PRE-HEARING CONFERENCE STATE OF CALIFORNIA WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS

In the Matter of:

THE PROPOSED CEASE AND DESIST ORDER AGAINST CALIFORNIA AMERICAN WATER FOR THE UNAUTHORIZED DIVERSION) OF WATER FROM THE CARMEL RIVER IN MONTEREY COUNTY.

> JOE SERNA JR./CalEPA BUILDING 1001 I STREET SIERRA HEARING ROOM SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2008 9:04 A.M.



JAMES F. PETERS, CSR, RPR CERTIFIED SHORTHAND REPORTER LICENSE NUMBER 10063

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Dr. Gary Wolff, Vice Chairperson

STAFF

Ms. Jane Farwell, Environmental Scientist

Mr. Ernest Mona, Water Resource Control Engineer

Mr. Paul Murphey, Engineering Geologist

Mr. Buck Taylor, Staff Counsel

PROSECUTION TEAM:

Mr. Reed Sato, Director, Office of Enforcement

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PROCEEDINGS

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Good morning. And welcome to this pre-hearing conference on the proposed Cease and Desist Order against California American Water. I'm Art Baggett a member of the State Board and here with my colleague Gary Wolff.

Also, present are the staff assigned to assist us in this proceeding, staff attorney, Buck Taylor; staff geologist, Paul Murphey; Engineer, Ernie Mona; and Jane Farwell, Environmental Scientist.

So the purpose of today's pre-hearing conference is held in accordance with the public notice dated the 28th of February 2008. If you are physically present today and have not submitted a notice of intent to appear, if you could fill out one of these blue cards. I have one. I think everybody else I've got most of the names on the list otherwise. If you're not sure, you can put if necessary.

We have provided a call-in number and I noticed a few people are on it who are not present in-person today, and glad you could join us.

I will now record the appearances for this proceeding. As I identify the name of each person, I would like the representative for that party to identify him or herself.

So from the State Water Resources Control Board prosecution team, Reed --

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OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT DIRECTOR SATO: This is Reed Sato.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: California American Water Company

MR. RUBIN: Morning, Hearing Officer Baggett. John Rubin for California American Water.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: And then I have a number of interested persons. And I don't know if now is the appropriate time. I think there might — this list goes on. If you plan on being a party to cross examine witnesses, to present evidence, we require notice of intent. If you just want to make a policy statement or a public statement, generally you don't have to file a notice of intent. We'll have that hearing in Carmel on the 1st where the public who wants to just make comments of a general nature is welcome to make those. They won't be as evidence.

So if you are an interested person that intends to be a party to the proceeding, maybe you could identify that at this time, because normally we've had a lot of parties but not 20 usually.

MR. LOWERY: Mr. Baggett, this is Lloyd Lower for the Monterey County Hospitality Association. Bob McKenzie

is also on the line. And a notice of intent to appear has been submitted. Some of the people who have been designated on that as expert witnesses probably aren't.

And I wanted to find out what would be the appropriate way to change that.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Okay. Let me read down the list. And I think most of you on the phone have already -- I've got your party here. So then we can get to it that way. So first I have the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District.

MR. LAREDO: Mr. Baggett, this is David Laredo on the phone. The District has filed a notice of intent to appear and does intend to participate as a full party and has witnesses that it plans to call and wishes to cross examine.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Very good. Thank you. City of Carmel.

MR. FREEMAN: Hi Don Freeman on behalf of the City of Carmel-By-The-Sea and we did file a notice of intent to appear and we do wish to call witnesses.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Very good. Thank you. City of Seaside.

MR. McGLOTHLIN: This is Russ McGlothlin and we would --

MR. LAREDO: Mr. Baggett, we could not hear what

that response was if there was a response?

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Why don't we put the mic -- there's a button the mic there.

Maybe we could go back.

Carmel.

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MR. FREEMAN: Don Freeman representing the City of Carmel-By-The-Sea. And we did file a notice of intent and we do intend to call parties.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Very good.

City of Seaside.

MR. McGLOTHLIN: Russ McGlothlin representing the City of Seaside. The same, full party status, calling witnesses.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: And the Seaside Basin Watermaster.

MR. McGLOTHLIN: Again Russ McGlothlin representing the Seaside Basin Watermaster, full party status, calling witnesses. City of Sand City?

MR. HEISINGER: James Heisinger representing Sand City, full party status.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT. Pebble Beach Company?

MR. JAMISON: Mr. Baggett, I'm Thomas Jamison
representing the Pebble Beach Company. And Pebble Beach
Company has filed a notice of intent and intends to
participate in full party status.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Very goo.

Monterey County Hospitality Association.

MR. LOWERY: Lloyd Lowery appearing and we have filed a notice of intent to appear as a full party.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Jonas Minton or Planning and Conservation League, question mark.

MR. MINTON: This is Jonas Minton with the Planning and Conversation League, representing the Planning and Conservation League. We filed a notice of intent to appear and intend to participate as a full party.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Very good. Thank you.

National Marine Fisheries?

National Marine Fisheries?

Going twice?

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Sierra Club, Ventura Chapter.

MR. SILVER: I'm Larry Silver representing Sierra Club, Ventura Chapter, which was the original complainant in this proceeding. And I would like to make a statement this morning concerning hearing procedures.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Okay. You'll have your opportunity in a minute.

MR. LAREDO: May I ask a question of clarification? Was that the Ventura Chapter or the Ventana Chapter?

MR. SILVER: I'm sorry. I represent Sierra Club. And the chapter is the Ventana Chapter.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Could you identify yourself if you're on the phone for the court reporter.

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MR. LAREDO: Thank you. I'm sorry. That was David Laredo for the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Thank you

MR. SILVER: I do want to be clear that basically the National Sierra Club is participating in these proceedings as a full party with rights of cross examination and present witnesses.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Very good. Great. Carmel River Steelhead Association.

