Case No. 84741

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

SOUTHERN NEVADA WATER AUTHORITY,

Appellant,

VS.

COYOTE SPRINGS INVESTMENT, LLC, et al.

Respondents.

Electronically Filed Jun 01 2022 07:26 p.m. Elizabeth A. Brown Clerk of Supreme Court

VOLUME THREE OF APPENDIX FOR EMERGENCY MOTION FOR STAY UNDER NRAP 27(e) OF DISTRICT COURT'S ORDER GRANTING PETITION FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW PENDING APPEAL

COMES NOW, Appellant, SOUTHERN NEVADA WATER AUTHORITY ("SNWA") by and through its counsel, PAUL G. TAGGART, ESQ. and THOMAS P. DUENSING, ESQ., of the law firm of TAGGART & TAGGART, LTD., and STEVEN C. ANDERSON ESQ., of SNWA, submit Volume Three of this appendix in support of SNWA's Emergency Motion for Stay under NRAP 27(e) of District Court's Order Granting Petition for Judicial Review Pending Appeal pursuant to NRAP 8(a)(2).

AFFIRMATION

The undersigned hereby affirm that the preceding document does not contain the social security number of any person.

Respectfully submitted this 1st day of June 2022.

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By: <u>/s/ Paul G. Taggart</u>

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Attorneys for Respondents

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to NRAP 25(b), I hereby certify that I am an employee of TAGGART & TAGGART, LTD., and that on this day, I served, or caused to be served, a true and correct copy of this Motion bey electronic service to:

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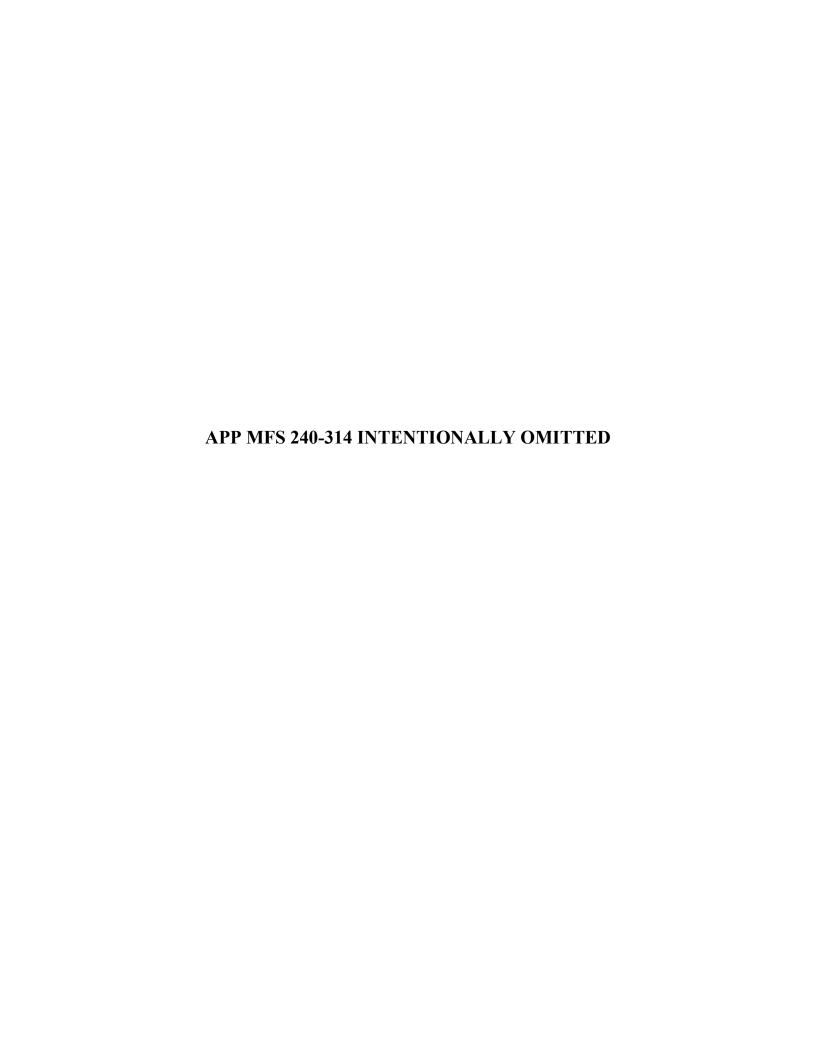
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DATED this 1st day of June 2022.

/s/ Thomas P. Duensing
Employee of TAGGART & TAGGART, LTD.

APPENDIX INDEX

Exhibit	Description	Bate Stamp
1.	Order 1309	APP MFS 1-68
2.	Interim Order 1303	APP MFS 69-87
3.	CSI's Opposition to LVVWD & SNWA's	APP MFS 68-103
	Motion for Stay Pending Appeal	
4.	Transcript of Hearing regarding LVVWD &	APP MFS 104-188
	SNWA's Motion for Stay Pending Appeal	
5.	Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and	APP MFS 189-228
	Order Granting Petitions for Judicial Review	
6.	Addendum and Clarification to Court's	APP MFS 229-234
	Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and	
	Order Granting Petitions for Judicial Review	
7.	Court Minutes from May 16 th , 2022	APP MFS 235-236
8.	SNWA & LVVWD Assessment of the Moapa	APP MFS 237-239
	Dace and other Groundwater-Dependent	
	Special Status Species in the Lower White River	
	Flow System	
9.	APP MFS 240-314 Intentionally Omitted	APP MFS 240-314
10.	Amended Notice of Hearing August 26 th , 2019	APP MFS 315-332
11.	Prehearing Conference on August 8 th , 2019	APP MFS 333-366



IN THE OFFICE OF THE STATE ENGINEER OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE LOWER WHITE RIVER FLOW SYSTEM WITHIN COYOTE SPRING VALLEY HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (210), A PORTION OF BLACK MOUNTAINS AREA HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (215), GARNET VALLEY **HYDROGRAPHIC** BASIN (216),HIDDEN VALLEY HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (217), CALIFORNIA WASH HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (218), AND MUDDY RIVER SPRINGS AREA (AKA UPPER MOAPA VALLEY) HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (219), LINCOLN AND CLARK COUNTIES, NEVADA.)

AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING

I. PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

The State Engineer issued Interim Order 1303 on January 11, 2019, whereby the State Engineer designated the Lower White River Flow System, consisting of the Coyote Spring Valley, Muddy River Springs Area, California Wash, Hidden Valley, Garnet Valley, and a portion of the Black Mountain Area as a joint administrative unit for the purpose of administering water rights, and among other interim matters, solicited reports to be filed with the Office of the State Engineer addressing: (1) the geographic boundary of the hydrologically connected groundwater and surface-water system comprising the Lower White River Flow System; (b) the information obtained from the State Engineer's Order 1169 aquifer test and subsequent to the aquifer test and Muddy River headwater spring flow as it relates to aquifer recovery since the completion of the aquifer test; (c) the long-term annual quantity of groundwater that may be pumped from the Lower White River Flow System, including the relationships between the location of pumping on discharge to the Muddy River Springs, and the capture of Muddy River Flow; (d) the effects of movement of water rights between alluvial wells and carbonate wells on deliveries of senior decreed rights to the Muddy River; and, (e) any other matter believed to be relevant to the State Engineer's analysis. The deadline for the filing of reports was initially set for June 3, 2019, and rebuttal reports were permitted to be filed no later than July 18, 2019. The State Engineer further ordered that an administrative hearing would be held in the month of September 2019. The State Engineer issued an addendum to Interim Order 1303 on May 13, 2019, whereby the State Engineer extended the deadline for any interested stakeholder to submit a report to July 3, 2019, and rebuttal reports to August 16, 2019.

Initial reports in response to the Order 1303 solicitation were filed with the Office of the State Engineer by the Center for Biological Diversity; City of North Las Vegas; Coyote Springs Investment, LLC; Dry Lake Water, LLC; Georgia Pacific Corporation and Republic

¹ See Interim Order 1303, and addendum, official records in the Office of the State Engineer.

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Environmental Technologies; Great Basin Water Network; Lincoln County Water District and Vidler Water Company; Moapa Band of Paiutes; Moapa Valley Water District; United States National Park Service; Southern Nevada Water Authority and Las Vegas Valley Water District; Technichrome; and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. Rebuttal reports were filed by Bedroc Limited and Western Elite Environmental, Inc.; Center for Biological Diversity; City of North Las Vegas; Coyote Springs Investment, LLC; Dry Lake Water, LLC, Georgia Pacific Gypsum and Republic Environmental Technologies; Lincoln County Water District and Vidler Water Company; Moapa Band of Paiutes; Moapa Valley Water District; Muddy Valley Irrigation Company; the United States National Park Service; Nevada Cogeneration Associates; Nevada Energy; Southern Nevada Water Authority and Las Vegas Valley Water District; and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

On August 9, 2019, the State Engineer held a pre-hearing conference regarding the hearing on the submission of reports and evidence as solicited in Order 1303. At the pre-hearing conference, the State Engineer set forth the purpose of the Order 1303 hearing, addressed the timing and length of the hearing, discussed the sequence of the presentation of evidence by the participants, addressed the procedures and other administrative matters relating to Order 1303, discussed the timing for disclosures of witnesses and evidence, including expert witnesses, and addressed other matters relating to the hearing. The State Engineer established that the purpose of the hearing on the Order 1303 reports was to provide the participants an opportunity to explain the positions and conclusions expressed in the reports and/or rebuttal reports submitted in response to the Order 1303 solicitation. The State Engineer directed the participants to limit the offer of evidence and testimony to the salient conclusions, including directing the State Engineer and his staff to the relevant data, evidence and other information supporting those conclusions. The State Engineer further noted that the hearing on the Order 1303 reports was the first step in determining to what extent, if any, and in what manner the State Engineer would address future management decisions, including policy decisions, relating to the Lower White River Flow System basins. On that basis, the State Engineer then addressed other related matters pertaining to the hearing on the Order 1303 reports, including addressing the date and sequence of the hearing, as set forth in this Notice of Hearing.

II. NOTICE OF HEARING

Please take notice, the State Engineer hereby sets the hearing on Order 1303, to begin at 8:30 a.m., on Monday, September 23, 2019, continuing through Friday, September 27, 2019, ending each day by 4:30 p.m. The hearing will reconvene at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, September 30, 2019, continuing through Friday, October 4, 2019, ending each day by 4:30 p.m., with the exception of October 3, 2019, where the hearing will reconvene at 11:00 a.m. and end at 4:30 p.m., at the Nevada State Legislature, 401 South Carson Street, Room 2135, Carson City, Nevada and will video be conferenced to the Legislative Counsel Bureau, Sawyer Office Building, 555 E. Washington Ave., Suite 4400, Las Vegas, Nevada.

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III.REPRESENTATION OF PARTICIPANTS BY ATTORNEYS OR AGENTS

Pursuant to NAC 533.200, any participant may be represented by either an attorney or other agent. Any attorney appearing on behalf of a participant must be an active member of the State Bar of Nevada or associated with an active member of the State Bar of Nevada. Any attorney not an active member of the State Bar of Nevada must comply with Nevada Supreme Court Rule 42, governing the practice of attorneys not admitted in Nevada. Further, either the attorney(s) or agent will be recognized as fully controlling the case on behalf of the participant, and in accordance with NAC 533.200, the attorney or agent must make an appearance and submit a Notice of Appearance with the State Engineer in this matter. Only the attorney or agent whom submits a Notice of Appearance on behalf of a participant shall be permitted to examine and cross-examine witnesses in the proceedings. The State Engineer will not permit a participant to have both attorneys and agents examine witnesses in this proceeding.

IV. SEQUENCE OF PRESENTATION OF EVIDENCE AND CROSS-EXAMINATION OF WITNESSES

Each participant who has submitted either a report, rebuttal report, or both a report and rebuttal report in response to the Order 1303 solicitation is hereby assigned the following dates and times for both the presentation of their submitted reports, and to present any other evidence, as outlined within the scope of the hearing. The time allocated to each participant shall be alloted such that the participant shall use half its time to present their evidence and testimony, and the other half shall be used by the other participants to cross-examine the witnesses. For example, 7 hours will be allocated to address the report and rebuttal report submitted by Coyote Springs Investment, LLC; accordingly, Coyote Springs Investments, LLC will be allowed not more than 3.5 hours to present its evidence and testimony and the other participants shall be allowed not more than 3.5 to cross-examine Coyote Springs Investments, LLC's witnesses.

The schedule for presentation of evidence by the parties is established as follows:

Date(s) and Time(s)	Participant
September 23, 2019, all day	Coyote Springs Investment, LLC
September 24, 2019, all day	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
September 25, 2019, all day	United States National Park Service
September 26, 2019, all day	Moapa Band of Paiutes
September 27, 2019, all day, and September	Southern Nevada Water Authority and Las
30, 2019, 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.	Vegas Valley Water District
September 30, 2019, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.,	Moapa Valley Water District
and 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	
September 30, 2019, 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.,	Lincoln County Water District and Vidler
and October 1, 2019, 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	Water Company

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October 1, 2019, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and	City of North Las Vegas
1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.	
October 2, 2019, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.	Center for Biological Diversity and Great
	Basin Water Network
October 2, 2019, 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., and	Dry Lake Water, LLC, Georgia Pacific
October 3, 2019, 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	Corporation/Georgia Pacific Gypsum, LLC,
	and Republic Environmental Technologies
October 3, 2019, 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Technichrome
October 3, 2019, 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.	Nevada Cogeneration Associates
October 4, 2019, 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.	Muddy Valley Irrigation Company
October 4, 2019, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.	Bedroc Limited/Western Elite
	Environmental, Inc.
October 4, 2019, 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	Nevada Energy
October 4, 2019, 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.	Public Comment

A participant is not required to examine their witnesses or to use its full allocation of time. Any participant who has submitted a report or expert report to the State Engineer for consideration as written testimony or evidence must, pursuant to NAC 533.250, present the person who has prepared that report or expert report to affirm that it is their work product and that they personally prepared or directed its preparation, and submit to cross-examination. The State Engineer may, in his discretion, disregard any report or rebuttal report submitted pursuant to Order 1303 that is not affirmed and attested to by the individual who is identified as an author of the report or rebuttal report and is not made available for cross-examination.

