 5 affectionate name -- is the wholesale water provider for
6 more than 70 percent of Orange County and the second
7 largest customer of the Metropolitan Water District of
8 Southern California.
9 we are voluntary signator to the best management
10:45 10 practices of urban conservation, and we have actively
11 implemented a variety of programs since 1991.
12 we have also developed leading-edge programs for
13 landscape efficiency and runoff reduction that are now
14 emulated by other agencies.
10:45 15 Our commitment to water use efficiency and
16 recycling has helped to reduce our reliance on imported
17 water and -- but even with these efforts, water from the
18 Bay Delta remains approximately 20 percent of our total
19 supply mix.
10:46 20 The South Delta Improvement Program will preserve
21 the integrity of the delta water supplies without
22 compromising the ecosystem or the benefits it provides
23 to local water users.
24 The tidal gates included in the program will help
10:46 25 improve water quality and protect fish in the delta

PH2-ER1

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10:46 1 channels. The dredging of certain channels will help
2 improve water supplies to delta farmers.
3 Finally, the South Delta Improvement Program will
4 allow State water project deliveries to increase
10:46 5 modestly as environmental conditions permit.
6 we are pleased to support this program, a balanced
7 program that provides benefits to delta water users and
8 the environment. We hope our expression of support will
9 help the implementation of the South Delta Improvement
10:46 10 Program.
11 Thank you.
12 And I also have a letter from the City of Stanton,
13 city of 37,000. We expect to be beneficiaries, also. I
14 will not read that letter, but I will submit it.
10:47 15 MR. CANDLISH: Okay, thank you.
16 THE WITNESS: So thank you very much.
17 MR. CANDLISH: Thank you very much.
18 Jim Noyes. Did I say it right?
19 MR. NOYES: Yes.
10:47 20 Good morning. My name is Jim Noyes, J-I-M,
21 N-O-Y-E-S, and I'm chairman of the Board of Trustees of
22 the Southern California Water Committee.
23 Basically, three comments this morning. The
24 committee has already sent a letter to the department in
10:47 25 support of this project. And, first, I'd just like to

PH2-ER1

PH2-JN1

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10:47 1 read from that letter ever so briefly.
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2 "We support DWR's South Delta Improvements Program.
3 "We believe that the program is a critical water
4 supply, water quality and environmental project that
10:47 5 will meet California's diverse water needs.
6 "This package of delta improvements is the first
7 major coordinated implementation of projects within the
8 CALFED program.
9 "The program's collective package will carry out
10:48 10 key commitments in the CALFED Record of Decision and is
11 linked together to ensure balanced implementation of
12 CALFED, a significant goal of the record of decision."
13 Secondly, my second point is, we support this
14 project because it is balanced. It meets two of what I
10:48 15 call the fundamental principles of CALFED. It is
16 balanced. It meets everybody's needs. It considers the
17 goals and concerns of several, if not all, of the
18 stakeholders involved in the CALFED program, which we
19 believe is essential, getting back to the CALFED
10:48 20 principle of we're all going to get better together.
21 This is the first major project that does that.
22 It's also based on good science. A great deal of
23 scientific effort went into coming up with this program,
24 this package, and the department and the bureau are to
10:49 25 be commended for taking the good science approach.

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10:49 1 My final comment has to do with public policy.
2 Last fall the department, as well as the governor's
3 office, was subjected to a great deal of pressure not to
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PH2-JN1

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10:49 4 release this document because of some current affairs
5 events going on within the delta.

6 we did not feel that this was appropriate public
7 policy. we felt that a great deal of effort had gone
8 into putting this program together and the public and
9 the stakeholders deserved the opportunity to review that
10:49 10 program, thus we are here today.

11 The department or the governor did send that out --
12 did send the program out for public review. we commend
13 you for doing that. And we urge you to continue the
14 process to continue to move forward based on good,
10:50 15 balanced programs, scientifically-based, that will meet
16 the needs of all of California and will not be
17 influenced by other issues, more emotional than valid,
18 or approached on a nonscientific basis.

19 Thank you.

10:50 20 MR. CANDLISH: Thank you, Mr. Noyes.
21 Tom Campbell.

22 MR. CAMPBELL: Good morning. I'm Tom Campbell.
23 That's C-A-M-P-B-E-L-L. I'm an elected director for the
24 Castaic Lake Water Agency. I'm here today on behalf of
10:50 25 the agency to express our support for the South Delta

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10:50 1 Improvements Program, a critical water supply -- water
2 quality and environmental project designed to meet
3 California's diverse water needs.

4 The Castaic Lake Water Agency is a State water
10:51 5 project contractor serving the Santa Clarita valley and
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PH2-JN1

PH2-TC1

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6 Northern Los Angeles County and depends on the State
7 water project for about half of its water supply.
8 Given the major infrastructure challenges facing
9 our state, the South Delta Improvements Program
10:51 10 represents an important opportunity for California as it
11 would enable the use of existing water supply
12 infrastructure in a responsible and balanced manner to
13 continue such water deliveries. This is of critical
14 importance to water agencies in Southern California.

PH2-TC1

10:51 15 The South Delta Improvements Program is a
16 responsible and balanced plan to better utilize and
17 integrate our existing water management structure in the
18 delta.

19 Collectively, it will improve the state's water
10:51 20 supply reliability, water quality and overall health of
21 the Bay Delta ecosystem.

22 Currently, the state is constrained in its ability
23 to use water supplies -- surplus water supplies. we
24 have the infrastructure to move the water, but the
10:52 25 state's water managers cannot fully or responsibly use

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10:52 1 the existing system.

2 The South Delta Improvements Program calls for only
3 a 3 to 5 percent increase in the average amount of water
4 pumped from the delta.

10:52 5 More significantly, the program will provide the
6 flexibility to shift the timing of water deliveries when
7 surplus supplies are available and when it is

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8 environmentally safe to do so.

9 The program is an ideal option for California to

10:52 10 advance as it will not require the construction of major

11 new infrastructure.

