1	BEFORE THE					
2	CALIFORNIA STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD					
3						
4	CALIFORNIA WATERFIX WATER ) RIGHT CHANGE PETITION )					
5	HEARING )					
6						
7	JOE SERNA, JR. BUILDING					
8	CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY					
9	BYRON SHER AUDITORIUM					
10	1001 I STREET					
11	SECOND FLOOR					
12	SACRAMENTO CALIFORNIA					
13	PART 1B					
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15						
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1	APPEARANCES:
2	CALIFORNIA WATER RESOURCES BOARD
3	Division of Water Rights
4	Board Members Present
5 6	Tam Doduc, Co-Hearing Officer: Felicia Marcus, Chair and Co-Hearing Officer: Dorene D'Adamo, Board Member
7	Staff Present
8 9	Diane Riddle, Environmental Program Manager Dana Heinrich, Senior Staff Attorney Samantha Olson, Senior Staff Attorney Kyle Ochenduzsko, Senior Water Resources Control Engr.
L0 L1 L2	Jean McCue Kevin Long
L3	For California Department of Water Resources
L4	James (Tripp) Mizell, Senior Attorney Cathy Crothers, Assistant Chief Counsel
L5 L6	Duane Morris, LLP By: Thomas Martin Berliner, Attorney at Law
L7	
L8	U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau Reclamation, and Fish and Wildlife Service
L9	Amy Aufdemberge, Assistant Regional Solicitor
20	
21	State Water Contractors
22	Stefanie Morris Adam Kear
23	Becky Sheehan
24	

(Continued)

1	APPEARANCES (continued)
2	Biggs-West Gridley Water District
3	Andrew M.Hitchings
4	Western Canal Water District, et al.
5	Dustin Cooper
6	Dustin Cooper
7	Central Delta Water Agency, South Delta Water Agency, Lafayette Ranch, Heritage Lands Inc., Mark Bachetti
8	Farms and Rudy Mussi Investments L.P.
9	John Herrick
10	Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority and water service
11	contractors in its service area
12	Meredith Nikkel
13	Cities of Folsom and Roseville, San Juan Water
14	District, and Sacramento Suburban Water District Ryan Bezerra
15	Ryan Bezerra
16	Sacramento County Water Agency
17	Aaron Ferguson
18	Adion religion
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1 Tuesday, October 25, 2016 9:00 a.m.

- 2 PROCEEDINGS
- ---000---
- 4 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Good morning,
- 5 everyone. It's 9:00 o'clock. Welcome back to this
- 6 Water Rights hearing on the Change Petition for the
- 7 WaterFix project.
- 8 I am Tam Doduc. With me here today are, to my
- 9 right, Board Chair Felicia Marcus and Board Member
- 10 DeeDee D'Adamo. To my left are Dana Heinrich and Kyle
- 11 Ochenduszko. Welcome back. We have other staff
- 12 assisting us today.
- 13 And, let's see, our usual announcements --
- 14 what are our usual announcements -- oh, yes.
- In the event of an alarm, please locate the
- 16 exits closest to you right now. You will be taking
- 17 that exit down, using the stairs to the first floor,
- 18 crossing the street, and meeting the rest of us, if you
- 19 so wish, in the park. If you are not able to use the
- 20 stairs, please let one of the staff know, and we will
- 21 direct you into a protective area.
- 22 Secondly, this hearing is being recorded and
- 23 Webcasted, so please always speak into the microphone
- 24 when providing your comments and begin by stating your
- 25 name and affiliation.

1 We have a court reporter with us here today.

- 2 The transcript will be made available after the
- 3 completion of Part 1B. If you wish to have it sooner,
- 4 please make arrangements with her directly.
- 5 And as always, the most important announcement
- 6 is to take a moment and put all your noise-making
- 7 devices on silent.
- 8 All right. Before we begin today, I would
- 9 like to discuss some scheduling issues. I think all of
- 10 you -- or all the parties received an e-mail today or
- 11 at least yesterday regarding the proposed presentations
- of the remaining panels for Group 7.
- 13 Mr. Hitchings, are you able to speak on behalf
- 14 of Group 7 or --
- 15 MR. HITCHINGS: I have -- I don't have any
- 16 further information with regard to the American River
- 17 panels, which are Panels 5 through 7.
- 18 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Mm-hmm.
- 19 MR. HITCHINGS: I believe that the schedule
- 20 that was submitted by e-mail yesterday was what was
- 21 worked out between those three panels as well as, I
- 22 think, with petitioner's counsel and with the project
- 23 proponent parties.
- 24 So Mr. Berliner or Mr. Mizell or Ms. Morris
- 25 may have answers to specific questions on that.

1 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: All right. Let's

- 2 go ahead, and I'll just ask my questions. And whoever
- 3 can answer, please just come on up to the microphone.
- 4 I'm concerned about this proposed presentation
- 5 in that it potentially leaves a lot of room -- a lot of
- 6 time on the schedule that's not being used by Group 7
- 7 this week. And I want to make sure that the other
- 8 parties are available when called upon to present their
- 9 case in chief as well.
- 10 And given the size of this audience right now,
- 11 I'm concerned that those parties receiving your e-mail
- 12 have decided that, if they are not conducting
- 13 cross-examination of these panels, they don't need to
- 14 show up this week. And if you're listening, let me
- 15 assure you that is not the case.
- 16 So just working down right now what you are
- 17 proposing for today is Group 7 Panel 3 and Panel 4.
- 18 I'm not sure that's going to take the entire day.
- 19 MR. HITCHINGS: Yes, Hearing Officer Doduc, as
- 20 of Friday, I think what we had discussed was that we
- 21 expected that this Panel 3 would take the morning and
- 22 that we wouldn't start Panel 4 until any earlier than
- 23 12:30. Panel 4 will be here ready to go by 12:30, and
- 24 they may be here even sooner that. But we relied on
- 25 the time estimates on Friday at least for those two

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1 panels. And so they'll be here and ready, Panel 3 and

- 2 4, for the day. And then I guess the question is
- 3 whether you're ready to move on to Panel 5 before the
- 4 end of the day; I'm not sure.
- 5 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: I think I just want
- 6 to put all the parties and all the groups on notice
- 7 that I do not want a lot of dead time where we convene
- 8 early every day to wait for the next panel or the next
- 9 group to present their case in chief.
- 10 So if you are -- and since you are providing
- 11 this ahead of time, I appreciate that. We'll try, to
- 12 the extent that is practical, to go in the order that
- 13 the parties have requested. But if we do get to a
- 14 certain group or a certain party and that party or
- 15 group is not here, unless we've received notice ahead
- 16 of time and a request for a change in the order that
- 17 was sent out, I will assume that, if you're not here,
- 18 then you're not going to present a case in chief, and
- 19 we will move on.
- 20 Ms. Morris -- or actually, Mr. Berliner's
- 21 first.
- MR. BERLINER: Go ahead.
- 23 MS. MORRIS: Stephanie Morris, State Water
- 24 Contractors.
- I think we're fine accommodating schedules,

- 1 but what is not okay, in my mind, is going
- 2 significantly out of order.
- 3 So if we don't -- if we are taking a break
- 4 from Group 7 and you start to call Group 8 or 9, we're
- 5 trying to prepare in the order that was provided to us,
- 6 so that would be a significant issue for us.
- 7 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: I'm sorry. I don't
- 8 understand what you just said. You are Group --
- 9 MS. MORRIS: No, I'm -- for cross-examination.
- 10 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: For
- 11 cross-examination.
- 12 MS. MORRIS: It takes time to prepare and be
- 13 efficient. And we're going kind of in the order that
- 14 you said that we were going to go in, and that's how we
- 15 prepared. So if we somehow skip today, in the
- 16 afternoon, to Group 10 or 11, we're not going to be
- 17 prepared.
- 18 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Okay.
- 19 Ms. Nikkel, do you have a comment?
- 20 MS. NIKKEL: Good morning. Meredith Nikkel
- 21 for Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority.
- 22 We had arranged with the other parties to have
- 23 that group -- I'm sorry, I don't remember the number --
- 24 go tomorrow afternoon. And there was a request to
- 25 shift the hearing schedule tomorrow from 9:00 o'clock

1 start to a 10:00 o'clock start. And relatedly, if we

- 2 have the Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority go in the
- 3 afternoon, if we could extend the hearing time past
- 4 5:00 o'clock to ensure that that witness is completed
- 5 on Wednesday afternoon, we would really appreciate
- 6 that.
- 7 And I think that -- we've given notice, so I
- 8 think that the other parties are prepared for that
- 9 reversal in the order.
- 10 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: All right. Thank
- 11 you, Ms. Nikkel.
- 12 Mr. Berliner?
- MR. BERLINER: Ms. Nikkel is correct, and
- 14 we're ready for TCCA as well. So assuming that the
- 15 schedule sticks from what was submitted in the e-mail,
- 16 we're ready to go for the rest of the week.
- 17 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: All right. I did
- 18 stress when we reconvened that this will be a
- 19 challenging portion of Part 1B, just the shear
- 20 organization and scheduling with so many number of
- 21 parties and so many cases in chief.
- 22 And I do appreciate your attempts to try to
- 23 coordinate and propose a schedule. And we will see how
- 24 it plays out. To the extent that we can accommodate
- 25 these requests without a lot of dead time in the

- 1 hearing, I will try to do so.
- 2 But I will again make it very clear to all the
- 3 parties, those here and those who are not here but
- 4 hopefully are watching the Webcast, that I will be
- 5 proceeding in the order that is presented here. And if
- 6 we get to your party or your group and you're not here,
- 7 we will move on.
- 8 Okay?
- 9 MR. HITCHINGS: Hearing Officer Doduc, just on
- 10 -- at least as to today, I know there was quite a
- 11 reliance on how we scheduled things on Friday for the
- 12 panels today. And for Panel 5, I believe that they --
- 13 you know, if we happen to finish Panel 4 before the end
- 14 of the afternoon and there is some additional time, I
- 15 know that they had coordinated to, basically, start on
- 16 Wednesday morning. So I know that would be very
- 17 difficult, I think, to organize those panels to get
- 18 here this afternoon. So I wanted to note that.
- 19 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Thank you. I
- 20 understand, and I think we will make that one exception
- 21 because of the loose nature that we left things in on
- 22 Friday when we adjourned.
- 23 But everyone is on notice that we will
- 24 proceed. There will not be dead space in the schedule
- 25 simply because parties and groups are not here in the

- 1 order in which is being proposed, unless they have
- 2 requested a change ahead of time.
- 3 All right. Mr. Hitchings, I believe we're
- 4 finally getting to you and your Panel No. 3. If your
- 5 witnesses would please stand and raise their right
- 6 hands.
- 7 (Panel sworn)
- 8 STAN WANGBERG and THADDEUS BETTNER,
- 9 called as Panel 3 witnesses by
- 10 protestants Group 7, Sacramento Valley
- 11 Water Users' Group of Parties, having
- been first duly sworn, were examined
- and testified as hereinafter set forth:
- 14 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: You may begin.
- 15 MR. HITCHINGS: Good morning, Hearing Officer,
- 16 Board Members, State Board staff. Andrew Hitchings for
- 17 Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District, protestant in this
- 18 matter.
- 19 This is the presentation of the so-called
- 20 Sacramento River Settlement Contractor panel with the
- 21 cases in chief for Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District and
- 22 Anderson-Cottonwood Irrigation District.
- 23 Mr. Dustin Cooper is counsel for Anderson
- 24 Cottonwood, and he will be doing the direct exam of
- 25 Mr. Wangberg.