V. DISCLOSURE OF EVIDENCE AND WITNESS LISTS

The disclosure of documents, witness lists and descriptions of witness testimony will take place as set forth and in the manner provided in this Notice of Hearing. The State Engineer requires that two copies of any of the documents referenced below be filed in the Office of the State Engineer in addition to the electronic copies, as applicable.

Evidentiary Disclosure. The participants are hereby ordered to serve on the State Engineer in Carson City, Nevada, no later than Friday, September 6, 2019, an exhibit list, a witness list, a reasonably detailed summary of the testimony of each witness, and copies of any documentary evidence intended to be introduced into the hearing record. If a witness is not identified as testifying on direct as to a certain topic, the witness may not be allowed to testify to the unidentified topic in his or her direct testimony. If a witness is to be presented to provide expert testimony, the evidentiary exchange shall identify the written report prepared and submitted to the State Engineer in response to the solicitations contained within Order 1303 and any exhibits to be used as a summary of or in support of the opinions and a statement of qualifications of the witness. For any

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witness identified and designated as an expert witness, the evidentiary disclosure shall include the Curriculum Vitae and shall identify whether the expert has been previously admitted as an expert witness before the State Engineer, in what discipline(s) the expert has been so admitted before the State Engineer, and if the witness has not previously been admitted as an expert before the State Engineer, all other court or administrative proceedings in which the expert has been admitted. The Evidentiary Disclosure must include any relevant documents or evidence that the participant desires the State Engineer to consider in his examination of the five issues identified in Order 1303, and making any determination related to those issues.

In addition to two copies of the exhibit list, witness list, and documentary evidence, <u>the</u> <u>participants are required to also provide an electronic copy of: the exhibit list in Excel format, their witness summaries, and scanned copies of all their exhibits in pdf 200 dpi format.</u>

The State Engineer shall publish all timely served Evidentiary Disclosures on its website at http://water.nv.gov/news.aspx?news=LWRFS.

Objections to Evidentiary Disclosures: Any objection or challenge to evidence disclosed by another participant must be served on the State Engineer in Carson City, Nevada, no later than 5:00 p.m., Friday, September 13, 2019. The objection must include the basis for the evidence or expert to not be admitted.

<u>Pre-Hearing on Challenged Experts:</u> If a participant objects to the designation of an expert not previously admitted as an expert in the specified discipline before the State Engineer, the <u>State Engineer shall hold a hearing commencing at 8:30 a.m., Thursday September 19, 2019, to consider the admission of the challenged expert in the designated discipline at the hearing commencing on September 23, 2019.</u>

Further, the Nevada State Engineer has taken administrative notice of those files and records of the Office of the State Engineer identified on Exhibit A to this Notice of Hearing, and which will be marked as exhibits of the Nevada State Engineer. The exhibits identified in Exhibit A will be published on the Division of Water Resources website at http://water.nv.gov/news.aspx?news=LWRFS.

VI. EXHIBITS

Nevada Administrative Code Chapter 533 requires that exhibits introduced into evidence must be in a readily reproducible form, on paper that is 8½" x 11" or foldable to that size.

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Larger charts, maps, drawings and other material will not be admitted into evidence, but may be used for demonstrative purposes. The State Engineer recognizes that if hydrologic models are used that some evidence may need to be submitted in an electronic format. An original and one copy of each exhibit must be submitted to the State Engineer. Exhibits based on technical studies or models shall be accompanied by sufficient information to clearly identify and explain the logic, assumptions, development, and operation of the studies or models.

Each electronically submitted exhibit must be saved as a separate .pdf file, with the name of the participant presenting the document, the exhibit number and a short description of the document in the title. For example, a document identified as Exhibit No. 1 submitted by the Nevada State Engineer would be identified as "NSE Ex. No. 1 Order 1303."

VII. RULES OF EVIDENCE NOT APPLICABLE

Pursuant to NRS 533.365(4), the technical rules of evidence do not apply to administrative hearings before the State Engineer.

VIII. COST OF REPORTING

As set forth in Nevada Administrative Code Chapter 533, the hearing will be reported by a certified court reporter. The court reporter will file an original and one copy of the transcript with the State Engineer. Anyone wanting a copy of the transcript should make arrangements with the court reporter. The costs of the transcript will be borne proportionally by all participants actively participating during the hearing.

IX.REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS

The Division of Water Resources is pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who are disabled and wish to attend the hearing. If special arrangements are necessary, please notify the Nevada Division of Water Resources, 901 South Stewart, Suite 2002, Carson City, Nevada, 89701, or by calling (775) 684-2800.

MICHELINE N. FAIRBANK

Deputy Administrator

Dated this 26rd day of

August, 2019.

Exhibit A

Documents and Records of the Nevada State Engineer Which Administrative Notice is Taken for the Purpose of the Order 1303 Administrative Hearing

NSE Ex. No. 1	Order 1303 and Addendum to Order 1303
NSE Ex. No. 2	Order 1169A
NSE Ex. No. 3	Order 1169
NSE Ex. No. 4	Order 1026
NSE Ex. No. 5	Order 1025
NSE Ex. No. 6	Order 1024
NSE Ex. No. 7	Order 1023
NSE Ex. No. 8	Order 1018
NSE Ex. No. 9	Order 905
NSE Ex. No. 10	Order 803
NSE Ex. No. 11	Order 392
NSE Ex. No. 12	Ruling 5712 ¹
NSE Ex. No. 13	Ruling 5987 ^t
NSE Ex. No. 14	Ruling 6254 ¹
NSE Ex. No. 15	Ruling 6255 ¹
NSE Ex. No. 16	Ruling 6256 ¹
NSE Ex. No. 17	Ruling 6257 ¹
NSE Ex. No. 18	Ruling 6258 ¹
NSE Ex. No. 19	Ruling 6259 ¹
NSE Ex. No. 20	Ruling 6260 ¹
NSE Ex. No. 21	Ruling 6261 ¹
NSE Ex. No. 22	Hydrographic Abstract Lower Meadow Valley Wash (Basin 205)
NSE Ex. No. 23	Hydrographic Abstract Kane Springs Valley (Basin 206)
NSE Ex. No. 24	Hydrographic Abstract Coyote Spring Valley (Basin 210)
NSE Ex. No. 25	Hydrographic Abstract Black Mountains Area (Basin 215)
NSE Ex. No. 26	Hydrographic Abstract Garnet Valley (Basin 216)
NSE Ex. No. 27	Hydrographic Abstract Hidden Valley (Basin 217)
NSE Ex. No. 28	Hydrographic Abstract California Wash (Basin 218)
NSE Ex. No. 29	Hydrographic Abstract Muddy River Springs Area (Basin 219)
NSE Ex. No. 30	Hydrographic Basin Summary Lower Meadow Valley Wash (Basin 205)
NSE Ex. No. 31	Hydrographic Basin Summary Kane Springs Valley (Basin 206)
NSE Ex. No. 32	Hydrographic Basin Summary Coyote Spring Valley (Basin 210)
NSE Ex. No. 33	Hydrographic Basin Summary Black Mountains Area (Basin 215)
NSE Ex. No. 34	Hydrographic Basin Summary Garnet Valley (Basin 216)

¹ While the State Engineer does not officially identify the permit and/or hearing files that were subject to the ruling, such records, should they be determined to be relevant to these proceedings may be included in the State Engineer's ultimate determination and will be so identified if relied upon.

NOT D. No. 25	Halamant's Davis Co. IPHL M. H. (D. 1.047)
NSE Ex. No. 35	Hydrographic Basin Summary Hidden Valley (Basin 217)
NSE Ex. No. 36	Hydrographic Basin Summary California Wash (Basin 218)
NSE Ex. No. 37	Hydrographic Basin Summary Muddy River Springs Area (Basin 219)
NSE Ex. No. 38	Pumpage Report Coyote Spring Valley 2005
NSE Ex. No. 39	Pumpage Report Coyote Spring Valley 2006
NSE Ex. No. 40	Pumpage Report Coyote Spring Valley 2007
NSE Ex. No. 41	Pumpage Report Coyote Spring Valley 2008
NSE Ex. No. 42	Pumpage Report Coyote Spring Valley 2009
NSE Ex. No. 43	Pumpage Report Coyote Spring Valley 2010
NSE Ex. No. 44	Pumpage Report Coyote Spring Valley 2011
NSE Ex. No. 45	Pumpage Report Coyote Spring Valley 2012
NSE Ex. No. 46	Pumpage Report Coyote Spring Valley 2013
NSE Ex. No. 47	Pumpage Report Coyote Spring Valley 2014
NSE Ex. No. 48	Pumpage Report Coyote Spring Valley 2015
NSE Ex. No. 49	Pumpage Report Coyote Spring Valley 2016
NSE Ex. No. 50	Pumpage Report Coyote Spring Valley 2017
NSE Ex. No. 51	Pumpage Report Black Mountains Area 2001
NSE Ex. No. 52	Pumpage Report Black Mountains Area 2002
NSE Ex. No. 53	Pumpage Report Black Mountains Area 2003
NSE Ex. No. 54	Pumpage Report Black Mountains Area 2004
NSE Ex. No. 55	Pumpage Report Black Mountains Area 2005
NSE Ex. No. 56	Pumpage Report Black Mountains Area 2006
NSE Ex. No. 57	Pumpage Report Black Mountains Area 2007
NSE Ex. No. 58	Pumpage Report Black Mountains Area 2008
NSE Ex. No. 59	Pumpage Report Black Mountains Area 2009
NSE Ex. No. 60	Pumpage Report Black Mountains Area 2010
NSE Ex. No. 61	Pumpage Report Black Mountains Area 2011
NSE Ex. No. 62	Pumpage Report Black Mountains Area 2012
NSE Ex. No. 63	Pumpage Report Black Mountains Area 2013
NSE Ex. No. 64	Pumpage Report Black Mountains Area 2014
NSE Ex. No. 65	Pumpage Report Black Mountains Area 2015
NSE Ex. No. 66	Pumpage Report Black Mountains Area 2016
NSE Ex. No. 67	Pumpage Report Black Mountains Area 2017
NSE Ex. No. 68	Pumpage Report Garnet Valley Area 2001
NSE Ex. No. 69	Pumpage Report Garnet Valley Area 2002
NSE Ex. No. 70	Pumpage Report Garnet Valley Area 2003
NSE Ex. No. 71	Pumpage Report Garnet Valley Area 2004
NSE Ex. No. 72	Pumpage Report Garnet Valley Area 2005
NSE Ex. No. 73	Pumpage Report Garnet Valley Area 2006
NSE Ex. No. 74	Pumpage Report Garnet Valley Area 2007
NSE Ex. No. 75	Pumpage Report Garnet Valley Area 2008
NSE Ex. No. 76	Pumpage Report Garnet Valley Area 2009
NSE Ex. No. 77	Pumpage Report Garnet Valley Area 2010
NSE Ex. No. 78	Pumpage Report Garnet Valley Area 2011

NOTE E. N. 70	D
NSE Ex. No. 79	Pumpage Report Garnet Valley Area 2012
NSE Ex. No. 80	Pumpage Report Garnet Valley Area 2013
NSE Ex. No. 81	Pumpage Report Garnet Valley Area 2014
NSE Ex. No. 82	Pumpage Report Garnet Valley Area 2015
NSE Ex. No. 83	Pumpage Report Garnet Valley Area 2016
NSE Ex. No. 84	Pumpage Report Garnet Valley Area 2017
NSE Ex. No. 85	Pumpage Report California Wash Area 2016
NSE Ex. No. 86	Pumpage Report California Wash Area 2017
NSE Ex. No. 87	Pumpage Report Muddy River Springs Area 2016
NSE Ex. No. 88	Pumpage Report Muddy River Springs Area 2017
NSE Ex. No. 89	Water Level Data 205 S14 E66 15CA 1 Lower Meadow Valley Wash
NSE Ex. No. 90	Water Level Data 205 S14 E66 22DCAD Lower Meadow Valley Wash
NSE Ex. No. 91	Water Level Data 205 S14 E66 35CABA1 Lower Meadow Valley Wash
NSE Ex. No. 92	Water Level Data 205 S12 E66 12BBBD1 Lower Meadow Valley Wash
NSE Ex. No. 93	Water Level Data 205 S12 E66 12BBBD2 Lower Meadow Valley Wash
NSE Ex. No. 94	Water Level Data 205 S12 E66 12BBBD3 Lower Meadow Valley Wash
NSE Ex. No. 95	Water Level Data 205 S14 E66 04DB 1 Lower Meadow Valley Wash
NSE Ex. No. 96	Water Level Data 205 S14 E66 22DC 1 Lower Meadow Valley Wash
NSE Ex. No. 97	Water Level Data 205 S14 E66 26CD 1 Lower Meadow Valley Wash
NSE Ex. No. 98	Water Level Data 205 S14 E66 26CDAB1 Lower Meadow Valley Wash
NSE Ex. No. 99	Water Level Data 205 S14 E66 26CDBA1 Lower Meadow Valley Wash
NSE Ex. No. 100	Water Level Data 205 S14 E66 26DDCD1 Lower Meadow Valley Wash
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NSE Ex. No. 331	March 5, 2018, Memorandum by Stetson Engineer Inc. to Coyote Spring		
	Investment, LLC Re: Review of Nevada State Engineer's Ruling #6255 and		
	Order 1169 Pumping Test in the Coyote Spring Valley		
NSE Ex. No. 332	Evaluation of boundary fluxes for the ground-water flow model being		
	prepared as part of the NDPLMA-5 project by James R. Harrill, December 31,		
	2007		
NSE Ex. No. 333	Muddy River Decree		
NSE Ex. No. 334	8/21/2019 Vidler Water Company Quarterly Update of Ongoing Data		
	Collection in Kane Springs Valley Hydrographic Basin (206)		

In The Matter Of:

State of Nevada
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

August 8, 2019

Capitol Reporters
123 W. Nye Lane, Ste 107

Carson City, Nevada 89706

Original File 8-8-19wtrcoyot_1.txt

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2	DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVA	ATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES	2	Also Present: Kathryn Brinton Gary Karst
3	DIVISION O	F WATER RESOURCES	3	Levi Kryder Carl Savely
4	BEFORE MICHELINE N.	FAIRBANK, HEARING OFFICER	4	Glen Knaves Sue Braumiller
5			5	Mark Stock Steve King
6			6	Steven Anderson
7	IN THE MATTER OF THE ADMINI	STRATION	7	Colby Pellegrino Scott Millington
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9	COYOTE SPRING VALLEY HYDROGE BASIN (210), A PORTION OF BE		9	Tim Ö'Connor Rick Felling
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12	(218), AND MUDDY RIVER SPRIN	NGS AREA	12	Dwight Smith James Bolotin
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2				CARSON CITY, NEVADA, THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 2019, A.M. SESSION
3	i e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e			-000-
4	<u> </u>	2	3	HEADNIC OFFICER FAIRDANIA
5	For SNWA:	Taggart & Taggart, Ltd.	4	HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Okay. Good morning.
6		By: Paul G. Taggart, Esq. Carson City, Nevada	1	This is Micheline Fairbank, and I'm going to go ahead and get
7		salbon oley, nevada		the hearing started, or the prehearing conference proceeding
8	For CSI:	Robison, Belaustegui, Sharp		for the Lower White River Flow System Order 1303 hearing on
		& Low By: Kent R. Robison, Esq.	8	the solicited reports.
9	Town NWY The server	Reno, Nevada	9	I'm Micheline Fairbank and I'll be operating as
10	For NV Energy:	Justina Caviglia, Esq.	1	the hearing officer for today's purposes. With me is Melissa
11		Allison MacKenzie		Flatley, and she's the chief of our hearing section, and
12		By: Karen Peterson, Esq. Carson City, Nevada	12	and so we'll go ahead and be conducting the hearing.
13	For the City of	-	13	We do have a sign-in sheet, and so if all the
14	North Las Vegas:	Andy Moore, Esq.	14	people that are here present in Carson City, if you have not
15	For Lincoln County Water District:	Dylan Frehner, Esq.	15	signed in on the sign-in sheet, if you'll make sure you do so
16		,, 	16	before the before you leave today.
17	For NCA:	Alex Flangas, Esq.	17	And for those individuals who are appearing on
18	For the Corporation of the Presiding Bishop of		18	the phone conference, I think I have most everybody who
19	the Church of Jesus Christ	Kaemnfer Crowoll	19	accepted the calendar invite and so we'll go ahead and put you
20	of Latter-Day-Saints:	Kaempfer Crowell By: Severin Carlson, Esq.	20	on the sign-in sheet via those calendar invites.
21	For Moapa Band of Paiutes:	Beth Baldwin, Esq.	21	However, if you are calling in and you did not
22	Also Present:	Jeff Henkelman	22	accept a calendar invite, if you'll please send an email so we
1		Sarah Peterson Peter Fehmy		can make sure we have your participation and attendance noted
23				
23		Karen Glasgow Patrick Donnelly		for the record.

- So this is the time set for the hearing, the
- prehearing conference for the Order 1303 reports that have
- been solicited by the State Engineer's office.
- And as we've spoken at the last public workshop, 4
- 5 the hearing on the Order 1303 reports is going to commence on
- September 23rd, but prior to issuing a scheduling order,
- 7 there's obviously a bunch of logics we need to work out and
- want to make sure we have a clear playing field which will be
- outlined also in that scheduling order for all the parties and
- participants to this proceeding. 10
- 11 As we've kind of noted all a long, this is a
- 12 different format than most of our protested hearings. There's
- not necessarily -- there's not an Applicant and a Protestant. 13
- But what this is is really an opportunity for the 14
- 15 participants and those stakeholders in the Lower White River
- 16 Flow System to come forth and have an opportunity to present
- 17 their reports that they've submitted or rebuttal reports that
- have been submitted to allow the State Engineer to go ahead
- and take that under advisement in making further
- determinations with respect to the issues.
- 21 So, just to go ahead and get started, I'm just
- 22 going to state we're a little bit limited in time this
- 23 morning, so we have to complete this by the noon hour because
- 24 this room is actually being occupied this afternoon as well.

- 1 criticism of those positions and conclusions presented by
- 2 other parties through rebuttal reports.
- The participants are the stakeholders who have
- 4 submitted either a report or rebuttal report or both a report
- 5 and rebuttal report.
- Individuals who do not submit a report will be
- 7 allowed to provide public comment, but they're not
- 8 participants for the purpose of presenting testimony, evidence
- 9 or cross-examining.
- And just because a participant has submitted a 10
- 11 report or rebuttal report does not require to party to
- 12 something evidence beyond their reports.
- So the State Engineer will consider all reports
- 14 and opinions submitted, regardless of whether there's --
- 15 actual parties proffer witnesses or testimony.
- 16 Participants will be limited to offering
- 17 testimony and evidence relating to the most salient
- conclusions, including data, evidence and other information
- supporting those conclusions.
- 20 So, the idea is that participants who have
- 21 submitted reports, the State Engineer and staff, we will have
- 22 reviewed those reports prior to the commencement of the
- hearing and the State Engineer staff within the Division of
- 24 Water Resources, we are well qualified to review, consider,

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- So we're not going to extend past the lunch hour. 1
- And so I'm going to go ahead and give us a quick road map of
- 3 what we are intending to accomplish during this meeting this
- 4 morning, or this hearing this morning.
- So the purpose of this conference is to go over 5
- the purpose of the Order 1303 hearing. So what are our
- expectations and what our goals for the State Engineer's
- office for having that hearing?
- To address the timing and length of the hearing.
- To discuss the sequence of presentation by the different 11 participants.
- To go over procedures and other administrative 12
- 13 matters relating to the Order 1303 hearing and to determine
- the time for disclosures of witnesses and evidence anticipated
- 15 to be filed and relied upon during the hearing. And then to
- 16 address any other questions.
- So, just to kind of provide a summary for the 17
- purpose of the hearing. The purpose of the hearing is to 18
- consider the reports solicited pursuant to Order 1303.
- 20 And so the State Engineer views the purpose of
- 21 Order 1303 and the report submitted in response to the
- 22 solicitation as an opportunity for the participants who have
- 23 or will have filed reports, rebuttal reports an opportunity to 24 explain their positions and conclusions and to respond to any

- 1 analyze reports, including the data and evidence relied upon 2 in preparing opinions and rendering those -- and rendering the
- 3 conclusions within the reports.
- And the State Engineer's expectation and
- intention for this hearing is that the parties who have
- 6 submitted either a report or rebuttal reports will be
- 7 permitted an opportunity to provide limited testimony and to
- 8 submit evidence identifying those salient conclusions and
- findings contained in those reports.
- And really the purpose is to direct the State
- 11 Engineer and our staff to the data, information and relevant
- 12 evidence within the State Engineer's administrative record or
- to provide that evidence in support of those conclusions.
- So, this isn't -- the hearing is not intended to
- 15 have everybody and every participant to go through each and 16 every sub detail of their reports.
- 17 The idea is that we want you to go ahead and hit
- 18 the high points, point us to those conclusions, point us in
- 19 the direction what do you think is substantive and important
- 20 for our office to really consider, but the intent is that
- 21 we're trying to go ahead and keep this relatively limited and
- 22 focused. We have the capability to go ahead and examine all 23 the detail and such.
- 24 So the hearing is not and the State Engineer will

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- 1 not permit participants to address each and every detail. And
- 2 the purpose is to afford participants the opportunity to
- 3 highlight the points and to direct staff components which are
- 4 the most significant matters as is addressed in the Order 1303
- 5 solicitation which are the geographic boundary of
- 6 hydrologically connected groundwater and surface water systems
- 7 comprising the Lower White Water River Flow System.
- The information obtained from the Order 1169
- 9 aquifer test, and subsequent to the aquifer test, the Muddy
- 10 River Headwater Spring Flow as it relates to aquifer recovery
- 11 since the completion of the aquifer test.
- The long term annual quantity of groundwater that
- 13 maybe pumped from the Lower White River Flow System, including
- 14 relationships between location of pumping on discharge to the
- 15 Muddy River Springs and the capture of Muddy River flow.
- The effects of movement on water rights between
- 17 alluvial wells and carbonate wells on deliveries of senior
- 18 decreed rights in the Muddy River and other matters
- 19 participants have included in their reports that they believe
- 20 to be relevant in the State Engineer's analysis.
- MR. FLANGAS: A question?
- 22 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes.
- MR. FLANGAS: When you say "other matters
- 24 relevant", are you limiting to that to the hydrology, other

- 1 of these findings and determinations, really this is more
- 2 about a scientific analysis and data analysis.
- 3 MR. FLANGAS: Thank you for that clarification.
- 4 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So second, the purpose
- 5 of the hearing is limited to those issues I've outlined and
- 6 these particular issues must be addressed to decide the7 threshold matter.
- 8 So, kind of to follow up on Alex's question, to
- 9 the extent participants intend or desire to spend time
- 10 addressing future policy considerations which are not
- 11 encompassed within the issues specifically identified in the
- 12 solicitation of the reports, those matters will not be
- 13 considered during these proceedings.
- 14 The State Engineer anticipates that any future
- 15 decision will address -- that the future decision coming out
- 16 of this Order 1303 hearing will address the following issues.
- 17 The geographic boundary of the hydrologically
- 18 connected water system comprising the Lower White River Flow
- 19 System. To whether or not that's a singular basin, whether or
- 20 not it's encompassing multiple basins, that's going to be a
- 21 decision that is ultimately determined by the State Engineer
- 22 following this hearing.
- The quantity of water that may be sustainably
- 24 developed within the Lower White River Flow System without

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- 1 matters relevant to the hydrology or any other matter relevant2 period?
- 3 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So it's not -- it's
- 4 not any other matter relevant period. It's relevant to these
- 5 particular issues and questions that we're asking.
- 6 And so, and I'm going to talk about this and
- 7 we've spoken about this before, is that really this is a
- s threshold reporting aspect, that this is part of a
- 9 multi-tiered process in terms of determining the appropriate
- nanagement strategy to the Lower River Flow System.
- And in order for the office to go ahead and start
- 12 to engage in working with the -- with the community, working
- 13 with water right holders and determining what an appropriate
- 14 management strategy is, there's threshold matters that have to
- 15 be decided and determined.
- And that is those particular, those four
- 17 components that we've solicited in the Order 1303 report.
- 18 This larger substantive policy determinations is not part of
- 19 this particular proceeding.

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- That's part of later proceedings, but this is
- 21 what has to occur in order to inform those future policy
- 22 determinations and decisions.
- 23 And while some people have addressed some policy
- 24 interplays, because there are some policy interplays into some

- 1 conflicting with senior rights, and whether there should be
- 2 any restrictions or limitations on the movement of points of
- 3 diversion within the LWRFS and other issues which will provide
- 4 the framework for making future management decisions within 5 the LWRFS.
- 6 And the purpose of the hearing is not to resolve
- 7 or address allegations of conflict between groundwater pumping
- 8 within the LWRFS and Muddy River decreed rights. That is not
- 9 the purpose of this hearing and that's not what we are going
- o to be deciding at this point in time.
- The purpose of the hearing is to determine what
- 12 the sustainability is, what the impact is on decreed rights,
- 13 and then addressing and resolving allegations of conflict
- 14 should that be a determination that will be addressed in, at a
- 15 future point in time.
- Also, I want to provide a little bit of kind of a
- 17 framework for parties to understand what our office is looking
- 18 at when we're reviewing the reports received in response to
- 19 our solicitation.
- Our office is looking for the following, and this
- 21 is not a comprehensive list, but this is just kind of a
- 22 framework.
- We're looking for how conclusions are supported
- 24 by the available data.

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- 1 How those conclusions differ from positions our
- 2 office has previously taken.
- 3 Whether there's new interpretations of data based
- 4 upon what has been observed since the conclusion of the Order
- 5 1169 aquifer test.
- 6 Whether the conclusions that are drawn are
- 7 sufficiently supported by the available data and cited to
- 8 data.
- 9 Whether the conclusions and data and evidence
- 10 relied upon in rendering those conclusions are independently
- 11 reproducible and verifiable.
- So if our office can't go through and reproduce
- 13 the data that you're relying upon in terms of making your
- 14 conclusions, it's going to be difficult for us to go ahead and
- 15 substantiate those findings. And we're also going to be
- 16 looking for commonalities and conclusions amongst the various
- 17 participants.
- So, again, that's a general overview, it's not an
- 19 exhaustive list of what we're looking for.
- 20 So that I just kind of wanted to provide
- 21 everybody a little bit of a framework of what we anticipate
- 22 the Order 1303 hearing to be encompassing and the little bit
- 23 about what the direction and the lane in which we're intending
- 24 to operate in.