12 Funding for the program has already been secured

13 through passage of voter-approved bonds under

14 Proposition 13.

10:52 15 Given these points, the South Delta Improvements

16 Program is supported by a statewide, broad coalition of

17 water, agriculture, business, planning organizations and

18 local government officials, including the Association of

19 California Water Agencies, California Chamber of

10:52 20 Commerce, California Business Properties Association,

21 State Water Contractors and the Western Growers

22 Alliance.

23 water is the lifeblood of California. It's

24 critical to our families, farms and businesses. It is

10:53 25 our responsibility to use this precious resource wisely,

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10:53 1 utilizing all possible best management practices. That

2 includes water conservation, recycling and storage.

3 To ensure California's water future, it is

4 imperative that we have a more flexible water delivery

10:53 5 system so that we can continue to accommodate growth in

6 our population and economy while relying on existing

7 water supplies.

8 Again, the Castaic Lake Water Agency strongly

9 supports the South Delta Improvements Program and we

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PH2-TC1

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10:53 10 encourage all key stakeholders to help advance this
11 critically needed project. PH2-TC1
12 Thank you.
13 MR. CANDLISH: Thank you, Mr. Campbell.
14 Andrew Henderson.

10:53 15 MR. HENDERSON: My name is Andrew Henderson. I'm
16 vice president and general counsel of the Building
17 Industry Association of Southern California. Henderson
18 is H-E-N-D-E-R-S-O-N.
19 I would like to speak today also on behalf of the
10:54 20 Building Industry Association of Southern California in
21 support of the South Delta Improvements Program. PH2-AH1
22 We have a deficit in this state of housing supply
23 and over about the past ten years is roughly half a
24 million units. We've fallen behind in our ability to
10:54 25 house Californians, and we've got to -- we've got

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10:54 1 further growth coming in terms of population, so we need
2 to be adding housing units and many of those will be in
3 Southern California and it's rather unavoidable.
4 We're going to be doing everything we can as an
10:54 5 industry to work, in terms of water conservation and
6 better practices in building and development, to make
7 sure that we nurture our water supply as much as
8 possible. But it's very important that the State as a
9 whole do everything it can to increase the options that
10:55 10 it has to better balance, conservation and water
11 management.

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12 And what we see with this program is exactly that,
13 that it's really -- is just a step in the direction of
14 increasing the options that the -- that the water
10:55 15 managers will have in terms of being able to manage the
16 water, while at the same time having the -- much greater
17 flexibility to implement mitigation measures that
18 benefit the environment, and especially the fish
19 species, and serve all the interests -- the ag
10:55 20 interests, the Southern California interests that need
21 the water supply and the environment.

PH2-AH1

22 So with that, we strongly support the South Delta
23 Improvement Programs and hope that everyone else will.

24 MR. CANDLISH: Thank you, Mr. Henderson.

10:55 25 We have a councilman from City of Baldwin Park,

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10:55 1 Ricardo Pacheco.
2 MR. PACHECO: Good morning. My name is Ricardo
3 Pacheco, P-A-C-H-E-C-O, and I'm a member of the
4 Baldwin Park City Council. And I come before you as a
10:56 5 community leader to express my support for the
6 Department of Water Resources and U.S. Bureau of
7 Reclamation draft EIR for the South Delta Improvements
8 Program.
9 water is the lifeblood of California. It is
10:56 10 critical to our families and businesses, and it is --
11 and it's our responsibility to use it wisely through all
12 possible best management practices, including
13 conservation, recycling and storage.

PH2-RP1

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14 The city of Baldwin Park, located in the San
10:56 15 Gabriel valley, depends heavily on imported supplies,
16 specifically from the delta.
17 In the mid '80s, various areas of regions were
18 declared by the EPA to be superfund sites. Cleanup of
19 much of the region's contamination has begun, but water
10:57 20 production remains restricted, leaving the region with
21 limited operational flexibility and susceptible to
22 unexpected events.
23 I am aware of the constraints placed on the State's
24 ability to capture surplus water supplies, but I'm also
10:57 25 aware of the fact that we have the infrastructure to

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10:57 1 move the water and -- to move the water. And until
2 efforts such as DPSDIP are approved, the State's water
3 managers cannot fully or responsibly use the existing
4 system.
10:57 5 I believe SDIP to be an ideal option for California
6 to advance. It won't require building a new project or
7 major infrastructure, and the funding for it has already
8 been secured through the passage of voter-approved bonds
9 in 2000.
10:57 10 we need better ways to manage the delta's water
11 delivery system, as well as the water itself. SDIP is
12 the first step in better managing the system while
13 enhancing conditions for fish and overall environment.
14 As a community leader actively addressing the
10:57 15 challenges within my city and the San Gabriel valley, it

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PH2-RP1

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16 is imperative that we have a more flexible water
17 delivery system to accommodate growth in our population
18 and economy. PH2-RP1

19 I believe SDIP to be the most responsible and
10:58 20 balanced plan we have to better utilize and integrate
21 our existing water management infrastructure in the
22 delta. I ask you to act to implement its benefits.
23 Thank you.

24 MR. CANDLISH: Thank you, Councilman.

10:58 25 I think at this point is -- I think I have to give
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10:58 1 my reporter a little bit of a break here.
2 We'll take a short, five-minute break and then try
3 to resume on time. We've got about -- I don't know, 10
4 to 12 more speakers.

10:58 5 (Interruption in proceedings.)
6 MR. CANDLISH: Tim Piasky.
7 MR. PIASKY: Morning. My name's Tim Piasky. I
8 work for Victory Homes. PH2-TP1

9 MR. CANDLISH: Could you spell your name, please.

11:07 10 MR. PIASKY: Last name P-I-A-S-K-Y.
11 what I want to do -- I know you heard a few of
12 these facts earlier, but I think it's really important
13 to mention them again.

