

1.8 RESPONSES TO PUBLIC HEARING COMMENTS (OCTOBER 29, 2003)

Oral comments were received at the public hearing for the Draft EIR, held on October 29, 2003, in Lancaster, California. This section contains a transcript of oral comments during this hearing and responses to these comments. Each comment is numbered sequentially in the margin of the transcript by "PH-", followed by a number. Where a response includes a change to the text of the Draft EIR, a reference is made to Chapter 10, which contains corrections and clarifications made to the Draft EIR text.

PH-1 DONALD MISCHKA

The comment states that the Draft EIR is inadequate since it does not detail location of facilities and does not adequately evaluate impacts to low income populations. The Final EIR evaluates potential impacts of the LWRP 2020 Plan. The exact location of the agricultural facilities is not yet known. As such, the Final EIR describes the types of environmental effects that would be associated with implementation of the project and evaluates those potential effects within large study areas for both the Eastern and Western Agricultural Areas. The Final EIR acknowledges that the identified impacts could affect land uses throughout both study areas.

The Final EIR discusses impacts to low income populations on page 4-194. The Final EIR notes on page 4-192 that housing prices in the Antelope Valley are generally lower than in other parts of Los Angeles County. However, District No. 14 is limited to certain areas to implement the project since the Antelope Valley is a closed basin and pumping effluent to higher elevations becomes prohibitively expensive. Chapter 7 of the LWRP 2020 Plan and Chapter 5 of the Final EIR describe the process conducted by District No. 14 to identify feasible locations to conduct agricultural reuse operations. The two feasible areas (Eastern and Western Agricultural Areas) were evaluated at equal detail in the Draft EIR. The Draft EIR found no significant distinction between the two areas with respect to economic status of residents.

PH-2 DONALD MISCHKA

The comment asks why Agricultural Reuse Study Area 3 was not considered. Chapter 7 of the LWRP 2020 Plan and Chapter 5 of the Final EIR discuss the process conducted by District No. 14 to identify feasible locations for agricultural reuse operations. As discussed in the Final EIR, soil quality was the primary criterion in determining whether farming operations could be successful, and the soil suitability within Agricultural Reuse Study Area 3 was found to be low for agriculture. Figure 4.1-14 of the Final EIR shows that agriculture has not historically been conducted within Agricultural Reuse Study Area 3. This is due to the high salinity and low drainage qualities of the soils. The potential unsuitability of soils for agriculture within this area would risk not meeting the project objectives. See Eastern Agricultural Area Master Response.

PH-3 DONALD MISCHKA

The comment states that the Draft EIR fails to identify sensitive receptors susceptible to wind-borne pathogens. The Final EIR on page 4-169 discusses potential public health effects from sprinkler-applied effluent. The Final EIR concludes that compliance with California Department of Health Services requirements for recycling water would minimize potential effects. The recommended project would provide disinfected tertiary treatment that would minimize the potential for public health impacts. See Public Health Master Response.

PH-4 DONALD MISCHKA

The comment states that District No. 14 has inappropriately commenced acquisition of land prior to project approval. District No. 14 is currently seeking to acquire property from willing sellers. See Property Acquisition Master Response.

PH-5 DONALD MISCHKA

The comment requests that District No. 14 not approve the project. The comment is noted.

PH-6 DONALD MISCHKA

The comment requests to be informed of future meetings. All meeting participants who signed in will be informed of future meetings. See Public Notification Master Response.

PH-7 CHARLOTTE TAYLOR

The comment opposes the project and questions planning procedures. District No. 14 will attempt to acquire as much of the needed land as possible from willing sellers. Section 1.4 explains the need for the project. See Public Notification Master Response.

PH-8 KATHLEEN BURR

The question asks for the source of the evapotranspiration and precipitation rates shown in Figure 3-8 of the Draft EIR. The evapotranspiration rates in the referenced table were derived using California Irrigation Management Information System (CIMIS) methods. The CIMIS reference evapotranspiration rates (ET_o) for the Antelope Valley were used along with alfalfa crop coefficients and calculation guidance from Richard L. Snyder *Crop Coefficients*, 2002. R.L. Snyder is a biometeorology specialist at the University of California at Davis. The figure provides a planning level analysis of the agronomic water requirements of alfalfa, illustrating the need for storage reservoirs during the winter. The Farm Management Plan would include measures to accurately calculate daily evapotranspiration rates to effectively modify effluent application within agronomic rates. The LWRP 2020 Plan utilizes similar evapotranspiration rates to calculate seasonal discharge capacity per acre. This calculation assists in determining the amount of land needed for agricultural operations. Table 4-6 of the LWRP 2020 Plan concludes that the water consumption rate for 640 acres of alfalfa would be approximately 4,184 acre feet per year.

Evaporation rates were provided from the Western Regional Climate Center database. Again, evaporation at the application sites may vary from the regional averages shown in the figure. The point of this figure is to show the relationship between evaporation rates, crop water needs, and seasons.

PH-9 KATHLEEN BURR

The comment suggests that Alternatives 3 and 4 would land apply recycled water during the winter months in excess of agronomic rates, potentially impacting groundwater. The Final EIR discusses impact to groundwater quality from Alternatives 3 and 4 on pages 4-66 through 4-71. The Final EIR concludes that the two alternatives would result in significant unavoidable impacts to groundwater quality.

PH-10 DAVE TIMOK

The comment expresses opposition to Storage Reservoir Study Area 3. See Storage Reservoir Study Area 3 Master Response.

PH-11 DAVE TIMOK

The comment expresses opposition to Storage Reservoir Study Area 3. See Storage Reservoir Study Area 3 Master Response.

PH-12 DAVE TIMOK

The comment expresses concerns over effects to groundwater at the Leisure Lake community. The Final EIR discusses potential impacts to groundwater from storage reservoirs on page 4-65. See Storage Reservoir Study Area 3 Master Response and Groundwater Protection Master Response

PH-13 DAVE TIMOK

The comment expresses opposition to Storage Reservoir Study Area 3. See Storage Reservoir Study Area 3 Master Response.

PH-14 KATHY BIERYLEA

The comment asks how District No. 14 would pay for the properties being acquired. The total costs of the project are estimated in Chapter 7 of the LWRP 2020 Plan. Most of the funding will come from proceeds from District No. 14 bond sales or low-interest rate loans made possible through the State Water Resources Control Board for water quality improvements. These loans would be paid off by District No. 14's rate payers.

PH-15 KATHY BIERYLEA

The comment states that no indication of the LWRP 2020 Plan was made public. The comment also questions the public health impacts of recycled water use. See Public Notification Master Response. District No. 14 would apply recycled water for fodder crops using methods approved by the California Department of Health Services. Recycled water is used routinely throughout the country for the irrigation of fodder crops. The practice poses no health impact to livestock or to humans who consume that livestock. See Public Health Master Response.

PH-16 KATHY BIERYLEA

The comment reiterates concerns over health and costs. See responses to comments PH-14 and PH-15.

PH-17 FREDRICK VALENTINO

The comment expresses opposition to being displaced. District No. 14 will attempt to acquire enough land from willing sellers. See Property Acquisition Master Response.

PH-18 SILVIE RODRIGUEZ

The comment expresses opposition to Storage Reservoir Study Area 3. See Storage Reservoir Study Area 3 Master Response.

PH-19 SILVIE RODRIGUEZ

The comment requests that Storage Reservoir Study Area 3 be removed from the map for consideration. See Storage Reservoir Study Area 3 Master Response.

PH-20 SILVIE RODRIGUEZ

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PH-21 SILVIE RODRIGUEZ

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PH-22 SILVIE RODRIGUEZ

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PH-23 WALLY BUCHHOLZ

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PH-24 WALLY BUCHHOLZ

The comment requests that Storage Reservoir Study Area 3 be removed from the map for consideration. See Storage Reservoir Study Area 3 Master Response.

PH-25 FRANK ELLING

The comment states that the Draft EIR does not address potential impacts from Valley Fever. The LWRP 2020 Plan would conduct farming in an agricultural zone. Agriculture is an allowable use in the proposed eastern agricultural area. The Final EIR assesses potential effects of dust emissions from farming operations on page 4-149. Public health impacts from airborne pathogens from spray-applied water are discussed on page 4-170. The mitigation measure 4.11-1 provides for measures to minimize off-site drift that could include windbreaks to separate adjacent properties from the agricultural operations, if secondary effluent is used.

PH-26 STATE SENATOR PETE KNIGHT

The comment expresses opposition to the LWRP 2020 Plan and proposes that a new tertiary treatment plant be constructed. The Final EIR evaluates a partial and full tertiary treatment alternative at an equal level of detail. The recommended alternative would construct a new tertiary treatment facility to provide a full 26 mgd of tertiary treated effluent. However, providing increased treatment does not address the issue of effluent management. Agricultural reuse operations and storage reservoirs are required regardless of the level of treatment that is provided. The problem is one of effluent quantity, not quality.

PH-27 STATE SENATOR PETE KNIGHT

The comment states that supporting the people of the Antelope Valley has not been the primary objective of the project. The Final EIR provides the project objectives on page 1-3. The objectives of the project are to best serve the people of District No. 14 who are residents of the Antelope Valley.

PH-28 STATE SENATOR PETE KNIGHT

The comment requests back up on costs. Chapters 6 and 7 of the LWRP 2020 Plan provide estimated costs for the final project alternatives and the recommended project, respectively. The comment suggests that District No. 14 re-evaluate the project. Chapter 5 of the Final EIR describes the alternative screening process conducted by District No. 14. The Antelope Valley is a closed basin with no rivers providing an outlet to the ocean. Other closed basins in the region like the City of Bakersfield utilize alfalfa farm irrigation to manage effluent. The LWRP 2020 Plan proposes to implement a similar plan. The proposed water reuse methods are permitted by Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations and would further subject to the approval of the California Department of Health Services (DHS) and the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region (RWQCB-LR).

PH-29 SHERRY FELDER

The comment expresses unwillingness to move. District No. 14 will attempt to purchase as much land as possible without displacing residents. In the event that residents are displaced, the Final EIR provides mitigation measures 4.13-1 and 4.13-2 that commit District No. 14 to providing appropriate replacement housing for low or moderate income families. District No. 14 will provide fair market value for all properties acquired. See Property Acquisition Master Response.

PH-30 JOE COSNEY

The comment expresses opposition to Storage Reservoir Study Area 3. See Storage Reservoir Study Area 3 Master Response.

PH-31 CONNIE GERSTEN

The comment expresses opposition to Storage Reservoir Study Area 3. See Storage Reservoir Study Area 3 Master Response.

PH-32 ROGER SIDES

The comment asks how far from the farming operations District No. 14 would accept responsibility for groundwater contamination. District No. 14 would be responsible to ensure that no groundwater contamination resulted from the project. The Water Recycling Requirements issued by the RWQCB-LR would impose numerous conditions to ensure that groundwater was not adversely affected. Mitigation measure 4.3-6 would commit District No. 14 to install monitoring wells around the agricultural sites. Monitoring results would be public information. If monitoring found contamination, District No. 14 would modify farming operations.

PH-33 ROGER SIDES

The comment asks what the size of buffer area would be between residential areas and agricultural operations. California DHS regulations require a minimum of 100 feet between residential areas and secondary-treated water application sites. Mitigation measure 4.11-1 commits District No. 14 to implementing measures to minimize off-site drift that could include planting windbreaks between residences and agricultural areas where secondary treated effluent were being applied.

PH-34 JOHN GOIT

The comment explains that there should be plenty of farmland in the area that could take the water without displacing any residents. District No. 14 will attempt to purchase as much of the required land as possible from willing sellers.

PH-35 JOHN GOIT

The comment supports full tertiary treated water for agriculture reuse. The recommended project of the LWRP 2020 Plan, Alternative 2, which was evaluated in the Final EIR, would provide full tertiary-treated recycled water for agricultural reuse.

PH-36 EVELYA TORREZ

The comment requests information on how properties would be purchased. See Property Acquisition Master Response.

PH-37 MELANIE BOSTIC

The comment expresses opposition to selling land. District No. 14 will attempt to purchase as much land as possible without displacing residents. In the event that residents are displaced, the Final EIR provides mitigation measures 4.13-1 and 4.13-2 that commit District No. 14 to providing appropriate replacement housing for low or moderate income families. District No. 14 will provide fair market value for all properties acquired. See Property Acquisition Master Response.

PH-38 MELANIE BOSTIC

The comment states that the meeting notification invalidates the process. See Public Notification Master Response.

PH-39 MELANIE BOSTIC

The comment expresses opposition to selling land. See Property Acquisition Master Response.

PH-40 JIM NYE

The comment expresses opposition to disposing effluent in the eastern agricultural area. Chapter 1 of the Final EIR describes the purpose of the project. Chapter 5 of the Final EIR describes the alternatives evaluated. See Eastern Agricultural Area Master Response.

PH-41 JIM NYE

The comment questions the notification process. See Public Notification Master Response.

PH-42 JIM NYE

The comment asks why the Draft EIR notes opposition to the Western Agricultural Area but not the Eastern Agricultural Area. During the scoping process for this project, District No. 14 conducted several public meetings, which were advertised in the Antelope Valley Press and attended by members of the public who reside west of the LWRP in the Antelope Acres community. The Draft EIR notes the comments that were received from Antelope Acres during the scoping process. No opposition to the Eastern Agricultural Area was received during the scoping process.

PH-43 JIM NYE

The comment asks what farmers were contacted that indicated a willingness to use recycled water. District No. 14 conducted a number of public meetings, which were advertised locally, in order to identify farming entities that might be interested in farming with recycled water from the LWRP. Other than a farming entity situated approximately 17 miles west of the LWRP, District No. 14 has not identified any other farming entities with a substantial number of acres to satisfy a significant portion of the agricultural operations required under the LWRP 2020 Plan.

PH-43A JIM NYE

The comment asks why the Air Force will not allow overflows. Edwards Air Force Base (EAFB) has stated that unauthorized effluent overflows impacts its mission. See comment letter 4.

PH-44 MARLENE GRIFFIN

The comment states that the notification of the project was inadequate. See Public Notification Master Response.

PH-45 MARLENE GRIFFIN

The comment states that there are better areas for agriculture elsewhere in the region. The comment also states that EAFB needs to take some responsibility. Chapter 5 of the Final EIR describes screening process conducted by District No. 14 to identify the preferred agricultural location. See Eastern Agricultural Area Master Response. EAFB has stated that unauthorized effluent overflows impacts its mission. See comment letter 4 from EAFB.

PH-46 BARBARA FIRSICK

The comment expresses opposition to the project and states that airborne contaminants would be a hazard of the project. The project would comply with California DHS regulations. See Public Health Master Response.

PH-47 BARBARA FIRSICK

The comment states that District No. 14 should provide additional treatment. The recommended project of the LWRP 2020 Plan provides for the upgrade and expansion of the existing secondary treatment facilities at the LWRP to full tertiary treatment.

PH-48 BARBARA FIRSICK

The comment asks about buffer areas and how the project will affect neighbors within 600 feet. The California DHS regulations in Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations provide restrictions on how close irrigation is allowed to residences and drinking water wells. No irrigation is allowed within 100 feet of drinking water wells. The regulations are summarized in Appendix G of the Final EIR. No buffer zones would be necessary to protect public health. Wind breaks could be established between neighboring residences and irrigation areas as noted on page 4-170 of the Final EIR. Potential impacts to groundwater are described in Section 4.3 of the Final EIR. District No. 14 would install groundwater monitoring wells to monitor potential effects to groundwater. The project would be required to obtain a Water Recycling Requirements permit issued by the RWQCB-LR. A Farm Management Plan would ensure that no adverse impacts to groundwater would result from application of recycled water for irrigation. See Groundwater Protection Master Response and Public Health Master Response.

PH-49 BARBARA FIRSICK

The comment states that no one knew about the project before the Draft EIR was circulated. District No. 14 conducted scoping meetings prior to preparing the Draft EIR. See Public Notification Master Response. The public hearing process for the Draft EIR is designed to notify the public and provide a forum for discussing potential projects. The commenter is participating in this process. See Property Acquisition Master Response.

PH-50 BARBARA FIRSICK

The project expresses opposition to selling property and states that eminent domain is seen as a threat. District No. 14 will attempt to purchase as much land as possible without displacing residents. District No. 14 will provide fair market value for all properties acquired. See Property Acquisition Master Response.

PH-51 BARBARA FIRSICK

The comment expresses concern that growth in the region threatens water supplies. The proposed project provides recycled water to the City of Lancaster for a municipal reuse project in order to reduce demand on potable water supplies. As the demand for recycled water increases in the future, District No. 14 is committed to meeting that demand in order to protect groundwater supplies.

PH-52 EMILY PACK

The comment states that the project could expose people to pollution and that environmental review is required. The Draft EIR complies with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requiring that public projects undergo environmental review. Section 4.8 of the Final EIR describes potential impacts to air quality and provides mitigation to minimize those effects during construction. See Groundwater Protection Master Response.

PH-53 MARTA WILLIAMSON

The comment states that the project would violate environmental justice regulations. The Final EIR evaluates the project with respect to environmental justice on page 4-194, concluding that the project does not unfairly target low income areas. The location of suitable farmland is limited. District No. 14 conducted a project screening process that identified feasible locations for project facilities and operations. The Final EIR evaluates two feasible agricultural areas at an equal level of detail. Chapter 5 of the Final EIR describes the Program Alternative development and screening process as well as the screening process conducted to locate feasible agricultural areas. The Final EIR provides additional information on how District No. 14 determined the feasibility of the agricultural areas. The Eastern Agricultural Area is designated by the Antelope Valley Area-wide General Plan prepared by the Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning as an Agriculture Opportunity Area (as noted on page 4-21 of the Final EIR). The proposed project would be compatible with designated uses of the area. The project would not subject people to potential health hazards. The operations would be conducted in compliance with California DHS Regulations under permit issued by the RWQCB-LR. District No. 14 will attempt to purchase as much land as possible without displacing residents. In the event that residents are displaced, the Final EIR provides mitigation measures 4.13-1 and 4.13-2 that commit District No. 14 to providing appropriate replacement housing for low or moderate income families. District No. 14 will provide fair market value for all properties acquired. See Property Acquisition Master Response.

The comment references Senate Bills 25 and 115. Both bills were approved into law in October of 1999. SB 115 establishes the Office of Planning and Research as the coordinating agency for environmental justice issues and directs the California Environmental Protection Agency to adopt an environmental justice policy. SB 25 requires that the State Air Resources Board evaluate all air emissions standards including toxic air contaminants with respect to their effects on children. The proposed LWRP 2020 Plan does not conflict with the policies adopted in these bills. The Final EIR evaluates the project with respect to environmental justice and health impacts to sensitive receptors. See Public Health Master Response.

PH-54 MARTA WILLIAMSON

The comment states that District No. 14 did not provide proper noticing for the meeting. See Public Notification Master Response.

PH-55 DAVID GREENE

The comment states that the Eastern Agricultural Area is being attacked and used as a dumping ground for City of Lancaster's sewage. District No. 14 evaluated feasible locations to conduct agricultural reuse operations. Chapter 7 of the LWRP 2020 Plan summarizes the evaluation and screening process used to conclude that the Eastern Agricultural Area is the preferred site. District No. 14 is not proposing to dump sewage on this land, but irrigate it with recycled water which is routinely used for irrigation throughout the State of California. The sewage that enter the Lancaster Water Reclamation where it undergoes an extensive treatment process that meets all local, county, state, and federal standards for wastewater treatment. The level of treatment provided under each alternative evaluated would comply with California DHS regulations for reuse of recycled water use. Chapter 1 of the Final EIR describes the project purpose and objectives. Chapter 5 describes the alternatives evaluated to meet the objectives. Chapter 4 of the Final EIR evaluates four alternatives of the project in detail. See Groundwater Protection Master Response.

PH-56 DAVID GREENE

The comment states that the commenter was not asked whether his farm would accept recycled water. District No. 14 conducted a number of public meetings, which were advertised locally, in order to identify farming entities that might be interested in farming with recycled water from the LWRP. Other than a farming entity situated approximately 17 miles west of the LWRP, District No. 14 has not identified any other farming entities with a substantial number of acres to satisfy a significant portion of the agricultural operations required under the LWRP 2020 Plan.

PH-57 DAVID GREENE

The comment states that the project would dump poor quality water in the Eastern Agricultural Area. The recommended project involves construction of a full tertiary treatment facility. The agricultural reuse operations conducted with tertiary recycled water would meet California DHS standards for recycled water use. See Groundwater Protection Master Response and Public Health Master Response.

PH-58 DONALD HADDEN

The comment asks what is the eastern boundary of the Eastern Agricultural Area. District No. 14 is attempting to acquire the stated acreage in the LWRP 2020 Plan between 60th Street East and 90th Street East and Avenues D and G. However, the EIR assessment area is larger, evaluating potential impacts to an area from 50th Street East to 100th Street East and Avenues D and G.

PH-59 DONALD HADDEN

The comment expresses disappointment that no answers were provided to comments received at the public hearing. The public hearing was conducted to receive everyone's comments. The responses to comments received during the public review process will be sent to each commenter.

PH-60 DAVID GREENE

The comment requests information on the effect of Nebeker Ranch on the environment. See Groundwater Protection Master Response.

PH-61 ROBERT KARAKIS

The comment expresses concern over the quality of hay grown with recycled water. District No. 14 would apply recycled water for fodder crops using methods approved by the California DHS. Recycled water is used routinely throughout the country for the irrigation of fodder crops. The practice poses no health impact to livestock or to humans who consume that livestock. See Public Health Master Response.

PH-62 ROBERT KARAKIS

The comment asks for information regarding soil quality at Nebeker Ranch. Appendix M of the Final EIR includes results of soil sampling conducted at the Nebeker Ranch in October 2001. The report concludes that soil quality on Nebeker Ranch is similar to background samples collected on nearby property.

PH-63 ROBERT KARAKIS

The comment expresses concern for health impacts of recycled water use and states that the project seems to be already almost finished. Chapter 1 of the Final EIR explains the need for the project including the deadline for eliminating unauthorized effluent overflows. The Final EIR evaluates four alternatives at an equal level of detail. District No. 14 has recommended Alternative 2. Construction of facilities associated to the LWRP 2020 Plan will not start until the Board of Directors of District No. 14 certifies a Final EIR for this project. See Groundwater Protection Master Response and Public Health Master Response.

PH-64 HAROLD SINGER

The comment states that the Draft EIR is deficient and should be redone. The comment also asks why decision makers were not present at the public hearing. The EIR complies with CEQA requirements to identify potentially significant impacts of the project and to evaluate alternatives and mitigation measures that could reduce or avoid those potential impacts. The comment is not specific as to what is deficient in the EIR. CEQA does not require that decision makers be present during public hearings. Each of the District No. 14 Board Members were invited to the hearing. The hearing was attended by the Mayor of Lancaster, Mayor Frank Roberts, and by representatives of County Supervisor Mike Antonovich's office. The Board of Directors of District No. 14 will decide on the adequacy of the Final EIR and the recommended project based on the entire record which includes the comments received during the public hearing.

PH-65 HAROLD SINGER

The comment supports using recycled water for agricultural operations. Comment noted. Each alternative assessed in the Final EIR relies on agricultural reuse as the primary effluent management strategy.

PH-66 HAROLD SINGER

The comment suggests that District No. 14 listen to suggested alternatives. The comments received during the public review of the Draft EIR have been recorded and are part of the administrative record of the project. District No. 14's Board of Directors will evaluate each comment and response when deciding on the recommended project and certification of its Final EIR.

PH-67 HAROLD SINGER

The comment states that the RWQCB-LR has not prohibited overflows onto Rosamond Dry Lake, but rather is requiring that nuisance overflows be eliminated. The Final EIR reflects this distinction on page 1-5.

PH-68 HAROLD SINGER

The comment suggests that the Draft EIR does not evaluate the impacts to groundwater quality from land application during the first two years for Alternatives 1 and 2 and by storage reservoirs. Section 4.3 of the Final EIR evaluates potential impacts to groundwater from land application activities. Based on initial groundwater modeling conducted by District No. 14, the Final EIR concludes on page 4-70 that due to the depth of groundwater (over 100 feet below ground surface) and the short duration of land application (a few months per year for a few years) significant impacts to groundwater would not occur. This notwithstanding, the interim land application component has been removed from the project description under Alternatives 1 and 2. Chapter 3 of the Final EIR explaining the project alternatives has been revised to reflect this modification to the project description.

The potential impact to groundwater quality from new storage reservoirs is addressed in the Final EIR on page 4-65. The storage reservoirs would be located in areas that would not be suitable for agriculture due at least in part to the poor drainage of the soils. No degradation of groundwater has been documented resulting from the existing reservoirs and oxidation ponds. As such, the new reservoirs constructed from similar materials would not be expected to adversely impact groundwater. In addition, the recommended project would produce tertiary effluent which will have low concentrations of nitrogen. District No. 14 is committed in mitigation measures 4.3-2, 4.3-3, and 4.3-4 to conducting permeability assessments prior to final design to ensure the groundwater is adequately protected. No reservoirs will be constructed without prior approval from the RWQCB-LR. See responses to comment letter 3. See Groundwater Protection Master Response.

PH-69 HAROLD SINGER

The comment states that the discussion on potential Piute Pond water quality impacts in the Draft EIR is insufficient. Potential impacts to Piute Ponds water quality are discussed on page 4-75 through 4-78 of the Final EIR. The Final EIR commits District No. 14 to implementing one of two scenarios. One scenario would provide for periodic flushing to avoid having to construct re-circulation facilities. If EAFB does not allow period flushing flows (see comment letter 4) then District No. 14 will attempt negotiate with EAFB a mutually acceptable circulation system. District No. 14 is committed to maintaining water quality of the receiving water (Piute Ponds) since it is a condition of the LWRP Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs). There is currently a disagreement among experts regarding the potential for water degradation at Piute Ponds. EAFB has clearly indicated that the elimination of effluent-induced overflows would not result in a water quality impact.

PH-70 HAROLD SINGER

The comment states that the Draft EIR does not address impacts to groundwater quality from existing facilities. See response to comment 3-2.

