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                 STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
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    IN THE MATTER OF:
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    Administrative Civil Liability
    complaint and draft Cease and
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    Desist Order against Robert C.
    Mann 1999 trust and Robert Mann
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                      TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
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    Brittany Flores, CSR 13460
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    Control Board, Office of Enforcement
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    Aaron Miller, Senior Water Resources Control Engineer,
    State Water Board, Division of Water Rights
 6
    Jeff Wetzel, Division of Water Rights
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    Ms. Lucy Mann
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10
11
    Cazadero, CA
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    Steven Moore
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    STAFF:
19
    Carlos Mejia, legal counsel
20
    Jane Farwell, environmental scientist
2.1
    Jean McCue, engineer
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    Michael Buckman, senior environmental scientist,
    hearings unit
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## SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA Tuesday, August 26, 2014

8:53 a.m.

2.1

CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: We're going to start a tad early and if you have -- if you are going to be making -- wanting to -- can you hear me? If you're wanting to be making a policy statement of some sort, there are blue cards at the back that you need to fill out.

They -- Michael, they said they can't -- oops.

Wow.

Now, I think that you can hear me. You really have to get close. There are blue cards at the back if you are interested in, in filling one out for policy statement folks that are in the audience. Okay.

We're starting a bit early. We're eager.

Welcome. There are -- there's a lot that needs to be

put on the record, and so I'm going to be reading from a

transcript and it goes -- kind of goes on and on so just

bear with me.

We're starting with the order of proceeding.

This is the time and the place -- and I have this all written out so if you want a copy, you can have it.

This is the time and the place for the hearing

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regarding an Administrative Civil Liability complaint and draft Cease and Desist Order against Robert C. Mann 1999 trust and Robert Mann both in his individual capacity and his capacity as trustee of the Robert C. Mann 1999 trust, hereafter referred to collectively as "Mann." The Administrative Civil Liability compliant and draft Cease and Desist Order were issued by the assistant deputy director of the water rights on June 14th, 2012.

2.1

I am Frances Spivy-Weber, vice-chair of the State Water Resources Control Board, and with me is fellow board member and co-hearing officer, Steven Moore. We will be assisted by staff counsel, Carlos Mejia; staff environment scientist, Jane Farwell, at the far right end; and the staff engineer Jean McCue in between.

We have evacuation procedures, which some of you may need to know, I hope not, before we get started.

Look around and identify the exits closest to you. In the event of a fire alarm -- in the event of a fire alarm, we are required to evacuate this room immediately. Please take your valuables with you and exit down the stairways. Do not use elevators. I think it might be hard to. While staff will endeavor to assist you to the nearest exit, you should also know that you may find an exit door by following the ceiling

mounted exit signs. Our evacuation location is caddy corner across the street in Cesar Chavez Plaza.

2.1

Now, back to the proceeding. This hearing is being held in accordance with public notice -- with the notice of public hearing dated May 22nd, 2014. The purpose of this hearing is to afford the parties an opportunity to, to present relevant oral testimony and other evidence which address the following key issues; whether the State Board should impose Administrative Civil Liability upon Mann for trespass or -- and if so, in what amount and on what basis. Second, whether the State Water Board should impose Administrative Civil Liability upon Mann for failure to file a required statement of diversion and use, and if so, in what amount and on what basis. And finally, whether the State Water Board should adopt, with or without revision, the June 14, 2012 draft CDO against Mann.

We're broadcasting this hearing on the internet and recording both audio and video. In addition, a court reporter is present to prepare a transcript of the proceeding. Anyone who would like a copy of the transcript must make separate arrangements with the court reporter. To assist the court reporter, please provide her with your business card. When you speak, please be sure to use a microphone so that everyone can

hear you. And each of you have a microphone, and you do have to punch the button. Turn it green.

2.1

Before we begin the evidentiary portion of the hearing and hear from the prosecution team and Mann, we will hear from any speaker who did not submit a notice of intent to appear, with the exception of Mrs. Mann, but wish to make a non-evidentiary policy statement.

Is there anyone here who wishes to make a non-evidentiary policy statement? Do we have any blue cards in other words.

Okay. We will note for the record that no one has indicated that they wish to make a non-evidentiary policy statement, and we will move onto the evidentiary portion of the hearing for presentation of evidence and related cross-examination by parties who have submitted notices of intent to appear.

The parties will present -- both parties will present their cases-in-chief and conduct, if they wish, cross-examination in the following order; the Division of Water Rights, prosecution team first and Robert Mann and, and the Robert C. Mann 1999 trust second. At the beginning of each case-in-chief, the parties may make an opening statement briefly summarizing the party's position and what the party's evidence is intended to establish. This is also the time when you will be

wanting to perhaps add some additional ideas -- or some additional information that was not in the email that was sent to us from Mr. Mann.

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After any opening statement, we will hear testimony from the parties' witnesses. Before testifying, witnesses should identify their written testimony as their own and affirm that it is true and correct. Witnesses should summarize the key points in their written testimony and should not read their written testimony into the record. It's already part of the record. Direct testimony will be followed by cross-examination by the other party, board staff, Co-Hearing Officer Moore, and myself. Redirect testimony and recross-examination limited to the scope of the redirect testimony may be permitted. After both cases-in-chief are completed, the parties may present rebuttal evidence. Parties are encouraged to be efficient in presenting their cases and their cross-examination. Except where Co-Hearing Officer Moore or I approve of variation, we will follow the procedure set forth in the Board's regulation and the hearing notice.

The parties' presentation are subject to the following time limits; opening statements are limited to 20 minutes. For oral presentation of direct testimony,

each party will be allowed up to one hour total to present all its direct testimony. Any cross-examination will be limited to no more than one hour per witness or panel of witnesses. Additional time may be allowed upon the showing of good cause. There will be an opportunity to present closing — to turn in closing briefs but that will be following this hearing and I'll deal with that at the end.

2.1

Before we begin, are there any procedural issues that need to be addressed?

Okay. Seeing none. Now, I will invite the appearances of the parties. Now, this -- we will have an oath before we get started.

Will the parties who are participating in the evidentiary portion of the hearing, will those making — when you make your appearance, please state your name, address, and whom you represent so that the court reporter can enter this information into the record. And we'll start with Division of Water Rights, prosecution team, and then we'll move to the Robert Mann and Robert C. Mann 1999 trust.

So now is the time for the oath. I will administer the oath. So will those persons who may testify during this proceeding please stand and raise your right hand, and it's a simple answer, which will

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1
    be -- thank you.
2
           Do you promise to tell the truth in this -- in
3
    this proceeding?
 4
                 (Group responds, "yes.")
5
6
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: Thank you.
7
    You may be seated now.
8
9
           Now, we'll hear the prosecution team's opening
    statement and direct testimony followed by any
10
11
    cross-examination from Robert Mann. So we'll start with
12
    the Division of Water Rights prosecution team.
                MS. WEST: Great. I'm going to start with
13
14
    an opening statement.
15
           Good morning, Vice-Chair Spivy-Weber, and, Board
    Member Moore, and members of the hearing team. I'm
16
17
    waiting for Michael to pull up my PowerPoint
18
    presentation.
19
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER:
                                                  Identify
20
    yourself.
2.1
                MS. WEST: My name is Yvonne West. I'm the
22
    attorney with the State Water Resources Control Board,
23
    Office of Enforcement, and I'm here today representing
24
    the Division of Water Right staff in this matter.
25
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: That's new.
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Hold on just one second. Let's see if there's some --
1
2
    I've never heard that noise before. We have someone who
3
    is checking it out, so go ahead and continue.
                MS. MANN: He -- we might have to move.
 4
                                                          Не
5
    can't hear in one ear.
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER:
6
7
    Okay. You can certainly move. You should be able to
8
    hear. That's fine.
                MS. MANN: Yeah, he can't hear.
9
10
                WOMAN IN AUDIENCE: It may be a minute to
11
    find the AV guy.
12
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: Okay.
13
                MS. WEST: It's taking a moment to figure
14
    out my controls here.
15
                MR. BUCKMAN: The wheel.
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: Can you
16
    hear me now?
17
18
                MR. MANN: I can hear you fine.
19
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: Okay.
                                                         I'm
20
    so sorry.
2.1
                MS. WEST are we -- okay.
22
           Again, I'll just restate, my name is Yvonne West.
23
    I'm an attorney with the State Water Resources Control
    Board, Office of Enforcement. I'm here today
24
25
    representing the Division of Water Rights enforcement
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Administrative Civil Liability complaint and proposed

Cease and Desist Order, which were issued to Mr. Robert

C. Mann and the Robert C Mann trust, again, collectively

referred to in my presentation as "Mann" and this —

they were issued on June 14th, 2012.

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The Administrative Civil Liability complaint alleges that Mann's 183 acre foot long onstream reservoir is a trespass under the Water Code Section 1052, Subdivision A, for which the State Water Board can impose Administrative Civil Liability. The complaint also alleges that Mann failed to file a statement of water diversion and use as required by the Water Code Section 5101 and is subject to additional Administrative Civil Liability for that violation. The complaint proposes a penalty of 66,000 in liability for the violations alleged. Also, issued to Mann was a proposed Cease and Desist Order. The State Water Board is authorized to issue a Cease and Desist Order when it determines that any person is violating or threatening to violate the prohibition against the unauthorized diversion or use of water set forth in Water Code Section 1052. The proposed CDO provides two options by which Mann could come into compliance. First, by filing and diligently pursuing an appropriative water rate

application while operating a reservoir in compliance with the North Coast Instream Flow policy or, two, ceasing the diversion of and storing the water subject to the State Water Board permitting authority.

2.1

The key issues that the State Water Resources

Control Board requested that the parties address in the hearing notice — the hearing notice on this matter are above, and I believe they were already discussed by

Ms. Frances Spivy-Weber. The Division enforcement team has submitted for your consideration a legal brief, written testimony, and evidence in support of issuance of the Administrative Civil Liability Order against Mann in the amount proposed as well as the issuance of the proposed CDO to require corrective action. The Division's enforcement staff's presentation will outline the case as already submitted and emphasize the important legal and factual issues of this case for your consideration and determination.

To start, it is important to understand the regulatory context in which these enforcement actions were issued in 2012. Legislation adopted in 2004 requires the State Water Board to develop a policy for maintaining instream flows in northern California coastal streaming for the purpose of Water Rights administration. The policy for maintaining instream

flows in northern California coastal stream referred to as "the Policy" was adopted by the State Water Board in response to this legislative mandate initially on May 4th, 2010. The policy was readopted without significant changes on October 22nd, 2013, and the readopted policy became effective on February 4th, 2014. The Policy establishes principles and guidelines for maintaining instream flows for the protection of fishery resources. It prescribes protective measures regarding season of diversion, minimum bypass flow, and maximum cumulative diversion. It prohibits the Division from issuing water rights permits for existing on stream dams constructed prior to July 19th, 2006, which are on class one streams, and it requires that applications for water rights permits for existing on stream dams constructed prior to July 19th, 2006, which are located on class one -- or class two streams cannot be accepted unless specific conditions are met.

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As a result of the Policy, the Division undertook the North Coast Unauthorized Reservoir Investigations.

Mr. Aaron Miller will be presenting details about these efforts in his presentation and his testimony here today.

Turning back to the specific enforcement actions at issue in these proceedings, Mann was issued an ACL

complaint alleging a violation of Water Code Section 1052. Water Code Section 1052 prohibits the unauthorized diversion or use of water subject to the State Water Board's permitting and licensing authority and defines that action as a trespass. State Water Board is authorized by the Water Code Section 1052, Subdivision A to impose Administrative Civil Liability of up to \$500 a day for each day that such a trespass occurs.