14 Obviously, we know that we have a big population
11:08 15 growth happening throughout the state. With that
16 population growth, obviously there comes a need for
17 housing. And that's what our company does is that we
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18 help to alleviate that need for housing.
19 well, we haven't been addressing the need for
11:08 20 housing as much as that -- we need to, but one of the
21 key factors that comes into play if we hope to continue
22 to try to alleviate this need for housing is we have to
23 have water. without any water, there will be no
24 housing. It's going to have a big impact to the
11:08 25 economy. It's going to have a big impact to the

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11:08 1 citizens of the state.
2 So with the work that we're doing, we're doing work
3 up in the High Desert in the city of Victorville.
4 There's two main areas there for a water supply. One is
11:09 5 having to do with conservation, which is very critical.
6 And we're doing green building projects. we're doing
7 the landscaping.
8 we're working with the local water district on
9 conserving as much water as we can on our projects, but
11:09 10 that's not going to be enough. we're still going to be
11 dependent on the State water project. we're going to be
12 dependent on the State water project. That's where this
13 improvement program comes into play and becomes a highly
14 critical piece of the whole puzzle.
11:09 15 So, therefore, we're here to ask that you continue
16 with this EIR process and that we're highly supportive
17 of this improvement program moving forward.
18 Thank you.
19 MR. CANDLISH: Thank you.

PH2-TP1

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11:09 20 Frances Spivy-Weber.
21 MS. SPIVY-WEBER: Now for a change of pace on -- My
22 name is Frances Spivy-Weber, S-P-I-V-Y, hyphen, Weber
23 with one B.
24 THE REPORTER: How do you spell Frances?
11:10 25 MS. SPIVY-WEBER: F-R-A-N-C-E-S.

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11:10 1 On behalf of the Mono Lake Committee, I urge a no
2 action alternative at this point for the following
3 reasons: water quality improvement, as many of the
4 previous speakers have said, from the State project is
11:10 5 Southern California's highest priority.
6 Unfortunately, according to the EIR/EIS, there will
7 be a slight decrease in water quality, 1 to 2 percent,
8 for Southern California. PS2-FSW1
9 The second reason for taking no action on this is
11:10 10 that there will be a few -- as was -- as Kathy told us PS2-FSW1
11 earlier, there will be a future chance to address the
12 8,500 option when we know whether or not pumping has an
13 impact on the steep decline of pelagic fish that is
14 occurring right now.
11:10 15 So this is not the time to make a judgment as to
16 whether or not 8,500 is a good idea. We will be
17 addressing that in the future. So we do not have to
18 take any action on that now, nor is the department
19 planning to.
11:11 20 And, thirdly and lastly, we are -- we have learned
21 a lot since the signing of the ROD and since this
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22 project was first proposed, I think over a decade or so
23 ago.
24 And there are new and higher priorities for
11:11 25 spending money in the delta, including possibly

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11:11 1 installing gates in other places to protect fish and
2 water quality and the levees.
3 I think this -- the expenditures on this project
4 should be pooled back into a -- the initiative that the
11:11 5 governor is proposing to look at what needs to be done
6 to give the highest, best protection for delta levees,
7 fish and water supply.
8 Thank you.
9 MR. CANDLISH: Thank you, Fran.
11:12 10 Carolyn Casavan.
11 MS. CASAVAN: Hello. My name's Carolyn Casavan,
12 and my last name is spelled C-A-S-A-V-A-N.
13 I'm here as a business owner and as the vice chair
14 for the valley Industry and Commerce Association, also
11:12 15 known as VICA.
16 VICA is a business advocacy group representing over
17 300 major businesses and 8,000 jobs throughout the
18 San Fernando valley area.
19 For over 57 years, our organization has been a
11:12 20 major supporter of water issues and has a standing
21 committee dedicated to understanding the linkages
22 between water and the health of our economy. In the
23 past, we have come to you and other groups in support of
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24 the CALFED process.

11:13 25 Today I'm here to express our support for the South

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11:13 1 Delta Improvements Program, the EIR that is under

2 consideration and to submit a letter of support stating

3 the same. And I have that letter right here, which I

4 can give to you.

11:13 5 We believe this EIR is consistent with the CALFED

6 plan and its overall goals, which call for enhancing

7 water management of the Bay Delta system, improving

8 water quality and protecting salmon in the South Delta

9 while allowing the State water project to operate more

11:13 10 effectively.

11 we also feel the structural improvements, as well

12 as the operational changes as outlined in the plan,

13 represent a balanced approach to meeting our water needs

14 for all beneficiaries of the system.

11:13 15 There are times when implementing the proposed

16 project results in greater environmental benefits than

17 no action at all and we believe this is one of those

18 times.

19 For these reasons, VICA continues to pledge its

11:13 20 support for this important process and thanks you for

21 this opportunity to speak on behalf of the business

22 members of our community.

23 Thank you.

24 MR. CANDLISH: Thank you.

11:14 25 You can turn your letter in (indicating).

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11:14 1 Mark Stadler.
2 MR. STADLER: Hi. My name is Mark, M-A-R-K,
3 Stadler, S-T-A-D-L-E-R. I'm a principal water resources
4 specialist for the San Diego County Water Authority.
11:14 5 We've sent in a comment letter, but I just want to
6 emphasize a couple points from it.
7 Through our member agencies, we provide water to
8 3 million San Diego County residents.
9 We support the South Delta Improvements Program as
11:14 10 a key element of the delta improvements package, which,
11 among other things, will improve the quality of water
12 coming to Southern California and to San Diego.
13 We feel that the South Delta Improvement Program is
14 the right thing to do for the state's water supply and
11:14 15 for its Bay Delta ecosystem. And those two, of course,
16 are inextricably linked.
17 We appreciate the flexibility that the South Delta
18 Improvement Program will add to the system for both
19 water supply and the ecosystem. We appreciate that it
11:15 20 requires no major new facilities, but actually makes
21 more efficient use of the existing infrastructure.
22 We recognized that the phased approach being
23 proposed is necessary because of the pelagic organism
24 decline and support it.
11:15 25 We also support the identified preferred

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11:15 1 alternative for phase one. We support the plan to
2 issue -- we support the idea of issuing a supplemental
3 to the final phase one EIR rather than doing a separate
4 EIR for phase two. PH2-MS1

11:15 5 Finally, we support certification of the draft
6 environmental impact report and draft environmental
7 impact statement, and we look forward to continuing to
8 work with DWR and the bureau and other interested
9 parties on this issue.