MR. JACKSON: Michael Jackson appearing for the Carmel River Steelhead Association. We have filed a notice of intent to appear. We do intend to appear and be a full party.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: And California Sportfishing Alliance.

MR. JACKSON: Same thing. Mike Jackson appearing for the California Sportfishing Protection Alliance. We intend to be a full party and avail ourselves of cross examination.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Very good. California

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MR. BAIOCCHI: Bob Baiocchi. I'm their executive director. We plan on being a full party. We filed an NOI.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Very good. Thank you.

Public Trust Alliance?

MR. WARBURTON: Michael Warburton and Pat

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BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Could you come up to the mic. I think that would be helpful Michael

MR. WARBURTON: Michael Warburton and Pat

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BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: There's a button.

MR. WARBURTON: Michael Warburton and Pat Nelson for the Public Trust Alliance and we will be participating as a full party.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Very good.

Thank you.

MR. LAREDO: Could you repeat that. That did not pickup so we could hear that by phone.

MR. WARBURTON: It was Michael Warburton and Pat Nelson appearing for the Public Trust Alliance as a full party.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Thank you. I have other parties. The Public Utility, Commission Ratepayers.

MR. ULMER: Good morning. Thank you.

Good Morning. My name is Andrew Ulmer. I'm actually Chief Counsel for something called the Division of Ratepayer Advocates. I'm actually not a representative of the Public Utilities Commission. The Division of Ratepayer Advocates is an independent arm of the PUC that's created by the Legislature, has a director that's been appointed by the Governor. We've got a statutory mandate to advocate for the lowest possible utility rates, consistent with safe and reliable service.

We did submit a notice of intent to appear, but we intend to limit our participation solely to present a written policy statement and we will also make an oral presentation or intend to at the April 1st public participation hearing.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Very good. We'll talk about that in a minute, I think, about the difference between those proceedings. And then you can decide -- well, might as well talk about it now.

If you're a party, we normally -- at least, it's my policy, not to allow parties to do policy statements, because if you're a full party, you get to do an opening statement. And if you're going to do an opening statement, that's your opportunity at the proceeding itself to make whatever case you want to make.

Policy statements are non-evidentiary in nature and they're limited to 3 minutes. It's usually maybe some of the ratepayers will probably, I assume, show up and make some policy -- some public statements on the 1st. But if you want to be a party to the hearing, then you'll get your opportunity there. And I would just for efficiency and the lack of confusion, it's cleaner if -- it's more straightforward for you to make an opening statement in the proceeding itself, if you intend to be a party. That's my preference.

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MR. ULMER: Okay. And we'll definitely take that under consideration. And with that said, I mean I'd like to reserve the opportunity to make such an opening statement. Our intent here is really to provide, we hope, some helpful background about what the draft cease and desist order may mean for some dialogues that have been ongoing on the Monterey peninsula with respect to regional water supply planning, as well as potential impacts on ratepayers of Cal Am.

mean, at least from a perspective as I think for us as hearing officers and for our staff, that would be helpful to have part of the record of the hearing not as a policy statement, because that's -- I think will go directly to the nature of these proceedings and it would be helpful if

that was part of the hearing from my perspective.

MR. ULMER: And just to clarify, that could be made as part of an opening statement in the formal evidentiary process? And with that said, I don't anticipate needing the opportunity to cross examine witnesses.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Okay. Very good.

Thank you.

California Department of Fish and Game?

Department of Fish and Game?

City of Monterey?

And I have one blue card, Larry Silver from the Sierra Club.

MR. SILVER: Yes. I just filled that out.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Oh, you filled that out.

MR. SILVER: We did file a notice of intent to

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MR. RUBIN: Hearing Officer Baggett, before you make a decision, I presume, on the status of parties, I would like to talk about 2 issues. One is the scope of the proceeding. It's --

MR. LAREDO: Could you identify yourself, please.

MR. RUBIN: I'm sorry, this is Jon Rubin for

California American Water.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Is you mic on?

MR. RUBIN: It is on.

MR. LAREDO: Thank you.

MR. RUBIN: Jon Rubin for California American Water.

We'd like to talk about the scope of the proceeding. And once we get through that, I would like to have the opportunity to potentially raise a few more issues.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Very good. Let me go through the rest of the opening statement here and then I likewise have couple of issue us that probably aren't in here and that we need to talk about.

So the purpose of this pre-hearing is to discuss the conduct of a hearing scheduled for Thursday June 19th. This pre-hearing conference is not for the purpose of presenting evidence or arguments in support or of opposition to the proposed cease and desist order.

After addressing a few general comments, I will ask each person filing notice of intent if there are matters they wish to bring to the attention of the Board. So we'll get there in a minute.

A cursory review of the notice of intent to appear leads me to suspect that much of the testimony that may be offered may be repetitive. If the submissions of written testimony confirms that, I may limit the parties

offering such testimony to the full time indicated in their notice. We're going to try to make this efficient and not, as the notice says, 20 minutes. We might limit that if we see that it's going to be the same evidence presented 6 times or 8 times.

Likewise, I would encourage parties of like interests to maybe coordinate their cases. I guess from my experience, 9 years here, where that was very effective for, I think, the Board and for the hearing team was on the Imperial Irrigation District Water transfer, where we had, I think, what 14 parties.

And it was very helpful, particularly the environmental community, had 7 or 8 parties. And they worked — it actually was more efficient, quite frankly, and they could bring more expert witnesses in and focus on different pieces. And they coordinated their case and it was very helpful. I would suggest that if that's possible. If not, you have the opportunity, it's your time, and make the case. But I think efficiency would benefit all of us.

