

12.6 Public Hearing Transcripts

PUBLIC HEARING TRANSCRIPT

Sonora, California

**Sonora Opera House, Sonora, California
September 5, 2007**

(PH Sonora)

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PUBLIC HEARING
DRAFT PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION'S
PROPOSED WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

SONORA OPERA HOUSE
250 SOUTH WASHINGTON STREET
SONORA, CALIFORNIA

SEPTEMBER 5, 2007

REPORTED BY: DEBORAH FUQUA, CSR #12948

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APPEARANCES

DIANA SOKOLOVE, SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER
San Francisco Planning Department
Major Environmental Analysis Division
(Moderator)

KELLEY CAPONE and HEATHER POHL
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

LESLIE MOULTON, PROJECT MANAGER
- and -
JOYCE HSIAO, DEPUTY PROJECT MANAGER
ESA + Orion Consultant Team

ALFRED WILLIAMS, PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT COORDINATOR
Alfred Williams Consultancy

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PUBLIC SPEAKERS

Stan Kellog	Patricia Elliott
Dolores Boutin	Jimmy Gado
Cynthia King	Pete Kampa
Fred Boutin	Jon Sturtevant
Nicole Sandkulla	Ron Pickup
Bob Hackamack	Doris Grinn
Jerry Cadagan	Jim Grinnell
Galen Weston	Noah Hughes
Darryl Bramlette	Robert Gelman
Ellie Owen	Joseph Day

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1 Wednesday, September 5, 2007 6:32 o'clock p.m.
2 ---o0o---
3 P R O C E E D I N G S
4 ALFRED WILLIAMS: Ladies and gentleman, again,
5 welcome. This is the public hearing on the Draft
6 Program Environmental Impact Report on the San
7 Francisco Public Utilities Commission's Proposed Water
8 System Improvement Program.
9 Can you hear? You can hear. Okay.
10 With that, I'd like to introduce Diana
11 Sokolove, who is with the San Francisco Planning
12 Department.
13 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Good evening, and welcome again
14 to tonight's hearing. My name is Diana Sokolove, and
15 I'm a senior environmental planner with the San
16 Francisco Planning Department, Major Environmental
17 Analysis Division, and I will be the moderator for
18 tonight's hearing.
19 And I also just want to introduce some people
20 who are working on the program and on the environmental
21 review process. Tonight, Kelly Capone, who is standing
22 in the back of the room, is with the San Francisco
23 Public Utilities Commission, or SFPUC. Heather Pohl,
24 next to her, is also with the PUC working on the
25 program.

1 Also here tonight is the project manager for
2 the consultant team and the deputy project manager with
3 the ESA + Orion consultant team, Leslie Moulton and
4 Joyce Hsiao. And also here is Al Williams. And he's
5 our public involvement coordinator for this program.
6 So he'll be collecting speaker cards and can also
7 assist you with anything you might need.

8 And this is one of five public hearings on the
9 draft program environmental impact report. And we will
10 be providing essentially the same information and
11 opportunities for you to comment at each of the
12 hearings.

13 So here's our agenda for tonight. We'll just
14 take a few moments to introduce this process to you and
15 give you some instructions on how you can comment. And
16 then we'll open up the hearing for public comment.

17 So just some meeting reminders. Hopefully you
18 signed in when you came into the room. If you didn't,
19 please do so before you leave, and please sign your
20 name clearly and legibly so that we can keep in touch
21 with you throughout the process.

22 And if you do plan on speaking tonight, I hope
23 that you filled out a speaker card. You can pick these
24 up at the front table when you come in the door. And I
25 think some of our folks have some extra ones that they

1 can be pass around.

2 I will be calling up speakers from these cards
3 in the order I received them. So be sure you fill one
4 out if you want to speak tonight.

5 Another item you may wish to pick up is a
6 comment form so you can submit written comments on this
7 comment form. You can hand them to me tonight, or
8 leave them in the comment box at the back of the room,
9 or you can mail or fax them later. And we will give
10 you information where you can mail them later in the
11 presentation.

12 Restrooms are located in -- restrooms are
13 located in the back of the room, right back here
14 [indicating]. And also, please turn off the ringer --
15 please turn off the ringers on your cell phones and
16 pagers, and be sure to leave the room if you need to
17 make a call. We really appreciate that.

18 Also, please note that we do have a court
19 reporter present this evening here who is making a
20 transcript of tonight's proceedings. And the
21 transcript will become part of the public record of
22 this environmental review process.

23 So the purpose of tonight's hearing: We are
24 here to receive your comments on the environmental
25 impact report on the Water System Improvement Program.

1 Staff are not here to answer your comments today. And
2 comments will be transcribed, and your comments will be
3 responded to in a comments and responses document that
4 the San Francisco Planning Department will be
5 preparing.

6 The comments and responses document, again,
7 will respond to all verbal and written comments. And
8 just to be really clear, this is not a hearing to
9 consider approval or disapproval or modification of the
10 proposed program. That hearing will be held by the San
11 Francisco Public Utilities Commission following the
12 final program environmental impact report certification
13 hearing, which is held by the San Francisco Planning
14 Commission.

15 So if you wish to submit written comments, you
16 can do so, again, by submitting them to me tonight or
17 you can drop off comments in the comment box at the
18 back of the room. You can mail them or e-mail them at
19 the address shown here on the screen. And also your
20 agenda tonight, the address for mailing them or
21 e-mailing them is on that.

22 And also, if you wish to get a copy of the
23 document, the program environmental impact report, on
24 CD, if you would when you fill out this comment card
25 just leave a note for us asking us to send you a copy

1 of the CD.

2 And just to be clear, the Planning Department
3 will accept public comments on the draft program EIR
4 until 5:00 p.m. on Monday, October 1st.

5 So the draft program EIR is available for
6 viewing at the San Francisco Planning Department and
7 the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission and also
8 at several libraries throughout the study area. And
9 it's also available on line.

10 And again, you can find out the addresses of
11 these libraries on your agenda or on the notice of
12 availability. And all those materials are here
13 tonight. Here's our schedule. We have a 90-day public
14 review period which started on June 29th and ends at
15 5:00 p.m. on October 1st.

16 And we have a series of public hearings that
17 we're going to be holding this month. This is the
18 first of the public hearings tonight in Sonoma. We'll
19 be in Modesto, Fremont, Palo Alto, and also in San
20 Francisco.

21 We will be, as I mentioned, responding to your
22 comments in writing in a comments and responses
23 document that we hope to publish next spring. And
24 following publication of the comments and responses
25 document, we will be holding a certification hearing in

1 front of the San Francisco Planning Commission.

2 So now we're ready to open up the hearing for

3 public comment. And we ask that you just follow a few

4 rules. First, as I've already noted tonight, this is a

5 hearing for the PUC to receive your comments on the

6 draft program environmental impact report. So please

7 direct your comments to the adequacy and accuracy of

8 the information in the environmental impact report.

9 Again, please submit a speaker card if you

10 wish to speak. And I'll be calling out names from

11 those cards in groups of three so you can get ready to

12 come up and speak. And I'll call those names in the

13 list as I received them.

14 And when you are ready to speak, step up to

15 the microphone and state your name and address clearly

16 and slowly for the court reporter to transcribe that

17 information so that we can provide you with our

18 responses to your comments.

19 In the interest of time, please keep your

20 comments limited to three minutes. Al Williams will be

21 keeping track of time tonight. We just want to make

22 sure everybody has a chance to speak. And we also

23 realize that you may have more than three minutes of

24 information to share with us. We definitely respect

25 that, so that's why we have our comment cards. And

1 there are certainly other ways that you can supplement

2 your verbal comments with written comments.

3 Does anyone else want to submit a speaker

4 comment card tonight?

5 Again, I'll be calling up your name in groups

6 of three, so -- just so that you can get ready.

7 Stan Kellog, Dolores Boutin, and Cynthia King.

8 And the microphone -- you can use this microphone up

9 here, or you can use this microphone up in the front of

10 the room.

11 STAN KELLOG: Somebody help me out. SI_TCFB

12 Thank you.

13 First of all, excuse me. I have never been

14 known as a public speaker. So forgive me if I stutter,

15 stumble, slip, or fall, but the bottom line -- my name

16 is Stan Kellog. I'm the president of the Tuolumne

17 County Farm Bureau.

18 And what we are here to say is that any time

19 one drop of water leaves Tuolumne County, it has a

20 negative impact on our county. Period.

21 On the flip side of that -- this is not Farm

22 Bureau talking; this is me personally talking. This is

23 not the avenue -- this is not the venue to distribute

24 this kind of literature (indicating).

25 We need our water. We are facing major, major

1 water problems. And anything that gets taken from us
2 will very much affect us in the future.

3 I talked to an individual today, expressing my
4 concerns about this water taking. And he told me -- he
5 is in development, construction. He says, "If we don't
6 give them what they want, they will just move up here."

7 Well, how about just let them move down a
8 little farther south?

9 We are opposed to taking any water from
10 Tuolumne County.

11 Thank you.

12 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Before you sit down, could you
13 please give us your address for the record? If you
14 don't mind, if you could just say it for the record.

15 STAN KELLOG: Stan Kellog, Tuolumne County Farm
16 Bureau, Box 675, Jamestown, California 95367, whatever.

17 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Thank you.

18 Dolores Boutin.

19 DOLORES BOUTIN: Why do we fill out cards if we do
20 that?

21 Okay. I live in Tuolumne. I've lived here
22 for 25 years or so. I'm going to read what I wrote so
23 that I don't forget anything. The first question, main
24 question is, why does San Francisco think it has a
25 right to take any more water from the Tuolumne than it

SI_TCFB-01
cont.

C_BoutiD

C_BoutiD-01

1 already does? Almost 100 years ago, this fight was
2 fought. They won; we lost.

3 Last fall during the salmon run, I was on the
4 Tuolumne River. It was during salmon spawning time.
5 There were only a few salmon that could be seen.

6 Old-timers there told us that the river used to be
7 thick, so thick you can almost walk across the river on
8 their backs. Now, nothing.

9 Lack of natural river flows affect the whole
10 ecology of the riparian habit, not just the salmon but
11 everything else around it. We are part of that. If we
12 don't see that all of that affects us, something is
13 wrong with our viewpoint.

14 The river flow affects the delta and the bay
15 and all the humans and human activities involved around
16 those too. So it's not just the plants and animals.
17 It's us.

18 The proposal from San Francisco is a taking
19 from a national park that happened a long time ago.
20 That's bad enough, but they're sending it through pipes
21 and tunnels to a city far away for their benefit only.
22 This was done through political pressure a long time
23 ago as basically a theft of our local water. Now the
24 San Francisco Public Utilities Commission wants to take
25 even more, using our local resources for their own

C_BoutiD-01
cont.

1 economic benefit.
2 Already 6 percent is diverted. No more.
3 Water, especially good water, is big business
4 worldwide, not only for its direct use but also for its
5 use in producing electricity and the money that that
6 brings. It comes down to power and money instead of
7 what's right.

8 Simply put, San Francisco Public Utilities
9 Commission has no right to take more water from the
10 Tuolumne River. Twenty-five million gallons a day is
11 what they're proposing extra, beyond what they have.
12 They must be pirates at heart. "Take whatever you can
13 get away with," is the name of the game.

14 The population is growing in the San Francisco
15 area, as everywhere else in California, including here.
16 The need for water needs to be met through wise use and
17 conservation. There's going to be less and less water
18 through global warming and more and more people as
19 people decide to move to California. Say no to these
20 people.

21 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Would you mind stating your name
22 and address for the record?

23 DOLORES BOUTIN: Dolores Boutin, P.O. Box 1450,
24 Tuolumne 95379.

25 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Cynthia King.

C_BoutiD-01
cont.

1 CYNTHIA KING: Hello. Hi, everybody. It's great
2 to see you all here tonight. My name is Cynthia King,
3 and I'm the Sierra Nevada program director for the
4 Tuolumne River Trust. The Tuolumne River Trust works
5 to promote the stewardship of the Tuolumne River and
6 its tributaries to ensure a healthy watershed. We have
7 offices here in Sonora, Modesto, and San Francisco.

8 Thank you for coming to Sonora to listen to
9 the concerns of Tuolumne County residents. Those of us
10 in Tuolumne County who rely on the Tuolumne River for
11 recreation, business, and personal renewal will suffer
12 greatly if San Francisco pursues their plans to divert
13 the additional 27 million gallons of water a day from
14 the river.

15 With 50 percent of the Tuolumne already
16 diverted for agricultural and urban uses, the Tuolumne
17 is already an exceptionally hard-working river. As one
18 of California's Wild and Scenic rivers and home to the
19 largest run of Chinook salmon in the San Joaquin basin,
20 the Tuolumne is an irreplaceable natural resource.

21 As the largest tributary to the San Joaquin
22 River, the Tuolumne also contributes much-needed fresh
23 water to the San Francisco Bay Delta upon which
24 millions of Californians rely.

25 In our review of the draft PEIR, we found a

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1 number of serious inadequacies that need to be
2 addressed in the final report. I will touch on just a
3 few of them here, and the Tuolumne River Trust will be
4 submitting written comments before the public comment
5 period ends.

6 The first problem is the lack of an adequate
7 baseline of the Upper Tuolumne River. A comprehensive
8 study of current conditions has not been conducted in
9 over 15 years. Without knowing the condition of the
10 river today, including its fisheries, riparian habit,
11 and associated species, it's impossible to assess the
12 impact that additional diversions might cost.

SI_TRT2-01

13 The second problem: The modeling used to
14 estimate future water demands upon which the diversion
15 proposal is based also contains a number of flaws.
16 These flaws include using out-dated employment
17 projections and ignoring the effect the expected price
18 increase will have on future demands. San Francisco is
19 planning to increase the price of water to the
20 wholesale customers by three times, and they didn't
21 take out its recount [sic] in modeling future demand.

SI_TRT2-02

22 These flaws led to inflated demand
23 projections, and they need to be corrected in the final
24 report.

25 Further, the mitigation measures proposed to

SI_TRT2-03

1 off-set impacts on juvenile Chinook salmon are
2 inadequate. While the proposed restoration projects
3 are worthy efforts, implementation of just one of these
4 projects is inadequate to address the fishery impacts
5 associated with the in-stream flow reductions and
6 temperature increases expected for the Lower Tuolumne.

SI_TRT2-03
cont.

7 Finally, as a city and county that has greatly
8 benefited from Tuolumne River water for generations, it
9 is San Francisco's duty as it looks to the future to be
10 a good steward and to pursue a water plan that will
11 protect the Tuolumne for future generations.

12 Fortunately, San Francisco has an opportunity
13 to adopt a sustainable water plan which does not rely
14 on increased Tuolumne diversions.

15 If you're interested in learning more about
16 those opportunities, please see our new report that was
17 released called "From the Tuolumne to the Tap:
18 Pursuing Sustainable Water Solutions for the Bay Area."
19 We strongly encourage San Francisco to move in a
20 sustainable direction before they cause any more harm
21 to the Tuolumne River.

22 Thank you.

23 DIANA SOKOLOVE: If you could please add your name
24 and your address.

25 CYNTHIA KING: My name is Cynthia King, P.O. Box

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1 933, Sonora, California 95370.

2 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Thank you.

3 Fred Boutin.

C_BoutiF

4 FRED BOUTIN: Yes. I am a resident of Tuolumne
5 County and of Tuolumne. My primary objection to the
6 draft environmental impact report is that it's
7 misnamed. It's not a water system improvement program;
8 it's a water system expansion program. That should be
9 rightly named what it is.

C_BoutiF-01

10 The environmental -- the final environmental
11 impact report needs to include studies to show what
12 potential there is, the maximum potential for water
13 conservation within the San Francisco Public Utility
14 Commission service territory. And really, they should
15 be -- the report should be outlining where they're
16 intending to market this water that they're planning to
17 divert.

C_BoutiF-02

18 Thank you.

19 I'm at P.O. Box 1450, Tuolumne, 95379.

20 DIANA SOKOLOVE: And please state your name for
21 the record.

22 FRED BOUTIN: It's the same as I stated at the
23 beginning, Fred Boutin.

24 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Nicole Sandkulla. L_BAWSCA3

25 NICOLE SANDKULLA: Good evening. My name is

1 Nicole Sandkulla. I'm with the Bay Area Water Supply
2 and Conservation Agency. Our address is 155 Bovet
3 Road, Suite 302, San Mateo, California 94402. I have a
4 statement to read from Arthur Jensen, our general
5 manager.

6 San Francisco's draft program environmental
7 impact report for its Water System Improvement Program
8 is undergoing careful review by the Bay Area Water
9 Supply and Conservation Agency and its 27 member
10 agencies that purchase water from San Francisco's
11 regional water system for 1.7 million residents,
12 businesses, and community institutions in Alameda,
13 Santa Clara, and San Mateo counties.

14 While BASWCA's review of the draft PEIR
15 continues, we find it to be a good, comprehensive
16 document, analyzing the environmental impacts and
17 program alternatives as required by law. BASWCA will
18 submit written comments to correct apparent errors and
19 expand the discussion of future water demands,
20 alternative water supplies, and water conservation
21 efforts.

22 One issue the PEIR should more clearly
23 emphasize is the critical importance of completing the
24 Water System Improvement Program to protect the public
25 health and safety of the people who live in the Bay

L_BAWSCA3-01

1 Area today.

2 Four active faults cross the major pipelines,

3 tunnels, and reservoirs that provide water to 2.5

4 million people in our counties and San Francisco.

5 There is a 60 percent probability that a major

6 earthquake will occur in the Bay Area between today and

7 2032.

↑ L_BAWSCA3-01 cont.

8 Following a major earthquake, the flow of

9 water to communities could be disrupted for 30 to 60

10 days. The impacts to public health and safety would be

11 catastrophic. The economic impacts, not counting

12 injuries and loss of life, are estimated to be at least

13 seven times the cost of rebuilding the aging water

14 system.

15 The Water System Improvement Program includes

16 projected uses for BAWSCA's agencies. These agencies

17 in Alameda, San Mateo, and Santa Clara counties and

18 their customers are dedicated to saving water and

19 safeguarding the environment.

20 Today the average resident in the service area

21 uses 15 percent less water per day than in 1986 and 23

22 percent less than in 1976.

23 In the Bay Area, residential water use per

24 person is lower than the average for the State of

25 California. And residential water use per person in

↓ L_BAWSCA3-02

1 the BAWSCA area is lower than the average in the Bay

2 Area.

3 BAWSCA and its agencies actively support

4 implementation of additional conservation measures and

5 water recycling to make the most effective use of

6 limited water supplies. The water management issues

7 addressed in the draft program environmental impact

8 report --

↑ L_BAWSCA3-02 cont.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Time's up.

10 NICOLE SANDKULLA: -- are no longer issues. The

11 projected growth is not going to happen tomorrow. The

12 earthquake might.

13 Protecting existing people from a known

14 catastrophe that could result from a highly probable

15 earthquake is an urgent issue that the WSIP is designed

16 to address.

↑ L_BAWSCA3-02 cont.

17 Thanks.

18 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Just a reminder, thank you,

19 Nicole, for stating your name and address when you came

20 up. If everyone can do that before you come up, that

21 would be great.

22 Also, I don't need any assistance in

23 moderating the meeting. So if you would just leave

24 that to me, that will be fine.

25 Bob Hackamack is the next speaker.

SI_RHH3

1 BOB HACKAMACK: I'm Bob Hackamack, P.O. Box 1886,
2 Twain Harte, California. I'm a representative of the
3 group Restore Hetch Hetchy. I'm their technical and
4 engineering chairman.

5 It's apparent that the contractors and the
6 planning staff have worked very hard on this document.
7 And I compliment you for your work. There's some minor
8 errors that are understandable. And I've learned
9 several things about the Water Supply Project from
10 reading your report. This is a good reference
11 material. Thank you.

12 (Staff handing different microphone)

13 BOB HACKAMACK: Hmm. I feel like singing.

14 I want to explain how the preferred
15 alternative called the WSIP is disconnected from
16 reality, but that the combination of the alternatives
17 that you presented, will make a workable plan.

18 You've correctly stated that John Freeman in
19 1912 projected that the Tuolumne River had a plan, and
20 it might produce 400 million gallons a day.

21 But you failed to say that the San Francisco
22 PUC did not build the project the way John had
23 foreseen, that that has drastically reduced the amount
24 of water availability, so you can't look forward to 400
25 million gallons a day but something drastically less.



SI_RHH3-01

12.6-11

1 Now, the reason the PUC did that was maximum
2 profit from hydropower, not water supply.

3 I find that the yield of your project is 207
4 million gallons a day during your designed drought.
5 But no prudent manager is going to follow the plan that
6 you have in mind. The first year, no rationing; second
7 year, full 25 percent, got-to-catch-up-type thing.

8 So I ask you, why would your board of
9 supervisors approve this huge amount of money for a
10 project that's going to triple the rates and now come
11 back and have to tell them that, "Well, every 13 or 26
12 years or 41 years, you're going to have 25 percent
13 rationing for the duration of the drought"? The rate
14 payers deserve a better system than you're offering
15 them.

16 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Sir, if you could wrap up your
17 comments.

18 BOB HACKAMACK: Sure. Of the exports at 207
19 million gallons a day, you, for all the other needs
20 that you have, go to the recycling, the aggressive
21 conservation, the purchase of water, to avoid the
22 Tuolumne diversion and the other things that you listed
23 in the alternatives.

24 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Thank you.

25 Jerry Cadagan.



SI_RHH3-01
cont.



SI_RHH3-02

SI_RHH4

1 JERRY CADAGAN : My name is Jerry Cadagan. I
2 reside at 13225 Sylva Lane, Sonora 95370. I am here
3 speaking as an individual, but in the interest of full
4 disclosure and for purposes of identification, I will
5 acknowledge publicly and privately, I'm on the Board to
6 Restore Hetch Hetchy. I'm a founder of an organization
7 that nobody in this room's heard of probably called the
8 Committee to Save Lake Merced. And I've dealt with the
9 San Francisco Public Utilities Commission on
10 environmental issues in San Francisco for 15 years. So
11 I have a little experience. And I am a long-time
12 member of the Tuolumne River Trust.

13 I'm probably the first speaker to really
14 address the adequacy of the EIR. That's all right. I
15 understand you.

16 The Chapter 10 lists 20 significant negative
17 adverse environmental impacts resulting from the
18 project proposed by San Francisco.

19 The EIR goes on to acknowledge that they can't
20 eliminate those adverse impacts, and they can't limit
21 them by any mitigation measures they've come up with.

22 I have a bold idea to improve the
23 environmental impact report. And I mentioned being
24 involved in the Restore Hetch Hetchy effort. I didn't
25 hear any boos; I didn't hear any cheers. That's about



SI_RHH4-01

12.6-12

1 what I expected here.

2 I am not here proposing that San Francisco
3 mitigate all the environmental impacts of its project
4 by single-handedly restoring Hetch Hetchy Valley.

5 All I suggest is that San Francisco follow the
6 accepted case law under CEQA in California and use as a
7 mitigation measure a commitment to take a simple
8 non-monetary step. That step would be to agree to
9 cooperate in the restoration of the valley so long as
10 certain conditions laid out by San Francisco were met.

11 And I'm not going the read the whole statement
12 of commitment, but basically, reservoir removal would
13 occur only after water and power currently supplied by
14 the reservoir are fully replaced. Water and power
15 replacement must take place without any increase in
16 water or power rates or property rates for San
17 Francisco residents and businesses and without any
18 increase in the cost of delivering it to the city of
19 San Francisco.

20 What I'm essentially saying is, have a
21 mitigation measure -- add to the ones you've already
22 got in here, which are inadequate to solve 20 of the
23 major problems -- San Francisco saying, "We're okay
24 with restoration, as long as we don't get hurt."

25 To date, they're unwilling to say that. "We



SI_RHH4-01
cont.

12.6-13

1 want 25 more million gallons of water, but we won't
2 even think about possible restoration of Hetch Hetchy
3 Valley."

↑
SI_RHH4-01
cont.
↓

4 That is a legitimate mitigation measure.
5 Thank you.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Could San Francisco --

7 DIANA SOKOLOVE: I'm sorry, ma'am. If you'd like
8 to speak, can you fill out a speaker card, and we will
9 certainly call you up to speak.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: This is a question about
11 the very limited amount of time --

12 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Ma'am, I need you to fill out a
13 speaker card in order to speak.

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: -- a very limited amount of
15 time that we're allotted for --

16 DIANA SOKOLOVE: I'm sorry. I really do need
17 you -- just -- because everybody is here, they all want
18 to speak. We need to give everybody a chance to speak.
19 And I would --

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You need to give them more
21 time and not try and do this in an hour and a half for
22 your convenience. Just give us more time.

23 DIANA SOKOLOVE: So Galen Weston is the next
24 speaker.

SI_TRT3

25 GALEN WESTON: Hello. Galen Weston, 21149 Lyons

1 Bald Mountain Road is my address.

2 I'm a Sonora resident and also work part-time
3 for the Tuolumne River Trust. So it is -- and I grew
4 up fishing, swimming, exploring, and rafting in the
5 Tuolumne and its tributaries, so it's with great
6 personal and professional connection with the river
7 that I'm speaking tonight.

8 Looking over the program environmental impact
9 report, I was very disappointed to see the preferred
10 alternative called for increased diversions from the
11 Tuolumne River by 27 million gallons a day, in addition
12 to other important and non-controversial projects, such
13 as seismic upgrades and general maintenance as the
14 previous speaker mentioned, you know, there is great
15 threat to the water system in San Francisco due to
16 seismic activity.

↑
SI_TRT3-01
↓

17 Since the San Francisco Board of Supervisors
18 has already clearly instructed the SFPUC to pursue a
19 water plan that protects the health of the Tuolumne and
20 does not include additional diversions from the river,
21 I'm really unsure as to why you would want to risk
22 holding up this entire project by burdening it with the
23 controversial and unnecessary proposal to increase your
24 diversions from the Tuolumne.

25 When the citizens of the United States,

↓
SI_TRT3-02

12.6-14

1 through an act of Congress in 1913, granted San
2 Francisco the unprecedented privilege of constructing a
3 reservoir in the midst of Yosemite National Park, the
4 city was given clear direction to fully utilize any
5 current or future water supplies before tapping into
6 the Tuolumne River.

7 Instead of honoring that pact with the nation,
8 the City is now using wildly inflated demand
9 projections to justify increased diversions from the
10 Tuolumne.

11 Now I'll move on to some specific shortcomings
12 in the environmental review. As Cynthia mentioned, the
13 environmental impact report is inadequate in its
14 evaluation of the potential impact because you guys
15 don't have the studies to provide an adequate baseline
16 of conditions on the river right now. Basically, we
17 can't tell where we're going if we don't know where we
18 are.

19 Much of EIR is base on a single, unfinished
20 fish and wildlife study conducted back in 1992. And
21 that study itself indicated that flows might need to be
22 increased below Hetch Hetchy to ensure the health of
23 the river's rainbow trout fishery.

24 But in any event, the City needs more than a
25 handful of 15-year-old studies to convince me that

SI_TRT3-02
cont.

SI_TRT3-03

1 taking an additional 27 million gallons per day off the
2 river won't significantly affect flows, fish, wildlife
3 or recreation.

4 Now just cruising through a few more comments,
5 because I'm going to run out of time.

6 San Francisco seems to expect other agencies
7 to pick up their slack when it comes to water
8 conservation. So this report is inadequate. for
9 example, some of the mitigation measures this report
10 discusses, in the event of drought years, include
11 asking the Modesto and Turlock irrigation districts to
12 conserve water in order to meet minimum fish flow
13 requirements.

14 Similarly, the EIR indicates increased flows
15 from the Bureau of Reclamation near the Stanislaus may
16 be needed to mitigate for decreased freshwater flows
17 into the Delta.

18 There are no contracts or agreements lined up
19 to this effect, so these ideas are not in any way
20 appropriate mitigation. And further, San Francisco
21 should take responsibility for its own conservation
22 instead of trying to farm out this responsibility to
23 other water agencies.

24 And just in closing, by committing to meet
25 increased levels of demand in the future, San Francisco

SI_TRT3-04

SI_TRT3-05

12.6-15

1 is foreclosing on opportunities to improve conditions
2 on the Tuolumne and San Joaquin rivers and the Delta.

3 And one more thing: I'm encouraged to see
4 that the report includes an alternative that calls for
5 present conservation and recycling that can meet San
6 Francisco's water needs without taking more water from
7 the Tuolumne. And I really encourage you to come back
8 with a final draft that has that as the option that
9 you're going to go with.

SI_TRT3-06

10 Thanks a lot.

11 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Darryl Bramlette. C_BramID3

12 DARRYL BRAMLETTE: Good evening. My name is
13 Gerald Bramlette, 7700 Ruth Ridge Road, Jamestown,
14 California.

15 I really represent Bramlette Consulting. And
16 it has no connection at all with the water resource
17 people here at all.

18 I attended this meeting last year and started
19 doing some research. And I do see that there's really
20 a problem that San Francisco has, but they're not
21 addressing it at all. And with all the Ph.D.'s they
22 have down there on their staff and with all the money
23 they've put into this, they're totally lacking in
24 solving their problem.

25 Their answer is to go get more water from a C_BramID3-01

1 source that doesn't have more water. Their answer is
2 to rebuild on technology that's 80-plus years old.
3 They're ignoring we're in the 21st century. San
4 Francisco can get water. They can do desalinization.
5 Desalination. They have a nice large body of water
6 which they can work on. They don't have to have the
7 Tuolumne. They don't have to have all these other
8 resources that they're trying to take from other
9 communities.

C_BramID3-01
cont.

10 They can also go into conservation within
11 their own city and, like the speaker before me said,
12 not go out and ask our neighbors to do such.

C_BramID3-02

13 Also, looking at a little bit of research,
14 they're not supposed to be selling the water to other
15 communities. They are making money off of this also.
16 If you take a look real carefully, they're making good
17 money off of it.

C_BramID3-03

18 So I think if I look at this thing all the way
19 back down, it's not the people of San Francisco's water
20 demands. It's the demands of the pockets or the
21 coffers of the San Francisco City.

22 With that, I'm going to rest my case.

23 Thank you very much for having us speak this
24 evening. And I would like to have a response to my
25 paper, though, that I wrote last year from the people.

12.6-16

1 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Ellie Owen. C_Owen

2 ELLIE OWEN: Ellie Owen, 12098 Wards Ferry Road,
3 Groveland.

4 I got a friend who just hiked up to the
5 glacier at the Tuolumne River. He was going to camp on
6 a stream -- there were several streams. He had an
7 option -- on the way up, but they were all dried up.
8 So he went up to the glacier. And the glacier was
9 small.

10 So my question is, how do you calculate the
11 yield from that glacier? Our GCSD manager from
12 Groveland said there's an unlimited amount of water.
13 Well, that's hard to believe.

14 My second question is, if we continue with
15 drought years, how do we figure global warming into
16 that? That's an unknown. I mean, isn't that part of
17 the real equation right now? That's another question I
18 have.

C_Owen-01

19 I would like it if these meetings were longer.
20 And I also would like it if people would answer our
21 questions because we need to know the answers to our
22 questions. And we need to share that with everyone
23 else. So I think that's a good idea.

24 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Patricia Elliot. C_EllioP

25 PATRICIA ELLIOT: My name is Patricia Elliot. I

1 live at 12186 Bear Creek Road in Groveland, California,
2 95321.

3 I've been a resident of this county for four
4 years. And I was instrumental in the Wild and Scenic
5 move in 1984 for the Tuolumne River. I presently am
6 the chair of the South Tuolumne County Planning
7 Commission.

8 And my concern is the amount of activity we're
9 seeing as people from the coast, and mostly from San
10 Francisco, who are now able to sell their little
11 cottages for a million dollars and racing up here to
12 buy our acreage. And the demand for water and projects
13 up here is of real concern to me as I see things coming
14 across our board that will directly affect Groveland
15 and Big Oak Flat.

16 For the past five years, we have been in a
17 conflict over 400 homes that want the Hetch Hetchy
18 water. And as Ms. Owen said, that the GCSD -- this is
19 our governing body, now, four people -- we have no
20 mayor. We're not a certified town -- but four people
21 who are elected every two or three years -- and it's a
22 controversial election -- can decide whether to route
23 Hetch Hetchy water to homes behind Pine Mountain Lake.

24 So I'm very, very concerned with what San
25 Francisco draining more water out of Tuolumne and the

C_EllioP-01

12.6-17

1 Tuolumne River will do to the future of our small
2 community of 3,000 people in Groveland, 200 people in
3 Big Oak Flat. But you will here a loud voice from us
4 against taking the water out of the Tuolumne River.