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The diversion and storage of water for use at a time when natural flow is not otherwise available to a property is not allowed and is not within a riparian water right. It requires an appropriative water right. Since 1914, the only means of obtaining such an an appropriative right is through a permit or license issued by the State Water Board. Mr. Miller and Mr. Wetzel's testimony along with the other evidence submitted by the Division's enforcement staff demonstrates that Mann is diverting water outside of a riparian right and without the required State Water Board issued permit or license in violation of Water Code Section 1052. Specifically, testimony and evidence will demonstrate that the reservoir on Mann's Sonoma property is of a significant capacity, approximately 183 acre feet. It's created by a single access dam across a jurisdictional surface stream, and the reservoir diverts and stores water for use in a season where water would be natural -- would not naturally be available to the property and it does so without meeting any of the requirements of the policy.

2.1

The ACL complaint that was issued to Mann also alleges that Mann failed to file an initial statement of water diversion and use. Each person who, after

December 31st, 1965, diverts water shall file with the

Water Board prior to July 1st of the succeeding year, a statement of his or her diversion and use. Failure to file a diversion — for a diversion that occurs after January 1st, 2009 is subject to the imposition of

Administrative Civil Liability. This liability can be up to a \$1,000 plus — for the initial violation, plus \$500 a day for each additional day in which the failure to file continues past 30 days after the State Water Board has called the violation to the attention of that person.

Today's testimony and evidence submitted prior to the hearing demonstrates that the reservoir on Mann's property diverts and stores water seasonally each year, that Mann does not have a water right permit or license, and Mann does not qualify for any of the exceptions to the Water Code Section 5101 statement filing

requirements. Accordingly, an initial statement reporting diversions made in 2009 was required to be filed by Mann prior to July 1st, 2010. Alternatively, Mann could have filed a statement reporting diversions made during 2010 prior to July 1st, 2011. Mann did not timely file a statement of diversion made in either 2009 or 2010. Mrs. Mann was informed of the need to file statements during the inspection of the reservoir on September 9th, 2011, and an inadequate initial statement for the diversion and use of the water at the reservoir in 2010 was filed in October 2011 in response to the notice provided at the inspection. A corrected statement was then subsequently filed in February of 2013. Accordingly, the State Water Board can impose liability on Mann for failure to file a statement.

2.1

Here, the ACL's complaint seeks penalties only for the initial failure to file a statement violation of \$1,000 and the -- \$1,000 was the recommended liability -- is associated with Mann's failure to file a statement. The ACL complaint includes a total proposed liability of \$66,000. Water Code Section 1055.3 requires that when determining the amount of liability, the State Water Board shall consider all relevant circumstances including but not limited to the extent of harm caused by the violation, the nature and persistence

of the violation, the length of time over which the violation occurs, and the corrective action, if any, taken by the violator.

2.1

In addition, the policy provides further guidance on how relevant circumstances shall be considered in these types of cases and provides the State Water Board will consider the following factors; avoided cost and economic benefit, deterrent amount including culpability and extent of harm, staff cost, ability to pay, and any other appropriate factors when setting the liability amount.

In addition, the policy establishes that a minimum -- that at a minimum, the liability shall be assessed at a level that covers the staff cost and economic benefits associated with the acts that constitute the violation.

The Division's enforcement staff have considered the above circumstances when determining the liability amount being proposed. The enforcement staff's consideration of the above circumstances is discussed in detail in Mr. Miller's written testimony, which is included as Water Rights Exhibit 1, WR-1 and will be discussed in detail in his presentation. The testimony and evidence submitted establishes that the proposed liability is justified by the facts of this case. Some

of the specific circumstances that justify the proposed liability include Mann's economic benefit from the unauthorized diversion and use of water on his property by avoiding costs of obtaining water from another source and avoiding the cost of complying with the water right permitting division and license structure. The extent of harm, the nature and persistence of the violation -and the nature and persistence of the violation is more severe in this case than other unauthorized reservoir cases brought by the Division due to the unusually large size of the reservoir. Mann was given sufficient time and opportunity to commit to a corrective action, and Mann has knowledge of the water right regulations demonstrated by the fact that he has a water right permit on other properties. Furthermore, while Mann has not raised or submitted evidence to substantiate an inability to pay the fines, the enforcement staff has met its initial burden of demonstrating an ability to pay based on Mann's real property assets. Information concerning real property owned by Mann and tax assessor values associated with those properties have been provided in Exhibit WR-23.

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The third and key -- the third and final key issue identified for this hearing is whether or not the State Water Board should adopt, with or without

revision, the June 14th, 2012 draft Cease and Desist Order against Mann. Water Code Section 1831, Subdivision D authorizes the State Water Board to issue a Cease and Desist Order when any person is violating or threatening to violate prohibitions against unauthorized diversion use as provided for in Water Code Section 1052. As discussed previously, testimony and evidence provided by the Division's enforcement staff at this hearing demonstrate -- will demonstrate that the reservoir is an ongoing violation of Water Code Section 1052, that it will continue until the time when the reservoir is authorized through the water right permit license process, or the reservoir is modified to stop diverting and storing water. A Cease and Desist Order is necessary to provide a timeline for obtaining compliance. Staff's testimony will highlight that the Cease and Desist Order in this case is particularly important because the capacity of this reservoir makes it ineligible for the expedited registration process, and its location within the policy area will require stream class determination and other technical studies in order to determine whether or not the Division of Water Rights can authorize -- can issue a water right permit legitimizing the reservoir or if a case specific exemption from the Policy will need to be sought from

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the State Water Board. Accordingly, the complexity and potential cost of compliance in this specific case support the need for the adoption of a Cease and Desist Order and of a Cease and Desist Order that can be enforced in the future if compliance isn't diligently pursued.

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And finally, finally, to provide an overview of the context in which this enforcement action was issued, this timeline slide summarizes significant policy milestones and significant enforcement actions taken in this matter. Mr. Miller will testify that the ACL complaint and draft Cease and Desist Order issued to Mann are part of a broader North Coast Unauthorized Reservoir Investigation that included outreach, education, and enforcement efforts undertaken by the Division to bring into compliance a significant number of unauthorized reservoirs in Napa, Sonoma, Mendocino, and Humboldt County. The actions issued against Mann are consistent with a number of enforcement actions issued by the Division at that time. Mr. Wetzel will be testifying to the investigation of the Mann property specifically and the findings reached by the Division as a result of that investigation, and then Mr. Miller will conclude by providing testimony concerning the issuance of the ACL complaint, proposed civil liability amount,

propose Cease and Desist Order terms, and staff recommendations.

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And with that, I will turn the presentation over to Mr. Miller and Mr. Wetzel to introduce themselves and provide testimony.

MR. MILLER: Okay. Good morning, Vice-Chair Spivy-Weber, Member Moore. My name is Aaron Miller. I'm a professional engineer registered in California, and a senior water resources control engineer, with the State Water Board, Division of Water Rights. The testimony I have previously submitted is a true and correct representation of my knowledge in this case. have been working in the Division of Water Rights for 13 years. I have experience in both the permitting and enforcement sections. I'm currently a supervisor of Division's enforcement unit number four. At the time of this investigation, Mr. Wetzel was one of my staff. He's currently also a senior water resource control engineer. He is a professional engineer registered in California and has nine years of experience working in the field of water rights -- or in the field of water resources for -- the last four being within the Division of water right both in enforcement and currently -- his current capacity senior of a -- for a FERC unit within the Division.

Okay. So quick overview of the presentation Mr. Wetzel and myself will give. I'm going to start off with general overview of North Coast Unauthorized Reservoir Investigation that we conducted. Mr. Wetzel will go through the site specifics of the investigation related to this case and then I will go -- I will go over the Administrative Civil Liability proposed amount and Cease and Desist Order.

2.1

Okay. So the North Coast Unauthorized Reservoir Investigation began in 2011, and several staff within the enforcement section were investigating unauthorized reservoirs in Marin, Mendocino, Napa, Sonoma, and portions of Humboldt County. The reservoirs — most of these reservoirs were built by many individual landowners and for many multiple purposes. Typically, if water is flowing in the surface stream is diverted to storage facility, at a time when flow is high for use during the time the flow is low or does not exist, then the diverter is appropriating water to storage, which is subject to the State Water Board's permitting authority and a water right must be obtained.

Reservoirs may be constructed for a variety of reasons. Most common are some sort of beneficial use to the landowner. These uses include irrigation crops or pasture, stock watering, domestic use at a residence,

fire protection, and recreational uses such as fishing, swimming, or boating. Water districts may build reservoirs for municipal or industrial use.

2.1

In December 2007, State Water Board produced a draft Substitute Environmental Document, otherwise known as SED, part of its development of the North Coast district flow policy. Appendix E of the SED contains a report — contains the report potential indirect environmental impacts of modification or removal of existing unauthorized dams. This report was proposed to Stetson Engineers in 2007. In order to complete this report, Stetson Engineers produced a Geographic Information System, or GIS, layer in which reservoirs or locations of existing unauthorized reservoirs were identified. In June and July of 2011, a review GIS layer aerial photographs in United States Geological Survey topographic maps of Sonoma County was undertaken by State Water Board Division of Water Rights.

The policy identified 1,771 potential illegal reservoirs in Napa, Marin, Sonoma, Mendocino, and Humboldt counties. Enforcement staff undertook this investigation in 2011, and to date, have closed approximately twelve hundred of these cases. Over twelve hundred of the alleged illegal reservoir cases were closed because the reservoirs were covered either

by an existing water right or were not subject to the State Water Board's permitting authority. The remaining unauthorized reservoirs -- or potentially unauthorized reservoirs -- Division staff proceeded with contacting many of the landowners either by phone or by sending notice letters. Approximately 350 letters were sent throughout the policy area. The letters provided information about the need for a water right, the State Water Board's authority to impose a civil liability for unauthorized reservoirs, the need to file a statement of diversion and use, and give property owners an opportunity to provide information concerning the basis or right for the reservoir, or to submit a corrective action plan.

2.1

In certain instances, information was available to directly contact property owners by phone and inquire about the alleged illegal reservoir. This was the case for Mr. Mann. Since Mann has other water rights in the Division's records, contact information was readily available, and an inquiry about the alleged reservoir could be made by phone to establish contact rather than go through the process of sending a letter. Many of the remaining alleged illegal reservoirs being investigated have since been covered by applications to appropriate water filed by the property owner with 48 such

applications being filed in 2012.

2.1

The North Coast Unauthorized Reservoir

Investigation is a significant accomplishment. It

further identifies users of water of the state and

brings them into the reporting process so that there's a

better understanding of where and how much of the

State's water is being used. This provides benefits to

the water availability analysis conducted as part of the

process of issuing new permits. Additionally, it -
bringing unauthorized diverters into the water rights

system in the North Coast helps to mitigate against any

significant impacts to public trust resources, like

steelhead trout fisheries.

Regulatory measures such as specifying a season of diversion or a minimum bypass flow help to limit times — diversion to times when water is available and helps eliminate impacts to the environment and impacts to other legal uses of water by keeping water instream that would have otherwise been diverted illegally.

The following table is a summary of the enforcement actions issued in 2012. Summarized here are 11 Administrative Civil Liability complaints and propose Cease and Desist Orders to owners of property when unauthorized reservoir has been identified. Nine of these enforcement cases were issued to property owners

where no response to the Division's notice letter was received. The other two enforcement cases including

Mann were issued due to the lack of inadequate response to the findings letter issued by the Division.