Fishery testimony. On order number water right Order 95-10 makes many explicit findings concerning the fishery and Steelhead resources of the Carmel River and the impact of the diversion by the Cal American Water Company on these resources. These findings are res

judicata as to California American Water Company, the Carmel River Steelhead Association and the Ventana Chapter of the Sierra Club.

Testimony addressing the effects of the Cal American Water's continued diversion on the fishery of this river may be of assistance to the Board.

The issues and procedures for the hearing are described in detail in the February 28th, 2008 hearing notice. We want to provide an opportunity for any questions or discussion regarding those matters and procedures set forth in the notice. If there are any stipulations that would further expedite the hearing, please let us know. In order to ensure that we hear from everyone, I'll call on those who have made appearances first. And we'll use the same order as we previously have this morning.

If anyone wishes to respond or comment on another party's comments, please let me know and we'll call on you at the appropriate time.

So with that, we'll start out -- I'll just go down the list and see if -- I think it's going to be a lot faster.

Mr. Sato.

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OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT DIRECTOR SATO: Mr.

Baggett, one thing I just wanted to -- I noticed that some

people had -- it sounded like they were just appearing on the phone -- excuse me just joining us and they may not have identified themselves. And so there may be some of the people who filed notices of intent that you called previously who didn't respond and maybe they are on now. So I just raise that as procedural issue.

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BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Well, the only 2 that I have that didn't respond were, what, Fish and Game -- is Fish and Game on the phone?

And the City of Monterey were the 2 that did not respond.

MR. RUBIN: I believe NOAA Fisheries as well.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: And National Marine
Fisheries.

MR. KEIFER: Yes, Mr. Baggett. This is Chris Keifer with NOAA's Office of General Counsel. I am on the phone now. And the National Marine Fisheries Service is here.

MR. MOELLER: And this is Neil Moeller also with the NOAA Office of General Counsel in Seattle and I just joined.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Very good. Thank you.

OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT DIRECTOR SATO: Mr.

Baggett, I mean one of the issues that I think have jumped out at as in terms of the possibilities for trying to

address some of these matter through some type of summary adjudication proceeding. It seems to us that --

MR. LAREDO: May I ask that you identify yourself. This is David Laredo, but I don't who's speaking.

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OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT DIRECTOR SATO: I thought they identified me. This is Reed Sato with the Water Rights prosecution team.

You know looking at the request for hearing filed by Cal American Water, it seems to me that they're trying to raise the issue that somehow the existence of -- or their efforts with regard to 95-10 -- if they're in compliance with 95-10, that that somehow insulates them from the proposed cease and desist order. And I think that we could dispose of that issue with some legal briefs. So I think that that's a possibility that we would suggest and raise to you.

And other than that, I don't have any comments at this point.

MR. JACKSON: Mr. Baggett, are we going to get to that issue right now?

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: I would like to go down the parties and you can respond or see if there's any -- get all the issues on the table first.

So Cal American Water Company.

MR. RUBIN: We do have a number of issues that we would like to raise. And I'll just go through them generally. As I said earlier, this is Jon Rubin for California American Water. I would like to discuss the scope of the proceeding. I believe there is, at least a potential based upon the notices of intent to appear, a difference in view as to what the scope of the proceeding is.

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I would like to talk about the potential of bifurcating the hearing to address kind of what's traditionally called a liability phase versus a remedy phase as a mechanism.

STAFF COUNSEL TAYLOR: Versus the what phase?

MR. RUBIN: A remedy. A question about whether there's a basis for issuing a cease and desist and then what is the appropriate remedy if one issues.

Also, a question about pre-hearing briefing. A little bit was just touched on, but there's a number of, I think, legal issues that could be raised prior to the hearing, whether there's an opportunity for pre-hearing briefing.

The next issue deals with closing briefs. And just wanted to make sure that we talk a little bit about that and have the opportunity to set forth the hearing with a recognition that there would be closing briefs and

replies to the closing.

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And then the last deals with the staff exhibits that were identified. I've been trying to obtain some clarity as to what documents are in those files.

MR. BAIOCCHI: Mr. Baggett. This is Bob Baiocchi.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Yes.

MR. BAIOCCHI: I'm hearing-impaired and Mr. Rubin comes in very, very low.

MR. RUBIN: I apologize. I will try to speak louder.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Thank you.

Let's just go down and continue to get what people want to talk about, then we'll just go down one at a time.

Monterey Peninsula, Carmel-By-The-Sea, Seaside, do you have any other issues?

MR. FREEMAN: Yes, this is Don Freeman representing the City of Carmel-By-The-Sea. And the issues that we'd be interested in would be supporting a bifurcation, first of all, because we think that would be important. And the City of Carmel-By-The-Sea would be interested in dealing with the remedy phase. But in addition to that, assuming there are no objections from the other cities that are on the phone, I'd be willing to

coordinate all of the cities together, because I think they're going to be like-minded. And in terms of coordinating speeding up the effort of the hearing, I think in line with what your comments were earlier, I think that might be appropriate. And I'd be prepared to take that responsibility if everybody concurs.

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BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Okay. Well, talk to the other cities, I guess and --

MR. FREEMAN: Well try and do that today.

MR. McGLOTHLIN: Russ McGlothlin on behalf of the City of Seaside and the Seaside Basin Watermaster. I concur with the comments of Don Freeman. We both support the concept of bifurcation because we believe, you know, most of the testimony, aside from what Cal Am would present, is isolated to the remedy phase. And I certainly concur with coordination amongst the like-minded parties, which would include all the cities.

STAFF COUNSEL TAYLOR: If you'll pardon a brief interruption, I believe you jumped in ahead of Mr. Laredo.

MR. LAREDO: Thank you. This is David Laredo on behalf of the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District.

I would agree with the comments that have been made been so far. I do believe that this proceeding does lend itself to bifurcation. That would streamline the

presentation of the testimony. Certainly, the question as to should the cease and desist order be issued is in the first question. And then if issued, should it be modified and what is the timing of the remedies that would be used and implemented?