↑
C_EllioP-01
cont.

5 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Next speaker is Jimmy Gado. C_Gado

6 JIMMY GADO: Good evening. My name is Jimmy Gado,
7 and I'm a resident of Tuolumne County. I live in
8 Columbia, California, P.O. Box 851, Columbia, 95310.

9 I've been a resident of Tuolumne County for 33
10 years, and I've been employed in the white water
11 rafting industry for the last 27 years, part of those
12 as an owner of a company that operated on the Tuolumne
13 and now as an employee of a company that operates on
14 the Tuolumne.

15 I'm concerned about the draft EIR's use of
16 figures for average flow on the Tuolumne, which doesn't
17 really mean anything when it comes to recreational use
18 on the Tuolumne. There's a certain flow that's needed
19 in order for rafting to occur on the Tuolumne River.
20 And those flows were historically there while the Wild
21 and Scenic was enacted and the recreational uses were
22 protected on the Tuolumne. And I'm concerned that any
23 additional taking of water by San Francisco and other
24 Bay Area counties will cause an adverse impact to the
25 rafting industry on the Tuolumne.

↑
C_Gado-01

1 So I just would like to say that I'm opposed
2 to any more water being taken from the Tuolumne,
3 particularly before San Francisco and all of its water
4 purchasers enact much better water conservation and
5 recycling programs.

↑
C_Gado-02

6 Thank you.

7 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Next speaker is Pete Kampa. L_TUD3

8 PETE KAMPA: Pete Kampa, General Manager, Tuolumne
9 Utilities District, 17245 Valley Okay Drive, Sonora.

10 I am here representing myself and also
11 representing the Tuolumne Utilities District.

12 In some cursory comments, this document is
13 huge. It's going to take us a long time to get
14 through.

15 Number one, we request that there be a time
16 extension on comments. It's really important for a
17 small utility with significant potential impacts from
18 any project constructed in this area.

↑
L_TUD3-01

19 Tuolumne Utility District consumes most of the
20 County of Tuolumne, from the Stanislaus in the north to
21 the Tuolumne in the south, serving 44,000 in
22 population. We currently recycle nearly a hundred
23 percent of our wastewater. And when we look at the --
24 the fact that the EIR contemplates a very small
25 percentage -- it's in the range of 4 million gallons a

12.6-18

1 day -- our current recycled water is about 1.8 million
2 in Tuolumne County. So they're contemplating for the
3 whole Bay Area 4 million.

4 I really think the EIR should look at maximum
5 possible recycling of wastewater and use on parks and
6 also new residential development. It's extremely
7 important.

L_TUD3-02

8 Also one of the major flaws in the EIR is the
9 fact that it's based on contracts with major water
10 utilities that are not yet completed. The contracts
11 have not yet been developed, the terms and conditions.
12 And it's not proven up whether these agencies in
13 Turlock or Modesto have the right to divert that amount
14 of water from the Tuolumne.

15 In addition, there's consideration being given
16 to supplementing that water through the Stanislaus,
17 which is our primary interest. I think that that needs
18 to be much more closely analyzed -- and also the fact
19 that those agreements should at least be detailed in
20 some draft stage in some memorandum so that the PEIR
21 can adequately address it because it's completely based
22 on those transfers.

L_TUD3-03

23 And if you have those needs and those needs
24 are true, without the transfer from the Tuolumne, those
25 other numbers need to be analyzed. So there's no way

1 to analyze it without the agreements.

L_TUD3-03
cont.

2 The rationing of 20 percent is extremely
3 small. That is not even an industry standard. It's
4 something that we would -- we asked for it this year in
5 just the typical dry years, Tuolumne Utilities. In the
6 industry, it's not unusual to go up to 50 percent and
7 then have provisions in there for different classes of
8 users to restrict more, based on necessity.

L_TUD3-04

9 I think you need to look more closely at
10 industry standards in conservation, as well as the
11 practices based on the water year. In Tuolumne County,
12 if the water year is 50 percent, we target 50 percent
13 reduction. You don't get what you ask for. If you say
14 20 percent, you get much less.

L_TUD3-05

15 The last thing is the fact that Turlock and
16 Modesto and Oakdale have vehemently opposed any new
17 water sales of surplus water. And they just don't
18 exist in those agencies.

19 DIANA SOKOLOVE: The next speaker is John
20 Sturtevant.

C_Sturt

21 JON STURTEVANT: I'm Jon Sturtevant. I live at
22 18127 Apple Colony Road, Tuolumne, California 95379.

23 Back in the early '90s I worked for the Mono
24 Lake Committee. And they worked very hard when they
25 worked with L.A. Water and Power to have a win-win

12.6-19

1 situation. Their main goal was to get L.A. to conserve
2 more water. Everybody said, "Oh, yeah. That will
3 happen."

4 But it did happen. People sweep their
5 driveways, they don't wash their cars so often. They
6 have 20 to 25 percent more population, and yet they use
7 the same amount of water that they used 20 years ago.

8 So if you guys would seriously address the issue of
9 conservation, you might not need the 25 million
10 gallons. That would be a win for us who live on the
11 river because I canoe on it and hike around it with my
12 Sierra Club friends. And it would also be a win for
13 the folks in the Bay Area.

14 So be serious about conservation, and think
15 "win-win."

16 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Ron Pickup.

17 RON PICKUP: My name is Ron Pickup, Box 62
18 Soulsbyville, California. I was born, raised, and have
19 lived in Tuolumne County most of my life. And as a
20 fly-fisherman, writer, and photographer, I greatly
21 value the unique recreation and beauty of our Wild and
22 Scenic Tuolumne River.

23 As I testified at your last meeting with us, I
24 believe taking any more water from the Tuolumne than
25 presently used would be a real slap in the face of a

C_Sturt-01

C_Picku

C_Picku-01

1 county of origin that has already provided you 20
2 million gallons a day from our river.

3 I ask you to respect and fully appreciate the
4 important legacy the Tuolumne River provides our
5 county. In addition to its considerable recreation and
6 economic values, it provides us with a strong sense of
7 place and identity. And we don't want to lose that
8 identity.

9 I suggest the Commission take a three-day trip
10 down the Tuolumne and experience this sense of place
11 for themselves, firsthand. I also ask that you follow
12 the San Francisco Board of Supervisors' recommendation,
13 the Tuolumne River Trust advice, and the findings of
14 your own studies to develop a more sustainable water
15 supply through conservation, efficiency, and recycling
16 as many other major cities have accomplished.

17 I thank you for coming up and taking our
18 input.

19 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Doris Grinn.

20 DORIS GRINN: I'm a little disappointed that San
21 Francisco is coming up here and giving us such a small
22 sound byte of information when we're addressing an
23 historic issue, the Tuolumne River, namesake county,
24 all the concerns that the previous speaker just talked
25 about.

C_Picku-01
cont.

C_GrinnD

12.6-20

1 We should be able to voice our opinion without
2 little timers and have an hour and a half from San
3 Francisco.

4 At what point does San Francisco stop
5 impacting the riparian and water habitats of the river
6 and the watershed that provides their domestic water
7 source? At what point do they stop impacting it? At
8 what point do they recognize the value of the natural
9 world, the natural ecological habitat of rivers, the
10 icon of life? At what point do they recognize that
11 that is a value resource unto itself and stop taking
12 more, taking landscapes with Hetch Hetchy and now
13 taking more and more?

14 At what point is the riparian doctrine of
15 water law implemented in this situation where we're
16 looking at -- the riparian doctrine addresses in-stream
17 flows for the ecological and aquatic health; at what
18 point does the riparian doctrine allow priority over
19 the extractions of water for domestic use?

20 I protest that the vestiges of civilization,
21 that being San Francisco, continue to extract and
22 degrade the natural ecological system and the rivers to
23 maintain their expanding populations.

24 At what point does civilization -- and I'm not
25 just talking about San Francisco and the Tuolumne

C_GrinnD-01

1 River; this is an age-old pattern. This is an archaic
2 pattern of civilization destroying the upstream, the
3 aquatic habitat to maintain and expand. At what point
4 does San Francisco, which is some sort of vestige of
5 environmental consciousness, when do they recognize
6 this is -- this is the time to make a line and say,
7 "Well, maybe we'll get into more water conservation.
8 Maybe we'll be more conscious about what we're using,"
9 and stop degrading the upstream environment?

10 Thank you.

11 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Jim Grinnell.

C_GrinnJ

12 JIM GRINNELL: Thank you for the opportunity to
13 speak. My name is Jim Grinnell. I live at 191 Elk
14 Drive, Sonora. My great-great-grandfather had four
15 sections of land in what is now Denair. And in 1904,
16 San Francisco wanted to get water from what is now
17 Hetch Hetchy. And Congress denied them.

18 In 1906 you had a great fire. After that, San
19 Francisco got the right through Congress to take water
20 and basically build the Hetch Hetchy system.

21 The deal that San Francisco was able to
22 make -- well, let me say this. San Francisco became
23 what it is because of Tuolumne County and the mining
24 and all of this that was up in this area.

25 I'll be done in two minutes.

C_GrinnD-01
cont.

12.6-21

1 The deal, I think, was, a dollar and a half
2 per acre foot is all San Francisco paid for that water.
3 And San Francisco has sold over \$150 million worth of
4 water to the downstream Peninsula cities.

5 It seems to me that what San Francisco should
6 do is stop selling water if they're short, because
7 you're selling off the excess. You should be paying
8 Tuolumne County, Merced County, Stanislaus County and
9 these other counties that the water would have been
10 used for. But now the water is gone because you've
11 taken it.

12 It's time for conservation and reduction and
13 reducing development in San Francisco if they're short
14 of resources. But please don't take ours. C_GrinnJ-01

15 Thank you.

16 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Is there anyone who would like to
17 speak who hasn't already spoken tonight? Can you
18 please fill out a speaker card.

19 Robert Gelman.

20 NOAH HUGHES: Noah Hughes. Sorry. C_Hughe1

21 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Okay. Just state your name and
22 address.

23 NOAH HUGHES: My name is Noah Hughes. I'm at
24 20192 Gibbs Drive, Sonora, California 95370. I'm an
25 earth science teacher down in Modesto. I grew up down

1 there in Modesto, and I've lived in Sonora for the last
2 ten years or so. I'm a kayaker. I've spent a lot of
3 the best moments of my life on the Tuolumne River.

4 So I'd like to make a couple of comments.
5 First of all, about the draft program environmental
6 impact report, a technical point: You based your flow
7 projections, your future flow projections, off of
8 monthly mean flows. Those are meaningless when it
9 comes to environmental impacts.

10 And monthly mean flows, monthly average flows
11 don't mean anything to insects, humans or fish or
12 kayakers. It's the amount of water that's in the river
13 at that point in time. So your data is inadequate to
14 make the projections that you're making. And it won't
15 ever stand up in a court of law.

16 So given that fact, plus the fact that the
17 board of supervisors do not support your preferred
18 alternative, I really wonder where we're going with all
19 this and what it's really all about.

20 And in terms of water security for the
21 communities in the Bay Area and customers of SFPUC,
22 don't take more of our water so that you can sell it
23 and make more money to make up for the money that was
24 misspent back in the '90s that was supposed to go to
25 all of the upgrades. That was documented in a series

C_Hughe1-01

C_Hughe1-02

C_Hughe1-03

12.6-22

1 of articles in the San Francisco Chronicle that that
2 money was squandered and misspent and didn't go to the
3 upgrades that were supposed to be made.

↑ C_Hughe1-03
cont.

4 Don't make it sound like it's going to be our
5 fault if San Francisco gets in real trouble in an
6 earthquake. This system, this alternative, is just
7 demanding more and creating more demand. It's becoming
8 less sustainable and less safe. Do what San
9 Francisco's [sic] done. Do what Boston's done. Do
10 what Seattle's done and reduce demand and put more
11 slack in the system and make it safer.

12 Thanks a lot.

13 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Robert Gelman.

C_Gelma

14 ROBERT GELMAN: Good evening. My name is Robert
15 Gelman. And I have dual residences, here in Tuolumne
16 County and also in San Mateo County. My addresses are
17 321 Fuller Street, Redwood City and 240 Reservoir Road
18 in Sonora.

19 So I have some questions about this. Why 25
20 million gallons? Why not 50 million gallons? 150?
21 More? Why not? Well, I think we've heard a few good
22 reasons why not tonight.

↑ C_Gelma-01

23 Regarding the draft program EIR, many speakers
24 have pointed out that the data it contains is fairly
25 ancient; it doesn't take into consideration the climate

↑ C_Gelma-02
↓

1 science that we're now dealing with and many other
2 environmental concerns.

↑ C_Gelma-02
cont.

3 So as someone who can see both sides of this
4 issue, I think it is incumbent upon the Commission to
5 take another look at that EIR.

6 Thank you.

7 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Joseph Day.

C_DayJ

8 JOSEPH DAY: Good evening. My name is Joseph Day.
9 I live at 716 Arbona Circle, Sonora, California. I
10 grew up in the Bay Area. And I grew up on Hetch Hetchy
11 water, so I know how good it is.

12 And I used to live in San Francisco. But I
13 think you've got enough water coming from us. I think
14 the real big problem is that, as populations grow on
15 the coast, you're going to be demanding more and more
16 of the water that originates in the Sierra Nevada
17 watershed. And if you continue to take more, it's
18 going to stifle the growth in the foothills or restrict
19 what we currently are doing.

↑ C_DayJ-01
↓

20 Pete Kampa already mentioned the potential
21 transfers of water possibly from New Melones to make
22 possible your plans. I find that very dangerous. We
23 need to have that water supply. We have, I believe,
24 9,000 acre feet that is potentially usable for us here
25 in Tuolumne County. And if our water rights are eroded

12.6-23

1 by continued takings, I think that's a dangerous thing.

C_DayJ-01
cont.

2 And as a speaker mentioned previously, there
3 is a very large supply of water called the Pacific
4 Ocean that you could use.

5 Looking at older numbers, I find that over
6 \$125 million is earned every year through sales of
7 water and power generation by the SFPUC. An acre foot
8 at the wholesale rate is over \$500. When you start
9 looking at the cost of de-sal, that's getting pretty
10 close.

C_DayJ-02

11 So I think the Bay Area could probably afford
12 to invest in de-sal, and it really should start
13 thinking about supplying their own water instead of
14 taking more of ours. So that's essentially what I
15 wanted to say.

16 DIANA SOKOLOVE: So is there anyone else who would
17 like to speak tonight who has not spoken?

18 (No response)

19 DIANA SOKOLOVE: One of the main reasons why we do
20 limit the number of minutes that you have is really
21 just to make sure that everybody gets a chance to speak
22 and that everybody gets home at a reasonable hour. But
23 we do have some more time.

24 So if folks want to come back out and
25 supplement your comments, you may do so. If you would

1 just -- you should probably get a sheet of paper and
2 make sure that people just fill that out again.

3 For folks who are taking off, thanks for
4 coming tonight. Thank you for speaking.

5 And folks who want to stay and listen to some
6 more comments, please do so.

7 Take your seats. We do have a few more
8 speakers. And if you need to have a conversation, if
9 you could just take that outside the room, I'm sure
10 people here who are speaking would greatly appreciate
11 that. Thanks.

12 First speaker, Bob Hackamack. Bob again. SI_RHH3
13 Again, if folks want to take their conversations cont.

14 outside in respect to the people who are speaking
15 again.

16 BOB HACKAMACK: Thank you, Diana, for letting
17 folks come back. I was speaking before about the yield
18 of the Hetch Hetchy system as only 207 million gallons
19 a day. I wanted to go on to tell you that you're
20 presently diverting north of 230 million gallons a day,
21 and that gap is going to get you in trouble.

22 Now, it seems to me that, to make this project
23 move forward smoothly, you're going to have to cap your
24 diversions because it's obvious from the write-up that
25 you're potentially building the fourth barrel of the

12.6-24

1 pipeline. At least in this iteration, you're going to
2 build 46 percent of it, the miles of it. And those are
3 the hardest 46.

4 So it's pretty obvious from what others have
5 said that, once you hit that fourth pipeline, you're
6 just going to continue taking more and more water
7 without limit.

8 All you have in your mind are the words of
9 John Freeman. "We can get 400 million, so let's go for
10 it." But that's just not the way it is.

11 The reason that you can't do that is that you
12 have ignored the feed to all these benefits in the
13 first place.

14 In Section 9.(h) it says you have to develop
15 all the water that you have in your city before you can
16 take any from the Tuolumne. And you have not done
17 that. Many people have referred to that already, and
18 it's obvious that you have to develop the water in your
19 service area, the bounds of the service area. And no
20 one has spoken about that.

SI_RHH3-03

21 Diana spoke about the project, but she didn't
22 say that they're going do anything to reduce their
23 demand. And it's up to you to do that when you're
24 contracting with them.

25 I wanted to say that the people who built this

1 system in the 20th century did a great job. And it's
2 up to you, now, to build a good system, a serviceable
3 system for the 21st century. And you're on the wrong
4 track at this moment.

5 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Jerry Cadagan.

SI_RHH4
cont.

6 JERRY CADAGAN: Thank you for a second bite at the
7 apple. I'm Jerry Cadagan, Sonora. I did prepare
8 comments in case there was an overflow here. I've got
9 another comment on the sufficiency of analysis,
10 sufficiency of the information provided.

11 It is stated throughout the EIR and stated in
12 newspaper articles, San Francisco said they need 35
13 million gallons more water between now and the year
14 2030. They say they are going to take 25 million
15 gallons of that 35 million out of our Tuolumne River.

16 They say they're going to generate the other
17 10 million gallons a day through some combination of
18 conservation of water recycling and groundwater
19 resources.

20 And I cannot find in the 3,000-page EIR -- and
21 I will confess, it may be buried in some appendices or
22 some table -- a breakdown of that 10 million gallons a
23 day. In other words, they're saying, "Tuolumne County,
24 we want 25 million gallons a day more of your water.
25 We're going to provide 10 million gallons a day through

SI_RHH4-02

12.6-25

1 some kind of recycling, conservation, and groundwater
2 extraction," but I can't find where.

3 But what I can find on San Francisco's own Web
4 site is their own recycled water master plan. Now,
5 remember those 10 million gallons a day, they're going
6 to do that -- in the aggregate, recycling,
7 conservation, groundwater, presumably some of their
8 customers are going to be contributing to that 10
9 million.

10 San Francisco's own recycled water master plan
11 says, in San Francisco alone, there's feasible water
12 recycling potential to the tune of 11.8 million gallons
13 a day. That's almost 2 million gallons a day more than
14 they are offering to contribute from the aggregate of
15 the entire Peninsula, San Francisco, recycling,
16 conservation, et cetera.

17 The EIR has got to address these issues.
18 Thank you very much.

19 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Jim Grinnell.

20 JIM GRINNELL: Jim Grinnell. Just a follow-up on
21 my previous comments.

22 I don't know what San Francisco is currently
23 paying to Congress for -- to the United States
24 government for this water that would otherwise be in
25 the Tuolumne River, but in the early days, it was a

SI_RHH4-02
cont.

1 dollar and a half per acre foot. And that's around --
2 300,000 gallons is an acre foot. It's 43,500 -- or
3 anyway, it's a lot of water at a very low price per
4 gallon.

5 Tuolumne County is so poor that this county,
6 as of the 1st of July, had to close its county hospital
7 because it doesn't have the money. Some of the money
8 that San Francisco gets from selling the water should
9 come to Tuolumne County.

10 Thank you.

11 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Doris -- sorry.

12 DORIS GRINN: It's Doris Grinn, P.O. Box 3053,
13 Sonora.

14 And I want to commend all of the very
15 informative, intelligent, and stimulating comments that
16 are made today.

17 And I'm very disappointed that San Francisco
18 was putting these time limits on, holding up the little
19 cards, pressuring, forcing everybody to triage their
20 presentation. And then we have all this extra time
21 afterwards.

22 I really feel you people need to hear us, not
23 cut us off with little timers. This is an issue for
24 us. It's an issue that you folks should be listening
25 to, not cutting us off, not saying, "Oh, sorry. It's

1 time for you to stop." And then for us to have time
2 left afterwards -- it's obviously poor planning for
3 moderating.
4 So I think, if we have any more of these, you
5 need to just listen to what people have to say.
6 Thank you.
7 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Anyone else who would like to
8 speak tonight?
9 (No response)
10 DIANA SOKOLOVE: So again we'll be providing
11 responses to your comments in writing.
12 I'm sorry. We do have one more speaker. Any
13 others?
14 DOLORES BOUTIN: Dolores Boutin again.
15 Basically, it gets down to my wondering why is
16 San Francisco asking for this extra amount of water?
17 Because they can get it through the recycling; that's
18 in the report. There are other alternatives. That's
19 in the report.
20 The only thing I can figure out is, you ask
21 for as much as you possibly can in hopes that you'll
22 get something and that nobody will pay any attention.
23 You ask for the extra amount of water so that you can
24 sell it so you can make more money. You can sell the
25 electricity; you can sell the water. That's it. Just

1 plain rip off.
2 Thank you.
3 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Anyone else?
4 (No response)
5 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Well, thanks again for coming,
6 and thanks for those who spoke. And have a good
7 evening.
8 (Whereupon, the proceedings concluded
9 at 7:47 o'clock p.m.)
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1 STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
2 COUNTY OF MARIN) ss.

3 I, DEBORAH FUQUA, a Certified Shorthand
4 Reporter of the State of California, do hereby certify
5 that the foregoing proceedings were reported by me, a
6 disinterested person, and thereafter transcribed under
7 my direction into typewriting and is a true and correct
8 transcription of said proceedings.

9 I further certify that I am not of counsel or
10 attorney for either or any of the parties in the
11 foregoing proceeding and caption named, nor in any way
12 interested in the outcome of the cause named in said
13 caption.

14 Dated the 13th day of September, 2007.

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DEBORAH FUQUA
CSR NO. 12948

12.6-27

PUBLIC HEARING TRANSCRIPT

Modesto, California

**Thomas Downey High School, Modesto, California
September 6, 2007**

(PH Modesto)

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PUBLIC HEARING
DRAFT PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION'S
PROPOSED WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

THOMAS DOWNEY HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA
1000 COFFEE ROAD
MODESTO, CALIFORNIA
6:30 P.M.
SEPTEMBER 6, 2007

REPORTED BY: DEBORAH FUQUA, CSR #12948

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APPEARANCES

DIANA SOKOLOVE, SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER
San Francisco Planning Department
Major Environmental Analysis Division
(Moderator)

KELLEY CAPONE and HEATHER POHL
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

JOYCE HSIAO, DEPUTY PROJECT MANAGER
ESA + Orion Consultant Team

ALFRED WILLIAMS, PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT COORDINATOR
Alfred Williams Consultancy

12.6-29

1
2 PUBLIC SPEAKERS
3 Meg Gonzalez Eric Wesselman
4 Nicole Sandkulla Walt Ward
5 Darryl Bramlette Jean Taylor
6 Noah Hughes Sandra Wilson
7 Patrick Koepele
8 ---o0o---

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1 Thursday, September 6, 2007 6:28 o'clock p.m.
2 ---o0o---
3 P R O C E E D I N G S
4 ALFRED WILLIAMS: Good evening, ladies and
5 gentlemen. I'd like to ask you to take a seat, please.
6 We want to get started with the program.
7 Good evening, and welcome to the public
8 hearing for the San Francisco Planning Department on
9 the Draft Program Environmental Impact Report on the
10 San Francisco Public Utilities Commission's Proposed
11 Water System Improvement Program.
12 The program this evening is going to be
13 moderated by Diana Sokolove, who is a senior
14 environmental planner for the San Francisco Planning
15 Department.
16 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Hi. Good evening, and welcome to
17 tonight's public hearing on the Water System
18 Improvement Program. My name is Diana Sokolove, and
19 I'm the senior environmental planner with the San
20 Francisco Planning Department, and I'll be the
21 moderator for tonight's hearing.
22 And I also just want to introduce some key
23 folks who are working on the program and also on the
24 environmental review process.
25 Kelly Capone, who's in the back over there, is

1 with the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission.
2 She's working on the program. And Heather Pohl is also
3 with the PUC working on the program. And they are
4 certainly available to answer any questions you may
5 have after the formal portion of the hearing.

6 And I just want to introduce to you Joyce
7 Hsiao, who is with the ESA + Orion consultant team.
8 And she can help you navigate through the document a
9 little bit if you have questions.

10 And there's some public involvement folks
11 around to help you with speaker cards and help direct
12 you in any other way. Al Williams is over here; he'll
13 be collecting the cards.

14 Just so you know, this is one of five public
15 hearings that we're holding on the Water System
16 Improvement Program, Program Environmental Impact
17 Report. We had one last night in Sonora and we're
18 going to have a few more. And we'll be providing the
19 same opportunity to comment and the same information at
20 each hearing.

21 So here's our agenda for tonight. Sorry the
22 screen might be a little hard to see because of the
23 sun, but I'm just going to make a few opening remarks,
24 and then we're going to open it up quickly for public
25 comment.

1 Just some meeting reminders, hopefully when
2 you came in, you signed in at the front table. That's
3 really our only way to keep in touch with you. So
4 hopefully you signed your name legibly and clearly.

5 And if you do plan on speaking tonight, please
6 fill out a speaker card. They're available at the
7 front table, and also folks around here have some more,
8 so if you need one, please ask.

9 And another item you may wish to pick up is a
10 comment form, just looks like this (indicating). So if
11 you want to make comments on the document, you can drop
12 this off with me tonight, or you can leave them at the
13 front table where you came into the room, or you can
14 always mail it in later. And also if you -- should you
15 decide that you'd like to get a CD of the document,
16 just write that on the bottom of the comment form, and
17 we'll be sure to mail that to you.

18 Restrooms are located over here to my right,
19 "boys" and "girls." And also, please, if you don't
20 mind, turn off your cell phones and pagers. And if you
21 do need to take a call, if you'd be so kind as to step
22 outside the room, we'd appreciate it.

23 Also, we do have a court reporter here this
24 evening who is transcribing the hearing, and the
25 transcript will become part of the public record for

1 hearing.

2 And so the purpose, why we are here tonight,
3 this is a hearing to receive your comments on the
4 adequacy and accuracy of the environmental impact
5 report, or the EIR, for the Water System Improvement
6 Program.

7 During the public comment portion of the
8 hearing, we're not here to answer your comments or
9 respond to your comments. We can help you and respond
10 to comments and your questions after the hearing is
11 over, but technically we're going to be taking your
12 comments and responding to them formally in writing in
13 a comment and responses document.

14 Also, this is not a hearing to consider
15 whether the Public Utilities Commission should approve
16 or disapprove or modify the proposed program. So
17 please direct your comments to the adequacy of the
18 environmental impact report.

19 Here is where you can submit written comments
20 (indicating). And also, if you picked up an agenda for
21 tonight's hearing, the address to submit written
22 comments is on that agenda. So you don't have to take
23 all this down, but here is the information for you.
24 And the Planning Department will accept comments
25 through close of business at 5:00 p.m. on October 1st.

1 The draft program EIR is available for viewing
2 at the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission and
3 also at the San Francisco Planning Department. It's
4 also available at several public libraries throughout
5 the study area, and it's also available on line. And
6 the addresses of where you can view the Program
7 Environmental Impact Report are also on the agenda.

8 Here's our schedule. We have a 90-day public
9 review period from June 29th through October 1st of
10 2007. Several public hearings in September -- one
11 tonight in Modesto, and then we'll be going to
12 Fremont, Palo Alto, and then in front of the San
13 Francisco Planning Commission in San Francisco.

14 Then we'll be preparing responses, written
15 responses, to all of your comments. And that will be
16 in the form of a comments and responses document, which
17 we hope to publish in the spring of 2008. And we will
18 been certifying the program environmental impact report
19 in front of the San Francisco Planning Commission also
20 in the spring.

21 So now, we are ready to open the floor for
22 comments. Just a few notes, as I've already noted
23 tonight, this is a hearing on the draft program
24 environmental impact report, not necessarily here to
25 decide whether to approve or modify the proposed

12.6-32

1 program.

2 Also, again, please submit a speaker card if
3 you would like to speak tonight. And I'll be calling
4 names off of those cards. So when I call your name,
5 please step up to the microphone, state your name, and
6 please state your address for the record as slowly and
7 clearly as you can.

8 And also, we'll be keeping track of time.
9 Although I realize that you may have more to share than
10 three minutes will allow, please limit your comments to
11 three minutes. If we have some more time at the end,
12 we can call you back up. I just want to make sure
13 everybody has a chance to speak and everybody gets home
14 at a reasonable hour tonight.

15 And Al Williams will be holding up cards to
16 let you know how much time you have left. So if he
17 holds up a "2," you have two minutes left.

18 So anyone else who hasn't submitted a speaker
19 card who wants to speak?

20 (No response)

21 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Well, I don't have that many
22 speakers tonight, so I just want to offer, if you want
23 to take a little bit more time than three minutes, I'm
24 sure we'll be able to accommodate you.

25 So the first speaker I have on my list is Meg

1 Gonzalez.

2 MEG GONZALEZ: Okay. Meg Gonzalez, 1000 SI_TRT4
3 Wellington Drive, Modesto, California.

4 I'm the director of Community Outreach and
5 Education Tuolumne River Trust. Since our organization
6 is going to be submitting written comment on this
7 proposal or on this draft PEIR and other staff here
8 tonight are going to address some of the technical
9 aspects of this report, I thought that I'd take the
10 opportunity to highlight some of the positive actions
11 that are take place along the Lower Tuolumne River.

12 These are locally supported initiatives
13 designed to restore some of the ecological integrity of
14 the river that has been lost over time and to preserve
15 the qualities of this local gem that enhances the
16 livability of surrounding communities.

17 Such efforts would inevitably be undermined
18 and potentially derailed by the Water System
19 Improvement Plan being considered tonight. So anyone
20 that's been down to the river here in Modesto, you can
21 tell just by looking at it that it's not in a pristine
22 state. Indeed, spawning salmon populations are at an
23 all-time low. Riparian habitat loss has been extensive
24 and water quality compromised.

25 That said, the past decade has seen a flurry

SI_TRT4-01

1 of efforts to restore the river's natural environment
 2 and enhance recreational opportunities for surrounding
 3 communities.

4 The Lower Tuolumne River Parkway is collection
 5 of projects stretching from LaGrange Dam to the river's
 6 confluence with the San Joaquin River. The parkway
 7 combines private and public restoration activities to
 8 enhance habitat and provide public use opportunities
 9 that are compatible with existing private interests.

10 The Trust recently celebrated the completion
 11 of one of its projects on the lower river: a 250-acre
 12 floodplain restoration project at the river's Big Bend.
 13 The City of Modesto Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood
 14 Department is completing the first phase of the
 15 Tuolumne Regional River Park that will enhance the
 16 community's access to and enjoyment of the river as it
 17 runs through the park in Modesto.

18 The cities of Ceres and Waterford are also
 19 working on the development of their own river parkways.
 20 Such initiatives have caught the attention of local,
 21 state, and government officials. Senator Barbara
 22 Boxer, Congressman Dennis Cardoza and Assemblyman Tom
 23 Berryhill have all pledged political and financial
 24 support to this work.

25 Another exciting project is the Trekking the

1 Tuolumne Outdoor Education Program, a California
 2 science-standards-based initiative that teaches
 3 literally thousands of elementary school children about
 4 the Tuolumne River. One of the most important messages
 5 that we hope the students take away from this
 6 experience is that of stewardship of the river, a
 7 lesson that the San Francisco's Public Utilities
 8 Commission can benefit from.

9 The Trust has recently published a document
 10 called "From the Tuolumne to the Tap," which presents
 11 overwhelming evidence that San Francisco's proposal to
 12 take more water is unfounded and unnecessary.

13 We need to keep the water in the Tuolumne
 14 River for its health and for the health of our
 15 communities.

16 Thank you.

17 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Nicole Sandkulla. **L_BAWSCA4**

18 NICOLE SANDKULLA: Thank you. Nicole Sandkulla,
 19 1155 Bovet Road, Suite 302, San Mateo, California
 20 94402. And I'm here on behalf of Art Jensen, General
 21 Manager of the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation
 22 Agency, who has a statement for you.

23 The San Francisco Draft Program Environmental
 24 Impact Report for its Water System Improvement Program
 25 is undergoing careful review by the Bay Area Water

12.6-34

1 Supply and Conservation Agency and its 27 member
2 agencies that purchase water from the San Francisco
3 Regional Water System for 1.7 million residents,
4 businesses, and communities in Alameda, Santa Clara and
5 San Mateo counties.