2.1

I'd like to point out that within, within this table you can see that the cases were issued to a wide variety of different size reservoirs, ranging from, you know, capacities of about an acre foot all the way up to 183 acre feet, which is the capacity of Mr. Mann's reservoir. There -- also, you'll notice the proposed ACL amounts -- also varies depending upon each of the individual cases. All of the proposed ACL amounts were based on the same methodology that I'll present later. So we have consistently applied this to all of the different cases. You'll also notice the final column outlines final ACL liability amounts from the cases that have since settled with the Division after issuance of the Division's enforcement action.

CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: Excuse me.

Let me interrupt you just briefly, because I think at

the beginning -- and, Carlos, correct me if I'm wrong -
you should have identified all this testimony that

you're giving, and you do the same when you start, as

your own and affirm that it is true and correct for the

record. So just -- we'll do it, to some extent, in

```
retrospect so that all the testimony that you're
1
2
    represents is true and correct.
3
                MR. MILLER: Okay. Yes, all the testimony
    I'm presenting here today is true and correct.
4
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: And it is
5
6
    your own.
7
                MR. MILLER: And it is my own testimony and
    presenting the facts as I know them for this case.
8
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER:
10
    Thank you.
11
                MR. MILLER: Okay. Now, I'd like to turn
12
    the presentation over to Mr. Wetzel, who will go through
13
    the site specific investigation.
                MR. WETZEL: Good morning Vice-Chair
14
15
    Spivy-Weber and Board Member Moore. My name is Jeff
    Wetzel with Division of Water Rights, and my written
16
17
    testimony and testimony here today is true and correct.
18
           The policy did identify Mr. Mann's reservoir as
19
    potentially unauthorized. However, my initial site
20
    inspection -- my initial investigation did review
2.1
    Division records to verify that there was no known basis
22
    of right for Mr. Mann's reservoir on file with the
23
    Division of Water Rights. My initial investigation also
24
    included reviewing USGS topographical maps and aerial
25
    imagery much like the one that you see on the slide.
```

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Mr. Mann's reservoir is located near the town of Cazadero within the Gualala River watershed in Sonoma County. At the top of the picture, you'll see a single access dam or the impoundment that creates the reservoir. On the bottom of the picture, there are two unnamed tributaries and the drainage areas that produce surface water runoff that the reservoir collects.

2.1

This is a USGS topographic map. I know it's hard to see, but the blue lines above and below the reservoir are indications of intermittent draining features commonly associated with river, streams, and creeks. This topo map indicates that the reservoir was constructed on a stream channel. The date of this topo map — is 1978 — indicating that the reservoir has been in place for some time. Based on this topo map, aerial imagery, and review of Division records, a site inspection was needed to confirm the preliminary findings and also confirm the use of water from the reservoir.

In September of 2011, I conducted my site inspection with Mrs. Lucy Mann accompanying me. The majority of the site inspection was spent at the reservoir measuring the dam and the spill way -- the next three slides are pictures taken during my inspection. This picture was taken --

```
CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: Hold on
1
2
    just one second. Because all of these are in evidence,
3
    can you identify in the -- in your submittals as to each
 4
    photograph so that we can also get that on the record.
                             The exhibit numbers that were
5
                MR. WETZEL:
6
    in the submittal?
7
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER:
                                                  Exactly.
                MR. WETZEL: This photo is Water Rights
8
9
    Exhibit WR-19. This topographic map will be WR-6 at the
10
    end of my inspection report.
11
                MR. MEJIA: Madame Hearing Officer, can I
12
    note for the record that Mr. Wetzel was just referring
    to slides 9 and 10 of his presentation.
13
14
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER:
                                                  Thank you.
15
                MR. WETZEL:
                             This image -- or photo is
    taken -- or is in WR-22, additional site photos.
16
17
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER:
                                                  And this is
18
    slide Number 11.
19
                MR. WETZEL: And this is slide number 11.
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER:
20
                                                  And then
2.1
    we're -- what exhibit it is?
22
                MR. WETZEL: Okay. This slide number 12 is
23
    also WR-22. This picture was taken from the dam looking
24
    south across the reservoir. The reservoir has an
25
    approximate surface area of 13.6 acres and an estimated
```

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capacity of 183 acre feet.

2.1

This is slide number 13, and it's WR-22, exhibit. This picture is looking downstream over the face of the dam, which is estimated to be 65 feet high.

Unfortunately, during my site inspection, I wasn't able to visit the downstream channel basically because of the

This is slide number 14 also WR-22. This photo was taken from the reservoir access road facing west looking over the reservoir, and it does a good job of capturing the adjacent topography and terrain by the reservoir.

steep topography and general field safety.

These three photos on slide number 15 are all WR-22 exhibits. Mrs. Mann said that the water was -- water used in the reservoir was for stock watering, and it was pretty evident from the cattle and water trucks throughout the property during my investigation. It is also my understanding that the water troughs shown in this picture was used to carry water from the reservoir to the water troughs.

Within about a month of the site inspection, my results were documented in the site inspection report, which found Mr. Mann's reservoir to be on stream and storing water subject to the Board's permitting authority. Basically, the reservoir collects surface

water without a basis of right from two unnamed tributaries that have defined bed and banks.

2.1

Slide number 16 is Water Right Exhibit 15, a photo taken from that exhibit. At the time of the inspection report was completed, we also notified the Department of Water Resources, Division of Safety of Dams because, seemingly, the reservoir was within their jurisdiction. A March 2012 letter from the Division of Safety of Dams to Mr. Mann did find that a dam of this height and storage is within the State's jurisdiction. This photo was later taken by a Division of Safety of Dams inspector on one of his annual inspections in February of 2013. I included this picture because of the time of year it was taken. During this time, the reservoir is full, and there was water in the spillway. During my inspection, the spillway was dry, and the reservoir was slightly drawn down.

The Division mailed Mr. Mann a findings letter on October 28th, 2011, which basically found the reservoir to be unauthorized, and copy of the inspection report was included for his records. Because I conveyed the need to file a statement to Mrs. Mann during my inspection, Mr. Mann did submit a statement just about the same time we mailed the findings letter. The statement was initially deficient but was later found to

```
be accepted when Mr. Mann submitted further evidence
further material. The findings letter provided
information on the North Coast Instream Flow Policy,
outlined the required corrective actions, and also
explained the potential penalties associated with an
unauthorized reservoir.
                         The corrective actions outlined
in the letter were, one, file an application to
appropriate water, two, provide evidence that the
reservoir does not store water or can be operated
without storing water subject to the Board's permitting
authority, or, three, remove the reservoir or render it
incapable of storing water. The letter required
Mr. Mann within 45 days to submit an -- indicate a
course of action that he intended to take with an
implementation plan and a schedule. Unfortunately,
Mr. Mann's response did not identify one of the
corrective actions, and at this time, we began to -- we
began to decide to draft the ACL and CDO, which
Mr. Miller will talk more about.
             MR. MILLER: Okay. So I'll go through the
issuance of the ACL complaint and the proposed
liability.
       The reservoir at issue is clearly within the
permitting authority of the State Water Board due to the
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fact that the reservoir sits on a stream channel with

well defined bed and banks and collects water to storage on an annual basis. Mann is making unauthorized diversions of water at said reservoir, which constitutes a trespass against the State as defined by Water Code Section 1052, Subdivision A. The draft CDO is based on past violations of the prohibition in Water Code Section 1052 against the diversion or use of water subject to State Water Board jurisdiction and the threat of future unauthorized diversion and use of water. complaint was issued based on the past unauthorized diversion of water from an unnamed stream tributary to Pepperwood Creek in the Gualala River watershed and the failure to file a statement of water diversion use for reporting -- for reporting the water diversion from the reservoir. Enforcement staff referred to the North Coast Policy Appendix H when considering whether or not enforcement action was warranted and when developing the enforcement documents.

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The maximum ACL amount authorized by statute for an unauthorized diversion is \$500 for each day in which trespass occurs. Mann also failed to file a statement by July 1 of 2010 reporting water use and is therefore subject to \$1,000 penalty for failing to file a statement on time. Enforcement staff have reason to believe the trespass has been occurring since prior to

1978 and Mann appears to have owned the property since at least 1992. Maximum liability could be based on the last 19 years of estimated use by Mann, which yields a maximum liability of \$500 a day times 6,935 days or \$3,467,000. The staff recommended liability for this case is \$66,000 based on the last three years of use and consideration of many factors. In assessing the amount of civil liability, enforcement staff, pursuant to Water Code Section 1055.3, considered the relevant circumstances, including but not limited to the following; economic benefit gained from the violation including avoided costs, extent of harm, nature and persistence of the violation, length of time over which the violation occurs, and any corrective action taken.

2.1

As previously stated, we only considered economic benefits during the last three years of the violation.

We evaluated the reservoir -- we evaluated for reservoir losses that would be replaced on an annual basis. This included evaporation losses based on surface -- 13 acres surface area of the reservoir, which amounted to approximately 28 acre feet of water, losses due to stock watering of 300 head of cattle, which was identified after on inspection, amounts to about five acre feet of water. This gives a total of 33 acre feet of water lost per year. Using a UC cooperative extension study for

the North Coast area we identified that pumping costs for a 120 foot deep well with a ten horsepower motor is approximately \$198 per acre foot. The economic benefit estimate discussed here does not include benefits such as increased property values associated with having a reservoir. The avoided cost of water is approximately \$6,534 annually or \$19,685 over three years. This was taken -- or this was estimated using the 33 acre feet per year annual loss times 198 annual feet of water -- or \$198 per acre foot. The additional avoided cost of water right fees in the last three years has amounted to \$369. Mann's unauthorized reservoir has provided an economic advantage conservatively estimated at \$20,054 in the last three years.

2.1

The other factors considered were extent of harm, nature and persistence of violation, length of time in which the violation occurs, and any corrective action taken. The Gualala River watershed contains threatened central California coastal steelhead trout fishery, and unauthorized diversions of water have been shown to contribute to the cumulative impact of the reducing water supplies and habitat for the fishery. The reservoir has existed for many years, and water has been diverted to storage in each of those years without a basis of right. Mann is also the holder of Water Rights

License 444, which authorizes the diversion and use of water from the Pit River. Accordingly, Mann is aware of the water rights system and the need for diversion — for the diversion of water in the State of California to be authorized by a water right.

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The Division provided Mann with a findings letter, which identified the reservoir as subject to the State Water Board's permitting authority and required Mann to proceed with taking corrective action. responded to the findings letter. However, the response was not adequate and did not provide the Division with any of the requested information or indicate any intent to pursue corrective action. Mann was initially a cooperative -- cooperative by allowing staff to inspect the property and did take initial steps by filing statement and responding to the findings letter though both were deemed inadequate. Mann had over seven months prior to issuance of the enforcement actions to provide an adequate response and diligently follow up on the matter. However, none was provided. To quantify the other relevant circumstances in this matter, a disincentive factor was applied to the estimated avoided costs for this case. Considering all of the above factors that I just mentioned and the Division's goal of deterrence, a factor of three times the estimated

economic benefit was deemed appropriate. After using a disincentive factor, the adjusted liability was calculated at approximately \$60,000 before considering additional violations and associated staff costs.

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The other violation at issue in the ACL is failure to a file statement. As previously outlined by Ms. West, the California Water Code Section 5107 provides the State Water Board may administratively impose civil liability pursuant to Section 1055 in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 plus \$500 per day for each additional day on which the violation occurs if the person fails to file a statement within thirty days after the State Water Board has called the violation to the attention of that person. Mann failed to file a statement for the diversion and use of water for the unnamed stream for either 2009 or 2010 with a deadline of July 1 of either year. Mann was provided notice during the inspection and did file the statement on October 19, 2011. Therefore, the maximum liability considered for this violation would be \$1,000.

Additional enforcement costs incurred were staff costs from conducting the initial investigation, reviewing the existing project, and developing the enforcement documents. This was estimated at \$5,136.

Additional staff costs have been incurred subsequently

in pursuing compliance and enforcement, but those costs were not considered as a basis for the liability amount proposed in the ACL.

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Given all the factors discussed above, the final recommendation for the ACL liability was \$66,000.

The draft Cease and Desist Order was initially -is initially needed because the reservoir is subject to permitting authority of the State Water Board and collects water storage on an annual basis. The draft CDO issued will bring Mann into compliance and eliminate the continued unauthorized diversion. Draft CDO outlines various steps needed to be taken to obtain an appropriative right for the diversion of water and to comply with the North Coast Instream Flow Policy or have the reservoir removed and cease the unauthorized diversion. Staff recommendations for this case are for the Board to issue the ACL order as proposed with the additional staff costs incurred to pursue compliance and issue the proposed Cease and Desist Order requiring Mann to take immediate action to bring this matter into compliance and to ensure diligent pursuit of the application or other corrective measures by Mann or future trustees.

This concludes our presentation, and we'll take any questions or comments that you have.

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CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: This is the
1
2
    opportunity for you to ask questions and then for staff
3
    and for Steven and I to ask questions of the prosecution
 4
    team.
5
           Do you have any questions that you'd like to ask?
6
                MS. MANN:
                           Is there water?
7
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER:
                                                  Is there
    water. I think there is.
8
9
           Michael, is there water. Could --
10
                MS. MANN: Or a water fountain or something.
11
                MS. WEST: By the restrooms, there's a
12
    fountain.
13
                MS. MANN:
                            Sorry.
14
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: Let's do
    it. Let's take a five-minute break.
15
16
17
                          (Break taken.)
18
19
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER:
20
    reconvene the hearing. And the next item on the agenda
2.1
    is for you to ask questions if you have questions about
22
    the statements that have been presented or evidence
23
    that's been presented if you have any.
2.4
                MS. MANN: Can we ask for clarification of
25
    what they have said?
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CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER:
1
2
    Clarification or --
3
                MS. MANN: Can you hear me? I can't hear
4
    you very well.
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: Put your
5
6
    green light on.
7
                MS. MANN: Oh, there you go.
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER:
8
                                                  There.
                                                          Τ
9
    can hear you much better and then speak as close as
    possible -- yes. I know it's not very convenient.
10
11
                MR. MANN: My name a Robert Mann, and 29876
12
    Cazadero, California -- excuse me. 29876 King Ridge
13
    Road Cazadero, California. I'm the property owner. And
14
    let me get the page here of what I was supposed to -- my
15
    qualifications, I guess, are the fact that I am --
16
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: Oh, this is
    not for you to --
17
18
                MR. MANN: Oh.
19
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER:
                                                  This is
20
    just to ask questions. Do you have questions based
2.1
    on --
22
                MR. MANN:
                           I'm sorry.
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: -- what you
23
24
    have heard from the prosecution team?
25
                MR. MANN: Well other than --
```