11:15 10 Thank you.

11 MR. CANDLISH: Thank you, Mr. Stadler.

12 Dorothy Green.

13 MS. GREEN: Yes, good morning. My name is Dorothy
14 Green, D-O-R-O-T-H-Y, Green, just like the color, no
11:16 15 final E.

16 I have a long history as an environmental activist
17 in water policy, and I've also served for three and a
18 half years on the Los Angeles Department of Water &
19 Power Commission.

11:16 20 I chair what is arguably the most important water
21 policy conference in the state of California, the power
22 conference that's held each fall here in Los Angeles.

23 And I'm now here today representing a statewide
24 organization called the California Water Impact Network,
11:16 25 or CWIN, the only statewide organization whose sole

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11:16 1 concern is statewide water policy.
2 I -- we really object to even the thought of
3 increasing pumping out of the delta. The -- while the
4 fish and wildlife in the delta is on the verge of total
11:17 5 collapse, scientists are predicting now that the delta
6 smelt would probably go extinct if not this year, next
7 year.
8 The thought of pumping one more drop out of the
9 delta and saying with a straight face that this is going
11:17 10 to be good for fish and wildlife, I don't understand
11 that at all.
12 I was actively involved in the peripheral canal
13 campaign 25 years ago when there was a Russian
14 scientist, whom we all -- some of us got to know very
11:17 15 well, who had studied the rivers in Russia because of
16 the caviar catch was disappearing.
17 And they sent a thousand scientists to find out why
18 their caviar catch, which is so important to their
19 balance of payments, why that was disappearing. And the
11:18 20 conclusion was that once you remove 30 to 40 percent of
21 the water from a river, the estuary starts to die. And
22 that's why their sturgeon on was dying and that's why
23 the caviar was going.
24 We are now pumping much more than that out of our
11:18 25 Sacramento/San Joaquin Rivers delta, the most important

PH2-DG1

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11:18 1 delta, most important estuary on the coast of both North

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2 and South America.

3 what I believe should be done in the delta, or many

4 of us believe, is that the wetlands really need to be

11:18 5 restored.

6 The cost of rebuilding levees now that we're

7 threatened by storms, by sea level rise, by

8 liquefaction, should there be an earthquake -- or when

9 there is an earthquake in the delta cannot -- the costs

11:18 10 of doing that versus the cost of the valley with the

11 land just doesn't make sense to do it.

12 I was told by DWR officials, for example, that the

13 Jones tract, where the levee went a year and a half ago

14 on a beautiful summer day, where there was no wind and

11:19 15 no high tides, cost \$40 million just to pump out and

16 patch the existing levee; did a hundred million dollars

17 worth of damage. The land in that island that was below **PH2-DG2**

18 sea level was worth between 20- and 30 million.

19 So it just doesn't make economic sense to continue

11:19 20 to protect many of those islands. We believe they need

21 to be renewed as wetlands to provide a buffer for the

22 other people in Sacramento and Stockton and the other

23 people who are already living in that area.

24 And we in Southern California don't really need to

11:19 25 pump more water out of the delta. There's more than

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11:20 1 enough in our existing water rights.

2 I'm also writing a book on how water is managed in

3 the state of California. It will be published by

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4 UC Press later this year.
11:20 5 My research proves that -- reviews all of the
6 existing studies that have been done on what can we save
7 if we conserve what -- how much water can we save.
8 The Pacific Institute has -- has done an incredible
9 study, that's been followed up by DWR's own studies in
11:20 10 the Bulletin 160 process, that a third of our urban
11 water can be saved cost-effectively with existing
12 technology through conservation that's available now.
13 water reuse, we've barely begun to scratch on what
14 can be done there. Enormous potential. We clean up our
11:20 15 wastewater until it's almost potable and then we throw
16 it away, which doesn't make economic or environmental
17 sense, throwing a fresh water stream out into the ocean
18 when it could be, with a little more effort, cleaned up,
19 allowed to soak into the ground, become part of our
11:21 20 ground water supply and then pumped up as clean, fresh
21 drinking water.
22 watershed management also provides enormous
23 capabilities. I helped to found the Los Angeles and San
24 Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council, and that council has
11:21 25 been studying, together with the Bureau of Reclamation
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11:21 1 and a host of other local water agencies, how much water
2 can we conserve, how much rainfall can we conserve if we
3 capture the rain and get it underground where it falls
4 instead of allowing it to rush away in our concrete
11:21 5 storm drain system out to the sea. There's enormous
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6 potential there as well.
7 Our first concern was to make sure that it would
8 not impact water quality, ground water quality, which
9 now has been proven that it does not and it will not.
11:22 10 So we're on to the next phase now to retrofit a whole
11 neighborhood. And one neighborhood is in the process of
12 being retrofitted now, Sun Valley, in the eastern
13 San Fernando valley, where capital event will not be
14 allowed to leave -- it's a 50-year storm capital event
11:22 15 would not be -- no water would leave that neighborhood.
16 It would all be captured and put underground.
17 MR. CANDLISH: Going to have to ask you to wrap up
18 your comments, Ms. Green.
19 MS. GREEN: Sure.
11:22 20 Also as part of watershed management landscape
21 ethic, if we, you know, begin to realize that we're
22 living in a semi-arid Mediterranean climate and to use
23 plant materials that are appropriate.
24 And I had kind of one question for you. It's my
11:22 25 understanding that the ROD upon which this is based has
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11:23 1 been thrown out by the court.
2 How can we proceed with a project that the -- if
3 the court has thrown out the ROD?
4 So that concludes my comments. Thank you.
11:23 5 MR. CANDLISH: Thank you.
6 David Nesmith.
7 MR. NESMITH: Nobody except the court reporter will
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8 know how to spell my name.
9 My name is David Nesmith. I'm the facilitator for
11:23 10 the California Environmental Water Caucus, and I was
11 testifying before you very persons yesterday in
12 Sacramento. And I got up at 1:00 o'clock this morning
13 and drove down here because there's more to tell about
14 the story of California water.
11:23 15 And I am in some awe in here in Southern
16 California. My mother lives down here. And I'm very
17 familiar with the area, with the way in which Southern
18 California manages their water.
19 I live in Oakland. Folks in Northern California
11:24 20 have no idea how effective and how far ahead Southern
21 California is in terms of managing water.
22 And I was heartened to hear many of the public
23 officials here testifying this morning talk about
24 conservation and management of water.
11:24 25 Dorothy, and I believe Fran, also, mentioned
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11:24 1 Bulletin 160. For those of you who don't know, this is
2 the California water plan. PH2-DN1
3 And, Kathy, is it a 25-year or 30-year plan? I
4 think it's 25, isn't it?
11:24 5 And Bulletin 160 is due to come out in its final
6 form, I think, next month. The public review draft has
7 been out and the bulletin identifies the water necessary
8 for 25 years of California's economic and population
9 growth. And I hope the housing folks are still here to
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11:25 10 hear this.