6 While BAWSCA's review of the draft EIR
7 continues, we find it to be a good, comprehensive
8 document, analyzing the environmental impacts and
9 program alternatives as required by law.

10 BAWSCA will submit written comments to correct
11 apparent errors and expand discussion of future water
12 demands, alternative water supplies, and water
13 conservation efforts.

14 One issue the PEIR should more clearly
15 emphasize is the critical importance of completing the
16 WSIP to protect the public health and safety of the
17 people that live in the Bay Area today.

L_BAWSCA4-01

18 Four active faults cross the major pipelines,
19 tunnels, and reservoirs that provide water to 2.5
20 million people in our counties and San Francisco.
21 There is a 60 percent probability that a major
22 earthquake will occur in the Bay Area between today and
23 2032.

24 Following a major earthquake the flow of water
25 to communities could be disrupted for 30 to 60 days.

1 The impacts to public health and safety would be
2 catastrophic. The economic impacts, not counting
3 injuries and loss of life, are estimated to be at least
4 seven times the cost of rebuilding the aging water
5 system.

6 The WSIP includes projected use for the
7 BAWSCA's member agencies. These agencies in Alameda,
8 San Mateo, and Santa Clara counties and their customers
9 are dedicated to conserving water and safeguarding the
10 environment.

11 Today the average resident in the service area
12 uses 15 percent less water per day than in 1986 and 23
13 percent less water than in 1976.

14 In the Bay Area, residential water use per
15 person is lower than the average for the State of
16 California. And residential water use per person in
17 the BAWSCA area is lower than the average for the Bay
18 Area. BAWSCA and its agencies actively support water
19 recycling to make the most effective use of limited
20 water supplies.

21 The water management issues addressed in the
22 draft program EIR are a longer term issue. The
23 projected growth is not going to happen tomorrow. The
24 earthquake might. Protecting existing people from a
25 known catastrophe that could result from highly

L_BAWSCA4-02

12.6-35

1 probably earthquakes is an urgent issue that the WSIP
2 is designed to address.

3 Thank you.

4 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Darryl Bramlette. C_BramID4

5 DARRYL BRAMLETTE: Darryl Bramlette, 7700 Ruth
6 Ridge Road, Jamestown, California, Tuolumne County.

7 I spoke last night at the meeting up in
8 Sonora. I didn't get a chance to compliment the team
9 on their report because it is an excellent report,
10 considering the task that they were given because,
11 actually, if you take a look at it, they were given a
12 task to do an environmental study on something that's
13 basically impossible because there is no more water
14 that people can get out of the Hetch Hetchy.

15 And the problem is, yes, San Francisco and the
16 Peninsula needs more water. So the money would have
17 been better spent if they'd have changed the project to
18 look for alternative sources.

19 San Francisco Bay is a source for water. And
20 the technology has moved out from about eight years ago
21 when we were talking about restoring and making a
22 principal supply for water in that area.

23 So I'm recommending very highly, and have done
24 so in the past, that San Francisco Utility Commission
25 actually do a study, environmental impact study, right

C_BramID4-01

1 in San Francisco on putting in desalination so that
2 they can have water for the future and Hetch Hetchy can
3 remain maybe the way it is today or maybe even better
4 because they would not have to have the flow of water
5 from the Tuolumne River.

C_BramID4-01
cont.

6 So in considering, I do appreciate their
7 responses to the environmental impact. But I think
8 it's against the wrong project, and I hope that they
9 get the chance to turn it around and do it
10 appropriately.

11 And I thank you for your time this evening,
12 and I thank the committee.

13 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Noah Hughes.

C_Hughe2

14 NOAH HUGHES: My name is Noah Hughes, and I'm at
15 20192 Gibbs Drive in Sonora, California 95370.

16 And I'd like to start out by saying thanks
17 again to you guys for allowing us to give our talk and,
18 in some cases twice -- last night's meeting and
19 tonight.

20 But I do have a little bit of dual
21 citizenship. I live in Sonora. I grew up in Modesto,
22 spent a lot of time on the Tuolumne River. And I work
23 down here at Modesto Junior College, where I teach a
24 class called "Earth Science."

25 One of the topics we talk about a lot in Earth C_Hughe2-01

12.6-36

1 Science is natural resources and the acquisition of
2 natural resources. And we sort of try to look at the
3 natural resources through the lens of sustainability.
4 So I would sort of like to echo the sentiment of a
5 previous speaker, Nicole Sandkulla, that we need
6 this -- this document to more accurately address public
7 health and safety of the WSIP.

8 However, in my opinion, when you look at this
9 through the lens of sustainability, by taking more
10 water from a finite resource and allowing yourself more
11 customers or more demand for that water, you have not
12 moved toward sustainability. And therefore, you have
13 not really addressed the long-term health and safety of
14 a community by taking a step away from sustainability.
15 By increasing demand and -- increasing demand on what's
16 already a very hard-working river, we sort of moved
17 away from that.

18 So examples of some cities that have actually
19 moved towards sustainability would be, for instance,
20 Seattle, where they have reduced withdrawals from local
21 rivers by 15 percent in the last 20 years while serving
22 20 percent more people. That creates more slack in the
23 system. That is safe. That is sustainability. It
24 rewards itself.

25 I would like that type of thing to be

C_Hughe2-01
cont.

1 addressed in the environmental impact report.

2 And another comment, again, good job on what
3 you guys have done, but it was sort of an impossible
4 task to evaluate the environmental impacts with a poor
5 data set to work with. One of the issues with data is
6 the resolution of your data. And the resolution of the
7 data that you are working with is too coarse. You are
8 using monthly mean flows from the Tuolumne, a monthly
9 average, if you will. And that cannot adequately
10 address the needs of the ecosystem up there
11 because it just takes a couple days without water to
12 start to impact the ecosystem systems, riparian
13 ecosystems, and the economy, based on recreation up
14 there.

15 So even though you might get a big flow later
16 on, so your monthly average looks pretty good, really
17 from an ecosystem environmental impact perspective,
18 your data is inadequate. So that is a serious flaw in
19 the environmental impact report.

20 So, thank you so much.

21 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Patrick Koepele.

SI_TRT5

22 PATRICK KOEPELE: My name is Patrick Koepele, and
23 I'm the Central Valley program director for the
24 Tuolumne River Trust at 829 - 13th Street in Modesto,
25 95354. I'm also a rafter. I've rafted on the Upper

C_Hughe2-01
cont.

C_Hughe2-02

1 Tuolumne, and I like to canoe quite a bit on the Lower
2 Tuolumne as well. And I wanted to thank you for coming
3 to Modesto to listen to our comments.

4 Those of us who rely on the Tuolumne River for
5 business, recreation, and personal renewal will suffer
6 greatly if San Francisco pursues their plans to divert
7 an additional 27 million gallons of water a day from
8 the river.

9 I'll focus my comments on the impacts we feel
10 the proposed withdrawals will have on the Tuolumne
11 River below Don Pedro Lake. On the Lower Tuolumne
12 River, many groups have come together to improve the
13 habitat for many species, but most notably Chinook
14 salmon. Several projects have been completed to date.

SI_TRT5-01

15 The river is in a state of transition but is
16 far from recovered. In fact, this past year saw only
17 625 Chinook salmon return to the Tuolumne, the lowest
18 number since 1994. This is sad for a river that for a
19 long time supported more than 60,000 fish annually and
20 has been the focus of so much restoration work.

21 Taking water from the river would be like
22 taking air from San Francisco. People need air, and
23 fish need water. Furthermore, steelhead trout have
24 been designated a threatened species by the National
25 Fisheries Service, and the Tuolumne River is habit for

SI_TRT5-02

1 these fish. Again, taking water from the Tuolumne
2 would harm these fish by negatively impacting
3 temperatures and reducing the frequency, duration, and
4 magnitude of high flows.

SI_TRT5-02
cont.

5 Finally, the riparian forest along the
6 Tuolumne River will also be negatively impacted by
7 reduction of flows. For example, cottonwood trees
8 require periodic inundation to help them spread their
9 seeds to germinate. Withdrawing more water from the
10 Tuolumne will reduce the frequency and duration of
11 inundation, thereby negatively impacting the riparian
12 corridor.

SI_TRT5-03

13 The proposed mitigation for this reduction of
14 water in the lower Tuolumne is inadequate and, frankly,
15 unmitigatable. While projects that add gravel and
16 reduce sedimentation are needed, they aren't the same
17 as fish and water. You can build miles of spawning
18 gravels, but if those gravels don't have water running
19 over them, they wouldn't produce more fish.

SI_TRT5-04

20 Instead of increasing withdrawals, we
21 encourage San Francisco and the entire Bay Area to show
22 leadership by implementing significant water
23 conservation measures.

SI_TRT5-05

24 As Noah Hughes mentioned, the Bay Area lags
25 behind other metropolitan areas, like Seattle and Los

12.6-38

1 Angeles, that are reducing water consumption even in
2 the face of growth. As a region known for a strong
3 environmental ethic, the Bay Area should be a leader in
4 water efficiency and conservation. Thank you.

SI_TRT5-05
cont.

5 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Eric Wesselman.

6 ERIC WESSELMAN: Eric Wesselman, Executive SI_TRT6
7 Director of the Tuolumne River Trust, 5915 Thornhill
8 Drive, Oakland, California, 95641.

9 As has been stated by other trust staff here
10 tonight, we will be providing thorough written comments
11 as well by the deadline date later this month, and
12 we're working on those now with our attorneys and
13 expert consultants and also provide I guess what we
14 determine to be overarching problems, flaws,
15 inadequacies with the draft EIR that -- I think point
16 to a number of them, then follow-up, detailed comments
17 that will be included in our statements.

18 No doubt -- at the outset, I would say that
19 there's no doubt that there's a need for this project
20 in the areas of repairs and retrofits and upgrades to
21 the Hetch Hetchy system and the San Francisco water
22 supply system and the infrastructure in the Bay Area.
23 That is, no doubt needed.

SI_TRT6-01

24 And the problem -- and especially for seismic
25 concerns. I think that the problem is that this poison

1 pill issue, increasing diversions from the Tuolumne
2 River by somewhere between 25 and 27 mgd -- which is,
3 by the way, one of problems with the draft PEIR,
4 there's different numbers there. And this poison pill
5 of increased diversions threatens to delay the needed
6 retrofits and upgrades to the system.

SI_TRT6-01
cont.

7 And speaking then specifically to the need for
8 the increase in diversions, that is not adequately
9 outlined or justified in the draft PEIR. And
10 primarily, this is because the -- I would say three
11 main -- well, because overall, the demand projections
12 for water in the Bay Area are inflated. I mean,
13 they're based on flawed data and analysis in three key
14 ways.

15 One, it doesn't factor the relation between
16 the price of water and demand for water. As price goes
17 up, we all know that the consumption of a product tends
18 to go down. And water is like that. It is elastic, or
19 certainly not inelastic.

SI_TRT6-02

20 Yet in the analysis, rather than treating
21 these demand projections, it has not considered the
22 relation to the rising price of water tripling over 15
23 years and the corresponding decreasing demand for
24 water. It didn't analyze that effect at all.

25 The second thing, it used allocated employment

1 projections that they -- they got from the Association
2 of Bay Area Governments for employment projections that
3 are inflated, and it's obvious they've sued the figures
4 from '02 that were then updated in '05. And it showed,
5 I think, it's 48,000 less or fewer jobs in the Bay
6 Area. And that would result in another lower projected
7 demand for water in that time period.

8 So that, in going from draft to final, they
9 should incorporate the latest employment projections
10 and then alter the water demand projections
11 accordingly.

12 Third, there's an increase in per capita
13 demand which is simply out of step. And it
14 demonstrates inefficient use of water and of a resource
15 that's held in public trust. So increase in per capita
16 use, that's not a justifiable relief for the project
17 specifically meaning the 25 mgd.

18 Second, and another category of problems is
19 this analogy about known impact assessment for
20 analysis. Looking at the baseline problems that Noah
21 Hughes brought up, there hasn't been an adequate study
22 of the watershed for years and years.

23 In fact, it's been 15 years since there was
24 even a draft study of the status of the watershed put
25 out. And the draft EIR references and relies on that



SI_TRT6-02
cont.

SI_TRT6-03

1 study a lot. And that's problematic because it's old,
2 and it was never even finished. So you can't know what
3 the impacts are. You can't adequately analyze the
4 impacts of the project if you don't know your starting
5 point. You don't know where you're going unless you
6 know your history. So without adequate baseline data,
7 the EIR is inadequate. End of story.

8 The third key point, the EIR didn't adequately
9 factor in legal obligations. TID and MID have been
10 covering fish recovery flows for years. The San
11 Francisco PUC has been paying TID to do this. There's
12 no -- the EIR assumes that this will continue. But to
13 our knowledge, there's no written contract or no
14 agreement between irrigation districts and San
15 Francisco that this is going to continue. So that
16 means San Francisco needs to provide this water, and
17 that would cause a problem with taking even more water
18 off the river.

19 Another one is the impacts in the Delta. The
20 Tuolumne flows into the San Joaquin. The San Joaquin
21 flows into the San Francisco Bay Delta, which we all
22 know is in crisis. And the EIR doesn't adequately
23 analyze the impacts to the Delta. And San Francisco
24 likes to ignore that it has any relationship to the
25 Delta, of course, because they don't want to get caught



SI_TRT6-03
cont.

SI_TRT6-04

SI_TRT6-05

12.6-41

1 through it. It's a recreational thing that -- you
2 can't use it now. It's horrible. How can the fish
3 survive in it? I'm just very concerned about the
4 condition of the river and that something needs to be
5 done that they don't take more water from it.

↑
C_TaylorJ-01
cont.
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6 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Sandra Wilson. **SI_SierraC2**

7 SANDRA WILSON: Hi. My name is Sandra Wilson, I
8 live at 704 Tokay Avenue, Modesto 95350. I'm the chair
9 of the local Sierra Club, and we'll be providing more
10 detailed comments. But I did want to bring up a few
11 things. I go to a lot of sprawl meetings. And I'm
12 constantly told -- ask the question, "Why do we have to
13 grow?"

14 And I'm constantly told that it's because San
15 Francisco and the Bay Area has stopped growing. So it
16 brings up the question, "Why do we need to give them 27
17 million gallons of water out of the Tuolumne when we
18 stand to lose a great deal?"

19 As part of the Sierra Club, I lead hikes along
20 the Tuolumne. And I also do a salmon walk. Last year,
21 we were very hard pressed to find the salmon to show
22 people. I think we found a dead one. But last year,
23 there were record lows. So there's a lot of concern
24 about the salmon and the rest of the wildlife. If the
25 river dries up, what happens to the otters that you see

↑
SI_SierraC2-
01
↓

1 up around LaGrange? There are so many things that
2 depend on the river today.

3 Also, as a community, here in Stanislaus
4 County, we have put a lot of time and money and energy
5 into creating a regional park, a Tuolumne River
6 Regional Park, a park that revolves around the river.
7 And what do we lose? What is our environmental impact
8 if we have the Tuolumne Ditch Regional Park because we
9 don't have enough water left? I mean, it just doesn't
10 seem like -- you know, what happens to all the years of
11 planning and the time and the energy and money that
12 we've put into building a park like this, if we're
13 going to lose the river, and the benefits that it
14 provides our community.

↑
SI_SierraC2-
01 cont.
↓

15 The river also flows down into San Joaquin
16 Wildlife Refuge. And we've spent a lot of money there.
17 And the wildlife refuge plans to grow. And one of its
18 concerns is water. Losing more water is going to
19 affect the marsh habitat that's need for migrating
20 birds. That whole park was created for the Aleutian
21 geese, which are going extinct because of losing
22 migrating habitat for winter feeding. What happens to
23 the birds in the park?

24 Those are all things that need to be
25 addressed.

12.6-42

1 And also, I think it's really unfair not to
2 consider the Delta in this. Just last week we had a
3 court case on Grant [phonetic] Damn upheld. We need to
4 consider the water in the Delta because the water in
5 the Delta provides the basic food that the salmon need
6 before they swim upstream into the Tuolumne to spawn.
7 So if you don't take that into account, you're really
8 not addressing the salmon population on the Tuolumne
9 River.

SI_SierraC2-02

10 So for us, another area that I think is
11 important to consider is global warming. We've seen a
12 lot of changes in our weather. You know, we're just
13 not getting the snow pack that we used to get. How
14 does that affect our overall water supplies running
15 into Hetch Hetchy Reservoir? I still think you ought
16 to be taking this further and looking at other ways of
17 providing the needs of San Francisco.

SI_SierraC2-03

18 San Francisco is the wealthiest -- one of the
19 wealthiest cities in the entire country. Yet here they
20 are in this situation. They stand to take so much from
21 us and Stanislaus County and the people living all up
22 and down the Tuolumne River and, of course, all the
23 wildlife and the animals that, for us -- you know, it's
24 a limited resource. And once it's gone, it doesn't
25 come back.

1 So I'd ask you to take all of these things
2 into account.

3 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Is there anyone else who hasn't
4 spoken who wants to speak tonight?

5 (No response)

6 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Anyone else who has spoken who
7 wants to speak again?

8 (No response.)

9 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Okay. Well, thank you for coming
10 tonight, and thank you for your comments, and thanks to
11 everyone who spoke.

12 Again, here's where you can submit written
13 comments (indicating). And have a good evening.

14 (Whereupon, the proceedings concluded
15 at 7:06 o'clock p.m.)
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1 STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
) ss.
2 COUNTY OF MARIN)

3 I, DEBORAH FUQUA, a Certified Shorthand
4 Reporter of the State of California, do hereby certify
5 that the foregoing proceedings were reported by me, a
6 disinterested person, and thereafter transcribed under
7 my direction into typewriting and is a true and correct
8 transcription of said proceedings.

9 I further certify that I am not of counsel or
10 attorney for either or any of the parties in the
11 foregoing proceeding and caption named, nor in any way
12 interested in the outcome of the cause named in said
13 caption.

14 Dated the 16th day of September, 2007.

15

16

17 DEBORAH FUQUA

18 CSR NO. 12948

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12.6-43

PUBLIC HEARING TRANSCRIPT

Fremont, California

**Fremont Main Library, Fremont, California
September 18, 2007**

(PH Fremont)

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PUBLIC HEARING
DRAFT PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION'S
PROPOSED WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

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REPORTED BY: DEBORAH FUQUA, CSR #12948

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APPEARANCES

DIANA SOKOLOVE, SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER
San Francisco Planning Department
Major Environmental Analysis Division
(Moderator)

KELLEY CAPONE and HEATHER POHL
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

LESLIE MOULTON, PROJECT MANAGER
ESA + Orion Consultant Team

PUBLIC SPEAKERS

John Cant	Robert Means
Dave Ellison	William Noren
Eric Wesselman	Kirsten Keith
Jeff Miller	Lech Naumovich

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12.6-45

1 Tuesday, September 18th, 2007 6:30 o'clock p.m.

2 ---o0o---

3 P R O C E E D I N G S

4 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Okay. Folks, we're going to get
5 started. Thanks for coming tonight. Good evening. My
6 name is Diana Sokolove, and I'm a senior environmental
7 planner with the San Francisco Planning Department.
8 The Planning Department is the lead agency under CEQA
9 for preparation of the environmental document on the
10 Water System Improvement Program, and the San Francisco
11 Public Utilities Commission is the project sponsor. We
12 are two different departments in two separate entities.

13 I'm going to be the moderator for tonight's
14 meeting, and I just want to introduce some other folks
15 who are here with us tonight. Kelly Capone is the
16 environmental project manager with the San Francisco
17 Public Utilities Commission. She's at the back of the
18 room. With her is Heather Pohl, also with the PUC.
19 And they're available after the hearing to answer any
20 questions you may have about the proposed program.

21 Leslie Moulton is the project manager for the
22 ESA + Orion joint venture, the consultant team for the
23 environmental impact report.

24 And we have some public involvement folks
25 here, also with the San Francisco Public Utilities

1 Commission. Jim Marks is here in the audience, and
2 there's some other folks here too.

3 Actually, if the public involvement folks --
4 you may want to stand up and just let folks know who
5 you are.

6 And those folks can help answer questions
7 after the hearing.

8 So this is one of five public hearings on the
9 Water System Improvement Program, Program Environmental
10 Impact Report. And we are essentially providing the
11 same information at every public hearing, although you
12 are more than welcomed to attend each one.

13 Here's our agenda for tonight (indicating).
14 Just to provide some quick introductory remarks, and
15 then we'll open up the hearing for public comment.

16 Some meeting reminders. Hopefully you signed
17 in when you came in and you took some copies of our
18 hand-outs, such as our meeting agenda, which has the
19 information where you can submit comments on the
20 environmental impact report. And please do submit a
21 speaker card if you want to speak tonight. This is
22 what it looks like (indicating). And you can submit
23 them to Andrea here at the computer.

24 And also, you may also wish to pick up a
25 comment form. And that's what this looks like. It's a

1 comment card. If you want to submit written comments
2 tonight, this is an opportunity for you to do that.
3 And you can give them to me personally, or you can just
4 leave them in the box here.

5 Restrooms are located out this door and to the
6 right. And also, if you wouldn't mind please turning
7 off your cell phones and pagers and just to make sure
8 that, if you want to take a call, you step outside the
9 room. I'm sure everybody would really appreciate that.

10 Again, be sure no food or drink other than
11 water in this room. And as you see, we do have a court
12 reporter here this evening who is taking a formal
13 transcript of the proceedings. And the transcript will
14 become part of the public record for this environmental
15 impact report.

16 We are here tonight to receive your comments
17 on the adequacy and accuracy of the environmental
18 impact report and the Water System Improvement Program.
19 Your comments will be transcribed and responded to
20 formally in a comments-and-responses document prepared
21 by the San Francisco Planning Department. And we are
22 not here to answer your questions tonight as part of
23 the formal public hearing, but we can try to answer
24 some of your questions after the formal public portion
25 of the meeting has closed.

1 Again, this is not a hearing to consider
2 approval or disapproval of the proposed program. That
3 hearing will be held by the San Francisco Public
4 Utilities Commission following the final program
5 environmental impact report certification hearing,
6 which is presided over by the San Francisco Planning
7 Commission.

8 Here's where you can submit written comments
9 on the environmental impact report (indicating). And
10 again, if you picked up an agenda, that information is
11 also on the agenda. And a reminder that the Planning
12 Department, my department, will accept comments by
13 close of business on October 1st. The environmental
14 impact report is available on line. It's also
15 available in print at the Planning Department and at
16 the Public Utilities Commission and at several
17 libraries throughout the program study area, including
18 the Fremont Main Library here.

19 And if you would like a copy of the
20 environmental impact report on CD, that's something
21 that you can put on this comment form and just let us
22 know and we can mail you one.

23 Here is an overview of our schedule, our
24 environmental review schedule (indicating). We are
25 holding a 90-day public review period starting June

12.6-47

1 29th through October 1st of this year and, again, five
2 public hearings. Tonight, we're in Fremont. We'll be
3 in Palo Alto tomorrow night. And on Thursday we'll be
4 at the San Francisco Public Utilities -- I'm sorry --
5 the San Francisco Planning Commission.

6 And if you haven't seen it already, the agenda
7 for the Planning Commission hearing is up on the Web.
8 It has been released, and there's a time certain for
9 5:00 p.m. And all that really means is that we won't
10 be starting the hearing on the document before 5:00
11 p.m., but it could start later than 5:00. So it just
12 means it won't start before 5:00.

13 We'll be preparing, as I mentioned, responses
14 to all of your comments. And we will hopefully release
15 that document, the comments and responses document, in
16 the spring of next year. And then the San Francisco
17 Planning Commission will hold a certification hearing
18 to consider whether to approve the adequacy and
19 accuracy of the environmental document.

20 So just some rules for the comments session
21 tonight. Again, please comment on the environmental
22 impact report, its accuracy, its adequacy. Please,
23 again, submit a speaker card to speak. And I will call
24 your names to come up to speak, and you can either
25 speak at the microphone up here at the front of the

1 room or we have a portable microphone that we can give
2 you. So wherever is most comfortable for you. And
3 when you come up to speak, please state your name and
4 your address for the record.

5 We do have a general standard of keeping your
6 comments limited to three minutes, but we don't have
7 that many speakers tonight. So just be as brief as you
8 can and consider your comments to be a summary of your
9 main verbal comments. And you can certainly submit
10 additional comments, written comments, to me or to the
11 environmental review officer through the 1st of
12 October.

C_Cant

13 So is the first speaker I have is John Cant.

14 JOHN CANT: I am John Cant. I live in Fremont.
15 And I seem to recall being in this room two years ago
16 on a very similar topic. And perhaps I'll sound the
17 same way as I did then.

18 My first major issue has to do with whether
19 the SFPUC -- which we all understand has to maintain
20 and improve a massive water supply system -- whether
21 the Commission is paying sufficient attention to
22 minimizing, insofar as possible, the demand for water
23 in the overpopulated Bay Area.

24 And I would submit that this is not happening
25 at all, that there is by far insufficient attention

C_Cant-01

1 being paid to conservation and efficiency of water use.
2 This can be done in metropolitan areas. It's being
3 done in Los Angeles. And I know Los Angeles has a lot
4 of guilt to atone for, but still, if Los Angeles can do
5 something in terms of efficiency and conservation, then
6 perhaps we, who are reputed to be more environmentally
7 sensitive, should do even better.

8 Also, I might call attention to the example of
9 Seattle, which has a much more enlightened approach to
10 acquisition and use of water. So this can be done. As
11 far as I can tell, the Commission is paying very little
12 attention to it.

13 As a minor example, when I water my garden --
14 which I do, I confess -- I am using water which I
15 believe 60 percent comes from the Sierra Nevada which,
16 to me, is obscene that we here in Fremont can be
17 watering our gardens, washing our cars, using a large
18 amount of water from the Sierra Nevada with no
19 recycling, no system for gray water. So that's my
20 first point.

21 My second has to do with the proposed -- or I
22 guess it's program environmental impact report. And
23 Chapter 6 deals with the habitat reserve program.

24 Now, I'm not debating whether the Commission
25 needs to pay attention to its facilities, make

C_Cant-01
cont.

C_Cant-02

1 improvements. There's going to be a lot of
2 construction, earth moving, and so on. And those are
3 bound to have negative environmental impacts. The
4 issue is whether they -- the proposal suggests adequate
5 mitigation.

6 And I'd like to call attention to, I think, an
7 important letter by Jeff Miller of the Alameda Creek
8 Alliance to Paul Maltzer of the San Francisco Planning
9 Division [sic], dated August 28th -- it's available
10 through the Alameda Creek Alliance website -- that
11 explains in considerable depth just why the Habitat
12 Reserve Program, whose aim is to mitigate impacts to
13 habitats for sensitive species, comes nowhere near
14 doing an adequate job. For one thing, the simple
15 acreage is not sufficient.

16 So to summarize, it seems to me we in the Bay
17 Area ought to figure out better ways and help the
18 Commission push us into those ways, push our more
19 recalcitrant neighbors into those ways of reducing
20 water use in spite of growth, which can be done, and
21 second, while working to maintain and safeguard the
22 water supply system, obviously important, that the
23 negative effects on the habitats that surround us in a
24 very ecologically diverse area, those negative effects
25 are dealt with properly.

C_Cant-02
cont.

C_Cant-03

12.6-49

1 Thank you.

2 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Dave Ellison. C_Ellis

3 DAVE ELLISON: Good evening. I live here in

4 Fremont, and I recognize the need to upgrade our -- to

5 give us all water and to make it seismically safe. But

6 I have hiked the Tuolumne River, and I've rafted it and

7 seen the flora and the fauna that it sustains. And I'm

8 concerned about taking more water out of it, especially

9 since this morning, as always, I was at my local

10 health, club and after I swam, I went into the shower,

11 and I lathered up. Then I turned on the water and

12 turned the water off.

13 Meanwhile, when I walked in there were about

14 eight people in the same room just standing there,

15 leaving the water running. They were there when I

16 arrived; they were still there when I left. I went out

17 to the sinks to shave, and I sort of, you know, rinse

18 off my razor, turn the water off, shave, rinse off my

19 razor. Meanwhile, the gentlemen on either side just

20 flipped the taps and let the water run.

21 I see when I go for walks in the evenings

22 where water -- you know, gallons and gallons and

23 gallons of water that was supposed to be irrigating

24 grass is just going right down into the sewer because

25 it's just left running or something is broken or what

C_Ellis-01

1 have you.

2 I guess I just echo my predecessor's comments.

3 Before we go upsetting yet another pristine wilderness,

4 maybe we should look at our own habits, and maybe part

5 of this plan should be an outreach to us to educate us

6 that water is not an unlimited -- in unlimited supply.

7 And if we just changed our habits, we wouldn't need all

8 that new water.

9 Thank you.

10 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Eric Wesselman. SI_TRT7

11 ERIC WESSELMAN: Thanks. Hi, Eric Wesselman,

12 executive director of the Tuolumne River Trust based

13 out of San Francisco, Modesto, and Sonora.

14 I thought I'd start by saying the WSIP

15 certainly includes a number of necessary projects --

16 seismic upgrades, retrofits, and repairs on the

17 system -- that we've got to move forward on and move

18 forward quickly.

19 Unfortunately, the WSIP also includes a

20 proposal to take more water out of our natural

21 environment for use here in the Bay Area; 25 million

22 gallons per day would come from the wild and scenic

23 Tuolumne River. So the Tuolumne River already supplies

24 more than half the river's volume for rural and urban

25 uses. In other words, the majority of the river is

C_Ellis-01 cont.

SI_TRT7-01

1 already diverted. So taking more water from this wild
2 and scenic river will do more harm to the environment,
3 which is simply unacceptable at this point. We should
4 be talking about putting more water back into the
5 environment.

SI_TRT7-01
cont.

6 And while I'm concerned about impacts to the
7 Tuolumne River, I'm also concerned about redirected
8 impacts to other watersheds. If we don't take more
9 water from the Tuolumne, where else does it come from?

10 Well, our answer is that it should come from
11 conservation, recycling, and other efficient, sort of
12 water-smart, sustainable measures, which are abundant
13 and plentiful and cost effective in this day and age.
14 We're not in the last century anymore.

SI_TRT7-02

15 More to the point, this draft EIR doesn't
16 adequately define the need for this increased
17 diversion. The science behind the increase in demand
18 for the Bay Area, these 28 wholesale customers, is
19 based on really flawed and flimsy and terrible science
20 provided by the SFPUC and their 28 wholesale customers.

SI_TRT7-03

21 And to point out, and foremost, we're dealing
22 with a situation where the relationship between price
23 and demand wasn't analyzed at all. So as price goes
24 up, which the SFPUC indicates will more than triple
25 over the next 12 years, that's going to have an impact

1 on demand. There's a relationship between price and
2 demand. It's not inelastic. So as price goes up,
3 demand will go down. By how much? We don't know
4 because it wasn't analyzed in the demand projections.
5 That's a technical flaw that makes this EIR inaccurate.

SI_TRT7-03
cont.

6 Secondly, the SFPUC conducted its own study
7 just last year that found that the vast majority of
8 their projected increase in demand could be met through
9 efficiency, conservation, and recycling. Yet that
10 study wasn't relied on at all in the draft EIR or in
11 the reformulation of the new demand projections.

SI_TRT7-04

12 And thirdly, the demand projections rely on
13 out-dated employment projections from the Association
14 of Bay Area Governments. They used 2002 data for their
15 job employment growth. Now, in 2005, ABAG re-released
16 that data, and it was adjusted downward by tens of
17 thousands of jobs. So if you have less jobs, you have
18 less growth in water demand in the commercial sector.
19 Ergo, the demand projections should be adjusted
20 downward accordingly. Yet nothing was done when the
21 draft EIR analyzed these inflated demand projections.

SI_TRT7-05

22 And fourthly, just out of principle, we're
23 talking about an increase in per capita demand. So not
24 only is the area's water use in the
25 28-wholesale-customer region projected to increase,

SI_TRT7-06

1 it's projected to increase per person.
 2 So this is unacceptable in this day and age.
 3 We should be becoming more efficient, using less water
 4 per person to do the same thing, through efficiency.
 5 It's like driving a hybrid car cross-country versus an
 6 SUV. You get the job done. You still get across the
 7 country. You just use less resources to do it. It's
 8 the same thing with efficiency. So we should be
 9 looking at decreasing per capita water use, not
 10 increasing it.

SI_TRT7-06
cont.