PH-71 HAROLD SINGER

The comment states that CEQA does not allow compliance with future permit conditions to mitigate potential impacts of a project. The Final EIR provides mitigation measures that commit District No. 14 to minimizing impacts to groundwater. On page 4-65, the Final EIR acknowledges that the storage reservoirs could eventually contribute contaminants to the groundwater. The Final EIR concludes that an engineered liner consisting of either synthetic material or compacted native soil would provide sufficient protection to the groundwater. The Final EIR notes that violation of the anti-degradation policy would be considered a significant impact of the project. As such, the liners would need to be constructed with a liner sufficient to avoid substantially degrading groundwater quality. Mitigation measure 4.3-3 has been revised in the Final EIR to explicitly include an Anti-Degradation Analysis.

Treated wastewater reservoirs are constructed and permitted throughout the state, including at the LWRP and at the nearby community of Rosamond. The Final EIR concludes that a storage reservoir subject to permit conditions that is constructed to minimize infiltration would provide sufficient protection to groundwater. Although the final designs of the reservoir have not yet been prepared, they will be submitted to the RWQCB-LR once sufficient geotechnical information has been collected. Mitigation measures 4.3-2 and 4.3-3 commit District No. 14 to conducting the necessary geotechnical surveys and construction of a reservoir that would be protective of groundwater beneficial uses. The ultimate permeability of the liner would vary depending on the project alternative selected and the level of treatment provided. The recommended project would provide tertiary treatment with nitrification/denitrification that would minimize potential for groundwater degradation. See Groundwater Protection Master Response.

PH-72 HAROLD SINGER

The comment requests more information on the Farm Management Plan. See Farm Management Plan Master Response.

PH-73 HAROLD SINGER

The comment suggests that the Draft EIR fails to consider providing some overflows, authorized by EAFB, to maintain habitat at the shores of Rosamond Dry Lake. District No. 14 concurs with the comment that controlled overflows during specific periods could provide some habitat value that could mitigate the identified significant impact of the project. District No. 14 has attempted to negotiate controlled overflows with EAFB, most recently in 2002. However, EAFB has not committed to allow any overflows at this time. EAFB does not agree that a significant impact to biological resources would result from the project. See comment letter 4.

PH-74 JOHN MCGARY

The comment suggests that there are other ways to meet the project objectives. Although District No. 14 is proposing to construct a full tertiary treatment facility, effluent must still be managed in some way. Increased treatment would not eliminate the effluent management requirements of agricultural operations and storage reservoirs. Chapter 5 of the Final EIR describes District No. 14's alternative screening process.

PH-75 GALEEN MCGARY

The comment expresses unwillingness to leave property for the suggested fair market value. The comment also states that 10 farmers would benefit while homeowners are removed. District No. 14 will attempt to purchase as much of the required land as possible from willing sellers. District will pay fair market value for properties. See Property Acquisition Master Response. The project objectives are explained in Chapter 1 of the Final EIR. The farming operations will be managed by District No. 14. Any revenue realized by District No. 14 from crop sales would assist in offsetting costs of the operations and would benefit the ratepayers of District No. 14, not a few farmers.

PH-76 GALEEN MCGARY

The comment implies that the project could hurt children. The Final EIR assesses potential effects to public health from application of treated effluent. The Final EIR concludes that compliance with California DHS regulations for recycled water use would adequately protect public health. See Public Health Master Response.

PH-77 WANDA DEAL

The comment states that District No. 14 should have looked at all the alternatives. Chapter 6 of the LWRP 2020 Plan and Chapter 5 of the Final EIR describe the alternative screening process conducted by District No. 14. Chapter 5 of the Final EIR provides additional information regarding the comparison of the Eastern and Western Agricultural Areas. See Eastern Agricultural Area Master Response.

PH-78 WANDA DEAL

The comment states that a constructed wetlands alternative was rejected inappropriately. The Final EIR discusses the constructed wetlands alternative on page 5-6. The reasons that this alternative was rejected are also discussed in Chapter 6 of the LWRP 2020 Plan. See response to comment 23-3.

PH-79 WANDA DEAL

The comment requests that EAFB and State Senator Pete Knight allow District No. 14 to fully evaluate options. The comment does not address the adequacy of the Draft EIR. No response is necessary.

PH-80 KEELIE VAN METER

The comment asks how District No. 14 will assess value of properties and improvements. District No. 14 has retained an appraisal firm to assess the value of properties and improvement within the proposed project area. See Property Acquisition Master Response.

PH-81 PHILIP GIBA

The commenter states that he first heard about the project from a realtor. See Property Acquisition Master Response and Public Notification Master Response.

PH-82 PHILIP GIBA

The commenter expresses concern over groundwater. See Groundwater Protection Master Response.

PH-83 PHILIP GIBA

The comment expresses concern over sprinkler application of effluent. See Public Health Master Response.

PH-84 PHILIP GIBA

The comment states that if residents are removed they should be compensated. District would provide fair market value for property and would assist in relocation for low income residents.

PH-85 WALT BIERYLA

The comment questions when the exact boundaries of the Eastern Agricultural Area will be determined. District No. 14 is in the process of identifying willing sellers. The final footprint of the agricultural reuse area will depend in some part on the location of willing sellers. The analysis in the Final EIR assumes that the full study area shown on Figure 3-3 could potentially be subject to purchase and use by District No. 14.

PH-86 UNIDENTIFIED

The comment asks when the comments will be answered and who has decision-making authority. In compliance with CEQA requirements, the Final EIR, including responses to all comments received, will be available for review at least 10 days prior to the public hearing where the Board of Directors of District No. 14 will decide whether to certify the Final EIR and approve the recommended project of the LWRP 2020 Plan. The Board of Directors of District No. 14 consists of the mayors of the Cities of Lancaster and Palmdale and the Chair of the County Board of Supervisors. The public hearing will take place on May 3, 2004 at Lancaster City Hall.

LANCASTER WRP 2020 FACILITIES PLAN DEIR, PUBLIC HEARING - 10.29.03

[BEGIN TAPE 1]

TOM LeBRUN: ON BEHALF OF THE SANITATION DISTRICTS, I WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME YOU TONIGHT TO THIS PUBLIC HEARING. AND THE TOPIC WILL BE THE LANCASTER WATER RECLAMATION PLANT, 2020 FACILITIES PLAN AND EIR. AND THE PURPOSE OF THIS MEETING IS TO GET YOUR COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT EIR. MY NAME IS TOM LeBRUN. I'M THE DEPARTMENT ENGINEER FOR THE SANITATION DISTRICTS IN CHARGE OF OUR PLANNING EFFORTS. AS I SAID, THE PURPOSE OF THIS MEETING IS TO GET YOUR PUBLIC COMMENTS. THERE ARE A LOT OF FOLKS HERE, WE'VE PASSED OUT CARDS FOR YOU TO FILL OUT TO INDICATE THAT IF YOU WANT TO SPEAK YOU WILL BE GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO DO SO. AND WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE YOU USE THIS MIKE. WE ARE RECORDING THIS VIA TAPE RECORDER SO WE CAN GET YOUR COMMENTS COMPLETELY AND ACCURATELY. AND WE WILL INCLUDE THOSE COMMENTS AND ANY WRITTEN COMMENTS YOU SUBMIT TO US BY THE DEADLINE OF DECEMBER 18TH INTO THE FINAL EIR. EXCUSE ME, DID I SAY NOVEMBER? YES, NOVEMBER 18TH EXCUSE ME. OKAY, WE HAD A PREVIOUS SCOPING MEETING HERE, AND WE IDENTIFIED THREE MAJOR ISSUES. ONE WAS NO ENCROACHMENT ON EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE. THE OTHER WAS TO ALLOW FOR THE MAXIMUM REUSE OF TREATED EFFLUENT. AND THE THIRD WAS TO MAINTAIN [PIUTE] PONDS. WE BELIEVE THAT THE PROJECT THAT WE'RE GOING TO PRESENT TO YOU WILL MEET THOSE THREE OBJECTIVES.

AS YOU KNOW, THE ANTELOPE VALLEY IS A CLOSED BASIN, AND ALL WATER ACTUALLY FLOWS TO THE LOWEST POINT, WHICH IS ROSAMOND DRY LAKE ON EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE. AS THE POPULATION OF THE ANTELOPE VALLEY GREW, EFFLUENT FROM THE LANCASTER PLANT WOULD FLOW DOWNHILL AND ULTIMATELY FOR MANY YEARS HAS OVERFLOWED ONTO EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE DURING THE WINTER MONTHS. THE WATER RECLAMATION PLANT OPERATES UNDER A PERMIT ISSUED BY THE STATE AGENCY, THE [LAHONTAN] REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD. AND THEY ISSUED AN

ORDER THAT DEMANDED THAT THE UNAUTHORIZED DISCHARGE OF EFFLUENT TO ROSAMOND DRY LAKE STOP BY AUGUST, 2005.

THE FACILITIES PLAN PORTION OF THE DOCUMENTS, WHICH ARE AVAILABLE FOR YOUR REVIEW AND IN LOCAL LIBRARIES, AND WE CAN TALK TO ANYONE WHO NEEDS MORE, DESCRIBES THE FACILITIES THAT WE WANT TO BUILD TO MEET THE OBJECTIVES OF STOPPING THE OVERFLOWS BY AUGUST, 2005. AND ALSO, IT DESCRIBES A PHASING OF FACILITIES TO ACCOUNT FOR FUTURE GROWTH TO THE YEAR 2020. THE DRAFT EIR WHICH IS THE SUBJECT OF TONIGHT'S MEETING DESCRIBES ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF OUR RECOMMENDED PLAN. I WOULD LIKE TO JUST LEAVE MY COMMENTS WITH THAT, AND WELCOME YOU TO THIS HEARING. I HAVE ONE OR TWO BRIEF INTRODUCTIONS, AND WE'LL GET STARTED WITH OUR PROGRAM. WE'RE GOING TO TRY AND MAKE OUR PROGRAM NO MORE THAN 25 MINUTES, SO YOU HAVE AS MUCH TIME AS POSSIBLE TO MAKE YOUR PUBLIC COMMENTS.

MY FIRST INTRODUCTION IS SAGAR RASKIT, SITTING AT THE TABLE, WHO IS THE PROJECT MANAGER FOR THIS PROJECT. THE SECOND INDIVIDUAL I'D LIKE TO INTRODUCE IS STAN PEGADIOTES, WHO WILL BE GIVING A PRESENTATION. STAN IS A PROJECT ENGINEER AND IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PLANNING PROCESS THAT WENT ON FOR PRODUCING THESE REPORTS. AND THEN WE HAVE TOM BARNES, A SPECIALIST FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES AND ASSOCIATES, WHO WILL EXPLAIN THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS.

AND AT THAT POINT I'M GOING TO TURN THE MEETING OVER TO LESLIE MOUNTAIN WHO WILL BE CONDUCTING THE PUBLIC HEARING PORTION AND SERVE AS A MODERATOR. SO WITH THAT, I'D LIKE TO TURN THE MEETING OVER TO STAN FOR HIS BRIEF PRESENTATION.

IF YOU WOULD, PLEASE, JUST HOLD YOUR QUESTIONS UNTIL THE PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD. I THINK IT'LL MAKE THIS MEETING PROGRESS MORE SMOOTHLY. THANK YOU.

STAN PEGADIOTES: THANK YOU, TOM. GOOD EVENING, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. MY PORTION OF TONIGHT'S PRESENTATION, I WILL GIVE YOU A BRIEF BACKGROUND OF COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT NO. 14. I WILL GO OVER THE NEED FOR THE PROJECT, THE PROJECT OBJECTIVES, THE PROJECT'S ALTERNATIVES EVALUATED, THE RECOMMENDED PROJECT COMPONENTS AND FOOTPRINT, THE PROJECT SITE SELECTION PROCESS, THE ESTIMATED PROJECT COSTS. AND THEN I WILL GO OVER THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT PROCESS AS IT PERTAINS TO THIS PROCESS. SO LET'S GET STARTED.

THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICTS PROVIDE WASTE WATER TREATMENT AND SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR APPROXIMATELY FIVE MILLION PEOPLE IN THE COUNTY. THE AGENCY IS COMPRISED OF 25 SEPARATE DISTRICTS WHICH COLLECTIVELY OWN AND OPERATE 11 WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANTS AND 1,300 MILES OF TRUNK SEWERS. TONIGHT'S PRESENTATION WILL FOCUS ON DISTRICT NO. 14, AND MORE SPECIFICALLY, THE LANCASTER WATER RECLAMATION PLANT, 2020 FACILITIES PLAN AND EIR.

THE DISTRICT NO. 14 SERVICE AREA IS COMPRISED OF THE MAJORITY OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER, WHICH WOULDN'T YOU KNOW IT, MY POINTER DOESN'T WORK. THIS ONE I THINK WORKS. THERE WE GO. COMPRISED OF THE MAJORITY OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER, THIS AREA IN BLUE HERE. THE CITY OF PALMDALE, WHICH IS THIS GREEN AREA. AND ADJACENT UNINCORPORATED PORTIONS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY. WASTE WATER THAT IS GENERATED WITHIN THIS SERVICE AREA FLOWS NORTH TO THE LANCASTER PLANT, WHICH IS RIGHT HERE, LOCATED AT THE INTERSECTION OF AVENUE D AND SIERRA

HIGHWAY. THE LANCASTER PLANT CURRENTLY TREATS 13 MILLION GALLONS PER DAY OF WASTE WATER, AND HAS A CAPACITY FOR 16 MILLION GALLONS PER DAY.

TREATED WASTE WATER, OR EFFLUENT, FROM THE LANCASTER PLANT IS SEASONALLY REUSED AT NEBEKER RANCH OR APOLLO PARK. THIS EFFLUENT IS ALSO DISCHARGED TO ONE OF THE FOUR DISTRICT-OWNED STORAGE RESERVOIRS, RIGHT HERE. DURING THE WINTER MONTHS, WHEN THE EVAPORATION RATES ARE LOW, AND THE REUSE DEMAND IS ALSO LOW AT NEBEKER RANCH AND APOLLO PARK, EXCESS EFFLUENT HAS TO BE DISCHARGED TO PIUTE PONDS. THIS RESULTS IN OVEFLOWS ONTO ROSAMOND DRY LAKE. AND EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE HAS INDICATED THAT THIS COULD POTENTIALLY IMPACT THEIR MISSION.

THERE ARE SEVERAL REASONS WHY THE DISTRICT HAS UNDERTAKEN THIS PROJECT NOW. THE FIRST REASON IS THAT THERE'S A PROJECTED INCREASE IN THE WASTE WATER FLOWS. POPULATION FORECASTS THAT ARE BASED ON APPROVED COUNTY AND CITY GENERAL PLANS INDICATE THAT THE POPULATION WITHIN OUR SERVICE AREA WILL DOUBLE BY THE YEAR 2020. THIS POPULATION GROWTH IS EXPECTED TO BRING IN ABOUT 26 MILLION GALLONS PER DAY OF WASTE WATER BY THE YEAR 2020. THEREFORE, THE DISTRICT HAS TO EXPAND THE LANCASTER PLANT'S TREATMENT CAPACITY TO MANAGE THIS EXPECTED FLOW.

SECOND REASON FOR THE DISTRICT UNDERTAKING THIS PROJECT IS THAT THE LAHONTAN REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD ISSUED A REVISED PERMIT TO THE LANCASTER PLANT WITH NEW PROVISIONS AND DEADLINES. AMONG THESE IS THAT THE DISTRICT MUST STOP OVERFLOWS ON THE DRY LAKE BY AUGUST 25, 2005. THIS AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, TAKEN FEBRUARY, 2002, ILLUSTRATES THE OVERFLOW ISSUE. THIS IS

PIUTE PONDS RIGHT HERE. THIS IS ROSAMOND DRY LAKE. AND THIS IS THE EFFLUENT ON THE DRY LAKE BED. SO THEREFORE THE COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT MUST ALSO EXPAND THE EFFLUENT MANAGEMENT CAPACITY OF THE LANCASTER PLANT IN ORDER TO STOP THESE OVERFLOWS, AS WELL AS MANAGE EFFLUENT WELL INTO THE FUTURE, THROUGH THE YEAR 2020.

THE THIRD AND FINAL REASON THE DISTRICT IS UNDERTAKING THIS PROJECT IS THAT THE CITY OF LANCASTER HAS PROPOSED TO IMPLEMENT A RECYCLED WATER REUSE PROJECT, SO THE DISTRICT MUST ALSO EXPAND ITS TERTIARY TREATMENT FACILITY CAPACITY.

BASED ON THOSE NEEDS, THE DISTRICT DEVELOPED A SET OF OBJECTIVES FOR THIS PROJECT, AND THOSE OBJECTIVES FOR THE 2020 PLAN ARE, TO PROVIDE COST-EFFECTIVE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND WASTE WATER MANAGEMENT THROUGH THE YEAR 2020; TO ELIMINATE UNAUTHORIZED OVERFLOWS TO ROSAMOND DRY LAKE BY AUGUST 25, 2005; TO MEET MUNICIPAL NEEDS FOR TERTIARY TREATED RECYCLED WATER; AND TO MAINTAIN PIUTE PONDS.

NOW A WIDE RANGE OF ALTERNATIVES WAS ANALYZED IN ORDER TO COME UP WITH THE BEST SOLUTION FOR THIS 2020 PLAN, BOTH FOR THE WASTE WATER TREATMENT SIDE, AND ON THE EFFLUENT MANAGEMENT SIDE. THE WASTE WATER TREATMENT ALTERNATIVES WE LOOKED AT INCLUDED OXIDATION PONDS FOLLOWED BY TERTIARY TREATMENT; CONVENTIONAL ACTIVATED SLUDGE FOLLOWED BY TERTIARY TREATMENT; OXIDATION DITCH, FOLLOWED BY TERTIARY TREATMENT; AND MEMBRANE BIOREACTOR TREATMENT FOLLOWED BY DISINFECTION.

THE EFFLUENT MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES WE LOOKED AT INCLUDED DISCHARGE TO THE LA AQUEDUCT, GROUNDWATER DISCHARGE, DISCHARGE TO EVAPORATION PONDS, AGRICULTURAL REUSE IN STORAGE RESERVOIRS, AGRICULTURAL REUSE LAND APPLICATION, MUNICIPAL REUSE IN STORAGE RESERVOIRS, DISCHARGE TO CONSTRUCTED WETLANDS, AND FINALLY, SEASONAL DISCHARGE TO ROSAMOND DRY LAKE. NOW ALL THESE ALTERNATIVES WERE LOOKED IN A VERY DETAILED FASHION, AND THAT PROCESS IS DESCRIBED IN THE 2020 PLAN. AND THE 2020 PLAN IDENTIFIED CONVENTIONAL ACTIVATED SLUDGE FOLLOWED BY TERTIARY TREATMENT AS THE RECOMMENDED WASTE WATER TREATMENT ALTERNATIVE FOR FUTURE UPGRADES, FUTURE UPGRADES AND EXPANSION OF THE PLANT. AND AGRICULTURAL REUSE AND STORAGE RESERVOIRS, AND AGRICULTURAL REUSE LAND APPLICATION WERE IDENTIFIED AS THE TWO FEASIBLE EFFLUENT MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES FOR THE 2020 PLAN.

NOW THESE THREE ALTERNATIVES WERE COMBINED, AND FORMED A SET OF FOUR FINAL PROJECT ALTERNATIVES. NOW THESE FOUR FINAL PROJECT ALTERNATIVES WERE SUBJECT TO AN ADDITIONAL LEVEL OF SCREENING AND EVALUATION IN ORDER TO NARROW IT DOWN TO THE ONE RECOMMENDED PROJECT. BASED ON THE RESULTS OF THAT PROCESS, ALTERNATIVE ONE WAS IDENTIFIED AS THE RECOMMENDED PROJECT FOR THE 2020 PLAN.

THE COMPONENTS OF THE RECOMMENDED PROJECT INCLUDE EXPANSION OF WASTE WATER TREATMENT CAPACITY VIA ACTIVATED SLUDGE AND TERTIARY TREATMENT; EXPANSION OF AGRICULTURAL REUSE OPERATIONS; CONSTRUCTION OF ADDITIONAL STORAGE RESERVOIRS; AND INCORPORATION OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER'S MUNICIPAL REUSE PROJECT.

ON THIS AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH I WILL TRY TO SHOW YOU THE FOOTPRINT OF THE RECOMMENDED PROJECT. THE PROPOSED WASTE WATER TREATMENT FACILITIES WILL BE LOCATED PRIMARILY WITHIN THE EXISTING PLANT AREA. HOWEVER, ABOUT FIVE ACRES WILL HAVE TO BE ACQUIRED ADJACENT TO THAT AREA IN ORDER TO FIT ALL THE FACILITIES IN. THE PROPOSED STORAGE RESERVOIRS WILL BE SITED NORTH OF THE PLANT, IN THIS AREA RIGHT HERE. AND THE PROPOSED AGRICULTURAL REUSE OPERATIONS WILL BE SITED WITHIN THIS AREA. THE DISTRICT WILL SEEK TO ACQUIRE APPROXIMATELY 4,200 ACRES WITHIN THAT AREA IN ORDER TO CONDUCT AGRICULTURAL REUSE OPERATIONS.

FINALLY, A PIPELINE WILL BE CONSTRUCTED TO THE AGRICULTURAL REUSE SITES TO DELIVER EFFLUENT. THESE PHOTOGRAPHS ILLUSTRATE WHAT THE DISTRICT'S PROPOSED AGRICULTURAL REUSE OPERATIONS WILL LOOK LIKE.

OKAY, NOW, I WOULD LIKE TO NOW DISCUSS A LITTLE BIT ABOUT HOW THE DISTRICT ARRIVED AT THE RECOMMENDED LOCATION FOR STORAGE RESERVOIRS AND AGRICULTURAL REUSE OPERATIONS. FIRST OFF, FOR STORAGE RESERVOIR LOCATION, THE DISTRICT LOOKED AT FIVE SITES AROUND THE LANCASTER PLANT AS POTENTIAL LOCATIONS FOR RESERVOIR CONSTRUCTION. THESE FIVE SITES WERE SUBJECT TO AN EVALUATION AND SCREENING PROCESS USING THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA: OPERATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS; SOIL SUITABILITY; ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT; PUBLIC IMPACT; EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE IMPACT; AND COST EFFECTIVENESS.

LOOKING AT ALL THESE CRITERIA TOGETHER, AND COMPARING THE FIVE SITES, IT WAS DETERMINED THAT SITE TWO IS THE RECOMMENDED LOCATION FOR STORAGE RESERVOIR LOCATION.

THE ANALYSIS NOW CONDUCTED FOR DETERMINATION OF THE LOCATION OF THE AGRICULTURAL REUSE OPERATIONS WAS ACTUALLY VERY EXTENSIVE. FIRST, THE DISTRICT DELINEATED AN AREA AROUND THE LANCASTER PLANT BASED ON THE 17-MILE RADIUS, AND THIS IS THE DISTANCE OF THE FARMING ENTITIES FURTHEST FROM THE PLANT THAT HAVE SHOWN INTEREST IN USING RECYCLED WATER. AND NOW AREAS WITHIN THIS LARGER CIRCLE WERE ELIMINATED AS FOLLOWS. THAT'S EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE. KERN COUNTY. THE CITY OF LANCASTER. CITY OF LOS ANGELES PROPERTY. CITY OF PALMDALE. AND THE ANTELOPE ACRES COMMUNITY OF HOMES. BASED ON THESE CONSTRAINTS, THE DISTRICT IDENTIFIED THE FOLLOWING FOUR SITES AS POTENTIAL LOCATIONS FOR AGRICULTURAL REUSE OPERATIONS. THESE FOUR SITES WERE SUBJECT TO AN EVALUATION AND SCREENING PROCESS, JUST LIKE THE STORAGE RESERVOIR LOCATIONS, WITH THE FIRST CRITERION BEING SOIL SUITABILITY. BASED ON THE RESULTS OF THIS ANALYSIS SITES TWO AND THREE WERE ELIMINATED FROM FURTHER CONSIDERATION, BECAUSE THE SOIL WITHIN THOSE TWO AREAS WAS NOT SUFFICIENT TO CONDUCT FARMING OPERATIONS. SITES ONE AND FOUR WERE THEN SUBJECT TO ADDITIONAL EVALUATION AND SCREENING, USING THESE CRITERIA: OPERATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS; ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT; PUBLIC IMPACT; COST EFFECTIVENESS; AND RECYCLED WATER REUSE INTEREST. NOW BASED ON THIS ANALYSIS, SITE FOUR WAS IDENTIFIED AS THE RECOMMENDED LOCATION FOR AGRICULTURAL REUSE OPERATIONS.

NOW CHANGING GEARS, THE ESTIMATED COST OF THIS PROJECT IS APPROXIMATELY \$163 MILLION. THE CURRENT SERVICE CHARGE RATE OF \$67 PER YEAR PER SINGLE FAMILY HOME IS PROJECTED TO INCREASE TO APPROXIMATELY \$164 PER YEAR PER SINGLE FAMILY HOME. WHILE THE CURRENT CONNECTION FEE RATE OF \$1,780 PER SINGLE FAMILY HOME IS PROJECTED TO INCREASE TO \$3,300 PER SINGLE FAMILY HOME.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT, THE DISTRICT HAD TO GO THROUGH A NUMBER OF STEPS FOR THIS PROJECT. FIRST OFF, THE DISTRICT PREPARED AND CIRCULATED A NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT ON DECEMBER 6, 2002. AS TOM MENTIONED PREVIOUSLY, A SCOPING MEETING WAS HELD HERE AT THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON JANUARY 9TH, 2003, IN ORDER TO GATHER PUBLIC INPUT ON THE PROPOSED PROJECT. ON SEPTEMBER 30TH, 2003, THE DISTRICT CIRCULATED FOR COMMENT THE DRAFT EIR FOR THE 2020 PLAN. THE PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD FOR THE DRAFT EIR STARTED ON OCTOBER 1ST, AND WILL END ON NOVEMBER 18TH, 2003. THE PUBLIC HEARING WE'RE REQUIRED TO HAVE IS TONIGHT. THE DISTRICT WILL RESPOND TO COMMENTS RECEIVED TONIGHT, AS WELL AS THROUGHOUT THE PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD, IN THE FINAL EIR, WHICH IS SCHEDULED FOR RELEASE IN MARCH OF 2004.

AND FINALLY, THE DISTRICT 14 BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL CONSIDER CERTIFICATION OF THE FINAL EIR AND APPROVAL OF THE RECOMMENDED PROJECT, AND THAT'S SCHEDULED FOR APRIL OF 2004.