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```
CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER:
1
                                                  It's
2
    essentially your cross-examination but it's --
3
                MR. MANN: I don't really have any
    questions. There's some of the content that I don't
4
5
    feel is accurate, but I don't really have any direct
6
    questions.
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: Okay.
7
    That's fine. Now, do --
8
                MS. MANN: I have a couple of questions.
    Well, maybe it's more of a comment.
10
11
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: Would vou
12
    identify --
13
                MS. MANN: Yes. My name is Lucy Mann.
14
    29876 King Ridge Road Cazadero, California.
15
           When Mr. Wetzel was speaking, he talked about
    when they started the program about identifying the
16
17
    different reservoirs, and he said that they had sent out
18
    350 letters to some of the property owners on an
    outreach education and compliance measure. We didn't
19
20
    get that. And my thought is we probably didn't get it
2.1
    because there was an assumption that we knew about water
22
    rights because of property owned in Modoc County.
23
    Modoc property is irrigated. We don't irrigate. I had
24
    no idea. I think we would not be here today if there
25
    had been more education and outreach. Maybe we would
```

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have wanted --

2.1

CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: So let me just -- so your question to the prosecution team is when

MS. MANN: Is why didn't we receive the letter? There was an assumption maybe that maybe we knew something that we didn't. I don't know why you'd sent out 350 letter if you didn't send out all 11 hundred property owners letters.

MS. WEST: I'd like to respond to Ms. Mann's questions.

MS. MANN: Yeah.

MS. WEST: Mr. Miller did testify to the fact that the 350 letter were sent to property owners which we did not have contact information for and that the investigations where we did have, let's say, a phone number, which was the case for your property because you were in the water rights system, that instead of -- in lieu of sending a letter, we made direct telephone contact and then scheduled an onsite inspection. And that, subsequently, Mr. Miller testified to the fact that -- or Mr. Wetzel testified to the fact that at that inspection, information that was in the letter was conveyed verbally during inspection. And then additionally in follow-up with the findings letter,

contains significantly the same information concerning both the water rights requirements, the policy, and statement of filing requirement, which were, again, discussed at the inspection and provided in the findings letter.

2.1

So the different treatment that Mr. Miller testified to, and he did not mention specifically in his testimony both here today that, that the letter -- the initial notice letter was not sent to the Mann's property or to Mann because we did have contact information for you and we contacted you directly to convey that information.

CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: Okay.

MS. MANN: Also, there was a mention of 300 cattle. At the point he was there, we maybe had a hundred and thirty total cattle. I actually brought my cattle records if you want to look at them. On the property that serves around where the dam is, there's a herd of maybe 12 that go down and drink out of the reservoir and then a herd of maybe 32, 34 at the time he was there that sometimes go down there. The question is where the 300 head of cattle come from.

MR. WETZEL: The number of 300 cattle comes from my field notes during my site inspection. I believe it was information provided by you in regards to

```
how many -- roughly, how many cattle you guys have
1
2
    roughly on this property.
3
                MS. MANN: Okay. Well, that's an error.
    That's it.
 4
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER:
5
                                                  Okay.
                                                         Dο
    staff have questions for cross-examination?
6
7
                MR. BUCKMAN: I have a couple questions for
    Mr. Miller.
8
           In your testimony, at the end of page five
10
    indicates that you used three years to determine the
    Administrative Civil Liability, and I was curious as to
11
12
    why you guys used -- chose three years.
                MR. MILLER: I think that was at a
13
14
    recommendation from counsel, so I'll let Yvonne answer
15
    that question.
16
                MS. WEST: Yes, in response to your
17
    question, the Division, in the past, has, has chosen to
18
    limit its consideration for the purposes of
    Administrative Civil Liability to the past three years
19
20
    of violation. We acknowledge that administrative
2.1
    proceedings are not subject to a statute of limitations.
22
    We do not have a specific statute of limitations on our
23
    violations. Nonetheless, we chose to limit it to three
24
    years because the civil code contains a general statute
25
    of limitations for civil actions and because the amount
```

of liability, generally, that is incurred in those three years is significantly more than what we would seek in these types of actions, in order to avoid any sort of legal questions, we tend to limit it to the past three years — consideration to the past three years of liability incurred even though, again, we do not believe that any sort of statute of limitations applies to our actions.

2.1

MR. BUCKMAN: One more question. I have one more question. Also for Mr. Miller, testimony at the end of page six, under the heading, the extent of harm et cetera, you mentioned that the potential harm to the ESA species was steelhead. I was curious if that was the extent of the potential harm that you evaluated.

MR. MILLER: Yes. Essentially, it was more on a general basis. We know that the fishery exists and the watershed. It's well established that there's threatened species. I believe the written testimony says it wasn't directly quantified for this case, but, you know, it happens to exist. Cumulatively unauthorized diversion can cause compacts. It's more of a general statement.

MR. BUCKMAN: Is it limited only to the ESA species, though, or are there other potential harms that you looked at?

MR. MILLER: We didn't look at any other potential harm for this case. It was just -- this was the most relevant potential impact. There could be impacts on other species I would assume but it depends on how many of them would be -- we identified this was one because it is a threatened species.

2.1

MR. BUCKMAN: What about outside, just biology in general, like other water right holders, other harms that could be --

MR. MILLER: I believe it's identified in my written testimony. There can be other harms to legitimate water right users when water is illegally diverted.

MS. WEST: And just to speak to that, those types of analysis is what we would expect would be done in a permitting process. There weren't -- this was a large scale enforcement effort against a number of reservoirs. We did not go to that level of, let's say, obtaining a natural resources damage assessment or doing a water availability study, but we would stress that one of the benefits of bringing these types of reservoirs, and specifically Mann's reservoir, into compliance with the water right permitting system is that in the application process, those types of analysis would be done.

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CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER:
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    Michael, for the record, the past two questions, could
3
    you identify yourself as to who you are and --
 4
                MR. BUCKMAN: Michael Buckman, senior
    environmental scientist in the hearings unit.
5
6
                MS. MCCUE: Jean McCue in the hearings unit.
7
    I just had a question for Mr. Miller.
8
           On the bottom of page five when you -- I wanted
9
    to know how you calculated the losses -- evaporative
10
    losses because there was a 13.4 acre reservoir and three
11
    feet of water loss and then you came up with 28 acre
    feet. It doesn't seem like just a multiplication there.
12
13
    And there's another -- how do you calculate that?
14
                MR. MILLER: Are you asking where the three
    feet comes from?
15
                MS. MCCUE: No. Is it three feet times
16
    13.4, or is there a different calculation?
17
18
                MR. MILLER: No.
                                   It should be three times
19
    13.4.
20
                MS. MCCUE: Okay. So that's not 28 feet
2.1
    then.
22
                MR. MILLER: Actually, I take that back.
23
    believe when doing the calculation, we took into account
24
    side-sloping factors of the reservoir.
25
                MS. MCCUE: Oh, okay.
```