11 The DPEIR also failed to assess the
 12 environmental impacts of taking more water off the
 13 Tuolumne River. In a couple of key areas, this is
 14 true. First, there's no adequate baseline defined for
 15 the current environmental status of the Tuolumne
 16 watershed. So there were no studies done or the
 17 studies were done more than a decade and a half ago and
 18 were never completed. So we don't know what the
 19 current status is.

SI_TRT7-07

20 So how can you forecast and figure out what
 21 the environmental implications or impacts will be
 22 taking of taking more water out of the system? If you
 23 don't know where you're coming from, you don't know
 24 where you're going. So that needs to be done. We need
 25 to have an adequate baseline first.

1 Secondly, we're dealing with a subjective
 2 definition of what constitutes a significant
 3 environmental impact in the draft EIR. Significant
 4 impacts should be defined with measurable and
 5 quantifiable criteria. And by having loosey-goosey,
 6 quite frankly, terms and a subjective definition of
 7 what constitutes a significant impact, the DPEIR fails
 8 in that area. It is inadequate. It needs to be
 9 quantifiable.

SI_TRT7-08

10 Thirdly, global warming was not -- was never
 11 really evaluated at all. It's mentioned in the draft
 12 document, but it was really -- it was a punt. It's
 13 hard to analyze, and a lot of things are hard to
 14 analyze. It's hard to analyze and project what future
 15 water demand is going to be in the year 2030. And if
 16 we think we can do that, then we need to also
 17 adequately analyze what we think is going to happen due
 18 to global warming. There's a lot of climate models out
 19 there. You run them a few hundred times, get some good
 20 data. And that wasn't done at all.

SI_TRT7-09

21 And instead, the Planning Department, SFPUC,
 22 and the wholesale customers relied on hydrologic data
 23 from the last 82 years. While that's necessary and
 24 important in a useful data set to include in models,
 25 it -- the planning document didn't look at the trends

12.6-52

1 in that data, didn't look at what happened over those
2 82 years. Were there trends towards decreasing Sierra
3 snowpack at that time? What other trends should be
4 noted about our water supply in the Sierras?

5 In addition, it doesn't look at climate
6 change, because we know that in the last 82 years what
7 happened is not what's going to happen over the next 82
8 years because of a whole host of things, most notably,
9 I'd argue, due to global warming, which will have an
10 impact on the Sierra snowpack. We all know it. It's
11 going to change the hydrologic nature of this
12 watershed.

13 And then on a subjective note, the SFPUC and
14 the wholesale customers are now talking about
15 increasing their reliance on the Sierra -- on the
16 source out of the Sierra Nevada at a time when we know
17 it's going to be less reliable, less sustainable
18 because of global warming and a whole host of other
19 issues.

20 So I'll stop there and look forward to **SI_ACA2**
21 providing written comments. Thanks for the extra time.

22 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Jeff Miller.

23 JEFF MILLER: Hi. Jeff Miller. I'm the director
24 of the Alameda Creek Alliance, and we've been working
25 since 1997 to restore Alameda Creek. And we now have

SI_TR7-09
cont.

1 over 1400 members that live in and near the watershed.
2 And I'm going to comment mostly on Sunol Valley
3 projects that have to do with Alameda Creek and
4 particularly the fishery issues.

5 And looking through the programmatic EIR, the
6 main comment is that there's a couple projects in
7 particular that we're concerned about, Calaveras Dam
8 obviously being in largest one, that's the primary
9 water source from Alameda Creek and the largest
10 infrastructure project that's being contemplated.

11 Currently the PUC diverts, by its
12 calculations, 86 percent of all stream flows in the
13 Upper Alameda Creek Watershed into its water system.
14 So that doesn't leave a lot for fish and wildlife. And
15 under the Calaveras Dam project in the EIR, the PUC is
16 claiming no impact to steelhead because they're not
17 back in the system yet. Well, downstream, a couple
18 agencies are working on fish passage projects. Our
19 main barrier to steelhead in the flood control
20 channel -- two agencies just signed an agreement to try
21 complete that project by 2010, which is before
22 construction of Calaveras Reservoir would begin.

23 So in our mind, looking at a long-term project
24 like this and operation of Calaveras Dam, there has to
25 be an analysis of impacts to steelhead in this EIR.

SI_ACA2-01

1 Also, there needs to be a commitment to
2 adequate stream flows for steelhead trout. There's
3 flows contemplated for resident fish which are not
4 going to be adequate for migratory fish. They're
5 certainly going to improve things for rainbow trout but
6 are not going to adequately address flow needs for
7 steelhead.

8 And another thing I'd point out, that obeying
9 current laws, such as Fish & Game codes requiring
10 minimum flows for native fish, is not an adequate
11 mitigation measure. That's compliance, not mitigation.
12 So the mitigation measures in there that merely
13 contemplate complying with laws that haven't been
14 complied with is not going to be adequate.

15 There's two projects in particular that are
16 disturbing because they actually propose increasing
17 diversion of water from Alameda Creek over what's
18 currently diverted, and that's the Calaveras Dam
19 project, where the Alameda diversion dam on Upper
20 Alameda Creek is contemplated to be operated in such a
21 way that it diverts nearly all of the flow from Upper
22 Alameda Creek.

23 And I'd point out that that's illegal, for one
24 thing, and also does not adequately analyze what the
25 impact is, nor mitigate it. And we're calling on the

SI_ACA2-01
cont.

1 PUC to actually remove the Alameda diversion dam.
2 And the other is the fishery enhancement
3 project, which is designed to recapture flows that are
4 anticipated to be released from Calaveras Reservoir.
5 This is the result of a legal settlement in the 1990s.
6 And these are flows that are contemplated for instream
7 fish -- so for rainbow trout. And the recapture
8 project, unfortunately, also includes a clause that
9 will have the PUC capturing their historic annual
10 diversions, including water they used to divert from
11 the Sunol filter galleries, which are no longer used,
12 which would probably dry up Alameda Creek below the
13 project site.

14 So these are both impacts that aren't
15 analyzed. And then lastly, I just want to put a pitch
16 in again for conservation, water recycling and
17 efficiency. And this needs to be done so that
18 additional water doesn't have to be taken from Alameda
19 Creek or from the Tuolumne.

20 Thank you.

21 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Robert Means.

22 ROBERT MEANS: Okay. This is starting to feel a
23 little bit like an experience I had nearly five or six
24 years ago with the BART extension where the experts
25 come in with their solution for how to do things and

SI_ACA2-01
cont.

SI_ACA2-02

C_Means2

12.6-54

1 they're not particularly interested in the public
2 comment because they know the way they want to do it.
3 But I'm here to give my public comment anyway.

4 The demand for this extra water coming from
5 Tuolumne, apparently, seems rather unjustified. We've
6 had a number of people talk about efficiency,
7 conservation, and recycling being the best solutions.
8 And my expertise comes from the energy and
9 transportation realms. And these three values of
10 efficiency, conservation, and recycling make so much
11 sense there that that's actually being implemented by
12 PG&E, who sells electricity. They're encouraging all
13 of us to put in CFL's and cut back on our usage because
14 they understand that, long-term, that's what makes the
15 most sense economically for them.

16 And then we get into our environmental
17 consequences and just the health effects from the
18 pollution from generating electricity, et cetera, in
19 this case, the health effects of the environment, of
20 taking yet more water. We're already taking -- what is
21 it 60 percent we're taking out? We're talking about
22 jerking that up to 66 percent of the water when we
23 could conserve and get that extra water that's
24 projected on what sounds like, maybe, faulty
25 projections.

C_Means2-01

1 I haven't had a chance to do the numbers, but
2 it seems to me that projecting -- what are we
3 talking -- 23 years out into the future is difficult to
4 start off with. But given that we've got major changes
5 coming down the pipeline, like global warming and
6 possible population collapse -- I'd encourage all you
7 folks to learn more about the 11th hour and some of the
8 other crises that we're facing in addition to global
9 warming -- we may not need all that water, especially
10 since, if we're actually -- we're expecting the water
11 use per capita to increase?

12 We're getting more efficient. We have been
13 getting more efficient. And we will continue to get
14 more efficient because it's cheaper to do it that way.
15 So focus on conservation, not on stealing some more
16 water from the river that -- who is that going to
17 really benefit, large corporations again? Who is
18 making these decisions? Is this another thing like the
19 Cheney Energy Task Force, where the decisions are made
20 by the corporations and then inflicted upon us?

21 Thank you for your time.

22 DIANA SOKOLOVE: William Noren.

23 WILLIAM NOREN: Thank you for this time. I
24 appreciate being able to stand up and talk to all my
25 fellow citizens here about the situation we find

C_Means2-02

C_Noren2

C_Noren2-01

1 ourselves in and again somebody trying to take our
 2 natural resources and use it in ways that we don't
 3 prefer to have them used. I hope a lot of you
 4 understand that we don't need to use nearly as much
 5 water as we do in our society, but because of the
 6 things our society believes we need to have, we just
 7 continue to use water the way we do.

8 There's been some experimental facilities for
 9 waste disposal, human waste disposal, that doesn't take
 10 any water. I lived that way in Australia for quite a
 11 while, in a city. This wasn't in the boonies in a hole
 12 in the ground or anything. And it's just a lifestyle
 13 change. It's an understanding. It's getting past our
 14 ignorance and "oh, it's going to smell." It's a place
 15 where water isn't that important to use for that
 16 particular thing. And also once you start doing that,
 17 you don't have to have these huge, massive facilities
 18 to clean the water because we didn't use it for that in
 19 the first place.

20 I grew up in Redwood City. And when I was a
 21 little boy, I used to go out in the creeks and catch
 22 frogs and look for snakes and all that kind of stuff.
 23 And I'd like for my son to do that. We live over in
 24 Niles, next to the creek. And right now, I don't feel
 25 comfortable him going in there, knowing what's floating

C_Noren2-01
cont.

1 around in the water, and knowing that there isn't
 2 adequate water flushed out of the system, what's being
 3 put on the land out there and what's being used.

4 So my big point is that, if we make decisions
 5 for ourselves and not let the people in charge who are
 6 making decisions downwards instead of coming upwards
 7 and looking towards the future, then we'll be allowing
 8 the future generations to use the resources the way
 9 that they'd like to see them instead of cutting them
 10 off now and not letting them have a say or even being
 11 able to participate in the wonderful nature that we
 12 have.

13 Over on the peninsula, they put almost all of
 14 the creeks underground. And where I grew up, there
 15 wouldn't be a chance for my son to play. So I think
 16 it's important that we do all that we can to make sure
 17 that the people making these decisions aren't doing it
 18 for the their own personal reasons or for the reasons
 19 of a very select few.

20 Thank you.

21 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Kristen Keith. L_Menlo2

22 KRISTEN KEITH: Good evening. My name is Kirsten
 23 Keith, and I'm here from Menlo Park. I'm the chair of
 24 the Menlo Park Planning Commission. And we're just
 25 trying to make sure that our city is also represented

C_Noren-01
cont.

1 and that we attend all these meetings and have a say.

2 And I want to encourage anybody who has not
3 read "Cadillac Desert" to go out and read it because
4 it's a great historical perspective on water in
5 California and across the West in our nation, and it's
6 well worth the read.

L_Menlo2-01

7 WILLIAM NOREN: Are you suggesting that they might
8 be doing another water grab, like they've documented in
9 that book?

10 KIRSTEN KEITH: I'm just saying that, if anybody
11 wants to get some background and information about
12 water politics, that this is a good book to read. And
13 it gives you a great overall perspective of water
14 politics in California and across the Western states.

L_Menlo2-01
cont.

15 So thanks.

16 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Is there anyone else who wants to
17 speak?

18 LECH NAUMOVICH: Sorry. I've come a little bit
19 late.

20 My name is Lech Naumovich, and I'm **SI_CNPS-EB2**
21 representing the California Native Plant Society. I'm
22 representing the East Bay Chapter, and we work in the
23 two-county area of Alameda and Contra Costa counties as
24 well as throughout the state of California. We have
25 about 10,000 members that are very active in

1 conservation issues.

2 And although this doesn't immediately seem
3 like a native plant issue, it's very germane to us.
4 First of all, I know this has been echoed -- this has
5 been said a number of times, and I want to echo it.
6 There's an alternative out there that talks about
7 aggressive conservation and water recycling and local
8 groundwater alternatives. And we fully support this
9 alternative.

SI_CNPS-
EB2-01

10 We don't think there's -- we do want to see an
11 upgrade to the system in terms of the delivery to the
12 city and the folks there. We think they deserve to
13 have clean, good water. But we didn't think there's
14 any reason to have any additional diversions out of
15 Tuolumne.

SI_CNPS-
EB2-02

16 We don't think there's any reason to have any
17 diversions out of Alameda Creek. There are a number of
18 grass roots groups that have started from the ground up
19 with a lot of hard work and working towards restoring
20 our native fish out there -- fishes, actually, a number
21 of species. Those efforts would be greatly undermined
22 by this project.

SI_CNPS-
EB2-03

23 And although that is also not, obviously, a
24 native plant issue, the riparian corridor and its
25 native plants and associated vegetation out there is.

12.6-57

1 So we don't think that's any sort of reasonable
2 alternative.

↑ SI_CNPS-
EB2-03 cont.

3 In terms of the numbers here, it's pretty
4 amazing. Take you back to a grad school class I took
5 on international water policy, and folks may know these
6 numbers.

7 But did you know on average in Israel they
8 reuse their water four times? They withdraw it, and
9 they recycle and use it four times. Do you know what
10 it is in this state? About 10 percent of the water is
11 reused a second time.

12 So in terms of aggressive conservation,
13 recycling, in terms of the world and if you take a
14 larger vision and a broader picture of how we utilize
15 water resources, we are much lower on the spectrum.

SI_CNPS-
EB2-04

16 Now, folks might argue, "Well, look, we're
17 going to require a lot more energy to do that
18 filtration, reuse that water." That's not necessarily
19 true either. There are a lot of mechanisms which are
20 very energy neutral in order to produce extra water at
21 a minimal cost.

22 And finally, we think it's really important --
23 I know there are a number of previous water agreements,
24 especially with Modesto and Turlock irrigation
25 districts -- I think it would be really important for

SI_CNPS-
EB2-05

1 the consultants and the agencies to flesh that out and
2 understand what kind of parameters we're working with
3 within there.

↑ SI_CNPS-
EB2-05 cont.

4 And then finally, we want to ask for adequate
5 botanical surveys. We have these huge numbers of
6 ecosystems that will be impacted and woodlands and
7 vernal pools and serpentine and areas that are going to
8 be inundated -- and we've seen all that. But we really
9 want to see a really strong pitch for why we need to
10 divert more water from Toulumne, from the Alameda Creek
11 watershed and other watersheds on the peninsula.

SI_CNPS-
EB2-06

12 Thank you.

13 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Anyone else?

14 (No response.)

15 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Okay. Well, thanks for coming
16 tonight, and thanks to everyone who spoke. And you'll
17 see, again, here is where you can submit written
18 comments by October 1st (indicating).

19 Have a good evening.

20 (Whereupon, the proceedings concluded
21 at 7:15 o'clock p.m.)

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12.6-58

1 STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
) ss.
2 COUNTY OF MARIN)

3 I, DEBORAH FUQUA, a Certified Shorthand
4 Reporter of the State of California, do hereby certify
5 that the foregoing proceedings were reported by me, a
6 disinterested person, and thereafter transcribed under
7 my direction into typewriting and is a true and correct
8 transcription of said proceedings.

9 I further certify that I am not of counsel or
10 attorney for either or any of the parties in the
11 foregoing proceeding and caption named, nor in any way
12 interested in the outcome of the cause named in said
13 caption.

14 Dated the 1st day of October, 2007.

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DEBORAH FUQUA
CSR NO. 12948

PUBLIC HEARING TRANSCRIPT

Palo Alto, California

**Avenidas Senior Center, Palo Alto, California
September 19, 2007**

(PH Palo Alto)

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Avenidas Senior Center, Palo Alto, CA - September 19, 2007

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PUBLIC HEARING
DRAFT PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION'S
PROPOSED WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

AVENIDAS SENIOR CENTER
450 BRYANT STREET
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA
SEPTEMBER 19, 2007

REPORTED BY: DEBORAH FUQUA, CSR #12948

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APPEARANCES
DIANA SOKOLOVE, SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER
San Francisco Planning Department
Major Environmental Analysis Division
(Moderator)

KELLEY CAPONE and JIM MARKS
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

JOYCE HSIAO, DEPUTY PROJECT MANAGER
ESA + Orion Consultant Team

PUBLIC SPEAKERS
Mary Jane Marcus Amy Fowler
Peter Drekmeier Amy Adams
Ramses Madou Elliot Margolies
Dan Dippery Cedric deLa Beaujardiere
Bill Young Katherine Forrest
Richard Zimmerman Leah Rogers
Sidney Liebes Jeb Eddy
Daniel Seidel Kelly Fergusson
Clare Elliot Len Materman

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Wednesday, September 19, 2007 6:29 o'clock p.m.

12.6-60

1 ---o0o---

2 P R O C E E D I N G S

3 ALFRED WILLIAMS: Good evening, ladies and
4 gentlemen. I'm going to ask you to take your seats,
5 please. We'd like to get started for the hearing.

6 Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome
7 to the San Francisco Planning Department's hearing on
8 the Draft Program Environmental Impact Report of the
9 San Francisco Public Utilities Commission's Water
10 System Improvement Program.

11 Oh, I'm sorry. That was just a dry run.

12 Welcome to the San Francisco Planning
13 Department's hearing on the San Francisco Public
14 Utilities Commission's proposed Water System
15 Improvement Program. Our facilitator for this
16 evening's meeting is Ms. Diana Sokolove of the San
17 Francisco Public Utilities Planning Department.

18 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Thanks, Al.

19 Hi. Good evening, and welcome to tonight's
20 environmental hearing on the Draft Environmental Impact
21 Report for the San Francisco Public Utilities
22 Commission's Water System Improvement Program.

23 My name is Diana Sokolove, and I'm a senior
24 environmental planner with the San Francisco Planning
25 Department. And the San Francisco Planning Department

1 is the lead agency under the California Environmental
2 Quality Act for environmental evaluation of projects
3 that are sponsored by or within the City and County of
4 San Francisco. And this project is sponsored by the
5 San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, so we are
6 separate entities in separate departments. And I do
7 represent the Planning Department.

8 I will be the moderator for tonight's hearing,
9 as Al mentioned. And I also want to just introduce
10 some key folks who are here tonight to help answer
11 questions after the public comments portion of the
12 hearing. Tonight we have Kelley Capone, who is
13 standing in the back of the room. And she is with the
14 San Francisco Public Utilities Commission. And we have
15 Jim Marks, who is with the San Francisco Public
16 Utilities Commission Communications Department. We
17 also have Joyce Hsiao, who is with the ESA + Orion
18 joint venture. They are the consultant team who helped
19 my department prepare the environmental impact report .
20 And also some public involvement folks here tonight,
21 who are here to collect comment cards and also help to
22 answer any questions you may have. So feel free to
23 chat with them as well later this evening.

24 And just so you know, this is one of five
25 public hearings that we're holding on the environmental

1 impact report. And we are providing essentially the
2 same information at every hearing. Last night we were
3 in Fremont, and a couple weeks ago we were in Sonora
4 and Modesto. Tonight we're here, in Palo Alto.
5 Tomorrow we'll be at the San Francisco Planning
6 Commission hearing.

7 And for those of you who may want to attend
8 that hearing, the hearing normally starts at 1:30, but
9 we have a time certain for the public hearing portion
10 for this project, and that is at 5:00 o'clock. What
11 that means is that it won't start before 5:00. It may
12 not start exactly at 5:00, but it won't start before
13 5:00. So you won't have to be there from 1:30 on,
14 waiting for the hearing.

15 So our brief agenda for tonight -- hopefully
16 you signed in when you came in. We'll do sign-in,
17 introductions, and I'll say a few remarks. Then we'll
18 open up the hearing for public comment.

19 Some meeting reminders, again, hopefully you
20 signed in and picked up a copy of the agenda for
21 tonight's hearing. If you didn't sign in, please do so
22 before you leave. It's our way to keep in touch with
23 you throughout this process. And if you do plan on
24 speaking tonight, I hope you filled out a speaker card.
25 They look something like this, although mine's in

1 color. The ones we have here are black and white. And
2 if you do plan to speak and you filled out a speaker
3 card, please, as soon as you can, hand those in to
4 Andrea over here. We just need to get a sense of how
5 many people are going to be speaking tonight.

6 Another item you may wish to pick up is a
7 comment card. This is a form that you can fill out if
8 you want to submit comments tonight in writing. If you
9 don't want to speak, you just want to submit some
10 comments in writing, you can submit this card directly
11 to me or you can put it in the written comments box at
12 the back of the room, or you can always mail or fax
13 this in later, and we'll give you our contact
14 information.

15 Restrooms are located out this door here,
16 and -- well, actually, there are some right here, but
17 there are also another set out this door here and to
18 the right.

19 And please, please turn off your cell phones
20 and pagers. And if you need to take a call, please
21 step outside the room and take your call outside.

22 And just so you know, we do have a court
23 reporter here tonight. And she is transcribing this
24 hearing, and that transcript will become part of the
25 public record for the environmental review process for

12.6-62

1 this program.

2 So we are here tonight to receive your
3 comments on the adequacy and accuracy of the program
4 environmental impact report on the Water System
5 Improvement Program. We really want to get your
6 thoughts on the quality of the document, the quality of
7 the analysis.

8 We are not here to hear your comments on the
9 merits of the program. We really want your comments on
10 the adequacy of the environmental document. And all of
11 your comments will be recorded, and we will respond to
12 each and every one of them in a document called the
13 "Comments and Responses Document."

14 And tonight, the comments that you make,
15 again, we will respond to those formally in writing.
16 But this is not a question-and-answer session, so we
17 are just here to record and take your comments.

18 Also, this is not a hearing to consider
19 approval or disapproval of the proposed program. That
20 hearing will come after the hearing by the San
21 Francisco Planning Commission, which will certify
22 whether the environmental analysis is adequate and
23 accurate. Then the San Francisco Public Utilities
24 Commission will consider whether to approve, modify, or
25 adopt the proposed program.

1 You can submit written comments in a variety
2 of ways -- by e-mail, by fax. You can phone them in.
3 You can mail them in. We have all that information,
4 most of that information, up on the screen. We also
5 have it on your agenda tonight so you can take that
6 with you. And please note that the Planning
7 Department -- that's my department -- will accept
8 comments on the adequacy and accuracy of the
9 environmental analysis by October 1st, close of
10 business.

11 There are also several places where you can
12 look at the draft program environmental impact report.
13 We do have a copy in the back of the room here that you
14 can look at right back here. And we also have the
15 impact report in several libraries throughout the study
16 area, so you can look at the impact report in any one
17 of those places. You can also look at the
18 environmental impact report at the San Francisco
19 Planning Department or at the San Francisco Public
20 Utilities Commission.

21 And if you'd like to receive a CD of the
22 document, that's another way that you can use this
23 comment card. You can request the CD, and we'll mail
24 you one. So just let us know if you'd like one.

25 So this is just a brief overview of our

1 schedule. We have a 90-day public review period, which
 2 is twice as long as the mandated public review period,
 3 starting at the end of June and runs through October
 4 1st, close of business. As I mentioned, several public
 5 hearings. Tonight we are in Palo Alto, and tomorrow in
 6 San Francisco.

7 We will prepare a comments-and-responses
 8 document, as I mentioned, and we hope to publish that
 9 in the spring of next year. And we also hope to have
 10 the documents certified as adequate and accurate in
 11 spring of 2008.

12 So again, anybody holding on to a comment
 13 card, if you wouldn't mind please submitting those
 14 right now.

15 Well, given that we only have about ten
 16 speakers, typically we limit your comments to about
 17 three minutes. That's if we have several speakers.
 18 And tonight I would just ask that you keep your
 19 comments as brief as possible, that you consider your
 20 public hearing comments or verbal comments as a summary
 21 of the overall comments on the document. And you
 22 certainly can supplement those in writing. So let's
 23 take about three minutes or so. We will generally keep
 24 track of time, but you can take up a little bit more
 25 time if you need it.

1 And what I'll do is, I will call your name up
 2 from the list of speaker cards that I have. You can
 3 step up to the microphone here at the front of the
 4 room, or I believe we have a mobile microphone. So if
 5 you feel more comfortable staying at your seat, you can
 6 certainly speak from there.

7 Please state your name clearly and your
 8 address when you walk up to the microphone to speak so
 9 that we have that for the record and we can get back to
 10 you with responses to your comments.

11 So again, take about three minutes, but you
 12 can take a little bit more time if you need it.

13 I have the first speaker, Anita Dippery.

14 ANITA DIPPERY: I'm passing.

15 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Okay. First speaker, Mary Jane
 16 Marcus.

17 MARY JANE MARCUS: Hello. Sorry. I wasn't
 18 expecting to go first.

19 My name is Mary Jane Marcus. And I need to
 20 say my address?

21 521 Addison Avenue in Palo Alto, California,
 22 just down the street. This is the first time I've ever
 23 come to a hearing or spoken at a hearing. And I'm
 24 getting nervous. But the reason I'm here is that
 25 usually the actions we take here, our conceptions and

C_Marcu


 C_Marcu-01

12.6-64

1 so forth -- we don't really know where things come from
2 and how we're effective. But this, in this
3 recommendation, we know that we can do things here in
4 Palo Alto, here in Silicon Valley that will prevent
5 having to take 25 million extra gallons a day from the
6 Tuolumne River where a lot of us go.

7 And I just think it's such an incredible
8 opportunity to really let people know that what we do
9 has a direct impact on the places we go. And so I
10 guess I talked to you briefly beforehand, and she said
11 that you got your information about conservation
12 measures from talking to wholesalers. But I would
13 suggest that you go to the public and say if we don't
14 do these things, we're going to take this much more
15 from Tuolumne, and what do we want to do?

16 I mean, if I knew someone's sick, I'm probably
17 going to give blood. If you don't know -- I mean, I
18 think what wholesalers would recommend without the
19 public being involved or knowing what the impact of
20 what we're doing is, it would be different.

21 So I really want to get out there that what
22 we're doing has an impact, and they see what we can do
23 in terms of conservation. And I think people would
24 take more action.

25 And I know -- I can give everyone my phone

C_Marcu-01
cont.

1 number. I'm personally committed to do whatever it
2 takes to not use the Tuolumne. You know, if I have to,
3 like, shower in the rain or whatever. But -- I won't
4 be that extreme because I want to represent the normal
5 person. But seriously, I mean, I will rally as many
6 people as possible, whatever is needed, not to increase
7 our intake because I want to go in the opposite
8 direction.

9 And I think it's sending a really bad message
10 right now, with global warming and everything, that the
11 Bay Area, the forefront of the kind of "watt com" area,
12 the green economy, that we're not able to reduce our
13 water consumption.

14 So that's my comment. And like I said, anyone
15 can come find me or -- (650)575-1945. You can call me
16 any time. If you're not getting much success with
17 other citizens, I'll go bang on their doors and help.

18 So that's it.

19 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Okay. The next speaker is Peter
20 Drekmeier.

SI_TRT8

21 PETER DREKMEIER: Good evening. My name is Peter
22 Drekmeier. I'm a Bay Area program director for the
23 Tuolumne River Trust. And I just want to start by
24 saying that our organization and every other
25 conservation organization I'm aware of supports the

C_Marcu-01
cont.

1 seismic upgrades to the Hetch Hetchy system. That's
2 not controversial. And we'd like to see that move
3 forward as quickly as possible.

4 What we are adamantly opposed to is the
5 proposal to divert another 25 million gallons of water
6 a day from the Tuolumne River. And to put that in
7 perspective, that's the equivalent of more than 1,000
8 large swimming pools pulled every day from this
9 wonderful wild and scenic river.

SI_TRT8-01

10 First, I want to point out that the projected
11 increase in demand for water in the -- for 2.4 million
12 people who consume Hetch Hetchy water is inflated. The
13 studies were very dated. They're looking at old
14 technology. We are shifting from manufacturing to
15 service and information, which uses considerably less
16 water. And that wasn't taken into consideration. It
17 also doesn't look at the impact of increasing prices on
18 consumption.

SI_TRT8-02

19 In San Francisco, the cost of water is
20 expected to more than triple. And we expect to see
21 that in other areas of the consumer area. And that is
22 definitely going to have an impact on consumption. One
23 thing that's very telling is, in this report, they're
24 projecting that per capita consumption of water is
25 expected to increase in this area.

1 And that goes against everything we're seeing
2 across the country. You look at places like Seattle or
3 Los Angeles, they've grown without increasing
4 consumption. And the Santa Clara Valley Water
5 District, over the last 20 years, has remained flat
6 despite the dot com boom. So that's something that we
7 need to take into consideration. The Bay Area is very
8 conservation minded, and there's a lot more potential
9 for conservation and recycling here.

SI_TRT8-02
cont.

10 It also has not examined the full potential
11 for water recycling and conservation in the area. It's
12 only looking at 3 percent increase of recycling, of
13 water recycling. Now, 60 percent of the water that's
14 being demanded is for outdoor irrigation. That's a
15 great opportunity for using recycled water and for
16 conservation through drip irrigation systems.

SI_TRT8-03

17 Second, I want to point out that many of the
18 studies are inadequate. They're dated. And we don't
19 have adequate baseline data, especially for fish and
20 other species that depend on the river. And it's
21 really impossible to measure the impacts if we don't
22 have that baseline data.

SI_TRT8-04

23 An example is, there's a study used from 1992
24 that was never completed, but it's used in the EIR.
25 And one thing it did encourage was increasing minimum

12.6-66

1 flows for fish, which was never done. So we have some
2 information on Chinook salmon in the Lower Tuolumne.
3 We've seen that species in decline, so already we know
4 that the system is pushed beyond the limits that are
5 good for the species. And we have very, very little
6 information on steelhead trout, which is a threatened
7 species. And that needs to be studied.

SI_TRT8-04
cont.

8 Another problem is, in the modeling, things
9 are averaged in a way that really doesn't make sense
10 for various species. For example, they're using
11 monthly average flows versus daily flows. And for fish
12 and other species, it's a daily flow that really has an
13 impact. So that needs to be looked at.

SI_TRT8-05

14 The biggie here is that the EIR mentions
15 global warming but doesn't discuss it. And that's
16 going to have a huge impact on the ecosystem. What
17 they do is they look at the last 82 years of data and
18 assume that the level of water is going to remain the
19 same over the next 82 years or so. But we know that
20 global warming is going to have an impact on the
21 snowpack. And the State of California actually
22 predicts that the snowpack will decline by 33 percent
23 by 2060. And so any water diversion is going to be a
24 much higher percentage in the future than it is right
25 now. And that's a fatal flaw in this EIR.

SI_TRT8-06

1 Last, I just want to mention there are some
2 assumptions made that are really unfounded. One is
3 that the Modesto Irrigation District and the Turlock
4 Irrigation District will agree to water transfers. But
5 in fact, those negotiations, as far as I know, last I
6 heard, had not even begun. And in Modesto, the MID
7 spokesperson said that they're opposed to this plan.
8 And so it's going to be very difficult to get that
9 water transfer for the Lower Tuolumne. And even if it
10 did go through, there's still the potential problem of
11 25 million gallons of water per day less in the 25
12 miles of wild and scenic river between Hetch Hetchy and
13 Don Pedro.

SI_TRT8-07

14 So I want to encourage anyone who would like
15 to follow our work on this to come see me afterwards,
16 and I'll make sure that I get your contact information.

17 And we will be submitting more complete
18 comments on this by the October 1st deadline.

19 And great to see so many people here coming
20 out in Palo Alto. It's a very conservation-minded
21 community. I agree with the last speaker, that we have
22 a lot of potential here to really make a difference.
23 And again, looking forward to working with you on that.

24 Thank you all.

25 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Next speaker is Ramses Madou.

12.6-67

C_Madou

1 RAMSES MADOU: Well, going after Peter is a little
2 bit hard. My name is Ramses Madou. My address is 3680
3 Bryant Street, here, in Palo Alto.

4 I'm here really to express my support for a
5 conservation-minded plan. As it stands now, as Peter
6 was just saying, 25 million gallons leaving the river,
7 leaving it with -- leaving the biological species
8 living there with much less resources than they need,
9 seems that we could push our use of resources down to
10 kind of keep the support for them there.