AND JUST TO REITERATE NOW, THE COMPONENTS OF THE RECOMMENDED PROJECT: LAND ACQUISITION FOR AGRICULTURAL REUSE; A PIPELINE AND PUMP STATION CONSTRUCTION; LAND ACQUISITION FOR STORAGE RESERVOIR CONSTRUCTION; WASTE WATER TREATMENT FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION; TERTIARY TREATED EFFLUENT FOR THE CITY OF LANCASTER MUNICIPAL REUSE PROJECT; AND MAINTENANCE OF PIUTE PONDS.

NOW THESE COMPONENTS OF THE RECOMMENDED PROJECT WILL BE PHASED IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER. IN ORDER TO STOP UNAUTHORIZED OVERFLOWS ONTO ROSAMOND DRY LAKE BY AUGUST 25, 2005, THE DISTRICT WILL CONSTRUCT A PIPELINE AND PUMP

STATION AND ACQUIRE LAND IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH AGRICULTURAL REUSE OPERATIONS. CONSTRUCTION OF STORAGE RESERVOIRS IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETE IN THE SPRING OF 2007, AT WHICH POINT THE DISTRICT WILL BE ABLE TO IRRIGATE AGRICULTURAL LAND AT AGRONOMIC RATES. AND CONSTRUCTION OF WASTE WATER TREATMENT FACILITIES WILL BE COMPLETED IN TWO PHASES, THE FIRST PHASE IN SPRING OF 2008, AND THE SECOND PHASE COMPLETED IN THE WINTER OF 2014.

OKAY, AT THIS POINT I'D LIKE TO TURN THE FLOOR OVER TO TOM BARNES OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATES, WHO WILL DESCRIBE THE MAJOR CONCLUSIONS OF THE EIR FOR THIS 2020 PLAN.

TOM BARNES: HI. I'M GOING TO DO THIS PRETTY BRIEFLY, SO WE CAN GET A CHANCE FOR EVERYONE TO COMMENT TONIGHT. BUT I'M TOM BARNES. I'M WITH ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATES, AND WE PREPARED THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT THAT THIS MEETING IS ABOUT.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT REQUIRES EIR, ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS, BE PREPARED AND ASSESS THE RESOURCE CATEGORIES SHOWN IN THIS SLIDE. AND OUR EIR DOES ADDRESS EACH ONE OF THESE RESOURCE CATEGORIES, INCLUDING LAND USE AND AIR QUALITY, ODORS, AND HYDROLOGY, INCLUDING GROUNDWATER QUALITY.

THE EIR BEGINS WITH A SETTING FOR EACH ONE OF THOSE RESOURCES DESCRIBED IN THE LAST SLIDE; DESCRIBES THE SETTING; AND THEN IDENTIFIES POTENTIAL IMPACTS THAT THE PROPOSED PROJECT COULD HAVE ON THOSE RESOURCES. IT THEN ESTABLISHES THRESHOLDS OF SIGNIFICANCE TO DETERMINE EXACTLY WHAT WOULD BE A SIGNIFICANT

IMPACT AS OPPOSED TO AN IMPACT THAT MIGHT BE WHAT WE WERE CALLING LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT. SO ONCE WE HAVE ESTABLISHED THOSE THRESHOLDS, WE DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT THE IMPACT THAT WE'VE IDENTIFIED WOULD BE A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT OR AN IMPACT THAT WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT.

ANY POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT THAT WE FIND WE TRIED TO DEVELOP MITIGATION MEASURES THAT WE COULD APPLY TO THE PROJECT THAT WOULD EITHER AVOID THOSE IMPACTS OR REDUCE THEM SUCH THAT THE LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE WOULD BE REDUCED.

SO WE WOULD, THOSE MITIGATION MEASURES THEN ARE COMMITMENTS THAT THE DISTRICT WOULD TAKE AS PART OF THE PROJECT TO AVOID SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS.

THE EIR ALSO PROVIDES A COMPARISON OF THE ALTERNATIVES, FOUR ALTERNATIVES THAT WERE EXPLAINED EARLIER, ARE COMPARED SO THE DECISION MAKERS CAN DECIDE WHICH WOULD BE, HAVE LESS IMPACT IN WHICH RESOURCE AREA. TWO OF THESE ALTERNATIVES WOULD HAVE A HIGHER QUALITY EFFLUENT THAN THE OTHER TWO ALTERNATIVES, FOR INSTANCE. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES, DIFFERENT IMPACTS TO BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES DEPENDING ON WHICH ALTERNATIVE IS CHOSEN.

THE FOOTPRINTS AND THE LOCATION OF THOSE FOOTPRINTS ARE THE CONSTRUCTION AREAS FOR THE RESERVOIRS AND FOR THE CONVERSION TO AGRICULTURE IMPACT MARIPOSA LILY AND THE MOHAVE GROUND SQUIRREL IN DIFFERENT WAYS. AND WE'VE EVALUATED THAT IN THIS EIR.

WE THEN LOOK AT LAND ACQUISITION, WHICH ALTERNATIVES WOULD HAVE THE GREATEST DISPLACEMENT OF RESIDENTS, AND WHICH WOULD HAVE THE FEWEST. WE LOOK AT THE

GROUNDWATER IMPACTS, WHICH AGAIN WOULD HAVE GREATER IMPACTS TO GROUNDWATER QUALITY. AND THEN WE LOOK AT CONSTRUCTION IMPACTS, AIR QUALITY, NOISE, TRAFFIC, THAT KIND OF THING, AND TRY TO PROVIDE A COMPARISON FOR DECISION MAKERS, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF DISTRICT 14, TO DECIDE WHICH ALTERNATIVE TO CHOOSE.

THE MAJOR CONCLUSIONS THEN OF THE EIR CAME UP WITH SOME SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS THAT NO MITIGATION MEASURES WERE AVAILABLE TO LESSEN THE IMPACTS, TO LESSEN TO SIGNIFICANT LEVELS. SO THOSE ARE THE FINDINGS OF THIS IMPACT REPORT, ARE THAT THERE ARE THREE SIGNIFICANT UNAVOIDABLE IMPACTS FOR ALTERNATIVES ONE AND TWO, WHICH WOULD INCLUDE, ALTERNATIVES ONE AND TWO HAVE THE STORAGE RESERVOIRS, WHEREAS ALTERNATIVES THREE AND FOUR DO NOT.

ELIMINATION OF A MUD FLAT HABITAT ON ROSAMOND DRY LAKE WOULD BE ONE OF THE SIGNIFICANT UNAVOIDABLE IMPACTS. ALSO CONSTRUCTION AIR QUALITY, JUST THE EMISSIONS OF DUST AND NITROGEN OXIDES. AND THEN FINALLY THE RECOGNITION THAT THE WASTE WATER TREATMENT ALLOWS GROWTH TO CONTINUE IN THE REGION, AND THAT GROWTH DOES HAVE SECONDARY IMPACTS TO TRAFFIC, TO AIR QUALITY, AND THIS EIR RECOGNIZES THAT PROVIDING WASTEWATER TREATMENT REMOVES AN OBSTACLE TO THAT GROWTH.

THE EIR THEN FINDS THAT THE OTHER TWO ALTERNATIVES, THREE AND FOUR, THAT WERE ASSESSED, HAS AN ADDITIONAL POTENTIAL SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WHICH WOULD BE THE DEGRADATION OF GROUNDWATER RESOURCES WITH LAND APPLIED EFFLUENT.

SO I WANTED TO JUST QUICKLY THEN GO THROUGH THE SCHEDULE ONE MORE TIME. WE'RE HERE TONIGHT FOR THE PUBLIC HEARING. WE'RE GOING TO TAKE YOUR COMMENTS ON THE EIR. WE'LL GO BACK, ONCE WE'VE RECEIVED THOSE COMMENTS, THE COMMENT PERIOD IS OPEN UNTIL THE 18TH OF NOVEMBER. WE WILL GO AND PREPARE RESPONSES TO THOSE COMMENTS, AND PREPARE A FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT THAT WE WILL TAKE TO THE DISTRICT 14 BOARD OF DIRECTORS. AND THEY WILL THEN DECIDE WHETHER TO CERTIFY THAT EIR, AND WHETHER TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDED PROJECT.

SO WITH THAT, OUR PRESENTATION IS COMPLETE. AND I'D LIKE TO TURN IT OVER TO LESLIE MOULTON, AND WE'LL BEGIN THE PROCESS OF HEARING YOUR COMMENTS.

LESLIE MOULTON: THANK YOU. AGAIN, WE DO ASK THAT IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN SPEAKING TONIGHT YOU FILL OUT A SPEAKER'S CARD. I HAVE SOME ADDITIONAL UP HERE, IF YOU WANT TO RAISE YOUR HAND. THEY'RE IN THE BACK AT THE BACK TWO TABLES. ANY TIME THAT YOU WANT TO FILL ONE OUT AND BRING IT FORWARD, YOU'RE WELCOME TO ADD TO THE STACK. I DO HAVE 25-30 CARDS, SO WE'VE GOT A GOOD ALMOST COUPLE HOURS OF COMMENT. AND WE REALLY APPRECIATE YOUR COMING. WE VERY MUCH WANT TO HEAR FROM EVERYONE, SO WE'RE GOING TO ASK THAT YOU LIMIT YOUR COMMENTS TO THREE MINUTES. IF YOU HAVE A NEED, AND YOU HAVE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION THAT YOU NEED TO CONVEY OR COMMENTS, WE'LL GET YOU BACK IN LINE AFTER WE'VE MADE IT THROUGH OUR FIRST SET, BECAUSE WE REALLY DO WANT TO GIVE PEOPLE A CHANCE TO GET THEIR COMMENTS OUT.

WE ARE RECORDING TONIGHT, SO WE ASK THAT YOU COME UP AND YOU SPEAK IN THIS MICROPHONE THAT'S IN THIS AISLE OVER HERE. I'M GOING TO CALL OUT TWO OR THREE

NAMES AT A TIME, SO YOU KNOW IF YOUR TURN IS COMING UP NEXT, AND YOU CAN GET READY. WE'RE TAKING NOTES. WE'RE GOING TO TRANSCRIBE THE TAPES. IT'S AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE CEQA? PROCESS THAT WE ARE VERY CLEAR ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS. AND AS TOM JUST MENTIONED, WE'LL DO A WRITTEN RESPONSE TO COMMENTS, TO ALL OF THE COMMENTS THAT WE GET EITHER TONIGHT OR IN WRITING.

YOU CAN ALSO SUBMIT COMMENTS IN WRITING TO THE DISTRICT, AND THAT INFORMATION IS ON THE SPEAKER CARD, AND ALSO ON SOME OF THE HANDOUTS, THE ADDRESS THAT YOU WOULD SEND THOSE TO. ALL OF YOUR WRITTEN COMMENTS WE WILL ALSO RESPOND TO IN WRITING AND MAKE RESPONSES AVAILABLE TO EVERYONE WHO IS INTERESTED.

TO THAT END WE DO ASK THAT IF YOU DO WANT TO GET MATERIALS ON THIS PROJECT, PLEASE DO SIGN UP ON OUR MAILING LIST SO THAT WE MAKE SURE WE GET BACK TO YOU. PLEASE HELP YOURSELF TO REFRESHMENTS. I THINK WE WON'T TAKE A BREAK, GIVEN HOW MANY OF YOU THERE ARE THAT WE'LL WANT TO KEEP THIS MOVING. SO AT ANY TIME IF YOU NEED TO USE THE RESTROOMS, GET A GLASS OF PUNCH, OR HAVE COOKIES, PLEASE JUST HELP YOURSELF, AND COME AND GO AS YOU NEED TO.

IT IS--YES.

(VOICES OFF MICROPHONE)

LESLIE MOULTON: THANK YOU, I APOLOGIZE. SO IF YOU NEED TO TAKE A BREAK AND HAVE REFRESHMENTS, PLEASE DO SO. BUT RIGHT, NO BRINGING FOOD INSIDE. THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING IS TO FOCUS ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT, AND TO DISCUSS YOUR QUESTIONS AND YOUR ISSUES ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS. WE

WILL OF COURSE RECORD ALL YOUR COMMENTS, BUT THAT IS THE PARTICULAR INTEREST FOR US. AND WE ASK YOU IF YOU CAN BE AS SPECIFIC AS POSSIBLE ABOUT YOUR PARTICULAR ISSUES TO HELP US UNDERSTAND THOSE FURTHER

SO WITH THAT LET ME CALL THE FIRST COUPLE OF SPEAKER CARDS. THESE ARE IN NO PARTICULAR ORDER, JUST TOOK THEM AS I GOT THEM. DOES ANYONE ELSE WANT A SPEAKER CARD AT THIS TIME, AND WANT TO GET IN THE QUEUE? OKAY, GREAT, LET ME JUST GET THAT RIGHT NOW. AND AT ANY TIME IF YOU WANT TO FILL OUT A CARD, PLEASE DO AND WE'LL TAKE THAT.

SO DONALD MISHKA IS OUR FIRST SPEAKER THAT'S UP, AND AFTER THAT WE HAVE CHARLOTTE TAYLOR, AND LET ME JUST READ ONE MORE NAME SO THAT YOU'RE ON DECK, KATHLEEN BURR. I'M GOING TO MONITOR YOUR TIME JUST SO WE CAN KEEP MOVING. SO I'LL GIVE YOU A LITTLE ONE-MINUTE WARNING, AND THEN WHEN I FLIP THE TIME SIGN, I ASK IF YOU COULD COMPLETE YOUR COMMENTS.

DONALD MISHKA: MY NAME IS DONALD MISHKA, AND I LIVE AT 8525 EAST AVENUE F, AND I'M HERE TO SPEAK FOR THE EAST SIDE HOMEOWNERS, WHICH IS A GROUP OF ABOUT 30 INDIVIDUALS THAT LIVE OUT ON THE EAST SIDE AREA.

I DID TURN INTO I THINK SOMEBODY OVER THERE A LETTER TO THE ENGINEER. AND WHAT I'M GOING TO DO IS JUST GO OVER IT, I'M GOING TO DO A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE LETTER. AND TO BEGIN, THE DIR LACKS SUFFICIENT INFORMATION TO SUPPORT EVALUATION AND REVIEW OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS SUCH AS FAILURE TO ADEQUATELY DETAIL THE LOCATION AND TYPE OF STRUCTURES AND LAND TARGETED FOR LAND ACQUISITION, AND ALSO FAILS TO PROVIDE EVIDENCE IN THE RECORD FOR THE CONCLUSION THAT THE

PROJECT WOULD NOT DISPROPORTIONATELY LOW-RATE INCOME RESIDENTS, OR, YOU KNOW, MOVE LOW-RATE INCOME RESIDENTS.

NUMBER TWO, THE DEIR FAILS TO ADEQUATELY DISCUSS ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROPOSED PROJECT, SUCH AS, FAILS TO INCLUDE OTHER ALTERNATIVE SITES THAT WOULD REDUCE THE IMPACTS TO INDIVIDUALS. I HAVE WATCHED AS YOU WENT THROUGH THE SLIDE. YOU HAD AN AREA THREE ON THERE, AND IT WAS LIKE IT WAS GONE. AND YOU ONLY TALKED ABOUT FOUR, BUT NUMBER THREE WAS GONE. AND YOU ONLY TALKED ABOUT NUMBER FOUR. THAT'S ONE OF THE THINGS. NUMBER THREE, THE DEIR FAILS TO ADEQUATELY DISCUSS HEALTH IMPACTS FROM THE PROPOSED PROJECTS, SUCH AS, FAILS TO IDENTIFY POTENTIAL SENSITIVE RECEPTORS IN THE AREA THAT COULD BE AFFECTED BY WIND-BORNE PATHOGENS FROM SPRAYING OF DISINFECTED EFFLUENT. AND NUMBER FOUR, VIOLATION OF CEQA PROCEDURES AS SUCH: ACQUISITION OF LAND HAS BEEN INAPPROPRIATELY COMMENCED BEFORE COMPLETION OF THE CEQA PROCESS AND CERTIFICATION BY THE COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT BOARD. ALSO SOME RESIDENTS IN THE AREA HAVE BEEN CONTACTED BY COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES IN REGARDS TO WILLINGNESS TO SELL. THESE DISCUSSIONS CONTAINED REFERENCES TO DONE DEAL, EMINENT DOMAIN, AND RELOCATION. THESE DISCUSSIONS COMING TO THE PROPERTY OWNERS WITHOUT A FULL UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROJECT CREATED FEAR, ANXIETY AND CONFUSION, PARTICULARLY AMONG THE ELDERLY HOMEOWNERS.

(APPLAUSE)

IN CONCLUSION, WE ASK THAT THE BOARD RESPECTFULLY, OR THAT WE RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THE COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT BOARD TO DENY THE APPROVAL OF THE PROJECT AS PRESENTED. WE WILL BE SUBMITTING EXPANDED COMMENTS IN THE DRAFT

EIR BEFORE THE END OF THE COMMENT PERIOD. AND ALSO WE WOULD LIKE FOR THE COUNTY TO KEEP THE EASTSIDE HOMEOWNERS INFORMED OF ALL NOTICES, HEARINGS, WORKSHOPS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE LWRP 2020 PLAN AND EIR. AS WE DIDN'T HAVE THE, WE DIDN'T HAVE THE INFORMATION PRIOR TO THIS, AND WE DID NOT HAVE A CHANCE TO SPEAK BEFORE THIS. IT WAS JUST ALL DONE BEFORE WE EVEN HAD A CHANCE TO SEE WHAT WAS GOING ON. AND I THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

(APPLAUSE)

LESLIE MOULTON: CHARLOTTE TAYLOR.

CHARLOTTE TAYLOR: GOOD EVENING, MY NAME IS CHARLOTTE TAYLOR. I'M HERE REPRESENTING MY FATHER'S TRUST, THE CHARLES W. TAYLOR TRUST. I AM A THIRD GENERATION ON THE EAST SIDE. I WAS RAISED ON THE EAST SIDE IN A VERY CLEAR, CLEAN AND PURE AREA WITH WONDERFUL SCHOOLS AND WONDERFUL NEIGHBORS.

I, TOO, AM VERY UPSET BECAUSE WE WERE NOT NOTIFIED OF WHAT WAS GOING ON. EVERYTHING WAS BEING DONE PRIOR TO LETTING US--

[ABRUPT END SIDE A / BEGIN SIDE B]

CHARLOTTE TAYLOR: --LOST MY FATHER. AND I KNOW IF HE WERE HERE TONIGHT, HE WOULD BE SAYING THE SAME THING I AM. SO ON BEHALF OF MY NEIGHBORS AND MY FAMILY, I WANT TO KEEP MY HOME.

(APPLAUSE)

KATHLEEN BURR: KATHLEEN BURR, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY FARM BUREAU. AT THIS POINT I HAVE TWO QUESTIONS TO ADDRESS TO THE SANITATION DISTRICT. FIRST I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW, WHERE DID YOU GET YOUR EVAPOTRANSPIRATION RATES AND THE PRECIPITATION RATES ON 3.3 DASH 8? THEY SEEM TO BE A LITTLE HIGH FROM WHAT I CAN CHECK WITH OUR FARM ADVISER IN THIS AREA. SECOND OF ALL, ON 4.3.5, YOU STATE, OUR ALTERNATIVES THREE AND FOUR WOULD CONDUCT LAND APPLICATION DURING THE WINTER MONTHS OVER A LARGE AREA. THIS WOULD INVOLVE APPLYING WATER OVER FARMLAND IN EXCESS OF THE AGRONOMIC RATES FOR WINTER CROPS. THE INCREASED HYDRAULIC PRESSURE FROM LAND APPLICATION COULD PROMOTE INFILTRATION FASTER THAN IF THE APPLICATION WERE LIMITED TO THE AGRONOMIC RATES. ALTERNATIVES ONE AND TWO WOULD LIMIT WATER APPLICATION. WHAT I'D LIKE TO KNOW IS, WHAT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECT YOU THINK THIS IS GOING TO HAVE ON THE GROUNDWATER AND THE ENVIRONMENT. AS FAR AS I CAN FIND IT DOESN'T STATE ANYWHERE IN THERE HOW THIS IS GOING TO AFFECT THE LAND WITH THIS OVER-APPLICATION OF WATER. YOU CAN TELL ME NOW OR TELL ME LATER.

LESLIE MOULTON: WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO TELL YOU LATER. WE REALLY NEED TO GIVE CONSIDERED RESPONSES. SO THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS. THANK YOU.

(APPLAUSE)

LESLIE MOULTON: NEXT SPEAKER IS DAVID [TIMMICK]. AND WE HAVE KATHY--EXCUSE ME IF I DON'T PRONOUNCE YOUR NAME CORRECTLY--BURIA? BURILLA? THANK YOU. KATHY AND WALT, YOU'LL BE UP AFTER THIS, AND EXCUSE ME, FREDERICK VALENTINE, SR. SO MR. TIMMICK.

DAVID TIMMICK: I HAVEN'T DONE THIS IN A LONG TIME. I THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRESENTATION. THERE WERE SOME QUESTIONS I HAD. BUT LEISURE LAKE ESTATES IS OWNED AND OPERATED BY GOOD YORK LANCASTER SUMMIT PROPERTIES. THE PARK IS APPROXIMATELY 30 YEARS OLD AND IS LOCATED ON 37 ACRES, WITH A 7-ACRE LAKE WITH WILDLIFE. MORE THAN 300 SENIORS LIVE THERE. AND THERE'S 211 SPACES. OUR RESIDENTS ARE AN ASSET TO THE COMMUNITY BY SHOPPING, WORKING, AND VOLUNTEERING FOR DIFFERENT THINGS IN THIS CITY. WE ENJOY LIVING HERE, AND WE WILL CONTINUE TO LIVE HERE, AND SUPPORT THE CITY AND THE COUNTY.

JUST ABOUT A MONTH AGO ONE OF OUR RESIDENTS, CONNIE GERTSTEN, WAS CHOSEN AS SENIOR OF THE YEAR.

(APPLAUSE)

WATCHING THE PRESENTATION THERE WAS A QUESTION ABOUT SITE NUMBER THREE, IF THAT IS IMPLEMENTED, AND I'VE DISCUSSED IT WITH SOME OF THE PEOPLE ALREADY, THAT PARTICULAR RESERVOIR WOULD BE IMMEDIATELY IN FRONT OF OUR PROPERTY, RIGHT ACROSS THE STREET. I GAVE HIM AN AERIAL VIEW SHOWING THAT AND EVERYTHING. IT WAS A LITTLE UNCLEAR TO ME WHETHER IT WAS FOR AGRICULTURAL LAND, OR IS IT STILL A RESERVOIR AREA. BUT I THINK I'LL GET MY ANSWER AFTER THE PROGRAM.

THE THREE THINGS WE'RE CONCERNED ABOUT OF COURSE IS AIR QUALITY AND THE ODOR. BECAUSE WE DO GET IT ABOUT THREE MONTHS OF THE YEAR, BUT IT'S TOLERABLE; THAT'S NOT A PROBLEM. BUT IF YOU EXPAND ANYWHERE SOUTH OF AVENUE D, THEN IT WILL

AFFECT THE LIVES OF ABOUT 300 SENIORS. THIS IS A VERY SERIOUS PROBLEM, AND I HOPE YOU TAKE THIS INTO CONSIDERATION WHEN YOU MAKE YOUR FINAL PLANS.

THE SECOND: GROUNDWATER. WE RELY ON GROUNDWATER AND WE HAVE THREE WELLS OUT THERE, AND OUR WATER TABLE IS AT ABOUT 65 FEET.

THE THIRD THING WOULD BE A FINANCIAL IMPACT, NOT ONLY TO THE OWNERS, BUT TO OUR RESIDENTS. BECAUSE IF THIS WOULD TRANSPIRE, WHICH I'M HOPING IT WON'T, WOULD CREATE A PLACE OF UNDESIRABLE PLACE TO LIVE.

SO PLEASE TAKE THAT INTO CONSIDERATION. I KNOW TIME IS SHORT, AND THERE'S OTHERS THAN WANT TO SPEAK. I HAVE ATTACHED AERIAL PHOTOS TO SHOW YOU WHERE THE PARK IS LOCATED, AND THE MOBILE HOME ESTATE HAS ABOUT 208 SPACES OCCUPIED OF THE 211. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

(APPLAUSE)

KATHY BURILLA: GOOD EVENING. MY NAME IS KATHY BURILLA. MY HUSBAND, WALTER, AND I BOUGHT THE PROPERTY AT 46975 60TH STREET EAST. WE'RE JUST SOUTH OF G. WE CLOSED IT, DID I SAY, AUGUST 29TH OF THIS YEAR. A COUPLE OF WEEKS LATER, WE'RE NOTIFIED, WELL HELLO, WE BOUGHT YOUR PROPERTY. I THINK I SPEAK FOR OURSELVES, BUT I KNOW I'VE GOT A LOT OF SUPPORT HERE FROM OUR NEIGHBORS THAT IT WAS REALLY A SHOCK TO US. WE PAID TOP DOLLAR FOR THIS PROPERTY. OVER \$400,000 IN COSTS. OKAY? WHAT I'D LIKE TO KNOW IS, WHERE IS THE COUNTY GOING TO GET THIS MONEY TO PAY US HOMEOWNERS WHAT WE JUST PAID FOR OUR PROPERTY? POSSIBLY FROM TAXPAYERS, BUT ARE YOU PREPARED TO PAY \$400-, \$450,000?

(APPLAUSE)

LET ME SPEAK TO THAT. WE JUST PAID THAT; THAT'S WHY I'M ASKING. OKAY? SO WE HAVE A VERY VERY IMPROVED PROPERTY. I WAS GOING TO OPEN UP A HORSE TRAINING FACILITY AND BUY THE PROPERTY NEXT DOOR. I JUST FOUND OUT TONIGHT THAT THE GOLF COURSE RIGHT NEXT TO US HAS JUST TURNED OVER OWNERSHIP. WELL, HELLO. WHO KNEW THAT? WHO KNEW THAT? OKAY. SO OUR PROPERTY TURNED OVER IN AUGUST. THE GOLF COURSE TURNED OVER JUST AWHILE AGO. AND YET NOBODY KNEW ABOUT THIS PROJECT. OKAY?

LET'S PUT IT THIS WAY: IF ANYBODY KNEW ABOUT THE PROJECT, IT WASN'T PROSPECTIVE HOMEOWNERS, ALL RIGHT. HOW IS THIS GOING TO IMPACT THE AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY?