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```
MR. MILLER: So there are would be three
1
2
    times the surface area times a factor accounting for the
3
    fact that it's not -- the reservoir on the side does not
 4
    drop straight down.
5
                MS. MCCUE:
                           Okay. Okay. Thank you.
                MR. MEJIA: Good morning, and for the
6
7
    record, I'm Carlos Mejia. I'm staff counsel of the
    Board, advising the hearing officers in this proceeding.
8
    I have a few questions first for Mr. Wetzel.
           Mr. Wetzel, good morning. I'd like to first
10
11
    direct your attention to Exhibit WR-6. Do you happen to
12
    have that in front of you?
                MR. WETZEL: Yes.
13
14
                MR. MEJIA: And during your oral testimony,
15
    you referred to a field report that you created and
    produced shortly after your investigation. Were you
16
17
    referring to WR-6 in that testimony?
18
                MR. WETZEL: That's correct.
19
                MR. MEJIA: Okay. Thank you. If I may, I'd
20
    like to direct your attention to the next exhibit, WR-7.
2.1
    What, if any, role did you have in the creation of that
    document?
22
23
                MR. WETZEL: Well, I believe I, ultimately,
24
    produced it. It stems from a general template that the
25
    Division, kind of, outlined that we can use
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post-inspection to generate this letter. And so using
1
2
    that template, you, you create the letter to be site
    specific per your reservoir, per the inspection.
3
 4
                MR. MEJIA: And to the best of your
5
    recollection, does it reflect your conclusion at the
6
    time you made your investigation?
7
                MR. WETZEL: Yes.
8
                MR. MEJIA: I'd like to turn your attention
9
    to Exhibit WR-10 if I may. Are you familiar with that
10
    document?
11
                MR. WETZEL: I am familiar with this letter,
12
    yeah.
13
                MR. MEJIA: Okay. I'd like to ask you to
14
    take a brief moment to review it if you would.
                MR. WETZEL: Go ahead.
15
                MR. MEJIA: Does the substance of that
16
17
    document seem at all consistent with the results of your
18
    investigation of the property in question?
19
                MR. WETZEL: Well, my inspection was looking
20
    at the storage and diversion of surface water, and this
2.1
    Division of Safety of Dams Inspection, in his letter
22
    here, is focused on the construction and the impoundment
23
    and the safety factors associated with it. So to your
24
    question, I think the two documents are a slight
25
    disconnect.
```

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1
                MR. MEJIA: Do you see any factual
2
    discrepancies in that letter's description of the
3
    property at issue that are in any way inconsistent with
    the factual findings you made during your investigation?
 4
5
                MR. WETZEL:
                             Without comparing specific --
6
    all the specifics of the letter, no I don't.
                                                   I -- this
7
    inspector identifies over 100 acre feet of water.
                                                        Ι
8
    believe he also in his -- anyway, my estimate was 183
    acre feet of water, so there was a slight disconnect
10
    there.
11
                MR. MEJIA: But you'd agree they're not
12
    inconsistent.
                MR. WETZEL: They're not inconsistent.
13
14
    think both inspectors identified that this is just an
15
    estimate of the storage capacity.
16
                MR. MEJIA: Thank you, Mr. Wetzel. I'd also
17
    like to direct your attention to Exhibit WR-15, and I'd
18
    like to, once again, ask you to take just a brief moment
    to review that document.
19
20
                MR. WETZEL: Go ahead.
2.1
                MR. MEJIA: Again, are the factual findings
22
    within that document consistent with what you observed
23
    and included following your field investigation of the
24
    property in question?
25
                MR. WETZEL: Yes.
```

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MR. MEJIA: Thank you, and then finally for
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2
    Mr. Wetzel, Mr. Buckman, could I ask you to put up
3
    prosecution team's Slide 16 from their PowerPoint
 4
    presentation.
5
           Mr. Wetzel, I believe during your testimony, you
    said this was a photograph that you received from the
6
7
    Division of Safety of Dams, Department of Water
    Resources.
8
                MR. WETZEL:
                             That's correct. Well, it was a
10
    photo attached to their annual inspection report.
11
                MR. MEJIA: Do you recognize any features of
12
    the land identified in this photograph?
13
                MR. WETZEL: I do. I recognize the dam,
14
    reservoir, and spillway.
15
                MR. MEJIA: As -- what do you recognize them
16
    as?
17
                MR. WETZEL: As the -- it's the same site
    that I was on.
18
19
                MR. MEJIA: Thank you, Mr. Wetzel.
20
           And I have just a couple questions for
2.1
    Mr. Miller, with the hearing officer's indulgence.
22
           Good morning, Mr. Miller. I'd like to direct
23
    your attention to your testimony, that's Exhibit WR-1,
24
    and I'd specifically like to call your attention to
    paragraph one on pages six and seven.
25
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MR. MILLER: Okay.

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MR. MEJIA: I note that you state in there that -- and let me read from it, it's conceivable that the unnamed stream could be a class one stream during parts of the year due to its proximity to Pepperwood Creek. That follows some discussion of maps that you What, if any, basis do you have for reviewed. concluding that that stream might be a class one stream? MR. MILLER: My prior field experience as a, you know, enforcement investigator and my prior experience in the permitting unit -- or in the permits section within the Division. I worked on the development of the North Coast instream flow Policy. have processed applications. I have been in the field. It's -- you know, primarily from my experience gained working for the Division of Water Rights. To me, in my opinion, based on the proximity to Pepperwood Creek, which would appear to be a, you know, a creek that has water in it most of the year, which would support a fishery, it's conceivable that during high flow, during the winter months, that the unnamed stream with the dam it's built on could contain water sufficient for some sort of fishery habitat. It may not be for very long, but it could. It's a possibility. And so I was drawing

from my own experience when making that statement.

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MR. MEJIA: And I'd like to ask a few
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2
    questions concerning prior times in which you calculated
3
    the economic benefit of a potential violation. First,
    just for the record, you have been with the Board since
 4
    2001; is that correct?
5
6
                MR. MILLER: Yes.
7
                MR. MEJIA: During that time, have you
    previously calculated the economic benefit of an alleged
8
    or potential violation of California Water Rights laws?
10
                MR. MILLER: Not until I became a senior
11
    water resources control engineer in the course --
12
    taking -- you know, basically running an enforcement
    unit within the enforcement section was when I was
13
14
    experienced to that.
15
                MR. MEJIA: But since that time, have you
16
    done so?
17
                MR. MILLER: Yes.
18
                MR. MEJIA: About how many times would you
19
    say?
20
                MR. MILLER: I believe most of the cases in
2.1
    that summary table in one of my presentation slides,
22
    they're -- almost all of them were issued by my work.
23
                MR. MEJIA: I'll like to direct your
24
    attention to Exhibits 21-A, 21-B, and 21-C. Note for
25
    the purposes of my questions, it's necessary that you
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review them, but I do want to note that's what I'm
1
2
    referring to.
3
           When you previously calculated economic benefit
    of alleged or potential violation of California's water
 4
5
    rights laws, did you rely on studies similar to those in
6
    Exhibits 21-A, 21-B, and 21-C to form your conclusions?
7
                MR. MILLER: Yes. In fact, I have relied on
    these documents multiple times.
8
9
                MR. MEJIA: And to the best of your
    knowledge, are those the types of studies or reports
10
11
    that other folks with similar expertise might rely upon
12
    in calculating the economic benefit of an alleged water
    rights violation?
13
14
                MR. MILLER: I would believe so.
                                                   I mean, I
15
    specifically went to them not necessarily for the
    purpose that they were produced for but because of the
16
17
    information contained within them that led me to be able
18
    to determine approximate costs for pumping groundwater.
19
                MR. MEJIA: Thank you, Madame Hearing
    Officer.
20
2.1
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER:
                                                  Steve, do
22
    you have a question?
23
                CO-HEARING OFFICER MOORE: Yes, I have one
24
    question for Mr. Miller.
25
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER:
                                                  Identify
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yourself.

2.1

CO-HEARING OFFICER MOORE: I'm Steven Moore, co-hearing officer on this case.

For Mr. Miller, Mr. Buckman, can we bring up the slide -- I think there was a -- you mentioned that in the course of correspondence with Mr. Mann, WR-5 indicates an inadequate response. That's Exhibit WR-5 from Mr. Mann. And then we -- in WR-8 the Division's letter notify -- or that was -- I'm sorry. WR-7 is the Division's finding letter in response, and then you received a corrected statement and ultimately WR-16, Exhibit WR-16 was the corrected statement that you received from Mr. Mann. And in your presentation, you indicated that that response was adequate, and could you explain to me the basis for the determination as to why the -- Exhibit WR-16, the letter dated February 24th, 2013, that you believe that an adequate response had been received.

MR. MILLER: I believe this exhibit is, which was submitted to the Division's statement processing unit, and it was a request to what they had asked after receipt of the initial statement and additional information that is needed in order for them to then process, give a statement number, and put it into our record as a statement of water diversion and

1 use. 2 CO-HEARING OFFICER MOORE: Right. So it had 3 to do with the location. MR. MILLER: Yes. 4 CO-HEARING OFFICER MOORE: And was that the 5 6 last remaining piece of information for a complete 7 statement, or were there other elements, quantities, or 8 use or point of use that were -- continued to be deficient because that's part of your overall 10 recommendation is that response has been inadequate. 11 MR. MILLER: The overall recommendation was 12 more to the inadequate response to filing an 13 appropriative water rights application and proceeding 14 with, you know, obtaining a permit for the reservoir 15 and/or taking corrective action to stop the unauthorized diversion of water. The statement is, you know, part of 16 17 the law that was passed in 2009. There's an additional 18 requirement that they did eventually come into compliance with. It's also why the maximum liability 19 20 imposed or recommended is only \$1,00 because of the 2.1 failure to file it at first but once told, they followed 22 through. They eventually submitted additional 23 information. 2.4 CO-HEARING OFFICER MOORE: Thank you for 25 that clarification.

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MS. WEST: I just wanted to speak to that a
1
    little bit. I do believe -- and this is something we
2
3
    can ask them -- Mann -- about. I do believe there were
    subsequent conversations with the statement staff
 4
5
    concerning quantities after this February 24th, 2013
6
    letter, but I believe that this letter was sufficient
7
    for them to accept as a statement and that the
    additional conversations occurred after that.
8
9
                CO-HEARING OFFICER MOORE:
                                           All right.
                                                        Okay.
10
                MS. WEST: But that's not in our record.
                CO-HEARING OFFICER MOORE: Okay. That's
11
12
    helpful. Thank you.
13
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER:
                                                  So if that
14
    is all of the cross-examination, just in the abundance
    of caution, I want to make sure that all the exhibits
15
    that you have submitted are accepted in the record.
16
17
                MS. WEST: Yes, I was going to -- if that is
18
    it for the questions at this time, I was going to move
19
    to have the Division's enforcement staff exhibits, Water
20
    Rights -- WR-1 through WR-27, moved into evidence.
2.1
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER:
                                                  Mr. Mann,
22
    do you have any objection to that?
23
                MS. MANN:
                           No.
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER:
24
                                                  Indicated
25
    no. So those are accepted.
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1
                MS. WEST:
                           Thank you.
2
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: So now we
3
    will turn to the, the statement, opening statement and
    your testimony from Mr. Mann.
 4
5
                MR. MANN: My name is Robert Mann. I live
6
    at --
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: Is your
7
    button pushed?
8
9
                MR. MANN: I'm sorry. I didn't hear
    anything there.
10
11
           My name is Robert Mann. I reside at 29876 King
12
    Ridge Road Cazadero, California. I am the property
    owner, subject property owner here, trustee of the
13
14
    trust, and all that.
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: And you
15
    also -- this is for the -- you want to identify your --
16
17
    any written material that you have sent in, and I
18
    believe we have a few, that they are yours and that you
    affirm that they are true and correct.
19
20
                MR. MANN: Yes, I submitted a written letter
2.1
    to the -- to the Water Resources Board and I, I deem
    them true and correct.
22
23
           I feel my qualifications for, for -- my
24
    justification for the issues we have here is, is that I
25
    have 42 years of adult direct understanding and
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experience in this drainage. You'll notice there isn't a counselor here to help me. I feel that I can speak the truth from my heart and -- if it doesn't get my throat.

2.1

I appreciate the time the Board is taking and staff time here for this. It's -- and my apology for, for some of this time taken. I think there's a gross misunderstanding and interpretation of the problems here on, on what, what is before us.

And I might back up a bit, because there is a note from prosecution that I'm supposed to be well aware of, you know, water rights laws or, or they didn't say "well aware." I think they used a little bit more moderate term, but I did acquire a piece of property in Modoc County, and it's for irrigating alfalfa. It seemed really obvious to me that if you're pumping out of the river, that you're diverting water. We have a water master out there that handles all the details, and I think that's an entirely different situation than this one here.

At no time -- you know, you -- the media, and I'm not a big one for the news, but the media definitely, you know, talks about water. And we're in a time now where, of course, it's a very critical issue, and I'm

well aware of that. But in this unique situation, I think -- I never felt that there was a water right issue. And I -- really not until recently when I had a long discussion with staff member John O' Hagan, did I really fully understand the -- what the State's interpretation was of all this.