- their opinions, respond to any rebuttal, and for inclusion forrebuttal opinions.
- 3 So we've been looking at what we're thinking for
- 4 the hearing structure, and certainly this is going to be a
- 5 point of discussion this morning, but the State Engineer's
- 6 proposing the hearing be structured so that the first five
- 7 days are assigned to those participants who have submitted
- 8 substantial initial reports.
- 9 So in the sense we've had a variation as
- 10 everybody has available, if they haven't seen already on our
- 11 website, all of the reports that have been submitted to our
- 12 office are available on the website under the news tab and
- 13 then there's a tab for LWRFS and then we have all the reports
- 14 within there.
- And so we've been reviewing the reports and there
- 16 are some that are more comprehensive than other reports. And
- 17 so the more comprehensive reports and the more substantial
- 18 ones that are addressing a more broad variety of the
- 19 particular issues, we see those first, those five participants
- 20 as being the Moapa Band of Indians, the National Park Service,
- 21 the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Coyote Spring
- 22 Investments, and the Southern Nevada Water Authority.
- And so what we are considering, and certainly
- 24 this is part of the dialogue, is that for those first five

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- So moving onto the next item on kind of our
- 2 agenda for this morning is the timing and the length of the
- 3 hearing.
- 4 So, as I mentioned before, we're scheduling the
- 5 hearing to commence on September 23rd, 2019. At this point in
- 6 time, we're anticipating that the hearing will be held from
- 7 8:30 a.m. until 5 o'clock p.m. with an hour and 30 minute
- 8 lunch break and the hearing will be set for two weeks and will
- 9 end on October 4th.
- So, again, as I've outlined, the purpose of the
- 11 hearing is limited and the expectation of the parties will
- 12 distill the reports and conclusions into a succinct
- 13 presentation of the salient opinions and direct our office to
- 14 the data and other information supporting of those
- 15 conclusions.
- And, again, the Division of Water Resources has
- 17 the expertise and experience to review the reports submitted
- 18 and we are actively engaged in reviewing all of the reports
- 19 that have been submitted for our office and every report will
- 20 be submitted prior to the hearing on September 23rd.
- 21 So the State Engineer does not desire
- 22 participants to rehash the reports, and on that basis, the
- 23 hearing is being set for two weeks. And we believe this
- 24 should be more than adequate time for participants to present

- 1 days, each one of those parties, their reports and
- 2 cross-examination of those parties' witnesses will occur in
- 3 one day. So we'll assign a day to each of those parties.
- 4 MR. ROBISON: Sorry, could you repeat that,
- 5 please?
- 6 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So each of those
- 7 parties will be assigned one day, and so what we're trying to
- 8 do is we are trying to balance the time and so that -- that
- 9 one day would encompass both the presentation of that party's
- 10 witnesses and evidence as well as an equal amount of time to
- 11 go ahead and cross-examine.
- MR. ROBISON: Does that one day include a
- 13 rebuttal?
- 14 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes. Yes, that will
- 15 include the rebuttal.
- MR. ROBISON: Thank you. Kent Robison for CSI Projects.
- 18 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So the next
- 19 participants we believe will need more than probably about a
- 20 half day and perhaps a little more, but about a half day, but
- 21 not a full day, would be the Moapa Valley Water District,
- 22 Vidler, Lincoln County, the City of North Las Vegas and the
- 23 centers -- Center for Biologic Diversity.
- So we believe we should be able to move through

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- 1 those participants in not more than three days. Probably
- 2 about -- and so, optimally, we're trying to do that within two
- 3 and a half days.
- And, finally, we believe that the remaining time 4
- 5 will be sufficient to address Dry Lake and their Dry Lake
- Georgia Pacific and Republic Services, Great Basin Water
- 7 Network, Technichrome and any rebuttal report submissions.
- Yes, Mr. Robison.
- MR. ROBISON: The one day that is assigned to the 9
- 10 major report, the first week, that day includes
- 11 cross-examination of whatever is presented by that person?
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes. 12
- MR. ROBISON: That entity. 13
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Um-hum. 14
- MR. ROBISON: Okay. Thank you. 15
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: And, again, the idea 16
- 17 is we have the capacity to go ahead and review the reports and
- the evidence and the data relied upon, but this is the
- opportunity for the participants to really highlight the
- 20 salient conclusions and point us in the direction of what the
- 21 evidence is that supports those conclusions.
- MR. TAGGART: Could I just ask a question? 22
- 23 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes.
- 24 MR. TAGGART: For the record, Paul Taggart, for

- 1 duplicative time restating the same opinions or the same
- 2 findings or the same interpretations of data. And also
- 3 there's going to be opportunities for people to go an ahead
- 4 and get the cross-examination or the challenging of evidence
- 5 and opinions.
- And so the rebuttal reports, while I understand
- 7 and appreciate that some of those parties are going to want to
- 8 go ahead and at least have a witness, present some of the data
- 9 relied upon in rendering why they believe that certain
- conclusions are not supported by other parties. 10
- 11 Most of that will have and should have been drawn
- 12 out during the proceedings leading up to it.
- 13 Yes, Kent.
- MR. ROBISON: Yes. Is the order of presentation 14
- 15 that which you just related for the major report -- reporting
- 16 parties? Is that the order, or is that to be determined?
- 17 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: That's to be
- 18 determined. We'll have that discussion, but that's kind of a
- 19 general order of which I've -- we've been contemplating at
- 20 this point in time.
- 21 MR. ROBISON: Thank you.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes. 22
- 23 MS. GLASGOW: Hi, Karen Glasgow for the
- 24 Department of Interior representing the National Park Service.

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- With respect to questioning or cross-examination,
- 2 will the -- your office be participating in that, or is it
- 3 just going to be report writers, rebuttal writers only?
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: No. Our office will
- 5 be asking questions. I mean, we always reserve our right
- 6 during hearings to ask questions of the participants and of
- 7 witnesses.
- MS. GLASGOW: Thank you. 8
- MR. MORRISON: Excuse me, Greg Morrison, Muddy
- 10 Valley Water District. I understand the structure that you're
- 11 looking at as far as the substance of the initial reports that
- 12 were submitted.
- I think my client anticipated submitting much 13
- 14 more of a substantial rebuttal report and as the community who
- 15 is essentially in the absolute heart of this entire matter,
- 16 I'm not sure if we're a hundred percent comfortable being
- 17 relegated to this second day truncated status in our 18 participation.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: And certainly -- and
- 20 that's why we're having the dialogue and the conversation is
- 21 trying to balance out the time within that two-week window of
- 22 time to allow parties, you know, a reasonable opportunity.
- But, again, the idea is also to keep everything
- 24 very, you know, focused and, again, have people highlight the

1 Southern Nevada Water Authority. In your view, have all the

- 2 parties that you just listed submitted reports?
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: No. There's still 3
- 4 rebuttal reports, and we anticipate at this point in time,
- 5 we'd obviously -- rebuttal reports are not due until next
- 6 Friday. But at this point in time, I'm aware of probably at
- least three parties that will be submitting rebuttal reports.
- But the rebuttal reports, again, they haven't
- submitted an initial report, so it's going it be a truncated
- period of time in which to go ahead and present their, you
- 11 know, their -- their rebuttal opinions or to address those 12 opinions to the extent necessary.
- And part of the idea, and just to be completely 13
- 14 candid with everyone, is as we move through these different
- 15 processes and get through the different parties, a lot of the
- 16 different issues and rebuttal issues are going to have been 17 addressed.
- And kind of the idea is starting out with the 18
- more substantive reports and the more substantive analysis
- 20 first is that it's going to have a funnel effect in the extent 21 that people will have had an opportunity to go ahead, get a
- 22 lot of either evidence and conclusions that they have either 23 supported already presented.
- And so we're not going to have to spend a lot of 24

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- salient points, the salient opinions and point us in thedirection.
- 3 And we'll talk -- we'll talk about balancing this
- 4 out here in a little while as well.
- 5 MR. MORRISON: Okay.
- 6 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So just to kind of --
- 7 so we understand that the NV Energy will be submitting a
- 8 rebuttal report.
- 9 MS. CAVIGLIA: That is correct.
- 10 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Thank you, Justina.
- 11 We also understand that Alex, I think.
- MR. FLANGAS: Nevada Cogeneration.
- 13 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So, Nevada Cogen will
- 14 be submitting a rebuttal report.
- Are there any other parties who did not submit an
- 16 initial report who will be submitting a rebuttal report?
- 17 Steve?
- MR. KING: Steve King for Muddy Valley Irrigation
- 19 Company. We will be submitting a rebuttal report.
- ${\bf 20} \qquad HEARING\ OFFICER\ FAIRBANK: \ And\ does\ anybody\ know$
- 21 what the LDS Church, and the Church of --
- MR. CARLSON: We haven't made a decision of -- at
- 23 this point.
- 24 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Okay. And just

- 1 just -- I mean, again, how do we manage how much time gets
- 2 taken up on cross-examination, that's outside the control of
- 3 the offering party.
- 4 So -- so, that's, you know, our view is we need a
- 5 day and a half to make sure we have enough time to put on our
- 6 presentation, there's enough time for cross-examination. And7 then we can put on our next witness.
- 8 But we will be concise as possible. I mean,
- 9 we're imagining, you know, 45 minutes as a presentation on
- 10 direct of a witness, then maybe another 45 minutes with the
- 11 next witness, then maybe a half hour with the next.
- But cross-examination is really difficult to
- 13 anticipate. And just given my experience, you can eat up an
- 14 entire half a day with one witness, even if direct is only
- 15 45 minutes, with the cross.
- Particularly, if we have 10 or 12, I don't know
- 17 how many parties are authorized to cross -- or how many
- 18 parties have submitted reports, and therefore, would be
- 19 authorized to cross-examine, but anyway, that's our point 20 here.
- 21 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: And so I think it's
- 22 part of to follow up with a little bit, and I appreciate that,
- 23 Mr. Taggart, is, you know, to follow up with regards to that,
- 24 is -- you know, obviously our office is going to encourage the

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- 1 because I'm trying to understand the number of participants so
- 2 we can anticipate the window of time in which to try to
- 3 balance everybody.
- 4 MR. CARLSON: Sev Carlson, for the record. I
- 5 think in all likelihood we'll be monitoring closely what the
- 6 City of Las Vegas will be --
- 7 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Okay.
- 8 MS. BRINTON: Kathryn Brinton for the Department
- 9 of Interior, BLM. There's a chance we'll be joining with the
- 10 Park Service, but we still haven't decided entirely what we're
- 11 going to do.
- 12 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So, just to kind of
- 13 understand, I mean, other than the Moapa Valley Water
- 14 District, are there any other parties that believe that kind
- 15 of the framework that we've outlined is unduly restrictive in
- 16 terms of their ability to present their issues as the State
- 17 Engineer has outlined the intent and purpose of the hearing?
- 18 MR. TAGGART: Yeah, again, Paul Taggart for
- 19 Southern Nevada Water Authority. We think we'll need more
- 20 than a day. We think we need a day and a half. And I think
- 21 that we totally understand your effort to make presentations
- 22 concise.
- I think that we have three witnesses, and in
- 24 anticipating the potential cross-examination time, we're

- participants to, you know, be, you know, working to avoidredundancy in the cross-examination of witnesses.
- 3 Certainly if one party has elicited the
- 4 information or a line the questioning that you intended to go
- 5 ahead and address what that particular witness, we would like
- 6 to avoid the redundancy. Not everybody has to, you know, as
- 7 the saying goes, beat the dead horse.
- 8 And so, you know, that's what we're going to be
- 9 looking for and that's one of the things that we're hoping
- 10 will help maintain the time frame, and you know, obviously,
- 11 you know, I -- for full transparency, in terms of what we're
- 12 trying to do is, again, is we're trying to go ahead and keep
- 13 that within that two-week period of time.
- In all honesty, we still have to wait and see
- 15 what rebuttal reports are submitted and we want to provide all
- 16 the parties a reasonable opportunity, but not -- this isn't
- 17 intended to become a six-week hearing.
- 18 If we to go ahead and extend the hearing once we
- 19 get all the rebuttal reports in, the scheduling order will go20 ahead and account for that.
- And so the concerns raised by the SNWA and the
- 22 SNWA parties, as well as the Moapa Valley Water District,
- 23 we'll take those under advisement in terms of setting the
- 24 schedule, recognizing while we would -- we are endeavoring to

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- 1 not continue the hearing into the second week of October which2 would be the 7th, 8th.
- 3 If it's necessary in order to provide all the
- 4 opportunities an adequate opportunity, we will continue -- the
- 5 hearing will extend into that following week.
- 6 And so, I appreciate the feedback, because those
- 7 are the type of things and, obviously, there's a bit of
- 8 uncertainty not knowing how many rebuttal reports are going to
- 9 be submitted.
- MR. TAGGART: Well, and if I can, just to build
- 11 on that, if -- if we go to day one and whoever that first
- 12 party is can't get done, but we're all being, you know,
- 13 efficient, we may find out quickly that this schedule, this
- 14 time allocation isn't working completely and that's when we
- 15 start talking about whether to continue on into the next week.
- 16 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Right. Well, so when
- 17 we issued the scheduling order, the scheduling order will set
- 18 out the days and times. And part of that is what we're going
- 16 but the days and times. And part of that is what we're going
- 19 to try to talk about today is get an understanding of what the
- 20 parties, you know, I understand that Moapa Valley Water
- 21 District feels that a half of day would be unduly restrictive
- 22 for their purposes.
- I understand that SNWA believes that a day is
- 24 unduly restrictive. And so we're going to take some of that

- 1 MR. DONNELLY: Patrick Donnelly, Center for
- 2 Biological Diversity. I think -- I'm checking with our
- 3 hydrologist about half day and whether that's adequate. I
- 4 would think a half day plus, probably.
- 5 But I think we would be as -- as or more
- 6 concerned about the structure and equity of the
- 7 cross-examination process, particularly because there would be
- 8 a week and a half before we get to go and could probably
- 9 elicit a lot of our points during that process if it is
- 10 structured properly. So, what is that going to look like?
- 11 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Well, the idea is that
- 12 the cross-examination process will be not less than the amount
- 13 of time that a participant -- that a particular witness was
- 14 subject to their direct examination.
- MR. ROBISON: By all parties.
- 16 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: What?
- MR. ROBISON: I'm sorry, by all parties.
- 18 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: By all parties.
- 19 MR. ROBISON: Thank you.
- 20 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: And, again, that's why
- 21 we're encouraging the parties to go ahead and, you know, be
- 22 cognitive of what the other questions and to the extent that
- 23 there's parties that have similar perspectives, similar
- 24 conclusions, similar opinions that, you know, perhaps that,

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- 1 feedback and we are going to develop the sequencing of the
- 2 report of the participants' participation that is going to be
- 3 set forth in the schedule order.
- 4 The scheduling order will also indicate that as
- 5 necessary the hearing will continue, you know, day to day
- 6 beyond that, as, you know, if necessary.
- 7 Yes, Mr. Robison.
- 8 MR. ROBISON: Rebuttal will overlap with
- 9 cross-examination, so that provides some incentive to be 10 succinct.
- We are customarily and frequently restricted in
- 12 time limitations in courtrooms, but that said, any major
- 13 player that gets a day and a half, we want the same.
- 14 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: And I also understand
- 15 that's one of the other balancing interests.
- MR. ROBISON: Thank you.
- MR. TAGGART: And, again, just when we talk about
- 18 rebuttal, we mean, like if I have a witness who had done a
- 19 report and has a report, an initial report and rebuttal
- 20 report, that witness will testify about both of those reports
- 21 at the same time and then be subjected to cross-examination
- 22 and then redirect and then questions of staff and then that
- 23 witness would be done.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes, that's correct.

- 1 you know, certainly can't tell people how to go ahead and
- 2 manage their own cases, but coordination and communication
- 3 amongst the parties is certainly encouraged.
- 4 But at the same time, there are going to be a lot
- 5 more individuals intending to cross-examine a witness or an
- 6 expert at any given time.
- 7 So there's probably going to be, again, it's
- 8 we're trying to provide an opportunity for everybody to
- 9 have -- have an opportunity to do that -- to have -- to have
- 10 an opportunity to elicit and challenge the conclusions and
- 11 evidence relied upon by a particular witness if that's so
- 12 necessary for their positions and how they believe the State
- 13 Engineer should be evaluating the conclusions.
- But it's not going to be a free for all, and so
- 15 we're going to be trying to balance that to the best of our 16 ability.
- In terms of assigning the number of minutes per
- 18 each party, I just don't -- I think that's just unduly
- 19 impossible. It's not going to happen at that point in time.
- 20 So we're just going to have to work it out, and our -- our
- 21 role and responsibility is to go ahead and try to manage the
- 22 progress of the hearing to assure that the parties are all
- 23 given an opportunity, you know, a fair opportunity.
- Yes, Mr. Flangas.