IN OTHER WORDS, IF THE WATER WASTE IS PUT ONTO THE LAND, AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY, EVERYBODY KNOWS, WE'RE GOING TO BECOME A TIJUANA OUT THERE. IT'S GOING TO FILTER DOWN THROUGH THE SOIL, IT'S GOING TO IMPACT THE WELL, AND IT'S GOING TO GO UP THROUGH THE ALFALFA CROPS AND EVERY OTHER CROP THAT'S THERE, AND THOSE CROPS ARE THEN GOING TO BE EATEN BY THE LIVESTOCK. WE'RE GOING TO EAT THE PRODUCT THAT'S GOING TO BE GROWN ON THOSE AGRICULTURAL PROPERTIES.

THE BIOLOGICAL EFFECTS ON US AS RESIDENTS AND FUTURE PURCHASES OF THE PRODUCTS THAT ARE GOING TO BE GROWN ON THE AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY SCARES THE BEEJEES OUT OF ME.

(APPLAUSE)

SO TALK ABOUT WASTE, THERE'S GOT TO BE SOME OTHER ALTERNATIVE. JUST TO GO OUT AND DO AN ARBITRARY LAND GRAB BECAUSE THERE ARE NOT VERY MANY HOMEOWNERS OUT THERE IS JUST NOT ACCEPTABLE, BECAUSE THE LONG TERM, HEY, WE GIVE UP OUR HOME, THIS IS WHAT IT'S GOING TO COST THEM, BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT WE OWE, SO THEY'RE NOT GOING TO GET AWAY WITH IT. BUT THE FUTURE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT OUT THERE IS GOING TO BE A VERY SERIOUS THREAT TO PEOPLE'S HEALTH AND WELFARE.

(APPLAUSE)

LESLIE MOULTON: FREDERICK VALENTINE. AFTER THAT WE HAVE SYLVIA RODRIGUEZ, AND FOLLOWING IS WALLACE BUCKHOLTZ.

FREDERICK VALENTINO: I'M FREDERICK VALENTINO. I LIVE OUT THERE ON 49003 60TH STREET EAST, RIGHT ON THE BOUNDARY LINE. GOT A MULE RANCH OUT THERE. AND I WAS KIND OF SURPRISED MYSELF ONE DAY THAT I GET A NOTICE THAT YOU WANT MY PROPERTY. I AIN'T READY TO GIVE IT UP YET.

(APPLAUSE)

THE MULES AIN'T OLD ENOUGH YET TO RETIRE. I GOT SOME GRANDKIDS COMING ON THAT WANT ME TO STAY THERE AWHILE. SO I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN. I REALIZE THAT SOMETHING LIKE THIS THING IS NEEDED SO MUCH, WELL, I GOT TO LEAVE IT UP TO Y'ALL.

(APPLAUSE)

LESLIE MOULTON: SYLVIA RODRIGUEZ, WALLACE BUCKHOLTZ, AND AFTER THAT, DANIEL BURILLA.

SYLVIA RODRIGUEZ: I'M SO NERVOUS, I HAVEN'T DONE THIS BEFORE. I'M BASICALLY INSISTING ON BEHALF OF 300 SENIOR CITIZENS AT LEISURE LAKE MOBILE HOME PARK, AND I AM ALSO PLEADING FOR THE 300 SENIOR CITIZENS AT LEISURE LAKE MOBILE HOME PARK. IF THIS PROPOSAL GOES THROUGH, 300 SENIORS WILL SUFFER DEARLY. THESE ELDERLY PEOPLE WORKED, SCRIMPED AND SAVED TO FINALLY FIND A LITTLE CORNER OF SPACE IN THIS WORLD TO CALL THEIR OWN, AND LIVE THE REMAINDER OF THEIR LIVES HAPPILY, AND IT GETS THE THREAT OF BEING RUINED. LEISURE LAKE IS NOT JUST ANOTHER SENIORS' APARTMENT BUILDING OR A RENTED ROOM. THIS PLACE REALLY KEEPS THE SENIORS ALIVE. THEY HAVE THE LAKE WITH FOUNTAINS. THEY HAVE FISHING THERE, PADDLE BOATS, A PIER, A POOL, A JACUZZI, A GATED PARK-LIKE COMMUNITY WHERE THEY WALK THEIR DOGS, JOG OR RIDE THEIR BIKES. THEIR HUGE CLUBHOUSE WITH LARGE KITCHEN PROVIDES THEM A CHANCE TO HAVE LOW COST DINNERS AND BREAKFASTS. THEY HAVE PARTIES, BINGOS, BOUTIQUES, LUAUS, AND MUCH MORE. THEY ARE SELF SUFFICIENT, AND THEY TAKE DONATIONS AMONG THEMSELVES AND VOLUNTEER AMONG THEMSELVES. WHAT A LOSS THIS WOULD BE TO OUR COMMUNITY AND TO THE SENIORS. THESE SENIORS HAVE SPENT THEIR LIFE EARNINGS TO PURCHASE THEIR MOBILE HOMES IN THIS UNIQUE MOBILE HOME PARK. THEY RANGE FROM \$40,000 TO \$60,000. THEY WOULD LOSE EVERYTHING, AS THEIR HOMES WOULD BECOME WORTHLESS, AND THERE IS NO OTHER PARK LIKE LEISURE LAKE IN THE ANTELOPE VALLEY FOR THEM TO MOVE TO. LET'S GIVE THE SENIORS A BREAK FOR A CHANGE. THEY ARE ALWAYS GIVING US THEIR SERVICES AND THEIR TIME. AND THEY WILL VOLUNTEER AND WORK AT HOSPITALS, GIFT SHOPS, CHARITIES, BUSINESSES, ET CETERA. THEY WORK HOURS FREE OF CHARGE TO BE PRODUCTIVE CITIZENS. WE USE THEM TO HELP US, BUT WHO DO THEY HAVE TO HELP THEM

WHEN THEY ARE IN NEED? THEY'VE PAID THEIR DUES TO LIFE AND SOCIETY; SENIORS ARE NOT TO BE FORGOTTEN, BUT RATHER RESPECTED AND PROTECTED. REMEMBER THE STORAGE RESERVOIR WOULD BE RIGHT ACROSS THE STREET FROM THEM. REMEMBER THE TOXIC AIR POLLUTION THEY WOULD BREATHE. REMEMBER THE STENCH THEY WOULD HAVE TO SMELL. REMEMBER IT WOULD DEGRADE THE WATER THEY DRINK. REMEMBER THE RESERVOIR WOULD POSE ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARD, AND NOT JUST TO THE MOHAVE GROUND SQUIRREL EITHER. REMEMBER THE PROPERTY VALUE LOSSES. AND REMEMBER THAT IF THESE SENIORS BECOME ILL FROM ALL OF THIS, WITH THE DRASTIC INCREASE OF COSTS FOR MEDICATION AND HEALTH CARE IN CALIFORNIA, THESE SENIORS WOULD NOT EVEN BE ABLE TO AFFORD THE MEDICAL EXPENSE. ALSO REMEMBER, WE ARE NOT JUST TALKING ABOUT THESE 300 SENIOR CITIZENS, AS THEY PASS AWAY OR HAVE TO MOVE ON. OTHER SENIORS MOVE INTO THIS PARK. WE WILL PROTECT A PIECE OF DESERT LAND FOR KANGAROO RATS, THE TORTOISE, THE OWL, THE MOHAVE GROUND SQUIRREL. I JUST HEARD WE RECENTLY SET ASIDE 1,700 ACRES OF LAND AT LITTLE ROCK DAM FOR THE AURORA TOAD. LET'S PROTECT ANOTHER ENDANGERED SPECIES CALLED THE SENIOR CITIZEN.

(APPLAUSE)

LESLIE MOULTON: THANK YOU. IF YOU COULD CONCLUDE YOUR REMARKS.

SYLVIA RODRIGUEZ: --THE SENIORS BY PROTECTING THIS PIECE OF DESERT LAND FOR THEM. IT'S ONLY 37 ACRES. AND OH , ONE LAST THING TO REMEMBER: SOME DAY WE WILL ALL BE SENIORS.

(APPLAUSE)

LESLIE MOULTON: LET ME ASK YOU IF YOU WOULD JUST HOLD YOUR COMMENT FOR ONE SECOND, LET ME JUST ASK STAN IF HE'LL SHOW THE MAP AGAIN--

SYLVIA RODRIGUEZ: IT IS AN ALTERNATIVE RESERVOIR.

LESLIE MOULTON: ABSOLUTELY.

[SYLVIA RODRIGUEZ: AND YOU KNOW WHAT? YOU PUT THIS ALTERNATIVE RESERVOIR ON YOUR MAP IT WILL SOMEDAY WIND UP BEING USED. WE DON'T WANT IT ON THE MAP AT ALL.

(APPLAUSE)

LESLIE MOULTON: --COMMENTS ON EVERY ALTERNATIVE THAT'S IN THERE, AND IT'S VERY APPROPRIATE FOR YOU TO DO THAT. JUST WANTED TO SEE THAT YOU SAW THAT IT'S NOT THE PREFERRED.

[SYLVIA RODRIGUEZ: IT IS AN ALTERNATIVE, BUT WE DON'T WANT IT EVEN AS THAT.

LESLIE MOULTON: THAT'S FAIR ENOUGH.

[UNINTELLIGIBLE]

(COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR--OFF MIKE)

SYLVIA RODRIGUEZ: NO ALTERNATIVES. ONCE YOU HAVE IT YOU CAN USE IT ANY TIME. AND THEN WE CAN'T FIGHT IT.

STAN PEGGIDIOTIS: I DESCRIBED HOW THE DISTRICT LOOKED AT THESE FIVE SITES AROUND THE LANCASTER PLANT. AND BASED ON THE ANALYSIS THAT WE CONDUCTED WITH THESE CRITERIA, WE DECIDED ON SITE TWO BEING THE PROPOSED LOCATION FOR STORAGE RESERVOIRS. NOW THE ALTERNATIVES WERE SHOWN ON THAT MAILING THAT YOU RECEIVED. BUT THE PROJECT AS IT STANDS RIGHT NOW WILL NOT HAVE RESERVOIRS NEXT TO LEISURE LAKE. THE PROPOSED RESERVOIRS WILL BE CONSTRUCTED NORTH OF THE PLANT WITHIN THAT RECTANGLE RIGHT THERE, REGARDLESS OF WHAT THE MAP SHOWS.

SYLVIA RODRIGUEZ: IT NEEDS TO BE OFF YOUR MAP.

LESLIE MOULTON: AND THEN WE HAVE DAN IF I GET IT RIGHT BURILLA, AND FRANK ELLING WILL BE ON DECK. THANK YOU.

WALLY BUCKHOLTZ: OKAY, I'M ALSO FROM LEISURE LAKE. AND IF YOU CAN GIVE US A SOLID YES TO THAT, THAT ALTERNATIVE SITE, NUMBER THREE, IS NOT GOING TO BE PART OF ANY MORE PLAN, THEN I DON'T HAVE TO SPEAK. CAN YOU GIVE THAT TO ME RIGHT NOW?

LESLIE MOULTON: YOU SHOULD COMMENT ON EVERYTHING IN THE EIR THAT IS OF CONCERN.


WALLY BUCKHOLTZ: VERY ANTICLIMACTIC TO WHAT WE JUST HEARD. BUT IT'S GOT THE SAME KIND OF POINTS. OKAY, I AM WALLY BUCKHOLTZ. I AM A RESIDENT OF LEISURE

LAKE MOBILE HOME ESTATES. THIS OF COURSE IS A SENIOR COMMUNITY WHICH WAS MENTIONED, AND IT'S LOCATED AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF ANTELOPE VALLEY FREEWAY AND AVENUE E. I ALSO REPRESENT LEISURE LAKE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION AS THEIR SECRETARY, AND I ALSO REPRESENT GOLDEN STATE MANUFACTURED HOMEOWNERS LEAGUE, INC., CHAPTER 1254, AS THEIR TREASURER. AND FOR THEM, WE ARE REQUESTING THAT YOU ELIMINATE THAT SUGGESTED ALTERNATIVE STORAGE RESERVOIR, SITE #3, WHICH WOULD BE BETWEEN WEST AVENUE E4, WEST AVENUE D, DIRECTLY ADJACENT TO OUR MOBILE HOME COMMUNITY. OUR 300-PLUS SENIOR RESIDENTS IN LEISURE LAKE MOBILE HOME PARK OPPOSE THIS BECAUSE IT WILL REDUCE AIR QUALITY, CAUSE UNSEEMLY ODORS. THE RESERVOIR WOULD HAVE THE POTENTIAL OF DEGRADING OUR GROUNDWATER, BECAUSE WE USE WELLS. THE RESERVOIR HEIGHT OF UP TO 12 FEET WOULD BLOCK OUR VIEW TO THE EAST, AND CREATE A GREAT EYESORE FOR ALL OUR RESIDENTS. THE RESERVOIR COULD SUPPORT INSECT BREEDING WHICH COULD BE A HEALTH HAZARD TO OUR SENIOR CITIZENS, AND ALSO CREATE A DRIVING HAZARD ON 20TH STREET WEST WHICH WE MUST ALL TRAVEL DAILY TO ENTER INTO AND LEAVE THE PARK. EARTHQUAKES COULD DAMAGE THE RESERVOIR WALLS AND FLOOD OUT OUR PARK AND CAUSE UNTOLD CASUALTIES AND DAMAGE.

(APPLAUSE)

ALL OF THESE THINGS COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT THE VALUE OF OUR HOMES, MAKING THEM VIRTUALLY UNSELLABLE IN THE FUTURE. THE RESERVOIR COULD DOOM OUR PARK, WHICH HAS BEEN ONE OF THE MOST SOUGHT AFTER PARK COMMUNITIES FOR SENIOR.

SO FOR HEALTH, PHYSICAL SAFETY, AND TO PROTECT OUR LIFESTYLE AND VALUE OF OUR HOMES, WE STRONGLY URGE YOU TO RELOCATE ANY FUTURE ALTERNATIVE STORAGE



RESERVOIR TO NORTH OF AVENUE D, AND PLEASE REMOVE SITE D FROM YOUR PLAN.
THANK YOU.

(APPLAUSE)

LESLIE MOULTON: DAN BURILLA?

FRANK ELLING: NO, I'M FRANK ELLING.

LESLIE MOULTON: I'M SORRY, WAS DANIEL IN THE AUDIENCE? YOU WOULD BE NEXT UP.
PLEASE, MR. ELLING.

FRANK ELLING: I'M FRANK ELLING, RESIDENT OF THE EAST SIDE. I'D LIKE TO BEGIN, SINCE WE HAVE SUCH A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME, WITH A STORY. I WAS RECENTLY ON THE EAST COAST AND MET A GENTLEMAN NAMED ABDUL. ABDUL IS THE FINANCIAL MINISTER OF THE SAUDI ARABIAN EMBASSY. I HAD A CONVERSATION WITH MR. ABDUL. WE TALKED ABOUT WATER, BECAUSE SAUDI ARABIA DOESN'T HAVE MUCH WATER. AND I SAID, WELL, IT'S GOING TO BE GOOD, BECAUSE NOW WITH IRAQ IN REDEVELOPMENT YOU'RE GOING TO BE ABLE TO GET SOME OF THAT WATER FROM THE EUPHRATES AND TIGRIS. AND ABDUL SAID, NO WAY, WE COULD NEVER TRUST THEM.

SO THE ISSUE TONIGHT IS TRUST. CAN YOU TRUST THIS PERSON OVER HERE, CAN YOU TRUST THAT PERSON THERE, CAN YOU THIS SENATOR KNIGHT WHO'S GOING OUT? OKAY, BECAUSE SEE, HE DOESN'T TELL YOU THINGS. WHY DOESN'T HE TELL YOU? AND HE SHOULD KNOW IT? BECAUSE IN THE BACK [UNINTELLIGIBLE] YOU'LL FIND THAT HE TALKED TO LA COUNTY HEALTH, HE TALKED TO KERN COUNTY HEALTH, HE TALKED TO THE AG

DEPARTMENT IN THE COUNTY. AND YET, YOU SEE NOTHING IN THIS REPORT ABOUT AIR QUALITY OF A DANGEROUS FUNGUS IN THE AIR. IT'S CALLED VALLEY FEVER. YOU CAN LOOK IT UP YOURSELF, IT'S CALLED VALLEY FEVER DOT COM. ALSO GO TO THE ARIZONA UNIVERSITY SITE. YOU WILL GET AN EDUCATION. IF THAT MAN DOESN'T KNOW ABOUT VALLEY FEVER, 68 CASES IN 2001 IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY. AND THAT'S NOT ALL OF THEM, BECAUSE MOST PEOPLE GO TO BAKERSFIELD TO GET TREATMENT, SO IT DOESN'T EVEN SHOW UP. 2002, AND WHAT'S UP NOW IS HARD TO GET FROM THE COUNTY, AND I'VE HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO. IT'S NOT ON THEIR WEB SITE, AND YOU HAVE TO GO INTO THE BOWELS OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT, AND THEY'RE RESISTING. WHY ISN'T VALLEY FEVER DUST, WHICH THIS PROJECT IS GOING TO CREATE TONS OF AIR DUST. AND IF YOU HAVEN'T NOTICED, WE ALREADY HAVE TONS OF IT FROM AGRICULTURE. AND IF YOU LOOK OUT THERE YOU'LL SEE A TRACTOR. SENATOR KNIGHT, WHY EXPOSE OUR CITIZENS TO A DISEASE THAT IS ON THE 1996 ANTI-TERRORISM ACT. IF YOU POSSESS IT OR DISTRIBUTE IT IT IS A FELONY IN THE FEDERAL COURTS. AND THE FBI WILL COME AND GET YOU. WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN, SENATOR KNIGHT, WHEN THE DUST HAS BEEN TURNING? DID YOU SEE THE MACHINE THAT DOESN'T JUST PLOW, IT TURNS IT INTO DUST. AND THREE PERCENT OF THE POPULATION IN THIS AREA JUST WITH NO ADDITIONAL WILL GET VALLEY FEVER. YET WHEN YOU HAVE THIS INCREASE OF ACREAGE, WHEN YOU HAVE THIS MACHINE TURNING THINGS FOR CARROTS AND ONIONS INTO POWDER, DO YOU THINK IT'S GOING TO STAY AT THREE PERCENT? IT'S GOING TO GO--WHERE IS THE LA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT TONIGHT? WHY--IT'S CALLED THE RANT. I'LL TELL YOU WHAT IT IS, IT'S AN INDUSTRIAL WASTE SITE. IT'S CALLED THE VAN DAMM FARM, AND YOU KNOW THAT SENATOR KNIGHT, AND YOU'RE GOING OUT, AND GEORGE RUNNER IS RUNNING FOR YOUR OFFICE, AND IF GEORGE DOESN'T DO A BETTER JOB THAN YOU, THEN MAYBE GEORGE DOESN'T DESERVE TO BE ELECTED, BECAUSE IT'S QUESTIONABLE.

LESLIE MOULTON: CAN YOU CONCLUDE YOUR REMARKS?

FRANK ELLING: VAN DAMM RANCH IS GOING TO BENEFIT AT \$163 MILLION TO RUN A PIPELINE BY THAT LAND, AND THE LA COUNTY PEOPLE ARE GOING TO OWN THE LAND, AND THEY'RE GOING TO MANIPULATE IT OVER TIME, AND ULTIMATELY IT WILL BE THEIR PRIZE OF GREAT WEALTH BUILDING, AND THE PEOPLE OF LANCASTER AND PALMDALE, WHO ARE NOT HERE REALLY BECAUSE THEY CHOSE TO [UNINTELLIGIBLE] LANDOWNERS ON THE EAST AND WEST SIDE, AND THEY'LL DO THE CITY PEOPLE LATER. IF YOU SAW THE VALLEY PRESS, MAYOR ROBERTS SAID THIS: I CALL IT MASSAGE THERAPY. HE SAID THAT THEIR RATE, THEIR FEES WILL GO UP, BUT HE DOESN'T GIVE A PRICE, IN COMPARISON TO OTHER SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COMMUNITIES. IN THIS AGENCY'S WEB SITE, THERE IS NO LISTING OF THAT. IF YOU HEARD THEM TONIGHT, WHEN THEY TALKED ABOUT HOW MUCH IT WAS GOING TO BE, SOME 160 SOME DOLLARS, THEY DIDN'T TELL YOU HOW MANY UNITS OF SEWER CONNECTION THERE ARE, TO CALCULATE THAT. HOW MANY YEARS IS THAT GOING TO GO ON? IS THAT REALLY THE FEE, OR IS IT JUST GOING TO KEEP GOING UP, \$300-500? AND THAT TAKES THE MONEY OUT OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER BUSINESS, AND PUTS IT IN AGRICULTURE.

LESLIE MOULTON: THANK YOU.

(APPLAUSE)

LESLIE MOULTON: THE NEXT SPEAKERS THAT WE HAVE WILL BE SHERRY FELDER--EXCUSE ME, SENATOR KNIGHT?

SENATOR KNIGHT: I'VE GOT A POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE, SINCE MY NAME HAS BEEN TAKEN IN VAIN. I CAME HERE TO MAKE COMMENTS ABOUT THE EIR REPORT. I CAME HERE TO MAKE COMMENTS ABOUT THE 14TH SANITATION DISTRICT. BUT I DIDN'T REALIZE THAT SO MANY PEOPLE WERE UPSET WITH ME, BUT I GUESS YOU ARE. I HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH THE 14TH SANITATION DISTRICT FOR SOME TIME NOW. I CAN REMEMBER BACK IN 1965 OR '66 WHEN THE AGREEMENT WAS MADE FOR PIUTE PONDS. THAT WAS A TEMPORARY AGREEMENT, A TEMPORARY AGREEMENT AND THE FACT THAT THE 14TH SANITATION DISTRICT RECOGNIZED THAT THEY COULD NOT PUT THE EFFLUENT ON ROSAMOND DRY LAKE FOREVER, AND THAT THEY WOULD WORK A PLAN TO TAKE CARE OF THAT. THEY'RE STILL WORKING THE PLAN. THEY HAVE NOT COME UP WITH A PLAN. THAT'S WHY THE LAHANTAN WATER DISTRICT SAID, YOU'VE GOT UNTIL 2005 TO COME UP WITH A PLAN TO ELIMINATE THE OVERFALL ONTO THE ROSAMOND DRY LAKE. NOW YOU KNOW, I LOOK AT IT AND I SUSPECT THAT THEY'RE GOING TO ASK FOR AN EXTENSION. I SUSPECT THAT THIS EIR DRAFT REPORT IS NOT THE PROFESSIONAL REPORT THAT THE 14TH SANITATION DISTRICT CAN PUT OUT.

(APPLAUSE)

THESE ARE PEOPLE THAT HAVE BEEN WORKING THIS PROBLEM, AND THE SANITATION PROBLEMS, FOR HOW MANY YEARS? THEY HAVE SOLVED THE SANITATION PROBLEMS IN LOS ANGELES. I DON'T SEE TOO MANY EVAPORATION PONDS IN LOS ANGELES. RECOGNIZING THEIR POSITION, THEY PUT IT INTO THE RIVERS, INTO SANTA CLARITA THEY PUT IT INTO THE RIVERS. AND IN THE ANTELOPE VALLEY, IF THEY PUT IT IN THE RIVER, IT'LL GO TO ROSAMOND DRY LAKE. WELL, I DON'T SEE TOO MUCH FLOWING DOWN THE RIVER IN SANTA CLARITA EITHER. NOW I DON'T KNOW WHERE IT ALL GOES, BUT I KNOW THAT THERE IS A WAY TO TAKE CARE OF THESE SANITATION PROBLEMS IN THE ANTELOPE VALLEY

WITHOUT TAKING PEOPLE'S LAND, WITHOUT ESTABLISHING ADDITIONAL EVAPORATION PONDS, TO TAKE CARE OF A PROBLEM THAT IS GOING TO BE EVER INCREASING FROM NOW ON. WE'RE TALKING ABOUT 2020 AND 1.2 MILLION PEOPLE IN THIS ANTELOPE VALLEY. I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY PONDS YOU CAN BUILD. BUT FOR \$167 MILLION YOU OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO BUILD A PRETTY SIGNIFICANT TERTIARY PLANT. AND I THINK THAT'S WHAT WE NEED TO LOOK AT. I THINK THAT'S WHAT WE NEED TO LOOK AT IN TERMS OF SOLVING THE PROBLEM FOR THE LONG RANGE. LONG RANGE SOLUTIONS, NOT CONTINUALLY BAND-AIDING AS WE HAVE IN THE PAST. I DON'T AGREE WITH THIS. I DON'T AGREE WITH WHAT YOUR PROPOSALS ARE. AND I THINK YOU CAN DO BETTER THAN THAT.

(APPLAUSE)

I THINK YOU'RE A PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION. I HAVE BEEN ON THE BOARD WHEN I WAS THE MAYOR OF PALMDALE. I KNOW WHAT YOU CAN DO. BUT YOU HAVE TO HAVE A WILL TO DO IT. YOU HAVE TO WANT TO DO IT, AND YOU HAVE TO WANT TO DO IT TO SUPPORT THE PEOPLE IN ANTELOPE VALLEY, AND I DON'T THINK THAT'S BEEN YOUR PRIMARY OBJECTIVE.

NOW, WHEN YOU SAY THAT THE COST IS GOING TO GO UP BECAUSE IT'S GOING TO COST YOU \$167 MILLION, I DON'T SEE ANY BACKUP DATA TO JUSTIFY THOSE COSTS. I DON'T SEE ANY FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF WHAT IT TAKES TO DO THIS. THOSE ARE FIGURES THAT SEEM TO BE PLUCKED OUT OF THE AIR. BUT THEY'RE BIG ENOUGH TO BE IMPRESSIVE, AND THEY'RE BIG ENOUGH TO TELL PEOPLE THAT IT'S GOING TO COST YOU. SO IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT TO DO, AND YOU DON'T WANT TO TAKE EDWARDS, THIS IS WHAT IT'S GOING TO COST YOU.

I GET SUSPICIOUS. I GET SUSPICIOUS WHEN I SEE THOSE KINDS OF NUMBERS. SO I WOULD ASK THAT YOU AS PROFESSIONALS, YOU HAVE BEEN IN THIS BUSINESS FOR A LONG TIME, BEGIN TO UNDERSTAND WHAT THESE PEOPLE ARE TALKING ABOUT, WHAT THE COMMENTS ARE THAT YOU'RE GOING TO HEAR TONIGHT THAT ARE NOT NECESSARILY IN SUPPORT OF YOUR DRAFT EIR. AND I WOULD SUGGEST THAT MAYBE YOU TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AND GET DIFFERENT OBJECTIVES AND HAVE DIFFERENT MOTIVES AS TO HOW AND WHAT KIND OF A PROGRAM YOU'RE GOING TO PUT TOGETHER TO SUPPORT THE ANTELOPE VALLEY.