1 At the outset, I'd like to indicate that this

- 2 panel does incorporate and adopt the opening statement
- 3 that was presented by the SVWU expert panel, that the
- 4 Sacramento Valley Water User protestants, including
- 5 these two protestants, have adopted their testimony as
- 6 part of their direct cases in chief.
- 7 The purpose of this panel is to document and
- 8 attest to the water rights held by the two protestants
- 9 on this panel and that are potentially subject to
- 10 injury by the California WaterFix project.
- 11 With that, I'd like to start the direct exam
- 12 of Mr. Bettner.
- 13 DIRECT EXAMINATION OF PANEL 3 BY MR. HITCHINGS
- 14 MR. HITCHINGS: Mr. Bettner, could you please
- 15 state your name for the record?
- 16 WITNESS BETTNER: Thaddeus L. Bettner. That's
- 17 spelled T-H-A-D-D-E-U-S, middle initial L, last name
- 18 Bettner, B-E-T-T-N-E-R.
- 19 MR. HITCHINGS: And you do understand that
- 20 you're representing your testimony under oath; is that
- 21 correct?
- 22 WITNESS BETTNER: Yes.
- 23 MR. HITCHINGS: And is Exhibit GCID-2 an
- 24 accurate statement of your written testimony?
- 25 WITNESS BETTNER: Yes.

1 MR. HITCHINGS: And did you prepare and sign

- 2 that testimony?
- 3 WITNESS BETTNER: Yes. I worked with my
- 4 staff, specifically my water superintendent, for a lot
- 5 of the data that was in my testimony and exhibits, as
- 6 well as my counsel, and ultimately did execute my
- 7 testimony.
- 8 MR. HITCHINGS: And then do Exhibits GCID-3
- 9 through GCID-20 include true and correct copies of
- 10 documentation of the water rights claimed and held by
- 11 GCID and water usage under those rights for the years
- 12 2011 through 2015?
- 13 WITNESS BETTNER: Yes.
- 14 MR. HITCHINGS: And are you familiar with SVWU
- 15 Exhibits 100 through 110 that are referenced in GCID
- 16 exhibit index submitted with GCID's case in chief
- 17 materials?
- 18 WITNESS BETTNER: Yes.
- MR. HITCHINGS: And are the MBK Engineers
- 20 testimony and reports in those exhibits the types of
- 21 information that you rely and review, as GCID's general
- 22 manager, to assess potential risks and impacts to
- 23 GCID's water rights and supplies?
- 24 WITNESS BETTNER: Yes, I do.
- MR. HITCHINGS: At this time, would you please

1 summarize your testimony submitted for this proceeding?

- 2 And I think at the start of that, just to give
- 3 context, we were going to pull up GCID Exhibit 3, which
- 4 is a map of the district.
- 5 WITNESS BETTNER: So to start with, the map,
- 6 just to give some context to this exhibit, our district
- 7 is shown here in green. That would be the service area
- 8 that we deliver water to through our water rights as
- 9 well as our contract with the Bureau of Reclamation.
- 10 If you look at the table and legend on the
- 11 bottom right, we have also listed in different colors
- 12 the different water rights that we do hold, as well as
- 13 their specific place of use for those water rights,
- 14 which we do report to the State Board on an annual
- 15 basis. And those also were included in my testimony.
- 16 Also shown on the map is three refuges. We
- 17 deliver water or convey water on behalf of three
- 18 federal refuges; that being the Sacramento, Delevan,
- 19 and Colusa Refuge. And then lastly on the map, you
- 20 will see a blue line that runs through our district.
- 21 That is our main canal -- as well as the red lines
- 22 would be portions of our conveyance system that deliver
- 23 water to lands within our district.
- 24 Regarding just a brief background of our
- 25 district. Our district does cover about 175,000 acres

1 within Glenn and Colusa counties, about 90 miles north

- of Sacramento. About 140,000 acres of those lands are
- 3 irrigable. So the balance of those consist of the
- 4 three refuges as well as roads rights of ways that are
- 5 maintained by the counties.
- 6 We service water to private wetlands
- 7 consisting of about 1200 acres. About 50,000 acres of
- 8 the ground that we have in the winter is -- has water
- 9 put on it through winter water right. And that serves
- 10 as surrogate wetlands for the Pacific flyways and along
- 11 with other terrestrials. And then we serve -- other
- 12 acreage, we serve primarily rice, permanent orchards,
- 13 tomatoes, other row crops for leases by our landowners.
- 14 Our main diversion point is on the Sacramento
- 15 River located about on Mile -- River Mile 154.8.
- 16 And that pretty much comprises the summary of
- 17 our district in terms of the key features. I also have
- in here all of our pre and post '14 appropriative water
- 19 rights included in our reporting, as well as included
- 20 in there is our settlement contract with the Bureau of
- 21 Reclamation.
- 22 My testimony identifies and documents our
- 23 water rights and also describes subject to injury, what
- 24 we think or what I think would be impacted by the
- 25 proposed WaterFix project. Thank you.

- 1 MR. HITCHINGS: That concludes the direct
- 2 testimony of Mr. Bettner. And I'll turn things over to
- 3 Mr. Cooper for the remainder of the panel.
- 4 DIRECT EXAMINATION OF PANEL 3 BY MR. COOPER
- 5 MR. COOPER: Dustin Cooper on behalf of
- 6 Anderson-Cottonwood Irrigation District, that I'll
- 7 occasionally refer to as ACID.
- 8 Mr. Wangberg, would you please state your name
- 9 and spell your last name for the record?
- 10 WITNESS WANGBERG: Yes, Stanley Dean Wangberg,
- W-A-N-G-B-E-R-G.
- 12 MR. COOPER: Mr. Wangberg, you understand that
- 13 you are presenting your testimony under oath; is that
- 14 correct?
- 15 WITNESS WANGBERG: Yes, I do.
- 16 MR. COOPER: Is Exhibit MLF-65 an accurate
- 17 statement of your written testimony?
- 18 WITNESS WANGBERG: Yes, it is.
- 19 MR. COOPER: Did you prepare and sign that
- 20 testimony?
- 21 WITNESS WANGBERG: Yes, I did.
- MR. COOPER: Is Exhibit MLF-66 a true and
- 23 correct copy of ACID's contract with the United States
- 24 for diversion of water from the Sacramento River,
- 25 settling water right disputes, and providing for

- 1 project water?
- 2 WITNESS WANGBERG: Yes, it is.
- 3 MR. COOPER: Do Exhibits MLF-67 through MLF-80
- 4 include true and correct copies of documentation of
- 5 water rights claimed and held by ACID and water usage
- 6 under those rights for the years 2011 through 2015?
- 7 WITNESS WANGBERG: Yes, they are.
- 8 MR. COOPER: Are you familiar with documents
- 9 that have been identified as Exhibits SVWU-100 through
- 10 110, which is the testimony and supporting
- 11 documentation prepared by MBK Engineers?
- 12 WITNESS WANGBERG: Yes, I am.
- 13 MR. COOPER: Are the MBK Engineers testimony
- 14 and reports in those exhibits the types of information
- 15 you review and rely on as ACID's general manager to
- 16 assess potential risks and impacts to ACID's water
- 17 rights and supplies?
- 18 WITNESS WANGBERG: Yes, they are.
- MR. COOPER: At this time, would you please
- 20 summarize your testimony submitted for this proceeding?
- 21 WITNESS WANGBERG: Yes. A little background
- 22 about ACID. The water supply is derived primarily from
- 23 water rights to the Sacramento River and its
- 24 tributaries and also under a settlement contract with
- 25 Reclamation that we referred to earlier.

1 ACID claims the right to consumptively use

- 2 water based on a pre-1914 appropriative right, riparian
- 3 rights, and its contract with Reclamation.
- 4 The water is used in both Shasta and Tehama
- 5 counties, Northern California, with -- it's
- 6 primarily -- it's for agricultural irrigation,
- 7 primarily for pasture and hay, but there is also a
- 8 mixture of truck crops -- alfalfa, almonds and walnuts.
- 9 The district currently serves just over 800
- 10 customers.
- 11 And that's about it on the background.
- MR. COOPER: The panel is now ready for
- 13 cross-examination.
- 14 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Thank you,
- 15 Mr. Cooper, Mr. Hitchings.
- We'll start with the Department of Water
- 17 Resources. Any cross-examination?
- 18 CROSS-EXAMINATION OF PANEL 3 BY MR. BERLINER
- 19 MR. BERLINER: Good morning, Chair Doduc. Tom
- 20 Berliner on behalf of the Department of Water
- 21 Resources. I'm accompanied this morning by Tripp
- 22 Mizell, also for the Department of Water Resources.
- 23 If we can start with Mr. Bettner, please.
- 24 Good morning, sir. Did you draft your
- 25 testimony for the hearing today?

- 1 WITNESS BETTNER: Yes.
- 2 MR. BERLINER: Did you receive any assistance
- 3 in drafting it?
- 4 WITNESS BETTNER: Yes.
- 5 MR. BERLINER: And who assisted you?
- 6 WITNESS BETTNER: As I mentioned earlier, I
- 7 used my water superintendent, who provides all the
- 8 recording for our water rights in terms of data and
- 9 everything to prepare some of the exhibits, as well as
- 10 legal counsel.
- 11 MR. BERLINER: And who is that person?
- 12 WITNESS BETTNER: Andy Hitchings, to my right.
- 13 MR. BERLINER: I'm sorry. Your water
- 14 resources person.
- 15 WITNESS BETTNER: Oh, Pat Kennedy.
- MR. BERLINER: Pat Kennedy?
- 17 WITNESS BETTNER: Yes.
- 18 MR. BERLINER: Thank you. And just to confirm
- 19 that the purpose of your testimony is for -- is to
- 20 provide a brief description and document the water
- 21 rights held by GCID that are allegedly subject to
- 22 injury by the proposed project?
- 23 WITNESS BETTNER: That's correct.
- 24 MR. BERLINER: Are you testifying today as an
- 25 expert?