C_Madou-01

11 And that's pretty much all I have to say. All
12 the points have already been made by the last two
13 speakers.

14 Thank you.

C_Dippe

15 DIANA SOKOLOVE: The next speaker is Dan Dippery.

16 DAN DIPPERY: Good evening. My name is Dan
17 Dippery. I live in Menlo Park.

18 Couple of things that Peter left out that I
19 think are quite relevant. Evidently, the Utility
20 Commission had their own study on conservation and
21 efficiency and recycling, and they found that the need
22 to divert more money [sic] from the Tuolumne could be
23 reduced by 74 percent. I think that's an important
24 figure. So I think it should be very prominent in the
25 EIR because it's obviously the critical need here.

C_Dippe-01

1 The other thing that I'm proposing is that the
2 PUC should conduct a study to determine the maximum
3 technical potential for conservation efficiency, in
4 other words, not just kind of a sketchbook thing but
5 really go into details of what could be done so that we
6 don't have to take this additional water from the
7 river.

C_Dippe-02

8 That's all. Thank you.

SI_SierraC3

9 DIANA SOKOLOVE: The next speaker is Bill Young.

10 BILL YOUNG: Thank you. My name is Bill Young.
11 I'm the conservation coordinator with the Sierra Club
12 Loma Prieta Chapter. Thank you for this opportunity to
13 comment on the PEIR.

14 The Sierra Club believes that the draft PEIR
15 ignores the risks that global warming presents for the
16 Bay Area water supply. The PEIR also neglects to fully
17 study the impacts of increased draw-down of the
18 Tuolumne River and on local watersheds as well. The
19 PEIR also fails to identify the sustainable water
20 supply measures as alternatives. It encourages water
21 waste instead of efficiency.

SI_SierraC3-01

22 The PEIR fails to recognize that our rivers
23 and creeks are finite and variable resources.
24 Increased draw-down will have serious effects on these
25 watersheds. The PUC needs to reduce reliance on the

12.6-68

1 Tuolumne River and local creeks, such as the
2 Pilarcitos. A comprehensive watershed study should be
3 completed to adequately assess the environmental
4 impacts of the WSIP and to develop regional watershed
5 protection and restoration programs.

SI_SierraC3-02

6 Climate change effects also were not
7 adequately studied for the PEIR. The PEIR does not
8 take into account the impact of climate change on
9 precipitation in Tuolumne River watershed. As the
10 Sierra Nevada snowpack shrinks due to the effects of
11 climate change, Sierra rivers like the Tuolumne will
12 become increasingly unreliable sources of water. By
13 increasing dependence on the Tuolumne, San Francisco's
14 proposal exposes the Bay Area to greater risk of water
15 shortages.

SI_SierraC3-03

16 Decreasing reliance on the Tuolumne is
17 critical not only for protecting the health of the
18 river but also for preparing for the future uncertainty
19 of the Sierra snowpack as a result of global warming.

20 The PUC's preferred alternative does not take
21 advantage -- full advantage of the benefits of more
22 efficient water use and water supply diversification.
23 It ignores much-needed water conservation measures
24 which would ensure a sustainable water supply and
25 protect our watersheds instead of just taking more

SI_SierraC3-04

1 water from the wild and scenic Tuolumne River.

2 The Sierra Club believes that there are more
3 cost effective and less environmentally harmful ways to
4 secure and maintain a clean, reliable water supply. We
5 support increased water efficiency in both urban and
6 agricultural sectors, the use of groundwater storage,
7 and the safe expansion of water reclamation and water
8 recycling.

SI_SierraC3-04 cont.

9 The PUC must invest in water resources in the
10 most efficient way and reducing consumption. This
11 would put the Bay Area on a path towards water
12 sustainability, more efficient water use, and a more
13 diverse mix of water supplies would also minimize the
14 risk associated with shrinking snowpack that is
15 expected as a result of climate change.

16 Thank you.

17 Oh, also I have some petition sheets -- could
18 I hand those in to you -- of signatures concerning the
19 EIR.

20 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Let's talk after the hearing.

21 BILL YOUNG: Okay. Thank you.

22 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Richard Zimmerman. SI_SierraC4

23 RICHARD ZIMMERMAN: Good evening. I'm Richard
24 Zimmerman. I'm with the Water Sustainability Committee
25 of the Loma Prieta Chapter of the Sierra Club.

12.6-69

1 I'd just like to say that the Sierra Club
2 supports the seismic re-fit of the system.

SI_SierraC4-01

3 However, water conservation is the cheapest
4 easiest, least destructive way to meet future demands
5 and to extend our scarce supply of water. However, the
6 PEIR preferred alternative ignores these measures in
7 large part and simply asks for more water from the
8 already overstressed Tuolumne River and therefore is
9 inadequate.

10 The Bay Area lags far behind other
11 metropolitan areas that are reducing water consumption
12 even in the face of growth.

SI_SierraC4-02

13 The Bay Area should be a leader in water
14 efficiency and conservation. The SFPUC must provide
15 strong leadership to make water conservation a fact in
16 the Bay Area rather than a hope and must not simply
17 give in to user demands for more water.

18 Water usage in the United States has decreased
19 by 20 percent since 1980. But the SFPUC projects an
20 increase in water usage for the wholesalers represented
21 by BAWSCA. That's an actual increase in the amount of
22 water used as well as a per capita increase. The
23 BAWSCA wholesalers forecast a 19 percent increase in
24 water usage in 2030 over 2000, 2001. They also
25 forecast a 19 percent population growth in the same

SI_SierraC4-03

1 period. However, the retail users are forecast to use
2 less water in 2030 than they currently do, but with a
3 population growth of almost 12 percent. Clearly we
4 need to reduce the amount of water use by the
5 wholesalers, not increase it. And it's certainly
6 possible.

7 In Seattle, for example, while serving 20
8 percent more users, the regional water system there
9 reduced water use by 15 percent from 1985 to 2005
10 and is currently committed to reducing water use by an
11 additional 1 percent annually. We should do that too.
12 The California Urban Water Conservation Council
13 reported in 2003 that, quote, "Data on residential
14 water use is currently showing that outdoor water usage
15 is as much as 50 to 60 percent of residential
16 consumption," end quote. Further, outside water usage
17 according to the PEIR, is responsible for about 60
18 percent of the increase in demand. This represents an
19 opportunity for water conservation not being addressed
20 in the PEIR.

21 The best standard of practices used by many
22 water companies do not include residential landscaping
23 guidelines. We should immediately implement such a
24 program throughout the SFPUC area. As an example, in
25 Las Vegas, of all places, water users can get a rebate

SI_SierraC4-03 cont.

12.6-70

1 for replacing grass to zero-scape. Austin, Texas has a
2 similar program, as do many cities in arid climates.
3 We should do that here too.

SI_SierraC4-03 cont.

4 Thank you.

5 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Chris Sullivan.

6 CHRIS SULLIVAN [PHONETIC]: I have nothing to say
7 at this time.

8 DIANA SOKOLOVE: The next speaker is Sidney
9 Liebes.

C_Liebe

10 SIDNEY LIEBES: I'd like to endorse the remarks of
11 Peter Drekmeier and his other conservation colleagues
12 and add a comment which addresses perhaps a more global
13 perspective, an overarching one. It's not much that
14 the PUC can do anything about, but I have to clear my
15 conscience.

16 Perhaps the greatest failing of our culture, I
17 believe, is its failure to assume responsibility for
18 the long-term future. If we had done so, we would not
19 have an overpopulated planet, mass extinction of
20 species, exhaustion of resources, and be debating
21 global warming, proposing the Tuolumne be further
22 diverted. It's past time to say "enough is enough."

C_Liebe-01

23 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Daniel Seidel.

L_PHWD2

24 DANIEL SEIDEL: Good evening. My name is Daniel
25 Seidel. I'm the president of the Board of Directors of

1 Purissima Hills Water District, a public water district
2 that serves 6,000 customers in Los Altos Hills with the
3 pure water that we buy wholesale from the San Francisco
4 Public Utilities Commission.

5 And I don't have any quarrel with the
6 conservation measures that have been advocated and so
7 forth previously because we have a very active water
8 conservation program within our own district, and we
9 live in a very conservation-minded community.

10 But I prepared some comments here to reinforce
11 our interest not only conservation but in getting this
12 program going so that the hazards and the risk that we
13 are exposed to daily by not having an upgraded system
14 can be ameliorated, corrected as soon as possible.
15 That is our greatest risk right now.

16 So let me read my comments. I'll try to be
17 brief.

18 For the past 73 years, water from Hetch Hetchy
19 has flowed by gravity 140 miles to our taps, providing
20 an economical and pure regional supply. The system
21 draws less than 12 percent of the Tuolumne River's
22 production and now serves over 2.4 million people in
23 San Francisco and 27 Bay Areas cities and districts.

L_PHWD2-01

24 Fifty-one years ago, our direct was formed to
25 connect into this high quality water supply. We, along

12.6-71

1 with Palo Alto, Hayward, Burlingame, Millbrae -- a
2 whole raft of cities -- depend on this system and
3 basically have no other alternative source of water
4 supply that is natural.

5 In the 44 years that I have lived in Santa
6 Clara County, I have seen Los Altos Hills transition
7 from apricot and prune orchards, a one-room school
8 house, to a vibrant conservation-minded residential
9 community that parallels the economic growth of Silicon
10 Valley. Our town hall, for example, is powered
11 completely by solar power. Come out and visit. You
12 would be impressed to see that.

13 The typical water, per capita water
14 consumption values for our district that you read in
15 the report and elsewhere are meaningless, mainly
16 because of the 18,000 students we serve at Foothill
17 College, which is basically three times the population
18 we serve. That's not included in the calculations. So
19 it looks like we're using all kinds of water, but
20 basically, we have a lot of transient people, employees
21 in the school district that we serve that doesn't get
22 factored into that.

23 Let me just say that our district uses less
24 than -- of all the water that's produced for the San
25 Francisco -- we use less than 1 percent. We're small

L_PHWD2-01
cont.

1 potatoes, basically. But we're very interested in the
2 seismic upgrades and the reliability of the system that
3 we're so dependant on. So are all these other agencies
4 and districts and cities that we've already mentioned.
5 That's the big risk.

6 Now, the San Francisco WSIP has been a long
7 time in the making. Immediately after Loma Prieta
8 earthquake in 1989, the East Bay MUD, the sister
9 utility in Oakland, big water utility, developed a plan
10 for seismic improvements in their system. Right now,
11 they're 95 percent complete and in operation. They've
12 done it.

13 San Francisco, by comparison, guess where we
14 are. 18 years later, we're still in the EIR stage.
15 And we're going to continue to be in the EIR
16 stage -- we've been it in for two years now. But I
17 hear now we're going to be in it for another three to
18 five years until we find finally get some construction
19 going on and get these risks reduced.

20 But we can't wait any longer. Every day
21 without the seismic improvements in place puts the life
22 safety of 2.4 million people in jeopardy. Risks are
23 catastrophic loss of property and wreckage of the local
24 economy worse than Katrina imposed on New Orleans.
25 Believe me.

L_PHWD2-01
cont.

L_PHWD2-02

12.6-72

1 Let me conclude by just saying that we eagerly
2 support the Water Supply Improvement Program -- it's
3 many years in the making -- the analysis in the
4 programmatic EIR, and we hope it goes through without
5 further modifications.

6 And we urge the Planning Department and the
7 Planning Commission to proceed without delay to
8 complete the PEIR process as expeditiously as possible
9 and to work diligently to certify a document as
10 required by CEQA so the critical improvements can be
11 made posthaste.

12 Thank you.

13 DIANA SOKOLOVE: The next speaker is Claire
14 Elliot.

15 CLAIRE ELLIOTT: Hi. My name is Claire Elliot,
16 and I'm a resident of Palo Alto at 271 Chestnut Avenue.
17 And I have to agree with everybody who's commented
18 about the importance of the seismic upgrades. It
19 scared the heck out of me to read in the paper that we
20 don't even have three days' supply of water if an
21 earthquake were to remove our Hetch Hetchy supply. As
22 a parent, that really makes me nervous. So the first
23 time I really understood was tonight that these two
24 things are linked together. I don't know if there's a
25 possibility to separate them, but to me, it makes sense

L_PHWD2-02
cont.

C_EllioC

C_EllioC-01

1 to separate it, given that the EIR will take another
2 several years to process. I'd love to see the seismic
3 upgrades happen sooner.

4 But as far as the diversion from the Tuolumne,
5 I think that would be a total travesty. And I don't
6 think the EIR addresses all of the concerns of
7 downstream water impact. I don't think it addresses
8 something that a lot of people aren't aware of, which
9 is that all the diversion we're currently doing into
10 the San Francisco Bay through our treatment plant is
11 converting many, many acres of salt marsh into fresh
12 water marsh. And we have so little salt marsh left
13 because of all the fill that's gone on in the bay. We
14 really should not be diverting any more fresh water
15 into this area.

16 And as an environmental -- I was a water
17 quality engineer for several years, and I have
18 experience to know that we have technologies to treat
19 water that's been used once before. And we are very
20 spoiled in this area not to have experienced that.
21 Most of the country is using re-used water because they
22 bring their water from places like the Mississippi
23 River, where there's outfall from the town above that
24 is providing their water supply.

25 So we need to learn how to use these

C_EllioC-01
cont.

C_EllioC-02

C_EllioC-03

1 technologies to make our water that's been reused --
2 all of our water we're drinking, we're not creating new
3 water. It's the water that Lincoln drank, that
4 Cleopatra drank. So we should be able to drink the
5 same water that we once used before. If not drink it,
6 at least water our golf courses with it.

C_EllioC-03
cont.

7 And currently I'm an environmental educator.
8 And I am seeing huge changes coming through the
9 education of our children. And in the year 2030, which
10 is what we're projecting for, most of these children
11 that will be adults at that time will have gone through
12 environmental education programs and will have learned
13 the importance of conservation and will be able to
14 plant native plants in their garden because they know
15 it's the right thing to do to prevent 60 percent of our
16 water -- this diversion that they're talking about, I
17 read, is for outdoor use. And I do not want to see
18 more lawns taking up this water that's coming from a
19 beautiful wild and scenic river.

20 Thank you.

L_SCVWD2

21 DIANA SOKOLOVE: The next speaker is Amy Fowler.

22 AMY FOWLER: Good evening. I'm Amy Fowler, staff
23 at Santa Clara Valley Water District. Thank you for
24 the opportunity to provide comments on the draft
25 programmatic EIR.

1 The Santa Clara Valley Water District -- which
2 I'll shorten to call "the District" -- provides
3 wholesale drinking water supply for 1.7 million
4 residents and is the primary water resources manager
5 for Santa Clara County. We manage the conjunctive use
6 of surface and groundwater resources to make sure that
7 water supply is reliable to meet current and future
8 demands.

9 We actively manage the groundwater basin to
10 optimize beneficial uses and aggressively protect the
11 groundwater basin from contamination and minimize
12 inelastic land surface subsidence.

13 As you all know, the San Francisco Public
14 Utilities Commission and the District share the
15 responsibility of providing a clean, safe, and reliable
16 water supply to cities and entities in the northern
17 portion of Santa Clara County. San Francisco PUC
18 supply comprises 15 percent of the overall water supply
19 in Santa Clara County and constitutes 100 percent of
20 the water supply to some cities.

21 We expect San Francisco PUC to continue
22 providing this water supply in Santa Clara County and
23 meet the projected 2030 purchase requests submitted by
24 the wholesale customers. This expectation is described
25 and documented in the District's and the City's 2005

L_SCVWD2-
01

L_SCVWD2-
02

12.6-74

1 Urban Water Management Plans. The cities collaborated
2 with San Francisco PUC on its demand projection and
3 water-use efficiency studies and arrived at reasonable
4 and defensible projections on future water needs.
5 These water supply and demand projections constitute
6 the foundation of water resources planning for the next
7 30 years for the cities, San Francisco PUC, and the
8 Santa Clara Valley Water District.

9 We urge San Francisco to adopt the proposed
10 water system improvement program and meet all the
11 program goals and objectives. Any diminution in levels
12 of service provided by San Francisco PUC could result
13 in significant impacts to water resources in Santa
14 Clara County with associated environmental and social,
15 economical consequences.

16 Santa Clara Valley had a legacy of land
17 subsidence in the 1920s and '30s due to over extraction
18 of groundwater. Through water importation and
19 conjunctive use management, land subsidence was halted
20 by the late 1960s, and the District has been vigilant
21 in preventing its reoccurrence. Understandably, we are
22 very concerned with any potential redirected impacts on
23 our groundwater basin and local or imported surface
24 water resources due to San Francisco PUC's reduction in
25 supplies or level of service provided to Santa Clara

L_SCVWD2-02 cont.

1 County.

2 We also urge San Francisco to address fully
3 any potential redirected impacts on water supplies for
4 the Safe Water Project and Central Valley Project
5 users.

6 We support San Francisco PUC's goal to
7 maximize water conservation, recycling, and
8 desalination. The District has been very progressive
9 in implementing programs to maximize water use
10 efficiency and further diversify our sources of supply.

11 We believe these program areas are ideal for San
12 Francisco PUC and the District to partner with local
13 cities and land-use entities in their implementation.
14 However, there are practical limits in implementability
15 of these programs. And they cannot be used as
16 stand-alone substitute alternatives or variants because
17 they fail to meet the overall program goals.

18 We look forward to San Francisco addressing
19 our concerns adequately and adopting the current EIR
20 and Water System Improvement Program expediently so
21 that the critical work of securing the water supply for
22 the Bay Area communities can begin.

23 Thank you.

24 DIANA SOKOLOVE: The next speaker is Amy -- Adams?
25 Sorry.

L_SCVWD2-02 cont.

12.6-75

1 AMY ADAMS: It's Adams, like John Quincy. C_AdamsA

2 I'm Amy Adams. I live in Palo Alto on Clark
3 Way. I just want to make a couple comments. First, I
4 grew up in Michigan, where there's lots and lots of
5 water. And we had tornados. So when I moved here and
6 I found out that much of our water comes from a
7 gravity-fed place very far away and there's earthquakes
8 and it's coming through big pipes, that made me a bit
9 nervous. So I definitely agree that the seismic
10 upgrade should be a priority.

11 However, I'm a little bit confused as to why
12 that's related to the volume of water in the EIR. I
13 think those should be two separate points that are
14 addressed. It's, to me, like having a hole in your
15 shoe and going into the store getting a new shoe and
16 deciding you also need a belt or a hat. It's part of
17 the same system. It's your clothing, something that
18 needs to get fixed potentially, but I don't think it
19 needs to necessarily be addressed at the same time or
20 in the same process. So I hope that making those
21 decisions would not delay the other.

C_AdamsA-01

22 The other point I wanted to make was just, I
23 think that we need to look closely -- we had the Santa
24 Clara Valley Water District representative speaking
25 earlier. I think we need to look carefully at what the

C_AdamsA-02

1 district really has done since they're providing 15
2 percent of our district's total water supply. They
3 have a number of amazing, both residential and
4 commercial and agricultural, programs going on. And I
5 think that part of it is actually citizens actually
6 taking part and participating in these things.

7 There's rebates for using high efficiency
8 clothes washers, high efficiency toilets going into
9 commercial sites. There's, like, a list of 20
10 different things that they do that are either for
11 residential or commercial conservation. And people,
12 individual people, can get, actually, rebates for that.

13 And I think that we need to take a good look
14 as citizens at what we're doing with our water.
15 We can look at Arizona, and people have more arid
16 landscapes. And do we need this many golf courses? Do
17 we need this amount of fresh water out sprinkling --
18 sprinklers broken, sprinkling sidewalks, and et cetera?

19 And I just think that we as citizens and as a
20 government -- because I don't think it's going to
21 happen nationally. I don't think our national
22 government is going to step forward with conservation
23 issues and accept that global warming is a real issue.
24 We have to take a step locally, regionally, and look at
25 water conservation and not divert water away from a

C_AdamsA-02
cont.

12.6-76

1 river.
2 That's just an easy answer. I think we have
3 to make some more harsh, difficult choices.

↑ C_AdamsA-02
cont.

4 DIANA SOKOLOVE: The next speaker is Elliot
5 Margolies.

C_Margo

6 ELLIOT MARGOLIES: Hi. I'm Elliot Margolies. I'm
7 a resident of Palo Alto at 3858 El Centro Street.

8 And I have a lot of respect for the PUC's
9 challenge of balancing human needs for water with
10 preserving nature's sustainability and am fully
11 appreciative of the seismic upgrades that are really
12 needed. But I want to address the diversion of water
13 from the Tuolumne River.

14 I know that the PUC has been long making these
15 plans and studies, probably way before the movie "An
16 Inconvenient Truth" came out, but I think that a lot of
17 us have really shifted our sense of priorities in the
18 last few years when global warming has now become a
19 reality that most of us accept and feel very concerned
20 about.

21 And I really feel that, to review the amount
22 of conservation and recycled water that our community
23 is willing to implement, it's really important to do
24 that now because the figures are going to come out very
25 differently. I'm very confident that our community is

↓ C_Margo-01

1 ready to step up and to really change the equation much
2 more so.

3 And there's no question that, over the coming
4 years, there's going to be more and more reasons coming
5 our way to do so. And so to refigure this -- and the
6 day of putting our conveniences as cities and
7 industries over and above the sustainability of the
8 resources we depend on, those days are over.

↑ C_Margo-01
cont.

9 And we now depend on our leaders, like the
10 PUC, to put plans forward that reflect our own growth
11 and awareness about these important issues.

12 thanks.

C_Beauj

13 DIANA SOKOLOVE: I know I'm not going to say the
14 next name correctly, so please forgive me in advance.
15 Cedric deLa -- sorry, sorry.

16 CEDRIC deLA BEAUJARDIERE: No worries. It's okay.
17 I get that all the time.

18 My name is Cedric deLa Beaujardiere. You say
19 it like it's spelled. I'm at 741 Josina Avenue in Palo
20 Alto, 94306. And I'm here on behalf of myself as well
21 as on behalf of my fiancée Susan Stansbury [phonetic],
22 same address, who couldn't make it tonight. She's the
23 director of a non-profit called Connections and also of
24 a project called Valley of Hearts Delight, which seeks
25 to protect local farmland which has been lost a lot.

12.6-77

1 And she bade me to mention some water
2 conservation steps that we can all take individually
3 and collectively as supported by our governments that
4 we can do in the garden.

5 Some of them would be native and
6 drought-tolerant plants which require less water,
7 mulching to keep in moisture, using drip and micro-flow
8 irrigation, also rainwater harvesting and gray water
9 reuse. The City of Palo Alto, for instance, has a gray
10 water system which they feed to large customers.

11 And there's many more in the home as well.
12 There's things like re-circulating pumps that send
13 water back to the hot water heater instead of running
14 it down the drain when you're waiting for the shower to
15 heat up or the faucet to heat up, just sending it back
16 to the water heater. So those are available things.

17 So these sort of things can be incentivized by
18 local governments and non-profits or businesses and
19 residents taking it on their own. I think the cost
20 that would be otherwise used to divert more water from
21 the Tuolumne, that would be a great source of funding
22 for such incentive programs and probably much more
23 efficient for the long run.

24 So I do support the seismic upgrades, but I
25 think that we should actually not divert more water

C_Beauj-01

C_Beauj-02

1 from the Tuolumne and, in fact, try to divert less over
2 time.

C_Beauj-02
cont.

3 Thank you very much.

4 DIANA SOKOLOVE: The next speaker is Katherine
5 Forrest.

SI_CI

6 KATHERINE FORREST: Hi, I'm Katherine Forrest, and
7 I'm president of the board of Commonweal Institute, a
8 progressive think tank in the Bay Area here.

9 One thing that concerns me is the interlinkage
10 between the problems we're facing here because we're
11 dealing with global warming, we're dealing with water
12 problems, we're dealing with preservation of animal and
13 plant species. And these are all interrelated to each
14 other.

15 I certainly don't think that just trying to
16 increase the amount of water flow that comes into -- to
17 the ultimate end users is the way to go and that the
18 State, if anything, should put a higher priority on the
19 conservation ends of things. Predictions are we're
20 going to have at least 55 million people in this state.
21 So there's an incredible amount of continuing growth
22 that we can anticipate.

SI_CI-01

23 In particular, I think that the State can play
24 a role and -- whether it's through the PUC and then
25 ultimately through the legislature -- in beginning to

12.6-78

1 work back and put some both carrots and sticks on local
2 government. And the carrots and sticks would have to
3 do with rules having to do with conservation at the
4 local level, products -- I mean, there was mention of
5 incentives for products like low-water-use toilets,
6 low-water-use washing machines. But there could also
7 be penalties. And so you have both an incentive to go
8 for a more water-frugal way of living as also a
9 disincentive for spending too much water out of the
10 public, what's available to us.

11 And finally, also another thing that could
12 happen potentially for local governments is to have
13 incentives on them to change some of their permitting.
14 And I'm thinking particularly in terms of construction
15 permitting in allowing gray water systems for
16 individual homes and also having constraints on the
17 size of pipes that bring water into properties and
18 the -- putting in irrigation systems for watering large
19 lots of land instead of letting it go to native plants.

20 Thank you.

21 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Leah Rogers.

C_Roger

22 LEAH ROGERS: I'm Leah Rogers, a resident of Menlo
23 Park and trained in groundwater hydrogeology. I've
24 spent a lot of time over the last couple decades
25 looking at a lot of water balances. And one thing that

SI_CI-01
cont.

C_Roger-01

1 always amazes me is how little of our water goes to
2 thirsty people. And I think that so much of it goes to
3 industrial and agricultural uses that are highly
4 inefficient.

5 How many of us have driven through the Central
6 Valley and seen open canals of water on a really hot
7 day and wondered how much of that actually gets to the
8 plants? I mean, there's a lot of wonderful
9 technologies for drip irrigation. I think there's also
10 a lot of wonderful technologies for reprocessing
11 industrial and agricultural waters.

12 And so I guess my question is, how can we rob
13 more money from our wild -- rob more water from our
14 wild and scenic rivers when it's clearly a minor, minor
15 part of what needs to be done. It's an interim
16 solution, insignificant, with really negative results
17 and probably irreversible results.

18 So I think we need to really look at where the
19 deep pockets are in this equation and its agricultural
20 and industrial use. All of us as end users pulling
21 together, but we need to point the finger and really
22 look at how our water is valued.

23 Thank you.

24 DIANA SOKOLOVE: The next speaker is Jeb Eddy.

25 JEB EDDY: Hi. I'm Jeb Eddy, 35-year resident

C_Roger-01
cont.

C_Eddy2

12.6-79

1 here of Palo Alto. Family name is Eddy, E-D-D-Y.
 2 There's a street up in San Francisco by that
 3 exact same name. My family and I, we think we might be
 4 related to the guy William Eddy, who was the first
 5 civil engineer, city engineer, and surveyor for the
 6 City of San Francisco in 1849. And his map is the one
 7 that was sent up to Oregon to allow the State of
 8 California to become a state in the Union because that
 9 was the nearest place you could register a map.

10 So I've been interested in some planning
 11 issues for a long time, although personally I wasn't
 12 around back in those days. One of my sons has a
 13 master's degree in forestry. The other son has just
 14 started his graduate program at UC Berkeley in the
 15 energy and resources program.

16 Our family has been interested in, concerned
 17 about stuff like this for a long time. And we live
 18 here because I struggled my way through a well-known
 19 business school down the street.

20 One of this things that really struck me as I
 21 was looking over some of the material for the planning
 22 that's been done so far is that a six-letter word, one
 23 of my favorites, doesn't show up in the document at
 24 all, M-A-R-K-E-T.

25 There's almost no discussion of using the

C_Eddy2-01

1 dynamic -- we're going into one of the greatest periods
 2 of trying to figure out markets in human history,
 3 exactly as the speaker from Commonwealth just said, the
 4 integrated complexity of all this stuff is tremendous.
 5 And we need to introduce some serious influence of
 6 markets.

7 As you perhaps know, those of you who read the
 8 San Francisco Chronicle, what's the lead story in
 9 today's paper? "Congestion Pricing For Traffic." What
 10 a great idea. Bloomberg is stirring around this pot in
 11 New York City. It is already a fabulously
 12 profit-making activity in London. Traffic is down.
 13 The London program made something like 100 million
 14 pounds of profit last year.

15 If we are smart -- let's -- the thing that
 16 bothered me so much about looking over the way some of
 17 the demand forecasting was done is, okay, we're going
 18 to do our sort of per capita estimates, multiply that
 19 by the number of capitas, and that becomes the target
 20 for supply.

21 I don't think that's the way market works. If
 22 we have market influences in the decision process here,
 23 we could have different kinds of water supply for
 24 different kinds of users and different kinds of needs,
 25 determined on more of an open-market basis, changing

C_Eddy2-01
cont.

C_Eddy2-02

1 the market structures over time, but not simply saying,
2 "Yeah, it's going to be this much demand. We have to
3 fill it." I think it's a profound mistake.

4 One of the few things I remember from going to
5 this business school 35 years ago, a great question,
6 "What business are you in?"

7 Meeting fixed demand based on numbers that
8 were invented, you know, five or more years ago is not
9 a reflection of the conditions that we are in now.

10 So the seismic upgrade stuff, absolutely, yes.

11 But failing to adapt our consumption to the
12 realities of global warming and other supply issues I
13 think is a significant mistake.

14 Last point, anybody here from Sacramento?

15 Guess not. I've heard multiple times that the
16 metropolitan statistical area of Sacramento has
17 basically been built with no water meters. I see some
18 nods. Is that possibly true? No water meters, don't
19 have any idea how much water they use.

20 If we use prices and significant measures of
21 our personal consumption, our industrial consumption,
22 we can do a lot better than I think the plan proposed
23 so far.

24 Thank you.

25 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Next speaker is Kelly Fergusson.

C_Eddy2-02
cont.

L_Menlo3

1 HONORABLE KELLY FERGUSSON: Good evening. I'm
2 Kelly Fergusson. I'm the Mayor of Menlo Park. And
3 Menlo Park is a wholesale water purchaser from SFPUC.
4 And I'm just here tonight with Kent Stephans, our
5 public works director, to listen to comments and to
6 absorb the comments and your remarks.

7 Thank you.

8 DIANA SOKOLOVE: The next speaker is Len Materman.

9 And if you wouldn't mind giving us your
10 address either before you speak or if you could fill
11 this out, we need to be able to get back in touch with
12 you to respond to your comments.

13 LEN MATERMAN: Sure. Thank you. I'm in San
14 Carlos.

15 Really just two points on the adequacy of the
16 document. The PEIR states that there is no clear
17 scientific consensus on how global warming will affect
18 water supplies, yet it also states that predicted
19 changes are within the range that occurs under existing
20 and proposed operations.

21 I've found their conclusion that there's no
22 clear consensus yet they can estimate kind of the
23 effect of global warming and how this will shake out
24 over the next 30 years to be both inconsistent and
25 inaccurate.

L_Menlo3-01

C_Mater

C_Mater-01

12.6-81

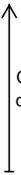
1 And I also found the fact that they devoted
2 three whole pages to the topic of global warming and
3 its influence on the snowpack out of the hundreds or
4 probably more than hundreds of pages over there to be
5 inadequate.

6 So I'm trying to use those words up there.

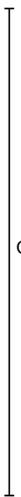
7 Second point, in terms of the assessment of
8 the document on natural resources and species, I felt
9 that they did take a look at species, yet they didn't
10 take a look the ecosystems within which those species
11 operate adequately. And that there are real and
12 knowable negative economic impacts of projects that
13 don't look at ecosystems and the services and the
14 economic values they provide.

15 And because those things are knowable and
16 because those things are real, I found this document to
17 be inadequate in its assessment of on the environmental
18 impact on the species involved.

19 I guess my last point is, earlier this week,
20 the State PUC came out with a document related to
21 energy. But I thought it would be instructive for us
22 here because what that document says, among other
23 things, is, quote, "We need to have our utilities
24 thinking long-term and strategically to make energy
25 efficiency business as usual, a part of everyday life



C_Mater-01
cont.



C_Mater-02

1 in California."

2 And of course, we're talking about water here
3 today, but I think the idea still hold for this
4 document. In so many ways, the Bay Area and San
5 Francisco is at the forefront of thinking nationally on
6 so many topics. I wish that in the context of water it
7 would do the same.

8 Thanks very much.

9 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Is there anyone else who wants to
10 speak who has not submitted a speaker card?

11 (No response)

12 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Okay. Well, that closes the
13 public comment portion of this hearing. Thank you for
14 coming tonight. Again, here up on our screen is where
15 you can submit written comments if you wish to further
16 supplement your verbal comments tonight. Thank you,
17 and have a very good evening.

18 (Whereupon, the proceedings concluded at
19 7:33 o'clock p.m.)