THANK YOU.

(APPLAUSE)

FEMALE VOICE: : IS IT TRUE THAT YOU TURNED DOWN THE PROPOSAL TO USE PART OF THE PROPERTY ON EDWARDS? IS IT TRUE THAT YOU WERE PART OF THE REASON THEY TURNED DOWN THE PROPOSAL TO USE SOME OF THE LAND ON EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE?

MALE VOICE: THAT'S CORRECT. I WAS PROBABLY THE LEAD INSTIGATOR TO STOP THE ENCROACHMENT ON EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE?

FEMALE VOICE: : WHY DID YOU DO THAT, BECAUSE THERE'S SO MUCH LAND BELOW THE DRY LAKE BED? WHY DID YOU DO THAT?

MALE VOICE: SEVERAL YEARS AGO YOU SUPPORTED THE PROPERTY YOU WANTED TO BUILD.

[VOICES TALKING OVER]

LESLIE MOULTON: LET'S MOVE FORWARD IF WE CAN. WE STILL HAVE QUITE A NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE COME OUT TO SPEAK WITH US THIS EVENING, SO IF WE COULD ASK SHERRY FELDER, ARE YOU THERE? AND THEN JOE COSMIE, AND CONNIE GESTER OR GESTLER? GERSTEN, I APOLOGIZE, THANK YOU.

SHERRY FELDER: I'M SHERRY FELDER. MY HUSBAND AND I LIVE ON 60TH AND F EAST. WE'VE BEEN THERE A LITTLE OVER THREE YEARS. WE HAD BOUGHT THIS PROPERTY TO BASICALLY MAKE A BUSINESS AND RETIRE AND LEAVE TO OUR CHILDREN. I DON'T WANT TO GIVE IT UP, AND IT'S NOT RIGHT THAT YOU GUYS DIDN'T LET US KNOW WHAT WAS--

[END TAPE 1 / BEGIN TAPE 2]

FEMALE VOICE: --FUTURE. THIS IS NOT FAIR.

(APPLAUSE)

JOE COSMI: MY NAME IS JOE COSMI. I LIVE AT LEISURE LAKE MOBILE HOME PARK. AND I'M NOT GOING TO BE REDUNDANT AND GO OVER WHAT DAVE AND SYLVIA AND WALLY SAID. BUT YOU HAVE SET ABOUT 300 SENIOR CITIZENS AND AGED US MORE BY SENDING OUT THIS MAP A COUPLE OF WEEKS AGO SHOWING RESERVOIR #3. WE'RE NOT VERY TRUSTWORTHY PEOPLE. WE'VE BEEN AROUND A LONG TIME. THAT NEEDS TO COME OFF THE MAP.

(APPLAUSE)

HAVING THAT ON THE MAP HAS REDUCED OUR PROPERTY VALUES TO ZERO. BECAUSE IF WE DECIDED TO SELL, AND A BUYER WAS TO SEE THIS MAP AND SEE THIS RESERVOIR, THE BUYER IS GONE. SO OUR PROPERTY IS WORTH ZERO. SO PLEASE SEND OUT NEW MAPS WITHOUT THAT NUMBER THREE ON THERE SO WE CAN TRUST YOU.

(APPLAUSE)

LESLIE MOULTON: CONNIE GERSTEN, AND AFTER THAT IS ROGER SITHES AND JOHN WAIT.

CONNIE GERSTEN: HELLO, MY NAME IS CONNIE GERSTEN, AND I WOULD LIKE TO READ SOMETHING ON BEHALF OF THE LEISURE LAKE MOBILE HOME PARK RESIDENTS. I LIVE AT LEISURE LAKES, SPACE 30. AND I JUST PURCHASED MY HOME ABOUT TWO MONTHS AGO FOR \$53,000, AND I STAND TO LOSE ALL OF IT IF THE POND GOES ACROSS THE STREET FROM IT. LEISURE LAKE MOBILE HOME PARK RESIDENTS ARE ASKING FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN OUR EFFORT TO SAVE OUR PARK FROM BEING EXPOSED TO SEVERAL IMPACTS THAT CANNOT BE AVOIDED. POTENTIAL GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION, POLLUTION; AIR QUALITY IMPACT; A BREEDING GROUND FOR MOSQUITOES; AND FINANCIAL DISASTER FOR ALL OF US, THE MOBILE HOME OWNERS. WE HAVE A LOVELY GATED COMMUNITY HERE WITH 211 SPACES, AND ABOUT 300 SENIOR CITIZENS RESIDENTS. THIS PARK IS A REAL ASSET TO THE CITY OF LANCASTER. IT IS VERY UNIQUE, WITH A LOVELY SEVEN ACRES LAKE IN THE MIDDLE. IT IS VERY WELL MAINTAINED AND VERY WELL MANAGED. THERE IS A POOL, JACUZZI, A LARGE CLUBHOUSE WITH A LARGE KITCHEN THAT PROVIDES US WITH LOW COST DINNERS, BREAKFASTS, AND EVERYTHING IS BECAUSE IT'S DONE BY VOLUNTEERS, RESIDENTS. WE HAVE OTHER ACTIVITIES, AND WITH ALL THESE ACTIVITIES, THIS PLACE IS A REAL CORNER OF PARADISE. THE PARK IS LOCATED ON THE CORNER OF 20TH STREET

WEST AND AVENUE E. THE LOS ANGELES SANITATION DISTRICT HAS PROPOSED THIS AREA AS AN ALTERNATIVE LOCATION FOR A STORAGE RESERVOIR. THIS MEANS SEVERAL SEWAGE RECLAMATION PONDS WILL BE LOCATED ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE PARK. I FEEL IT WOULD BE ALMOST CRIMINAL TO EXPOSE A WHOLE COMMUNITY OF SENIOR CITIZENS, WHO BY THE WAY HAVE AN INVESTMENT IN THEIR HOMES BETWEEN \$40-60,000 TO SUCH A HEALTH HAZARD AND SUCH A FINANCIAL LOSS. OUR DRINKING WATER WOULD BE POLLUTED, CONTAMINATED. THE SEWAGE FUMES WOULD BE A WAY OF LIFE 24 HOURS A DAY, MAKING IT IMPOSSIBLE TO SELL OUR HOMES AND MOVE AWAY. WE ARE OLD; WE CANNOT START ALL OVER. IT IS SUCH AN IRONY THAT THE COUNTY RESERVES ACRES UPON ACRES OF DESERT LAND FOR THE PRESERVATION AND WELFARE OF TURTLES, BIRDS, AND OTHER SPECIES AND FLOWERS, AND NEVER EVEN GIVES A SECOND THOUGHT TO THE PLAN OF PUTTING PONDS UPON PONDS OF SEWER WATER IN THE BACK AND FRONT YARDS OF OVER 300 SENIOR CITIZENS.

(APPLAUSE)

WE THE SENIORS ARE ALSO PART OF THIS VALLEY, AND WE DESERVE AT LEAST THE SAME CONSIDERATION FOR OUR WELFARE AS THE WILDLIFE AND THE FLOWERS. I WISH TO REMIND THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES WHAT AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE ANTELOPE VALLEY THE SENIOR CITIZENS ARE. HUNDREDS OF US GOES OUT DAY AFTER DAY, IGNORING OUR DISABILITY AND OUR PAINS, TO WORK WITH NO PAY, AS VOLUNTEERS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE COMMUNITY. WE GO TO HOSPITALS, SCHOOLS, CHURCHES, LIBRARIES, SENIOR CENTER, FUND-RAISING EVENTS, THEATERS, POLICE STATIONS, ET CETERA, ET CETERA, ET CETERA. WE UNSELFISHLY DONATE OUR TIME, OUR WORK, AND OUR LOVE AND SOMETIMES OUR MONEY TO MAKE OUR COMMUNITY A MUCH BETTER PLACE FOR THE OLD AND ALSO FOR THE YOUNG. I AM ONE OF THOSE VOLUNTEERS. IN FACT I WAS

CHOSEN AS THE VOLUNTEER SENIOR OF THE YEAR 2003 ON OCTOBER 9TH AT THE SENIOR EXPO. NOW I FIND MYSELF ALONG WITH ALL MY NEIGHBORS AT LEISURE LAKE MOBILE HOME PARK FACING THE POSSIBILITY OF LOSING OUR QUALITY OF LIFE, AND ALSO, FACING A FINANCIAL DISASTER. PLEASE SUPPORT OUR EFFORT TO HAVE THE ABOVE PLANS CHANGE, TOTALLY CHANGED, AND MOVED TO ANOTHER LOCATION. THANK YOU.

(APPLAUSE)

LESLIE MOULTON: MR. SIDES. JOHN GOIT IS UP NEXT, AND DELFINA AND RAOUL PEREZ.

ROGER SIDES: MY NAME IS ROGER SIDES. I LIVE DIRECTLY SOUTH OF THE NEBEKER RANCH. AND I HAVE TWO QUESTIONS. IN THE EVENT OF CONTAMINATED GROUNDWATER CAUSED BY EFFLUENT REUSE, WHAT DISTANCE FROM THE AGRICULTURAL REUSE AREAS WOULD THE SANITATION DISTRICT ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY? AND WHAT WOULD THE SANITATION DISTRICT DO ABOUT IT? SECOND QUESTION: WHAT SIZE OF BUFFER ZONE WILL THERE BE BETWEEN THE AGRICULTURAL REUSE WATER AND THE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES? AND THAT'S IT. THANK YOU.

(APPLAUSE)

JOHN GOIT: MY NAME IS JOHN GOIT, AND I'M WITH THE SUNDALE WATER DISTRICT. I ALSO HAVE SOME ASSOCIATION WITH FARMERS. I HAD A LITTLE ITINERARY HERE, BUT PETE GOT ME OFF ON MY COMMENT THAT I'VE PUT IN THIS BOOK. [UNINTELLIGIBLE] TREAT ALL THE WATER WHICH SUNDALE ASKS FOR WOULD COST EACH HOMEOWNER 26 CENTS A DAY TO TREAT IT. AND I WAS TOLD BY SANITATION THAT YOU COULD NOT TREAT YOUR WATER TO A TERTIARY LEVEL IF WE COULD FIND SOME OTHER USE FOR IT THAT WAS CHEAPER.

MAYBE THE LAW NEEDS TO BE CHANGED, PETE. I MISSED A DECIMAL POINT; IT'S IN HERE. EGG ALL OVER MY FACE. BUT OKAY, IT'S NOT 2.6 CENTS A DAY, IT'S 26 CENTS A DAY; STILL PEANUTS COMPARED TO PUTTING PEOPLE OUT OF THEIR HOMES. LET ME GET BACK TO WHAT I WAS GOING TO TALK ABOUT. I HEARD A FEW THINGS BEING SAID. I HAVE TO HOLD UP FOR THE FARMERS HERE.

(APPLAUSE)

YOU PEOPLE WORRYING ABOUT TURDS IN YOUR FOOD, YOU BETTER LOOK WHERE YOUR FOOD IS COMING FROM BECAUSE A HELL OF A LOT IS COMING FROM CHINA, AND THAT IS RAW SEWAGE. SO I'D RATHER DEAL WITH A U.S. FARMER THAN A FOREIGN FARMER ANY DAY. THE SCARE TACTICS USED ON EACH SIDE--BY THE WAY, I'M FROM THE WEST SIDE, AND I KIND OF POINTED [UNINTELLIGIBLE], I SAID, YOU KNOW, WATER GOES DOWNHILL, AND GO OVER ON THE EAST SIDE WITH ALL THIS STUFF SO YOU GUYS CAN GET YOUR ROPE OUT, ALL RIGHT. AND IT JUST ABOUT SAYS THAT. JOHN GOIT SAID, SEND IT TO THE EAST, AND THAT'S WHAT YOU DID. BUT THE SCARE TACTICS USED ARE UNBELIEVABLE. YOUR PRESUMPTION OF 4,000 AN ACRE IS ABSOLUTELY RIDICULOUS THAT YOU'RE GOING TO BUY THIS LAND FOR. YOU PUBLISH THIS AND SAY, WE'RE GOING TO GIVE 4,000 AN ACRE, THEN YOU TELL A LITTLE OLD LADY YOU BETTER SELL OR WE'RE GOING TO TAKE EMINENT DOMAIN, SHE THINKS YOU'RE ONLY GOING TO GIVE HER 4,000 AN ACRE. NOW I'M FROM THE WEST SIDE, BUT WE'VE GOT 640 ACRES OF NEBEKER RANCH. WE'VE GOT 400 ACRES AT THE KINDIG RANCH THAT WOULD PROBABLY SELL. YOU'RE GOT 640 ACRES ON THE WEST SIDE BETWEEN D AND E ALONG 60TH STREET WEST. I DON'T KNOW WHICH FARMER OWNS THAT, BUT I'M POINTING IT OUT. THAT LEAVES YOU, YOU NEED 2,680 MORE ACRES FROM THE EAST SIDE. NOW I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY ACRES VAN DAMM FARMS. BUT I THINK IT'S AROUND 1,000 ACRES OVER THERE. SO NOW YOU ONLY NEED 1,500 ACRES.

YOUR EAST SIDE FARMING AREA IS 9,000 ACRES. IF YOU CAN'T FIND 1,000 ACRES OUT OF 9,000 WITHOUT DISPLACING SOMEBODY OUT OF THEIR HOUSE, YOU'RE A BUNCH OF IDIOTS.

(APPLAUSE)

NOW, THERE'S PEOPLE OUT THERE FARMING, AND I'M SAYING, HEY, I'VE BEEN IN THIS BOOK FOR THREE YEARS. YOU PEOPLE ON THE EAST SIDE ARE IN A CAVE, BECAUSE THIS STUFF HAS BEEN GOING ON. I WENT TO THE EAST SIDE TO TRY TO FIND COMMENT WHEN THEY WERE GOING TO SEND IT ALL TO THE WEST SIDE, NOBODY CARED. NEW DEAL, HUH? IT'S GOING EAST; BOY, YOU'RE ALL HERE. [UNINTELLIGIBLE] EAST SIDE. THE COUNTY GENERAL PLAN FOR THE NEXT 30 YEARS IS TO PUT YOU IN AN ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREA. YOU CAN ONLY BUILD ONE HOUSE ON TEN ACRES. SO YOU BETTER GET TO THAT MEETING, BECAUSE YOUR LAND AIN'T GOING TO BE A DAMN IF THEY MAKE IT AN ESA. AND I WORKED ON THAT PROJECT. IT'S FLAT GROUND OUT THERE, RIGHT. BUT JUNIPER HILLS, IT HAS ALL THIS LOVELY HABITAT AND EVERYTHING, IT'S NOT IN AN ESA. BUT YOUR FARMLAND IS OUT THERE. I DON'T UNDERSTAND THAT ONE, BUT YOU BETTER UNDERSTAND WHY.

MALE VOICE: I CAN TELL YOU WHY THEY'RE DOING IT?

JOHN GOIT: WHY?

MALE VOICE: BECAUSE THEY'RE RESTRICTING AND REDUCING THE AMOUNT OF AVAILABLE LAND. I CALL IT THE SANTA BARBARIZATION, MEANING THE SMALLER THE AREA, THE HIGHER THE PRICES. PLUS THEY HAVE ALL [UNINTELLIGIBLE].

LESLIE MOULTON: THANK YOU, LET'S LET HIM FINISH HIS COMMENTS.

MALE VOICE: SO THEY HAVE TO BUILD ALL THIS INFRASTRUCTURE. THEY DON'T WANT TO DO THAT. THEY WANT TO BUILD UP THE WEST SIDE OF THE VALLEY SO ALL THAT TAX MONEY BUILDS UP. AND WHEN THAT'S DONE, THEN THEY'LL OPEN UP THE EAST SIDE AND DO ALL THE INFRASTRUCTURE. IT'S A PLAN. THERE'S NO BIG MYSTERY TO THIS. [UNINTELLIGIBLE] THE VAN DAMM RANCH WANTS TO EXPAND AND THOSE PEOPLE ARE IN THE WAY AND THEY DON'T WANT ANY TROUBLE AND THEY WANT THEIR WELLS.

JOHN GOIT: VAN DAMM OWNS A LOT OF PROPERTY ON THE WEST SIDE, TOO, AND WE HAVE THE KINGS RIVER FLOW THAT COMES OUT OF KINGS CANYON GOES ON BOTH SIDES OF MY HOUSE LIKE A RIVER, AND IT'S JUST LIKE A LITTLE ROCK WASH WHEN IT RAINS HEAVY. SO DON'T TELL ME THERE'S NO RIVER ON THE WEST SIDE. ALL RIGHT. THERE WERE PRIOR NOTICES OF MEETINGS. PEOPLE ON THE EAST SIDE DIDN'T MAKE IT. SOMEBODY SAID ABOUT THE DUST. ALFALFA FARMING HAS A MINIMAL AMOUNT OF DUST. I'D RATHER BE NEXT TO ALFALFA THAN I WOULD CARROTS, ONIONS. BUT WE NEED FOOD FROM AMERICA. AND YOU FORCE IT OUT OF AMERICA, IT'S GOING DOWN TO MEXICO, AND GOD HELP YOU WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO GET, OR CHINA, WHAT YOU'RE BUYING FROM CHINA. YOU GUYS NOTICE THE PRICE OF HONEY. I'M A BEEKEEPER. THEY FOUND A BIG BAD CRAP IN HONEY OVER THERE THAT YOU PEOPLE DON'T WANT TO EAT, AND THAT'S WHY THE PRICE OF HONEY TRIPLED IN ONE YEAR. WE FINALLY CAUGHT THEM WITH SOMETHING RED-HANDED. THAT'S ALL I GOT.

LESLIE MOULTON: THANK YOU.

(APPLAUSE)

JOHN GOIT: IF YOU TERTIARY TREATED THIS WATER, I THINK EVERYBODY IN THIS ROOM WOULD BE WELCOME TO HAVE A FARM NEXT TO YOU. AND IF THAT'S WHAT IT COSTS SOME PEOPLE UPHILL WITH THEM TOILETS, I'M SORRY, THAT'S WHAT IT COSTS THEM [UNINTELLIGIBLE] AND I THINK WE OUGHT TO FARM WITH IT.

LESLIE MOULTON: APPRECIATE YOUR COMMENTS. THERE ARE MORE PEOPLE WHO WANTED TO SPEAK, SO LET'S KEEP MOVING WITH DELFINA AND RAOUL PEREZ. NEXT WOULD BE MELANIE DEBOSTIC, AND THIRD IN LINE IS JIM NYE.

EVELYA TORREZ: MY NAME IS EVELYA TORREZ. YOU CAN REMOVE MY CARD. IT'S ON THE BOTTOM OF THE PILE. I'M REPRESENTING DELFINA PEREZ, MANUEL FERNANDEZ, JESUS GONZALEZ, ROSA TAPYA, MISES BOSQUET, AND ERVA CARDINEZ. WE RECENTLY MOVED FROM LOS ANGELES TRYING TO AVOID THE SMOKE AND THE NASTY LIVING AND COME TO A CLEAN AREA WITH NICE NEIGHBORS AND A CLEAN LAND. WELL, IT HAPPENS THAT WHAT THESE PEOPLE ARE SAYING SOUNDS VERY GOOD IN PART TO OUR KNOWLEDGE. I WONDERED IF THEY TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE PEOPLE THAT LIVE ON THE LAND, OR THE PEOPLE THAT HAVE DREAMS. IT'S NOT EASY TO RELOCATE OR TO LIVE ASIDE THE DREAMS THAT YOU HAVE DONE FOR THE FUTURE OF YOUR FAMILY. OUR CHILDREN, RIGHT NOW I HAVE A LITTLE GIRL THAT IS 6 YEARS OLD, AND I WANT HER TO GROW UP IN HER DREAM PLACE THAT SHE WANTS TO HAVE A HORSE. I HAVE DONE IMPROVEMENTS TO MY PROPERTY, LIKE AS WELL THE REST OF THE PEOPLE THAT WE RUN THE AREA, 50 TO 100. AND YOU KNOW, THE GOVERNMENT DIDN'T INFORM US OF ANYTHING. I FOUND OUT ABOUT THIS IN THE PARKING LOT OF A MARKETPLACE. LATER ON THE NEXT DAY I GOT THE NEWSPAPER AND I READ A DIFFERENT STORY. LATER ON IN THE TIMES ONE OF THE PEOPLE THAT BUY RECEIVED INFORMATION IN THE MAIL ABOUT THE LOCATIONS OF THE PROJECT, BUT NOBODY EVER COME TO US AND LET US KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT IT, AND I REALLY

DON'T LIKE THAT. BECAUSE WE ALL [UNINTELLIGIBLE] PEOPLE, AND WE TRY TO DO BETTER IN LIFE. I REALLY DON'T APPRECIATE THAT. ALSO I'D LIKE TO KNOW, OKAY, HOW AND WHEN THE GOVERNMENT WILL APPROACH THE PRESENT OWNERS OF THE LAND, AND IF THEY WILL PAY THEIR MONEY THAT IS OWED TO LENDERS AND THE INVESTMENT THAT WE HAVE DONE IN OUR LAND. I'M A SINGLE PARENT. I WORK HARD. EVERY PENNY COUNTS IN MY LIFE. SO I APPRECIATE IF THE GOVERNMENT TAKE THEIR TIME AND DIRECT THEMSELVES TO ME AND THE PEOPLE THAT I REPRESENT. THANK YOU.

(APPLAUSE)

LESLIE MOULTON: MELANIE DeBOSTIC, JIM NYE AND MARLENE GRIFFIN.

MELANIE BOSTIC: I'M MELANIE BOSTIC. I BOUGHT MY LAND IN 1970. I WAS JUST OVER A LITTLE 20 YEARS OLD, AND I THOUGHT, GEE, SOMEDAY I'M GOING TO BE AN OLD LADY, AND I NEED SOME GROUND TO CALL MY OWN. SO I MOVED OUT HERE IN 1990. I'VE BEEN WRITTEN UP IN THE BACKWOODS MAGAZINE, BECAUSE I LIVE LIKE THE PIONEER DAYS. I HAULED WATER FOR A YEAR AND A HALF. I TOOK SHOWERS WHEN WE HAD NO HOT WATER; MY SKIN WAS PURPLE. I LIVED A HARD LIFE. I LIVED OUT IN THE OPEN; I HAD NO HOME. I LIVED IN A TIN SHED FOR A YEAR AND A HALF. I LIVED IN A 20-FOOT TRAILER FOR EIGHT YEARS. I IMPROVED MY PROPERTY; IT'S AN ORGANIC FARM. I HAVE BROUGHT THINGS FOR YOU TO SEE, AND I'M NOT GOING TO JUST WANT THREE MINUTES FOR MY LIFE FOR ALL THE YEARS I'VE BEEN A PROPERTY OWNER. I'M AN ACTIVIST ALSO. YOU WILL NOT TAKE MY LAND. THERE ARE A LOT OF VOTES SITTING IN THIS ROOM. THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE HERE THAT YOU'RE NOT GOING TO BULLY INTO RIPPING OFF THEIR PROPERTY. SOME PEOPLE WERE NOT EVEN NOTIFIED. I HAVE A NOTICE HERE THAT THERE'S THIS MEETING ON OCTOBER 1ST, AND IT STATED OCTOBER 10TH. I GOT IT ON OCTOBER 14TH. THEREFORE,

THIS WHOLE THING IS INVALID. YOU HAVE TO START OVER FROM SCRATCH ONE. YOU ARE DOING THIS ILLEGAL. AND YOU YOUNG MEN WHO ARE ENGINEERS, I SUGGEST YOU GET SOME OTHER JOB BESIDES PUSHING A PENCIL. I WANT YOU TO COME OUT TO MY RANCH, AND I'LL GIVE YOU A SHOVEL. I'LL GIVE YOU A PICK. YOU CAN WORK HARD, AND I WANT TO SHOW YOU SOME ORGANIC. ORGANIC MEANS THERE ARE NO CHEMICALS. I GOT LADY BUGS. I USE NO CHEMICALS. SO MY VEGETABLES AND FRUIT TASTES EXACTLY LIKE IT SHOULD. I HAVE HERE PISTACHIOS, BLACK ENGLISH WALNUTS, I HAVE ORGANIC ALMONDS. I HAVE FROM MY NEIGHBORS, THE WATSONS, THEY'RE OVER THERE, A SPOTTED OWL, ENDANGERED SPECIES, EAGLE'S NEST. THE TREE FELL, AND THE OWL NEST FELL OVER. THERE ARE MANY OTHER PROPERTY OWNERS I'VE TALKED TO, AND THEY HAVE EAGLES' NESTS IN THEIR TREE. I HAVE KANGAROO RATS, ENDANGERED SPECIES, ON MY PROPERTY. MONARCH BUTTERFLY. MY PROPERTY IS A FLYWAY FOR OVER 200 BIRDS, FROM PARROTS TO FINCHES, YOU NAME THE KIND OF BIRDS COMING THROUGH. WE HAVE CONDORS, EVERY KIND OF BIRD COMING THROUGH [UNINTELLIGIBLE] HONEY BEE. HONEY BEES ARE VERY IMPORTANT TO THE FARMER, AND A LOT OF THE FARMERS THAT ARE USING CHEMICALS ARE KILLING OFF THE BEES. WE'VE GOT TO SAVE OUR BEES, BECAUSE THE BEES POLLINATE AND IT GIVES US FOOD. AND YOU KNOW THIS KIND OF REMINDS ME OF THE MOVIE THAT THEY HAD WHEN WE WERE TRYING TO SAVE THE HOSPITAL. EVERYBODY WENT AND GAVE THEIR STORY. THEY DIDN'T LISTEN. THEY DECIDED TO SAY NO ANYWAY. WELL, WE'RE NOT TAKING NO, AND YOU GUYS, I'M READING YOUR BODY LANGUAGE. AND YOU KNOW WHAT, WHEN YOU SIT THERE WITH YOUR FINGERS LIKE THIS AND ALL LIKE THAT, IT MEANS YOU'RE GREEDY. YOU'RE NOT TAKING MY LAND, YOU'RE NOT TAKING THEIR LAND.