- 1 WITNESS BETTNER: No.
- 2 MR. BERLINER: You're not offering any
- 3 opinions today, are you?
- 4 MR. HITCHINGS: Objection. This was covered
- 5 in objections to Mr. Bettner's testimony as well as our
- 6 responses to those objections as to whether his
- 7 statements and understandings and opinions constitute
- 8 permissible lay opinion. And that's been submitted to
- 9 the Board for consideration.
- 10 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Thank you. And
- 11 that is under consideration, so I will allow
- 12 Mr. Berliner to pursue his line of questioning for the
- 13 record.
- 14 WITNESS BETTNER: Could you repeat the
- 15 question, please?
- 16 MR. BERLINER: Are you testifying today as an
- 17 expert?
- 18 WITNESS BETTNER: I answered no, but I think
- 19 the next question, then.
- 20 MR. BERLINER: Are you offering any opinions
- 21 today?
- 22 WITNESS BETTNER: Yes.
- MR. BERLINER: And what opinions are you
- 24 offering?
- 25 WITNESS BETTNER: Well, from the work that MBK

1 has done as well as my understanding of the operations

- 2 of the project and the water rights and settlement
- 3 contract that we have, I'm providing at least my
- 4 testimony, the fact that due to the operation of the
- 5 project, there would be injury to our district.
- 6 MR. BERLINER: And I know that you said your
- 7 own work and MBK work. Are you referring to the work
- 8 that was done by Walter Bourez and Dan Easton?
- 9 WITNESS BETTNER: That's correct.
- 10 MR. BERLINER: And that would be distinguished
- 11 from the water rights amalgamation that was prepared by
- 12 Mr. VanCamp?
- 13 WITNESS BETTNER: It would be inclusive of
- 14 Mr. VanCamp's work as well.
- 15 MR. BERLINER: Thank you. And to what extent
- 16 is your opinion formed by work other than those
- 17 affiliated with MBK?
- 18 WITNESS BETTNER: I would offer that,
- 19 particularly the last couple years, that we did
- 20 experience record low levels of water in Shasta
- 21 Reservoir as well as inflows through particularly in
- 22 2014 and 2015.
- 23 During those years, while Reclamation was able
- 24 to deliver our supply pursuant to our contract, we as
- 25 settlement contractors and we as a district, GCID, took

- 1 specific actions on our own in cooperation with the
- 2 Bureau of Reclamation, the fishery agencies, as well as
- 3 the State Water Resources Control Board to change our
- 4 diversions; we had to pump groundwater; we had to take
- 5 land out of production. We had a whole host of actions
- 6 we needed to take in order just to meet or try to meet
- 7 some of the demands within our district.
- 8 And knowing that the potential outcome of
- 9 WaterFix would be to have lower elevations in Shasta
- 10 Reservoir because more water could be moved through the
- 11 project, that could exacerbate storage in Shasta such
- 12 that experiences that we saw in 2014 and '15, which
- 13 were real versus what MBK had modeled, could actually
- 14 happen in the future and become substantially -- or
- 15 cause a substantial impact as a water user on the
- 16 Sacramento River.
- 17 MR. BERLINER: Are you contending that GCID
- 18 has a right to stored water in any federal reservoir?
- 19 WITNESS BETTNER: I am not contending that;
- 20 however, Reclamation in the contract isn't specific to
- 21 how and what source of water that Reclamation delivers
- 22 to us.
- 23 We have a water right that's based on inflow
- 24 in the Shasta Reservoir, but there are years when
- 25 Reclamation does deliver water stored -- stored water

1 from Shasta to us in order to meet those contractual

- 2 deliveries.
- 3 Additionally within our contract, we do have a
- 4 component of water that's called "project water" that
- 5 we get. And that is based on -- and we pay for --
- 6 based on the cost, the capital cost as well as the
- 7 storage O and M cost for Shasta Reservoir. So whether
- 8 that, you know, equates to a right to storage, I
- 9 don't -- we never, you know pushed that with
- 10 Reclamation at this point.
- 11 MR. BERLINER: But as you sit here today,
- 12 you're not contending that you have a right to stored
- 13 water, correct?
- 14 WITNESS BETTNER: No, I'm not.
- MR. BERLINER: Thank you.
- 16 And aside from the experience that you had in
- 17 2014-'15 and the work by MBK Engineers, do you have any
- 18 other basis for understanding or alleging any injury to
- 19 GCID that would result from the California WaterFix?
- 20 WITNESS BETTNER: No.
- 21 MR. BERLINER: I have no further questions for
- 22 this witness.
- 23 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Thank you,
- 24 Mr. Berliner.
- Ms. Aufdemberg, does the Department of

- 1 Interior have any cross-examination?
- MS. AUFDEMBERG: No questions.
- 3 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Ms. Morris?
- 4 MS. MORRIS: No.
- 5 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Group 4?
- 6 MR. WILLIAMS: Westlands has no questions.
- 7 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Westlands is 5.
- 8 Who here has questions for this panel?
- 9 MR. RUBIN: San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water
- 10 Resource, two brief questions.
- 11 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: And you are
- 12 Group --
- MR. RUBIN: Group 4.
- 14 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Oh, okay. Group --
- MS. MORRIS: Are we doing this by panel? I
- 16 think Mr. Berliner has more cross-examination for the
- 17 other witness.
- 18 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Oh, I'm sorry. I
- 19 thought he completed his cross-examination.
- 20 MR. BERLINER: Well, I'm a little confused as
- 21 to whether we're doing this by the panel or by the
- 22 witness.
- 23 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: We are by the
- 24 panel. My apology.
- MR. BERLINER: Okay. In that case, I do have

- 1 more cross-examination.
- 2 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Got it. I thought
- 3 things were going way too fast.
- 4 MR. BERLINER: My apologies. In fact, I
- 5 actually do have one more question for Mr. Bettner.
- 6 Just to confirm, based on the map that you put
- 7 up earlier, GCID is located upstream from the proposed
- 8 new point of diversion for the WaterFix, correct?
- 9 WITNESS BETTNER: That is correct.
- 10 MR. BERLINER: Mr. Wangberg, good morning.
- 11 The questions that I asked of Mr. Bettner are
- 12 identical to the questions that I have for you, so they
- 13 should sound very familiar. And why don't I just start
- 14 with the last question that I asked Mr. Bettner.
- 15 It's my understanding that ACID is located
- 16 north of the proposed point of diversion; is that
- 17 correct?
- 18 WITNESS WANGBERG: Correct.
- 19 MR. BERLINER: Did you draft your testimony
- 20 for today?
- 21 MR. BERLINER: Yes, I did. Our legal counsel
- 22 provided an outline of the potential scope of the
- 23 testimony, and I provided the factual information and
- 24 the exhibits.
- MR. BERLINER: Were you assisted by anybody

- 1 from ACID?
- 2 WITNESS WANGBERG: No, I was not.
- 3 MR. BERLINER: Did you compare your testimony
- 4 with Mr. Bettner?
- 5 WITNESS WANGBERG: Yes, just last night, in
- 6 fact.
- 7 MR. BERLINER: After it was submitted?
- 8 WITNESS WANGBERG: Yes.
- 9 MR. BERLINER: Okay. Thank you. And I want
- 10 to confirm that the sole purpose of your testimony is
- 11 to identify and provide a brief description of as well
- 12 as document the water rights that are claimed by your
- 13 district.
- 14 WITNESS WANGBERG: Yes, that's correct.
- MR. BERLINER: And you're not testifying today
- 16 as an expert, correct?
- 17 WITNESS WANGBERG: No.
- 18 MR. BERLINER: Are you offering any opinions?
- 19 WITNESS WANGBERG: Yes.
- 20 MR. BERLINER: And what opinions are you
- 21 offering?
- 22 WITNESS WANGBERG: Similar to Thad's opinion
- 23 in regard to potential impacts to ACID's water supply.
- 24 If the WaterFix was in operation, we feel that there is
- 25 a chance that there would be more frequent low

1 carryover storage in Shasta Reservoir which may impact

- 2 Reclamation's ability to meet the contractual
- 3 obligation to ACID.
- 4 MR. BERLINER: And for that concern, are you
- 5 relying on the work of MBK Engineers?
- 6 WITNESS WANGBERG: Yes.
- 7 MR. BERLINER: Are you relying on that work
- 8 exclusively?
- 9 WITNESS WANGBERG: Mark VanCamp's as well.
- 10 MR. BERLINER: He's also with MBK, correct?
- 11 WITNESS WANGBERG: Yes, yes.
- MR. BERLINER: So just to confirm, you're
- 13 relying on the work by MBK, including Mr. Bourez,
- 14 Mr. Easton, and Mr. VanCamp?
- 15 WITNESS WANGBERG: Yes, that's correct.
- 16 MR. BERLINER: And what alleged injury are you
- 17 concerned about resulting from the WaterFix?
- 18 WITNESS WANGBERG: Well, if the last two years
- 19 are a harbinger of potential operations in the future,
- 20 there was delayed timing of releases in the river that
- 21 would allow for irrigation. And ACID was primarily
- 22 permanent pasture. Our growers don't have the
- 23 opportunity to delay planting as, for instance, rice
- 24 growers might. So having water deliveries delayed in
- 25 the spring is very harmful to our growers.

1 So that's one of the concerns. If there's low

- 2 carryover storage and delayed diversions ramped up in
- 3 the river in the spring, there's -- you know, in the
- 4 last two years, that was done to maintain cold water
- 5 pool to the greatest extent possible in Shasta
- 6 Reservoir. And that would impact our ability to
- 7 irrigate early in the season, primarily, would be the
- 8 biggest risk.
- 9 MR. BERLINER: Are you contending that ACID
- 10 has a right to stored water in any federal facilities?
- 11 MR. COOPER: I'm going to object on the basis
- 12 that that's a vague and ambiguous question. It's
- 13 unclear to me what Mr. Berliner means by "a right to
- 14 storage." That, to me, could mean a delivery of
- 15 previously stored water or an actual right to store
- 16 water physically in the facility.
- 17 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Mr. Berliner?
- 18 MR. BERLINER: I'm referring to are you
- 19 claiming any right to water held by the federal
- 20 government in any federal reservoir that constitutes
- 21 stored water?
- 22 WITNESS WANGBERG: Yes, I believe we do have a
- 23 right to stored water. An example of that is, 2015,
- 24 ACID was on the State Board's list of pre-1914 rights
- 25 holders. They were curtailed from using stream flow,

1 and Reclamation fulfilled its contractual obligation to

- 2 meet ACID's allocation by providing stored water.
- 3 MR. BERLINER: Is there something in your
- 4 water rights that entitles you to stored water?
- 5 WITNESS WANGBERG: Not that I'm aware.
- 6 MR. BERLINER: Is there any provision, as far
- 7 as you are aware, in your contract that specifically
- 8 entitles you to stored water?
- 9 WITNESS WANGBERG: Not that I'm aware.
- 10 MR. BERLINER: Are your contract deliveries
- 11 based on inflow to Shasta?
- 12 MR. BERLINER: The potential for curtailment
- is based on inflow to Shasta, yes.
- 14 MR. BERLINER: Okay. I don't have any further
- 15 questions for this witness.
- 16 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: And that concludes
- 17 your cross-examination of this panel?
- MR. BERLINER: Yes, it does.
- 19 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Thank you,
- 20 Mr. Berliner. Now I'll go back.
- Ms. Aufdemberg, again, any cross-exam?
- MS. AUFDEMBERG: No questions.
- 23 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Ms. Morris?
- MS. MORRIS: No questions.
- 25 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Group 4?