11 It says that with current trends the state of

12 California will not need any more water because of the

13 conservation, reclamation water, storm water reuse,

14 ground water -- conjunctive use ground water and other

11:25 15 conservation measures, many of which were mentioned in

16 passing by previous speakers.

17 Let's be clear. The current population and

18 economic growth of this state, which includes Southern

19 California -- and this was divided up by region, and it

11:25 20 shows that in Southern California the water demand will

21 not grow given current trends.

22 Now, there also is a diversion from the delta. And

23 you all have heard a little bit about the pelagic

24 organism decline.

11:26 25 Let me just say, again, the delta smelt, according

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11:26 1 to some scientists, are feared to go extinct this year

2 or next year. The decline has been precipitous for the

3 pelagic organisms. Now, those are zooplankton and four

4 species of fish that live in the delta, including the

11:26 5 delta smelt.

6 Those declines have coincided with the highest

7 volume export rates that are being pumped out of the

8 delta in the last four or five years.

9 So the question is, do we need to take more water

11:26 10 out of the delta for Southern California's water

11 needs -- or for California's water needs or can we

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PH2-DN2

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12 afford to take less.

13 Everybody here who has spoken has talked about how

14 California -- how water is the lifeblood of California.

11:27 15 I could not agree more.

16 Let me just be very clear, though, that it's not

17 just the lifeblood for subsidized agribusiness on the

18 west side of the San Joaquin valley or for huge

19 subdivisions where there are acres and acres of lawn in

11:27 20 the desert. It is for wise water use and for the

21 environment.

22 Pelagic organism decline has coincided with the

23 highest pumping rates that this state has ever seen.

24 Other possible impacts that are causing the decline all

11:27 25 could reasonably be argued by scientists to have been

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11:27 1 exacerbated by additional water exports.

2 I urge the Department of Water Resources and the

3 bureau to withdraw this environmental document. This is

4 a poorly-conceived project at this time.

11:28 5 And you all know that if the document goes through

6 as it goes through -- as it is written now, there will

7 be lawsuits. And I -- I'm not a lawyer, but I know some

8 and, you know, they're getting itchy. And it's not the

9 way we should be doing water.

11:28 10 We've been trying to do things differently in

11 CALFED. withdraw this document. Let's go back and work

12 together. The delta's not a reasonable place to take

13 more water out of right now and scientists can -- can

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14 document that.

11:28 15 And let's work together to fund the kind of water PH2-DN2
16 management that Southern California has been a leader in
17 for decades, and let's take care of all of our
18 environment, including Southern California and the
19 delta.

11:29 20 Thanks very much.

21 MR. CANDLISH: Thank you, Mr. Nesmith.
22 Jim Stewart.

23 MR. STEWART: Jim Stewart. I'm executive director
24 of People for Parks -- it's spelled S-T-E-W-A-R-T -- and
11:29 25 organizing director for Earth Day Los Angeles,

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11:29 1 representing some of the environmental community in PH2-JS1
2 Southern California.
3 I'm amazed that we've been sitting here for over an
4 hour on this testimony, we haven't heard a single
11:29 5 mention of the million-acre-foot gorilla sitting in the
6 room, agriculture.
7 You guys are apparently not addressing the huge
8 waste of water by California's agriculture. And it
9 seems to me that the wonderful work that you put into
11:29 10 this project here is misplaced when you could easily
11 provide a lot more water if you just did a whole lot of
12 things that the agriculture, you know, needs to be done,
13 like metering the water that goes to agriculture.
14 Let's start to charge people the market rate for
11:30 15 water that goes to agriculture. All this kind of stuff

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16 is needing to be done. And you guys should be doing it.
17 That's your responsibility as Department of water
18 Resources.

19 It seems to me like all these people that have been
11:30 20 testifying from the water agencies about needing more
21 water for Southern California haven't even looked at the
22 fine print here which says that all this money would
23 maybe increase water transfers by 3 to 5 percent but
24 wouldn't be fully implemented, you know, and be
11:30 25 restricted when -- you know, the environment and all

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11:30 1 this sort of thing.
2 So the fine print is here that this is -- sounds
3 like a bait and switch, right. You're baiting the
4 people of Southern California with "Oh, we're going to
11:31 5 give you more water," but it's not there; right? Okay.
6 Then the other thing is that Metropolitan water
7 District is raising the issue that all you guys are
8 really concerned about, right, can we hold back the sea?
9 Does this project hold back the sea? I don't believe
11:31 10 so. I think that it's too far inland.
11 I think you guys need to redo the whole project, at
12 least do no project on this, and start to get real about
13 the real issues which are facing the delta, which is,
14 you know, are we going to get flooded? I mean, you
11:31 15 know, this is -- this is the problem.
16 So you guys, Number 1, start to conserve water from
17 agriculture. And I have -- Actually, I submitted to go

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18 to the -- what is Al Goehring of the CALFED Water
19 District about the fact that the one technology called
11:32 20 free flow will reduce the need for water by agriculture
21 by 20 percent, and it only costs, you know, a few
22 dollars per acre-foot saved.
23 If you guys would start to look into this kind of
24 conservation technology, and I'll send this -- you know,
11:32 25 written materials off to you to cover this, you guys

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11:32 1 would be putting your money where it's most needed.
2 Thank you very much.
3 MR. CANDLISH: Thank you.
4 Gregory Wright.