(APPLAUSE)

THIS IS AN ENDANGERED SPECIES SPOTTED OWL NEST, AND THEY ARE PROTECTED BY THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, ALONG WITH THE KANGAROO RAT. LEAVE IT IN THE BOX.

(APPLAUSE)

[UNINTELLIGIBLE] BIRD'S NEST HERE WITH THE EGGS. THEY GOT ABANDONED [UNINTELLIGIBLE] BIRD THAT LAYS ITS EGG ON THE GROUND. AND IF IT LAYS IT ON MY GRAVEL, IT LOOKS VERY MUCH LIKE THE GRAVEL. THIS IS A VERY ENDANGERED BIRD ALSO. THERE IS A LOT OF BEAUTY OUT HERE IN THE DESERT. AND WHERE YOU GUYS SIT AROUND WITH YOUR PENCILS, I DON'T KNOW. WE HAVE BEAUTIFUL STARS AND SUNSETS. I LOVE MY LAND. I LOVE EVERY INCH OF MY LAND, AND I LOVE MY NEIGHBORS, BECAUSE THEY'RE WHOLESOME AND THEY'RE NOT TRYING TO RIP PEOPLE OFF LIKE YOU GUYS. AND YOU TWO OLDER MEN OVER HERE, I WANT YOU TO COME OUT WHEN IT'S SPRINGTIME AND PICK MY TWO-INCH BLACKBERRIES. I GOT ASPARAGUS. I GOT FIVE-POUND GRAPES. ALL OF IT IS ORGANIC, AND NONE OF YOU HAVE WORKED THAT HARD. NONE OF YOU HAVE WORKED AS HARD AS ANYONE IN THIS ROOM, BECAUSE WE'RE ALL FARMERS.

(APPLAUSE)

LESLIE MOULTON: WE'VE GOT ABOUT EIGHT MORE FOLKS WHO WANT TO SPEAK WITH US TONIGHT. JIM NYE, MARLENE GRIFFIN AND BARBARA PRISIG, IF YOU COULD BE READY.

JIM NYE: HELLO, MY NAME IS JIM NYE. I LIVE AT 8690 EAST AVENUE F IN AREA 4, WHICH IS THE ZONE IMPACTED BY THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE WASTEWATER. ABOUT 16 YEARS AGO MY WIFE AND I BUILT A HOME ON 10 ACRES OUT THERE. WE'RE RAISING OUR DAUGHTER OUT THERE. WE MOVED OUT IN THAT AREA TO HOPEFULLY GET AWAY FROM, PARDON ME,

THE CRAP OF THE CITY. BUT NOW IT APPEARS THROUGH YOUR PLAN YOU'RE GOING TO BRING THE CRAP OF THE CITY TO US. AND WE DON'T MUCH APPRECIATE IT, AS MANY OF THE FOLKS THAT LIVE IN THE AREA. AND I WOULD LIKE TO ALSO SAY, I HAVEN'T HEARD ANYONE--WELL I'VE ONLY HEARD A COUPLE OF PEOPLE SPEAK FROM THE FRINGE, PEOPLE THAT ARE OUTSIDE THE AREA, I THINK YOU SHOULD BE CONCERNED, TOO, THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE AREA SHOULD ALSO BE CONCERNED. I JUST HAVE A FEW QUESTIONS THAT I SOMETIME WOULD LIKE TO GET AN ANSWER TO. THEY TALK ABOUT THE NOTIFICATION PROCESS. I HAVE NEVER GOTTEN A NOTICE AT MY HOME. I KNOW SOME FOLKS WHO HAVE NEVER GOTTEN NOTICES AT THEIR HOME. WHAT I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IS, WHY IS THE WEST SIDE'S OPPOSITION MENTIONED IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT, IT'S ACTUALLY IN THERE, IT'S OBVIOUS THAT THEY KNEW ABOUT THE PLAN, AND NO MENTION OF THE EAST SIDE OPPOSITION TO THE PLAN? IT APPEARS THAT WE'RE THERE WITH WELCOME ARMS FOR YOU, AND WE ARE NOT.

(APPLAUSE)

ONE OTHER QUESTION I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE ANSWERED IS, IN TALKING TO SOME PEOPLE INVOLVED WITH THE PROJECT, THEY HAVE SAID THAT THERE WAS A MEETING HELD AWHILE BACK, I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG AGO, I DON'T REMEMBER, I'M SURE THEY TOLD ME, OF A GROUP OF FARMERS WHO SAID THAT THEY WOULD BE WILLING TO USE THE WATER. I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHO THE GROUP OF FARMERS ARE WHO WOULD BE WILLING TO USE THE WATER. AND THE LAST THING FOR SENATOR KNIGHT, I SEE YOU'RE HERE TONIGHT, YOU PROBABLY HAVE THE BEST ANSWER TO THIS, I DON'T UNDERSTAND THE OPPOSITION TO ADDITIONAL USE OF THE DRY LAKE DURING THE WINTER. IT'S MY UNDERSTANDING THAT IN THE LAST 35 YEARS THERE'S BEEN ONE AIRCRAFT THAT HAS LANDED IN THAT AREA, AND DURING THE WINTER THERE ARE NO FLIGHTS SCHEDULED WITH THE DRY LAKE AS A PLAN

FOR AN EMERGENCY LANDING ZONE. SO I'D LIKE TO KNOW WHY THE AIR FORCE IS SO AGAINST THAT. AND I UNDERSTAND THE AIR FORCE HAS A GREATER MISSION THAN WE ALL DO. BUT WITH, WHAT, 1,300 SQUARE MILES OUT THERE, I THINK WE CAN TAKE OFF A COUPLE OF DEGREES TO THE RIGHT. SO THAT'S ALL I HAVE. THANK YOU.

(APPLAUSE)

LESLIE MOULTON: MARLENE GRIFFIN, PLEASE, AND THE BARBARA FIRSIG, AND THEN EMILY PACK.

MARLENE GRIFFIN: I'M MARLENE GRIFFIN. I LIVE AT 48025 [UNINTELLIGIBLE] STREET EAST. IT'S THE LOCATION WHERE YOU WANT TO DUMP YOUR RAW SEWAGE OR GIVE US YOUR WASTEWATER. MY FAMILY HAS BEEN A LONG TERM RESIDENT OF THAT AREA FOR OVER 100 YEARS. WE HOMESTEADED IT. IT WAS OUT OF THE FAMILY FOR A FEW YEARS, AND WE GOT IT BACK. AND WHEN PEOPLE COME OUT TO WHERE I LIVE, THEY SAY, WOW, THIS IS REALLY NICE. I LIVE ON A BEAUTIFUL RANCH. MY FAMILY HAS FARMED IT FOR OVER 50 YEARS. FIRST OF ALL I WANT TO KNOW WHY THE LA COUNTY SANITATION DEPARTMENT DIDN'T GIVE US PROPER NOTICE. WE'VE NEVER RECEIVED A PROPER NOTICE IN THE MAIL WITH 30 DAYS NOTICE. SOME PEOPLE GOT LESS THAN 30 DAYS. ALSO, IF YOU READ THE ARTICLE IN THE PAPER, THE VALLEY PRESS WITH THE PUBLIC NOTICE, IT WAS IN A FONT OF ABOUT 3. YOU WOULDN'T EVEN KNOW IF IT PERTAINED TO YOU, BECAUSE IT DIDN'T GIVE YOU THE BOUNDARIES. SO YOU WOULDN'T EVEN NOTICE THAT IT PERTAINED TO YOU, NONE OF THE EAST SIDERS WOULD, SO I THOUGHT IT WAS VERY UNDERHANDED. LAST WEEK I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO FLY TWICE OVER THE VALLEY, ONCE BY MYSELF AND ONCE I TOOK MY DAD. AND I OBSERVED THE WEST SIDE, THE EAST SIDE, AND THERE'S PLENTY OF OPEN GROUND WHERE THERE ARE NO HOUSES WHERE YOU CAN PUT YOUR

[UNINTELLIGIBLE] WATER, AND THERE'S PLENTY OF PLACES ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE DRY LAKE, NEAR ROSAMOND, WHERE YOU CAN PUT MORE EFFLUENT WATER. I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY WE'RE WORRIED ABOUT ONE TEST PILOT WHEN WE HAVE HARD WORKING LAW ABIDING CITIZENS WHO HAVE HOMES, AND PAY TAXES, SO THAT PILOT CAN FLY HIS AIRPLANE. SO I THINK THAT'S REALLY WRONG THAT WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT ONE TEST PILOT OVER ALL THESE PEOPLE. I THINK EDWARDS AIR FORCE NEEDS TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR SOME OF THE WATER, BECAUSE THEY HIRE A LOT OF PEOPLE FROM LANCASTER AND PALMDALE WHO TAKE CARE OF THEIR BUSINESS OUT AT EDWARDS. I THINK THEY SHOULD TAKE SOME OF THAT RESPONSIBILITY, AND TAKE SOME OF THEIR SHARE OF THAT WATER. AND ANY TIME WHEN EMINENT DOMAIN TAKES OVER, LIKE WE WERE SUPPOSED TO HAVE AIRPLANES FLYING OUT OF THE INTERCONTINENTAL AIRPORT OVER IN PALMDALE, I STILL HAVEN'T SEEN AN AIRPLANE TAKE OFF. BUT THEY REMOVED SEVERAL HOMES, 30-40 HOMES, ABOUT 20 YEARS AGO. IS THERE A PLANE TAKING OFF? NO. THERE'S ANOTHER GENTLEMAN IN OUR AREA WHO SAID HE HAD TO GIVE UP HIS RANCH IN THE AREA BY EMINENT DOMAIN FOR SOME TRANSPORTATION RAILROAD THAT NEVER WENT THROUGH. THERE ARE ALL THESE PLANS, THEY'RE REALLY FAST TO GRAB YOUR LAND, AND THEN THEY DON'T DO IT. AND RIGHT NOW PEOPLE ARE WORRIED ABOUT ALL THE HOMES THAT ARE BEING BURNED UP. WELL, OUR HOMES AREN'T BEING BURNED UP, BUT THEY'RE GOING TO BE TAKEN OVER BY THE LA COUNTY SANITATION DEPARTMENT, SO IT'S THE SAME THING. THAT'S ALL I HAVE TO SAY.

(APPLAUSE)

LESLIE MOULTON: AFTER BARBARA WILL BE EMILY PACK AND THEN CARYON? THANK YOU.

BARBARA FIRSIG: I'M BARBARA FIRSIG, AND I LIVE AT 48157 70TH STREET EAST. I'VE LIVED THERE SINCE 1952. MY LATE HUSBAND, [UNINTELLIGIBLE] FIRSIG, FAMILY HOMESTEADED THIS GROUND IN 1894, HOMESTEAD. THEY HAVE COPIES OF THE HOMESTEAD CERTIFICATE THAT WAS SIGNED BY PRESIDENT GROVER CLEVELAND. AND THEY CAME BACK IN 1928, AND THEY'RE FARMERS. WE'VE BEEN FARMING ALFALFA THERE SINCE 1928. WE'RE NOT AGAINST FARMING. I'M NOT AGAINST FARMING. I'M A RETIRED FARMER. I JUST DON'T LIKE THE IDEA OF THE EFFLUENT WATER, THE CONTAMINATION. I UNDERSTAND THAT IF YOU USE THIS SECONDARY EFFLUENT, IT, AND YOU HAVE A TERM THAT YOU DISINFECT THE WATER, I UNDERSTAND THAT IT DOES NOT KILL THE ENCAPSULATED VIRUS. I UNDERSTAND IF YOU USE THIS WATER WITH SPRINKLING SYSTEMS, IT'S CALLED THE KISS OF DEATH BECAUSE IT'S AIRBORNE. IT'S A VIRUS. WE'RE THINKING ABOUT OUR CHILDREN, OUR GRANDCHILDREN. MY GRANDCHILDREN LOVE TO COME OUT TO MY HOME, AND PLAY, RIDE THE MOTORCYCLE. WE HAVE NEIGHBORS THAT HAVE HORSES. WE HAVE ANIMALS. WE'RE VERY CONTENT THERE. WE CHOSE TO LIVE HERE. WE CAME HERE. MY HUSBAND AND I WERE MARRIED--HE PASSED AWAY TWO YEARS AGO; I'M A WIDOW--WE GOT MARRIED IN 1952, AND FARMED THERE. WE ENJOYED FARMING. BUT NOT WITH THIS KIND OF WATER THAT CAUSES SUCH AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ON THE NEIGHBORS, ON YOUR HEALTH. IT NEEDS TO BE TREATED. IF YOU HAD PRIMARY WATER, I DON'T THINK THE PEOPLE WOULD OBJECT. IF WE CAN'T LIVE THERE, AND YOU HAVE TO BUY OUR HOMES, AND GET RID OF OUR HOMES, THEN SOMETHING IS WRONG. BUT THIS PLAN THAT YOU HAVE, THIS DRAFT, THIS LITTLE MAP THAT YOU DREW ON THIS LETTER THAT YOU SENT OUT, I UNDERSTAND, THERE IS NO BUFFER ZONE, THESE 4,000 ACRES THAT YOU WANT TO BUY. THE PEOPLE THAT LIVE ACROSS THE STREET, THAT HAVE A PRIVATE WELL, 600 FEET ON THE OTHER SIDE OF WHERE YOU'RE GOING TO BE FARMING, HOW IS THAT GOING TO AFFECT THE GROUNDWATER? THE DRIFT FROM THESE SPRINKLING SYSTEMS, HOW IS THAT GOING TO AFFECT THE CHILDREN, THE ANIMALS, IF YOU'RE RAISING

A GARDEN? I UNDERSTAND THAT AT ANTELOPE ACRES THEY FOUGHT THIS THREE YEARS AGO. THEY HAVE A ONE-MILE BUFFER ZONE. THERE ISN'T A BUFFER ZONE HERE. WE HAVE A SCHOOL ONE MILE FROM THE BOUNDARIES. THE THING IS, YOU'RE FORCING US OUT OF OUR HOMES, AND SOMEBODY ON YOUR STAFF HAS SAID THAT POSSIBLY THEY WILL NOT TEAR THESE HOUSES DOWN. SOMEBODY WILL BE LIVING IN THEM. WELL, IF WE CAN'T LIVE IN THEM, WHY IS IT SAFE FOR SOMEBODY ELSE TO LIVE IN THEM? I DON'T UNDERSTAND THAT. AND WE JUST DON'T WANT THIS OUT HERE UNLESS IT'S PRIMARY WATER. I WOULD BE PROUD TO LIVE NEAR SOMEONE WHO'S FARMING WITH PRIMARY WATER, NOT THIS EFFLUENT WATER THAT WOULD CAUSE ALL KINDS OF HEALTH PROBLEMS. ANOTHER THING THAT HAS UPSET ME, I DON'T KNOW, ALL OF YOU SAY THAT THE EAST SIDE SHOULD HAVE KNOWN ABOUT ALL OF THIS. I'VE LIVED THERE SINCE 1952. I DIDN'T HEAR A THING ABOUT IT.

(APPLAUSE)

AND YET ANTELOPE ACRES FOUGHT THIS THREE YEARS AGO. WELL, THEY MUST HAVE ALL KEPT IT A BIG SECRET, BECAUSE WE ALL KNOW PEOPLE FROM THE EAST SIDE AND THE WEST SIDE. NO ONE SEEMED TO KNOW ANYTHING UNTIL WE GET THESE NOTICES. ONE THING THAT HAS REALLY AGGRAVATED ME, AND THAT IS THE WAY WE IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD FOUND OUT ABOUT IT. IT WAS A LETTER FROM A REALTOR
[UNINTELLIGIBLE]

[END SIDE A / BEGIN SIDE B]

BARBARA FIRSIG: [UNINTELLIGIBLE] CASH DEALS, 30-DAY ESCROW. OH, THIS IS A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY, BUT I CAN'T TELL YOU WHO THE BUYER IS. SEPTEMBER, THEY

SEND A LETTER OUT AND THEY SAY, OH NOW WE CAN TELL YOU. IT'S THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY SANITATION DEPARTMENT. BUT, AND HE SAID IN THE LETTER WHAT HE WAS FOR. BUT HE SAID, YOU NEED--HIS EXACT WORDS WERE--YOU NEED TO BE WILLING TO SELL THIS PROPERTY. I DON'T SEE WHERE I NEED TO BE SELLING MY PROPERTY. I DON'T WANT TO LEAVE.

(APPLAUSE)

LESLIE MOULTON: THANK YOU FOR YOUR REMARKS.

BARBARA FIRSIG: HE ALSO TOLD ONE OF OUR RELATIVES IN THE AREA, YOU KNOW, YOU SHOULD TRY TO CONVINCED YOUR RELATIVES TO SELL NOW. THEY'LL GET MORE MONEY THAN THEY WILL LATER; THEY'LL GET LESS. AND THEN THEY STARTED YOU KNOW THROWING THE WORD AROUND, EMINENT DOMAIN. THAT'S A THREAT TO ME, IT'S A THREAT TO OUR FAMILY. I DON'T THINK THIS IS THE WAY TO DO BUSINESS. THIS IS VERY UNSATISFACTORY, AND VERY DISAPPOINTING WITH OUR PROJECT, AND WE JUST DO NOT WANT YOU IN OUR AREA, AND WE DO NOT WANT TO GIVE UP OUR HOMES. WE'VE WORKED HARD FOR THEM. WE'VE WORKED HARD, THERE ARE A LOT OF NEIGHBORS, WE'VE ALL BEEN MAKING IMPROVEMENTS ON OUR HOUSE, THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS WORTH. I'M A WIDOW, AND I TAKE CARE OF MY MOTHER-IN-LAW. WE LIVE ON FIVE ACRES. I HAVE A MOBILE HOME. YOU'RE NOT GOING TO GIVE ME ENOUGH TO MOVE IN TOWN AND BUY A NEW HOUSE. I DON'T WANT TO LIVE IN TOWN. I LIKE LIVING OUT, ALL OF US THAT LIVE OUT THERE ENJOY LIVING WHERE WE ARE, AND WE DON'T WANT TO MOVE TO TOWN. ALL THIS PROGRESS HAS BROUGHT NOTHING BUT CRIME, AND IT'S NOT LIKE LANCASTER USED TO BE. AND YOU KEEP BUILDING MORE HOUSES AND BUILDING MORE HOUSES, USING MORE WATER. THE NEXT THING THERE WON'T BE ANY WATER IN THE GROUND TO EVEN FURNISH

ALL THESE HOMES. IT JUST SEEMS LIKE THERE HAS TO BE SOME BETTER ANSWERS TO THIS, AND WE'RE JUST NOT READY TO GIVE UP OUR HOMES. THANK YOU.

(APPLAUSE)

LESLIE MOULTON: SOME ONE LAST NAME KERRIAN, OR FIRST NAME, LAST NAME, KERRIAN, AND MARTHA WILLIAMSON THEN IN LINE. WE'VE GOT ABOUT SIX MORE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION.

EMILY PACK: HELLO, MY NAME IS EMILY PACK, AND I RESIDE AT LEISURE LAKE MOBILE HOME PARK ON 20TH STREET AND LANCASTER. I HAVE BEEN IN THE MEDICAL FIELD FOR OVER 40 YEARS. WE ARE A SENIOR PARK. DUE TO THE NORMAL AGING PROCESS, EVEN OLDER AMERICANS IN GOOD HEALTH MAY HAVE INCREASED HEALTH RISKS FROM EXPOSURES TO ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTANTS. AS WE AGE OUR BODIES ARE MORE SUSCEPTIBLE TO HAZARDS FROM THE ENVIRONMENT [UNINTELLIGIBLE] WHICH MAY CAUSE OR WORSEN CHRONIC OR LIFE-THREATENING CONDITIONS. IN ADDITION, OLDER PERSONS HAVE ACCUMULATED A LIFETIME OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL CONTAMINANTS WHICH ARE CAPABLE OF REMAINING IN THE BODY, SUCH AS LEAD AND MERCURY. THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY WRITES THAT THE HEALTH OF OLDER AMERICANS IS A TOP PRIORITY; THAT THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL OLDER AMERICANS MUST BE IMPROVED. AND IT HAS IN FACT LAUNCHED AN AGING INITIATIVE DESIGNED TO STUDY AND PRIORITIZE THE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH RISKS THAT THEY FACE. MANY RESIDENTS OF LEISURE LAKES HAVE COMPOUND MEDICAL CONDITIONS. YOUR PROPOSAL WOULD DETER, RATHER THAN ENHANCE, RESIDENTS' PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING. I WOULD LIKE TO ASK, WHAT TRULY ACTUAL RISK ASSESSMENTS HAVE BEEN DONE TO PROVIDE A QUALITATIVE OR A QUANTITATIVE EVALUATION OF THIS PROJECT REGARDING THE RISKS

POSED TO HUMAN HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT BY THE ACTUAL OR POTENTIAL PRESENCE OF POLLUTANTS? WHAT ARE THE TRUE DANGERS OR RISKS POSED TO THIS PARTICULAR SITE? [UNINTELLIGIBLE] PROPERLY DESIGNED, OPERATED AND MAINTAINED SANITARY SEWER SYSTEMS ARE TRULY MEANT TO COLLECT AND TRANSPORT SEWAGE FLOW INTO A PUBLICLY OWNED TREATMENT WORKS. HOWEVER, [UNINTELLIGIBLE] DISCHARGES OF RAW SEWAGE FROM MUNICIPAL SANITARY SEWERS DOES OCCUR IN ALMOST EVERY SYSTEM. THESE MAY BE DUE TO SEVERE WEATHER, IMPROPER SYSTEM OPERATION, AND PROBLEM MAINTENANCE. THE UNTREATED SEWAGE FROM THESE OVERFLOWS COULD EASILY CONTAMINATE THE DRINKING WATERS OF LEISURE LAKES, SINCE WE ARE SURROUNDED BY UNDERGROUND WELLS. THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY REQUIRES THAT AGENCIES CONDUCT ACTUAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REVIEWS FOR MAJOR ACTIONS SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECTING THE QUALITY OF THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT, AND TO MAKE THAT INFORMATION PUBLIC. YOU KNOW, WE LEARN IN THE HUMAN MEDICAL MODEL IN SCHOOL THAT THE BASIC NEEDS IN LIFE, NUMBER ONE, PHYSICAL. WE NEED AIR TO BREATHE. AND WE LEARN ON THE PSYCHOLOGICAL COMPONENT THAT THE BASIC NEED ON THE PSYCHOLOGICAL SIDE IS SAFETY AND SECURITY. WE AT LEISURE LAKE ARE AT A PERIOD IN OUR LIVES WHERE THE AIR THAT WE BREATHE AND THE WATER THAT WE DRINK SHOULD NOT BE IN QUESTION TO OUR HEALTH. THE PROJECT THAT YOU PROPOSE, HOWEVER, THREATENS THAT VERY PREMISE. PLEASE RECONSIDER THE REASONS, THE RIGHT REASONS, FOR NOT ALLOWING THIS PROJECT TO GO FORWARD. THANK YOU.

(APPLAUSE)

MARTA WILLIAMSON: I'M MARTA WILLIAMSON, AND I'M HERE FOR OLD TOWN HOMEOWNERS GROUP. AND ALTHOUGH I DON'T LIVE IN EITHER OF THESE AREAS, WEST

SIDE OR EAST SIDE, ANTELOPE ACRES, PROBABLY THE REASON ANTELOPE ACRES KNEW IS BECAUSE THEY HAVE A TOWN COUNCIL. AND I SUGGEST ON THE EAST SIDE YOU GET TOGETHER, YOU PUT TOGETHER A TOWN COUNCIL, GET YOUR BOUNDARIES PUT TOGETHER, AND MAKE SURE THEY START INFORMING YOU OF THINGS. ONE OF THE THINGS THAT I WANTED TO BRING OUT IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE DOING ISN'T ADDRESSING ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE. YOU NEED TO ADDRESS THE STATE SENATE BILL, 115, WHICH DEALS WITH ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE. THERE ARE CHILDREN OUT THERE, THERE IS A NEW BILL, A.B. 25--I'M SORRY, STATE SENATE BILL 25, AND IT TALKS ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE FOR CHILDREN, BECAUSE CHILDREN ARE ENTITLED AND PROTECTED TO HAVE A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT, TO HAVE CLEAN WATER, TO HAVE ALL THOSE THINGS THAT ARE THERE ON THE EAST SIDE NOW BUT THAT YOU WILL ENDANGER. SO YOU WILL BE BREAKING THE LAW. YOU WILL BE BREAKING THE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ACT, FOR EVERYBODY, PLUS YOU WILL BE BREAKING THE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ACT FOR CHILDREN. AND YOU NEED TO DEAL WITH THAT. YOUR NOTICES AS HAS ALREADY BEEN BROUGHT UP, BECAUSE I LOOKED AT THEM, I HAD A PHONE CALL FROM SOMEONE, AND SHE SAID, THE NOTICE IN THE PAPER WAS PUT ON THE BACK SIDE OF AN ALBERTSON'S AD, WHICH WAS A FULL PAGE, AND IT LOOKED LIKE IT WAS PART OF THE FOOD SECTION. SO YOU DIDN'T KNOW THERE WAS ANYTHING BACK THERE. AND I SAID THAT WAS PROBABLY BY DESIGN. BECAUSE WE DEAL WITH THIS WITH OUR CITY COUNCIL IN PALMDALE, AND WE KNOW THAT IF WE ASK EVERYBODY TO STAND UP THAT DID NOT GET A PROPER NOTICE ON ANY OF THESE MEETINGS, MOST OF THIS ROOM WOULD STAND UP. YOU CAN JUST HOLD UP YOUR HANDS, IF YOU DIDN'T GET A PROPER NOTICE ON THIS MEETING. SO YOU GUYS NEED TO START OVER, BECAUSE YOU HAVE TO GIVE PROPER NOTIFICATION. SO THIS 30 DAYS DOESN'T COUNT. YOU SENT THOSE NOTICES OUT OCTOBER 10TH, AND THAT NOTICE WAS SUPPOSED TO BE OUT BEFORE THAT, BECAUSE YOU WERE GIVING THEM NOTICE FROM OCTOBER 1ST. BUT THOSE NOTICES WERE NOT MAILED OUT. THE POST MARK IS ON THEM:

OCTOBER 10TH. YOU DIDN'T DO YOUR JOB. YOU FELL DOWN ON THE JOB. YOU DIDN'T DO IT RIGHT. YOU GUYS NEED AN EDUCATION; LEARN HOW TO DO YOUR JOB RIGHT.