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The reservoir was built after a very large local fire that destroyed a lot of ground in the area, and fortunately, at that time, my ancestors had the finances and the ability to, to do that under, under the, the -you might say, the urging of, of, of the, the local soils conservation people. And that was done quite a bit around in the state at that time. It was done mostly for erosion control. Although, I know there are a lot of reservoirs that were -- that were built for stock watering needs. That was not critical at all in our situation, certainly, a side benefit, but the reservoir was built for erosion control and habitat. And my grandfather and subsequently family members who have -- including myself -- feel strongly the same way. And I think that is in concert with the environmental and conservation desires of the state. And when I received the phone call, it was very unfortunate I could not be in attendance to speak with the young people that came.

And, and I think one of the main points here on this whole thing is that this, this, this -- I think, generally speaking, a reservoir is built for some sort of financial gain. That wasn't the consideration here. It doesn't -- it doesn't water -- it doesn't directly water any of the cows. We constantly develop water for them from underground sources. Our troughs on the property are from, from sources other than the reservoir. Coincidently, at the time, we were -- I had acquired a water truck, and we used this water truck. We thought it might be helpful for the underground sources to haul some water in to some temporary troughs. And that's what was going on at the time. This was not customary, and after the discussion with my wife at the field meetings, we, we quit doing that. We don't go in defiance of what the law is asking, and since that day, we haven't hauled any water out of there. It wasn't -as I looked back on it, it wasn't a very practical thing to do anyway. My energy was much better spent in, in, you know, getting other sources for, for the cows from underground and --

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One of the prosecution's points was that there was some sort of harm done here, and I see it quite opposite. The uniqueness of this, this area is it has such very high rainfall, and that's why the erosion

potential is so high. And when the water stops flowing over the dam, through the spillway, it essentially stops in that drainage. Now, this drainage, yes, it, it, it's relatively flat in where the dam is, or obviously it wouldn't be a good reservoir site. But then it gets to very critical, steep ground and rough and rocky ground that no trout have ever navigated, and it goes for quite some distance before it goes off the property.

2.1

And when I received the letter after their findings, their field investigation and the subsequent violation -- you know, took a while to get over it, hence, the lack of response. When you know that you're, you're in concert with what you should do environmentally, and conservation-wise, it's a real slap in the face.

I'm willing to take practical measures to settle this issue. I talked with Mr. O'Hagan, and he basically said that, you know, we're so deep into this now that it wouldn't make much difference, and I thought, well, at least I'll have a listening ear of the representation of the -- of the public to hear my side.

So that's why we're here. Thank you.

CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: And identify yourself.

MS. MANN: Yeah, this is Lucy Mann, 29876

King Ridge Road Cazadero, California. Couple additional items. We felt that the size of the dam was misrepresented and at one point I thought -- and I'll have to look. I thought I heard this "65 foot" somewhere. There's no spillway 65 feet deep if that was what was mentioned.

2.1

And also, we're being penalized on 300 cows, and as I said earlier, at the time Mr. Wetzel was out there, we may have had maybe 130. We're way down now. And out of that 130, potentially, 12 on one side of the dam and some of the other cows on the other side, but there's not 300 cows drinking out of that reservoir at any time. We don't have 300 cows.

MR. MANN: Yeah, the 130 cows is, is our total operation and if you reviewed all the -- all the property, it's considerably more than the drainage of that dam. I'm not sure -- there was a misunderstanding obviously about the number of head of cattle. There's a lot of misunderstanding here. There's, there's justification for, for, you know, how much I'm saving from pumping water, and they're using a ten horsepower pump. Well, you know, I'm pretty green on, on growing hay with irrigated pasture, but I can tell you that, that from my experience in Modoc County, a ten horsepower pump is about 20 times what you would need to

pump water into a trough for a cow.

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The -- I mean, I have a whole list of stuff down here. I don't know when it's appropriate to go through. It wasn't really questions, but the different testimonies here on where the inaccuracies are. I -- you know, with a three-hour field inspection and then you go back and you -- I mean, things like vineyard and olives were brought up as -- you know, our family doesn't want to, to convert any of the land into intensified agriculture. And it's quite a challenge to not go there. There's more fees than taxes every year, and, and I don't care for, for all the things that go with vineyards and the like, everything comes along with it. And so we tried to hold our own with, with keeping, you know, with keeping the fire hazards down with the cows, and I go out and earn money other places to keep the place afloat, and I hope to continue to do that and find a family member that can take over as steward of the land.

A comment on the size of the dam, I really should comment on that. I was there and -- when Mr. Low came in, he had a -- he had a tool that he used, and he said that it was the latest and greatest, and it was probably the one used in the field. And he, he -- the way they measure the dam -- and I don't feel it's fair, but it's

the way they do it, and I talked with the engineer about it, but this dam was, was put in between two solid rock structures, and the downside of the berm was in a sloped area, and he said, "Well, we always measure from the toe to the top of the dam." Well, I said, "Well, the keyway of the dam is certainly quite a bit up the hill from there, and, and then certainly the level of the base of the dam or the water is, is considerably above that," and he said, "No. I'm sorry. That's the way we measure the dam." Now, I haven't sounded the dam, but I'm sure it's not over 35 feet. I would be surprised if it's that much with all the sediment that's come in there over the years. So when you compile all these different things, the 300 cows and the size of the dam and the fact that -- I mean, I can't do anything about water evaporation. There certainly should be -- we pay sacrifice for, for, for many of our gains and if we're to conserve water and to stop erosion and all that and you can take your wetlands and we put water out into wetlands. Just think of the evaporation there, but the evaporative loss -- the cost of the evaporative loss certainly offs -- is offset by, by the gain. And I think that's what applies in this situation, too. The options for me as a landowner, the first two,

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I mean, just seem -- to remove the dam, to remove the

habitat to -- I mean, that just didn't make any sense. 1 2 I mean, if the reservoir belonged to the State and 3 somebody came along and suggested they were going to remove it and take away all the habitat for everything 4 5 that -- organism that's been there for sixty years -- I just, I was confused by it all. 6 7 I think that concludes my testimony for now. deem it to be true and correct. 8 CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: Thank you. And I think what we'll do is take another five-minute 10 11 break, and come back here at -- well -- at roughly a 12 quarter of 11:00 for cross on your testimony. Thank 13 you. 14 15 (Break taken.) 16 CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: 17 The two 18 clocks in the room are a little bit different, but we'll go ahead and reconvene the proceeding. 19 20 And now, does the prosecution team have 2.1 cross-examination? 22 MS. WEST: Again, this is Yvonne West with 23 the prosecution team. Yes, I'd like to take a moment to 24 ask a few questions and then I'd like to do a little --25 a short redirect if that's the appropriate sequence of

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events.

2.1

Mr. Mann, thank you for coming today. I just had a few quick follow up questions to some of your testimony and your submissions.

In Exhibit Mann-1 you stated that you were the individual who owns and maintains the reservoir. I was wondering if you could tell us a little bit about what type of maintenance that you do to the reservoir.

MR. MANN: Well, first of all, most important thing is when, when the storms come in, you have to make sure that the spillway is clear and remove anything that might cause a potential hazard to the reservoir, itself. That's probably the most important.

MS. WEST: Over the years, have you ever done any work on the dam portion of the reservoir?

MR. MANN: At -- after my grandfather past away -- let me regress a little bit. For those who may not understand the hydrology here, there's considerable amount of water that goes over this dam, and I felt that it was important to have an emergency spillway and a little more freeboard on the dam. And, and so yes, I did include -- I did change it so there was an emergency spillway and increase the -- as you may have noticed in the photo, you see, kind of, a little bit unusual shape at the top of the dam. And that was just for an

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insurance policy to protect the -- I mean, it never had
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    had a problem but, you know, I experience some pretty --
    some pretty high head on the dam in my lifetime and I
3
 4
    just felt like that was an important thing.
5
                MS. WEST: So just to understand a little
    better, have you -- when you have -- you raised the
6
7
    height of the dam?
                MR. MANN:
8
                           No.
9
                MS. WEST: Okay. But you just modified the
    shape of the dam?
10
11
                MR. MANN:
                           I raised the -- when I use the
12
    term "freeboard," that's the amount of dirt that's above
    the water level.
13
14
                MS. WEST:
                           Uh-huh.
15
                MR. MANN:
                           I increased that amount so that
16
    when you get a heavy storm, that's what's called a
17
    "head" and, and -- at least that's the terminology I
18
    use -- and it's, it's just a, a heavy flow and then it
19
    subsides, and you have to have protection for that.
20
    seems as though the spillways always, you know, just
2.1
    don't -- if the spillway was clear across the dam, there
22
    would be no head. But in this case, you know, spillways
23
    have their smaller openings, so there's always a little,
24
    head water and then they subside.
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MS. WEST: Okay. I believe also in Exhibit

25

Mann-1 you also state that you have come to an agreement with reporting staff on a reasonable way to calculate the portion of -- from your livestock use from the reservoir and you have fulfilled the reporting requirements to the best of your knowledge, and what I wanted to ask you is what that calculation is and whether it's different than this -- well, let's just start there.

2.1

MR. MANN: I'm trying to think of the gentleman's name. Well, anyway, reporting staff and I talked on the phone and we discussed the difficulties of measuring and the way that the State wanted me to, and he said, "Well, we need to get something, and if you can give a educated estimate on what the use of your cows are," and I know how many cows go down there. I know how many -- I know when they use the dam approximately. I know what, what other sources they use, and so I just calculated the days of use and the approximate gallons they drink and gave them as, as honest an estimate as possibly could on the uses during the time of the year.

MS. WEST: And do you remember what those estimates were?

MR. MANN: You know, I meant to bring them with me. They -- I really meant to bring those with me in case somebody did ask that question. They're in the

thousands of gallons of -- you know, I think one 1 2 month -- or no. I'm sorry. I don't recall but it's --3 MS. WEST: That's fine. MR. MANN: -- it's much less than what was 4 5 discussed in the report. MS. WEST: Okay. In one of our exhibits, 6 7 it's labeled Water Right-5, we have the initial statements that you filed. And just to understand, in 8 that statement, I don't believe you provide a quantity, a quantity in there. You listed "unknown." Since the 10 11 filing of that statement, you have supplemented that 12 with additional information in dealing with our 13 statement staff and revised that and provided a specific 14 quantity; is that accurate? 15 MR. MANN: That's correct. Yes. 16

MS. WEST: Great. Following along on the statement, you filed a supplement letter. And I believe it is -- let's see. In our -- in our exhibits it's WR-16, and that was, again, to supplement your initial statement. And in that letter, you state that you have hired an engineer, Lee Erickson, to work with you on projects -- with us on projects and have not determined the capacity of the diversion yet. I was wondering if you have continued to work with that engineer and if you have established if that engineer has an estimate of