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So we would agree fully with the bifurcation.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: So we're down to Pebble

Beach Company.

MR. JAMISON: Mr. Baggett, my name is Thomas

Jamison representing the Pebble Beach Company. Really,

the primary perhaps sole purpose of Pebble Beach Company

and its participation is to have recognized the Pebble

Beach water entitlement of 380 acre feet, which has been

granted by the Monterey Peninsula Water Management

District to Pebble Beach Company.

Frankly, we would hope that a stipulation could be reached among the parties, because the water entitlement has consistently been recognized by both the State Board and California American Water Company as a valid water entitlement. It's recognized in Order 95-10 and as well as subsequent correspondence from State Board staff.

So we would -- hopefully, we would be able to reach a stipulation with the parties that would modify the cease and desist order, at least recognize this, that

would avoid this as an issue in the hearing and allow us to not have to participate.

Thank you.

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BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Monterey County Hospitality Association.

MR. LOWERY: This is Lloyd Lowery. Bob McKenzie is also on the line. He signed the notice of intent to appear. We agree with the stipulation. As I mentioned earlier, we have in our notice of intent to appear designating certain persons as experts and I think that we may want to change that. I don't want to do it this morning, but I want to be able to submit something that modifies that. Otherwise, I agree with what's been said.

And we would try to coordinate with the cities and the other interested parties to the extent that our issues are similar.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Okay. That would be helpful.

Planning and Conservation League. Jonas.

MR. MINTON: This is Jonas Minton. I have nothing to add at this time.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: National Marine Fisheries?

MR. KEIFER: Neil, do you want to speak?

This is Chris Keifer. My colleague Neil isn't

25 responding. I don't know if he's still --

MR. MOELLER: No, I just neglected to take my phone off mute. So I apologize for that. I was speaking to myself.

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Good morning. This is Neil Moeller with NOAA
Office of General Counsel. We're the National Marine
Fisheries Service along with Christopher Keifer in our
Long Beach office. I apologize that I was a little late
this morning. I was challenged getting the dial-in
number.

I was curious to know procedurally if there will be a Minute Order coming out of this pre-hearing conference to capture some of the understandings that we're discussing now.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: If we make modifications, certainly there will be. At this point, we haven't made any decisions.

MR. MOELLER: As I came in, you were explaining the effect of Order 95-10's findings regarding fishery effects of Cal Am's past diversions. Is that a concept that would be captured in some sort of a summary of today's discussion?

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: No.

MR. MOELLER: Okay. All right. Thank you.

The other question I have is as we go forward,

I'd be interested if folks would elaborate a little bit on

what they see as the virtues of bifurcating the proceeding as some have suggested. I'm not sure that I see the advantages of that from the National Marine Fisheries Service's perspective.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Okay.

MR. MOELLER: Very good. Do you have anything? That's all I have

MR. KEIFER: No. All I would have said was that I don't have an opinion on bifurcation at this time.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Sierra Club. Mr. Silver.

MR. SILVER: Sierra Club is concerned with the scope of the hearing and would like to make certain suggestions with respect to a modification --

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Please.

MR. SILVER: -- of the notice with regard to scope.

There are some issues that I think Mr. Jackson is going to address. I'd like to address initially a provision of Board Order 2002 -- rather an order reconsidering that. I'm sorry.

I'd like to talk about a provision of WRO 2002-2002, which basically, as I read it, although it applies to diversions from San Clemente Dam specifically states that the -- specifically states that with regard to diversions in general, "The Chief of the Water Division is

also delegated the authority to modify the flow requirements of this order in response to any changes in the requirements imposed under the Endangered Species Act as necessary to prevent this order from being in violation of the Endangered Species Act or unreasonably interfering with efforts to comply with the Endangered Species Act."

I'd like to note for purposes of this proceeding that by letter dated March 14th, 2008 Carmel River Steelhead Association and the Sierra Club have filed a 60-day notice of intent to sue with regard to alleged takings, unlawful takings under the Endangered Species Act by Cal Am. The 60-day notice letter is addressed to the Board, among others. Although, no specific relief is requested against the Board. This is basically in contemplation of a filing in federal court at some future date seeking basically relief against unlawful takings, which are a direct violation of the Endangered Species Act. So the letter did go to the Chair of the State Water Resources Control Board, NOAA, Cal Am and others.

So specifically with respect to the notice that the Board sent here. We feel that it would be appropriate and consistent with the retained jurisdiction that is set out in the order reconsidering WR Order 2001-04 that part of this proceeding contemplate the submission of evidence with regard to violations of the Endangered Species Act.

And particularly, of course, and I think what remediation through the cease and desist order this board could take essentially to reduce those takings or eliminate those unlawful takings.

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And so we're just saying that that's an adjunctive -- kind of adjunctive function, which we think is an appropriate function under the reserve jurisdiction. And although it is noted in the staff exhibits that this particular order of the Board is to be an exhibit, I did not see anything in the notice which would indicate that the hearing was itself to be in some way based upon paragraph 1 at page 18 of the order that I'm addressing with regard to the reservation of jurisdiction with respect to the Endangered Species Act.

Secondly, and I'm going to defer to Mr. Jackson on this, we are concerned about the issues that were raised by Mr. Baiocchi in his letter, some of which you may have just addressed Chairman Baggett. And those issues go with respect to making it clear that there will be evidence submitted with regard to the present state of Steelhead, and, in fact, what has occurred on the river since Order 9510.

And we would also at this point also make a request, and I think that Mr. Jackson will elaborate on this, that there be explicit consideration in the notice

being given not only to the public trust doctrine as bearing on the issue of remedies, but that Fish and Game Code 5937 relating to fish passage problems at the San Pablo Dam be addressed as well. So I'll defer to my colleague Mr. Jackson for that.