(APPLAUSE)

LESLIE MOULTON: OKAY.

FEMALE VOICE: AND JUST REAL QUICK, NOT ONE OF THE RESIDENTS AT LEISURE LAKE GOT ANY OF THESE NOTICES AT ALL. YOU SENT IT TO THE MANAGER ONLY, WHEN IN FACT YOU SHOULD HAVE SENT IT TO EVERY RESIDENT INDIVIDUALLY ON THIS NOTICE.

LESLIE MOULTON: NEXT SPEAKER IS DAVID GREENE. DONNA AND KATRINA HATTER. ROBERT KERAKEES, I'M NOT SURE I SAID THAT CORRECTLY. BUT JUST A FEW MORE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE, EVERYONE.

DAVID GREENE: I'M DAVID GREENE, AND I LIVE ABOUT 97TH STREET EAST AND E. BASICALLY WHAT I'VE SEEN IS, YOU'VE CHOSEN EAST SIDE AS YOUR DUMPING GROUND TO THE DEGRADATION OF OUR GROUNDWATER AND OTHER CONTAMINANTS. IT APPEARS YOU HAVE CHOSEN A SMALL POPULATION TO ATTACK, AS A WAY OF REMOVING YOUR LANCASTER CITY RECLAMATION WATER, WHICH SOMEBODY ELSE HAD A BETTER WORD FOR IT. ON TOP OF THIS, YOU ARE GOING TO RAISE PRICES TO THOSE USING THE WATER SYSTEM. YOU HAVE CLAIMED THAT THIS AREA IS DESIRED FOR FARMS HAS BEEN WELL RECEIVED. I HAVE 40 ACRES THAT WAS A FARM; NOBODY ASKED ME IF I WOULD LIKE WATER FOR MY FARM THAT WILL HARM MY GROUNDWATER AND MY WELL. IT APPEARS TO ME YOU ARE RAILROADING A PROGRAM THAT WE DON'T WANT AND HAVE NOT ASKED FOR. I PERSONALLY MOVED ONTO THIS FARM BECAUSE OF THE WELL WATER, AND CLEANER

LIVING. I DON'T WANT YOU DUMPING POOR QUALITY WATER IN THE NAME OF FARMING WATER OPPORTUNITIES. THANK YOU.

(APPLAUSE)

LESLIE MOULTON: DONALD AND KATRINA HATTER.

DONALD HADDEN: MY NAME IS DONALD HADDEN. I LIVE AT 9051 EAST AVENUE E. I'VE BEEN THERE TWO YEARS NOW. THE FIRST THING, I'M NOT EXACTLY CLEAR, MAYBE YOU GUYS DISCUSSED IT THE FIRST PART, I MISSED A COUPLE OF MINUTES OF IT, BUT THE EXACT PLANS OF SITE FOUR FOR THE FARM LAND. I GOT A LETTER SAYING THAT IT WAS GOING TO 100. THEN I RECEIVED INFORMATION THAT IT WAS GOING TO 90TH, MY HOUSE WAS NO LONGER IN DANGER. I'VE GOT WORD THAT IT'S GOING TO STOP AT 80TH. I DON'T KNOW EXACTLY IF MY HOUSE IS IN DANGER OR NOT, WHETHER IT STOPS AT 90TH OR NOT, I'M IN FEAR FOR MY HOUSE. I'M KIND OF SURPRISED YOU GUYS DON'T HAVE ANY OF THE STATISTICS FOR NEBEKER RANCH, SINCE IT HAS BEEN A SITE, A DISPOSAL SITE, FOR SEVERAL YEARS NOW. I'M SURE YOU GUYS HAVE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS ON THAT. MY HOUSE MAY NOT BE AFFECTED RIGHT NOW. MY HOUSE IS VALUED AT ALMOST \$200,000 NOW. I'M 25 YEARS OLD. WHAT'S IT GOING TO BE IN 10 YEARS WHEN YOU DECIDE, WELL, WE NEED THAT PROPERTY NOW. WE'LL GIVE YOU \$50,000 BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT THEY TELL YOU IT'S WORTH. AND THAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO ALL THESE PEOPLE. LEISURE LAKE, YOU MAY SAY, WELL, WE'RE GOING TO TAKE THAT OFF THE MAP RIGHT NOW. 2020 ROLLS AROUND, EVERYBODY IS BUILT UP AROUND IT. YOU GUYS NEED WHAT NOW? IT'S GONE. YES, NO, I MEAN PART OF THE PROBLEM--

[UNINTELLIGIBLE]

DONALD HADDEN: YEAH, WE'LL BE BOILING IT. I MEAN PERSONALLY WHERE I'M AT, I LOVE WHERE I'M AT. I'VE GOT GREAT NEIGHBORS. I COULDN'T ASK FOR BETTER NEIGHBORS. A COUPLE OF THEM ARE HERE; SOME OF THEM COULD NOT BE HERE. I'VE NEVER LIVED IN A BETTER COMMUNITY. I'VE GOT PROBABLY 10 HOUSES, 12 HOUSES, IN A SQUARE MILE OF WHERE I'M AT. I DON'T WANT TO MOVE. I HAVE A 3-YEAR-OLD SON, AND I WORRY ABOUT HIM. THAT'S JUST SOME OF MY CONCERNS. I'M SLIGHTLY DISAPPOINTED, BECAUSE I THOUGHT TONIGHT WE WERE ACTUALLY GOING TO RECEIVE SOME ANSWERS. NOW WE'RE GOING TO RECEIVE ANSWERS TO MY QUESTIONS IN THE MAIL, BUT I WON'T RECEIVE ANSWERS TO ANY OF THE OTHER PEOPLE'S QUESTIONS IN THE MAIL.

(APPLAUSE)

LESLIE MOULTON: LET ME CLARIFY AT LEAST THAT PROCESS FOR YOU, THAT ALL THE QUESTIONS BOTH TONIGHT AND THAT WE RECEIVE IN WRITING WILL GET ANSWERED, AND ALL BE PUT IN ONE PLACE, AND YOU'LL BE ABLE TO SEE THE RESPONSES TO ALL THE COMMENTS. SO YOU WON'T JUST GET A SEPARATE LETTER. SO EVERYONE WHO IS INTERESTED WILL BE ABLE TO SEE A FULL SET OF WRITTEN RESPONSES.

[UNINTELLIGIBLE]

LESLIE MOULTON: YEAH, WE HAVEN'T GOT THAT KIND OF PROCESS SET UP. WE MAY BE ABLE TO DO SOME WEB SITE ACCESS TO THE DOCUMENT, BUT WE'LL CERTAINLY ALSO GET YOU HARD COPY, AND WE CAN TRY TO GET NOTICES. AND WE'LL GO BACK OVER THE SCHEDULE. I JUST HAVE A FEW MORE FOLKS. DO YOU HAVE A FEW MORE COMMENTS?

DONALD HADDEN: IS THERE A WAY TO FIND OUT WHAT THIS HAS DONE TO NEBEKER RANCH, WHAT THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT HAS BEEN THERE, OR A SQUARE MILE AROUND IT?

LESLIE MOULTON: THAT'S A FAIR QUESTION, AND THERE IS SOME ANALYSIS IN THE DOCUMENT, BUT WE'LL TAKE YOUR QUESTION AND GET BACK TO YOU SOMETHING MORE THOROUGH.

DONALD HADDEN: THANK YOU.

LESLIE MOULTON: THANK YOU VERY MUCH. ROBERT KARAKIS, AND THEN HAROLD SINGER, JOHN MCGARY AND GALEEN MCGARY, THOSE ARE OUR FINAL CARDS. IF ANYONE ELSE DOES WANT TO SPEAK, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO FILL OUT A SPEAKER CARD. WE'LL TAKE THOSE AT ANY TIME.

ROBERT KARAKIS: MY NAME IS ROBERT KARAKIS. YOU DID VERY GOOD ON MY NAME. I AM VICE PRESIDENT OF THE ANTELOPE ACRES TOWN COUNCIL, AND I JUST LEARNED AT OUR LAST MEETING ABOUT THIS PROJECT. I'M SURPRISED THAT WE DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT IT SOONER. I REALLY DID KNOW ABOUT NEBEKER RANCH OUT THERE WHERE I LIVE. AND I UNDERSTAND HE'S BEEN RECEIVING SOME OF THIS WATER FOR SOME TIME, THE TREATED WATER. OUR CONCERNS ARE ON THE QUALITY OF THIS TREATED WATER, WHAT IT'S GOING TO DO FOR WHAT--I BELIEVE HE'S GROWING HAY OUT THERE. I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE QUALITY OF THE HAY IS. I DON'T KNOW IF I'D WANT TO FEED IT TO ANY OF MY ANIMALS. I DOUBT THAT HAY IS MARKED THAT IT'S BEEN GROWN BY THAT KIND OF WATER. SO OUR MAIN CONCERN IS, AND I DON'T KNOW THAT MUCH ABOUT IT, I WANT TO SEE MORE ABOUT WHAT'S IN THAT WATER AND WHAT'S GOING ON. IT WOULD BE NICE, AS THE GENTLEMAN

SAID BEFORE ME, AS TO WHAT THE SITUATION IS AT NEBEKER RANCH. WHAT'S THE QUALITY OF THE SOIL RIGHT NOW? HOW MANY YEARS HAS HE BEEN USING THAT? WHAT'S THE QUALITY OF THE SOIL, AND WHAT'S IT GOING TO DO TO THE GROUNDWATER IF ANYTHING? SO THOSE ARE OUR CONCERNS. I'M NOT AGAINST RECLAIMED WATER BEING USED FOR SOMETHING. I THINK IT'S A GOOD IDEA. BUT THE PROBLEM IS, THIS RECLAIMED WATER NO DOUBT HAS A LOT OF THINGS IN IT STILL, AND I HAVE A CONCERN FOR HEALTH QUALITY WITH SUCH WATER. MAYBE IT WOULD BE GOOD TO BE USED FOR CERTAIN THINGS, BUT FOR FOOD, FOR HAY, I'M NOT SO SURE. SO I'D LIKE ANSWERS ON THAT KIND OF STUFF. AND IT SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE GOING TO BE, YOU'RE MOVING ALONG VERY QUICKLY. AND IT LOOKS LIKE A LOT OF PEOPLE HERE TONIGHT CERTAINLY DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT MOST OF THIS. AND UNFORTUNATELY IT SEEMS THAT'S THE WAY A LOT OF THESE AGENCIES WORK. YOU FIND OUT ABOUT IT WHEN THEY'RE ALREADY ALMOST FINISHED. SO THOSE ARE MY CONCERNS. THANK YOU.

(APPLAUSE)

LESLIE MOULTON: HAROLD SINGER. AND THEN MR. JOHN MCGARY.

HAROLD SINGER: GOOD EVENING. I'M HAROLD SINGER. I'M THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER FOR THE LAHATON REGIONAL BOARD, AND I'D BE HAPPY TO TALK TO ANYBODY IN THE AUDIENCE AFTERWARDS ABOUT WHAT THE LAHATON BOARD DOES AND HOW WE DO OUR JOB AND ANY OF THE INFORMATION THAT WE HAVE IN OUR FILES ABOUT WATER QUALITY IN THE AREA. BUT I WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS THE EIR TONIGHT. I THINK YOU'VE HEARD A LOT OF SIGNIFICANT COMMENTS ON THE EIR, MANY OF THEM VALID COMMENTS. AND FROM MY PERSPECTIVE, YOU HAVE YOUR WORK CUT OUT FOR YOU TO REVISE THIS DOCUMENT AND STILL MEET THE AUGUST '05 DATE. THAT IS A HARD AND FAST DATE, AND YOU'VE HAD

PLENTY OF TIME TO WORK ON THIS, BUT THIS IS A DEFICIENT EIR, AND NEEDS TO BE REDONE. I THINK THE OTHER INTERESTING POINT HERE TONIGHT IS THAT THERE'S NOBODY IN A DECISION MAKING AUTHORITY HERE TONIGHT. THE DISTRICT IS ONLY REPRESENTED BY THEIR STAFF AND THEIR CONSULTANTS. AND I'M SURE THAT THE DISTRICT BOARD WILL HEAR ALL THESE COMMENTS, BUT WILL NOT HEAR THE EMOTION BEHIND THEM. AND I THINK THAT'S REAL IMPORTANT THAT MAYBE THE NEXT TIME YOU DO THIS HEARING THAT THE DECISION-MAKING PEOPLE SIT AND LISTEN TO THE COMMENTS.

(APPLAUSE)

HAROLD SINGER: I THINK I WANT TO START OUT BY SAYING THAT I THINK CONCEPTUALLY THE IDEA OF USING AGRICULTURAL LAND TO IRRIGATE THAT LAND, USING TREATED WASTE WATER IS A GOOD CONCEPT. IT'S PROBABLY ONE OF THE FEW CONCEPTS THAT WILL WORK UP HERE IN THE HIGH DESERT. I THINK AS SENATOR KNIGHT POINTED OUT EARLIER, THERE ISN'T A RIVER THAT YOU CAN DISPOSE YOUR WASTE WATER INTO. YOU LIVE IN AN AREA THAT HAS OTHER CHALLENGES IN TERMS OF GETTING RID OF THAT WASTE WATER. THIS AREA IS GROWING. IT'S ALREADY EXCEEDED THE CAPACITY OF YOUR DISPOSAL AREAS. YOU'VE GOT TO FIND ANOTHER SOLUTION. IT'S UP TO THE DISTRICT TO DO THAT. YOU'VE HEARD A LOT OF PEOPLE HERE TODAY WHO HAVE GIVEN YOU SOME GOOD IDEAS. I THINK YOU NEED TO REACH OUT TO THEM AND GET THEM TO AMPLIFY ON THOSE IDEAS, GIVE YOU MORE SPECIFICS, AND WORK WITH THEM ON TRYING TO ACCOMPLISH SOMETHING THAT THE COMMUNITY CAN BUY INTO. WE'RE GOING TO BE PROVIDING SOME WRITTEN COMMENTS, SO I'M JUST GOING TO COVER SOME HIGH POINTS AT THIS POINT. BUT I THINK FROM A FACTUAL PERSPECTIVE, THERE'S BEEN SOME MISINFORMATION HERE TONIGHT ABOUT THE REGIONAL BOARD'S REQUIREMENT. I THINK IT'S BEEN SAID THAT THE REGIONAL BOARD HAS PROHIBITED THE OVERFLOW OF POND TO ROSAMOND DRY LAKE. THAT IS NOT TRUE. WE

HAVE PROVIDED EFFLUENT PRODUCED OVERFLOWS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO NUISANCE CONDITIONS ON THE AIR FORCE PROPERTY. THAT DOESN'T MEAN THAT THERE CANNOT BE OVERFLOWS. WE ALL KNOW THAT IT OVERFLOWS IN THE WINTERTIME DUE TO NATURAL REASONS; IT'S GOING TO CONTINUE TO DO THAT, AND THE AIR FORCE IS GOING TO HAVE TO LIVE WITH THOSE NATURAL CONDITIONS. BUT CLEARLY WE DON'T WANT TO INTERRUPT THE OPERATION OF THAT BASE. AND I'LL COME DOWN LATER HERE TO ONE OF MY POINTS ABOUT THE MUDFLATS THAT I WANT TO GET INTO DEALING WITH WHAT I THINK WAS SOME FACTUAL INFORMATION--MISINFORMATION. IN TERMS OF THE EIR I THINK IT'S DEFICIENT IN THE FOLLOWING GENERAL AREA. MAINLY IT FAILS TO EVALUATE THE EFFECTS AND THE POSSIBLE MITIGATION MEASURES FOR A NUMBER OF KEY POINTS. ONE IS, SOME OF THE ALTERNATIVES INVOLVE LAND SPREADING. EVEN THE PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE INDICATES YOU'RE GOING TO LAND SPREAD FOR A FEW YEARS. WHAT IS THE GROUNDWATER QUALITY IMPACTS OF THAT LAND SPREADING? I THINK THAT HAS BEEN FRANKLY DISCOUNTED, AND HAS NOT BEEN EVALUATED THOROUGHLY. WHAT ABOUT THE LEAKAGE FROM THE STORAGE PONDS? WE THINK THAT THAT KIND OF IMPACT CAN BE THE SAME AS LAND SPREADING, AND LET'S REMEMBER, THAT'S IN ALTERNATIVE ONE, WHICH YOU GIVE HIGH MARKS TO ON GROUNDWATER DEGRADATION, AND YOU GIVE LOW MARKS TO ALTERNATIVES THREE AND FOUR WHICH INVOLVE LAND SPREADING. THEY POTENTIALLY CAN HAVE THE SAME IMPACT, SO I DON'T QUITE UNDERSTAND HOW YOU DIFFERENTIATE THOSE TWO IMPACTS. THE CHANGES IN WATER QUALITY AT PIUTE PONDS. ALL OF THESE ALTERNATIVES ARE GOING TO INVOLVE LESS WATER GOING TO PIUTE PONDS. THERE IS VERY CURSORY LANGUAGE GIVEN TO WHAT WE'RE GOING TO DO ABOUT THAT IMPACT. FROM THE REGIONAL BOARD'S PERSPECTIVE, THAT'S AN IMPORTANT WATER BODY. IT HAS BENEFICIAL USES. AND WE WILL REQUIRE THAT IT BE PROTECTED FOR THOSE USES, AND WE DON'T SEE AN EVALUATION OF WHAT THE DISTRICT IS GOING TO DO WHEN THAT WATER QUALITY STARTS TO DEGRADE, BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF FLUSHING FLOWS. WHAT ABOUT THE LEAKAGE

FROM THE CURRENT OXIDATION PONDS? THE DISTRICT IS DOING A STUDY FOR THE REGIONAL BOARD RIGHT NOW TO DETERMINE, WHAT IS THE QUALITY OF THE GROUNDWATER UNDERNEATH THOSE PONDS. I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU CAN DO AN EIR WITHOUT KNOWING THE ANSWER TO THOSE QUESTIONS THAT YOU ARE CURRENTLY DOING A STUDY FOR US RIGHT NOW ON. ANOTHER POINT HERE IS THAT YOU RELY ON COMPLIANCE WITH FUTURE PERMIT CONDITIONS FOR MITIGATING MANY OF YOUR ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS. MY UNDERSTANDING OF CEQA IS THAT YOU NEED TO ADDRESS THOSE IN THE DOCUMENT, AND YOU CANNOT RELY ON A FUTURE REGULATORY ACTION TO ADDRESS SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS. IT ALSO FAILS TO IDENTIFY IN MY MIND APPROPRIATE AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES THAT WOULD SIGNIFICANTLY MITIGATE OR ELIMINATE ANY EFFECTS ON GROUNDWATER.. IT TALKS ABOUT A FARM MANAGEMENT PLAN, BUT YET THERE'S NO REAL DISCUSSION OF WHAT THAT'S GOING TO ENTAIL, WHAT KIND OF PRACTICES WOULD HAVE TO OCCUR, WHETHER SUFFICIENT PRODUCTION COULD BE ACHIEVED ON ANY GIVEN SITE TO REMOVE THE NUTRIENTS BEFORE THEY DO AFFECT GROUNDWATER. IT'S A SITE-SPECIFIC ISSUE, AND WE'D LIKE TO SEE SOME CRITERIA THERE AS TO HOW YOU'RE MAKING THESE EVALUATIONS, AND WHAT'S THE BASIS FOR THE FARM MANAGEMENT PLAN. FINALLY, THE POINT THAT I MADE EARLIER ABOUT THE HABITAT ON ROSAMOND DRY LAKE. THAT'S ONE OF THE IMPACTS YOU IDENTIFIED THAT YOU FELT COULD NOT BE MITIGATED. YOU FAILED I THINK TO LOOK AT SOME MINOR RELEASES TO THE AREAS RIGHT AROUND PIUTE PONDS ON THE SHORE AREA OF ROSAMOND DRY LAKE THAT MIGHT KEEP SOME OF THAT HABITAT VIABLE, AND YET NOT IMPACT THE OPERATION OF THE AIR FORCE. I THINK THERE ARE SOME TRADEOFFS HERE THAT COULD BE LOOKED AT, AND I THINK THE DOCUMENT IS INCOMPLETE BY NOT LOOKING AT THOSE THINGS. SO WITH THAT, AGAIN, WE'LL BE SUBMITTING SOME MORE FORMAL COMMENTS. AND AGAIN, I'D BE HAPPY TO TALK TO ANYBODY IN THE AUDIENCE FURTHER ABOUT THE DETAILS OF WHAT OUR

AGENCY DOES, AND SOME OF THE DATA THAT WE DO HAVE ON NEBEKER RANCH AND ON SOME OF THE OTHER OPERATIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

LESLIE MOULTON: THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

(APPLAUSE)

LESLIE MOULTON: JOHN MCGARY, GALEEN.

JOHN MCGARY: MY NAME IS JOHN MCGARY. I LIVE AT 5051 60 EAST AVENUE F, AND WE'VE GOT A LITTLE PLACE CALLED WEST WIND ACRES. I'M PROUD TO BE HERE. I SEE A LOT OF EXPERTS ON THE HOME. I DON'T SEE ANY HOME IMPACT REPORTS. A DEFINITION OF A HOME IS A PLACE WHERE PEOPLE LIVE AND DIE AND BURY EACH OTHER AND GIVE BIRTH TO EACH OTHER AND PARTICIPATE IN LIFE, AND THAT'S NOT JUST A LAND ISSUE. IT'S A HOME ISSUE, AND THAT'S NOT BEING ADDRESS TONIGHT. SENATOR KNIGHT, I'D LIKE TO THANK YOU, BECAUSE IT IS EXTREMELY OBVIOUS THAT THERE ARE OTHER WAYS TO DO THIS. YOU DON'T JUST DUMP STUFF ON THE TOP OF LAND AND TRY TO CHEAP OUT. THERE ARE TREATMENT FACILITIES. IT'S OBVIOUS IT'S WORKED IN OTHER PLACES, AND IT WILL BE DONE DIFFERENT HERE. IT'S NOT GOING TO BE DONE THIS WAY.

(APPLAUSE)

ONCE AGAIN, IT'S A HOME ISSUE. IT'S WAY BEYOND A LAND ISSUE. AND THAT'S WHERE IT'S GOING TO STAY. THANK YOU.

(APPLAUSE)

LESLIE MOULTON: EILEEN MCGARY, WE HAVE FRANK ELLEN AGAIN. FRANK, I'M GOING TO MOVE YOU TO THE END AGAIN, JUST TO RESPECT THE FEW PEOPLE THAT STILL HAVEN'T SPOKEN, AND THEN WE'LL GIVE YOU ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY. SO GALEEN, AND THEN WANDA DEAL AND KALLIE VAN METER. THANK YOU.

GALEEN MCGARY: I AM GALEEN MCGARY. I LIVE WITH THAT MAN THAT JUST SPOKE. IT IS A BIG ISSUE. OUR HOME IS A HUGE ISSUE. WE BOUGHT THIS PLACE ABOUT FOUR YEARS AGO WITH THE INTENT ON DEVELOPING IT, AND RAISING OUR CHILDREN THERE, AND HOPING TO SEE OUR GRANDCHILDREN BE THERE. WE HAVE A HORSE, AND SOME GOATS, AND I WISH I WOULD HAVE BROUGHT THE BIGGEST ACTIVIST THAT LIVES IN OUR FAMILY, OUR 10-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER, WHO WOULD TELL YOU, PLEASE, DON'T TAKE MY CHICKENS, WHO SHE HOLDS AND LOVES, AND DON'T TAKE MY GOATS. BECAUSE THERE IS NO WAY THAT YOU COULD REPLACE THIS, EVEN IF YOU GAVE US THE, QUOTE, FAIR MARKET VALUE, WHICH IS, I'M SORRY TO INFORM YOU, WAY MORE THAN \$5,000 AN ACRE, AND GIVE US OR PROVIDE FOR US A WAY OF PURCHASING ANOTHER PROPERTY IN THE ANTELOPE VALLEY THAT IS 5 ACRES WITH A 2,400 SQUARE FOOT HOME WITH THE RANCH CAPABILITIES THAT WE HAVE. AND THEY'RE JUST NOT AVAILABLE. WE PURCHASED OUT THERE BECAUSE IT WAS MORE AFFORDABLE FOR OUR FAMILY. TO REQUIRE US OR TO TAKE UNDER EMINENT DOMAIN, WHICH I DON'T REALLY BELIEVE IT COUNTS HERE, BECAUSE MY UNDERSTANDING OF EMINENT DOMAIN IS THAT IT ACTUALLY HELPS THE PUBLIC. AND HELPING 10 FARMERS OR SO, WHOEVER YOU'RE GOING TO RESELL OUR LAND TO, 10 FARMERS DOES NOT A PUBLIC MAKE. THEY'RE GOING TO BE BENEFITED WHILE WE'RE BOOTED OUT. WE ARE THE PUBLIC; NOT THE 10 FARMERS THAT MAY BENEFIT FROM OUR LAND.

(APPLAUSE)

I'M SURE WE'LL HAVE LAWYERS TO LOOK INTO THAT FURTHER IF THIS HAPPENS TO GO FARTHER THAN TONIGHT. THE LAND THAT IS GOING TO BE SUPPOSEDLY ACQUIRED FROM ME, WHICH IS NOT LIKELY TO OCCUR WITHOUT A FAIRLY LARGE FIGHT, DO THE FARMERS REALIZE WHAT THEY WILL HAVE TO DO? I READ IT. DO THEY REALIZE THAT THEY'RE GOING TO HAVE TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR PREPARING THE LAND, BRINGING IN THEIR OWN PIPES, AND THEN PAYING YOU A FEE TO DO SO? IT'S IN THERE. THEY SHOULD MAYBE, I REMEMBER THAT GENTLEMAN THAT SPOKE ON BEHALF OF THE FARMERS, HE LEFT THAT OUT. I THINK FARMING IS GREAT. IT'S VERY ADMIRABLE. I COME FROM A BACKGROUND OF FARMERS FROM THE MIDWEST, THUS THE BIG HIPS. HOWEVER, WE CAN FARM USING APPROPRIATE WATER. I WON'T LET MY CHILDREN PLAY IN THE SEWER. WHY WOULD I LET THEM RUN THROUGH THE SPRINKLERS IN IT. THE RAMIFICATIONS PERSONALLY OF US MOVING, OF COURSE I'VE ALREADY TOLD YOU THAT WE JUST PURCHASED THIS PROPERTY. WE HAVE PUT \$12,000 INTO OUR WELL SO THAT WE CAN LIVE. YOU POLLUTE OUR WELL, YOU'RE GOING TO KILL MY CHILDREN. THERE IS A BIGGER ISSUE ON THE LINE HERE. I HAVE ALREADY BURIED TWO CHILDREN DUE TO CAUSES THAT I HAD NO CONTROL OVER. IF I HAVE CONTROL OVER THIS, OR AT LEAST A LITTLE SAY IN IT, YOU'RE NOT GOING TO HURT MY CHILDREN.