1 STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
2 COUNTY OF MARIN) ss.

3 I, DEBORAH FUQUA, a Certified Shorthand
4 Reporter of the State of California, do hereby certify
5 that the foregoing proceedings were reported by me, a
6 disinterested person, and thereafter transcribed under
7 my direction into typewriting and is a true and correct
8 transcription of said proceedings.

9 I further certify that I am not of counsel or
10 attorney for either or any of the parties in the
11 foregoing proceeding and caption named, nor in any way
12 interested in the outcome of the cause named in said
13 caption.

14 Dated the 2nd day of October, 2007.

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DEBORAH FUQUA
CSR NO. 12948

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PUBLIC HEARING TRANSCRIPT

San Francisco, California

**San Francisco City Hall, Planning Commission
Chambers, San Francisco, California
September 20, 2007**

(PH SF1)

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San Francisco #1	SI_SierraC5	Gwynn MacKellen	Member, Sierra Club	Public Hearing Transcript, San Francisco #1, 9/20/07, pp. 11-12
San Francisco #1	SI_D3Dem2	Tony Ganter	President, District 3 Democratic Club	Public Hearing Transcript, San Francisco #1, 9/20/07, pp. 12-13
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San Francisco #1	C_Dough	Denise Dougherty	Citizen	Public Hearing Transcript, San Francisco #1, 9/20/07, p. 38
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San Francisco #1	L_SFPC2	Michael Antonini	Commissioner, San Francisco City Planning Commission	Public Hearing Transcript, San Francisco #1, 9/20/07, pp. 42-43
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San Francisco #2	L_SFCPC5	Michael Antonini	Commissioner, San Francisco City Planning Commission	Public Hearing Transcript, San Francisco #2, 10/11/07, pp. 32-36
San Francisco #2	SI_TRT10	Peter Drekmeier	Bay Area Program Director, Tuolumne River Trust	Public Hearing Transcript, San Francisco #2, 10/11/07, pp. 37-39
San Francisco #2	L_BAWSCA6	Arthur Jensen	General Manager, Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency	Public Hearing Transcript, San Francisco #2, 10/11/07, pp. 39-42
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PUBLIC HEARING
DRAFT PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION'S
PROPOSED WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

SAN FRANCISCO CITY HALL
PLANNING COMMISSION CHAMBERS
1 DR. CARLTON B. GOODLETT PLACE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
SEPTEMBER 20, 2007

REPORTED BY: DEBORAH FUQUA, CSR #12948

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APPEARANCES

SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING COMMISSION

President Dwight Alexander
Commissioner Moore
Commissioner Bill Lee
Commissioner Antonini
Commissioner Olague
Commissioner Sue Lee
Secretary Avery

SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT
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Diana Sokolove, Senior Environmental Planner

KELLEY CAPONE
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

LESLIE MOULTON, PROJECT MANAGER
JOYCE HSIAO, DEPUTY PROJECT MANAGER
ESA + Orion Consultant Team

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1 PUBLIC SPEAKERS
2 John Barbey John Rizzo
3 Steven Miller Joan Girardot
4 Gwynn MacKellen Bernie Chodeu
5 Tony Gantner Ann Clark
6 Cindy Charles Shawna Gokener [phonetic]
7 Tomer Hasson Emeric Kalman
8 Eric Wesselman Silvia Johnson
9 Jennifer Clary June Bug [phonetic]
10 Jenna Olsen Denise Dougherty [phonetic]
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1 Thursday, September 20th, 2007 6:54 o'clock p.m.
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3 P R O C E E D I N G S
4 SECRETARY AVERY: Commissioners, you're now going
5 to take Item No. 21, Case No. 2005.059E, Water System
6 Improvement Program. This is a public hearing to
7 receive public comment on the draft environmental
8 impact report.
9 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Good evening --
10 COMMISSIONER SUGAYA: Excuse me, before you start.
11 I'm going to have to recuse myself on this
12 item. The company that I work for prepared the
13 historic resources evaluation for the Water System
14 PEIR. So I have a conflict of interest.
15 COMMISSIONER BILL LEE: I move to recuse
16 Commissioner Sugaya.
17 SECRETARY AVERY: On the motion to recuse
18 Commissioner Sugaya, Commissioner Moore?
19 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Aye.
20 SECRETARY AVERY: Commissioner Sugaya?
21 COMMISSIONER SUGAYA: Aye.
22 SECRETARY AVERY: Commissioner Bill Lee?
23 COMMISSIONER BILL LEE: Aye.
24 SECRETARY AVERY: Commissioner Antonini?
25 COMMISSIONER ANTONINI: Aye.

12.6-85

1 SECRETARY AVERY: Commissioner Alexander?
2 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Aye.
3 SECRETARY AVERY: Commissioner Olague?
4 COMMISSIONER OLAGUE: Aye.
5 SECRETARY AVERY: Commissioner Sue Lee?
6 COMMISSIONER SUE LEE: Aye.
7 SECRETARY AVERY: Thank you. Commissioner Sugaya
8 is excused.
9 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Okay. Good evening, President
10 Alexander, Members of the Commission. My name is Diana
11 Sokolove. And I'm a senior environmental planner with
12 the Major Environmental Analysis Division of the San
13 Francisco Planning Department.
14 This is a hearing to receive comments on the
15 draft program environmental impact report for the San
16 Francisco Public Utilities Commission's Water System
17 Improvement Program. It's Case No. 2005.0159E.
18 The public comment period for the draft
19 program environmental impact report began on June 29th
20 of 2007 and will end on October 1st, also in 2007. The
21 Planning Department also held four other public
22 hearings this month for the Water System Improvement
23 Program, Program Environmental Impact Report throughout
24 the program study area to take public comment on the
25 EIR. And the proceedings from those hearings will be

1 included in the comments and responses document.
2 This is not a hearing to consider approval or
3 disapproval of the proposed program. That hearing will
4 be held by the San Francisco Public Utilities
5 Commission following certification of the program
6 environmental impact report by this commission.
7 Therefore, comments today should be directed
8 to the adequacy and accuracy of the information
9 contained in the environmental impact report rather
10 than the merits of the proposed program. Also as you
11 know, staff is not here to -- generally not here to
12 answer public comments today. Comments will be
13 transcribed and responded to in writing in the
14 comments-and-responses document, which we hope to
15 publish in the spring of 2008.
16 Members of the public who would like to speak
17 this evening should speak slowly and clearly so that
18 the court reporter who we have here tonight can produce
19 an accurate transcript which will become part of the
20 public record for this environmental review process.
21 Also, commentators should state their name and address so
22 that they can be properly identified and so that they
23 can be sent a copy of the comments-and-responses
24 document when completed.
25 After comment from the general public, we will

12.6-86

1 also take any comments that the Commission may have on
2 the draft program environmental impact report. This
3 concludes the presentation on this matter.

4 Unless the Commissioners have any questions, I
5 respectfully request that you open up the hearing for
6 public comment.

7 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Thank you. We are now open
8 for public comment, and I do have speaker cards.

9 John Sarbie [sic] followed by Steven Miller
10 and Gwynn MacKellen.

C_Barbe2

11 JOHN BARBEY: Excuse me. My name is John Barbey,
12 with a "B." I live at 50 Liberty Street, San
13 Francisco, California 94110.

14 My concerns are very simple. I have not seen
15 the documentation. This was not tremendously well
16 noticed. I understand there was a tiny notice in the
17 Examiner, which is nearly impossible to obtain in its
18 paper form, a paper ad on September 10th. The full
19 documentation, I understand, fills a book box, which is
20 12 by 16, and fills the box right up to the lid. It's
21 3,000 pages. You know, there's a matter of time that
22 we have to peruse this information.

C_Barbe2-01

23 And my concern is very simple. I hope that
24 you are safeguarding the water supply into San
25 Francisco and the future water supply, as I believe in

C_Barbe2-02

1 increasing housing here in the city. I think it's a
2 big priority for us. We have to remain a competitive
3 destination as we have somehow managed to be.

4 And I think in the past, we simply assumed
5 that we would receive priority on this system and that
6 our supply would be safeguarded. I'm hearing amazing
7 stories about conservation being the solution.
8 Certainly conservation has to be prioritized too, but
9 my brother lives in Durango, Colorado. They have no
10 water. Even the Animas River is drying up. He gets
11 water delivered to his house every week.

12 We are an enormous, huge city. Imagine a
13 similar catastrophe if we had a serious water shortage
14 or if we had to help our neighbors in the East Bay
15 because they had a serious water shortage.

16 This is of tremendous huge priority for San
17 Francisco, the city itself, never mind all the other
18 cities that depend on this. But I think we're the ones
19 who made this system. We're the ones who should be
20 safeguarded. We're a very vulnerable big city, and I
21 think this is, in some ways, a simple problem. And I
22 certainly hope this report addresses that correctly.

23 We simply cannot take baths in Sparkletts
24 water. It's just too horrible to consider. Thank you
25 very much.

C_Barbe2-02
cont.

12.6-87

1 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Thank you.

2 Steven Miller. L_BAWSCA5

3 STEVEN MILLER: Good evening, Commissioners. I'm

4 Steven Miller. I'm a lawyer for the Bay Area Water

5 Supply and Conservation Agency, BAWSCA. And I'm here

6 representing BAWSCA and its general manager, Arthur

7 Jensen. BAWSCA is an independent special district

8 whose board of directors represents 27 long-term

9 contact customers of San Francisco. BAWSCA members

10 purchase over two-thirds of the water which the SFPUC

11 distributes and pays over two thirds of the cost of the

12 regional water system.

13 BAWSCA will shortly be submitting extensive

14 written comments. Today we'd just like to highlight

15 three key issues.

16 First, the PEIR should more clearly emphasize

17 the critical importance of completing the WSIP to

18 protect the public health and safety of the

19 2 1/2 million people that live in the Bay Area. We

20 must not lose site of why the WSIP is necessary and the

21 urgency with which it should be prosecuted. L_BAWSCA5-01

22 This is not the world's greatest -- many of

23 the regional water system's facilities are located on

24 or cross one or more active faults. There's a greater

25 than 60 percent chance of a major earthquake before the

1 year 2032. It is not a question of if such an

2 earthquake will happen but when. Following such an

3 earthquake, the flow of water to communities could be

4 disrupted for 30 to 60 days. The WSIP is necessary to

5 protect the millions of people who live in this area

6 from the catastrophic consequences of the water

7 system's failure.

8 Second, BAWSCA member agencies and their

9 customers are dedicated to conserving and recycling

10 water. Residential members of BAWSCA members use less

11 water than residents of all other regions of the state.

12 Indeed, residential use in San Francisco's neighboring

13 communities is lower than the average for the Bay Area

14 as a whole. As population grows, BAWSCA, its member

15 agencies and their customers, will implement additional

16 conservation measures and water recycling, so the

17 residential per capita water use is actually expected

18 to decline, despite the forecasted population growth.

19 Third, contrary to recent public statements,

20 San Francisco and BAWSCA are not the most significant

21 users of Tuolumne River water. Almost half of the

22 Tuolumne River runoff is used for agricultural

23 production.

24 While BAWSCA actively pursues additional

25 conservation efforts in its own service area, it also

L_BAWSCA5-01 cont.

L_BAWSCA5-02

L_BAWSCA5-03

12.6-88

1 makes sense, good sense, to encourage further
2 conservation from agricultural users of Tuolumne River
3 water. The modified WSIP, identified in the PEIR as
4 the environmentally superior alternative, suggests a
5 partnership with agricultural interests to conserve
6 Tuolumne River water while keeping agricultural
7 stakeholders whole so that water delivered to the Bay
8 Area would be offset by agricultural water
9 conservation.

10 BAWSCA supports such a partnership. It hopes
11 in its written comments to support and enlarge upon the
12 ideas presented in the PEIR, and will suggest ways to
13 achieve a net savings on the river while still
14 providing the water necessary to accommodate
15 environmentally sound in-fill growing plans for San
16 Francisco.

17 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Thank you.

18 STEVEN MILLER: Thank you. I have copies of these
19 slides if anybody would like them.

20 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Thank you.

21 Gwynn MacKellen.

SI_SierraC5

22 GWYNN MacKELLEN: Hello. My name is Gwynn
23 MacKellen, and I live at 143 Howth Street in San
24 Francisco. I work for the San Francisco Bay Chapter of
25 the Sierra Club, and I want to thank the Planning



L_BAWSCA5-03 cont.

1 Commission for letting me speak.

2 I also wanted to let you know that the public
3 truly cares about this issue. It's concerned with the
4 PUC's plans to withdraw more water from Yosemite and
5 the Tuolumne River.

6 A bunch of Sierra Club members were here
7 earlier and left all these public comments. And this
8 is a picture of them.

9 Also, many Sierra Club members and San
10 Francisco residents sent cards indicating their support
11 for water conservation and recycling to protect the
12 Tuolumne. Here are those cards (indicating).

13 There are a total of 800 comments. So clearly
14 many people are not pleased with the current plan to
15 allow more water-heavy landscaping at the expense of
16 our wildlife and natural treasures. We have a chance
17 to meet our water needs in an environmentally
18 responsible way. Please take these public comments
19 into account. Thank you.

20 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Tony Gantner. SI_D3Dem2

21 TONY GANTNER: Commissioners, good evening. Tony
22 Gantner, President, District 3 Democrat Club. I live
23 at 235 Chestnut Street, San Francisco, 94133.

24 Our club is deeply concerned about any action
25 taken by the PUC that would allow more water to be



SI-SierraC5-01

SI-D3Dem2-01

12.6-89

1 diverted from the Tuolumne River. We believe that the
2 rights of the environment are equal to human civil
3 rights and that compassion for the environment is as
4 impassioned as for our fellow human beings.

SI-D3Dem2-01 cont.

5 Within that belief system, the proposed
6 diversions on their face are presumptively harmful to
7 fisheries and sensitive riparian habitats. It is our
8 understanding that the draft EIR released by the PUC
9 does not properly identify and address the impacts of
10 taking more water from the Tuolumne and that such
11 diversions would be for customers outside of San
12 Francisco.

SI-D3Dem2-02

13 We realize that growth projections for the Bay
14 Area over the next generation are pressuring the PUC to
15 allow these increased diversions, but the rights of and
16 compassion for the environment must be acknowledged.
17 There must be limits to gross impact on the
18 environment. Conservation and recycling are one
19 solution.

SI-D3Dem2-03

20 In this city which can rightly be called the
21 cradle of environmentalism, do not betray your
22 heritage. The Tuolumne fisheries are as much entitled
23 to help the ecosystems as each of you is entitled to
24 live in a clean and green urban environment. Thank
25 you.

1 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Thank you.

2 Cindy Charles.

SI_GWWWF2

3 CINDY CHARLES: Good evening. My name is Cindy
4 Charles, and I live at 403 Willard Street, San
5 Francisco, 94117. I'm a conservation chairperson for
6 the Golden West Women Fly Fishers. And I'm also a
7 member of the Steelhead Committee of the Northern
8 California Council-Federation of Fly Fishers. I'm a
9 native San Franciscan, and the Tuolumne River is really
10 very special to me. I fish all over California, and
11 it's my favorite river.

12 And one of the reasons why is that's where I
13 caught my first fish as a kid. I caught my first fish
14 on a fly, an artificial lure, there. I also caught the
15 largest trout I've landed to date. I brought you a
16 picture of it because I like showing pictures of my
17 fish.

18 That's a 19-inch brown trout. It was caught
19 below the Hetch Hetchy Dam in Pupino [phonetic] Valley.
20 So I'm here to represent anglers of Northern
21 California. We are very concerned that the plan as it
22 stands increases the water diversion to extremely high
23 levels. Already the Tuolumne River has diversions in
24 the range of 70 to 80 percent. And I know irrigation
25 further down contributes to that.

SI-GWWWF2-01

12.6-90

1 But this water system is already compromised.
2 And to further divert more water is just unthinkable.
3 Also, further down the road is the Sacramento Delta.
4 And everyone knows it's suffering. It needs every bit
5 of fresh water that it can get in order to help turn
6 that fishery around.

SI-GWWF2-01 cont.

7 The anglers are also very concerned about the
8 proposed increased diversions on the Alameda Creek
9 watershed. My club and several other clubs are working
10 to restore steelhead passage so the fish can go from
11 the ocean back up to where they were born and spawn.
12 And we're working on removing dams. And if you're
13 taking more water out of there, that's not helping the
14 fish any either.

SI-GWWF2-02

15 So we will be submitting a more detailed
16 comment letter, and I thank you for your time.

17 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Thank you. Tomer Hasson
18 followed by Eric Wesselman and Jennifer Clary.

19 TOMER HASSON: My name is Tomer Hasson. I live at
20 2191 - 21st Avenue in the Sunset.

C_Hasso

21 First of all, I want to put my support behind
22 the seismic upgrades and most of the Water System
23 Improvement Plan. I think it's about time that the Bay
24 Area has a secured source of water. And I commend all
25 of you guys for taking on that larger project.

C_Hasso-01

1 I do take issue, though, with the water
2 diversion from the Tuolumne River. We're talking about
3 a wild and scenic river in which 60 percent of its flow
4 is already diverted for urban and rural use. And as
5 you know, you're threatening an additional 25 million
6 gallons a day from the river. And basically, most of
7 that will be going for outdoor use to increase lawns
8 and our parks, the green of our lawns and parks, which
9 basically says to me that we're more -- we have much
10 more -- I'm sorry.

C_Hasso-02

11 We view the green of our lawns and parks much
12 more important than we do actually a federally
13 protected wild and scenic river. The simple fact that
14 the PEIR equates an increase in population to an
15 increase in water is exactly wrong -- or increase in
16 use of water is exactly wrong. Other major
17 metropolitan areas, such as Seattle and Los Angeles,
18 have been able to decrease water usage in the face of
19 population growth by focusing on conservation and
20 recycling measures.

21 The draft PEIR also uses flawed modeling to
22 determine anticipated water demand. The anticipated 14
23 percent increase in demand is excessively large and out
24 of step for the Bay Area. And let me point out to you
25 that, not only do we have flawed methods in our

C_Hasso-03

12.6-91

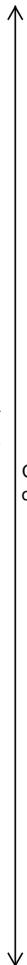
1 population projections for the Bay Area, but our
2 increase in demand, that increase in demand of 14
3 percent is reflected in per capita use, which is also
4 set to increase over the next 20 years.

5 I fail to understand why a person 20 years
6 from now is going to be using more water than I do
7 today. But that's besides the point because that per
8 capita increase will supposedly increase, even though
9 the price of water is expected to triple in the next
10 decade, according to the SFPUC.

11 But even if that 14 percent increase in demand
12 does hold, then a majority of that demand can be met by
13 conservation, efficiency building, and recycling
14 measures.

15 The SFPUC's own studies indicate that such
16 measures, which I remind you are the cheapest, easiest
17 and least destructive ways to meet demand and extend
18 supply, could eliminate the need to divert more water
19 from the Tuolumne by 74 percent.

20 My simple point here is that other large
21 metropolitan areas have been able to do this with
22 little effort. The Bay Area, the leader in the
23 environmental movement and environmental ethic, should
24 be ahead of everyone, not far behind. I also invite
25 you to please revisit the studies and new methodology



C_Hasso-03
cont.

1 within the draft PEIR.

2 And please revisit the concept of global
3 warming. The State of California projects that global
4 warming will reduce the Sierra snowpack by 5 percent by
5 2030, and by 33 percent by 2060.

6 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Thank you. Eric Wesselman.

7 TOM MARASAN: Thank you. I appreciate your time.

8 ERIC WESSELMAN: Good evening. My name is Eric
9 Wesselman. I'm the executive director of the Tuolumne
10 River Trust.

11 For over 25 years, the Tuolumne River Trust
12 has been working to protect and restore this wild and
13 scenic river. But now, the San Francisco Public
14 Utilities Commissioners and their wholesale customers
15 are proposing to take an additional 25 million gallons
16 of water out of this river each and every day.

17 And as I stand here in San Francisco, I think
18 it's important to note that it's not even for San
19 Francisco. This is being [sic] for sales to the
20 wholesale customer, which projects demand increase of
21 25 million gallons from the Tuolumne alone.

22 The Tuolumne, as I said, is a wild and scenic
23 river, and more than half of the river is already
24 diverted. And while much of that is for rural or
25 agricultural uses or urban uses in other parts of the

↑C_Hasso-03
| cont.

C_Hasso-04

SI_TRT9

SI_TRT9-01

12.6-92

1 state, the increase in demand is coming from the Bay
2 Area. So the single largest threat to the Tuolumne
3 River is the San Francisco plan to divert an additional
4 25 million gallons per day.

SI_TRT9-01
cont.

5 And I think more to the point, the draft EIR
6 does not adequately justify or define the need for more
7 water. For instance, the draft is based on the
8 fundamentally flawed analysis that didn't look at the
9 relationship between the price of water, moving into
10 the future, and the demand for water. It's not
11 inelastic. It's elastic. As price goes up, as has
12 been mentioned, a tripling of price over the next
13 decade or two will lead to a decrease in demand.

SI_TRT9-02

14 So that was not analyzed or looked at in the
15 analysis done by the SFPUC, the wholesale customers, or
16 the Planning Department. So I'd recommend that that be
17 reevaluated, and that that would reduce demand
18 projections in the future.

19 Second, the SFPUC's own study wasn't used that
20 found that much of the demand increase could be met
21 through sustainable sources, such as recycling and
22 conservation. And that should be looked at and
23 incorporated.

SI_TRT9-03

24 Finally, there is a use of outdated employment
25 projections from the Association of Bay Area

SI_TRT9-04

1 Governments that used '02 data. And '05 data became
2 available which decreased the job -- the employment
3 projections moving into the future, which means less
4 growth in the commercial sector, which means less water
5 use.

SI_TRT9-04
cont.

6 While it's not great for the region's economy,
7 it's a reality, and we ought to be looking at that in
8 terms of planning for the future use of our resources.

9 Additionally, there's an increase in per
10 capita use. And as an objective note, it's simply not
11 acceptable in this day and age to project an increase
12 in water use per person.

SI_TRT9-05

13 And I think -- my time is running short. By
14 that, while the bulk of the WSIP is focused on needed
15 repairs and seismic upgrades -- and we whole-heartedly
16 endorse that and support that -- we're concerned that
17 it includes this poison pill of taking more water off
18 of a wild and scenic river that is already largely
19 diverted. And that threatens to delay these needed
20 seismic improvements and retrofits and repairs. So
21 that should be looked at. And I think it would be of
22 concern to the wholesale customers.

SI_TRT9-06

23 Thank you for your time.

24 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Thank you. Jennifer Clary.

25 JENNIFER CLARY: Thank you. Excuse me. SI_CWA2

12.6.93

1 My name is Jennifer Clary. I'm here in my
2 professional capacity today as the water policy analyst
3 for Clean Water Action. And I just want to thank you
4 all for listening to this. All of us folks back here,
5 we've been soaked in this for five years. And we just
6 come in and talk about stuff. And I know that you all
7 read the five-volume report overnight before you came
8 here. And I just want to thank you for listening to
9 us. And we're trying to keep our comments brief, but
10 there's a whole lot of detail that will be going into
11 in our written comments. And I hope you'll have a
12 chance to look at that.

13 Clean Water Action has been tracking this
14 program for more than five years. We supported the
15 bond to rebuild the system. We think it's vital that
16 we have a reliable water supply. But of course, your
17 job here is, in ensuring that we have a viable water
18 supply, to ensure sure that this document is adequate.

19 And we have lots of serious concerns about the
20 adequacy of document. One concern that I'd like to
21 note today is the four pages -- the four-page review of
22 the impact of climate change on the program. And in --
23 I understand that it's a difficult, new science but the
24 fact of the matter is that, if this report does not
25 adequately asses the process of climate change, it's

SI_CWA2-01

1 not going to be an adequate document, and it's going to
2 be challenged.

3 They did take a look at the impact of
4 temperature increase and found that it could result in
5 a 7 percent decrease in run-off, but they said that's
6 within the range of expected -- the range of historic
7 data. The difficulty with this is it's not part of the
8 range. It's additive. And how do you create -- how do
9 you measure the cumulative effect of climate change?

10 And in addition, there's other impacts of
11 climate change that aren't looked at here. In the
12 local reservoirs, you have more evaporation, you have
13 increase in algae blooms, which is a big concern for
14 water agencies. You have an increase in temperature in
15 the river which could require more flow releases for
16 fish.

17 So there are things that aren't really studied
18 and aren't even referred to in the document that really
19 have to be taken care of. If we have a snow melt -- or
20 if we have a snow, that means the timing of the run-off
21 changes, and that changes the way you operate a
22 reservoir. And that's something that should be looked
23 at and estimated here.

24 And of course, there could be an increase in
25 environmental water demand, and, as I mentioned, not

SI_CWA2-01
cont.

12.6.94

1 just for the middle fork of the Tuolumne but below Don
2 Pedro. And the PUC will have a responsibility for that
3 as well. Remember that the Tuolumne feeds into the San
4 Joaquin River and goes down into the Delta. So don't
5 think that this project isn't part of that whole mess.

6 And finally, there is another good silver
7 lining to this, which is the most cost-effective way to
8 reduce greenhouse gas emissions is through water
9 conservation. So these demand numbers don't take into
10 account that we're going to be looking for cheap ways
11 to save energy before 2030.

12 Thank you.

C_Olsen

13 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Thank you. Jenna Olsen.

14 JENNA OLSEN: Hello. My name is Jenna Olsen. I
15 live on Vallejo Street in San Francisco. My full
16 address is on my speaker card.

17 I imagine all of you Commissioners and most of
18 the people in this room, everyone in this room, walked
19 by the house that is on display right in front of City
20 Hall today. It is MKlotus House. It has a green roof.
21 It has native landscaping on the outside. It has a
22 gray water system. It has a rainwater catchment system
23 to use that rainwater for the little bit of water that
24 is needed for the landscaping. It's part of West Coast
25 Green, which is a conference going on in Bill Graham

SI_CWA2-01
cont.

C_Olsen-01

1 Center this week and this weekend. If you haven't had
2 a chance to look at the house, I encourage you to go
3 there tomorrow or Saturday.

4 Mayor Newsom gave one of the keynote speeches
5 this morning at that conference. And he talked about
6 San Francisco's leadership on the environment and
7 sustainability. He talked about San Francisco's
8 leadership on greenhouse gasses, transportation, waste
9 diversion.

10 Did he talk about San Francisco's leadership
11 on water? No. He did not.

12 That's a problem.

13 Is the PEIR that's in front of you the
14 document of a leading city in environmental
15 sustainability? No. It's not. It's inadequate for
16 all the reasons you've heard tonight. It did not even
17 consider an option that would have not taken more water
18 out of the Tuolumne River. San Francisco should be a
19 leader. It should be showing the way in water use
20 efficiency, water conservation, and environmental
21 restoration, sustainability.

22 I encourage you to do this right, do it over
23 so that a year or two from now Mayor Newsom can give
24 another speech where he talks about what a leader San
25 Francisco is in water and in finishing the earthquake

C_Olsen-01
cont.

12.6-95

1 retrofits as well.
2 And thank you for that. I also would like to
3 submit to the record the appalling nature with which
4 this hearing was publicized. I have printouts from
5 both the Planning Department and the SFPUC Web sites
6 from yesterday. I had a very hard time finding out
7 what time this hearing was going to be. It was listed
8 as 1:30 on the SFPUC Web site, even though it was
9 apparently for 5:00 o'clock today.

↑ C_Olsen-01
cont.

10 So I just would like to say that I think more
11 people would have been interested in this if it had
12 been better noticed. Thank you.

SI_SierraC6

13 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Thank you. John Rizzo.

14 JOHN RIZZO: John Rizzo, 1621 Waller Street,
15 94117, San Francisco. I'm here today, Commissioners,
16 in my capacity as former chair of the Sierra Club's San
17 Francisco Bay Chapter. I'm a current executive
18 committee member. I'm also representing Sierra Club
19 California.

20 And we are opposing the
21 25-million-gallon-per-day additional water grab from
22 the Tuolumne River, and we'll be submitting comments in
23 conjunction with the other environmental groups in the
24 package.

SI_SierraC6-01
SI_SierraC6-02

25 But I'm just going to talk about one very

1 small aspect of the EIR, and that's on growth, the
2 impacts of the additional water on growth. Additional
3 review is necessary to bring the impacts of the growth
4 numbers up to 2030 and also to review the impacts of
5 the ABAG projects which only go 2025.

6 The expanded water supply would accommodate a
7 28.8 increase in employment and 16.8 increase in
8 population between 2005 and 2030 in the service area.
9 This is about 5 percent more jobs and 5 percent less
10 population than what the EIR estimates that the general
11 plans would allow.

12 The document cites the environmental analysis
13 done by the general plans for the service areas. It
14 doesn't do it itself, doesn't do the analysis itself.
15 But none of the plans has a time horizon that extends
16 to 2030. So it is speculative to make conclusions
17 about consistency.

18 It is also speculative to assume that the
19 local jurisdictions will plan for a continuing rate of
20 growth beyond their horizontal years as assumed in the
21 EIR. So it cannot be concluded that the EIRs done for
22 the general plans adequately cover the growth allowed
23 by the increased water supply. The EIR acknowledges
24 this fact on Page 7-35 and Page 7-69.

25 The EIR finds that the water supply growth is

SI_SierraC6-02 cont.

12.6-96

1 generally consistent with ABAG projections to the year
2 2025, but ABAG projections are not subject to
3 environmental review. So this area is completely
4 inadequate. They have done no work in this. This EIR
5 is full of this.

SI_SierraC6-02 cont.

6 Another big area, which I don't have time to
7 go into, is the water flows. They simply do not have
8 any idea of what the impact of taking this water will
9 do to the river flows and what it will do to the fish.
10 They don't have enough of a baseline -- they don't have
11 the science; they don't have the numbers. We need a
12 much more multi-year longer study to get that. And
13 we're not there.

SI_SierraC6-03

14 So there's many other areas. I just wanted to
15 point out this one on sprawl.

16 Thank you. **SI_SFNeigh**

17 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Thank you. Joan Girardot.

18 JOAN GIRARDOT: Joan Girardot, Coalition for San
19 Francisco Neighborhoods. My home address is on my
20 speaker card. Because an EIR is an informational tool
21 for decision makers, besides being accurate, adequate,
22 and complete, it should be clear. And I would like to
23 offer some points that I think need to be clarified.

24 The benchmark year that is chosen is 2001, as
25 far as demand. And it is stated that 261 million

SI_SFNeigh-01

1 gallons a day were delivered in that year. And we're
2 going to a goal of 300 mgd.

3 However, if you review the historic tables,
4 which I have here, the average going back over the
5 years is around 240 million gallons a day that has
6 actually been delivered. So it's a big jump from 240-
7 to 300-. It puts everything in a different perspective
8 from 261- to 300-. I think that should be clarified
9 and the historic table should be included in the
10 document.

SI_SFNeigh-01 cont.

11 Number two, the growth outside of the city --
12 it has been stated -- I think it should be clarified in
13 the document -- the 25 million gallons a day proposed
14 to be extracted from the Tuolumne is going to the
15 suburbs, not for use by San Franciscans who planned,
16 designed, engineered, built, and paid for this system.

17 A next point of clarification is the
18 discussion of conservation. We're looking at our whole
19 customers as a whole. But within the city itself
20 according to PUC documents, the average resident of San
21 Francisco uses 61.19 gallons of water per day. That is
22 lower than any of our customers.

SI_SFNeigh-02

23 And 61.19 gallons per day is 12 percent below
24 what the EPA recommends for indoor water usage. And we
25 have negligible outdoor usage. The outdoor usage in

12.6-97

1 the city is from our Rec and Park Department. And I
2 think it would be helpful to have a table in the
3 document that listed the per capita water usage per day
4 of all of the 28 customers in comparison with the
5 citizens of San Francisco. I think it would be very
6 helpful.

SI_SFNeigh-02 cont.

7 The other thing is -- so we need to clarify
8 where we're going with conservation within the city.
9 Of course there is room for plumbing fixtures, et
10 cetera, but 61 gallons per person per day is so low --
11 I want this clarified. And this nonsense about further
12 conservation by the residents of the city -- we are
13 already doing our job.

SI_SFNeigh-03

14 Then the last point is I want clarification
15 about recycled water. Because the document presumes
16 that we're freeing up --

17 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Thank you.

18 I have no other speakers cards. Is there
19 anyone else deciding to comment on this item?

20 BERNIE CHODEU: Now you have a speaker card for
21 Bernie Chodeu.

C_Chode

22 I would just underscore what Jennifer Clary
23 has indicated, that I am a believer in global change.
24 And the inadequacy of the EIR in recognizing that issue
25 is an issue for you as a Planning Commission and as

C_Chode-01

1 staff. And that is, the 30 percent less snowpack and
2 so forth will affect the ability of this city to meet
3 its future water needs, especially with regard to the
4 now discredited housing element, as Kathy Devencenzi
5 indicated at the State appeals court, others, that
6 states that we have adequate water supply and
7 infrastructure.