- 1 MR. RUBIN: No questions.
- 2 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Thank you.
- 3 And Mr. Williams has already said he did not
- 4 have any questions.
- 5 Is there anyone else with cross-examination
- 6 for this panel?
- 7 (No response)
- 8 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: All right. Then
- 9 that concludes this panel. And we have tons of dead
- 10 space before us.
- 11 MR. HITCHINGS: Excuse me, Hearing Officer
- 12 Doduc. I do have a limited redirect for Mr. Bettner.
- 13 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Oh, okay. Then,
- 14 please, redirect.
- 15 REDIRECT EXAMINATION OF PANEL 3 BY MR. HITCHINGS
- MR. HITCHINGS: Mr. Bettner, Mr. Berliner
- 17 asked whether you were contending that GCID has a right
- 18 to stored water. Do you recall that question?
- 19 WITNESS BETTNER: Yes.
- 20 MR. HITCHINGS: And prior to that question,
- 21 you explained how GCID's settlement contract addresses
- 22 the use of water stored by the CVP; is that correct?
- 23 WITNESS BETTNER: Yes.
- 24 MR. HITCHINGS: So would it be more accurate
- 25 to state that GCID has contractual rights to stored

- water from the CVP under certain conditions?
- 2 WITNESS BETTNER: That would be correct, and
- 3 it's specified in our contract, yes.
- 4 MR. HITCHINGS: That's all I have for
- 5 redirect. Thank you.
- 6 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Thank you,
- 7 Mr. Hitchings.
- 8 Any redirect, Mr. Cooper?
- 9 MR. COOPER: Just one.
- 10 REDIRECT EXAMINATION OF PANEL 3 BY MR. COOPER
- 11 MR. COOPER: Mr. Wangberg, is it your
- 12 understanding that ACID has contractual rights to
- 13 stored water from Shasta Reservoir?
- 14 WITNESS WANGBERG: Yes.
- MR. BERLINER: That's all I have.
- 16 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Thank you.
- 17 Any recross, Mr. Berliner or Mr. Mizell?
- 18 MR. BERLINER: No.
- 19 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: All right.
- 20 And now this panel is concluded, and we,
- 21 unfortunately, will be adjourning until 12:30. And,
- 22 again, given how loosely we left things on Friday and
- 23 on the premise that all the parties who received the
- 24 e-mail with this proposed scheduling for this week
- 25 might have assumed that they did not have to be here

- 1 today, I will not penalize them today.
- But, again, just be on notice that going
- 3 forward we will go in the order that is proposed in the
- 4 order of proceedings. And for parties who are not
- 5 here, if you are not here when you're called, then you
- 6 have waived your right to present a case in chief.
- 7 And, Ms. Morris, I encourage you to be
- 8 prepared to conduct cross-examination -- actually, all
- 9 parties to conduct cross-examination in the order in
- 10 which they're called up. Okay?
- 11 MR. HITCHINGS: Hearing Officer Doduc, I might
- 12 suggest that, if we want to take a break until 10:00
- 13 o'clock, we can find out if the Feather River panel
- 14 could be available earlier than 12:30, and we may be
- 15 able to start with them this morning.
- 16 We just have to -- there's five panelists. We
- 17 just have to make contact with them. But we can check
- on that, report back at 10:00 o'clock, and maybe there
- 19 will be an opportunity to conduct at least part of that
- 20 this morning.
- 21 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: That would be
- 22 terrific. Thank you, Mr. Hitchings.
- 23 And on the heels of that, let me make a
- 24 request to Group No. 8 -- I'm sorry. Group 8 is going
- 25 tomorrow.

- 1 So, Group No. 9, North Delta Water Agencies,
- 2 if you could please contact -- oh, Ms. Nikkel, are you
- 3 representing them?
- 4 MS. NIKKEL: Good morning. Meredith Nikkel
- 5 for North Delta Water Agency.
- 6 We are -- we're working to get our witnesses
- 7 ready to testify on Friday, which I think would be in
- 8 the order after Group 7. And then Group 8 will have
- 9 already gone. So North Delta would be up after that.
- 10 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: All right.
- 11 Group 10, I expect to hear from you in terms
- 12 of your availability this week. So please contact the
- 13 staff.
- 14 Mr. Mizell?
- 15 MR. MIZELL: Tripp Mizell for DWR. It was our
- 16 understanding that East Bay MUD would be going prior to
- 17 North Delta Water Agency.
- 18 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: I have them as
- 19 Group 15.
- 20 MR. MIZELL: I believe there's a joint panel
- 21 with 7 that was scheduled to go directly following the
- 22 7 -- Group 7 panels.
- 23 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Okay. Then I need
- 24 Group 7/15, East Bay MUD, to be available this week as
- 25 well -- be available in case they're called. I think

- 1 we will follow Mr. Hutchings' suggestion to take a
- 2 break until 10:00 o'clock. And I think we will also
- 3 convene and discuss the schedule. We'll resume at
- 4 10:00 o'clock, then. Thank you.
- 5 MR. HITCHINGS: Thank you.
- 6 (Recess taken)
- 7 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: All right. Thank
- 8 you.
- 9 Mr. Hitchings, Mr. Cooper, word on your next
- 10 panel?
- MR. COOPER: Yes. Dustin Cooper.
- We have one missing witness that we were
- 13 anticipating today. He expects to be here by 11:00.
- 14 And just as a reminder, Mark Orme also will not be
- 15 here, but we're proposing that his testimony be
- 16 provided on Friday.
- 17 Except for those two witnesses, the balance of
- 18 the panelists are here.
- 19 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: All right. Let's
- 20 go ahead and call them up, then. And we will begin
- 21 with those who are here for our Panel No. 4. And I
- 22 really appreciate them coming in for this.
- 23 And as they're coming up, I'll just let you
- 24 know that, by the end of the day, you will get an
- 25 e-mail from us with some very specific directions with

1 respect to the order for presenting cases in chief in

- 2 Part 1B. I think we need to be a little bit more
- 3 structured going forward from now on.
- 4 Ms. McCue, I need a little table for Group --
- 5 for this panel.
- 6 (Panel sworn)
- 7 STEVE DANNA, SEAN EARLEY, EUGENE MASSA,
- 8 DONNIE STINNETT and TED TRIMBLE,
- 9 called as Panel 4 by Group 7 Sacramento
- 10 Valley Water Users' Group of Parties,
- 11 having been first duly sworn, were
- 12 examined and testified as hereinafter
- 13 set forth:
- 14 MR. COOPER: Good morning again. Dustin
- 15 Cooper on behalf of protesting parties Western Canal
- 16 Water District, Richvale Irrigation District. And
- 17 Butte Water District and Plumas Mutual Water Company
- 18 are part of this panel, but their witnesses will be
- 19 trailing.
- 20 On behalf of each of the protesting parties
- 21 here today, I'd like to incorporate and adopt the
- 22 opening statement presented by Mr. Alan Lilly on behalf
- 23 of the Sacramento Valley users. And like the prior
- 24 panel, the purpose of this panel is to document and
- 25 attest to the water rights held by the protestants

- 1 Western Canal Water District, Richvale Irrigation
- 2 District, Biggs-West Gridley Water District, and then
- 3 the other two districts, Butte Water District and
- 4 Plumas Mutual Water Company that do not currently have
- 5 witnesses that are potentially subject to injury from
- 6 the proposed California WaterFix project.
- 7 We will be presenting first the testimony of
- 8 Mr. Ted Trimble on behalf of Western Canal Water
- 9 District.
- 10 DIRECT EXAMINATION OF PANEL 4 BY MR. COOPER
- 11 MR. COOPER: Mr. Trimble, would you please
- 12 state your name for the record and spell your last
- 13 name?
- 14 WITNESS TRIMBLE: Ted Trimble, T-R-I-M-B-L-E.
- MR. COOPER: Mr. Trimble, you understand that
- 16 you are presenting your testimony under oath; is that
- 17 correct?
- 18 WITNESS TRIMBLE: Yes.
- 19 MR. COOPER: Is Exhibit MLF-55 an accurate
- 20 statement of your written testimony?
- 21 WITNESS TRIMBLE: Yes.
- MR. COOPER: Did you prepare and sign that
- 23 testimony?
- 24 WITNESS TRIMBLE: Yes.
- MR. COOPER: Is Exhibit MLF-56 a true and

- 1 correct copy of the 1986 agreement on diversion of
- 2 water from the Feather River between Western Canal
- 3 Water District and the State of California?
- 4 WITNESS TRIMBLE: Yes.
- 5 MR. COOPER: Are Exhibits MLF-57 through 61
- 6 true and correct copies of Western Canal Water
- 7 District's statements of water diversion and use for
- 8 the years 2011 through 2015?
- 9 WITNESS TRIMBLE: Yes.
- 10 MR. COOPER: Is there anything in your
- 11 testimony or exhibits that you wish to correct?
- 12 WITNESS TRIMBLE: I'm not sure of the exhibit
- 13 number, but it's the 2013 statement of diversion and
- 14 use. I incorrectly reported water diverted to storage.
- 15 The forms changed between 2012 and 2013. It should
- 16 have been direct diversion only.
- 17 MR. COOPER: So for the record, I believe
- 18 that's the document that's been identified as MLF-59,
- 19 the supplemental statement of water diversion and use
- 20 for 2013; is that your understanding?
- 21 WITNESS TRIMBLE: Yes.
- MR. COOPER: Are you familiar with the
- 23 exhibits that have been identified as SVWU-100 through
- 24 110, which is the testimony and supporting
- 25 documentation prepared by MBK Engineers for this

- 1 proceeding?
- 2 WITNESS TRIMBLE: Yes.
- 3 MR. COOPER: Are the MBK Engineers testimony
- 4 and reports in those exhibits the type of information
- 5 you review and rely upon as Western Canal Water
- 6 District's general manager to assess potential risks
- 7 and impacts to Western Canal Water District's water
- 8 supplies and operations?
- 9 WITNESS TRIMBLE: Yes.
- 10 MR. COOPER: Would you please summarize your
- 11 written testimony submitted for this proceeding.
- 12 WITNESS TRIMBLE: My name's Ted Trimble. I'm
- 13 the general manager of Western Canal Water District.
- 14 Western Canal Water District is approximately 60,000
- 15 acres located in the Butte and Glenn counties. The
- 16 pre-1914 water rights are comprised of
- 17 150,000 acre-feet of natural flow of the Feather River
- 18 plus 145,000 acre-feet of previously stored water that
- 19 we acquired as part of the PG&E -- our PG&E
- 20 predecessor.
- 21 We have a diversion agreement with the State
- 22 of California through its Department of Water Resources
- 23 that memorializes those water rights.
- We have an irrigation season that's quantified
- 25 with those combined water rights of up to

1 295,000 acre-feet. And we have a non-irrigation season

- 2 from November 1st through March 1st that is not
- 3 quantified or not allotted but subject to beneficial
- 4 use.
- 5 That's my testimony, summary.
- 6 MR. COOPER: That concludes the direct
- 7 testimony for Western Canal Water District.
- 8 Next up will be the entities known as the
- 9 Joint Water Districts. We have present today the
- 10 manager/water master of the Joint Water Districts, and
- 11 then also the general managers of Richvale Irrigation
- 12 District and Biggs-West Gridley Water District.
- And as a reminder, Mr. Orme, the manager of
- 14 Butte Water District, will be available on Friday.
- 15 And the final entity that makes up the Joint
- 16 Water Districts is Sutter Extension Water District.
- 17 Their water right testimony was provided through
- 18 Mr. VanCamp as part of that earlier panel.
- 19 So my questions will be first to Mr. Donnie
- 20 Stinnett.
- 21 Mr. Stinnett, would you please state your name
- 22 for the record and spell your last name?
- 23 WITNESS STINNETT: Donnie Stinnett,
- 24 S-T-I-N-N-E-T-T.
- 25 MR. COOPER: Mr. Stinnett, you understand that