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MR. JACKSON: I think we're probably at San Clemente Dam rather than San Pablo Dam.

First of all, I want to endorse and support the letter written by Bob Baiocchi on behalf of his clients. I think it's a very thoughtful letter. I think what he requests is appropriate for the hearing.

In regard to the bifurcation, both the California Sportfishing Protection Alliance and the Carmel River Steelhead Association oppose the bifurcation at the present time. And we do that understanding that it's been 13 years since this Board's predecessor declared the law. And in that 13 years, we've come very, very close to losing the Steelhead.

So we agree that the scope ought to be expanded to include, as Mr. Silver said, all of the areas within the State Board's jurisdiction. I don't know whether you would like us to file a formal complaint with the State Board prior to expanding this hearing or whether or not, as we believe, as Mr. Silver has just told you, that the extent of the order and the reference to the Steelhead and

the Endangered Species Act are such that this Board has the authority to take a look at what's happened on the river by the neglect of Cal Am to do pretty much anything since 1995.

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Clearly, what we are envisioning is a hearing that will bring you all up to speed and that requires the folks who have been found to be illegally diverting water to sort of fish or cut bait as to what they're going to do. They didn't do anything in the 20th century, so hopefully we won't have to wait through the 21st century.

So, at this point, we would oppose bifurcation. We would like to have the broadest scope of the hearing commensurate with all of your authorities.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Let me follow up with a question. It seems that your argument though would be supporting dealing with the liability, the condition of the river, the liability issues and whether there is any legal liability and what the condition is that would be a background that one would want to know before we even talked about whether there is a remedy and what that remedy is.

MR. JACKSON: Our position is that the liability has been established by the order. The cease and desist order is an appropriate narrow first step. And what we're -- we support the cease and desist order at the

present time. It's not fast enough for us and may not be fast enough for the Steelhead, but it is certainly a step forward to actually begin to reduce the illegal diversions after all these years.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: But if this Board, under our reservation of jurisdiction, you're asking us, as I understood it, and the Sierra Club, to reopen basically the order. Reopen the hearing. Take new evidence in on the state and the condition of the river. That seems to me is going to be more than a 2-day proceeding.

MR. JACKSON: Well, definitely it's going to be more than a 2-day proceeding.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: A few weeks. And that wouldn't be as quick as just dealing with the narrow issue of the cease and desist, which is before us now. It's much narrower than opening up the whole proceeding.

I'm trying to understand how -- it would take longer -- I'm trying not to be argumentative. I'm just trying to understand how --

MR. JACKSON: I guess, Mr. Baggett, the best way to refer to this, particularly since you brought up the Imperial case, is that efficiency in front of the State Board does not always result in efficiency in the legal aspects. There's 11 lawsuits over mistakes made, we believe, by the State Board in Imperial that have been

going on now for -- ever since you've finished.

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The fall back is that all of them were based upon your hearing. And it's been years. We've been to the appellate courts and back. It seems to me that taking a little more time to prepare a complete record --

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: That took 45 days as I recall.

MR. JACKSON: I understand.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: It was not a short hearing.

MR. JACKSON: I'm not at all expecting this one to take 45 days. But the idea is that we believe that everybody will be better off with a full and complete hearing however many days it takes. And I believe with you and Mr. Wolff or whoever is going to hear it, operating with a whip, you can move us along. But in the end, if you only deal with a little piece of your jurisdiction, we've missed an opportunity to get on the right track on this river.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Okay.

MR. RUBIN: Hearing Officer Baggett, can I respond? I've been trying to be patient and have you identify what issues we need to discuss, but in looking at the clock and realize that we have 20 minutes probably until we need to complete this, I think there's a lot of

issues that are being thrown out there. And from my perspective, the focus of the hearing has to be based upon the January 15th 2008 letter that was sent by Mr. Kassel to my client.

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In that letter, which provided us notice as required by the Water Code, the issue was, in my mind, very well defined. And it's a question of whether California American Water violated Condition 2 of Order 95-10. And I think that's the focus is looking at what the Board has said in 95-10 under Condition 2 and determining whether the company has violated that provision. And that's the notice that we received. That's the basis upon which we filed our notice of intent.

If there's a desire to have the Board revisit 95-10, essentially act as if that order is not there and move forward, there's a number of issues that we need to discussed. You've touched on one of them, res judicata. That was an order that was issued. Litigation was filed. Litigation was settled. In my mind, the Board addressed the trespass issues, addressed the effects on public trust. The Order 95-10 is how you dealt with that. And we have that order as background. People might not like it, but the time to challenge that order has come and gone.

If we decide -- if you decide to expand the

issues, I think that's much more beyond the scope of the notice that was provided to California American Water.

And that's why I think there's a threshold issue discussing what the scope is is very important. Then it gets to the next issue of, in my mind, the involvement of persons or entities that were not identified as parties in the notice.

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Again, I think that there's a lot of issues that we still need to discuss about the involvement of so many If I calculated it correctly, just direct testimony is set right now for about 23 hours with, I think, 60 witnesses. There might be some duplication Again, that's a lot more witnesses than I think is there. necessary to address the issues, even if it's a larger scope. There's a huge burden that would be placed on the company that would be placed on your prosecution team, and I look at it very similar to how a court would evaluate intervention. And at some point having, you know, 10 parties presenting evidence on Steelhead or 10 parties presenting evidence on appropriate remedy impacts on cities and municipalities becomes just unduly burdensome. So I think we need to get through all of those issues.

And ultimately if the Board decides to expand this scope, there's a another issue in terms of how we might want to present our case.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Right.

VICE CHAIRPERSON WOLFF: I need to briefly make a comment on a different matter. Those on the telephone -- this is Gary Wolff, one of the hearing officers. Those on the telephone, you need to mute your phones or cease from making typing, breathing and paper shuffling noises. That would be very helpful to us in this room.