C_Chode-01 cont.

8 Until there is mitigation with our
9 conservation measures and a change in city's political
10 policy to accommodate its 200,000 proposed growth and
11 commercial expansion, this Commission and its staff
12 needs to be directed to mitigate its issuance of
13 permits that allows further growth.

14 Thank you, and I hope I've directed you in
15 some truthful expansion of your meeting.

16 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Thank you. State your name.

17 BERNIE CHODEU: I did. But I'll repeat it.
18 Bernie Chodeu in case you didn't remember me secretary
19 secretary thank you.

20 ANN CLARK: Mr. Chair, I have a respectful
21 question because I'm new to this. I have copies of
22 written comments. Do I need to give one to each of
23 you?

24 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: You can just place it on the
25 rail. If you have one for each of us, that's great.

12.6-98

1 If not, the single is fine.

2 ANN CLARK: But it will get submitted?

3 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: It will get submitted.

4 ANN CLARK: I'll do that.

C_Clark2

5 I'm Ann Clark. And my name and my address is
6 on the card. And I'm living in San Francisco. I'll
7 speak very quickly as being your last person.

8 The comment cards that -- the report that you
9 have is going to address actually three main issues.
10 One has to do with the Hetch Hetchy water delivery
11 infrastructure costs and finance. We do thoroughly
12 support, by the way, the work that's being done in
13 order to protect the Hetch Hetchy and its
14 infrastructure.

15 This is about the cost and the finances,
16 whether you have enough money to do this project. And
17 if you don't have enough money, what's going to happen?
18 And usually the knee jerk reaction is to cut
19 mitigations. That, of course, I think, would cause
20 some legal concerns.

C_Clark2-01

21 The SFPUC Commissioner last week said he is
22 betting on the over, if he went to Las Vegas, on this
23 project. And I think we'd all bet on the over, that
24 this is going to go over cost. So we are asking that
25 there be an environmental impact study in terms of what

1 will be done as a result of however this develops in
2 the future.

C_Clark2-01
cont.

3 Secondly -- and I don't know if I'm saying
4 this right, the gentleman from BAWSCA -- is that the
5 one? Bay Area Something -- I'm new, so I don't know
6 that -- mentioned something about general promises from
7 wholesale cost customers and working out agreements
8 with the agricultural group. Remember the W-S-I-P, the
9 WSIP, is directly connected to the 2009 contract.
10 That's directly connected to the WSIP, so there's an
11 integral connection between the two.

C_Clark2-02

12 When you do contracts, that's going to have to
13 be looked at in an environmental, stable way. You need
14 a review of that contract because that is an integral
15 part of the plan. So if they are coming forward
16 agreements that are in the contract, not good faith
17 agreements but contractual agreements with agricultural
18 users or contractual agreements with promises to do
19 more conservation, contractual agreements with
20 definitive terms, they have got to be in the contract.
21 If they're not there, they are not there, and they
22 shouldn't be considered.

23 Second point is drought and climate change and
24 global warming. You've already heard that the study of
25 that is really limited and narrow. There is a study of

C_Clark2-03

12.6.99

1 drought. But what's really bothering us is there's not
2 a study of what happens if there's drought, climate
3 change and global warming, what would be the
4 exponential effects from now to 2030 if those coalesce.
5 And in a drought cycle state, which we are, we
6 are going to see some effects come through. And these
7 need to be carefully studied.

C_Clark2-03
cont.

8 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Thank you.

9 ANN CLARK: So I'll leave you with the rest of the
10 report.

11 SHAWNA GOKENER [phonetic]: Good evening, C_Goken
12 Commissioners. Shawna Gokener. My address is 667
13 O'Farrell, Apartment 10, 94109.

14 "Compassion" means understanding and action.
15 And it seems that we don't have the understanding
16 necessary of how to preserve our water supply, which is
17 one of the most sacred things that a city's duty is to
18 do. So I really think we need to step back and really
19 look at this very carefully and know that there's a
20 great deal of public concern. And we need to think far
21 into the future before we take answer actions and be
22 compassionate about water supply.

C_Goken-01

23 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Thank you. Next speaker,
24 please.

C_Kalma

25 EMERIC KALMAN: Thank you. My name is Emeric

1 Kalman, member of the public. And my address is on my
2 speaker card.

3 On September 19, yesterday, the San Francisco
4 Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board has on the on the
5 agenda an announcement on this item, which is today, on
6 agenda at the Planning Commission.

7 And says here, that, "The draft environment
8 impact report was published on August 31st, 2007. The
9 Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to
10 receive comments on the draft EIR to submit to the
11 Planning Department. Written comments on the draft EIR
12 will be accepted in the Planning Department until 5:00
13 p.m. on until Tuesday, October 16."

14 The public didn't know about this
15 documentation. And the first time appeared in the
16 newspaper was published in the Examiner on September
17 10, ten days ago and said that this hearing will be
18 September 20, which is today.

C_Kalma-01

19 So the public was given ten days to read the
20 material, which I think is -- I don't know 30 points
21 something like that, a bit of material, and maybe 3,000
22 pages; I'm not sure. So the public needs more time to
23 read it study it and have comment on it. It's
24 unbelievable that the City gives ten days of this
25 crucial documentation to make comments on it. I think

12.6-100

1 it's a joke. And I will ask whoever can forward this
2 within ten days to study, to give an answer, why is
3 just ten days on it?

C_Kalma-01
cont.

4 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Thank you.

5 Is there anyone else desiring to speak on this
6 item?

C_JohnsSil

7 SILVIA JOHNSON: Those who -- my name is Silvia
8 Johnson. I live at 1230 Market Street, 94102, San
9 Francisco, California.

10 And I don't think that this water and distance
11 is greatly allowed study on it. And other people at
12 the environmental, that resource is needed and know
13 where there's water already. That we don't have
14 anything to worry about in the mountain of the -- over
15 here. And I've written stories on the water that been
16 in revisions.

C_JohnsSil-01

17 And I think that also an environmental control
18 is -- you know, more time it needs for this to be read
19 because not only that, thinking of when the inclusion
20 that I have a -- what you call anxiousness to be able
21 to handle all this kind of -- stop Silvia's, you know,
22 progress. And I'm going to change that.

23 I found that it don't do much to get this
24 whole life back together. And I'm sorry if I do, you
25 know, that -- because of environment that is -- I'm

1 fighting every day. And I'm going to proceed. And my
2 idea is what is going on where we can see the results,
3 and that I'm going -- been through a lot. And I am
4 glad -- you know, learn about more about the
5 conversation.

6 And I reviewed a lot of this [unintelligible].
7 And I think this is what their's scared of, you know,
8 for environment. And I don't -- the police -- I didn't
9 give a report on what should be done. They've already
10 told that. The police have already, you know, made an
11 arrangement that needs to be solved.

C_JohnsSil-01
cont.

12 But I don't want what why they're scared of
13 somebody that can, you know, show you in the future, to
14 keep everything whole. And because this advantage of
15 that's speeding things too fast. I've only been out of
16 jail now for four months. And you know, I've suffered
17 enough. I think that this will be reviewed a whole lot
18 more. Thank you.

19 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Is there anyone else
20 desiring to comment on this item?

C_Bug

21 JUNE BUG [phonetic]: Hi. My name is June Bug,
22 and I'm 31-year San Francisco native. And I live at
23 618 Buchanan Street, over in the Western Addition.

24 I am here to really express importance as
25 somebody who's worked with the Conservation Corps. I

12-6-101

1 worked with the Conservation Corps back in 2000. I'm
2 also somebody who dealt with homelessness as a child,
3 eight years old, and dealt with a different strategy in
4 water and public systems. And I'm also somebody that,
5 on a spiritual level, really identifies with water.

6 All of these things combined, my concern would
7 be "improvement" doesn't usually mean taking something
8 away. "Improvement" usually means something that you
9 want to preserve. And even if we're at a certain
10 percentage, as people living in San Francisco being
11 really conservative with the water, that doesn't mean
12 we stop there. That means we keep moving forward.
13 That should be an encouragement for us to continue
14 making that even a more amazinger [sic] percentage.

15 I don't see how taking water out of a river is
16 going to improve a water program -- to improve a water
17 system. So I really have a lot of concerns about what
18 the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission is trying
19 to propose here as somebody who is very, very concerned
20 about our water, due to the fact that -- I mean,
21 there's rumors that one day we'll be fighting L.A. for
22 our water.

23 So I think that we really need to take a look
24 at this. Thank you.

25 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Thank you.

C_Bug-01

1 Is there anyone else deciding to comment?
2 DENISE DOUGHERTY [phonetic]: Hello. I'm 52-year
3 resident of California. My name is Denise Dougherty.
4 And I live at 216 Eddy in San Francisco. I was born in
5 Castro Valley, which -- and I never left the Bay Area
6 unless I went overseas for a while.

7 And I learned they had a few different
8 approaches to their water usage. And they used old
9 water to water their lawns. Even when I was a child, I
10 could never understand, why would they use drinking
11 water to water their lawns? You know, water is such a
12 precious resource.

13 I think we need to restructure our water usage
14 as well as our energy usage. Our resources are
15 becoming less and less as the population grows. So we
16 need to restructure a lot of things. Our lifestyles
17 need to be restructured. And I can go on and on about
18 that, but I have only three minutes.

19 So we need to make use of, like, old water
20 they call it gray water, reclaimed water. I'm sure you
21 know all about that.

22 But the Tuolumne River, it's just the most
23 obvious choice because it's so clean. But there's so
24 many other ways to get water than taking it from the
25 Tuolumne. There really are.

C_Dough

C_Dough-01

1 And that's about all I have to say. I thank
2 you very much for listening. I'm against this.

3 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Thank you.

4 Is there anyone else desiring to comment on
5 this item?

6 (No response)

7 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Seeing none, public comment
8 is closed. The Department will continue to take
9 comments on this item until 5:00 o'clock, October
10 10th, I believe the date is? Oh, October 1st. So I
11 encourage you to submit your written comments to the
12 Department.

13 Commissioner Olague?

L_SFCPC1

14 COMMISSIONER OLAGUE: I think my comments are
15 related more to the process than the contents of the
16 draft EIR at this point.

17 I feel a little bit -- I'm sorry. I want to
18 apologize to members of the public who are here. We
19 had about 40 people in blue T-shirts that were here to
20 speak to the issue, and we're down to one now.

21 Thank you for sticking around and providing us
22 with that documentation, the 800 signatures of people
23 who have concerns about this draft EIR.

24 But I wanted to point out exactly what we're
25 commenting on today. For the benefit of the public, I

L_SFCPC1-01

1 wanted to sort of point out the size of the document
2 the people are commenting on today [indicating]. It's
3 like close to 4,000 pages of documentation, this draft
4 EIR. And basically, I think we waited a little long to
5 have this hearing. I know what we did what was legally
6 required, but sometimes I think we do need to go above
7 and beyond that.

8 It's a 4,000-page document. This is one of --
9 four of five volumes that we're required to review.
10 And to have only one period of public comment, and
11 we're -- what's today's date? September -- 20th. So
12 people are basically being given, what, 10 or 11 days
13 to respond.

14 And I know that this document has been out
15 there for a long time, but I think in the future, when
16 we have this size of a document to really review and to
17 expect the public to comment on, we need to provide
18 more than one public comment period about it. I think
19 this is just too important to just sort of rely on only
20 one public comment period ten days before the date that
21 these comments are due.

22 One of my concerns also is that this is a
23 project that's ultimately going to be decided by the
24 Public Utilities Commission, I believe. So it's not
25 even a project that we're ultimately going to be

L_SFCPC1-01
cont.

L_SFCPC1-02

12-6-103

1 approving.

2 And I have serious concerns about the fact
3 that we're being asked to judge the adequacy of an EIR
4 without the benefits of any real briefing from the PUC
5 about the project itself. I think that I -- I think
6 that that's just irresponsible.

7 So before I actually am able to adequately
8 evaluate and fairly evaluate the accuracy of an EIR, I
9 need to understand the project. I need to understand
10 it within some context. And I think that it's going to
11 be necessary to understand exactly what the project is.

12 And I'd like to have some information from the
13 PUC, maybe a hearing, a briefing; I don't know. But I
14 think that it's important for us to understand that
15 before actually giving -- you know, actually fairly
16 evaluating the adequacy of the EIR sort of in a vacuum
17 without the benefits of understanding deeply what the
18 project is.

19 So I'm going to -- I'm requesting that a
20 hearing be held about the project itself before this
21 Commission, so we can be evaluating this EIR within the
22 context of the project.

23 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Thank you for your comment. I'll
24 certainly talk to the PUC about that.

25 COMMISSIONER OLAGUE: Thank you.

L_SFCPC1-02
cont.

L_SFCPC1-03

1 And again, thanks to the members of the
2 public. And I hope that there's some written things.
3 I'd like to understand a little bit more, too, the
4 concerns of the Sierra Club and others. I know that
5 three minutes isn't enough time to really state all
6 that needs to be stated.

7 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Commissioner Antonini.

8 COMMISSIONER ANTONINI: Thank you all for coming
9 and testifying. And again, my apologies for the fact
10 that we didn't hear this at the time that it was
11 announced.

12 I think that what -- I've read this over, and
13 I think it is -- you know, in my estimate, it is an
14 adequate statement. However, I understand some
15 comments were made tonight.

16 I guess the first thing is, we didn't get a
17 lot of discussion on, is the fact this is moving
18 forward. And that's very important because, you know,
19 the system does need to be upgraded, seismically
20 improved. And this is probably something that I think
21 everyone agrees upon.

22 And we have a huge fiduciary responsibility
23 because of the size of the system. It goes far beyond
24 just the city and county of San Francisco. It's a huge
25 area and part of the Bay Area. So what we do here is

L_SFCPC2

L_SFCPC2-01

12.6-104

1 extremely important.

2 I think there were comments made about the per
3 capita usage and that perhaps the projections were
4 overly high. And I think that that is something that
5 could be looked at here. However, to the extent that
6 they are lower if there is conservation or there are
7 factors that make the per capita consumption lower than
8 is projected, it's probably a good thing.

9 So I think that it's important that the study
10 err on both -- to both sides and examine all the
11 different possibilities that might exist. I think it
12 was interesting to hear that the per capita consumption
13 in San Francisco is 61 gallons per day. I think that
14 that's pretty low. It's interesting that -- you know,
15 I don't know that it's realistic that the rest of the
16 the Bay Area is going to be that low, given the fact
17 that there's a lot less pavement in a lot of those
18 other parts of the Bay Area, and their consumption for
19 outdoor use is probably a lot higher.

20 But anyway, I appreciate the work here, and
21 I'm interested in, you know, going forward and getting
22 as much information as I can from PUC on this.

23 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Thank you.

24 Commissioner Moore.

25 COMMISSIONER MOORE: I want to weigh in on the

↑L_SFCPC2-01
cont.

L_SFCPC2-02

L_SFCPC3

↓L_SFCPC3-01

1 side of not finding enough forward-leading concepts in
2 this entire document. If we are moving into greener
3 sustainability, which has been talked about now for
4 quite some time, I believe that this document shows
5 very little. It is, I think, an engineered response.

6 And while I strongly support the idea of
7 seismic safety and a healthy, deliverable system in all
8 circumstances, I question how we look at projections of
9 growth, how we look at projections of increased water
10 consumption, the effect on scenic resources, and not
11 looking at how we are transforming the urban
12 environment.

13 Just coming back from Europe, where the cities
14 are not as over-asphalted as we are -- certain
15 sidewalks have partially pervious surfaces. All of our
16 surfaces are hermetically sealed. All of our streets
17 do not allow the repercolation of rainwater into the
18 groundwater, and on and on and on -- I think this is a
19 backward-looking document in its own right.

20 And I hope that there is a way of, at least at
21 this moment, opening up to those concerns which we're
22 currently celebrating across the street. There's a
23 Green Conference across the street. We are trying to
24 be the greenest city in the country. And we're
25 subscribing to a document which really does not address

↑L_SFCPC3-01
cont.

L_SFCPC3-02

12.6-105

1 that at all.
2 At least there should be a chapter in here
3 which tries to create a horizon or a future by which we
4 are moving ourselves away from conventional concepts.

5 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Thank you, Commissioners.

6 SECRETARY AVERY: Okay. Thank you very much.

7 That concludes the public hearing for this item.

8 (Whereupon, the proceedings concluded
9 at 7:51 o'clock p.m.)

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1 STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
2 COUNTY OF MARIN) ss.

3 I, DEBORAH FUQUA, a Certified Shorthand
4 Reporter of the State of California, do hereby certify
5 that the foregoing proceedings were reported by me, a
6 disinterested person, and thereafter transcribed under
7 my direction into typewriting and is a true and correct
8 transcription of said proceedings.

9 I further certify that I am not of counsel or
10 attorney for either or any of the parties in the
11 foregoing proceeding and caption named, nor in any way
12 interested in the outcome of the cause named in said
13 caption.

14 Dated the 3rd day of October, 2007.

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DEBORAH FUQUA
CSR NO. 12948

PUBLIC HEARING TRANSCRIPT

San Francisco, California

**San Francisco City Hall, Planning Commission
Chambers, San Francisco, California
October 11, 2007**

(PH SF2)

INDEX OF PUBLIC HEARING TRANSCRIPT

San Francisco City Hall, Planning Commission Chambers, San Francisco, CA - October 11, 2007

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PUBLIC HEARING
DRAFT PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION'S
PROPOSED WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

SAN FRANCISCO CITY HALL
PLANNING COMMISSION CHAMBERS
1 DR. CARLTON B. GOODLETT PLACE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
OCTOBER 11, 2007

REPORTED BY: DEBORAH FUQUA, CSR #12948

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APPEARANCES

SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING COMMISSION
President Dwight Alexander
Commissioner Moore
Commissioner Bill Lee
Commissioner Antonini
Commissioner Olague
Commissioner Sue Lee
Secretary Avery

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MAJOR ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS DIVISION
Diana Sokolove, Senior Environmental Planner

SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
Susan Leal, General Manager
Tony Irons, Deputy General Manger

PUBLIC SPEAKERS
Peter Drekmeier John Rizzo
Art Jensen

1 Thursday, October 11th, 2007 3:24 o'clock p.m.

2 ---o0o---

3 P R O C E E D I N G S

4 SECRETARY AVERY: Okay. The Planning Commission
5 is back the session.

6 Commissioners, I had just called into the
7 record Item No. 10, the informational presentation on
8 the Water System Improvement Program.

9 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Good afternoon, President
10 Alexander and Members of the Commission. My name is
11 Diana Sokolove. I'm a senior environmental planner
12 with the San Francisco Planning Department, Major
13 Environmental Analysis Division.

14 The item before you is a hearing to receive
15 comments on the Draft Program Environmental Impact
16 Report on the San Francisco Public Utilities
17 Commission's Water System Improvement Program. The
18 case number is 2005.0159(E). The public comment period
19 for this environmental report began on June 29th, 2007
20 and extends to 5:00 p.m. close of business on October
21 15th, 2007.

22 The Planning Department also held five other
23 public hearings throughout the Water System Improvement
24 Program study area to take public comment on the Draft
25 Program Environmental Impact. One of those hearings

1 was held before this Commission on September 20th. The
2 proceedings from all of those hearings will be reported
3 in the comments and responses document.

4 So prior to opening up the hearing for public
5 comment, Susan Leal, with the San Francisco Public
6 Utilities Commission, will make a few remarks, and then
7 Tony Irons will give a presentation on the proposed
8 program. And then I'll provide an overview of the
9 Program Environmental Impact Report.

10 SUSAN LEAL: Good afternoon, Commissioners. Susan
11 Leal, General Manager, San Francisco Public Utilities
12 Commission.

13 We're pleased to be here today, pleased to
14 have an opportunity to give a brief presentation on our
15 water system. We understand, as we are in the comment
16 period, it is just that, a comment period, but it does
17 provide us with an opportunity to give you
18 Commissioners a better understanding of how our system
19 works. So with that, I will turn it over to my deputy
20 general manager, Tony Irons, and he will walk you
21 through how this system works and what we're up against
22 in the seismic repairs of that system.

23 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Thank you.

24 TONY IRONS: Thank you, Susan, Commissioners.

25 Tony Irons, Deputy General Manager, SFPUC.

1 Over here (indicating) there are some boards
2 that you might reference. And I believe the
3 information on these is also in the executive summary
4 of the PDIR, but I'll kind of walk you through a brief
5 history of this program and why we're doing it.

6 Susan and I have both been at the PUC since --
7 for three years, a little over three years. And when
8 we came there, the City and the PUC had been working on
9 this program intermittently for a long time. What we
10 found was a series of projects, approximately 77
11 projects, each one with a brief outline of what its
12 characteristics were.

13 My first stop, actually, the day I got -- came
14 to the PUC to work with Susan was to see Paul Maltzer
15 in the Environmental Review office and ask him how far
16 along the environmental review had progressed. He
17 said, "It has not because the PUC has not given the
18 City Planning a program." That, in large part, was
19 true.

20 So the first task before us was to create a
21 program that could be reviewed for its environmental
22 impacts and commented on by the public. That involved
23 figuring out what all -- why all of these projects were
24 being done.

25 So I went to individual project managers and

1 said, "You're in charge of X, Y, and Z projects. Why
2 are we doing those?"

3 And they gave an answer, but the answers, when
4 you aggregated them, didn't define a system; they
5 didn't define an overarching purpose. So we delegated
6 ourselves to go to Public Utilities Commission and
7 asking them if they would adopt level-of-service goals
8 such that we might be able to then have a design basis
9 and an integrated system that related to goals that the
10 Commission had adopted relative to this whole program.

11 Those goals are outlined here, and they're
12 also in the executive summary of the PEIR. In essence,
13 there are four categories: seismic reliability -- and
14 I'll touch on a brief history of that in a moment --
15 delivery reliability -- which is very important --
16 water quality, and water supply.

17 In the first instance, back in the I believe
18 early '90s, the Bay Area Economic Forum published
19 documents that basically stated in the event of a major
20 earthquake on any one of the three major faults that
21 this system crosses, the economic impact of that, of a
22 cessation of water of up to 60 days in the Bay Area,
23 would be catastrophic.

24 And the State kind of responded by passing
25 three pieces of legislation. One stipulated that these

1 certain major projects would be done and certain moneys
2 would be spent and outlined a time table for those --
3 not statutorily but a time table at the inception of
4 the project.

5 The next was that the suburban customers who
6 receive water from us are incorporated as an agency;
7 whereas they had been a loose amalgam beforehand, they
8 are a State-authorized agency. So the State acted,
9 basically saying to the City, "You need to do this, and
10 you need to do it now because there is great danger to
11 the health and well-being of the Bay Area if you don't
12 do it."

13 We have established a time table, a goal,
14 which is, the end of 2014, to have this program
15 completed. And the reasons for that are the danger to
16 the public health and safety in this entire area should
17 a major earthquake occur.

18 So the seismic reliability goal was
19 established as, after a major event, there would be
20 basic water service. And that is defined as 215
21 million gallons of water a day to the customer base
22 within 24 hours. And there would be full water service
23 restored within 30 days.

24 Those are very aggressive goals. And they
25 are, frankly, more aggressive than other jurisdictions

1 have. But we cross three earthquake faults so that the
2 likelihood of a major event occurring is far greater in
3 our system, which is essentially a linear system from
4 Hetch Hetchy Reservoir to Fisherman's Wharf.

5 The delivery reliability kind of harkened to
6 the notion that this system had to have this major
7 program done for it because there has been inadequate
8 maintenance in the system for 70 years, that the
9 revenues generated by the Public Utilities Commission
10 were routinely delivered to the City's general fund
11 instead of repairing the water system.

12 So that criteria was that this system needs to
13 be maintained, and we need to be able to deliver
14 average-day water while one major either pipeline or
15 storage system is out of service and another one
16 concurrently in an unplanned outage of some sort. So
17 that's the criteria for the maintenance component.

18 The water quality stipulates that we will
19 comply with all present and known future water quality
20 regulations, either from the federal, state, or local
21 governments. And the water supply identifies two
22 overarching issues. One is a delivery capacity of an
23 average of 300 million gallons of water a day to the
24 overall surface area and that, during a drought, there
25 would be a maximum rationing of 20 percent of average

1 delivery of water. And that would be incrementally
2 imposed.

3 Now, those guidelines, Commissioners, provide
4 us, as management to this program, the ability to
5 actually design all of these individual projects as an
6 interwoven continuum. And they establish the design
7 basis for each one.

8 You can see here (indicating) -- and I don't
9 know how I'm going to do this. When I was actually
10 managing the City Hall project, I worked really, really
11 hard to get the podium over there and the Commissioners
12 here so the public could see the same documents the
13 Commission could see. But I failed in that effort.

14 In any event, the system stretches 167 miles
15 from the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir in Yosemite National
16 Park, behind the Hetch Hetchy Dam, which is wholly
17 owned by the City and County San Francisco -- and the
18 authority to do so derives from the Raker Act, which
19 was passed by an act of Congress. It's federal
20 legislation passed in 1914, I believe -- '13, which
21 gave the City of San Francisco the authority to collect
22 the waters behind the O'Shaughnessy Dam and deliver
23 them to the Bay Area.

24 Michael O'Shaughnessy, whose bust is in the
25 Van Ness entry to City Hall and in the International

1 Water Hall of Fame, was the engineer. And he was a
2 brilliant, brilliant man. It was entirely constructed,
3 the entire system constructed, by City employees. And
4 that includes the dam, all of the tunnels, all of the
5 treatment plants that actually were not originally
6 constructed, but subsequently -- the entire delivery
7 system, constructed by City employees.

8 This program starts at the Tesla Portal. This
9 program does not have work to the north or to the east
10 of the Foothill Tunnel. All of the components are to
11 the west of the Foothill Tunnel. And that is -- these
12 improvements would have to be done irrespective of what
13 water is delivered to whom, when, or how much. All of
14 the improvements are a result of deterioration of the
15 system and the necessity to provide for earthquake
16 protection.

17 As we go down through the system, San
18 Francisco is at the very end, and so the water that we
19 get is a measure of the vitality of the system. And
20 San Francisco -- actually, San Franciscans use per
21 capita less water than any of the other customers. And
22 there are good reasons for that. It's a very dense
23 urban environment, there are very few lawns. I mean,
24 there are good reasons.

25 But I think one thing that's important to note

1 is that, after the severe drought of the late '80s
2 early '90s, the water consumption throughout the entire
3 customer base dropped precipitously and did not rise
4 again. Unlike power -- after the blackouts, there was
5 a reduction of use of electrical power, but it has
6 risen back up to its pre-blackout levels. That's not
7 the case with water, and that's very heartening to us.

8 So that's -- the level of service established
9 for us the design basis for going forward with this and
10 the criticality of the system as it relates to the
11 likelihood -- which is from today, I believe, 62
12 percent likelihood of a major event on either the
13 Calaveras Fault, the Hayward Fault or the San Andreas
14 Fault within the next 15 years. It gives us a time
15 frame that we have to respond to.

16 So with that, what I'll do is walk you through
17 some of the very large projects. I won't bring you
18 through every project. Some are larger; some are
19 smaller. But the very large ones kind of encompass the
20 notion of the criticality and the size of the program.

21 The program is the largest capital undertaking
22 the City has ever endeavored. It's \$4.3 billion worth
23 of work. And Commissioners, it is a City-run,
24 City-managed program, which is highly unusual for an
25 infrastructure program of this sort. Typically cities

1 or counties or states would hire a consultant -- a
2 Bechtel or a Flour or whatever -- to come in and run
3 their program.

4 The City is has elected not to do that by
5 agreement between the Mayor and the unions who
6 represent folks that I'm in charge of. And that
7 agreement is that it is a City-run, City-managed
8 program. I feel very comfortable with that. It's
9 extremely difficult. It presents us with very
10 difficult challenges. And we do need to bring in
11 professional consultants to design the dams, the
12 wastewater -- the water treatment plants, the major
13 infrastructure because our city engineers, they are
14 very, very good, but they have never designed those
15 massive infrastructure things.

16 But it kind of harkens back to the days of
17 Michael O'Shaughnessy. It was originally built by City
18 employees, 100 percent, the entire system.

19 So with that, let's walk through a few of the
20 major projects.

21 Uh-oh. Technological glitch.

22 There it is. This shows the project
23 development cycle. And I wanted to touch on this,
24 because there's a component here that I think is of
25 great interest to us, to the City, and perhaps to this

1 Commission.

2 We have chosen to design 100 percent
3 concurrent with the environmental review. And we are
4 very aware that there is substantial risk involved in
5 doing that, that at the end of the environmental
6 review, the project may be different than the project
7 that was being designed during that concurrent process.

8 We are willing to take that risk because we
9 have very little time to enact this program. Doing
10 \$4 billion worth of work over principally a six-year
11 time span is extremely challenging. So we've decided
12 to take the risk on designing concurrent with
13 environmental review.

14 This -- this cycle description here shows
15 where the planning phase is and those elements of
16 planning that then allow us to drop down into the
17 environmental review and where, during the
18 environmental review, we feel comfortable then
19 beginning the design work.

20 Now, in every instance it shows the design
21 phase ending before construction begins. That, in
22 fact, may not be the case in some of these. We may opt
23 to do a bridging design build on some of the very large
24 projects. We haven't made that determination yet.

25 We do know that our biggest challenge is

1 actually getting contractors to bid on these projects.
2 These are different contractors than work in San
3 Francisco now. These are contractors that have to post
4 a 3- or \$400 million bond and build dams and tunnels
5 and water treatment plants.

6 Okay. This is one of the major projects
7 (indicating). This is the farthest major project to
8 the east. This is the San Joaquin pipeline system. I
9 think many of you may recall that three years ago --
10 two years ago, this -- the program called for an
11 entirely new fourth barrel on the San Joaquin pipeline.
12 That is what had been proposed by the folks running the
13 program for a number of years.

14 Susan asked for a top-to-bottom review of the
15 efficacy of that proposal because the potential existed
16 for the diversion of a great amount of water from the
17 Tuolumne River. Whether the PUC chose to or not, the
18 physical infrastructure would be there to accomplish
19 it. And it would be also, from my viewpoint, extremely
20 expensive and very intrusive. So we developed an
21 alternative to that that did not necessitate a fourth
22 barrel on the San Joaquin pipeline system. We're very
23 happy with that.

24 It was modified to install a number of
25 crossovers along the three existing pipes and two stubs

1 on either end to relieve the hydrostatic pressure so
2 that the amount of water that can pass through there
3 does meet the level-of-service goals but does not
4 exceed them. And that is the case with each one of the
5 major projects that we are going to be developing, that
6 we will meet in the most cost-effective way, the most
7 efficient way, the minimum requirements of the
8 level-of-service goals.

9 This shows -- this is a photograph of a
10 failure in the San Joaquin pipeline system that took
11 place in I think it was the mid '80s. Those pipes are
12 pre-stressed concrete pipes, one whole reach of them.
13 They are subject catastrophic failure because they are
14 concrete with pre-stressed wire inside the concrete.
15 The wire corrodes over time. And when it gives --
16 concrete has no tensile strength -- the entire pipe
17 blows outwards. Actually, above this photograph, there
18 is a cow on top of the water plume. That didn't make
19 it in there. That is out in the Central Valley. When
20 those things go, it's really, really catastrophic.
21 There's an enormous amount of water that goes out. So
22 there is a program to rehabilitate those three existing
23 pipes.

24 This is the Calaveras Dam. I think about
25 seven or eight years ago, the Division of Safety of

1 Dams which oversees the -- has jurisdiction over the
2 Calaveras Dam, the Crystal Springs Dam, and also the
3 terminal reservoirs in San Francisco which are
4 considered, in effect, dams -- they have jurisdiction.
5 They determined that there was a seismic -- potential
6 for seismic failure at the Calaveras Dam and ordered us
7 to reduce the volume of water behind it by 60 percent.
8 There is now 30 percent of its original carrying
9 capacity [sic]. So we've been operating the system for
10 a number of years now with no reserve in the Calaveras
11 Reservoir, which, in terms of drought, is extremely
12 dangerous for us.