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- 1 MR. FLANGAS: Alex Flangas, Nevada Cogeneration.
- 2 In that vein, trying to be as efficient as possible, and given
- 3 that there's going to be limited period of time for rebuttal,
- 4 ultimate rebuttal, I'm contemplating the idea of whether the
- 5 state would consider allowing cross-examination to be, for
- 6 example, if a particular period of time was allowed for Nevada
- 7 Cogeneration, whether my cross-examination could be by me or
- 8 by my expert, specifically.
- 9 Because, let's be candid, my expert may have
- 10 questions that they can phrase right then on the spot better
- 11 than I can phrase and I don't want to be sitting, consulting
- 12 with my expert then asking a question, then consulting with my
- 13 expert and asking a question and wasting time.
- 14 At the same time, we all know in a courtroom,
- 15 typically, you have one person that's allowed to
- 16 cross-examine, not two, and this is not a courtroom.
- So I'm wondering if there's any thought given to
- 18 whether the cross-examination could literally be by experts of
- 19 experts which I see happen from the State quite often where
- 20 the State's expert is the one doing the cross examining, not
- 21 an attorney.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Mr. Flangas, I don't
- 23 have an answer for that right off the top of my because we
- 24 haven't contemplated that particular scenario, but something

- So attached to the scheduling order is going to
- 2 be an Exhibit and it's going to identify each and everyone of
- 3 the documents and records that are currently before the State
- 4 Engineer within the office of the State Engineer that he will
- 5 be taking administrative notice of in advance of the Order
- 6 1303 hearing.
- 7 So the State Engineer is going to request that
- 8 with the exception of reports and rebuttal reports that will
- 9 be listed, those will also be listed on that list of the
- 10 documents and evidence before the State Engineer that he is
- 11 taking administrative notice of, any documents and evidence
- 12 that is identified in that list not being reintroduced for the
- 13 purpose of this hearing.
- So we would ask that the parties endeavor to the
- 15 extent possible to refer back to those particular documents as
- 16 the administrative record in this proceeding is already
- 17 extremely voluminous and so we don't need a whole lot more
- 18 redundancy of documents and records.
- Additionally, to the extent that any party has,
- 20 any participant has any evidence that is not identified on
- 21 that list for inclusion for the State Engineer's consideration
- 22 in rendering his decisions in this particular matter, and that
- 23 any participant intends to rely upon or believes to be
- 24 relevant to the State Engineer's decision, we're asking that

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- 1 we will certainly take under advisement and we can either2 address when we have the scheduling order or address that at
- 3 the commencement of the proceedings on the 23rd.
- 4 MR. DONNELLY: This is Patrick Donnelly, Center
- 5 for Biological Diversity. I would echo that. I think that's
- 6 a really important thing I think for our expert to do
- 7 cross-examination. If we could hear that in the order and not
- 8 the day of the hearing, that would be very helpful.
- 9 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So, I'm going to get
- 10 to the timing, like the sequence of presentation of
- 11 participant reports a little bit later.
- But I'm going to move to the hearing procedures
- 13 and kind of other administrative matters that might then help
- 14 inform some of the other sequence issues or the sequence
- 15 concerns, questions.

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- So, when the scheduling order setting the
- 17 September 23rd hearing is issued, just let everyone know the
- 18 scheduling order will come out the week of August 19th. So,
- 19 it will come out the week following the submission of rebuttal20 reports.
- 21 And the scheduling order will include a list
- 22 identifying all of the documents and records and evidence that
- 23 the State Engineer will be taking administrative notice of for
- 24 the purpose of the Order 1303 hearing.

- 1 the participant assure that such evidence is submitted prior2 to the comment of the hearing on September 23rd.
- 3 So in short, what we're going to do is list out
- 4 everything that we believe is part of our administrative
- 5 record and what we're going to be taking administrative notice6 of for purposes of this hearing.
- 7 And if there's something in there that you want
- 8 to refer to, please feel free to refer to it. If you need to
- 9 provide excerpts of it, that's fine as well. Certainly, some
- 10 of these things are going to be quite voluminous. Most of
- 11 these documents and records are available on our website.
- But the other side if it, is if that's something
- 13 that's not listed and you think it's important for our
- 14 consideration, please get it in front of us before the
- 15 hearing, and you're going to have an opportunity to go ahead
- 16 and provide at that point in time.
- Yes, Mr. Taggart.
- 18 MR. TAGGART: Thank you. The -- will those
- 19 documents on that list have document numbers, State Engineer
- 20 documents on those already and start the exhibit numbering
- 21 process at that point?
- 22 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: We will have a -- we
- 23 will have them marked out, yes.
- MR. TAGGART: Okay.

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- 1 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: We'll have them Bate 2 stamped and numbered out.
- 3 MR. TAGGART: Okay. And then will they be
- 4 available, I think it's important that they be made available,
- 5 and I don't want to burden your office more than it already
- 6 is, but you know, if it was put on a website and all, not only
- 7 is there the list, but then on a website someone could go in
- 8 and every one of those documents is there on the website, then
- 9 we don't have to serve everyone, or you don't have to serve 10 everyone.
- 11 Is that what you contemplate, or --
- 12 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: We're hoping to
- 13 accomplish that. Again, it's a very voluminous record at this
- 14 point in time, and so hoping to get everything that ties in a
- 15 formatted manner.
- 16 I'll be completely candid with you, some it is a
- 17 bunch data spread sheets and we're having a hard time getting
- 18 those formatted into a mechanism that you can actually have
- 19 them in a readable format.
- 20 MR. TAGGART: Okay.
- 21 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So to the extent where
- 22 possible, we're trying to get everything into a digitized
- 23 format and make it available. So that's the intent that it
- 24 will be available prior to September 23rd.

- 1 witnesses and evidence. And so we're going to establish a
- 2 deadline for the parties to disclose their witnesses, the
- 3 anticipated testimony and to exchange any documents and
- 4 evidence and so -- and it's going to have to be shared amongst
- 5 all the parties.
- 6 MR. TAGGART: Okay. And can I just clarify one
- 7 thing, is that when we submit exhibits, they are intended to
- 8 be documents that support our expert reports. And will new
- 9 expert opinions and new expert reports are not authorized to
- 10 be submitted when exhibits are submitted?
- 11 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Correct.
- MR. TAGGART: Okay.
- 13 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: The expert reports,
- 14 those deadlines are established pursuant to the order and the
- 15 addendum to the order, or the amendment -- the amended order.
- MR. TAGGART: All right.
- 17 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So, correct. New
- 18 expert reports or new rebuttal reports beyond those deadlines
- 19 will not be accepted.
- The additional evidence is if there's supporting
- 21 documentation for those things, you know, those things that
- 22 are relevant to the point equally that you believe that the
- 23 State Engineer should take it into consideration.
- But there -- the administrative record should be

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- 1 Is it all going to be available when we issue the
- 2 scheduling order, probably not all of it because it's proving
- 3 to be quite the task.
- 4 So, we are endeavoring to do so, but it's going
- 5 to -- it may not all be complete by the time that the
- 6 scheduling order comes out.
- 7 But it will be -- it will be coming up and it be
- 8 will be part of our hearing under that news tab in LWRFS.
- 9 MR. TAGGART: For -- I'm just exploring how this
- 10 is going can work. Is it possible that you could make things
- 11 available here at your office if people wanted to come and
- 12 look at it if it was just digital.
- 13 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Um-hum.
- MR. TAGGART: And had you a hard time, you know,
- 15 making it, replicating it for a PDF, then if it was available
- 16 here for people to come look at, that might be one way of dealing with that.
- And so if there's additional documents, then we
- 19 would provide those to your office and to who? I guess, from
- 20 a notice standpoint, how should we handle that?
- 21 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Right. So what we're
- 22 going to do, and that's down a little bit --
- MR. TAGGART: Okay.
- 24 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: -- disclosure of

- 1 relatively complete we believe, particularly with the
- 2 inclusion of the expert report.
- 3 But, somebody may have something out there that
- 4 they think is incredibly important for us to consider that's
- 5 not there, and so we want to make sure everybody is afforded
- 6 an opportunity to get that in front of you prior to the
- 7 commencement of the hearing so that the State Engineer can
- 8 consider that as part of his decision making process.
- 9 MR. ROBISON: Is there a definitive service list
- 10 of who would be served with whatever additional documents we 11 identify?
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: It will be attached to the scheduling order.
- 14 MR. ROBISON: Thank you.
- 15 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So the scheduling
- 16 order will establish that service list, and so then, just as
- 17 everybody understands is we also have for the purposes is we
- 18 have an email list which is really kind of a, more of an
- 19 informal notification list, but for the purpose of the
- 20 hearing, the scheduling order will have a service list
- 21 attached to it.
- MR. FLANGAS: Service meaning mailing?
- 23 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Mailing, yes.
- MR. ROBISON: Does email suffice?

- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Currently our
- 2 administrative regulations don't recognize electronic service,
- 3 however the parties are free to go ahead and -- I mean, so --
- 4 so mail is technically the appropriate form of service.
- If it was a smaller, you know, a smaller pool of
- participants, I think I would encourage people to go ahead and
- 7 come up with their own stipulation regarding e-Service, and
- certainly if people want to endeavor to do that, I'm going to
- leave that to you all.
- But for the purposes of this hearing, our current 10
- 11 regulatory structure, it's good old fashioned United States 12 mail.
- MR. ROBISON: Then the date for disclosure 13
- 14 becomes increasingly important.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Correct. 15
- MR. ROBISON: Thank you. 16
- MR. TAGGART: Could we just ask the room if 17
- people are willing to agree to e-Service? 18
- 19 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: I guess I could go
- 20 ahead and ask it this way. Is there anybody who objects to
- utilizing e-Service based upon the emails that we have been

THE COURT REPORTER: I don't know who spoke.

HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Colby Pellegrino.

HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Well so you know, what

5 we'll do is on the scheduling order, we will also provide that

6 email list. And so the parties are free to exchange via email

MR. FLANGAS: I just like to make sure that I get

HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: You will be added to

MR. FLANGAS: Thank you very much. I appreciate

HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: And if there's any

MR. MOORE: Yeah, this is Andy Moore, City of

18 North Las Vegas. Could I get added too, because the

19 individual that is with the City that's on there is no longer

22 participants today that is not our service list, please feel

23 free to email us and we will make sure that you are added to

24 our service list and that's the best way of doing it.

10 added. I haven't been on that list and I don't know why. So,

11 that's -- I keep getting things from my expert. My expert's

22 using to communicate with parties?

7 having heard no objection to do so.

Mr. Flangas?

12 on the list, but I am not.

14 it now, Mr. Flangas.

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17

21

16 it.

MS. PELLEGRINO: Just the list on the order? 23

MS. PELLEGRINO: Colby Pellegrino.

24 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes.

- SPEAKER ON SPEAKER PHONE: The best contact,
- 2 ma'am?
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: The best contact will
- 4 be, go ahead and do it to mfairbank, F as in Frank,
- 5 A-I-R-B-A-N-K @ water.nv.gov. And so that's my email address,
- Micheline Fairbank with the Division of Water Resources.
- So moving to that next question which is the
- 8 disclosure of the witnesses and evidence is indicated to be
- 9 relied on. So, obviously, we're going to have the expert
- 10 reports, those would have already been submitted.
- 11 I was contemplating two weeks prior to the
- 12 commencement of the hearing for the disclosure of witnesses
- 13 and any evidence.
- Does that seem to be a reasonable period of time 14
- 15 for the participants?
- 16 MR. TAGGART: Again, Paul Taggart for SNWA. We
- 17 were hoping September 3rd which would three weeks in advance
- 18 which would give us more times to prepare for other sides'
- 19 cases.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Does anybody have any 20
- 21 thought or feedback with regards to moving it to
- 22 September 3rd?
- 23 I'm certainly supportive of that if that's going
- 24 to help in terms of structuring the hearing to be more

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- 1 efficient and allow the parties to be more succinct and
- 2 focused in terms of their examination and cross-examination of
- 3 the witnesses.
- MR. ROBISON: So, the scheduling order is coming
- 5 out approximately August 19th?
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: It will come out some 6
- 7 time the week of the 19th.
- MR. ROBISON: So that would give us three weeks
- to determine what has to be added?
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Correct. Having --
- 11 I'm hearing no objection? Yes.
- MR. MOORE: I mean, I just want to clarify that. 12
- 13 Again, Andy Moore. You looked at the September 3rd would give
- 14 you two weeks; right? If it's the 19th.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: No, you're correct, 15
- 16 that is, that's two weeks.
- 17 MR. ROBISON: Yep, two.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Plus the time that you 18
- 19 got right now.
- 20 MS. PETERSON: This is Karen Peterson. How about
- 21 the end of that week? That's September 3rd.
- 22 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: September 6th? I'm
- 23 fine with that. Okay. So we will set the date --
- MR. TAGGART: We're fine with that as well. 24

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20 with the City.



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- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So, September 6th will
- 2 be the deadline for the disclosure of witnesses, including
- 3 their anticipated testimony and any additional exhibits the
- 4 parties intend to submit for the State Engineer's
- 5 consideration beyond those identified within the
- administrative record.
- One other kind of witness issue I wanted to go
- 8 ahead and address with the parties. Is the State Engineer has
- already qualified numerous individuals as experts before the
- office in the State Engineer. 10
- 11 And in an effort to go ahead and eliminate a lot
- 12 of voir dire and qualification of witnesses which can take a
- 13 substantial amount of time, the State Engineer also intends to
- go through the different -- as we're going through the expert
- 15 reports, we're looking at those individual experts.
- And once we get the disclosures, any individual 16
- 17 who has already been qualified by the State Engineer as an
- expert in the particular discipline in which they're being
- 19 offered to testify, we will take administrative notice that
- 20 they've been qualified as an expert.
- 21 We don't -- if we've already found that they've
- 22 been qualified to serve as an expert witness in that
- 23 particular discipline before our office and prior proceedings,
- 24 we're going to go ahead and allow that.

- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Generally, we're going
- 2 to offer, we're going to go through the -- while the rules of
- 3 evidence in civil procedure don't strictly apply, that's what
- 4 we rely upon in terms of, you know, the standard -- the
- 5 standard roles for qualification of experts.
- MR. DONNELLY: Is that NRS, or --
- 7 MR. ROBISON: NRS 48.
- MR. DONNELLY: Thank you. 8
- MR. ROBISON: Would the State Engineer consider a
- 10 date by which all parties exchange the CVs, statement of
- 11 qualifications for the experts to see which if any are going
- 12 to be subject to a challenge?
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: We could set that for
- 14 September 6th as well.
- 15 MR. ROBISON: Thank you.
- 16 MR. TAGGART: Will that -- I don't -- I don't
- 17 disagree, necessarily. I'm just exploring this idea. Is we
- could also in our witness statements, our witness list,
- 19 identify when, or if that individual has been qualified
- 20 previously by the State Engineer and in what discipline so
- 21 everyone knows.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Um-hum. 22
- 23 MR. TAGGART: And then we know which ones are
- 24 not. And then we can all decide, okay, is this someone that

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- Unless any party has a compelling reason as to 1
- 2 why we should expend the amount of time qualifying each and
- 3 every witness that has already been done so before our office.
- And then if there's individuals who have been 4
- 5 identified as a witness, one of the things that I wanted to
- 6 kind of address with the parties this morning is potential
- 7 concept is to establish a date prior to the commencement of
- the September 3rd hearing to just go ahead and run through
- expert qualification and allow parties to go ahead. And if we have an individual who is submitted a
- 11 report and it's going to be called or relied upon to testify
- 12 as an expert, and they're not already qualified before our
- 13 office in their discipline is to set a pre -- a pre date,
- 14 probably the week before and allow the parties to go ahead and
- 15 produce their witnesses for the purposes of qualifying.
- And so that way then when we start the hearing on 16
- 17 September 23rd, we don't have to go through that process of
- qualifying experts and voir dire and such.
- It's a little bit of a different process, but 19
- 20 we're also trying to determine efficiency, and so just trying
- 21 to explore different ideas. Patrick?
- MR. DONNELLY: Patrick Donnelly, Center for 22
- 23 Biological Diversity. Is there a statutory or regulatory
- 24 definition of expert?

- 1 we will challenge or not challenge. So that's, I think it's
- 2 just an add on to what Mr. Robinson is saying.
- MR. ROBISON: I agree, but the CV has to be
- 4 disclosed so we know what the qualifications are.
- MR. TAGGART: Sure. I would expect the CV would
- 6 be part of the exhibits.
- MR. ROBISON: That was my request.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Then we'll go ahead
- and include that. And that way, then if, there's any
- 10 objection or concern with respect to the qualification, if an
- 11 individual has not been previously qualified before the State
- 12 Engineer, then do we want -- are the parties, participants, is
- 13 this an appetite for trying to go ahead and pre-qualify those
- 14 experts prior to the commencement of the hearing the 23rd?
 - MR. TAGGART: I think it's a great idea. I just
- 16 think there's some procedural, you know, issues, we got to let
- you know whether we are going to make a challenge. Like we 18 have to have a time to decide whether we're going to make that
- 19 challenge. We have to alert you to that and then you have to
- 20 be able to schedule the time for it.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So -- so, what I'm
- 22 thinking, is just looking, and if we schedule the time for
- 23 parties so within the scheduling order to present a challenge
- 24 to a particular expert being qualified in their discipline, if

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- 1 we set a deadline within the scheduling order for that.
- And then also in the scheduling order establish a
- 3 date for that qualification hearing for any objected to
- 4 experts, and then we can always vacate that qualifying hearing
- 5 date if necessary.
- 6 So, let's go ahead and have objections to any
- 7 submitted or proffered expert. Objections to be submitted to
- 8 the State Engineer no later than the close of business on
- 9 September 13th.
- And then let me double check, and then I just
- 11 want to see for location. And then 9:00 a.m., September 20th
- 12 which will be the Friday before the commencement of the
- 13 hearing, for a hearing on any challenged experts.
- And that will be here at the Tahoe Hearing Room.
- 15 Yes?
- MR. FAHMY: Peter Fahmy for the National Park
- 17 Service. Is it possible that experts could have been
- 18 qualified in other jurisdictions and other administrative or
- 19 judicial proceedings.
- 20 And I was wondering whether the State Engineer's
- 21 office would consider, given it's going to have the CVs and
- 22 this information contained in the expert witness reports,
- 23 could make a judgment at that time whether that he or she
- 24 believes that that expert is qualified and therefore dispense

- 1 as an expert.
- 2 Certainly, I think the expectation of the parties
- 3 are reasonable, but I think we're going -- I'm going to keep
- 4 that hearing date and so that we can address those particular
- 5 concerns, because there maybe subjective basis for the people
- 6 to challenge the particular qualification of a particular
- 8 MR. ROBISON: Does the scheduling order include
- 9 the names of experts pre-qualified with the State Engineer?
- 10 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: The scheduling order
- 11 will direct the parties as part of the exchange of witnesses
- 12 on September 6th to identify the name of every expert they
- intend to call, provide the support for their qualifications, where they have previously been qualified. If they've been
- 15 qualified before the State Engineer.
- And to provide their CVs so that the parties can
- 17 then make a determination by that September 13th day as to
- 18 whether or not to challenge any of those individuals.
- And if an individual has already been qualified
- 20 in that particular discipline before the State Engineer, then
- 21 those individuals will -- the State Engineer will recognize
- those individuals as already being qualified as experts beforethis office.
- 24 MR. ROBISON: Thank you.

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- 1 with the need for this challenge hearing.
- 2 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So, I think it's -- so
- 3 what I am a thinking is part of that September 6th exchange of
- 4 witnesses and identification of experts, as well as providing
- 5 in the scheduling order, we'll set this out is to identify the6 qualifications and where those individuals have been
- 7 previously qualified as an expert, and then the parties can go
- 8 ahead and review that. And then I think if -- I'm hoping
- 9 people will be reasonable, but --
- .0 MR. TAGGART: I'll just offer that I think we
- 11 would all take that into consideration, but in the past, it
- 12 isn't an automatic you're qualified in the State Engineer's
- 13 office because you were qualified in the Federal District
- 14 Court of, you know, Eastern Illinois or something.
- 15 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Correct.
- MR. TAGGART: So, I think that we would certainly
- 17 take that into account when looking at a CV if someone's been
- 18 qualified in three other jurisdictions on the same topic, that
- 19 would certainly go to the merit of whether we can challenge
- them.
 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: And I -- because I
 think we're going to an allow the parties to go ahead and
- 23 present their, proffer their experts and provide the
- 24 qualifications and demonstration that they should be qualified

- 1 MS. PETERSON: This is Karen Peterson, sorry. Is
- 2 there any way we could have that hearing on the 19th? I have
- 3 a conflict on the 20th and so does Dylan Frehner.
- 4 MS. CAVIGLIA: And this is Justina Caviglia. I
- 5 have the same conflict as Ms. Peterson.
- 6 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes, we can do it on
- 7 the 19th. So the hearing the date will be moved from the 20th
- 8 of September to the 19th of September.
- 9 MS. GLASGOW: One last point. Karen Glasgow for
- 10 the Park Service. With respect to the 9/19 hearing, can we
- 11 participate by telephone? Can somebody participate by
- 12 telephone rather than in person?
- 13 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes. And, optimally,
- 14 I'm going to be optimistic that our whole new system with the
- 15 video-conferencing will be up and running by then. And there
- might actually be an opportunity for you to participate viavideo-conference from remote from your location.
- So, but we'll allow telephonic appearances for
- 19 that hearing on the 19th. And we will keep everyone posted 20 for video capacity as well.
- We should -- the new system is supposed to allow
- 22 us to be able to stream on line and people can actually tie in
- and appear as long as they have at appropriate equipment and their end through the webcast as well, so -- so we'll see.

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- 1 Yes, fingers crossed. We're -- Water Resources is moving into
- 2 the 20th century.
- 3 MS. PETERSON: This is Karen Peterson. So with
- 4 the expert that is being challenged would be present in Carson
- 5 City, though?
- 6 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes.
- 7 MS. PETERSON: Okay.
- 8 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: We would need that in
- 9 order for them to be able to examined, yes.
- 10 MS. PETERSON: Okay.
- 11 MR. TAGGART: Can I ask another clarifying
- 12 question about the witness list?
- 13 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes, Mr. Taggart.
- MR. TAGGART: Based on everything you've been
- 15 about saying restricting this to the topics, and in the
- 16 interim order, my understanding is the witness list should
- 17 only have individuals who actually submitted a report. And so
- 18 I think it's -- it would be prudent to indicate whether that's
- 19 correct.
- 20 Otherwise, are we going -- is it possible we're
- 21 going to have witnesses who are going to offer expert opinions
- who have not submitted a report at all?
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: If they are being
- 24 proffered as an expert, they should have offered -- they

- 1 requirement that an individual be represented by an attorney.
- 2 So if a party or participant is representing
- 3 themselves, that's permitted within the -- before the office
- 4 of the State Engineer.
- 5 With respect -- like I said, we will address a
- 6 particular question about allowing experts cross-examine. I
- 7 -- that's something that I'm going to have to -- we're going
- 8 to have to take under advisement and decide how we want to
- 9 proceed with that particular question.
- 10 Yes?
- 11 MS. PELLEGRINO: I just -- as you can consider
- 12 that question, I don't necessarily agree with experts
- 13 cross-examining experts, but I -- I strongly feel it should
- 14 only be one person that's allowed to examine them, having been15 through --
- 16 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: I appreciate that.
- MR. TAGGART: So, just so I'm clear about the
- 18 question I asked before, because I don't want to end up
- 19 getting into a big side show on whether someone is qualified 20 to testify.
- But if we get witness lists and there's people on
- 22 those lists that are going to offer expert opinions, but they
- 23 don't have a report, we're going to object to them being able
- 24 to testify because we don't have a report.

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- 1 should have had a report or rebuttal report submitted.
- 2 So, if they're going to be proffered as an
- 3 expert, they're going to be in relation to a report that has
- 4 been submitted.
- 5 I'm not going to opine as to whether or not
- 6 people may have non-expert individuals in who they intend to
- 7 call to testify as to testify or relate into other elements of
- 8 their reports.
- 9 But those would not be testifying as an expert
- 10 with respect to those opinions that have been submitted to the 11 office.
- MR. DONNELLY: Patrick Donnelly, Center for
- 13 Biological Diversity. This is somewhat related to this and
- 14 also goes back to an earlier thing. The qualifications for
- 15 cross-examiners, we are questioning whether an expert would be
- 16 able to do that? Will, I mean, will I be able to do that as a 17 non-attorney?
- 18 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So, the -- you know,
- 19 in terms of appearance before the State Engineer, you're not
- 20 required to have an attorney. If you have an attorney who is
- 21 representing a participant or a party, then the attorney has
- 22 to go ahead and be either, you know, pro hoc admitted for our
- office pursuant to Nevada Supreme Court rules, or be a licensed attorney in the State of Nevada. But there's no

- 1. | 1
- 1 That's pretty elementary now. If someone wants
 - 2 to come up and give that testimony, I think I'm hearing you
 - 3 say that may be allowed, it may not, we will see. It still
 - 4 has to be tied to the by the inquiries that were listed in 5 the order?
 - 6 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: That is correct.
 - 7 MR. TAGGART: Okay. And then one other question
 - 8 about that. We're -- we're going to get rebuttal reports. We
 - 9 anticipate those will be rebuttal reports. It won't be new
 - 10 reports.
 - 11 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Correct.
 - MR. TAGGART: It won't be individuals who didn't
 - 13 file an initial report, but waited to see what everyone else's
 - 14 initial reports were going to look like and then now they're
 - 15 going to file their industry report.
 - So these rebuttal reports should be confined to
 - 17 rebutting, pointing to a statement in an existing report and
 - 18 addressing whether they agree or disagree with that statement.
 - As opposed to developing an entire new level of
 - 20 methodology, or entire new level of opinion that we have not 21 had a chance to rebut and would not have a chance to rebut
 - 22 until the hearing.
 - HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Correct. That's the
 - 24 intent. The rebuttal report, if people want to go ahead and

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- 1 challenge the opinions or the data or the conclusions relied
- 2 upon by the parties who submitted initial reports, that's of
- 3 the purpose of the rebuttal reports is to go ahead and
- 4 challenge that.
- You're absolutely correct, the intent for the
- 6 rebuttal reports is not to go ahead and have them be
- 7 independent reports with new conclusions.
- 8 MR. TAGGART: Thank you.
- 9 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So, and -- and, you
- 10 know, just to make it clear too for those parties who are
- 11 either submitting or contemplating submitting rebuttal
- 12 reports, that those reports really should be, you know,
- 13 substantive enough to stand on their own in the sense of being
- 14 -- having, you know, being tethered to data that they're
- 15 relying on that contradicts or undermines conclusions that
- 16 they believe other people have, you know, that they believe to
- 17 undermine or contradict conclusions and evidence relied upon
- 18 by other parties.
- 19 The reports, you know -- so the idea is that the
- 20 hearing is not an opportunity for people to go ahead and
- 21 provide the substantive detail to support the reports. The
- 22 reports should have enough substance and merit to them to
- 23 stand on their own.
- And, again, that's why we say too, if a party has

- 1 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: -- no --
- 2 MS. GLASGOW: -- or witnesses --
- 3 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: -- it would not
- 4 preclude. So, just because somebody doesn't want to -- so,
- 5 you know, because this is, you know, it's kind of funny using
- 6 vernacular that doesn't necessarily fit this really well.
- 7 But just because a participant doesn't want to
- 8 put on a case-in-chief, doesn't preclude them if they
- 9 submitted reports, and they submitted -- it doesn't preclude
- 10 them from participating in any capacity if they don't want to
- 11 -- you know, we certainly encouraging efficiency to the extent12 possible.
- MS. GLASGOW: Thank you.
- MS. PETERSON: I have a question.
- 15 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes.
- MS. PETERSON: So what if there's somebody who
- 17 wants to cross-examine the Park Service and their conclusions
- 18 in their report, I think they have to have their witness
- 19 available for cross-examination.
- They may not want to put on a direct case, but
- 21 they have to allow the parties an opportunity to cross-examine 22 them.
- MR. FLANGAS: Good point.
- 24 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: No, I think you're