Thank you.

MR. SILVER: Chairman Baggett, may I briefly respond to the remarks

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Let me get through the rest of this and see if there's anything else and then we'll come back and deal with it. I appreciate the concerns. And I think the dialogue, Mr. Jackson -- I think -- I understand the 2 parties' concerns here.

But let's see if any other parties have any comments. We've got Michael. I think we've got most of them.

Does CalSPA -- Mr. Baiocchi, do you have any additional comments that haven't been raised or concurrences with your predecessors?

MR. BAIOCCHI: Okay. My name is Bob Baiocchi. Yes, I have some concerns.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Okay.

Number 1, I agree with and I thank Mr. Jackson

and Mr. Silver for their presentation and highlighting the letter I wrote Mr. Taylor and all that.

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And secondly, for me, this is a very important issue and for other folks that may want to appear, but you need, I think at this pre-hearing conference, to make a decision whether or not disabled people can testify at the hearing without being present.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: I think that was one of the issues I wanted to discuss eventually today. From my recollection, there's been one time that has been used by this Board and it was through a deposition process. And believe it was in the Mono Lake case, where there was --parties were allowed to go depose a witness who was absolutely unable to be here. And I think in that case the witness had just, I think, not very long to live and was a major witness.

And I think I want to discuss that with the parties. If that was agreeable, it would certainly be agreeable to, I think, the hearing officers and our staff.

MR. BAIOCCHI: Okay. May I go on, sir?
BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Sure.

MR. BAIOCCHI: One of the things it will do for me, if I'm not going to be allowed to testify, then I don't have to submit written testimony. And I save myself a lot of time, but I want to be a witness. And I believe

I can bring a lot of information.

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So anyway -- and it would be in compliance with a ADA, you know that. And I think it would be a wonderful step forward, because there may be other people out there that are disabled and that can't travel to Sacramento to testify, you know. Okay, you're going to hit on that.

Let me go a little bit further. The California Salmon and Steelhead Association represents the victims. And I think that's one of the key issues that should be on the scope of the meeting is the harm and damage to threatened Steelhead. They're a public trust resource and asset. I think that's very, very important. And Mr. Jackson and Mr. Silver brought that up, but I think it's very important.

Anyway, that's about it.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Okay. Well, we'll get to that other issue --

MR. BAIOCCHI: Thank you very much for allowing me to talk.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: -- in just a minute.

Mr. Warburton, do you have any other comments?

MR. WARBURTON: Yeah. We completely support Mr. Jackson and Mr. Silver and also the introduction of additional evidence suggested by Bob Baiocchi. We're concerned that there be a full and public airing of the

issues involved here, and there not be bifurcations and narrowing of scopes, which are to the advantage of handling issues quietly and under the Board. Such things as stipulations of golf course water, you know, are a problem.

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The Board is facing a larger issue and all of these issues should be publicly aired and the public trust should be defended and a lot of the parties appearing before you now are there because the public trust has not been adequately defended in the past. And we're completely willing to collaborate and do stuff efficiently, but we want to make sure that these important issues are represented.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Public Utilities,
Ratepayer Advocates, do you have any other comments?

MR. ULMER: Thank you, Mr. Baggett. Andrew Ulmer again for the Division of Rate Payer Advocates. I just wanted to clarify a point you made to me earlier, a procedural point, and that is the Division of Rate Payer Advocates, would like very much to inform the State Water Resources Control Board's record, but I want to make sure I understand how you envision us doing that.

We're certainly willing to come and make an opening statement at the evidentiary hearing. We're certainly willing to present that statement in writing.

But I want to understand when you'd like that in writing, whether or no it' acceptable to present that at the outset of a formal evidentiary hearing in June.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Right. That will all be by notice.

MR. BAIOCCHI: Bob Baiocchi. I have a question.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Wait. Let's respond.

We'll respond first to that.

MR. BAIOCCHI: Sorry.

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STAFF COUNSEL TAYLOR: This is Buck Taylor speaking. I've had conversations with Mr. Ulmer -- some Email exchanges in any event. And from my understanding of what you're offering in the NOI, it was more in the nature of a legal brief or policy statement. When I heard your statement today, it sounded like you did have some matters of an evidentiary nature to offer. If you wish to offer evidence, then you should bring proposed witnesses for that. If you're not going to propose witnesses, I think the appropriate way to deal with this is either through a policy statement in writing or a verbal one on April 1. Or in the alternative, as a legal brief if that's offered as an option here today.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Yeah, I think if it's to understand what the statutory authority of the Rate Payer Advocates, what the scope of your role is, and we can take

judicial notice if it's a statute or if it's a law and you can just enter that and not have to have a witness, if you're just on the face of what your legal authority is, for example. It sounds like that's what you want to explain to us is what your role is, what the concern is by statute of Rate Payer Advocate?

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MR. ULMER: I'd say yes and possibly no. We probably would want to amplify more on some factual issues. And I think what we're struggling with is the nuance between a policy statement and the value that you can give to that policy statement versus a quote unquote evidentiary record before the Board and the value you put on that.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: I think it's much greater. I mean I would prefer you to bring a witness that can be cross examined and the parties can ask questions on -- that would be it ideally.