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capacity for your reservoir?
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                MR. MANN:
                           The engineer is -- since we were
3
    going to hearing, he has not, you know, concluded his
    investigation. I felt that -- I still felt that, you
4
5
    know, we weren't really taking a -- needing a water
6
    right here and so we have him on hold until we come to a
7
    conclusion here.
                MS. WEST: Okay. And could you just tell us
8
9
    a little bit about the property surrounding the
10
    reservoir. Do you know -- do you own the property
11
    that's -- completely surrounds the reservoir?
12
                MR. MANN:
                           Yes.
13
                MS. WEST: And how large is that?
14
                MR. MANN:
                           You mean the, the total acreage
    around the reservoir?
15
16
                           Right, that you own.
                MS. WEST:
                MR. MANN: Or the watershed.
17
18
                MS. WEST:
                           Just -- well, if you could
19
    provide both, that would be great, but specifically,
20
    your property that you own that surrounds -- the total
2.1
    acreage of the property that you own that surrounds the
    watershed -- surrounds the reservoir that's basically
22
23
    connected to the reservoir and surrounds it -- not
24
    that's otherwise separated from --
25
                MR. MANN: Well, there are probably two
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parcels that -- there are two parcels that the reservoir
1
2
    sits on. The parcel line goes right down through the
3
    middle of the reservoir, and together, I think there are
    like 600 acres.
 4
5
                           And you own additional acreage?
                MS. WEST:
                MR. MANN:
                           Yes.
6
7
                MS. WEST:
                           Next to those?
                MR. MANN:
8
                           Yes.
9
                MS. WEST:
                           And so the whole acreage
    surrounding the reservoir that you own, do you know the
10
11
    acreage of that?
12
                MR. MANN:
                           Yes.
                MS. WEST: Okay. Do you mind providing it?
13
14
                MR. MANN:
                           It's 25 hundred acres.
15
                MS. WEST: Okay. And you only -- you had
    mentioned a number of cows that you have, 130 I believe?
16
                MR. MANN: Well, that's not on that
17
18
    property.
19
                MS. WEST:
                           Okay.
20
                MR. MANN:
                           No. There's probably 75 total on
2.1
    the 25 hundred acres. This is not, you know, irrigated
22
    Sacramento valley land.
23
                MS. WEST: No. I'm just trying to
    understand.
24
25
           Okay. Okay. I believe that is all the questions
```

that I had for Mann for cross-exam. I don't know if you would like me to move to redirect now or if you had questions that you'd like to take.

CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: Why don't we take questions from both staff and from us prior to your redirect.

Any staff questions? And Michael.

2.1

MR. BUCKMAN: Michael Buckman, hearings unit chief. You mentioned in your testimony on page three of the last page, first paragraph, that, I'm confident causes no effect to downstream neighbors, water rights, nor fish and wildfire but rather provides many times more value compared to the reservoirs absence in the headwater of this drainage, and I was curious what is the basis for your conclusion — for that conclusion that's causing no harm to downstream users and no effect to fish or wildlife.

MR. MANN: That's from my lifetime of experience in the watershed. The, the watershed dries up in the summertime. Approximately -- this is an estimate -- of a half a mile downstream is not navigable for fish and, and the water never reaches that -- the next tributary which comes in, which is just -- I believe it's Blue Line Stream -- coming in from another direction. I'm not sure if I answered all your question

1 there. MR. BUCKMAN: Yes. Thank you. Are you guys 2 3 aware of any downstream water rights holders from you that would --4 5 MR. MANN: Oh, that. That's -- thank you. 6 There's a large ranch, too, surrounding us and, and 7 there's, there's nothing there. It then dumps into 8 the -- into House Creek and -- which shortly becomes a fork of the Gualala River, and, and I, I don't know of anyone that even draws water out of that other than the 10 11 neighbors' cows. And certainly, we're -- our close 12 proximity to the ocean -- why -- I can't imagine it 13 ever -- some of them would have probably said something 14 by now. No, I, I don't think there's anyone being 15 affected by this. I mean, and the fact that it -- when it stops raining over the dam, it stops finding its way 16 17 to House Creek, and that's the long and short of it. 18 And it fills the reservoir, which I haven't mentioned, but the reservoir fills in on the first significant rain 19 20 of the year because of our rainfall. 2.1 MR. BUCKMAN: Are you aware or have you had 22 any -- have you observed the property in the absence of 23 the dam and what the natural watercourse looked like?

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MR. MANN: I'm pretty young at that point,

Do you have any knowledge of that?

24

25

so, you know, from a child's viewpoint, and I do, kind of, remember it. And I really don't know why, why you remember some things and not others, but it was just, kind of, a small, flat area before the water broke over and went down this real rough terrain on and off the property half a mile or so later. That's all I remember.

2.1

2.4

MR. BUCKMAN: Thank you. The reason why I ask is because you had mentioned that you had never observed fish in that area of the stream, and I was curious if you had a chance to observe that area before the --

MR. MANN: Right. And the only reason I can -- is, is my father, who was a very avid fisherman, as my grandfather was, and if they were to fish, they got permission from the neighbor. And they went down to that area off the property where the -- where the terrain gets less steep. And the fish came up to that -- basically, right to our property line before it climbed up really steep. And so did I personally observe it, no. But I mean, we have been, you know, our family has been there since 1872, so, you know, long before a lot of this stuff.

MR. BUCKMAN: Thank you.

CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: Any other

```
staff questions?
1
2
           Yes.
3
                MR. MEJIA: Good morning. Once again,
    Mr. Mann, I'm Carlos Mejia. I'm an attorney for the
4
    Board, and I'm advising the hearing officers on the
5
6
    Board in the proceeding. I have a few questions for you
7
    if you don't mind.
           First, I wonder if you can tell the hearing
8
9
    officers about the nature of the Robert C. Mann 1999
10
    trust.
11
                MR. MANN: About the what?
12
                MR. MEJIA: The nature of the trust, which I
    understand is called the Robert C. Mann 1999 trust that
13
14
    owns the property at issue in this case.
                MR. MANN: The nature of it?
15
                MR. MEJIA: Yes. What is it?
16
17
                MR. MANN: It's property that belongs to me,
18
    held in trust to try and protect our family farm.
19
                MR. MEJIA: Are you the sole -- oh, excuse
20
    me.
2.1
                MR. MANN: Yes, I am the sole --
22
                MR. MEJIA: You're the sole trustee of the
23
    trust?
24
                MR. MANN: Yes.
25
                MR. MEJIA: And are you, at present, the
```

```
sole beneficiary of the trust?
1
2
                MR. MANN: No.
3
                MR. MEJIA: Who else is a beneficiary of the
    trust?
4
5
                MR. MANN: My children and my wife.
                MR. MEJIA: Okay. The prosecution team has
6
7
    submitted into evidence a document that they have
    labeled as WR-23-A.
8
           Mr. Buckman, I wonder if, for Mann's benefit, if
    we could put that up on the screen.
10
11
           As you can see, Mr. Mann -- you have it in front
12
    of you? So Mr. Mann I'm glad that you have the document
13
    in front of you. As you see at the top of the document,
14
    the document lists six properties in Modoc County
15
    that -- and identifies them as being owned by the Robert
    C. Mann trust. Does that seem accurate to you, sir?
16
17
                MR. MANN: Is that what?
18
                MR. MEJIA: Does that seem accurate to you?
19
                MR. MANN: Yes.
20
                MR. MEJIA: Okay. And the prosecution team
2.1
    has further identified that the total assessed value of
22
    those properties by the Modoc County assessor is
23
    $1,067,041. Does that seem accurate to you?
2.4
                MR. MANN: That's what I paid for it.
25
                MR. MEJIA: Okay. And some similar
```

```
questions about what's farther down on the document.
1
2
    The prosecution team further identifies 23 parcels in
    Sonoma County that it states are owned by the Robert C.
3
 4
    Mann trust. Does that seem accurate to you?
5
                           There's, there's an error or two
                MR. MANN:
    there. Property was sold.
6
7
                MR. MEJIA: Oh, okay. So you have sold one
8
    or more of those parcels?
9
                MS. MANN: Right.
                MR. MEJIA: How many of the parcels have you
10
11
    sold?
12
                           Two, I believe.
                MR. MANN:
13
                MR. MEJIA: So the -- to your knowledge, the
14
    Robert C. Mann trust owns 21 parcels in Sonoma County?
15
                MR. MANN:
                           Yes
16
                MR. MEJIA: Okay. And, again, at the bottom
17
    of the summary of properties in Sonoma County, the
18
    prosecution team has identified a total assessed value
    of $1,430,572, which I presume includes the two parcels
19
20
    that you indicated the trust sold. Bearing that in
2.1
    mind, does that total amount seem accurate and
22
    consistent with your recollection?
23
                MR. MANN:
                           I guess that's the assessor's
24
    opinion. I don't know how this is relevant to this case
25
    I might ask.
```

```
MR. MEJIA: So the Board is charged with
1
2
    considering all relevant factors if -- should the Board
3
    decide to impose Administrative Civil Liability. So I'm
    inquiring about factors that may be relevant to the
 4
5
    determination of the amounts, and that's why I'm asking.
6
                MR. MANN:
                            The determination of what?
                                                        T ' m
7
    sorry.
8
                MR. MEJIA:
                            The amount of Administrative
9
    Civil Liability should the Board elect to impose any.
10
           So you said that that strikes you as an accurate
11
    reflection of how the Sonoma County assessor has
12
    assessed those properties?
13
                MR. MANN: Close enough.
14
                MR. MEJIA: Okay. And then finally, the
15
    prosecution team has identified two properties that it
    claims that you own individually in Sonoma County; is
16
    that accurate?
17
18
                MR. MANN:
                           That's not accurate.
19
                MR. MEJIA: That's not accurate. You don't
20
    own those properties?
2.1
                MR. MANN:
                           No. That's a -- one of them that
22
    I saw there was a -- was a personal property thing on a
23
    former -- it was equipment is what it was that the
24
    County had assessed. And that's no longer -- that's
25
    been dissolved.
```

```
MR. MEJIA: Okay. So you don't own those
1
2
    two properties?
3
                MR. MANN:
                           Right.
 4
                MR. MEJIA:
                           Okav.
                MR. MANN: And I don't really know what --
5
6
    well, that's probably personal property thing on the
7
    second one. The 123, that's probably also some sort of
    personal property, farm equipment and -- that applies to
8
    the ag property tax.
10
                MR. MEJIA: Uh-huh.
                MR. MANN: Familiar with that?
11
12
                MR. MEJIA: Uh-huh.
                MR. MANN: So is it an asset? Yes.
13
14
                MR. MEJIA: Okay. All right.
                                                Thank you,
    Mr. Mann.
15
           I don't have anything further, Madame Hearing
16
    Officer.
17
18
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: Do you have
19
    a question?
20
                CO-HEARING OFFICER MOORE:
                                            Thank you,
2.1
    Mr. Mann, for attending today and your testimony.
22
    mentioned there was a discussion about Lee Erickson, the
23
    engineer. Could you refresh my memory. He was helping
24
    with some -- to answer some questions that the State
25
    Water Board staff posed, but was he answering any
```

```
questions posed by the staff from the Division of Dam
1
2
    Safety in terms of testing the conditions --
3
                MR. MANN:
                           Yes.
                CO-HEARING OFFICER MOORE: -- of the dam?
 4
                MR. MANN: He did -- he did answer some
5
6
    questions there, yes.
7
                CO-HEARING OFFICER MOORE: Okay. And so was
    there more work that he was planning to do pending, you
8
    know, your direction based on this hearing, or had he
10
    completed his assessment of the dam condition?
                MR. MANN: Well, as I said before, I think
11
12
    he has completed it until the hearing is concluded, and
    then we'll have to proceed from there whatever is
13
14
    necessary.
15
                CO-HEARING OFFICER MOORE: And did he
    provide you an engineer's report?
16
17
                MR. MANN: He has not yet.
18
                CO-HEARING OFFICER MOORE:
                                            Okay. And I did
19
    note in the record that staff from Division of Dam
20
    Safety, the Department of Water Resources, which is
2.1
    another state agency, has put together two inspection
22
    reports, and have you had a chance to review those?
23
                MR. MANN: Yes.
24
                CO-HEARING OFFICER MOORE:
                                            Okay.
25
                MR. MANN: And I met personally with each
```