13 So one of the major programs here is to build
14 a new Calaveras Dam just slightly downstream of the
15 existing one to maintain the same amount of water
16 behind the dam that preexisted before the Division of
17 Safety of Dams ordered its reduction. And that project
18 is a very expensive project. That's a \$230-or-40
19 million dam construction project. And the significance
20 there to us pertains to our overarching obligation to
21 defend the natural environment. And the watersheds
22 around the Calaveras Reservoir, the Alameda Creek
23 watersheds are very, very important to the health of
24 that entire area.

25 This is a photograph of a portal on the

1 Irvington Tunnel. Now, all the waters come down from
2 the Hetchy Reservoir. And there's an obligation in the
3 federal act, the Raker Act, that stipulates that first
4 we must use water from local runoff. And that's the
5 Calaveras Dam and the Crystal Springs Reservoir -- the
6 Calaveras Reservoir being a much more productive
7 reservoir in terms of runoff than Crystal Springs. But
8 the Raker Act stipulates that we have to use local
9 water first.

10 That local water constitutes about 15 percent
11 of all the water we deliver to our customers, 85
12 percent coming from the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir through
13 this single aqueduct, down to the entire southern reach
14 below us in Santa Clara, Alameda County, San Mateo
15 County and into San Francisco.

16 All the water coming from there passes through
17 the Irvington Tunnel. No one has been able to inspect
18 that tunnel for 40 years because, in order to get into
19 it, you have to shut the water off to 2 1/2 million
20 people. That's not tenable. Therefore, the conclusion
21 was it's absolutely necessary to have a redundant
22 tunnel.

23 The other component here that was of
24 overriding concern, that portal that you see there is
25 subject to failure and landslides following a

1 significant earthquake. Were that to happen, millions
2 of people would have no water because it would not be
3 able to go through the Irvington Tunnel. So we are --
4 one of our major projects is the construction of a new
5 tunnel.

6 This project is not particularly large in the
7 scale of a number of our projects. It's about
8 \$65 million. It is, however -- or \$80 million. It is,
9 however, critical. The Alameda siphons are just north
10 of the Calaveras Reservoir, just to the west of the
11 Irvington Tunnel. The fault, the Calaveras Fault,
12 passes directly underneath the existing three siphons
13 of the Alameda siphons as the water progresses to the
14 Irvington Tunnel. So we're building a fourth siphon
15 which is earthquake resistant and can withstand the
16 maximum earthquake on that fault.

17 Next. This is the largest project in the
18 collection of projects that we have, Commissioners.
19 This is a total of \$572 million. And it is the amalgam
20 of water transport facilities including a new tunnel
21 across the southern region of San Francisco Bay. The
22 tunnel option is, for us, a much, much better option.
23 It is environmentally far superior to any other option.
24 The existing water pipes go through very, very
25 sensitive wetlands. We can't get out to them to

1 maintain them because we can't pass through the waters.
2 We can't get permission to pass through the waters.
3 And therefore we've determined to build a new tunnel
4 under the southern reach of the San Francisco Bay.

5 The whole project, the pipeline repairs, the
6 seismic renovation to the pipelines and the tunnel, is
7 nearly \$600 million. It is absolutely critical to our
8 ability to deliver water to the Peninsula and to San
9 Francisco to the Harry Tracy Water Treatment Plant to
10 be able to get it safely across the bay and to be able,
11 in the future, to maintain those conveyance facilities.

12 This project is Crystal Springs-San Andreas
13 Transmission Upgrade. And I'm kind of now bringing you
14 up the Peninsula. The Crystal Springs Reservoir and
15 Pillarcitos Reservoir -- well, the Crystal Springs
16 Reservoir feeds water into the Harry Tracy Water
17 Treatment Plant. And we bring water from Hetchy to
18 recharge Crystal Springs when there is a surplus of
19 Hetchy water that is ours.

20 Approximately between 1- and 1.8 billion
21 gallons a day of water comes out of the reservoir on an
22 average day. And of that, 300 million gallons is water
23 that is diverted for the use of this entire system of
24 customers. The rest of the water goes to the
25 irrigation districts -- Modesto and Turlock Irrigation

1 Districts. They have senior water rights. They get
2 first call on it. And they get far more water than the
3 San Francisco system.

4 But it is imperative for us to be able to
5 deliver water safely out of the Harry Tracy Water
6 Treatment Plant, which is located down at the Crystal
7 Springs Reservoir off 280, up through the Peninsula.
8 And that transmission system is in serious need of
9 repair. So this project addresses the repair of that
10 delivery system.

11 And finally, in San Francisco, there are three
12 terminal reservoirs. It's kind of like the question of
13 in-city generation of power. When we reviewed the
14 water system, we concluded it was absolutely necessary
15 to have in-city storage of major water facilities. In
16 the event that the system went out, there is a period
17 of time in which there is sufficient water to fight
18 fires and to provide basic water needs. That's what
19 those three terminals, Sunset Reservoir, University
20 Mound Reservoir, and Summit Reservoir are our terminal
21 reservoirs as part of the regional project.

22 And finally, the recycled water component of
23 this is a \$200 million effort to build recycled water
24 plants on the western side of the city and deliver
25 those for use to all of the green spaces in Golden Gate

1 Park and to be able to reduce our reliance on waters
2 from the Tuolumne River. And that is a very aggressive
3 program. It will, in my view, the recycled water
4 program, expand.

5 We're looking, Commissioners, very hard in our
6 Wastewater Master Plan at significant opportunities to
7 recycle water on the wastewater side so they may be
8 combined into a much more aggressive recycled water
9 program in San Francisco.

10 It, to me, is kind of a sad testimony; San
11 Francisco doesn't have nor ever has had one drop of
12 recycled water in it. And we're the most progressive
13 city in the country. So we're working really hard to
14 radically change that in the near future.

15 So with that, that's a brief overview of our
16 system and some of the major projects. I didn't, in
17 the interest of time, go into all 27, but that should
18 give you a fairly broad view of what we're doing with
19 our staff of approximately 300 city employees and a
20 variety of internationally renowned consultants over at
21 the PUC.

22 So if you have questions on the system, I'd be
23 happy to answer them.

24 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Thank you very much --

25 TONY IRONS WITNESS: You are very welcome.

1 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: -- for a thorough
2 presentation.

3 DIANA SOKOLOVE: Hi. This is Diana Sokolove of
4 the San Francisco Planning Department. And I'm just
5 going to give an overview of the Program Environmental
6 Impact Report that we released at the end of June on
7 the Water System Improvement Program.

8 So this is just an overview of the
9 organization of the Program EIR -- if we can get this
10 up. I guess it takes a moment.

11 There we go. Volume I includes a summary of
12 the program, and it includes major findings, summary of
13 the program description, and a summary of the
14 alternatives that we evaluated in the Program
15 Environmental Impact Report.

16 Volume II includes the impacts of the
17 facilities projects, the projects that Tony Irons just
18 mentioned earlier. Most of the projects that are
19 listed there are included in the impact assessment in
20 that volume.

21 Volume III looks at the impacts of the water
22 supply strategy that the SFPUC is proposing, bringing
23 more water into the area to serve customer demand
24 through 2030.

25 And Volume IV looks at mitigation measures,

1 growth inducement impacts, and also the alternatives to
2 the proposed program. Volume IV also looks at variants
3 to the program, which is a little different than CEQA
4 alternatives. The variants are variations on the water
5 supply strategy that the Public Utilities Commission
6 actually specifically asked that Planning look at the
7 impacts of, even though they're not necessarily CEQA
8 alternatives. So it's a little bit different.

9 So again, we do have an analysis, a very
10 thorough analysis, of the environmental effects of the
11 facility improvement projects. And those projects are
12 located in five regions as we've kind of chopped the
13 entire PUC Water System area into five different
14 regions -- San Joaquin, Sunol Valley, Bay Division,
15 Peninsula, and San Francisco regions.

16 We looked at construction impacts that may
17 begin in 2008 through 2015. And we looked at mostly
18 the fact that a lot of these projects are going to
19 result in construction impacts. So there's impacts
20 related to noise and air quality and traffic and those
21 kinds of things and they're -- air quality, they're
22 all -- those kinds of things are addressed in that
23 section.

24 Here's all the areas, the environmental
25 resource areas that we looked at for impacts related to

1 facility improvement projects, all of the standard
2 areas that you look at in a CEQA document -- noise, air
3 quality, recreation, energy, hazards, et cetera.

4 So we found, just to give you a summary of the
5 key findings of the Environmental Impact Report, that
6 many of the impacts would be less than significant
7 because the PUC would be complying with existing
8 regulations. They have adopted watershed management
9 plans that ensure that they're complying with
10 regulations and their own policies and regulations, and
11 that also the PUC has a set of standard construction
12 measures that it's going to apply for every
13 construction project in the WSIP.

14 So that's why you'll see those findings -- for
15 the most part, it's less than significant, although I
16 do feel as though the analysis is pretty conservative.
17 If we didn't feel like a regulation or some sort of --
18 or an existing measure could reduce impacts to less
19 than significant or ensure that impacts would be less
20 than significant, we would certainly call it
21 significant. And a lot of those impacts that are
22 called as significant can be reduced to less than
23 significant with mitigation.

24 We do have -- in terms of mitigation, we do
25 look at measures to avoid impacts entirely or at least

1 to minimize the significant effects. And you can see
2 the kind of range of mitigation measures that we look
3 at. We look at making sure that the projects are sited
4 properly, that if there's any way to site a facility to
5 avoid impact on a wetland, we're putting that in the
6 document.

7 We're talking about controlling noise through
8 different -- there's different ways that you can
9 control noise -- and making sure that erosion and
10 sedimentation doesn't occur with implementation of
11 these projects. And we also look at doing surveys and
12 making sure that we are protecting the resources the
13 best that we can through this environmental process.

14 So we also look at the environmental effects
15 of the water supply strategy that the PUC is proposing.
16 And the Water System Improvement Program, as you know,
17 does propose to increase diversions from the Tuolumne
18 River and would modify system operations to meet
19 customer purchase requests through 2030. And some of
20 the effective resources would be the different
21 watersheds throughout the study area, including the
22 Tuolumne River Watershed, Alameda Watershed, Peninsula
23 Watershed, including Pillarcitos Watershed, and the
24 West Side Groundwater Basin.

25 Actually, you can see these watersheds on the

1 screen here. Here's the Tuolumne Watershed. It's hard
2 to see with the text on there, but down here is the
3 Alameda Watershed and Peninsula Watershed. And West
4 Side Groundwater Basin is near San Francisco.

5 So in our water supply impact analysis, we do
6 look at how the PUC is proposing to change system
7 operations, and that can cause changes in the water
8 levels in the reservoirs. And it could cause changes
9 in the amount of water that's released from the
10 reservoirs. And we looked at how those changes would
11 impact our resource areas such as biological resources,
12 recreational resources, aesthetics, et cetera. And we
13 did use what's called a Hetch Hetchy local simulation
14 model to determine impacts in the study area.

15 So here are our water supply impact areas that
16 we looked at: stream flow and reservoir levels,
17 geomorphology; we looked at surface water quality and
18 surface water supplies; we looked at impacts on fish,
19 impacts on biological resources, and also of course
20 recreational and visual resources.

21 So I'll just quickly go through the different
22 impacts, the key impacts, that we came up with in the
23 different watersheds. We found impacts on biological
24 resources in the Poopenaut Valley below Hetch Hetchy
25 Reservoir. We do have impacts on fisheries and

1 riparian resources also along the Tuolumne River. So
2 we certainly called those out in the document.

3 In Alameda Creek, as Tony mentioned, one of
4 the major projects is the Calaveras Dam replacement
5 project. And that has a bearing upon many of the
6 impacts that are included in the Alameda Creek
7 Watershed analysis. So we looked at the changes in
8 stream flow because the PUC will -- after -- since the
9 DSOD restriction on Calaveras Dam, the PUC has not been
10 taking water off of Alameda Creek to fill the dam. So
11 the PUC would resume that process and restore the
12 existing capacity in the Calaveras Dam through the
13 Calaveras Dam project. So we looked at stream flow
14 below Alameda Creek and the Alameda Creek diversion
15 dam.

16 We looked at fisheries and riparian resources
17 and the effects of diverting water off the creek on
18 those resources and, of course, the effects on riparian
19 habitat and recreational visual resources.

20 In the peninsula as, again, as Tony mentioned,
21 some of the major projects are the Lower Crystal
22 Springs Dam Project, repairing that dam, and also the
23 Crystal Springs-San Andreas Pipeline Project. So in
24 that watershed, we looked at water quality and fishery
25 resources, the effects on those resources by repairing

1 the dam. And we also looked at biological resources
2 and looked at the effects on the different creeks in
3 the watershed.

4 In the Westside Groundwater Basin, the
5 proposed project includes conjunctive use program that
6 looks at developing groundwater resources. So we
7 looked at impacts in the north Westside Groundwater
8 Basin and also the south Westside Groundwater Basin, in
9 terms of saltwater intrusion and any way that any of
10 these projects could cause overdraft in the groundwater
11 basin. So we certainly looked at all of those effects.

12 And as you can see, we do have -- we do show
13 impacts in the Program EIR on basin overdraft, seawater
14 intrusion due to increased pumping in that basin. We
15 look at changes in water levels in Lake Merced,
16 potential contamination of drinking water due to
17 groundwater pumping.

18 And we do propose a wide range of system
19 operations mitigation measures, in other words, ways
20 that the PUC can operate its system a little
21 differently to try to avoid these impacts. We look at
22 managing releases from reservoirs. And also the PUC is
23 proposing a habitat conservation program that we're
24 looking at and using that to reduce impacts on
25 resources, specifically biological resources and

1 fisheries. And we look at revised operations for
2 Pillarcitos and also just making sure that, in the
3 groundwater basin, that we're not causing overdraft or
4 seawater intrusion.

5 The Program EIR also includes an analysis of
6 the growth inducement effects of the proposed program.
7 And we are concluding that, removing an obstacle to
8 growth by providing this water to serve future demand,
9 that the Water System Improvement Program would remove
10 water supply limitations as an obstacle to growth. So
11 we do show that there would be a growth-inducing impact
12 in the service area or in the area that's served by the
13 PUC.

14 In our CEQA Alternatives Analysis, we identify
15 alternatives that would reduce our
16 less-than-significant impacts of the proposed program
17 and also meet most of the basic project objectives,
18 program objectives, as required by CEQA. So the
19 program alternatives that we look at address the water
20 supply and the demand level served and also the number
21 and scale of the facility improvement projects that are
22 proposed by the PUC.

23 So here is the range of alternatives that we
24 looked at. We have the No-Program Alternative, which
25 is required by CEQA. And we have the No Purchase

1 Request Increase Alternative, which looks at not
2 increasing the water supply to meet customer purchase
3 requests through 2030. We look at an aggressive
4 conservation and water recycling alternative. We look
5 at changing the diversion of water supply to the Lower
6 Tuolumne River. We also look at -- a couple
7 alternatives look at de-sal, one at Oceanside, which is
8 in San Francisco near the zoo, and then there's another
9 one that is a regional de-sal plant that involves a
10 consortium of water purveyors in the Bay Area.

11 And then we look at what we call the Modified
12 Water System Improvement Program, which we identify as
13 the environmentally preferable alternative. And it
14 really incorporates a lot of the mitigation measures we
15 have in the document and also incorporates some
16 additional revised operations of the Water System.

17 These (indicating) are just some other
18 alternatives that we considered since we heard from a
19 lot of folks, members of the public, during the
20 scoping. So we were careful to look at all the
21 alternatives that were suggested to us during scoping
22 and anything else that the PUC may have looked at
23 through developing its Water System Improvement
24 Program. And in the document, we discuss very
25 carefully why we rejected these alternatives from

12.6-121

1 detailed consideration in the environmental report.

2 So that concludes my presentation. And are
3 there any questions from the Commission on either my
4 presentation or for the PUC?

5 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Thank you.

6 Commissioner Moore?

L_SFPC4

7 COMMISSIONER MOORE: I have a question for
8 Mr. Irons, please.

9 I think the report is terrific. I'm totally
10 impressed by your daring step to work with local people
11 and not outsource this project, which is typically
12 done, and we all know about it. I hope you will not
13 have the overruns that many of the large nationally
14 important projects have shown. I'm sure you will
15 manage it in a way that will not have it.

L_SFPC4-01

16 I'm interested of why Region 6, Hetch Hetchy
17 Region, did not have any problems -- because it's
18 unusual.

L_SFPC4-02

19 TONY IRONS: The facilities that are in the Hetch
20 Hetchy Region are the O'Shaughnessy Dam and then a
21 series of tunnels and penstocks and powerhouses. There
22 are three hydroelectric powerhouses up there, which are
23 not relative to the delivery of water but more relative
24 to the generation of power. And then the water goes
25 through a series of tunnels.

1 Those tunnels are granite tunnels. And while
2 they do need periodic lining, they are maintenance
3 rather than capital projects. So there were no capital
4 projects that needed attention in that area.

5 COMMISSIONER MOORE: You have a couple of smaller
6 reservoirs, but they do not show any impact from
7 seismic activity. You have, like, the Priest, the
8 Moccasin reservoirs -- which I assume are part of the
9 system.

L_SFPC4-03

10 TONY IRONS: That's right. There are no major
11 earthquake faults there.

12 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Thank you.

13 Commissioner Antonini?

L_SFPC5

14 COMMISSIONER ANTONINI: Yeah, Mr. Irons, I have a
15 couple of questions. Thank you for an excellent
16 presentation.

17 I guess as we talk about some of the parts of
18 the project and the fourth pipeline option, which was
19 not -- or fourth barrel, I guess, more properly, was --
20 in the San Joaquin system was not chosen, one issue I
21 guess I have in terms of seismic was, by having an
22 alternate pipeline at some other location a distance
23 away, would you prevent, you know, a seismic event from
24 taking the whole system out because you have, you know,
25 two different pipelines; you've got the existing

L_SFPC5-01

12-6-122

1 pipeline and then you have an alternate pipeline? I
2 mean, I know that was probably considered as a safety
3 measure perhaps.

↑
L_SFCPC5-01
cont.

4 TONY IRONS: Yes, Commissioner, it was. There is
5 no active major fault in the San Joaquin Region.
6 They're all to the west of that; the first one is the
7 Calaveras and then the Hayward and then the San Andreas
8 Fault. There are splinter faults that are through
9 there, but there has never been major activity on them.

10 The issue of the San Joaquin pipelines is that
11 they traverse 50 miles, 47 miles of the Central Valley.
12 They are principally underground. And it's
13 necessary -- when we say the average water delivered on
14 an average day is 300 million gallons a day, that is
15 average on a year-round basis. During the summertime,
16 there are demands upwards above 400 million gallons a
17 day when the water is -- the usage is the greatest.

18 The San Joaquin pipeline system needs to be
19 able to deliver water that is normally used during the
20 high periods without the potential of failure. So it
21 was concluded -- and I think a number of our
22 Commissioners really kind of agreed with the general
23 manager that the importance, the real importance, in
24 the San Joaquin system was to have three existing
25 pipelines in a state of good repair rather than simply

1 leaving them in a bad repair and putting a brand-new
2 pipeline in, that it was more prudent to have three in
3 a state of good repair.

4 COMMISSIONER ANTONINI: Thank you. And in keeping
5 with that, I would assume that the new pipe you talked
6 about -- the concrete having no tensile strength --
7 would the new pipes be non-concrete or something with
8 greater tensile strength?

↑
L_SFCPC5-02

9 TONY IRONS: We are in the process of
10 investigating and repairing two of the pipelines. They
11 were incrementally put in from 1934, 19- -- early
12 1960's and 1970's. The 1970, the most recent pipeline,
13 is the reinforced concrete, pre-stressed concrete pipe.
14 That is the most vulnerable. The newest one is the
15 most vulnerable. The others are steel pipelines and
16 riveted steel. And they were put in as population
17 grew.

18 And I think -- you know, I think it's right to
19 say that the vision of this -- this is truly a
20 remarkable water system because of the way
21 O'Shaughnessy designed it. It's known internationally
22 as an incredibly special system. It uses no energy to
23 pump water all the way from the Sierras to San
24 Francisco. The issue through the San Joaquin pipelines
25 was to make sure that there was sufficient head,

1 sufficient water to go through.

2 So I think that really was the driving force
3 in adding additional pipelines was the additional water
4 needs. Our feeling is that we do not need to create a
5 conveyance facility that is capable of conveying more
6 water than we actually need.

7 COMMISSIONER ANTONINI: And finally in regards to
8 the Bay Division pipeline and you talked about the
9 tunnel options would replace the lines that currently,
10 I believe, go above water and are on stilts or
11 something above the bay --

L_SFPCPC5-03



12 TONY IRONS: That's right.

13 COMMISSIONER ANTONINI: -- would those remain or
14 those would be removed?

L_SFPCPC5-03
cont.



15 TONY IRONS: Those pipelines -- there's a set that
16 is above the water and some are submarine. The ones
17 that are submarine we would probably leave, we are
18 going to leave. And I actually don't know if we are
19 right now still considering -- still considering
20 removing the above-grade ones --

21 (Sotto voce discussion)

22 TONY IRONS: No. We're decommissioning them but
23 not removing them.

24 And you can see those water pipes when you
25 drive over the Dumbarton Bridge. They're directly to

1 the south. The issue with doing any work on them is
2 really the wetlands that are on both sides. It's very,
3 very sensitive wetlands. So I believe the final
4 analysis was, from an environmental point of view, it
5 is better simply to leave them than to try and tear
6 them out from the subsoils.

7 COMMISSIONER ANTONINI: Well, my other point being
8 sort of similar to the other discussion is you have an
9 alternate line there if you needed it in an emergency
10 that might be available were something to happen. You
11 could run it through there.

L_SFPCPC5-04



12 TONY IRONS: Absolutely. And I did briefly
13 mention, but I'd like to reiterate, the San Joaquin
14 pipeline system, the addition of the redesign in place
15 of an additional fourth barrel includes a series of
16 three crossover valves. One exists right now. It's
17 being renovated and expanded. But what that basically
18 does for that entire water conveyance system is allows
19 us to take certain reaches of one pipe out of service
20 without taking the entire pipe out of service so that
21 at no point in time do you have only two pipes. You
22 have in essence 2 2/3 or 2 1/2 or whatever is necessary
23 to allow the volume of water to continue. So the
24 crossovers are a good solution to that problem.

25 COMMISSIONER ANTONINI: Thank you, Mr. Irons.

12-6-124

1 TONY IRONS: You're welcome.

2 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Thank you, Ms. Leal,
3 Mr. Irons, and Ms. Sokolove. Thank you very much for
4 an excellent presentation. I think it gives us a good
5 framework in which to the review the Draft EIR.

6 We want to now open for public comments. I do
7 have some speaker cards. Peter Drekmeier? **SI_TRT10**

8 PETER DREKMEIER: Good afternoon, Chair Alexander
9 and Commissioners. Thank you for the opportunity to
10 address you today.

11 My name is Peter Drekmeier. And I'm the Bay
12 Area Program Director for Tuolumne River Trust, and we
13 appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Draft
14 PEIR, also appreciated the presentations by Mr. Irons
15 and Ms. Sokolove and appreciate the good work they're
16 doing.

17 Our organization is 100 percent supportive of
18 the seismic upgrades to the Hetch Hetchy system.
19 However, we're very, very concerned about the proposal
20 to divert up to 25 million gallons of water per day
21 additionally from the Tuolumne River. And to put that
22 in perspective, that's the equivalent of 1,000 large
23 swimming pools every day in addition to what's already
24 being withdrawn.

25 So we have worked with the Sierra Club and

SI_TRT10-01

1 Clean Water Action to provide comments, over 60 pages.
2 I don't know if you'll get to read them all. But we
3 also have a short executive summary. And
4 unfortunately, I don't have enough copies for everyone,
5 but I do have a few copies that I'll leave here for
6 you.

7 I'm not going to talk so much about our
8 comments right now, but I want to address an issue
9 that's going to be coming up. And it's the proposal to
10 work out a water transfer agreement with Modesto
11 Irrigation District and Turlock Irrigation District,
12 or MID-TID. And it sounds great on the surface, "We'll
13 pay farmers to conserve water so that there's no net
14 loss of water in the Tuolumne system." But there's two
15 problems to this.

16 First of all, SFPUC withdraws water at Hetch
17 Hetchy, and any conservation would take place 30 miles
18 downstream at Don Pedro Reservoir. So we have impacts
19 to 30 miles of river, about seven miles in Yosemite
20 national park, 18 miles of world class white-water
21 rafting, and home to a number of species, some rare and
22 some threatened.

23 And the problem is, we don't have a lot of
24 information on the biological resources because many of
25 the studies are dated, some 15 years old or more, never

SI_TRT10-02

SI_TRT10-03

12.6-125

1 completed. So our comments were focused mainly on the
2 lack of baseline data, on flawed modeling and faulty
3 assumptions.

↑
SI_TRT10-03
cont.

4 I see I don't have a lot more time. I was
5 going to read a few things from the MID-TID letter and
6 from the Fish and Game letter, but I'll just sum those
7 up.

8 First of all, MID-TID have a lot of concerns
9 with this project. And they're not sure there's enough
10 water to do a transfer agreement, and they're uncertain
11 about future releases below Don Pedro. And that's
12 because Fish and Game has pointed out the current flows
13 are inadequate for the Anadromous fish there -- Chinook
14 salmon and the federally threatened Steelhead trout.

↑
SI_TRT10-04

15 And what's probably going to happen in 2016,
16 when the FERC relicensing takes place, is they're going
17 to decrease the flows at LaGrange Dam below Don Pedro.
18 So you're in a tricky position -- I don't envy you --
19 when it comes time to certify the EIR.

20 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Thank you.

21 PETER DREKMEIER: We hope you'll do your best.

22 Thank you.

23 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Art Jensen? L_BAWSCA6

24 ART JENSEN: Art Jensen, General Manager, Chief
25 Executive Officer of the Bay Area Water Supply and

1 Conservation Agency.

2 Mr. President, Members of the Commission, the
3 Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency, or
4 BAWSCA, represents 27 agencies in Alameda, San Mateo,
5 and Santa Clara counties that purchase water from San
6 Francisco's regional water system and serve it to
7 1.7 million residents and businesses and community
8 institutions in those counties. They in turn pay two
9 thirds of the costs, roughly, for the operation,
10 maintenance and construction of the regional system.

11 We've carefully reviewed the PEIR, and overall
12 we believe that it's a well-crafted document. Your
13 staff did an excellent job. It's a very conscientious
14 effort and largely successful, we believe, in meeting
15 CEQA's requirements.

16 There are two areas where we believe it can be
17 improved. First, the Draft PEIR does not convey the
18 great risk which we all face, nor the urgency for
19 rebuilding the regional water system without delay.

20 Mr. Irons' presentation, I think, introduced
21 you to the issues associated with the water system
22 traversing four earthquake faults. And those
23 earthquakes could occur at any time. The impacts to
24 public health and safety would be dramatic. The Bay
25 Area Economic Forum study which he cited cites figures

↓
L_BAWSCA6-
01

1 of \$20 billion worth of damage. So obviously the
2 investment is a well-centered one.

L_BAWSCA6-01 cont.

3 Second, the draft PEIR does not describe or
4 analyze the environmentally superior alternative in the
5 detail to which it's warranted. We believe it's an
6 excellent alternative which your staff has come up with
7 in their analysis of the alternatives proposed.

L_BAWSCA6-02

8 The moderate-city-growth employment forecast
9 for both San Francisco and the BAWSCA area will create
10 a need for additional water over the coming decades.
11 Unlike the urgent problem with the earthquakes, the
12 growth problem will occur over decades, and we have
13 time to solve it.

14 Our agencies are already committed to meeting
15 a portion of their demands by conserving and recycling
16 23 million gallons a day worth of water. Those are in
17 the baseline projections that were examined.

L_BAWSCA6-03

18 The environmentally superior alternative
19 includes an ambitious, legally feasible request for an
20 additional 5 to 10 percent MGD of water conservation
21 and recycled water from our agencies, above and beyond
22 the 23 to which they're already committed.

23 The centerpiece of the environmentally
24 superior alternative is for Bay Area water customers to
25 financially support water conservation in the

1 agricultural areas adjacent to the Tuolumne River equal
2 in amount to any additional diversions to the Bay Area.

3 This could avoid net reductions in the Lower Tuolumne
4 River, a portion of the river most important to the
5 salmon and to the other endangered species in the lower
6 part of the river.

L_BAWSCA6-03 cont.

7 We believe it's an excellent opportunity, has
8 great promise. And our board of directors recommends
9 that you would explore an even greater possibility, and
10 that is, a larger investment in agricultural water
11 conservation to create a net increase in flow in the
12 Lower Tuolumne River, in other words, conserve more
13 than we intend to divert -- we might need to divert to
14 the Bay Area.

L_BAWSCA6-04

15 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Thank you.

16 ART JENSEN: Thank you.

17 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: John Rizzo.

SI_SierraC7

18 JOHN RIZZO: Good afternoon. I'm John Rizzo with
19 the Sierra Club.

20 We fully support the critical earthquake
21 upgrades. Our comments to the PEIR focus on the
22 inadequacy of the environmental review of the proposal
23 to divert an additional 25 million gallons a day from
24 the Tuolumne River, a federally designated wild and
25 scenic river.

SI_SierraC7-01

1 Our comments include some of these points:
 2 Inadequate analysis of the impacts inside Yosemite
 3 National Park due to changes of releases; faulty urban
 4 growth statements that rely on published studies that
 5 don't cover the time period up to 2030 and have not
 6 undergone environmental review; inadequate baseline
 7 data for river flows and fish populations, inadequate
 8 mitigations for impacts to rivers and fish, lack of
 9 consideration for the effect of global climate change
 10 on future snow packs and river flows; for faulty demand
 11 projections -- there are many other inadequacies as
 12 well.

SI_SierraC7-02
 SI_SierraC7-03
 SI_SierraC7-04
 SI_SierraC7-05
 SI_SierraC7-06
 SI_SierraC7-07

13 But other organizations have also pointed out
 14 similar problems with the proposed diversion. The San
 15 Luis & Delta Mendota Water Authority, Westlands Water
 16 District, and Kern County Water agencies were critical.
 17 They opposed the proposed diversions from Tuolumne
 18 River, saying that there isn't enough data to show the
 19 effect on the San Joaquin River watershed and the Delta
 20 ecosystem.

SI_SierraC7-08

21 I quote, "The failure of the Draft PEIR to
 22 consider impacts with the San Joaquin River and Delta
 23 is made more egregious by discussions in the Draft PEIR
 24 that suggest proper analysis of the impacts which show
 25 potentially significant effects."

1 These water agencies also quote the San
 2 Francisco Board of Supervisors' resolution that
 3 expresses serious concerns with the proposed diversion.
 4 The California Fish & Game Department said,
 5 "In this context, we believe that the proposed project
 6 has the potential to cause Anadromous fish populations
 7 to drop below self-sustaining levels, and restrict the
 8 range of federally threatened Central Valley Steelhead.
 9 Therefore, we respectfully request the SFPUC use
 10 alternative water sources other than the Tuolumne River
 11 system to meet the purchase request of 2030."

SI_SierraC7-09
 SI_SierraC7-10

12 They also have a statement about the --
 13 Yosemite that I referred to before. They recommend
 14 that the 1987 Instream Flow Agreement be re-evaluated.

SI_SierraC7-11

15 The Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors has
 16 passed a resolution opposing the proposed diversion and
 17 threatening legal action to San Francisco.

SI_SierraC7-12

18 The increased diversion puts this much-needed
 19 project at risk. The best way to correct this
 20 inadequate Draft PEIR is to drop the proposed increased
 21 diversion from the WSIP project. Thank you.

SI_SierraC7-13

22 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Thank you. Is there anyone
 23 else desiring to comment on this item?

24 (No response)

25 PRESIDENT ALEXANDER: Seeing none, public comment

1 is closed. Written comments can be submitted up until
2 October -- 5:00 p.m., October 15 at the Planning
3 Commission offices. Thank you.
4 (Whereupon, the proceedings concluded
5 at 4:42 o'clock p.m.)
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1 STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
2 COUNTY OF MARIN) ss.
3 I, DEBORAH FUQUA, a Certified Shorthand
4 Reporter of the State of California, do hereby certify
5 that the foregoing proceedings were reported by me, a
6 disinterested person, and thereafter transcribed under
7 my direction into typewriting and is a true and correct
8 transcription of said proceedings.
9 I further certify that I am not of counsel or
10 attorney for either or any of the parties in the
11 foregoing proceeding and caption named, nor in any way
12 interested in the outcome of the cause named in said
13 caption.
14 Dated the 25th day of October, 2007.
15
16
17 DEBORAH FUQUA
18 CSR NO. 12948
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