11:32 5 MR. WRIGHT: Good morning. My name is Gregory
6 wright, W-R-I-G-H-T. I represent the San Gabriel Valley
7 Economic Partnership, a coalition of businesses, cities
8 and public agencies in the San Gabriel valley. I'm here
9 to express support for the draft EIR for the South Delta
11:32 10 Improvements Program.

11 The San Gabriel valley has been one of the key
12 drivers in the L.A. County economy in recent years. Our
13 population has grown by 17 percent since the 2000 census
14 to make us equal in size to the San Francisco
11:33 15 Metropolitan Area.

16 we have increased our payroll jobs by almost
17 10 percent, adding 40,000 employees to our region
18 despite losses in traditional manufacturing sectors.
19 If these trends continue, by 2020 our region will

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11:33 20 be home to 2.4 million residents and will have over
21 750,000 jobs.
22 With this growth comes an urgent need, the need for
23 reliable supply of water. The SDIP project serves this
24 crucial need by allowing us to better utilize our
11:33 25 existing infrastructure, allowing the State's water

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11:33 1 managers to increase deliveries to the State water
2 project by modest amounts when that water is needed and
3 when it is environmentally safe to do so.
4 SDIP strives to benefit the local environment.

11:33 5 Seasonal tidal gates, improvements in water circulation
6 quality and dredging to improve local water delivery are
7 all combined with this modest increase in delivery
8 capacity.
9 In this regard, SDIP combines the best traditions
11:34 10 of stewardship and responsibility with the needed
11 increases in capacity. So with that, I urge you to
12 implement these benefits.
13 Thank you.
14 MR. CANDLISH: Thank you, Mr. Wright.

11:34 15 Bruce Campbell.
16 MR. CAMPBELL: Good day. My name's Bruce Campbell.
17 MR. CANDLISH: Could you spell your name, please.
18 MR. CAMPBELL: Campbell, like the other Campbell,
19 C-A-M-P-B-E-L-L.

11:34 20 It is clear that due to the guidance and greed of
21 the corrupt regimes in Washington and Sacramento that

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PH2-BC1

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22 DWP and DWR -- CALFED deal at that plan not only are
23 there no real efforts to reduce the deaths of threatened
24 native fish, but now these outlaw agencies want to
11:35 25 further alter the delta ecosystem and increase use of
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11:35 1 these pumps to the maximum level. PH2-BC1
2 So not only are there flagrant violations of take
3 limits under the ESA excessive winter run salmon take in
4 four of the last seven years, as well as excessive delta
11:35 5 smelt take six times in the last three years, but recall
6 that a new pumping operation plan must finally be
7 implemented as required under CALFED to assist the
8 threatened species, not to pump the maximum water the
9 pumps can take and finish off these species.

11:35 10 The creator made what I've heard is the world's
11 largest estuarine delta, the San Francisco Bay, yet it
12 is treated like a toilet and a class one toxic dump and
13 is the most poisoned watershed in the world with the
14 exception of the Ohio/Missouri/Mississippi River system.

11:35 15 And while urban/suburban Southern California
16 consumers are often blamed for insatiable demand, the
17 main problem is water- -- as Mr. Stewart pointed out, is
18 water-intensive, chemically-polluting agribusiness
19 followed by mega developers in Northern California
11:36 20 counties and elsewhere who are desperate to identify a
21 water source to get approval of their massive
22 development plans.
23 However, with these paid-off special interests

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24 parading to the microphone in this room this morning,
11:36 25 the so-called leaders of Southern California deserve the
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11:36 1 bad reputation urban Southern California has in Northern
2 California, even though massive -- the chemical
3 agriculture business using a massive amount of water and
4 heavily polluting are the main culprits.

11:36 5 You must withdraw the South Delta so-called
6 improvement project draft EIR/EIS until it is
7 scientifically much clearer that -- what needs to be
8 done to reduce the death of native fish species and the
9 fish sources due to impingement and entrainment in the
11:36 10 delta pumps.
11 I've heard the word "balanced" here a lot today. I
12 guess people listen to Fox News a lot. Anyway, this
13 isn't balanced in the least; it's spin.
14 And, also, as far as surplus pumping, a joint
11:37 15 percentage of already -- a huge percentage of water out
16 of this key ecosystem, as Ms. Green pointed out, anyway,
17 the water is not surplus. It needs to be where it
18 flows, for the most part. And does not only an --
19 unbalanced presentations here today, and then the
11:37 20 document "South Delta Improvement Project" is misnamed.
21 And it's also junk science rather than truly
22 scientifically-based. So I say withdraw the SDIP and
23 recycle it.
24 Thank you.

11:37 25 MR. CANDLISH: Thank you.

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11:37 1 Conner Everts.
2 MR. CONNER: Hello. My name is Conner Everts. I'm
3 here representing the Southern California watershed
4 Alliance and the Desal Response Group.

11:38 5 I don't know if I'm last. I know I'm pushing lunch
6 here. So I would like to reiterate the comments of my
7 esteemed colleagues who said it well, that we in
8 Southern California as environmentalists have worked for
9 practical solutions. We work with and we give the
10 agencies and the municipalities credit for what they
11 have done, and we challenge them to do more. Because
12 within the last five years in Southern California we
13 have had extreme drought, the driest winter on record,
14 and extreme wetness last winter, being our record wet
15 year.

11:38 16 Despite that, we have had no restrictions in our
17 water supplies as the Colorado River goes through a
18 long-term drought. And with this possible recognition
19 of climate change, we should be doing everything we can
20 to maximize local water resources.

11:38 21 I just came from a small community this morning
22 called Maywood, one square mile, three private mutual
23 water companies, an immigration population drawing
24 ground water below a superfund site in an industrial
25 area.