```
one of those people. Actually, I think they have had
1
2
    three inspections.
3
                CO-HEARING OFFICER MOORE:
                                            Okay.
 4
                MR. MANN: I had a second inspection from
5
    Mr. Low.
6
                CO-HEARING OFFICER MOORE:
                                            Uh-huh.
7
                MR. MANN: And, and at least what he told
8
    me, he was, you know, pleased with how the dam was being
    maintained. They had some -- you know, they would like
    to have seen a drain on the dam. The dam doesn't have a
10
11
    drain. The practicality of a drain is not possible.
12
    mean, not practical and probably a bit risky especially
13
    considering the terrain, but he seemed pleased with what
14
    was there and was being taken care of.
15
                CO-HEARING OFFICER MOORE: I'm curious, you
    know, I'm the liaison with the North Coast Regional
16
    Water Board and familiar with the Gualala River, water
17
18
    quality challenges, and community around that. Have you
    ever met with or, or folks who are part of the Gualala
19
20
    Watershed Council, their local watershed group,
2.1
    landowners that get together and do stewardship in the
    watershed?
22
23
                MR. MANN: I have attended meetings, and I'm
24
    not aware of anything recently, but yes, I was aware of
25
    that going on.
```

CO-HEARING OFFICER MOORE: And did the issue 1 2 of your reservoir or, you know, reservoir management 3 issue and stockpond issues come up in those discussions with the council? 4 5 MR. MANN: No, no. CO-HEARING OFFICER MOORE: Okay. What were 6 7 some of the main land management issues that you recall from attending the watershed council? 8 9 MR. MANN: Well, I think first and foremost 10 would be erosion control and, and concern over 11 development in the area, and that sort of thing. And 12 that's -- you know, we're, we're kind of "old 13 school." We haven't been changing anything. So, you 14 know, I think people are happy with that, and so they, 15 kind of, you know, are, are agreeable with what you're doing. So I think that's why we haven't been on the 16 17 spotlight. 18 CO-HEARING OFFICER MOORE: Just good to hear 19 that you have been participating in the watershed 20 related discussions. Thanks for answering those 2.1 questions. 22 MR. MANN: Thank you. 23 CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: Any other 24 questions? 25 Okay. Now, we'll move to the rebuttal, and we'll

```
start with Division of Water Rights, and then we'll move
1
2
    to -- oh, I'm sorry. You're right.
3
           You should be moving your testimony into, into
4
    evidence. You have the email that is Mann-1 piece of
    written information.
5
                MR. MANN: I'm sorry. I can't hear you very
6
7
    well.
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: Oh, I'm
8
9
    sorry. Could you please move your statement into
    evidence. You should just --
10
11
                MR. MANN: Oh, yeah. I would like to submit
12
    my statements into evidence to the hearing processor.
13
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: Right.
14
    Thank you.
15
                MR. MANN: Robert Mann.
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: Now, we're
16
    onto the rebuttal, and we'll start with the prosecution
17
18
    and then we'll move to Mann's. Pardon?
19
                MR. BUCKMAN: I think Ms. West mentioned
20
    something about redirect.
2.1
                MS. WEST: That's, that's fine. I just
22
    wanted to follow up on -- with a few questions with
23
    staff to clarify some of the issues that we have
24
    discussed here. I don't know if we'd qualify it as a
25
    rebuttal per se. I do not have any additional evidence
```

to submit for rebuttal purposes.

2.1

I just wanted to take a moment, and call it redirect or rebuttal, to ask Mr. Miller just to clarify or to discuss just a little bit for us how much of the proposed liability is apportioned to, to cattle. It seems that there's some dispute as to the amount of cattle on the property. Our statements are based on what we thought was the number of cattle as conveyed during the inspection. Of course, Mrs. Mann has disputed that, and so I would just like to take a moment to have Aaron, Mr. Miller, clarify how much of our proposed liability is apportioned to that 300 head of cattle.

MR. MILLER: I think, you know, during my presentation, I pointed out the annual losses due to evaporation and to the cattle, and the only information that I had in front of me at the time was the 300 head of cattle amount. It only amounted to about five acre feet of water annual use. Following the calculation outline for trying to determine what sort of liability to impose, you know, it doesn't amount to a large portion of the total recommended liability. If you were to remove that five acre feet of water entirely and said, there's no cattle using the reservoir whatsoever, you know, you're looking at, you know, five acre feet

```
times $198 per acre foot over the course of three years
1
2
    and the -- again, the multiplication of the disincentive
3
    factor, ultimately, I think -- doing a rough calculation
    in my head -- it's about $8900 would be removed from the
 4
5
    total. So there's not -- a significant portion of, of
6
    our recommendation.
7
                MS. WEST:
                           With that, the prosecution team
    doesn't have anything else to submit. It is my
8
9
    understanding that --
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER:
10
                                                  And you're
11
    right. It is redirect not rebuttal.
12
                MS. WEST: Okay.
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER:
13
                                                  So that
14
    closes your case.
15
           Do you have any redirect?
                MS. WEST: I'm sorry. I just want to
16
17
    clarify that you're not taking oral closing arguments
18
    that you're going to --
19
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER:
                                                  No, I'm
    not.
20
2.1
                           Then with that, we're done.
                MS. WEST:
22
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER:
                                                  Okay.
23
    you have any redirect that you wanted to -- we will not
24
    be doing a closing oral statement, but there will be an
25
    opportunity for you to send something in writing as a
```

```
1
    closing.
2
                MS. MANN: After this is closed, we'll be
3
    able to?
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER:
 4
                                                  Right.
5
    When this is closed, which will be quite soon, the
6
    closing briefs will be due thirty days following the
7
    date the transcripts are released, which is roughly 11
8
    to 15 business days. So 11 to 15 business days plus
    thirty days will be the date for transcript -- for
10
    closing briefs to be received. And they're limited to
11
    ten pages and 12 arial point font, so not too tiny.
12
    closing briefs are due in thirty days after you get the
13
    transcript.
14
                MS. MANN: And that will be emailed to us or
15
    whatever.
16
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER:
                                                  They'll
17
    have to make a -- give her your card and you have a --
18
    you'll make the, the agreement between the, the two of
19
    you.
20
                MR. BUCKMAN: We'll notify the parties when
2.1
    the hearing transcript is available.
22
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER:
23
    Good.
2.4
                MR. MANN: So we don't have closing
25
    statement today?
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```
CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: No closing
1
2
    statement today. It will be in writing in, you know,
3
    roughly six weeks.
                MR. MANN: Okay. So for --
 4
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: Do you have
5
6
    any re-clarification?
7
                MR. MANN: Can I do some re-clarification on
    some kind of --
8
9
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER:
                                                  Sure.
                                                         Go
10
    ahead.
11
                MR. MANN: Okay. I don't want to make any
12
    assumptions here as far as where people are going, but,
13
    but just fresh on my mind is the questions from counsel
14
    here and, and really why that has anything to do with
15
    this. And I know where you're going because I have
    lived with this my whole life. But family farms, the
16
17
    layman term is you're dirt poor. And as time goes on,
18
    that, that gets more obvious in the liabilities and the
    responsibilities. We don't -- we don't own this farm to
19
20
    sell it and make a big profit, and so the value of the
2.1
    farm really has no reflection on our ability to, to pay,
22
    and I want to make that point.
23
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER:
                                                  Thank you.
24
                MR. MANN:
                           The size of the dam I think is,
25
    is very questionable. I did not get a report from the
```

engineer but I, I have a pretty good idea that -- first of all, I know it isn't 65 feet -- it's closer to half of that when you're talking about water level. So -- but bottom line is that I don't feel like I'm using a water right here but if I am, why then, that's, that's what the State has decided.

1

2

3

4

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2.1

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24

25

So another clarification was -- no, I think we covered that as far as the cows. And the -- we did not talk about the, the benefits to the State for fire protection. It seems though the comments made in the testimony by the prosecution was that this was, was for my benefit. I don't see it that way at all. I think that something like this, especially that's accessible for helicopters -- and CDF has even done their practice session for their bombers here because of location -and this is an asset to the State. We really didn't touch much on this, but there's a lot about this that's asset to the State of California and the environment. And so -- and the fact that I have cease and desist from the time I was made aware that this was not appropriate thing to do, hauling water out of the reservoir. concludes my comments. Thank you.

CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: Thank you. And I do appreciate that you came in for this -- for this hearing.

We will -- the entire board, all five members of the Water Board, will take this matter under submission. The staff will prepare a proposed order for consideration by all board members. The participants in this hearing will be sent a notice. So you will receive information of the Board's proposed order in this matter, and the date of the Board meeting -- we'll have a Board meeting where the entire board will vote on, on the proposed order -- or where it will be considered and possibly voted on. And after the Board adopts an order, any interested party has thirty days within which to submit a written petition for reconsideration by the Board. So there's still a fair amount of process.

MR. MANN: Right.

CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: That we -- in an abundance of caution. I hope you appreciate that.

MS. MANN: Oh, we do.

2.1

CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: Because this is -- it's a very -- particularly, as you noted, it's very serious right now at a time when there's so little water available for the many creatures as well as people who use the water, and there is such an interconnection of streams and tributaries to larger streams and tributaries that it is a -- we take it very, very seriously as you can tell. And I thank you for

```
coming in. I totally appreciate that you are -- that
1
2
    this is overwhelming but it is -- it is very, very
3
    important. I just want to emphasize that, because it's
    not just about you. It really is about the State of
4
    California, the waters.
5
6
           So with that, are there any other -- are there
7
    any other things that I have forgotten?
8
           Then we will close the hearing, and then you
9
    should make sure you make arrangements to, to get the
10
    transcript, and you will be notified when the transcript
    is available and also what the deadline is, the
11
12
    thirty-day deadline for getting your closing statements
13
    in and the same would be for the prosecution team.
14
                MS. MANN: Do we come -- you said when the
15
    Board has a discussion, are we going to be coming back?
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER:
16
    certainly are welcome.
17
18
                MS. MANN: "Can" but we don't have to be
19
    here.
20
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: Correct.
2.1
           And the question was, should they come back, and
22
    they are certainly welcome.
23
                CO-HEARING OFFICER MOORE: It's an open
24
    public meeting.
25
                CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER:
                                                  It's an
```

```
open public meeting, and you're welcome, but you aren't
 1
    required.
 2
 3
                 CO-HEARING OFFICER MOORE: Right.
                 CO-HEARING OFFICER SPIVY-WEBER: Thank you
 4
 5
    very much.
 6
 7
        (Whereupon the proceeding concluded at 11:23 a.m.)
 8
 9
                                --000--
10
11
12
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22
23
24
25
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I, Brittany Flores, a Certified Shorthand Reporter of 1 2 the State of California, duly authorized to administer 3 oaths, do hereby certify: That the foregoing proceedings were 4 5 taken before me at the time and place herein set forth 6 that any witnesses in the foregoing proceedings, prior 7 to testifying, were duly swore; that a record of the proceedings was made by me using machine shorthand which 8 was thereafter transcribed under my direction; that the foregoing transcript is a true record of the testimony 10 11 given. 12 Further, that if the foregoing pertains to the original transcript of a deposition in a Federal 13 14 Case, before completion of the proceedings, review of the transcript ( ) was ( ) was not requested. 15 16 I further certify I am neither 17 financially interested in the action nor a relative or 18 employee of any attorney of party to this action. 19 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have this date 20 subscribed my name. 2.1 22 Dated: 23 2.4 25 Brittany Flores CSR 13460 CALIFORNIA REPORTING, LLC (415) 457-4417