1 you are presenting your testimony today under oath; is

- 2 that correct?
- 3 WITNESS STINNETT: Yes.
- 4 MR. COOPER: Did you prepare and sign that
- 5 testimony?
- 6 WITNESS STINNETT: Yes.
- 7 MR. COOPER: Is Exhibit MLF-41 a true and
- 8 correct copy of the 1970 joint operating agreement
- 9 between the four entities known as the Joint Water
- 10 Districts?
- 11 WITNESS STINNETT: Yes.
- MR. COOPER: Would you please name the four
- 13 joint water districts.
- 14 WITNESS STINNETT: Yes. They are the Richvale
- 15 Irrigation District, Butte Water District, Biggs-West
- 16 Gridley Water District and Sutter Extension Water
- 17 District.
- 18 MR. COOPER: Is Exhibit MLF-42 a true and
- 19 correct copy of the agreement on diversion of water
- 20 from the Feather River between the State of California
- 21 and the Joint Water Districts?
- 22 WITNESS STINNETT: Yes.
- 23 MR. COOPER: Is Exhibit MLF-43 a true and
- 24 correct copy of the Joint Water Districts' response to
- 25 the State Water Resources Control Board or its request

- 1 for water right information in its order
- 2 WR2015-002-DWR?
- 3 WITNESS STINNETT: Yes.
- 4 MR. COOPER: Are Exhibits MLF-44 through
- 5 MLF-48 true and correct copies of the Joint Water
- 6 Districts' statements of diversion and use for the
- 7 years 2011 through 2015?
- WITNESS STINNETT: Yes.
- 9 MR. COOPER: Are you familiar with the
- 10 exhibits that have been identified as SVWU-100 through
- 11 110, which is the testimony and supporting
- 12 documentation prepared by MBK Engineers for this
- 13 proceeding?
- 14 WITNESS STINNETT: Yes.
- MR. COOPER: Are the MBK Engineers testimony
- 16 and reports in those exhibits the types of information
- 17 you review and rely on as the Joint Water Districts'
- 18 board manager to assess potential risks and impacts to
- 19 the Joint Water Districts' water supplies and
- 20 operations?
- 21 WITNESS STINNETT: Yes.
- 22 MR. COOPER: At this time, Mr. Stinnett, would
- 23 you please summarize your written testimony submitted
- 24 for this proceeding?
- 25 WITNESS STINNETT: Yeah. My name is Donnie

- 1 Stinnett. I've been manager and water master of the
- 2 Joint Water District boards for just over 11 years. I
- 3 perform the day-to-day operations of the joint board
- 4 through the joint working agreement. I also work with
- 5 DWR in the ordering and scheduling of water as well as
- 6 the filing of the reports to the State Board for each
- 7 year.
- 8 The Joint Districts is approximately 120,000
- 9 acres located in Butte and Sutter counties. There's
- 10 lots of different crops we deal in throughout that
- 11 time.
- I guess that's my summary of the Joint
- 13 Districts.
- 14 MR. COOPER: We'll now transition to Mr. Sean
- 15 Earley, the manager of the Richvale Irrigation
- 16 District.
- 17 Mr. Earley, would you please state your name
- 18 for the record and spell your last name?
- 19 WITNESS EARLEY: Sean Earley, E-A-R-L-E-Y.
- 20 MR. COOPER: Mr. Earley, you understand that
- 21 you are presenting are your testimony under oath today;
- 22 is that correct?
- 23 WITNESS EARLEY: Yes.
- 24 MR. COOPER: Is Exhibit MLF-51 an accurate
- 25 statement of your written testimony?

- 1 WITNESS EARLEY: Yes.
- 2 MR. COOPER: Did you prepare and sign that
- 3 testimony?
- 4 WITNESS EARLEY: Yes.
- 5 MR. COOPER: Is Exhibit MLF-41 a true and
- 6 correct copy of the joint operating agreement between
- 7 the Joint Water Districts?
- 8 WITNESS EARLEY: Yes.
- 9 MR. COOPER: Is Exhibit MLF-42 a true and
- 10 correct copy of the 1969 agreement on diversion of
- 11 water from the Feather River between the State of
- 12 California and the entities that make up the Joint
- 13 Water Districts?
- 14 WITNESS EARLEY: Yes.
- MR. COOPER: Are you familiar with the
- 16 Exhibits SVWU-100 through 110, which is the testimony
- 17 and supporting documentation prepared by MBK Engineers
- 18 for this proceeding?
- 19 WITNESS EARLEY: Yes.
- 20 MR. COOPER: Are the MBK Engineers testimony
- 21 and reports in those exhibits the type of information
- 22 you review and rely upon as Richvale Irrigation
- 23 District's general manager to assess potential risks
- 24 and impacts to the district's water supply and
- 25 operations?

- 1 WITNESS EARLEY: Yes.
- 2 MR. COOPER: At this time, Mr. Earley, would
- 3 you please summarize your written testimony submitted
- 4 for this proceeding?
- 5 WITNESS EARLEY: My name is Sean Earley. I've
- 6 been the Richvale Irrigation District manager for the
- 7 past four years. Richvale Irrigation District is
- 8 located in Butte County, just west of the Thermalito
- 9 Afterbay. It is 34,000 acres in size. We handle rice,
- 10 predominantly rice, some refuges, and some wetland
- 11 habitat.
- 12 We are one of four members of the joint board.
- 13 And we have our water comprised of the 1969 agreement,
- 14 the diversion agreement. And that's about it.
- MR. COOPER: Thank you, Mr. Earley.
- Next up, I'll be handing it over to
- 17 Mr. Hitchings on behalf of the Biggs-West Gridley Water
- 18 District.
- 19 MR. HITCHINGS: Andrew Hitchings for
- 20 protestants Biggs-West Gridley Water District.
- 21 At the outset, I'd like to reaffirm that
- 22 Biggs-West Gridley Water District incorporates and
- 23 adopts the opening statement that was presented by the
- 24 Sac Valley Water Users group.
- The purpose of Mr. Massa's testimony is to

- 1 document the water rights held by Biggs-West Gridley
- 2 Water District that are potentially subject to injury
- 3 by the California WaterFix project.
- 4 Mr. Massa, could you please state your name
- 5 for the record and spell your last name?
- 6 WITNESS MASSA: Eugene Massa, Junior,
- $7 \quad M-A-S-S-A$ .
- 8 MR. HITCHINGS: And you understand that you're
- 9 presenting your testimony under oath, correct?
- 10 WITNESS MASSA: Yes.
- 11 MR. HITCHINGS: And is Exhibit BWGWD-1 an
- 12 accurate statement of your written testimony?
- 13 WITNESS MASSA: Yes.
- MS. MORRIS: Did you prepare and sign that
- 15 testimony?
- 16 WITNESS MASSA: Yes.
- 17 MR. HITCHINGS: And if we could pull up
- 18 Biggs-West Gridley Water District BWGWD-2, which is a
- 19 map depicting the district.
- 20 Is this a true and correct copy of the map
- 21 depicting the district service area?
- 22 WITNESS MASSA: Yes.
- 23 MR. HITCHINGS: Do Exhibits MLF-41 to MLF-48
- 24 include true and correct copies of documentation of the
- 25 water rights claimed and held by the district and water

1 usage under those rights for the years 2011 through

- 2 2015?
- 3 WITNESS MASSA: Yes.
- 4 MR. HITCHINGS: And are you familiar with
- 5 Exhibits SVWU-100 through 110 referenced in the
- 6 district's exhibit index submitted with its
- 7 case-in-chief materials?
- 8 WITNESS MASSA: Yes.
- 9 MR. HITCHINGS: Are the MBK Engineers
- 10 testimony and reports in those exhibits the types of
- 11 information you review and rely on as the district's
- 12 general manager to assess potential risks and impacts
- 13 to the district's water supplies and operations?
- 14 WITNESS MASSA: Yes.
- MR. HITCHINGS: At this time, could you please
- 16 summarize your testimony submitted for this proceeding?
- 17 WITNESS MASSA: From the maps you can see
- 18 above, you can notice that we are south of Richvale
- 19 Irrigation District. We're also west of the Thermalito
- 20 Afterbay. We have Gray Lodge wildlife area within our
- 21 district boundaries.
- 22 Biggs-West Gridley was formed in 1942. We
- 23 serve agricultural and habitat water. We're
- 24 approximate 35,000 acres. That says "34,785." I'll
- 25 just point out there is a little bit of argument

1 between GIS and LAFCo. We go by LAFCo at the 35,000.

- 2 GIS puts the 34,785.
- 3 We provide water mainly for rice production,
- 4 walnut production, and to California Department of Fish
- 5 and Wildlife Gray Lodge. We hold 1914 appropriative --
- 6 pre-1914 appropriative water rights to divert water
- 7 from the Feather River.
- 8 I believe that, from what I have seen, we will
- 9 be subject to injury due to the currently proposed
- 10 Cal WaterFix project. Thank you.
- 11 MR. HITCHINGS: That concludes Mr. Massa's
- 12 direct testimony.
- 13 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Thank you.
- Does the department wish to conduct
- 15 cross-examination of these four witnesses? This will
- 16 be Department of Water Resources.
- 17 As Mr. Berliner and Mr. Mizell are setting up,
- 18 are there any other parties wishing to examine these
- 19 four witnesses?
- 20 Mr. Herrick is hedging his bets. He doesn't
- 21 know yet. Okay.
- 22 Please begin, Mr. Berliner.
- 23 CROSS-EXAMINATION OF PANEL 4 BY MR. BERLINER
- 24 MR. BERLINER: Good morning. My name is Tom
- 25 Berliner. I'm an attorney for the Department of Water

1 Resources. I'm accompanied this morning by Mr. Tripp

- 2 Mizell, also from the Department of Water Resources.
- 3
  I'd like to start this morning with
- 4 Mr. Trimble.
- 5 Good morning, sir. Did you prepare the
- 6 testimony that you gave today?
- 7 WITNESS TRIMBLE: Yes.
- 8 MR. BERLINER: Did you have any assistance in
- 9 preparing it?
- 10 WITNESS TRIMBLE: I was provided a template by
- 11 counsel, but I filled out everything else.
- 12 MR. BERLINER: Did anybody from the district
- 13 help you with preparing your testimony?
- 14 WITNESS TRIMBLE: No.
- MR. BERLINER: And the purpose of your
- 16 testimony this morning is to identify the water rights
- 17 that are held by Western Canal Water District that are
- 18 allegedly subject to injury by the California WaterFix,
- 19 correct?
- 20 WITNESS TRIMBLE: Yes.
- 21 MR. BERLINER: And you're not testifying today
- 22 as an expert, are you?
- 23 WITNESS TRIMBLE: No.
- 24 MR. BERLINER: And you're not offering any
- opinions today, are you?