(APPLAUSE)

LESLIE MOULTON: WANDA DEAL, KALLIE VAN METER, AND THEN FRANK, ANYONE ELSE AGAIN, JUST GIVE ME A CARD.

WANDA DEAL: GOOD EVENING. MY NAME IS WANDA DEAL. I LIVE AT 1731 HILLSIDE AVENUE IN LANCASTER, AND I'LL BE SUBMITTING SOME FORMAL COMMENTS TO YOU IN THE

FUTURE. I REALLY WASN'T PLANNING ON SPEAKING, BUT GIVEN THE AUDIENCE'S CONCERNS, I FELT THAT I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE SURE THAT THEY KNOW A LITTLE BIT ABOUT WHAT MY COMMENTS WILL ADDRESS. BASICALLY THIS EVALUATION SHOULD HAVE BEEN ABOVE BOARD. THEY SHOULD HAVE LOOKED AT ALL THE ALTERNATIVES. IT SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN VERY POLITICAL BIASED TO ME.

(APPLAUSE)

I HAVE FOLLOWED THIS PROCESS SINCE IT'S BEGINNING, AND THAT'S BASICALLY WHAT I BASE THAT STATEMENT ON. ONE OF THE ALTERNATIVES THAT WAS NOT ADEQUATELY EVALUATED, WHICH WOULD PERHAPS ANSWER MANY OF THESE ISSUES WAS THE FACT OF CONSTRUCTED WETLANDS. AS SOME OF YOU HAVE HEARD ABOUT PIUTE WHILE WE'VE BEEN HERE TONIGHT, MAY NOT HAVE EVER BEEN THERE. BUT IT IS KNOWN AS ONE OF THE NICEST BIRDING AREAS IN LA COUNTY. PEOPLE COME FROM ALL OVER TO BIRD THERE. I HAVE BIRDED THERE MYSELF. I'VE ALSO HELPED WITH SCHOOL CHILDREN AND DOING EDUCATIONAL SCIENCE TRIPS OUT THERE. IT'S USED QUITE FREQUENTLY FOR THAT ACTIVITY OVER THE YEARS. ANYWAY, WHAT I'M GETTING AT IS THAT BASICALLY THE DOCUMENT ELIMINATED CONSTRUCTING WETLANDS FROM BEING A FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVE BECAUSE THEY SAID IT DID NOT ALLOW FOR REUSE FOR LANCASTER, WHICH IS THEIR THIRD OBJECTIVE. IT COULD BE USED AS PART OF THE CLEANING PROCESS, AND THEN THE REUSE AFTER IT HAD GONE THROUGH THESE CONSTRUCTED WETLANDS, BUT THAT WAS NOT CONSIDERED. THERE WERE NO COSTING ISSUES LOOKED AT FOR THIS. THIS MAY IN FACT HAVE BEEN THE CHEAPEST ALTERNATIVE, I DON'T KNOW. THERE WERE NO FIGURES. IT WAS ELIMINATED TOO QUICKLY. THAT MIGHT ELIMINATE HAVING TO USE OTHER PEOPLE'S LANDS, TAKING IT BY EMINENT DOMAIN OR JUST BUYING IT OUTRIGHT. I DON'T KNOW.

PERHAPS IT WOULD ELIMINATE US HAVING TO RAISE OUR RATES THE WAY IT CURRENTLY IS PLANNING ON DOING. THERE ARE A LOT OF [UNINTELLIGIBLE].

[END TAPE 2 / BEGIN TAPE 3]

FEMALE VOICE: --GOTTEN RAVE REVIEWS FOR THEIR SUCCESS. AND THE LAST THING I'D LIKE TO SAY IS, I'D REALLY LIKE TO ENCOURAGE YOU, PETE KNIGHT, AND EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, TO PLEASE STEP UP TO THE PLATE, ALLOW THE DISTRICT TO FULLY AND FAIRLY EVALUATE ALL THE OPTIONS, STEP OUT OF THE POLITICAL PICTURE, LET THEM DO THE RIGHT JOB. THESE GUYS HAVE REALLY TRIED HARD, BUT I SUSPECT THEIR HANDS HAVE BEEN TIED.

(APPLAUSE)

LESLIE MOULTON: THANK YOU. KELLY.

KEELIE VAN METER: MY NAME IS KEELIE VAN METER. I AM NOT A RESIDENT. I'M A RESIDENT OF JUNIPER HILLS. I DIDN'T PLAN ON SPEAKING, BUT I FELT A QUESTION HAD TO BE ASKED DIRECTLY ABOUT HOW YOU ARE GOING TO APPRAISE THE VALUES OF THESE PEOPLE'S LAND AND THEIR HOMES, AND HOW YOU'RE GOING TO INCLUDE FOR THE VALUE OF THE IMPROVEMENTS THAT THEY'VE DONE TO THEIR PROPERTY, LIKE THEIR WELLS AND THEIR SEPTIC TANKS, AND REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THERE IS A HOME ON THAT LAND OR NOT, OR WHETHER IT'S UNDER CONSTRUCTION, THE FUTURE VALUE OF THAT LAND. AND ALSO, WILL YOU CONSIDER THE FUTURE VALUE OF THE LAND DUE TO THE GROWTH THAT WOULD OCCUR IF THIS PROJECT DIDN'T GO FORWARD? AND ALSO, WILL THE LANDOWNERS AND HOMEOWNERS BE KIND OF HELD HOSTAGE WHILE THEY'RE WAITING FOR YOU TO

PURCHASE THEIR LAND OR TO FIND OUT WHETHER OR NOT YOU'RE GOING TO PURCHASE THEIR LAND? BECAUSE EVEN IF THEY'RE WILLING TO SELL, THEY DON'T KNOW WHEN THEIR LAND IS GOING TO BE PURCHASED, AND WHAT THE VALUE IS GOING TO BE.

(APPLAUSE)

LESLIE MOULTON: ONE MORE, WE HAD MR. PHILIP GIBA, AND THEN FRANK, IT'LL BE YOUR TURN.

PHILIP GIBA: MY NAME IS PHILIP GIBA. I BOTH OWN AND LEASE SOME LAND IN THE AREA WHERE YOU ARE PLANNING TO PUT THE EFFLUENT WATER. AND I LIKE EVERYBODY TO KNOW THAT I FOUND OUT ABOUT THIS PROJECT THE SAME WAY THEY DID, FROM THE LETTER FROM THE REALTORS, AND THE UNDERHANDED WAYS TO TRY AND TAKE THE PROPERTY. I HAVE SIX DWELLINGS OUT THERE THAT I HAVE EMPLOYEES LIVE IN. I'D NEED TO HAVE THEM CHANGE. BUT LOOK AT THIS, I DON'T SEE THE BIG NECESSITY OF TAKING UP THAT MUCH GROUND TO DO WHAT YOU'RE DOING. I KNOW NEBEKER RANCH TAKES A LOT OF IT. AS FAR AS I'VE HEARD THE NAME FARMERS THROW AROUND A COUPLE OF TIMES, AND OF THE ROW CROP FARMERS THAT I KNOW IN THE VALLEY, IT'S NOT VERY MANY, NONE OF US KNEW ABOUT THIS PROJECT, AND WE'VE NEVER ADDRESSED THE ISSUES OF EVEN THE SAFETY OF HOW THEY'RE USING THE GROUNDWATER. I THINK IT'D BE BETTER USED IF THE GROUNDWATER WAS PUT IN [UNINTELLIGIBLE] INSTEAD OF PUT ON BY SPRINKLERS, AND LET THAT WATER BE LET TO DRIFT IN THE AIR. BUT I THINK THE BIGGEST CONCERN RIGHT NOW IS, WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO? WHAT DIRECTION ARE WE GOING TO TAKE? I THINK YOU'D MAKE A LOT OF PEOPLE VERY COMFORTABLE IF YOU COULD COME UP WITH A DECISION FAIRLY QUICKLY, AND I'M SURE THAT THERE WILL BE FUNDS TO RELOCATE THE PEOPLE IF IT'S NECESSARY, AND THEY SHOULD BE RELOCATED TO EXACTLY WHAT THEY

HAVE OR BETTER. OTHER THAN THAT, BUT THE FARMERS HAVE HAD NO CONSPIRACY OR ANYTHING GOING ON HERE. I FOUND OUT THE SAME WAY AS EVERYBODY ELSE. THANK YOU.

LESLIE MOULTON: [UNINTELLIGIBLE]

MALE VOICE: I KNOW MR. GIBBEN IS A VERY FINE ONION FARMER IN OUR VALLEY HERE. HE'S ALSO PICKED UP SOME OF THE CARROT PRODUCTION. HE'S A VERY CONSCIENTIOUS MAN. I HELPED HIM ONE TIME, HE PROBABLY DOESN'T REMEMBER, WE TALKED ON THE PHONE, BUT A METHAMPHETAMINE ADDICT WAS STEALING MR. GIBA'S PIPES, THESE BIG GIANT IRRIGATION PIPES FOR THOUSANDS AND THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS, CUTTING THEM UP AND SELLING THEM TO A SECONDARY GUY UP BY HISPERIA, AND JUST RUINING IT. AND FARMERS GET A LOT OF ABUSE IN THIS VALLEY FROM A LOT OF DIFFERENT SOURCES AND STUFF. BUT WHAT MR. GIBA DOESN'T RECOGNIZE IS THAT BECAUSE THEY ARE FARMERS, AND MORE THAN THEY ARE FARMERS--AND I LIKE MR. GIBA, HE'S A VERY FINE MAN AND A GREAT LAKER FAN--THE ISSUE IS THAT THEIR DUST IS DANGEROUS. IT HAS FUNGUS IN IT. IT'S MICROSCOPIC. IT GETS INTO HUMAN BEINGS LUNGS, AND THIS MAN OVER HERE DIDN'T TELL YOU ABOUT IT, THAT MAN DIDN'T TELL YOU ABOUT IT. AND WE'RE BACK TO THE ISSUE OF ABDUL'S TRUST. THE ISSUE OF TRUST IS MORE IMPORTANT TO OUR COMMUNITY THAN ANYTHING, AND ESPECIALLY NOW IN DANGEROUS TIMES. ABDUL HAS NO TRUST, AND YOU KNOW WHERE THEY'RE GOING. THEY'RE GOING TO DESTRUCTION, DEATH AND CHAOS. AND WE CAN'T FOLLOW THEM [UNINTELLIGIBLE] WITH THEM, AND WE CAN'T LET PEOPLE [UNINTELLIGIBLE]. BECAUSE SOMETHING HAPPENED IN AMERICA, SOMETHING IMPORTANT. OUR FOREFATHERS AND MOTHERS DIDN'T DECIDE TO BE KINGS AND QUEENS, PRINCE AND PRINCESSES AND LORD OVER PEOPLE AND HIDE THINGS AND BE SECRETIVE BEHIND CLOSED DOORS. THIS SENATOR SAID TO ME IN THE LAST MEETING, COME TO MY OFFICE. I

WON'T COME TO HIS OFFICE. THAT'S BEHIND CLOSED DOORS. IF I GOT SOMETHING TO SAY, I'LL SAY IT OUT IN THE FRONT, BECAUSE THAT'S WHERE TRUST IS DONE [UNINTELLIGIBLE]. SENATOR KNIGHT, PEOPLE'S LIVES, PEOPLE'S HEALTH, IT'S YOUR PRIORITY. GET TO WORK, AND QUIT TRYING TO PLAY POLITICS IN A COMMUNITY THAT NEEDS LEADERSHIP IN THE MOST DANGEROUS OF TIMES. IN THE TRANSITION OF THE OLD WORLD, IF YOU'RE A KNIGHT AND YOU WANT TO BE AT THE ROUND TABLE, THEN GO BACK TO THE NORTH SEA, GET ON THAT DRAGON ISLAND, AND BE A KNIGHT OF THE ROUNDTABLE. BUT IN AMERICA, YOU HAVE TO SERVE, AND YOU HAVEN'T BEEN DOING IT. [UNINTELLIGIBLE] WILL BE HELD TO COURSE. I SUGGEST THIS: THIS GENTLEMAN HERE, YOU SAID THAT THE VALLEY ENDS UP, THE DRAINAGE AT EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE. THAT'S OUR VALLEY, OUR PHYSICAL, NOT THE AIR FORCE. YOU SHOW ME THE REPORT FROM THE AIR FORCE, FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, OF WHAT IS GOING TO IMPACT. WHERE'S THE REPORT? IT'S NOT IN THEIR REPORT. WHERE'S THE REPORT, SENATOR? DO YOU HAVE AN INDEPENDENT REPORT? OR DO YOU JUST HAVE FRIENDS IN THE AIR FORCE, AND YOU'VE PILOT TARGET FIXATION? YOU KNOW WHAT THAT IS, DON'T YOU SENATOR? YOU'VE GOT YOUR EYE ON THE BOMB WHERE YOU'RE GOING [UNINTELLIGIBLE]. THAT'S WHERE YOU'RE HEADING. I HAVE NO AUTHORITY, I HAVE NO POWER, AND I HAVE NO WEALTH, BUT THESE GENTLEMEN ARE FIRED. YOU DON'T BELIEVE IT, WAIT AND WATCH YOUR EYES. BECAUSE YOU CANNOT DECEIVE, YOU CANNOT DISTRUST--PUT PEOPLE IN THAT, AND PUT THEIR HEALTH AND SAFETY, AND I CAN PROVE IT. AND I'LL HAVE MOTHERS AND FATHERS FROM THE SCHOOLS, FROM THE CHURCHES, AND WE BETTER HAVE A MEETING. BECAUSE YOU CAN'T HAVE THESE PEOPLE ONE TIME, AND THEN HAVE THE CITIZENS OF LANCASTER NEXT TIME, AND PALMDALE, BECAUSE THEIR FEES ARE GOING TO GO UP. YOU'RE SHIFTING IT THROUGH SLOWLY, MANIPULATING THE WHOLE SYSTEM. WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE THAT ARE GOING TO MAKE THE DECISION? YOU DON'T EVEN SAY THEIR NAMES. YOU DON'T EVEN SAY THEIR NAMES. ONE MORE. LET'S DO IT, LET'S MAKE A DEAL, PETE. LET'S HAVE THE NEXT

MEETING, PUT IT IN THE BIG PAPER, PRO AND CON, AND LET'S HAVE AT THE
[UNINTELLIGIBLE].

LESLIE MOULTON: THANK YOU, THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS.

MALE VOICE: AND I'LL DEBATE YOU ANYTIME IN FRONT OF THE CITIZENS?

SENATOR KNIGHT: MY DOOR IS ALWAYS OPEN.

LESLIE MOULTON: LET'S HAVE OUR LAST SPEAKER.

MALE VOICE: HE'S ONLY A SENATOR. THIS IS AMERICA. ABDUL HAS A KEY. I DON'T HAVE
A KEY.

WALT URILLA: I'M WALT URILLA. WE LIVE OVER ON 6TH, WE JUST BOUGHT A NEW HOUSE
OVER THERE. THE QUESTION I HAVE WAS ON THOSE BOUNDARIES. WE HAD IT HERE FROM
G TO D AND FROM 50TH TO--THERE'S BEEN TALKED ABOUT DIFFERENT BOUNDARIES. ARE
THEY THE SAME BOUNDARIES? AND WHEN IS THAT DECISION GOING TO BE MADE ABOUT
THE EXACT BOUNDARIES?

LESLIE MOULTON: [UNINTELLIGIBLE]

WALT URILLA: WELL, GOOD.

FEMALE VOICE: [UNINTELLIGIBLE]

LESLIE MOULTON: THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS. ARE THERE ANY OTHER PEOPLE THAT WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK OR HAVE COMMENTS THIS EVENING?

FEMALE VOICE: I HAVE A NEIGHBOR IN RED WING HATCHERY, AND IT WAS SHUT DOWN, BECAUSE YOU KNOW THAT DISEASE, THE NILE VIRUS, THEY HAD TO KILL ALL THOSE CHICKENS. WELL, HIS WIFE IS DYING OF CANCER. HE ALSO HAS CANCER. HE WANTED VERY MUCH TO BE HERE TONIGHT, BUT IT UPSET HIS WIFE TO GET THIS NOTICE. AND IT ALMOST REALLY HAS PUT HER AWAY IN HER GRAVE. AND THEY EXPECTED TO LIVE AND DIE ON THEIR PROPERTY; THEY OWN 40 ACRES. AND I THINK IT'S REALLY WRONG WHEN YOU'RE AFFECTING PEOPLE'S LIVES JUST BECAUSE YOU WANT TO MAKE A COUPLE OF BUCKS. GET A JOB. WE WORK REAL HARD, AND WE'RE GOING TO FIGHT YOU, YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE THIS WHOLE THING. I DON'T CARE ABOUT YOUR MOVIE, I DON'T CARE ABOUT YOUR BOUNDARIES. THERE IS PLENTY OF DESERT. YOU GUYS FLY AROUND IN PLANES. I LOVE TO FLY, TAKE ME WITH YOU. I HOPE YOU FIND SOME LOCATION, YOU KNOW, THE CHINESE OWN A LOT OF LAND WAY OUT THERE, YOU CAN TAKE YOUR POO ALL THE WAY OUT THERE.

LESLIE MOULTON: THANK YOU.

(APPLAUSE)

LESLIE MOULTON: ALL RIGHT.

MALE VOICE: ONE MORE QUESTION: DID ANYBODY OTHER THAN THE EAST SIDE GET A LETTER FROM A REALTOR OFFERING TO BUY YOUR LAND? THERE'S A LETTER HERE THAT SOMEBODY RECEIVED INDICATING THAT THEY WOULD BUY THEIR LAND, IT'S BETWEEN 60TH

AND 90TH AND D AND G. IT'S ON THE EAST SIDE. DID ANYBODY IN ANY OTHER AREA GET A LETTER FROM A REALTOR OFFERING TO BUY YOUR LAND BY THE SANITATION DISTRICT?
NOBODY, OKAY THANK YOU.

LESLIE MOULTON: DO YOU HAVE A FORMAL COMMENT?

MALE VOICE: WHAT I WANTED TO UNDERSTAND IS, YOU SAID YOU WOULD REPLY TO OUR COMMENTS. BUT HOW DOES THAT ALLOW US TO REPLY TO YOUR REPLIES? SO THAT IS MY CONCERN. AND THE OTHER IS, IS THERE A WAY FOR US TO ORGANIZE TO GET TOGETHER. I DON'T UNDERSTAND, IT'S LIKE IT'S A GLOBAL THING OUT THERE THAT SAYS, YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE A CHOICE, AND WHATEVER YOU CHOOSE YOU GET TO DO IT. AND I'M NOT UNDERSTANDING WHAT IS THE PROCEDURE AND WHO REALLY HAS--WHERE DOES THE BUCK STOP? WHO REALLY HAS THE CHOICE AS TO WHAT WILL HAPPEN? AND WHY DO THEY HAVE THAT CHOICE?

LESLIE MOULTON: LET'S TALK ABOUT PROCESS. AND THANK YOU AGAIN, EVERYONE, FOR YOUR COMMENTS, FOR COMING THIS EVENING, FOR YOUR PATIENCE, AND THE RESPECT FOR ALL THE SPEAKERS THAT WE HAVE. LET ME GO THROUGH THE EIR PROCESS AND HOW THAT GETS FINISHED, AND THAT IS JUST A PIECE OF TRYING TO FINISH THE INFORMATION, THAT DISTRICT FOURTEEN, WHICH MANAGES THE WASTEWATER SERVICES FOR THIS AREA, USES TO THEN MAKE THEIR ULTIMATE DECISION. SO IN RESPONSE TO HOW THE EIR PROCESS FINISHES OUT, WE GET ALL YOUR COMMENTS HERE TONIGHT, WE LOOK FORWARD TO GETTING MORE OF THEM IN WRITING. THE COMMENT PERIOD EXTENDS THROUGH NOVEMBER 18TH, SO WE'VE STILL GOT ANOTHER THREE WEEKS, AND WE WILL REVIEW THAT.

[UNINTELLIGIBLE]

LESLIE MOULTON: ALL OF YOUR COMMENTS WILL BE RESPONDED TO IN WRITING, AND IF YOU'RE INTERESTED, THAT DOCUMENT CAN BE MADE AVAILABLE TO YOU. YOU CAN GET THE FULL VOLUME OF OUR RESPONSES TO ALL THE COMMENTS THAT WE HAVE HEARD, NOT JUST INDIVIDUAL COMMENTS, RESPONSES BACK TO YOU ON YOUR INDIVIDUAL QUESTIONS. SO THAT'S A FULL RESPONSE THAT WILL BE AVAILABLE. THAT THEN GOES TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF DISTRICT 14, WHICH ARE ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES OF THIS COMMUNITY. AND THAT IS AGAIN ONE PIECE OF THE FINAL EVIDENCE THAT THEY CONSIDER, FINAL PART OF THE RECORD, THAT THEY CONSIDER. THEIR MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, SO THAT IS ANOTHER--YOU WILL GET A CHANCE TO SEE OUR RESPONSES, AND YOU WILL STILL HAVE TIME TO COMMENT BACK TO THE BOARD, AND/OR BE PRESENT IN PERSON IF YOU WANT TO AT THEIR MEETING, WHICH WILL BE NOTICED, WHERE THEY WILL DELIBERATE ON HOW TO ACT ON THIS PROJECT. NOW THIS IS OUR CURRENT SCHEDULE. OBVIOUSLY WE WILL TAKE A LOOK AT THE EXTENT OF COMMENT WE GET, AND WE HAVE TO DO THE RIGHT AMOUNT OF WORK TO GET RESPONSES BACK TO YOU. BUT THIS IS OUR CURRENT SCHEDULE THAT WE WOULD SEE HAVING RESPONSES BACK TO YOU IN THE SPRING, IN THE LATE WINTER, EARLY SPRING IN 2004. AND THAT THE DISTRICT 14 BOARD WOULD BE IN A POSITION TO CONSIDER THIS PROJECT IN ABOUT APRIL. SO THERE'S STILL SOME MORE HOMEWORK TO DO.

[UNINTELLIGIBLE]

LESLIE MOULTON: APPRECIATE THAT. THIS IS THE PROCESS THAT'S LAID OUT. SO THE BOARD WILL CONSIDER THE FINDINGS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT, AS WELL AS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING ENGINEERING AND COST FACTORS AND RATE

FACTORS WHEN IT MAKES ITS DECISION, WHAT PROJECT OUT OF THE ALTERNATIVES THAT HAVE BEEN LOOKED AT IN THIS EIR, SHOULD THEY CONSIDER APPROVING. SO THAT'S THE OVERALL PROCESS. DO WE HAVE SOME QUESTIONS?

MALE VOICE: [UNINTELLIGIBLE].

LESLIE MOULTON: SO YOU'D LIKE TO SEE AGAIN THE MAP--OKAY. WE'LL GO BACK OVER THAT. ANY OTHER PROCESS QUESTIONS? BECAUSE I THINK FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE INTERESTED IN STAYING, WE CAN GO BACK OVER THE MAPS.

FEMALE VOICE: YOU KEEP SAYING IF WE'RE INTERESTING IN GETTING THE REPORT OF THE RESPONSES TONIGHT, BUT YOU'RE NOT TELLING US HOW WE GET IT.

LESLIE MOULTON: ALL WE NEED TO DO IS HAVE YOU ON THE SIGN-UP LIST, AND YOU WILL BE ON OUR MAILING LIST, AND YOU WILL BE NOTICED OF THE FURTHER REPORTS OF AVAILABILITY.

FEMALE VOICE: I WANT A COPY OF THE MAIL LIST.

FEMALE VOICE: I DON'T WANT HER TO HAVE MY NAME.

[UNINTELLIGIBLE]

LESLIE MOULTON: I'M SORRY, LET'S JUST GET A COUPLE OF MORE QUESTIONS. WE'RE ALL GOING TO BE HERE. WE'LL TAKE INDIVIDUAL QUESTIONS AFTER WE BREAK UP. SO THERE'S JUST GENERAL QUESTIONS.

MALE VOICE: [UNINTELLIGIBLE] ONE COPY?

LESLIE MOULTON: WE WILL DO A VARIETY OF MEANS OF GETTING IT TO YOU. PEOPLE THAT ARE INTERESTED CAN GET COPIES OF THEIR OWN. WE WILL HAVE THEM IN LIBRARIES.

[UNINTELLIGIBLE]

LESLIE MOULTON: AND WE WILL HAVE IT AVAILABLE ON A WEB SITE FOR THOSE WHO CAN HAVE ACCESS TO THAT, AND DOWNLOAD IT OR LOOK IT UP ELECTRONICALLY. THANK YOU. I THINK IF THERE AREN'T ANY MORE PROCESS QUESTIONS, AGAIN, WE'RE VERY HAPPY, WE'LL GO BACK OVER MAPS AND BOUNDARIES. I KNOW THERE HAVE BEEN SOME QUESTIONS. THERE HAVE BEEN A NUMBER OF ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS LOOKED AT. WE'D BE HAPPY TO CLARIFY THOSE. BUT I DON'T THINK WE WILL KEEP YOU ALL SEATED. THIS MAY NOT BE OF INTEREST TO ALL OF YOU. WE'VE BEEN HERE A LONG TIME.

FEMALE VOICE: WHAT ABOUT PETITIONS? IF YOU'D TAKE PETITIONS AGAINST THESE LOCATIONS?

LESLIE MOULTON: YOU MAY SUBMIT ANY INFORMATION YOU CARE TO THE RECORD. SO THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR COMING. WE'LL CERTAINLY STAY FOR ANYONE WHO HAS FURTHER QUESTIONS. APPRECIATE YOUR TIME AND THE ENERGY YOU'VE PUT INTO THIS. IF YOU HAVE FURTHER QUESTIONS PLEASE COME UP AND SEE US. THANK YOU.

[END]