11:39

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11:39 1 why we are not focusing on this and rural areas
2 such as AWWPA, which because of arsenic restrictions,
3 prior to the current regulations, cannot meet its
4 drinking water requirements, and talking about
11:39 5 increasing pumping when what we really need to do is
6 live within our means, and we have done that.
7 I am here to say that when I was on the Casitas
8 Municipal Water District and the local community in
9 Ventura voted to do desal over bringing in the State
11:39 10 water project, we are paying for an allocation, but we
11 have never received it.
12 It actually was the most conservative members of
13 our board came to realize it was the best thing that
14 happened to us, because it forced us to deal with the
11:40 15 realities.
16 It forced us to meet our farmers. In doing so, the
17 farmers, despite the initial resistance -- and it's like
18 gun control to get farmers to put meters on -- realized
19 how much water they were actually using, actually
11:40 20 realized how to better use their water with their
21 computer and water systems, how to better irrigate, and
22 for that our small, contained aquifer was better.
23 If we think of the whole state in this process and
24 not just Southern California and Northern California, it
11:40 25 really is a zero sum gain.

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11:40 1 And as a fisherman who's been on a houseboat and
2 fishing when I was a kid in the delta, there's no doubt
3 that less water impacts the fish.

4 So, therefore, I urge you not to move forward with
11:40 5 this EIR, to go back to the table, not to say you can
6 stop and wait until we find out what's wrong with the
7 huge decline in the fish until after they're extinct,
8 but to do that first, and to give Southern California
9 credit for our conservation efforts and to not increase
11:41 10 the pumping.

11 we, as environmentalists, here do not complain when
12 the large -- what's now called Diamond Valley Reservoir
13 was built south of the delta for storage for an
14 earthquake.

11:41 15 we have not done anything but to improve the water
16 agency's efficiencies and make them drought-proof. And
17 yet if they continue to increase the pumping capacity,
18 it's really put us in a strange situation. And I think
19 that's why you're seeing people now really speak out
11:41 20 very strongly on this. This isn't emotional. This is
21 the reality of our water situation.

22 And I'd like to refer to -- I'd be tempted to read
23 it, but I won't. But I refer to the L.A. Times
24 editorial which was headlined "A Shocking Water
11:41 25 Noncrisis" from June 15th, 2005. That refers to what

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11:42 1 we've been talking about here today.

2 So I wanted to thank you for this opportunity and
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3 I'm glad we're in a small room. It really shows that
4 there's only a hundred of us or so when -- from one side
11:42 5 or the other, unfortunately, in our perspectives, who
6 care about water issues, Southern California. In terms
7 of the delta, unfortunately when we talk about the
8 delta -- I've heard some very well-informed people say,
9 "what delta?" we look to the Colorado River Delta,
11:42 10 which is a lost and forgotten delta, which also suffers
11 from lack of water and has impacted our fisheries as
12 well.
13 Thank you very much.
14 MR. CANDLISH: Thank you.
11:42 15 we're down to our last speaker, Fernando Paludi.
16 If there's anybody else who does want to speak,
17 if you'd go on over to the registration table and fill
18 out a comment card while Fernando is making his
19 comments.
11:42 20 MR. PALUDI: Thank you. Yes, my name is Fernando
21 Paludi, P-, as in Paul, A-L-U-D-I. I'm the manager of
22 Planning and Water Resources for the Central Basin
23 Municipal Water District and West Basin Municipal Water
24 District. These two water districts are wholesale water
11:43 25 agencies in southern and southeastern Los Angeles

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11:43 1 County.
2 Collectively, our agencies work diligently to
3 improve the water reliability of 2.5 million residents
4 through water reuse, conservation and effectively
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11:43 5 managed, imported water.

6 I do appreciate the comments made by Conner Everts.

7 Our agencies support the South Delta Improvements

8 Program.

9 And in the interest of time, I will submit as

11:43 10 testimony letters of support signed by our board

11 presidents, Robert Apodaca of Central Basin Municipal

12 Water District and William Baker of West Basin Municipal

13 Water District.

14 That concludes my comments. Thank you.

11:43 15 MR. CANDLISH: Thank you, Mr. Paludi.

16 without any more cards, then, I'd like to close the

17 hearing saying that I'd like to remind you that all

18 written comments are due by the close of business on

19 Tuesday, February 7th, 2006.

11:44 20 Information on how and where to submit those were

21 on some -- on a sheet there at the registration desk.

22 So if you didn't get that when you came in, you could

23 get it as you depart.

24 And on behalf of the Department of Water Resources

11:44 25 and the Bureau of Reclamation, I want to thank all of

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11:44 1 you for attending and providing your comments at today's

2 hearing.

3 This brings a close to public hearing for today.

4 Thank you.

5 (The proceedings concluded at 11:44 a.m.)

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1 STATE OF CALIFORNIA) ss

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3 I, Mary K. Medley, CSR 9557, do hereby declare:

4

5 That the above foregoing sixty-eight (68) pages
6 contain a full, true and correct transcription of the
7 proceedings.

8

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9 I further declare that I have no interest in the
10 event of the action.

11

12 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws
13 of the State of California that the foregoing is true
14 and correct.

15

16 WITNESS my hand this _____ day of

17

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Mary K. Medley, CSR 9557

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Responses to Comments

Carol Herrera—Mayor, Diamond Bar, CA

PH2-CH1

The commenter's description of project benefits and support for the project are noted.

Joseph Ruzicka—Three Valleys Municipal Water District

PH2-JR1

The commenter's description of the project benefits and support for the project are noted.

Dan Arrighi—Mayor, Temple City, CA

PH2-DA1

The commenter's description of the project benefits and support for the project are noted.

Mark Kelly—City Council Member, Glendora, CA

PH2-MK1

The commenter's description of the project benefits and support for the project are noted.

Clayton Miller—Construction Industry Coalition on Water Quality

PH2-CM1

The commenter's description of the project benefits and support for the project are noted. A discussion of the environmental compliance process for the SDIP and the SDIP decision stages is provided in Chapter 2 of the Draft EIS/EIR.

Ronald Gastelum—Executive Vice President, Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce

PH2-RG1

The commenter's description of the increased operational flexibility afforded by the project and support for the project are noted. Water quality as well as other regulatory standards were considered throughout the analysis presented in the Draft EIS/EIR. The SDIP is not proposing to change water rights or water quality standards.