- 1 WITNESS TRIMBLE: My own professional opinion
- 2 as the manager of Western Canal Water District, but I'm
- 3 not sure I understand what you mean by "offering
- 4 opinion."
- 5 MR. BERLINER: Are you offering any opinions,
- 6 specific opinions regarding any impact of the
- 7 California WaterFix that it might potentially have on
- 8 your district?
- 9 WITNESS TRIMBLE: No.
- 10 MR. BERLINER: As I understand it, your
- 11 testimony refers to the testimony of MBK Engineers,
- 12 including Mr. VanCamp, Mr. Bourez, Mr. Easton and
- 13 Mr. Bergfeld, for any potential alleged injury suffered
- 14 by Western Canal, correct?
- 15 WITNESS TRIMBLE: Yes.
- 16 MR. BERLINER: And you're relying exclusively
- on the work by MBK Engineers, correct?
- 18 WITNESS TRIMBLE: Yes.
- 19 MR. BERLINER: I have no further questions for
- 20 this witness.
- 21 I'm sorry. I actually do have one more
- 22 question. I apologize.
- Just to confirm, your district is located
- 24 upstream of the proposed new point of diversion,
- 25 correct?

- 1 WITNESS TRIMBLE: Yes.
- 2 MR. BERLINER: One other question for you,
- 3 sir. I apologize.
- 4 Just to confirm, you're not claiming a right
- 5 to any stored water in any State of California
- 6 facility, are you?
- 7 MR. COOPER: I'm going to object for the same
- 8 reason I did in the prior panel. I think the phrase
- 9 "right to storage" is ambiguous as to what the
- 10 questioner means.
- 11 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Mr. Berliner?
- MR. BERLINER: Are you claiming either a
- 13 contract right or a State of California water right to
- 14 stored water in any State of California facility?
- 15 WITNESS TRIMBLE: Could you state that again,
- 16 please?
- 17 MR. BERLINER: Could you read it back, please?
- 18 (Record read)
- 19 WITNESS TRIMBLE: Well, to the extent that
- 20 Department of Water Resources must draft storage to
- 21 meet their delivery obligations to the district, I
- 22 would say yes.
- 23 MR. BERLINER: Let me differentiate between
- 24 water that's supplied to you by contract from storage
- 25 and a right to storage.

1 You have a contract right to water from the

- 2 State of California, correct?
- 3 WITNESS TRIMBLE: Yes. It's a diversion
- 4 agreement.
- 5 MR. BERLINER: And it's up to the State to
- 6 determine how it supplies you with water, correct?
- 7 WITNESS TRIMBLE: It's spelled out in the
- 8 agreement.
- 9 MR. BERLINER: And there's nothing in the
- 10 agreement that says that the State -- that you have
- 11 acquired by the agreement any right to stored water,
- 12 correct?
- 13 WITNESS TRIMBLE: No.
- MR. BERLINER: Thank you.
- 15 Next questions are for Mr. Stinnett.
- Good morning, sir.
- 17 WITNESS STINNETT: Good morning.
- 18 MR. BERLINER: These questions will all sound
- 19 very familiar.
- 20 To confirm, your district is located upstream
- 21 of the proposed new point of diversion, correct?
- 22 WITNESS STINNETT: I'd like to clarify. It's
- 23 not one -- the Joint Water Districts is a combination
- 24 of the four districts. And, yes, all four districts
- 25 are above that.

1 MR. BERLINER: Thank you. Did you draft your

- 2 testimony today?
- 3 WITNESS STINNETT: I did.
- 4 MR. BERLINER: Did anybody assist you in
- 5 preparing your testimony?
- 6 WITNESS STINNETT: Yes.
- 7 MR. BERLINER: Who would that be?
- 8 WITNESS STINNETT: I was provided an outline
- 9 from legal counsel with headlines, and then I filled in
- 10 the details.
- 11 MR. BERLINER: And did anybody from any of the
- 12 districts that you represent assist you in preparing
- 13 your testimony?
- 14 WITNESS STINNETT: No.
- MR. BERLINER: As I understand it, the purpose
- 16 of your testimony is to identify the water rights that
- 17 are held and claimed jointly by the Joint Water
- 18 District that are allegedly subject to injury by the
- 19 California WaterFix, correct?
- 20 WITNESS STINNETT: Correct.
- 21 MR. BERLINER: You're not testifying today as
- 22 an expert, correct?
- 23 WITNESS STINNETT: I am not.
- 24 MR. BERLINER: And you're not offering any
- 25 opinions today, correct?

- 1 WITNESS STINNETT: Yes. I would offer an
- 2 opinion, based on the expert consultant testimony of
- 3 MBK, that the Cal WaterFix holds a potential harm to
- 4 our -- the right to divert water.
- 5 MR. BERLINER: Where in your testimony do you
- 6 offer that opinion?
- 7 WITNESS STINNETT: Just now. I did not write
- 8 it in my testimony.
- 9 MR. BERLINER: I'm going to move to strike the
- 10 witness's answer as surprise testimony. It's not
- 11 contained in his written testimony. He's offering an
- 12 opinion that's not found in his testimony.
- 13 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Mr. Cooper?
- 14 MR. COOPER: Well, Mr. Berliner just asked the
- 15 question. So I don't think it's surprise testimony if
- 16 he's asking a question and getting an answer.
- 17 Second thing is I think Mr. Stinnett, in his
- 18 testimony, does refer to those exhibits and the work of
- 19 MBK Engineers. If Mr. Stinnett would review his
- 20 testimony, which I believe is Exhibit MLF-40.
- 21 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Mr. Stinnett, would
- 22 you like to take a moment and review your testimony?
- 23 WITNESS STINNETT: Yes.
- 24 MR. BERLINER: I can perhaps speed it up and
- 25 refer specifically.

- 1 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Yes, please.
- 2 MR. BERLINER: At -- your testimony states,
- 3 "Please refer to the expert testimony of MBK Engineers,
- 4 specifically, Marc VanCamp, Walter Bourez, Dan Easton,
- 5 and Lee Bergfeld for the injuries suffered by the Joint
- 6 Water Districts resulting from the proposed California
- 7 WaterFix project."
- 8 Does that sound familiar, sir?
- 9 WITNESS STINNETT: Yes.
- 10 MR. BERLINER: Is that the opinion that you
- 11 were referring to?
- 12 WITNESS STINNETT: Yes. I apologize.
- MR. BERLINER: And, in fact, so this is not
- 14 actually your opinion. You're referring to work done
- 15 my MBK Engineers, correct?
- 16 WITNESS STINNETT: Correct.
- 17 MR. BERLINER: So let me ask you again just to
- 18 clarify. You yourself are not offering an opinion,
- 19 correct?
- 20 WITNESS STINNETT: No.
- MR. BERLINER: Thank you.
- 22 Are the Joint Water Districts individually,
- 23 collectively claiming any right, either by contract or
- 24 California water right, to stored water in any State
- 25 of California facility?

1 WITNESS STINNETT: With respect to DWR needing

- 2 to probably -- or to draft storage in order to meet
- 3 their obligations to us, I would say yes.
- 4 MR. BERLINER: And you are referring to a
- 5 contract obligation in response to my question, then?
- 6 WITNESS STINNETT: No.
- 7 MR. BERLINER: Are you referring to a State
- 8 Water right?
- 9 WITNESS STINNETT: No.
- 10 MR. BERLINER: Then on what basis are you
- 11 claiming a right to stored water?
- 12 WITNESS STINNETT: First of all, I'm not a
- 13 legal attorney, but in my opinion, I would assume that
- 14 by drafting storage -- DWR drafting storage in order to
- 15 meet our diversion of water agreement with DWR, they
- 16 would have to draft storage. Maybe I'm not
- 17 understanding your question correctly.
- 18 MR. BERLINER: Okay. My question to you is
- 19 does your -- I appreciate that you have a right to
- 20 amounts of water from the State of California under
- 21 your contract.
- 22 It's up to the State, is it not, to determine
- 23 how it meets that contractual obligation?
- 24 WITNESS STINNETT: Yes.
- MR. BERLINER: And the contract itself does

- 1 not entitle you to water held in storage in Lake
- 2 Oroville or any other state facility, correct?
- 3 WITNESS STINNETT: I don't know. I'm not
- 4 positive on that.
- 5 MR. BERLINER: Okay. I have no further
- 6 questions for this witness.
- 7 Next series of questions is for Mr. Earley.
- 8 Good morning, sir.
- 9 WITNESS EARLEY: Good morning.
- 10 MR. BERLINER: Again, these questions are
- 11 going to sound very familiar.
- 12 Which Water District do you represent, sir?
- 13 WITNESS EARLEY: Richvale Irrigation District.
- 14 MR. BERLINER: Is Richvale located upstream of
- 15 the proposed new point of diversion for the California
- 16 WaterFix?
- 17 WITNESS EARLEY: Yes.
- 18 MR. BERLINER: And did you prepare your
- 19 testimony that you offered today?
- 20 WITNESS EARLEY: Yes.
- MR. BERLINER: Did anybody from Richvale or
- 22 another irrigation district assist you in preparing
- 23 your testimony?
- 24 WITNESS EARLEY: No.
- MR. BERLINER: Is the purpose of your

1 testimony to identify the water rights that are held by

- 2 Richvale Irrigation District that are allegedly subject
- 3 to potential injury by the California WaterFix?
- 4 WITNESS EARLEY: Yes.
- 5 MR. BERLINER: You're not testifying today as
- 6 an expert, correct?
- 7 WITNESS EARLEY: Correct.
- 8 MR. BERLINER: And other than referring to the
- 9 previous testimony submitted here by MBK Engineers,
- 10 you're not offering any additional opinions, are you?
- 11 WITNESS EARLEY: No.
- 12 MR. BERLINER: And similar to the question I
- 13 asked of Mr. Stinnett, do I understand that in your
- 14 testimony you are referring to the expert testimony of
- 15 MBK Engineers for any potential injury?
- 16 WITNESS EARLEY: Yes.
- 17 MR. BERLINER: And similar the question that I
- 18 asked of Mr. Stinnett, are you claiming any contractual
- 19 right or California water right to stored water in any
- 20 State of California facility?
- 21 WITNESS EARLEY: Relative to the agreement, if
- 22 DWR has to utilize stored water to meet the contract,
- 23 then yes; if not, then no.
- 24 MR. BERLINER: And it's up to the State of
- 25 California, as you understand it, to determine how to

- 1 meet your contractual requirements, correct?
- 2 WITNESS EARLEY: Yes.
- 3 MR. BERLINER: And there's nothing, as far as
- 4 you understand it in your contract, that specifically
- 5 entitles your district to stored water, correct?
- 6 WITNESS EARLEY: Correct.
- 7 MR. BERLINER: I have no further questions for
- 8 this witness.
- 9 Next questions are for Mr. Massa.
- 10 Good morning, sir.
- 11 WITNESS MASSA: Good morning.
- MR. BERLINER: Sir, you're an attorney as well
- 13 as general manager, correct?
- 14 WITNESS MASSA: Yes, I am. I'm not an
- 15 attorney for Biggs-West Gridley Water District, though.
- 16 MR. BERLINER: Thank you. That was going to
- 17 be my next question.
- 18 You are the general manager of Biggs-West
- 19 Gridley Water District, right?
- 20 WITNESS MASSA: Yes, I am.
- 21 MR. BERLINER: Is Biggs-West Gridley located
- 22 upstream of the new proposed point of diversion for the
- 23 California WaterFix?
- 24 WITNESS MASSA: Yes, it is.
- 25 MR. BERLINER: Did you prepare your testimony