MR. RUBIN: Hearing Officer Baggett, that's one of the issues that I raised earlier, the idea of some sort of pre-hearing briefing. I think that this might lend itself to that type of a submittal. We would like that opportunity for similar reasons to file a pre-hearing brief to touch on some legal issues and issues that might be presented through evidence for which you could take official notice.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Yeah, I think I heard that from the prosecution team. I've heard that I think -- it definitely will be worthwhile to do a pre-hearing brief. And I think whether we can rule from dais in 10 minutes on exactly the scope and nature of that brief, I'm not prepared to. I would take that under submission and I think we could get instructions out within a week on what issues we would like to have in a pre-hearing brief. And I think then we could take some of these very issues here. Do we want to bifurcate some of the issues, I think, Mr. Sato raised

We've got a whole list here. And the Board can, on its own motion, reopen the Water Right proceeding. But I would agree with Mr. Rubin that would require a whole different notice and a whole different set of issues. In fairness to all parties, we would have to do a notice that reflects what I think Mr. Jackson has asked us to do. And I would assume Mr. Jackson would concur that we would have to notice that as such.

MR. JACKSON: Yes. And I think what you would find is that if you noticed that as such, we wouldn't be -- NMFS has showed up on the telephone, but the California Department of Fish and Game still isn't here. These are the agencies that I think you're going to need prior to any remedy anyway. So it seems to me that that

might be a first step is to broaden the scope in a new notice.

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BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Well, I think those are the issues that I think we need to brief and get the parties' comments in writing, not here off the cuff without consulting with clients and -- I mean, I understand you all have clients and boards you have to go back and consult with also, mayors, things like that that might want to engage in these discussions.

Who else have we got here? Anybody else that we've missed? City of Monterey, Fish and Game? Any other parties have any other issues?

MR. BAIOCCHI: This is Bob Baiocchi. I had raised a question concerning Mr. Ulmer, you know, the policy statement. And I was concerned about cross-examination. That was the only question I was going to ask is would it be subject to cross-examination.

An example, I can tell you that 2 plus 2 makes 9, you know, in a policy statement, but that's not factual.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Exactly. No, exactly. I appreciate that. That's why I think we might be able to dispose of some of these in a pre-hearing brief. But if it's going to be evidence that we're going to need in the record, they need to be available for cross-examination, for hearing officers and our staff to ask questions of.

And I think it would be probably helpful, especially in the remedy phase of this proceeding, to understand the PUC. Since it is a publicly regulated utility, it would be useful for this Board to understand, and I think for the other parties, what does that mean and how does that affect some of these remedies.

MR. BAIOCCHI: Thank you.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Let me do one last issue. Then we will send out within a weak a list of issues to be briefed, but I would like to dispose of the deposition issue. I guess I would -- unless anybody objects, I would, if Mr. Baiocchi wants to provide written testimony in advance according to the notice of intent in our regulations and is available by deposition, is there any objection to any party of that?

MR. RUBIN: I don't -- I won't object to that, but as long as your ruling on this issue is subject to your subsequent decision on the scope of the proceeding. There's a potential, I hope, that the hearing officer will decide that the scope is limited to whether the company has violated Condition 2 of 95-10. And if that's the case, whether Mr. Baiocchi submits testimony or not or whether it's relevant could be affected.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Well, that is the current scope of this proceeding. And I think we want to allow an

opportunity for pre-hearing briefs. And one of those issues will be the request that we've had from Mr.

Jackson, et al. to expand the scope. And we'll allow the parties to brief that and then we'll rule.

MR. RUBIN: Thank you.

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BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Okay. Any other comments?

MR. LAREDO: We'll you provide an opportunity for rebuttal briefs? This is David Laredo.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: On the pre-hearing briefs?

MR. LAREDO: That's correct.

OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT DIRECTOR SATO: Mr.

Baggett, I mean I'd like to -- I had that same question and I think that the prosecution team would --

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Could you identify for the record.

OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT DIRECTOR SATO: This is
Reed Sato for the prosecution team. You know, I had the
same question about whether or not we would have the
opportunity to reply to briefs by the other parties. And
I think, particularly with regard to the scope of the
proceeding, if somebody wants to substantially expand it,
I think that we should have the opportunity to address
that issue.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Very good. Okay, we will do that. So what's a reasonable time? We'll get

something out within a week, 7 days, with the list of issues. How long do the parties want to brief that?

MR. SILVER: Can I just address a question with respect to the --

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Can you identify yourself just for this speaker.

MR. SILVER: Yeah. This is Larry Silver, Sierra Club.

I think with regard to the list of issues, I think that the issue -- I understand Cal Am's contention, but I think that, I'd just like to make clear that at least from the perspective of Sierra Club that we deem the notice with regard to the cease and desist order, not the cover letter, as defining the scope of this hearing.

Now, the notice says specifically -- we're dealing with 2 different, although amalgamated, problems. One is the fact of an unlawful trespass, the continued jurisdiction of this Board to deal with that unlawful trespass as defined under California law by reason of their failure over many, many years not to get a permit.

There's a second issue with regard to a violation of condition. However, the cease and desist order says, among other things, that, "In accordance with the provisions of Section 1834 of the California Water Code, the State Water Board, Division of Water Rights, provided

notice of the proposed CDO against Cal Am for the violation and threatened violation of the prohibition against unlawful, unauthorized diversion and use of water."

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Now that means to us that there's much more at stake in this hearing than whether or not Cal Am complied with Condition 2. And that's, of course, one reason we're adamantly opposed to this sort of suggestion of bifurcation. But if we're talking about defining the issues, then I would certainly urge, and I think the staff has already recommended that, that we address the scope of the hearing, which is defined, as far as we're concerned, in the notice with regard -- and the text of the proposed cease and desist order.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: No, I understand. And that's why I think it's appropriate that we do a pre-hearing brief and we allow for rebuttal of those briefs. And that is clearly going to be one of the issues, not the issues that you would raise in this expanded hearing, that will be decided at a later date, but the fact is how do you legally interpret the notice before us. And I think we will have a lot of different views on that. And I have already said we'll do a pre-hearing brief and we'll have rebuttal of those briefs.