Victor Franco—Senior Vice President of Government Affairs, Central City Association of Los Angeles

PH2-VF1

The commenter's description of the project benefits and support for the project are noted.

Lianne McGinley—Legislative Analyst, Burbank Water & Power

PH2-LM1

The commenter's description of the project benefits and support for the project are noted.

Ergun Bakall—Municipal Water District of Orange County and Metropolitan Water District

PH2-EB1

The commenter's description of the increased operational flexibility and benefits afforded by the project and support for the project are noted.

Eugene Talmage—Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

PH2-ET1

The commenter's description of the increased operational flexibility afforded by the project and support for the project are noted. As noted, the Draft EIS/EIR presents the results of a comprehensive analysis of project-related impacts on fish, vegetation, and visual resources.

Ed Royce—Senior Director, Municipal Water District of Orange County

PH2-ER1

The commenter's description of the increased operational flexibility and benefits afforded by the project and support for the project are noted.

Jim Noyes—Chairman, Board of Trustees Southern California Water Committee

PH2-JN1

The commenter's description of the benefits afforded by the project and support for the project are noted. A description of the Stage 1 and Stage 2 decision-making process for the SDIP is provided in Chapter 2 of the Draft EIS/EIR.

Tom Campbell—Director, Castaic Lake Water Agency

PH2-TC1

The commenter's description of the increased operational flexibility afforded by the project and support for the project are noted.

Andrew Henderson—Building Industry Association of Southern California

PH2-AH1

The commenter's description of the increased operational flexibility afforded by the project and support for the project are noted.

Richard Pacheco—City Council Member, Baldwin Park, CA

PH2-RB1

The commenter's description of the increased operational flexibility afforded by the project and support for the project are noted.

Tim Piasky—Victory Homes

PH2-TP1

The commenter's description of the project's economic benefits and support for the project are noted.

Frances Spivey-Weber—Mono Lake Committee

PH2-FSW1

Section 5.3 of the Draft EIS/EIR provides the conclusions of the water quality analysis. The analysis indicates that operation of flow control gates (SDIP Stage 1) would increase water quality at the CVP Tracy Pumping Plant and slightly decrease water quality at the SWP Banks Pumping Plant. On average, EC values would decrease by nearly 11% at Tracy and increase by 0.8% at Banks.

The analysis indicates that operation of flow control gates and increased exports (SDIP Stage 2) would benefit water quality at the CVP Tracy Pumping Plant and slightly decrease water quality at the SWP Banks Pumping Plant. On average, EC values would decrease by nearly 10% at Tracy and increase by 0.8% at Banks.

PH2-FSW2

Master Response K, *Staged Decision-Making Process*, and Chapter 2 of the Draft EIS/EIR provide an overview of the staged decision-making process for SDIP. The commenter is correct in noting that a decision on increasing diversions to Clifton Court Forebay to 8,500 cfs has been deferred.

Carolyn Casavan, Valley Industry and Commerce Association

PH2-CC1

The commenter's description of the project's economic and environmental benefits and support for the project are noted.

Mark Stadler, San Diego County Water Authority

PH2-MS1

The commenter's description of the flexibility afforded by the project and support for the project are noted. A description of the Stage 1 and Stage 2 decision-making process for the SDIP is provided in Chapter 2 of the Draft EIS/EIR.

Dorothy Green, California Water Impact Network

PH2-DG1

Chapter 2 of the Draft EIS/EIR provides a description of the SDIP staged decision-making process. Stage 1, evaluated in this Draft EIS/EIR, includes constructing and operating fish and flow control gates and conveyance dredging. It does not include increasing exports through the SWP or CVP. A decision on Stage 2 has been deferred.

PH2-DG2

The commenter's support for restoring Delta islands is noted.

PH2-DG3

Please see Master Response L, *Relationship between the South Delta Improvements Program and the California Water Plan Update 2005*.

PH2-DG4

Please see Master Response J, *Relationship between the South Delta Improvements Program and the CALFED Record of Decision and EIS/EIR Programmatic Documents*.

David Nesmith, California Environmental Water Caucus

PH2-DN1

Please see Master Response L, *Relationship Between the South Delta Improvements Program and the California Water Plan Update 2005*.

PH2-DN2

Chapter 2 of the Draft EIS/EIR provides a description of the SDIP staged decision-making process. Stage 1, evaluated in this Draft EIS/EIR, includes constructing and operating fish and flow control gates and conveyance dredging. It does not include increasing exports through the SWP or CVP. A decision on Stage 2 has been deferred.

Jim Stewart—Executive Director, People for Parks

PH2-JS1

The commenter's opposition to the project is noted. Chapter 2 of the Draft EIS/EIR provides a description of the SDIP staged decision-making process. Stage 1, evaluated in this Draft EIS/EIR, includes constructing and operating fish and flow control gates and conveyance dredging. It does not include increasing exports through the SWP or CVP. A decision on Stage 2 has been deferred.

Please see Master Response F, *Relationship between the South Delta Improvements Program and Climate Change Effects*.

Gregory Wright—San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership

PH2-GW1

The commenter's description of the project's economic and environmental benefits and support for the project are noted.

Bruce Campbell

PH2-BC1

The commenter's opposition to the project is noted.

Chapter 2 of the Draft EIS/EIR provides a description of the SDIP staged decision-making process. Stage 1, evaluated in this Draft EIS/EIR, includes constructing and operating fish and flow control gates and conveyance dredging. It does not include increasing exports through the SWP or CVP. A decision on Stage 2 has been deferred.

Conner Everts—Southern California Watershed Alliance and Desal Response Group

PH2-CE1

The commenter's opposition to the project is noted.

Chapter 2 of the Draft EIS/EIR provides a description of the SDIP staged decision-making process. Stage 1, evaluated in this Draft EIS/EIR, includes constructing and operating fish and flow control gates and conveyance dredging. It does not include increasing exports through the SWP or CVP. A decision on Stage 2 has been deferred.

Francis Paludi—Manager of Planning and Water Resources, Central Basin Municipal Water District and West Basin Municipal Water District

PH2-FP1

The commenter's support for the project is noted.