- 1 that you offered today?
- 2 WITNESS MASSA: Yes, I did.
- 3 MR. BERLINER: Did anybody from Biggs-West
- 4 Gridley or another water district help you prepare your
- 5 testimony?
- 6 WITNESS MASSA: No.
- 7 MR. BERLINER: And is the sole purpose of your
- 8 testimony to identify the scope and extent of
- 9 Biggs-West Gridley Water District's water rights and
- 10 the beneficial use under its water rights as well as to
- 11 provide a brief description and document the water
- 12 rights held by Biggs-West Gridley that are subject to
- 13 proposed [sic] injury by the California WaterFix?
- 14 WITNESS MASSA: Yes.
- MR. BERLINER: And, sir, you're not testifying
- 16 today as an expert, are you?
- 17 WITNESS MASSA: No, I'm not.
- 18 MR. BERLINER: And other than a reference to
- 19 MBK Engineers, you're not offering any independent
- 20 opinions, are you?
- 21 MR. HITCHINGS: Objection.
- 22 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Mr. Hitchings?
- 23 MR. HITCHINGS: This is the same objection
- 24 from the prior panel, that there -- it misstates the
- 25 testimony to the extent Mr. Massa indicates in his

- 1 testimony that he has an understanding.
- 2 There have been written objections interposed
- 3 with regard to whether that's impermissible lay
- 4 opinion. Responses have been submitted, and to the
- 5 extent that he does attest to his understanding, that
- 6 would be permissible lay opinion testimony in
- 7 accordance with our responses.
- 8 MR. BERLINER: And I'm not seeking to strike
- 9 his testimony. I'm just asking if he has any
- 10 independent opinion other than from MBK Engineers.
- 11 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: I understand.
- 12 Objection is noted. Mr. Berliner will be allowed to
- 13 ask his question and get his answer into the record.
- Mr. Massa, please answer.
- 15 WITNESS MASSA: Thank you.
- No, I'm not.
- 17 MR. BERLINER: Thank you.
- 18 Sir, is Biggs-West Gridley claiming any
- 19 contract right or State of California water right to
- 20 water held in any State of California facility? And
- 21 I'm going to try to clarify. Other than to the
- 22 extent -- let me strike that. I'm going to ask it
- 23 again.
- Is Biggs-West Gridley claiming any contract
- 25 right or California water right to any stored water in

- 1 any State of California facility?
- 2 WITNESS MASSA: Yes, to the extent it takes
- 3 the State of California to deliver water under our
- 4 agreement.
- 5 MR. BERLINER: And with respect to that
- 6 agreement, based on your understanding, that agreement
- 7 does not specifically entitle Biggs-West Gridley to
- 8 stored water, correct?
- 9 WITNESS MASSA: Does not specify that water
- 10 will be coming from stored water or otherwise, no.
- 11 MR. BERLINER: In other words, it's up to the
- 12 State of California to determine how to meet your
- 13 contractual entitlements, correct?
- 14 WITNESS MASSA: That is correct.
- MR. BERLINER: No further questions for this
- 16 witness.
- 17 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Thank you.
- 18 Any other cross-examination for these four
- 19 witnesses of Panel No. 4?
- 20 Are you waving good-bye or -- all right. As
- 21 Mr. Herrick is coming up, I need to take a short
- 22 five-minute break.
- 23 (Recess taken)
- 24 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: All right. We are
- 25 back in session. Mr. Herrick, please begin your

- 1 cross-examination of these four witnesses.
- 2 CROSS-EXAMINATION OF PANEL 4 BY MR. HERRICK
- 3 MR. HERRICK: Thank you, Madam Chair, Board
- 4 Members. John Herrick for the South Delta Water Agency
- 5 parties. I'd like to start with Mr. Massa.
- 6 Mr. Massa, you're familiar with the operations
- 7 of your district, correct?
- 8 WITNESS MASSA: Yes, I am.
- 9 MR. HERRICK: And you're familiar with the
- 10 methods by which you're supplied water by DWR?
- 11 WITNESS MASSA: Yes, I am.
- MR. HERRICK: Is it correct to say that DWR's
- 13 dam and reservoir called Oroville are upstream of your
- 14 district?
- 15 WITNESS MASSA: Yes, it's upstream of our
- 16 district.
- 17 MR. HERRICK: And I'm ignoring -- isn't there
- 18 a Thermalito forebay [sic] there? I'm just ignoring
- 19 that for now as a -- regulating --
- 20 WITNESS MASSA: All right.
- 21 MR. HERRICK: Under your contract, DWR
- 22 supplies you with a certain amount of water. Does that
- 23 depend on the year type, or is it the same every year?
- 24 WITNESS MASSA: Can you re- -- I have a
- 25 question on that. We're -- I guess -- can you

- 1 re-clarify a little bit further than that? I'm not
- 2 really sure. You're saying every single year, the
- 3 same?
- 4 MR. HERRICK: Does your contract specify that
- 5 you'll get the same amount of water every year?
- 6 WITNESS MASSA: It does, except for in years
- 7 which we trigger criterion to reduce flows, and then
- 8 State of California, once those trigger, have an
- 9 ability to reduce our quantity in that year.
- 10 MR. HERRICK: And the only methods for DWR to
- 11 supply water to you are to either pass water through
- 12 that's flowing into the reservoir or to release stored
- 13 water; is that correct?
- 14 WITNESS MASSA: I'm not an expert with the
- 15 operations of Lake Oroville or Thermalito Afterbay.
- 16 I'm sorry.
- 17 MR. HERRICK: But the DWR doesn't fly in water
- 18 to service you, do they? They release it down the
- 19 river?
- 20 WITNESS MASSA: They do not fly it. They
- 21 don't release it down the river to us. Our water comes
- 22 from the Thermalito Afterbay itself. We have no method
- 23 to receive water at Biggs-West Gridley from the river.
- 24 MR. HERRICK: Do you know whether or not the
- 25 water needed to satisfy your contractual situation is

- 1 ever in excess of the inflow to Oroville?
- 2 WITNESS MASSA: At times, yes, but not all
- 3 season.
- 4 MR. HERRICK: So at times when the inflow to
- 5 Oroville is less than the amount needed to service your
- 6 area, DWR then uses stored water releases from
- 7 Oroville; is that correct?
- 8 WITNESS MASSA: That is correct.
- 9 MR. HERRICK: If Oroville storage is less in
- 10 certain years because of the California WaterFix being
- 11 approved, would that adversely affect the ability of
- 12 DWR to service -- to provide you water to your service
- 13 area?
- 14 WITNESS MASSA: That is correct.
- 15 MR. HERRICK: Then if I could just ask each
- 16 other individual the same -- it will be the same
- 17 questions. If they have anything different, they can
- 18 say so.
- 19 But we'll start with Mr. Trimble.
- 20 Would you concur with the answers that
- 21 Mr. Massa gave to my questions?
- 22 WITNESS TRIMBLE: Yes.
- 23 MR. HERRICK: And then we have Mr. Stinnett.
- 24 Would you agree with the answers that
- 25 Mr. Massa gave for his district as applied to your

- 1 districts?
- 2 WITNESS STINNETT: Yes.
- 3 MR. HERRICK: And lastly, we have Mr. Earley.
- 4 And would you agree that -- would you agree
- 5 with the answers that Mr. Massa gave for his district
- 6 as they would apply to your district?
- 7 WITNESS EARLY: Yes.
- 8 MR. HERRICK: That's all I have.
- 9 Thank you very much.
- 10 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Thank you,
- 11 Mr. Herrick.
- 12 Any redirect?
- MR. HITCHINGS: I do not.
- MR. COOPER: No, Hearing Officer.
- 15 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: And I think your
- 16 fifth witness just entered.
- 17 Before you sit down, please raise your right
- 18 hand.
- 19 (Witness sworn)
- 20 STEVE DANNA,
- called as a Panel 4 witness by the
- 22 protestants Sacramento Valley Water
- Users' Group of Parties, having been
- 24 first duly sworn, was examined and
- 25 testified as hereinafter set forth:

- 1 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Thank you.
- I assume, Mr. Cooper, you will provide the
- 3 introductions?
- 4 MR. COOPER: I will. Thank you.
- 5 Just for the record, I would like to
- 6 incorporate again the opening statement of the
- 7 Sacramento Valley Users presented by Mr. Alan Lilly,
- 8 Mr. Danna, would you please state your name
- 9 for the record and spell your last name?
- 10 WITNESS DANNA: Steve Danna, D-A-N-N-A.
- 11 MR. COOPER: You understand, Mr. Danna, that
- 12 you are presenting your testimony under oath; is that
- 13 correct?
- 14 WITNESS DANNA: Yes, I do.
- 15 MR. COOPER: Is Exhibit MLF-30 an accurate
- 16 statement of your written testimony?
- 17 MR. BERLINER: Yes, it is.
- 18 MR. COOPER: Did you prepare and sign that
- 19 testimony?
- 20 WITNESS DANNA: Yes, I did.
- 21 MR. COOPER: Is Exhibit MLF-41 a true and
- 22 correct copy of the agreement on diversion of water
- 23 from the Feather River between Plumas Mutual Water
- 24 Company and the State of California?
- 25 WITNESS DANNA: Yes.

- 1 MR. COOPER: Is Exhibit MLF-32 a true and
- 2 correct copy of the water right license held by Plumas
- 3 Mutual Water Company?
- 4 WITNESS DANNA: Yes, it is.
- 5 MR. COOPER: Are Exhibits MLF-33 through
- 6 MLF-37 true and correct copies of the reports of
- 7 licensee for the years 2011 through 2015?
- 8 WITNESS DANNA: Yes, they are.
- 9 MR. COOPER: Are you familiar with the
- 10 exhibits that have been identified as SVWU-100 through
- 11 110, which is the testimony and supporting
- 12 documentation prepared by MBK Engineers for this
- 13 proceeding?
- 14 WITNESS DANNA: Yes, I am.
- MR. COOPER: Are the MBK Engineer's testimony
- 16 and reports in those exhibits the types of information
- 17 you review and rely on as president of Plumas Mutual
- 18 Water Company to assess potential risks and impacts to
- 19 Plumas's water supplies and operations?
- 20 WITNESS DANNA: Yes, they are.
- 21 MR. COOPER: At this time, would you please
- 22 summarize your written testimony submitted for this
- 23 proceeding?
- 24 WITNESS DANNA: Sure. Thank you.
- 25 My name is Steve Danna, and I am the president

1 of Plumas Mutual Water Company. I have served in this

- 2 capacity for ten years. My family has been a
- 3 shareholder and involved in the operation of Plumas
- 4 Mutual since 1939.
- 5 I'm aware of Plumas Mutual's water use, water
- 6 rights, contract administration, and general
- 7 operations.
- 8 The purpose of my testimony is to identify,
- 9 provide a brief description of, and document the water
- 10 rights held and claimed by Plumas Mutual Water Company.
- 11 Plumas Mutual owns and operates a water distribution
- 12 system for agriculture and other beneficial uses to an
- 13 area located within Yuba County.
- 14 The water supply for the Plumas system is
- 15 derived from rights to divert from the Feather River.
- 16 Plumas Mutual Water Company claims a right to use water
- 17 based on a post-1914 license, riparian rights, and an
- 18 agreement on diversion of water from the Feather River
- 19 dated May 28th, 1971, between Plumas Mutual and the
- 20 State of California.
- 21 Plumas Mutual has a service area of 4300 acres
- 22 and currently delivers water to 2766 acres of mixed
- 23 crops within that area. Thank you.
- MR. COOPER: That concludes the direct
- 25 examination.