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- 1 submitted a report or a rebuttal report and they feel -- and
- 2 they don't believe that they need to go ahead and participate
- 3 in the hearing, we're happy to take -- we will take every
- 4 single document that is submitted to us.
- 5 These reports and rebuttal reports, they will be
- 6 taken under consideration by the State Engineer. That's --
- 7 we're not going to ignore participants' reports just because
- 8 they don't participate in the hearing.
- 9 It's just we're providing an opportunity for
- 10 people to provide some testimony and to point us in the
- 11 direction as to why, you know, what -- what they believe we
- 12 should be really focusing on within their particular
- 13 conclusions and opinions?
- 14 MS. GLASGOW: Question?
- 15 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes.
- MS. GLASGOW: Karen Glasgow, Park Service. To
- 17 that point of testifying or offering an opinion up front on a
- 18 given day, like the Park Service has been given over to week
- 19 one a whole day.
- 20 If the Park Service chooses not to make a
- 21 presentation because for -- they want to stand on what they've
- 22 already written, will that preclude them, however, from
- 23 participating in cross-examination of other people's
- 24 presentations --

1 right. I think you're absolutely right. If somebody's going

- 2 to -- I think that's fair that they would have to make -- I
- 3 think we would have to make -- if they're going to
- 4 participate, they would have to make their witness available
- 5 or their expert available.
- 6 MS. PETERSON: If they want you to consider their 7 report, yes.
- 8 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: No. No. I don't know
- 9 that it -- if somebody submitted a report to us, we're going
- 10 to take that under advisement whether or not they participate.
 - If you want -- if you believe a participant has
- 12 submitted a report, and that -- then that's your opportunity
- 13 to have your rebuttal reports to go ahead and challenge the
- 14 evidence and the data relied upon by somebody, because I mean,
- 15 the idea -- this is an opportunity for people to go ahead and
- present their evidence and also challenge conclusions that arepresent by the parties.
- And you don't necessarily have to cross-examine
- 19 that particular participant's expert in order to challenge the
- 20 conclusions. You can do that through your own expert as well.
- MR. FLANGAS: Excuse me. Doesn't the State
- 22 Engineer have an administrative rule that says, if the witness
- 23 doesn't show up, it will not be considered. I believe there's
- 24 a rule in your -- in your procedures that says that.

- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: I mean, we do have an
- 2 admit, but at the same time, we're also encouraging
- 3 efficiency, and the idea here is to allow people an
- 4 opportunity, and allow people to also challenge the
- 5 conclusions.
- But at the same time, we have people that have
- 7 submitted, you know, quite, you know, somewhat limited
- submissions to our office.
- And to require those participants to go ahead 9
- 10 and, you know, I mean obviously the intent is people, if they
- 11 want us to take it seriously or if they have substantive types
- 12 of dialogue, I think there's an opportunity.
- 13 Mr. Fahmy?
- MR. FAHMY: Yes. Peter Fahmy for the National 14
- 15 Park Service. I would question, you know, whether there's a
- 16 right to question an expert witness for the parties that
- 17 submitted these reports. I mean, that's what the rebuttal
- 18 report is for is to basically rebut whatever is contained in
- the initial reports.
- Now, there may be some validity in the fact that 20
- 21 you might want to be able to question what's contained in the
- 22 rebuttal report, but it -- that would be extremely limited, I
- would think.
- 24 So, I don't think there is a fairness issue here

- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Correct.
- MR. HERRERA: Brad Herrera. Won't we know after
- 3 the witness lists are submitted who the parties are planning
- 4 to put on. At that time, if you see someone that you are
- 5 wanting to cross isn't on one of those lists you can let the
- party know that?
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: But what would the
- 8 resolution be?
- MR. HERRERA: I think they would have to be
- 10 available for cross as we discussed earlier. But, at that
- 11 point, we would at least know who the parties are planning to 12 call and who they are not.
- 13 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Mr. Donnelly.
- 14 MR. DONNELLY: Patrick Donnelly. Speaking now as
- 15 a board member of the Great Basin Water Network, as an
- 16 organization with no budget and cannot proffer someone to
- 17 stand for testimony, however, they submitted a report, it
- should be considered by the State Engineer. 18
- 19 There's a matter, I think, of equity there if the
- 20 report is disregarded.
- 21 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So let's go ahead and
- 22 take a short --
- 23 MR. TAGGART: Can I just add one thing. I think
- 24 that the question of whether or not cross-examine is required

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- 1 with regards to not being able to examine that witness.
- MS. PETERSON: I would disagree -- Karen. I 2
- 3 would disagree. I mean, you can't lob a grenade in there and
- 4 then not expect to ask questions about it. And so, I think if
- 5 they want -- I think they have to have their witness here for cross-examination. 6
- And maybe we can let people know in advance if
- 8 there's not going to be any cross-examination, but until we
- see the rebuttal report.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Ms. Glasgow. 10
- MS. GLASGOW: To the point of -- and less in 11
- 12 these witness reports or witness lists, you're asking the
- 13 parties also to identify not just who they're just going to
- 14 bring, but every other witness of every other participant that
- 15 they might want to cross-examine, I don't have any idea of who
- 16 they want to talk to.
- I mean, I might able to decide that this witness 17
- or this expert or the not this other one, but that's leaving 18
- everything to chance. Because what if I don't bring the one
- 20 that they're wanting to talk to, and I don't -- I mean, I --
- 21 If you're going to make a ruling that I have to
- 22 bring somebody that they want to talk to, then you at some
- 23 point have to decide tell me who that might be so that we have
- 24 some opportunity to do that.

- 1 before a report gets submitted, I don't honestly know the
- 2 answer what a Judge would say, but you get rid of that issue
- 3 all together if you just went with what Miss Peterson said.
- And you just said, if you want -- if you the gone
- 5 to the meetings of the Public Utilities Commission, that's
- 6 exactly how they do it. You submit your report. Actually,
- 7 you submit written direct exam. And then you just have the
- 8 witness proffered for cross. And then there may not be any
- cross questions, then you're done.
- But, if you don't do that, I think you are 10
- 11 leaving open a question of is it sufficient to have rebuttal
- 12 opportunities -- rebuttal opportunities sufficient. I don't
- 13 think we really know the answer to that question.
- So, the only thing I would offer is the safest
- 15 route is to go with the cross-exam to just avoid that
- 16 potential appealable issue.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Let's go ahead and
- 18 take about a ten-minute break and we'll go ahead and take a
- 19 recess.
- 20 (Recess.)
- 21 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Okay. Let's go ahead
- 22 and get going. Back on the record. All right. So any
- 23 individual -- so, basically, how we're going to resolve the
- 24 concern about having an opportunity to cross-examine

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- 1 witnesses, and we agree that it is, you know, a full and fair
- 2 opportunity for people to have you know to challenge evidence
- 3 that's going to be relied upon by parties and submitted to the
- 4 State Engineer.
- So the proffering party may submit that -- submit
- 6 their report without direct testimony of -- for any report,
- 7 however, any individual who offered an expert report submitted
- 8 to the State Engineer must be made available for
- cross-examination.
- So we're going to have those windows and we're 10
- 11 going to submit that and the scheduling order will establish
- 12 the time frames.
- So -- so, we're going to have to go ahead and if 13
- 14 they've authored -- so, if they're authored and identified as
- 15 an author of a report or rebuttal report, they're going to
- 16 have to be made available for cross-examination.
- 17 MS. PETERSON: Thank you.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes. 18
- 19 MS. GLASGOW: But what is made available mean?
- 20 Do you mean I have them sit here, or do you mean I have to
- 21 have somebody tell me, please bring that person, I want to
- 22 talk to them.

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6

23 Karen Glasgow, NPS. Because, I, like him, we

1 chance that somebody wants to talk to them.

24 just don't have money to have people sitting around on the

HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So -- so, for the day

3 that you are scheduled, so if a party is scheduled and they

4 want to go ahead and submit their report without direct

5 testimony on that particular day, that particular author of

period of time, but they're going to have to be available on

that expert report is going to have to be available.

So they don't have to sit here for the entire

- 1 cross-examination.
- Yes?
- MR. FAHMY: Peter Fahmy for the National Park
- 4 Service. When you say, "authored a report", which report are
- 5 you referring to precisely?
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: If you submitted -- if
- 7 the initial report or a rebuttal report.
- MR. FAHMY: Okay. So with regards to the --
- 9 oftentimes reports are not authored by one individual, they
- 10 are authored by a number of individuals. Do we have to make
- 11 all those individuals available?
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: If they are identified 12
- 13 as the as the individual who is signing off on the report or
- 14 submitting the report, and I'll use for an example -- so for
- 15 example, City of North Las Vegas submitted their expert report
- 16 and it's identified Dwight Smith and Alexa Turrell as the
- 17 authors of the report.
- So those are the individuals that the State 18
- 19 Engineer is expecting to be available for cross-examination if
- 20 the City of North Las Vegas did not intend to present those
- 21 individuals for direct examination on their behalf.
- So that's -- so it's those individuals who have 22
- 23 submitted the reports to the State Engineer.
- 24 MR. DONNELLY: Patrick Donnelly, Center for

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1 Biological Diversity. On behalf of Great Basin Water Network,

- 2 I'm going to register an objection to this.
- Order 1303 should have specified that witnesses
- 4 would be mandatory to be made available as a condition of
- 5 submitting a report.
- Order 1303 did not specify that, and so just
- 7 registering an objection to that. And then, I guess, I have a
- 8 question. Could the same expert be here for two different
- entities?
- And so -- so, just kind of jumping ahead a little 10
- 11 bit in some of the procedure and scheduling. The idea is
- 12 we're going to have be having on going communications and
- 13 ongoing dialogs at the beginning of the day and end of day,
- what's going on tomorrow.

that particular day.

- So if, for example, you're up for the next -- the 15
- 16 following day. The prior day we're going to have people
- planning on cross-examining and perhaps at that point in time
- somebody's going to say no, nobody in tends to cross-examine
- 19 that particular individual and so we can go ahead and resolve
- 20 those particular issues.
- But at this point in time, we are going to have 21
- 22 to make -- if somebody submitted a report, they don't have to
- 23 submit -- they don't have to present for direct testimony, but
- 24 that individual does have to be available for

- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: If they're preparing
- 11 reports on behalf of two different entities, then yes, if they
- 12 submitted a report, then that's -- yes?
- 13 MR. MOORE: Andy Moore, City of North Las Vegas.
- 14 On the example you just read about the report that we
- 15 submitted, I mean, would they -- the City need to have both of
- 16 them present or just one?
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: As they're the author, 17
- 18 I think they have to both be present to the extent that they
- 19 submitted they signed off on the report.
- MR. TAGGART: And do all reports have to be 20
- 21 signed by an expert?
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Well --22
- 23 MR. TAGGART: -- or --
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: No. I mean, I'm not 24

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- 1 going to go back, Paul -- Mr. Taggart, I'm not going to go
- 2 back and start going through all of these.
- And so if the reports identify particular
- 4 individuals who submitted the reports. Whether or not there's
- 5 a signature on it, I'm not going to go back and have people
- try to go back into different types of things.
- So, if we have documents, we have reports that
- 8 were submitted as initial reports and they have identified
- 9 individuals as being authors, those are the individuals that
- the State Engineer is considering to be the authors of those
- 11 reports and have to be available for cross-examination.
- If they're not being presented by those 12
- 13 particular participants as the primary, you know, as they're
- 14 -- if they're not being produced for their own particular
- 15 interests in presenting testimony on behalf of their client.
- All right. So, we're going to go ahead and move 16
- 17 on. All right. So, initially, earlier when I was talking
- 18 about the timing and the duration of the hearing and how the
- 19 State Engineer's evaluating or considering structuring this
- 20 particular hearing, we established kind of different -- a
- 21 different order.
- Mr. Robison had asked whether or not that was 22
- 23 intended to kind of -- or if that was a preliminary kind of
- 24 listing of the planned order of the participants.

- So I don't know if the National Park Service and
- 2 Fish and Wildlife Service believes that they can combine their
- 3 presentations into a single day.
- I'm seeing shakes of the head, so I'm going to
- 5 take that as a no.
- 6 Yes?
- 7 MS. BALDWIN: Beth Baldwin, Moapa Band of
- 8 Paiutes. Our experts have expressed a preference not go
- first. They would like to go later in the order.
- MR. ROBISON: We'll go first. We'll trade. 10
- 11 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Okay.
- MR. ROBISON: We'll trade up to Monday. 12
- MS. BALDWIN: Thanks. 13
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: All right. 14
- 15 MR. ROBISON: Thank you.
- 16 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: All right. So -- so
- 17 that's essentially what we're going to do. Again, I'm going
- 18 to take under advisement the request by the Moapa Valley Water
- District to have more time than a half day. How -- Mr.
- 20 Morrison, how long do you think you guys --
- 21 MR. MOORE: I think, looking at this proposed
- order, I think we're comfortable with it, and I don't know
- that we're going to need more than that half day. So I'll
- 24 withdraw to the extent it was an objection.

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- And so, again, to kind of go through that. We
- 2 had it listed out as the Moapa Band of Indians. Then the
- 3 National Park Service. The U.S. Fish and Wild Life Service.
- 4 Coyote Springs Investments. The Southern Nevada Water
- 5 Authority. Moapa Valley Water District. Then Vidler, Lincoln
- 6 County. The City of North Las Vegas. Centers for Biologic
- 7 Diversity. Dry Lake Water, and the other participants on 8 their report. Great Basin Water Network. Technichrome. And
- then the rebuttal report submissions. So you will only submit rebuttal reports.
- Is there any -- anybody have any strong concern 11 12 with going with that order?
- MR. DONNELLY: Patrick Donnelly, Center for 13
- 14 Biological Diversity. I would request since we have a half
- 15 day plus and Great Basin Water Network has a short amount of
- 16 time that we could combine that and be one date.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Okay. 17
- MR. DONNELLY: Thank you. 18
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Mr. Robison? 19
- MR. ROBISON: Are the interests of the Park 20
- 21 Service and Wild Life so similar they can take one?
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: They submitted 22
- 23 separate reports. I certainly would have to defer that to
- 24 them, but they've submitted reports as separate entities.

- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Okay. Mr. Taggart,
- 2 with respect to Southern Nevada Water Authority, how much time
- 3 do you guys really think you're going to need based upon,
- 4 after the dialogue today?
- MR. TAGGART: Still a day and a half. So we'll
- 6 take Mr. Morrison's half day.
- 7 MS. GLASGOW: Karen Glasgow
- 8 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes.
- MS. GLASGOW: With the National Park Service. So
- 10 one of the questions -- one of the things that you indicated
- 11 was a desire that people listen to each other and decide that
- 12 some other person has asked that question and that information
- 13 is out there and thus decide they don't need to do that 14 themselves.
- To that extent, would not the order benefit from
- 16 people who have similar things going, you know, who have
- similar conclusions going one after the other to avoid, you
- know, like if you ask -- if, say, the Park and Fish had the
- 19 same sort of attitudes and we were, day after day, or next to
- 20 each other, that would allow everyone who might have wanted to
- 21 ask questions of either or both to see oh, they already asked
- 22 those questions of the Park Service, we don't really have to
- 23 ask them of Fish and Wildlife Service.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: And that was part of 24

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- 1 our rationale in how we organized the particular -- that was
- 2 part of the rationale in how we ordered the different
- 3 participants, and when I laid it out was -- that's why I had
- 4 National Park Service and Fish and Wild Life Service adjoining
- 5 days was so that -- with that in mind.
- 6 But then we're also trying to keep the full day,
- 7 those -- those participants and reports that we anticipate
- 8 that we're going to take a full day during the first week and
- 9 then those ones that would be -- have less of a time
- 10 commitment during the second.
- MR. MOORE: Andy Moore, City of North Las Vegas.
- 12 Can I just make sure that -- I know -- I think it's going to
- 13 be early in that second week based on the scheduling
- 14 structure, but I just want to make sure that we don't get
- 15 assigned to October 4th of that week, because our expert is
- 16 not available, and I don't want to start opening it up to that
- 17 stuff, but I wanted to clarify that and put it on the record.
- 18 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: No. Absolutely, we'll
- 19 accommodate that.
- MR. MOORE: Thank you.
- 21 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: All right. Yes, Mr.
- 22 Donnelly?
- MR. DONNELLY: Patrick Donnelly on behalf of
- 24 Great Basin Water Network at the moment. I think I want to

- 1 particular field, he still can go ahead and if necessary, be
- 2 proffered for that purpose as the author of that particular
- 3 statement and position and he would be subject to
- 4 cross-examination based upon that.
- 5 MR. DONNELLY: Okay, thank you. Thanks.
- 6 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: All right. So -- so,
- 7 we will -- so the week of August 16th -- the week of
- 8 August 19th, excuse me, we will go ahead and issue the
- 9 scheduling order.
- so the order is going to be similarly, we're
- 11 going to swap Coyote Spring Investment with the Moapa Tribe.
- 12 So we're going to go ahead and swap that. We're going to then
- 13 get everyone scheduled out in that order that I've identified.
- 14 And if we're looking that we're probably going to have --
- So for the rebuttal reports, it's probably going
- 16 to be extremely limited, but like I said, you know, in terms
- 17 of that time period because the rebuttal reports, if
- 18 individuals had only submitted a rebuttal report, we're only
- 19 offering the amount of time to allow individuals to basically
- 20 just kind of set forth, you know, to the extent necessary the
- 21 basis for what those opinions, but it's limited to that
- 22 rebuttal component.
- And so we're going to go ahead and set that.
- 24 Like I said, once we get all the rebuttal reports in, while

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- 1 get back into what qualifies as an expert?
- 2 Are we setting up a situation where the only way
- 3 you can participate in this is if you have a PHD level
- 4 hydrologist as representing you which is somewhat
- 5 exclusionary.
- 6 You know, for instance, for the water network,
- 7 right. The water network submitted a report that asserts a
- 8 position. It is backed up by many, many years of data over a
- 9 different proceeding.
- The water network may or may not have funds or
- 11 ability to procure the expert who wrote those opinions years
- 12 and years ago for this.
- So, otherwise, the -- for instance, the executive
- 14 director of the water network would be the one to appear since
- 15 apparently it's mandated that someone appear?
- 16 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So, since -- so, for
- 17 the purpose of Great Basin Water Network, Mr. Roerink was the
- 18 individual who submitted the report. If he's going to be
- 19 proffered as an expert, he has to go ahead and identify what
- 20 his qualifications are.
- 21 If his qualifications is he's an expert in
- 22 economics, I mean there's different types of experts. So, you
- 23 know -- or if he's being offered as the author of that
- 24 particular report, but not being offered as an expert in any

- 1 we're going to endeavor to have the hearing conclude on
- 2 October 4th, and we will not set City of North Las Vegas on
- 3 October 4th, just the parties anticipate that it may continue
- 4 on into the week of October 7th.
- 5 And so -- but we will endeavor to finish the
- 6 hearing as early in that week as possible. And, again, we're
- 7 going to go ahead and promote efficiency.
- 8 So, are there any other questions or procedural
- 9 questions with respect to the hearing or other matters that we
- 10 need to address this morning?
- 11 Yes, Mr. Taggart.

22 same time.

- MR. TAGGART: Paul Taggart for SNWA. One is, is
- 13 this room big enough?
- 14 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So, I -- so, we will
- 15 probably have it at the legislative building. So just to be
- 16 completely candid with everyone, I wanted to see how full the 17 room was today.
- 18 Also knowing that we were going to have
- 19 video-conferencing capabilities and people would be able to
- 20 view the hearing if we held it in this room in September on
- 21 the internet. So not everybody has to be in the room at the
- But based upon the participation today,
- 24 recognizing that not all of the experts and not all of the

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- 1 individuals, people are going to want to accompany them are
- 2 here today, we're going to look to have it at probably the
- 3 legislative building.
- Just so that everybody -- all the participants do
- please recognize and know, when, if we do it, we're also
- intending, regardless of where the hearing is held, and like I
- said it will likely be at the legislative building.
- It will also be broadcast to a location in
- Southern Nevada. So that individuals who want to attend the
- 10 hearing and observe the hearing don't have to travel to Carson
- 11 City.
- And that's also making it available to those 12
- 13 community members within the Low White River Flow System
- 14 affected basins to be able to participate without having to
- 15 travel to Carson City. So we'll be able to take public
- 16 comment from both the north and the south.
- 17 Yes?
- MR. MORRISON: Greg Morrison, Moapa Valley Water 18
- 19 District. Just kind of a 10,000 foot question about how this
- 20 moves forward after we do the hearing on the questions from
- 21 Order 1303.
- Obviously, the ultimate order that's going to 22
- 23 come down in the Lower White River Flow System is going to
- 24 involve more than just science, when the does the State

- So that's kind of a loose time frame, I know it's
- 2 not very specific, but --
- MR. MORRISON: That's okay. Confirming it's on
- 4 the radar.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes. And we're -- we
- 6 recognize that there's a lot of different components in the
- 7 decisions that come out of this particular proceeding are
- going to have significant effects in terms of how we go ahead
- 9 and proceed on the moving forward basis in terms of people's
- viewpoints and what conclusions are made. 10
- 11 And so that -- and what impacts that may have on
- 12 stakeholders is certainly going to be, you know, something
- 13 that we want to -- we're cognitive of.
- And so we're trying to be as timely as possible 14
- 15 with while still doing, you know, practicing good, scientific
- 16 analysis in relying on supported data to render ultimate
- 17 decisions.
- MR. MORRISON: Great. Thanks. 18
- 19 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: There was a question
- 20 in the back. Yes?
- 21 MR. MILLER: Luke Miller with the Office of the
- 22 Solister, Department of the Interior working under Fish and
- 23 Wildlife Service. I was looking at my notes trying to see if
- 24 I missed anything in relation to possibly honing down the

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- 1 Engineer's office anticipate considering evidence that isn't
- 2 just scientific in nature?
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So, that will probably 3
- 4 follow once we get a decision rendered in this particular
- proceeding. And then we have -- and then we will start moving
- on until we get those threshold consequence answered, then we
- can start moving on to some of those other --
- MR. MORRISON: Sure. 8
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: -- probably more
- challenging issues that we have to grapple with. MR. MORRISON: The reason why --
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: What I will say is the 12
- 13 State Engineer, while we're not statutorily obligated in this
- particular proceeding, the State Engineer is committed to
- 15 having a decision rendered in not more than 240 days.
- Even though we don't have a statutory -- you 16
- 17 know, we are not statutory bound to that time frame, we're
- going to go ahead and adopt that time frame. And certainly we
- endeavor to get it done well in advance of that, but, again,
- 20 as I mentioned, we have a voluminous record.
- 21 There's a lot of testimony. We're going to have
- 22 to go back through all the evidence and testimony and reports
- 23 and have careful consideration of what ultimate decisions are
- 24 rendered.

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- 1 issues that might be presented on a day if we're now being
- 2 required to bring forth a witness, even if we don't put on a
- 3 case in chief to bring some one forward.
- I didn't pick up on anything here that would
- 5 indicate there's a focusing of what they might be obligated to
- 6 testify about on a limited day when I got to bring somebody
- 7 forward to say you got to deal with 70 pages of a technical
- 8 report and be ready to testify on all of it.
- And like I say, did I miss anything? Is there a
- winnowing of issues here to be presented?
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: I mean, we haven't,
- and I think it's -- I think experts need to be prepared to
- 13 testify on and defend their reports. If they've come up with
- 14 conclusions and they've relied upon scientific data, they need
- 15 to be go ahead and be prepared to defend those opinions and
- 16 show or testify as to why that data supports those
- 17 conclusions.
- I don't know that there's really a feasible way 18
- 19 of narrowing the focus at this point in time.
- 20 I'm certainly open to suggestions and those are
- 21 things that we can address. And certainly, you know, in -- as
- 22 we prepare for the following day, at the conclusion of the day
- 23 that it's going to be perhaps there's an area that we can try
- 24 to focus on more. Unfortunately, I don't know if there's a

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- 1 better way of doing that.
- 2 Are there any other questions regarding the
- 3 procedurals? Mr. Felling?
- 4 MR. FELLING: Rick Felling for NV Energy. I just
- 5 had a question about PowerPoint presentations or those giving
- 6 direct testimony.
- 7 If those are extracted right from their reports,
- 8 are they -- are they required to be presented ahead of time?
- 9 Or are they required to be in a separate exhibit?
- 10 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: They would be in a
- 11 separate Exhibit. I think optimally they should be presented.
- 12 I mean, otherwise, it would just be -- I mean, I think if
- 13 it's -- if it's purely just a summarization of the -- of the
- 14 expert report in taking data or analyses or hydrographs or
- 15 other types of, you know, analysis out of those reports, it's
- 16 demonstrative, and so I don't know that it has to be submitted
- 17 ahead of time, but certainly would -- but if it's available,
- 18 that's always appreciated.
- 19 Yes, Mr. Fahmy?
- 20 MR. FAHMY: Peter Fahmy for National Park
- 21 Service. With regards to the case-in-chief or the direct,
- 22 that can be in a narrative form? Is that presentable?
- 23 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes.
- MR. FAHMY: Very good.

- 1 With regards to proposed orders and those
- 2 different types of things, that's probably something that we
- 3 can address during the course of the hearing.
- At this point in time, we haven't -- we haven't
- 5 decided to accept and take or to solicit proposed orders, but
- 6 that's something that we can certainly continue to consider.
- And with regards to having a period of time,
- 8 we've been contemplating and talking about whether or not
- 9 they'll be a period of time for individuals, you know, for --
- 10 we'll probably have a window of time for additional public
- 11 comment to be submitted in written format for the hearing, but
- 12 we're to the going to take new evidence and arguments
- 13 following the conclusion of the hearing.
- MR. ROBISON: We just want to cross-examine the
- 15 person who gives the opening.
- 16 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: If they're identified
- 17 as a witness.
- MR. TAGGART: That's not part of the rules.
- 19 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Are there any other --
- 20 any other questions or issues today? And anybody on the
- 21 phone, are there any other questions? All right.
- Well, I thank everybody for their time and we
- 23 appreciate it and we'll get that scheduling order out. And if
- 24 we don't see everyone on the 20th -- or the 19th, excuse me,

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- 1 MR. TAGGART: One other question is, can we use
- 2 our time that you give us as we want? Can we make an opening?
- 3 Can we make a closing if there's time available? I would
- 4 assume we can do that.
- 5 And the other question is whether you'll
- 6 entertain any type of written closings or written proposed
- 7 orders? Maybe we can decide that during the course of the
- 8 hearing, but have you put any thought into that?
- 9 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: I think people are
- 10 free to go ahead and use their time as they see fit. I'm
- 11 not -- I don't know that we're necessarily going to
- 12 micromanage how individuals want to go ahead and put forth
- 13 their particular positions with respect to these order, the
- 14 Order 1303 viewpoint, you know, what we solicited for the
- 15 purposes of this hearing.
- Again, I think we've tried to be fairly pointed
- 17 in how we want, you know, what we intend this hearing to
- 18 accomplish and what we're trying to derive out of the purpose
- 19 of this hearing.
- I mean, so to that extent, we're not going to
- 21 micromanage how people use their time so long as just
- 22 recognizing if time is spent on something, it's an exchange
- 23 for other stuff that the State Engineer needs to take into
- 24 consideration.

- 1 if we don't see you all on the 19th, we'll see you all on the 2 23rd.
- 3 Thank you.
- 4 (Proceedings concluded at 10:53 a.m.)
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1	STATE OF NEVADA)
2	CARSON CITY)
3	
4	I, MICHEL LOOMIS, a Certified Court Reporter, do
5	hereby certify;
6	That on the 8th of August, 2019, in Carson City,
7	Nevada, I was present and took stenotype notes of the hearing
8	held before the Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural
9	Resources, Division of Water in the within entitled matter,
10	and thereafter transcribed the same into typewriting as herein
11	appears;
12	That the foregoing transcript, consisting of
13	pages 1 through 80 hereof, is a full, true and correct
14	transcription of my stenotype notes of said hearing.
15	
16	Dated at Carson City, Nevada, this 11th day of
17	August, 2019.
18	
19	
20	MICHEL LOOMIS, RPR
21	NV CCR #228
22	
23	
24	

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