So we've got to expedite this. We've got 3

minutes. So I would ask, again, is a week long enough, 2 1 weeks? What do the parties want? I mean, especially, I 2 quess, the 2 that are going to have the biggest burden or 3 the largest burden are going to be the 2 principal 4 5 parties. I'll ask you, what time -- how long do you feel you need? Prosecution team and Cal Am, what do you --6 OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT DIRECTOR SATO: Since this isn't my only case, I would ask for 3 weeks with a one 8 9 week rebuttal? MR. LAREDO: Who is speaking? 10 11 BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Identify your name. OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT DIRECTOR SATO: This is 12 13 Reed Sato for the prosecution team. I would like 3 weeks and then with a 1 week rebuttal time. 14 BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Mr. Rubin? 15 MR. RUBIN: Just for a point of clarification, 3 16 weeks from today or 3 weeks from the date of the --17 18 OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT DIRECTOR SATO: Three weeks 19 from the notice that we get. That would provide sufficient time 20 MR. RUBIN: 21 for us. MR. BAIOCCHI: Mr. Baggett, Bob Baiocchi. 22 23 BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Just a minute please. 24 Okay, we're just trying to come up with an

expedited -- to save paperwork. So what we will do is you

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have 3 weeks from today for any party to these proceedings who filed a notice of intent to outline whatever issues you think this -- however you think we should proceed in this. You've got the notice that we've sent out. So I guess it would be interpreting that notice. It could go to bifurcating the scope. We will leave it wide open for you to brief whatever issues you like.

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Then we will allow 2 weeks after that for rebuttal to those 3 briefs. So you have 3 weeks for the preliminary and then 2 weeks to file rebuttal. Obviously, we aren't going to have a hearing in June now.

MR. LAREDO: Can you provide us date certain as to what the 3 week and 2 week submittal deadline is?

This is David Laredo.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Three weeks from today. So that way 5 o'clock on whatever -- what's 3 weeks?

MR. RUBIN: The 9th of April, I believe.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Okay, 3 weeks from the 9th of April and then 2 weeks after that is the 23rd. And then we will have a ruling by the end of the first week of May.

MR. RUBIN: Just one other issue. I would hope that you are reserving your right to determine the status of persons or entities that are not designated in the notice as parties until you've determined what the

appropriate scope is. Again, I would like to address this issue. I know that you've encouraged the parties to work together, but --

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BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Okay. But first let's get through the briefs, then we will re -- we'll probably do some type of renotice after that. We also have one other person I forgot. We did get a late notice of intent from Defenders of Wildlife. Is anybody on here from Defenders? I didn't ask.

So 3 weeks from today by 5 o'clock, close of business. And then we will send out a notice. You'll have 2 weeks from that date. And if you could serve all other parties when you serve us with your pre-hearing brief. And then we will --

MR. LAREDO: May I ask that the staff reissue the service list, because I do not have a note of intent by California Sportfishing Protection Alliance or for Defenders of Wildlife. So it would be helpful if we have a revised service list. This is David Laredo.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Is electronic service okay with you, Mr. Baiocchi?

MR. BAIOCCHI: I represent California Salmon and Steelhead Association.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Right, but we can send you an electronic service list.

MR. BAIOCCHI: Yes. And it doesn't have to be -- I've got Word. I use Word.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Very good.

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VICE CHAIRPERSON WOLFF: With respect to the lengths of the briefs, we can either limit them or you can limit yourselves. I assure I will try to read them, but the longer they are, the less carefully I will read every word. So shall we try to limit the length?

OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT DIRECTOR SATO: You know,
Mr. Wolff, I'd suggest not having a limitation. You
haven't told us -- you haven't put any limit on the issues
that we address.

VICE CHAIRPERSON WOLFF: I understand. That's why a limitation on the length might be helpful.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Well, I'm comfortable with using your discretion, recognizing full well what I think Mr. Wolff just said, that when you've got 18 parties and if you all right 100 pages, it's going to be difficult --

VICE CHAIRPERSON WOLFF: All right. That's fine.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: -- for everybody. So just try to be -- you're all attorneys. You know how to be brief.

(Laughter.)

MR. McGLOTHLIN: Chairman Baggett, one item of housekeeping, on the service list, just for staff, the

Seaside Basin Watermaster is not listed there. They are represented by our office as the City of Seaside, but they ought to be listed as an individual party there, please.

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BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Very good. So noted.

MR. SILVER: For Sierra Club, Larry Silver. We would urge that if there is a necessity to change the date of the hearing from June, that it be as soon thereafter as possible, because we filed originally the complaint, I believe, in 1994.

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: Well, I can assure you, if it's not going to be June, I don't think we could prepare cases -- it wouldn't be fair to any party, but we will -- sure. We don't want to drag this into a year from June -- we'll do it -- given the fact that we'll be moving into the summer months, it can be a challenge, because I realize you all have other lives. And I hate to schedule things around major holidays, if we can avoid that. But we will do it as quickly as we can giving official notice and giving parties appropriate time to prepare their case. Our goal is not to delay this.

MR. SILVER: Well, of course, our position, Mr. Baggett --

BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT: I understand.

MR. SILVER: -- is that they've had plenty of notice.

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              BOARD MEMBER BAGGETT:
                                         I understand.
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              Okay, thank you.
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               (Thereupon the Pre-Hearing conference
              adjourned at 10:06 a.m.)
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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I, JAMES F. PETERS, a Certified Shorthand
Reporter of the State of California, and Registered
Professional Reporter, do hereby certify:

That I am a disinterested person herein; that the foregoing California State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Rights pre-hearing conference was reported in shorthand by me, James F. Peters, a Certified Shorthand Reporter of the State of California, and thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for any of the parties to said pre-hearing conference nor in any way interested in the outcome of said pre-hearing conference.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 26th day of March, 2008.

JAMES F. PETERS, CSR, RPR

Certified Shorthand Reporter

License No. 10063

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