- 1 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Thank you,
- 2 Mr. Cooper.
- 3 Cross? By the Department of Water Resources.
- 4 And as they are coming up, anyone else would
- 5 like to cross-examine Mr. Danna? Okay. No one.
- 6 CROSS-EXAMINATION OF PANEL 4 BY MR. BERLINER (resumed)
- 7 MR. BERLINER: Good morning, Mr. Danna. My
- 8 name is Tom Berliner. I'm an attorney for the
- 9 Department of Water Resources.
- 10 WITNESS DANNA: Good morning.
- 11 MR. BERLINER: I'm here this morning with
- 12 Tripp Mizell, also an attorney for the Department of
- 13 Water Resources.
- MR. MIZELL: Good morning.
- MR. BERLINER: Is Plumas Mutual Water Company
- 16 located upstream of the proposed new point of diversion
- 17 for the California WaterFix?
- 18 WITNESS DANNA: Yes, it is.
- 19 MR. BERLINER: Did you prepare the testimony
- 20 that you offered here today?
- 21 WITNESS DANNA: Yes, I did.
- MR. BERLINER: Did you have any assistance in
- 23 the preparation of that testimony?
- 24 WITNESS DANNA: Yes. I worked with our
- 25 attorney's office. They had just some general -- kind

1 of a general template, but most of it was my own

- 2 information.
- 3 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Mr. Danna, could
- 4 you please move the microphone closer to your mouth?
- 5 WITNESS DANNA: You need me to repeat that?
- 6 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: No, that's fine.
- 7 WITNESS DANNA: Thank you.
- 8 MR. BERLINER: Did anybody other than an
- 9 attorney help you prepare your testimony?
- 10 WITNESS DANNA: No.
- 11 MR. HERRICK: Is the purpose of your testimony
- 12 to identify the contract and State Water rights held by
- 13 the Plumas Mutual Water Company?
- 14 WITNESS DANNA: Yes, it is.
- 15 MR. BERLINER: Sir, you're not testifying
- 16 today as an expert, are you?
- 17 WITNESS DANNA: No, I'm not.
- MR. BERLINER: And other than referring to
- 19 expert testimony that was prepared by MBK Engineers,
- 20 you're not offering any additional opinions, are you?
- 21 WITNESS DANNA: No, I'm not.
- 22 MR. BERLINER: As far as any potential impact
- 23 of the California WaterFix on Plumas Mutual Water
- 24 Company, you're relying entirely on the work by MBK
- 25 Engineers, correct?

- 1 WITNESS DANNA: Yes, I am.
- 2 MR. BERLINER: Sir, other than any contract
- 3 rights that you may have with the State of California
- 4 or any California water rights that Plumas Mutual may
- 5 hold, are you claiming a right to stored water in any
- 6 State of California facility?
- 7 WITNESS DANNA: Well, I think we -- as I
- 8 mentioned and as you mentioned, we have a contract with
- 9 the State that is very specific about the amount of
- 10 water we can divert, when we can divert it, under what
- 11 conditions, drought, whatever. So I think that means
- 12 that it's the State's responsibility to deliver that
- 13 water. And I would assume that, in some years, that
- 14 water does have to come out of storage.
- MR. BERLINER: Understood, sir. My question,
- 16 though, is does the contract itself provide you with a
- 17 specific right to stored water, as you understand the
- 18 contract?
- 19 WITNESS DANNA: Well, as I said, think the
- 20 State has a responsibility to deliver that water, and
- 21 they have to deliver it. We have an agreement.
- MR. BERLINER: And just to be clear, it's up
- 23 to the State whether it diverts stored water or bypass
- 24 water in terms of meeting your contract rights; isn't
- 25 that correct?

1 WITNESS DANNA: Yeah. It's -- if it comes out

- of storage or natural flow, wherever it comes from.
- 3 MR. BERLINER: I have no further questions for
- 4 this witness.
- 5 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Thank you,
- 6 Mr. Berliner.
- 7 Just confirming, no other cross-examination?
- 8 (No response)
- 9 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Any redirect of
- 10 Mr. Danna?
- MR. COOPER: No.
- 12 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: All right. Thank
- 13 you, Mr. Cooper.
- 14 Thank you, all the witnesses. This panel is
- 15 excused.
- MR. BERLINER: Thank you.
- 17 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: With that, we are
- 18 going to be adjourning early today. But let me again
- 19 put everyone on notice, first of all, tomorrow we will
- 20 start at 10:00 o'clock with Group 7, No. 5, and then
- 21 Group 8.
- 22 Group 7, you should be advised that if we
- 23 finish earlier than expected, I will call upon Group
- 7's Panel 7 and Panel 6 and expect them to be here.
- 25 And I will expect other parties to be prepared

- 1 to cross-examine them if we get to them tomorrow.
- 2 We will have Mr. Orme from the last -- the
- 3 last witness for this panel on Friday, I believe?
- 4 Right?
- 5 MR. COOPER: That is correct.
- 6 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: And all other
- 7 parties should be prepared to go in the order of direct
- 8 that was sent out -- I don't know when this was sent
- 9 out. But it was made available to everyone when we
- 10 resumed on the 20th. It's a draft order of
- 11 presentation for Part 1B. And I had directed that any
- 12 comments, changes requested be submitted by noon of
- 13 last Friday. And I believe Mr. Brodsky was the only
- 14 party that requested some additional time to do some
- 15 organization.
- 16 But for the other remaining parties, I will be
- 17 calling you to present your direct, your cases in
- 18 chief, in the order as presented in this draft order of
- 19 presentations for Part 1B. And I will expect you to be
- 20 present and your witnesses to be available at that time
- 21 to present your case in chief.
- Mr. Bezerra?
- 23 MR. BEZERRA: Yes, thank you very much.
- 24 Preliminarily, I found a clicker under a chair
- 25 back here, so I think that belongs to someone here.

- 1 What would be very helpful in terms of
- 2 scheduling witnesses for Panels 5, 7, and 6 is if we
- 3 can get some estimate as to the length of the
- 4 cross-examination of those panels. You know, we're
- 5 talking 15 witnesses or so, many of whom are water
- 6 managers; some are people coming from out of town.
- 7 So it would be extremely useful if we could
- 8 get an estimate as to cross-examination of Panel 5 and
- 9 then 7 and 6.
- 10 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Mr. Bezerra, there
- 11 is no prohibition against you working with the other
- 12 parties, petitioners, and others to get that question
- 13 answered.
- I will leave it up to you all to figure it
- 15 out. And the conduct of this hearing, I'm simply going
- 16 to go in the order that is in this sheet and expect
- 17 everyone to be prepared, to be ready to present their
- 18 case in chief, and to conduct the cross-examination as
- 19 appropriate.
- 20 You may consult with the other counsels on
- 21 your own time and figure out that timing.
- MR. BEZERRA: Yes, and where I'm coming from,
- 23 it says, we had some extended discussions last Friday
- 24 along those lines that resulted in where we are now.
- 25 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Which didn't work

- 1 out very well today.
- 2 MR. BEZERRA: Correct, and that's my concern,
- 3 is that we attempted to do that informally on Friday.
- 4 And obviously, Ms. Doduc, you don't want to end up in
- 5 the same place tomorrow or another day.
- 6 So it would be very, very useful, as I said.
- 7 And it doesn't have to be on the record, but if we
- 8 could get some estimate from Department of Water
- 9 Resources and any other cross-examiners as to timing so
- 10 that we can schedule our witnesses to be here at an
- 11 appropriate time.
- 12 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Again, do that on
- 13 your own time.
- MR. BERLINER: Thank you.
- 15 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Mr. Mizell.
- MR. MIZELL: Yes, Tripp Mizell for the
- 17 Department of Water Resources.
- 18 So is it the Board's instruction that we be
- 19 prepared for Panel 7 if their time presents itself at
- 20 the end of tomorrow's Panel 5, and then Panel 6 after
- 21 that?
- 22 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Correct.
- MR. MIZELL: Thank you.
- 24 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: And then I will go
- 25 down the order of direct as provided in this table.

- 1 So just to be clear, those parties that are
- 2 listed as under the first column, "Order of Direct,"
- 3 starting from 2 onward, should be prepared to present
- 4 their direct when they are called.
- 5 Your microphone is not on. And please
- 6 identify --
- 7 MR. FERGUSON: Aaron Ferguson, Sacramento
- 8 County Water Agency. We're with the joint panel with
- 9 East Bay MUD. I believe they follow No. 6, correct, on
- 10 reverse flows? I'm just confirming that they're in the
- 11 queue, too, right after Panel 6, right?
- 12 MS. HEINRICH: They're listed as second. It's
- 13 the combined, with Group 7 and 15.
- 14 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: If you are on the
- 15 table as being order No. 2, then, yes, you will be up.
- MR. FERGUSON: Okay.
- 17 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: I will go in this
- 18 order.
- 19 Mr. Bezerra?
- 20 MR. BEZERRA: Yes, thank you. One point of
- 21 clarification. My understanding was that the
- 22 contemplated order of presentation was that Panel or
- 23 Group 8 would be going after --
- 24 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Panel 5.
- 25 MR. BEZERRA: Panel 5. And I understand we're

1 attempting to confirm the availability of Group 8. But

- 2 that's -- Mr. Mizell indicated that it would be
- 3 Panel 5, Panel 7, Panel 6. I believe based on the
- 4 discussions we had last Friday afternoon, we're trying
- 5 to slot 8 in.
- 6 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: Let's be very
- 7 clear. We will go tomorrow, starting with Group 7,
- 8 Panel 5. We will then go to Group 8. Then if we have
- 9 time, we will continue to Group 7, Panel 7. Group 7,
- 10 Panel 6. And then if we finish with them, I will start
- 11 going down the list, which would mean order No. 2,
- 12 Group 7 and 15, joint testimony until such time that we
- 13 get to Friday, where Mr. Orme will be the last witness
- 14 for Group 7, completing Panel No. 4.
- MR. BEZERRA: Thank you.
- 16 CO-HEARING OFFICER DODUC: We will send out an
- 17 e-mail to everyone to make this very clear. All right?
- 18 Thank you all. I will see you tomorrow at
- 19 10:00 o'clock.
- 20 (Whereupon, the proceedings recessed
- 21 at 11:03 a.m.)

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25 STATE OF CALIFORNIA ) ss.

1	COUNTY OF MARIN )
2	I, DEBORAH FUQUA, a Certified Shorthand
3	Reporter of the State of California, do hereby certify
4	that the foregoing proceedings were reported by me, a
5	disinterested person, and thereafter transcribed under
6	my direction into typewriting and is a true and correct
7	transcription of said proceedings.
8	I further certify that I am not of counsel or
9	attorney for either or any of the parties in the
10	foregoing proceeding and caption named, nor in any way
11	interested in the outcome of the cause named in said
12	caption.
13	Dated the 1st day of November, 2016.
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16	DEBORAH FUQUA
17	CSR NO. 12948
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