Case No. 84739

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVER Nov 08 2022 04:38 p.m. Elizabeth A. Brown

ADAM SULLIVAN, P.E., NEVADA STATE ENGINEER, et al.

Appellants,

VS.

LINCOLN COUNTY WATER DISTRICT, et al.

JOINT APPENDIX

VOLUME 2 OF 49

Clerk of Supreme Court

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

#1309

<u>ORDER</u>

DELINEATING THE LOWER WHITE RIVER FLOW SYSTEM HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN WITH THE KANE SPRINGS VALLEY BASIN (206), COYOTE SPRING VALLEY BASIN (210), A PORTION OF BLACK MOUNTAINS AREA BASIN (215), GARNET VALLEY BASIN (216), HIDDEN VALLEY BASIN (217), CALIFORNIA WASH BASIN (218), AND MUDDY RIVER SPRINGS AREA (AKA UPPER MOAPA VALLEY) BASIN (219) ESTABLISHED AS SUB-BASINS, ESTABLISHING A MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE PUMPING IN THE LOWER WHITE RIVER FLOW SYSTEM WITHIN CLARK AND LINCOLN COUNTIES, NEVADA, AND RESCINDING INTERIM ORDER 1303

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I. BACKGROUND OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE LOWER WHITE RIVER FLOW SYSTEM BASINS

WHEREAS, the State Engineer has actively managed and regulated the Coyote Spring Valley Hydrographic Basin (Coyote Spring Valley), Basin 210, since August 21, 1985; the Black Mountains Area Hydrographic Basin (Black Mountains Area), Basin 215, since November 22, 1989; the Garnet Valley Hydrographic Basin (Garnet Valley), Basin 216, since April 24, 1990; the Hidden Valley Hydrographic Basin (Hidden Valley), Basin 217, since April 24, 1990; the California Wash Hydrographic Basin (California Wash), Basin 218, since April 24, 1990; and the

Muddy River Springs Area Hydrographic Basin (Muddy River Springs Area), Basin 219, since July 14, 1971.¹

WHEREAS, in 1984, the United States Department of Interior, Geological Survey (USGS), Water Services Division, proposed a ten-year investigation into carbonate-rock aquifers that underlay approximately 50,000 square miles of eastern and southern Nevada.² In 1985, a program for the study and testing of the carbonate-rock aquifer system of eastern and southern Nevada was authorized by the Nevada Legislature. In 1989, a report was published by the USGS summarizing the first phase of the study.³ Included in the summary was a determination that:

Large-scale development (sustained withdrawals) of water from the carbonate-rock aquifers would result in water-level declines and cause the depletion of large quantities of stored water. Ultimately, these declines would cause reductions in the flow of warm-water springs that discharge from the regional aquifers. Storage in other nearby aquifers also might be depleted, and water levels in those other aquifers could decline. In contrast, isolated smaller ground-water developments, or developments that withdraw ground water for only a short time, may result in water-level declines and springflow reductions of manageable or acceptable magnitude.

Confidence in predictions of the effects of development, however, is low; and it will remain low until observations of the initial hydrologic results of development are analyzed. A strategy of staging developments gradually and adequately monitoring the resulting hydrologic conditions would provide information that eventually could be used to improve confidence in the predictions.⁴

¹ See NSE Ex. 9, Order 905, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources. See NSE Ex. 8, Order 1018, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources. See NSE Ex. 5, Order 1025, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources. See NSE Ex. 6, Order 1024, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources. See NSE Ex. 4, Order 1026, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources. See NSE Ex. 7, Order 1023, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources; NSE Ex. 11, Order 392, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources.

² Memorandum dated August 3, 1984, from Terry Katzer, Nevada Office Chief, Water Resources Division, United States Department of Interior Geologic Survey, Carson City, Nevada to Members of the Carbonate Terrane Study.

³ Michael D. Dettinger, Distribution of Carbonate-Rock Aquifers in Southern Nevada and the Potential for their Development, Summary of Findings, 1985-1988, Summary Report No. 1, U.S. Geological Survey, Department of Interior and Desert Research Institute, University of Nevada System, 1989, p. Forward. See also NSE Ex. 3, Order 1169, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources.

⁴ *Id.*, p. 2.

WHEREAS, beginning in 1989 and through the early 2000s, numerous groundwater applications were filed in Coyote Spring Valley, Black Mountains Area, Garnet Valley, Hidden Valley, California Wash, and Muddy River Springs Area Hydrographic Basins seeking to appropriate more than 300,000 acre-feet annually (afa) of groundwater from the carbonate-rock aquifer underlying these basins.⁵ The State Engineer held a hearing on July 12-20, 23-24, and August 31, 2001, for pending Applications 54055-54059, filed by Las Vegas Valley Water District (LVVWD) to appropriate 27,510 afa of water in Coyote Spring Valley.⁶ The State Engineer conducted a hearing on Coyote Springs Investments LLC (CSI) Applications 63272-63276 on August 20-24, 27-28, 2001.⁷

WHEREAS, following the conclusions of these hearings, the State Engineer issued Order 1169 on March 8, 2002, requiring all pending applications in Coyote Spring Valley, Black Mountains Area, Garnet Valley, Hidden Valley, Muddy River Springs Area, and Lower Moapa Valley Hydrographic Basin (Basin 220), be held in abeyance pending an aquifer test of the carbonate-rock aquifer system to better determine whether the pending applications and future appropriations could be developed from the carbonate-rock aquifer.⁸

WHEREAS, in Order 1169, the State Engineer found that he did not believe that it was prudent to issue additional water rights to be pumped from the carbonate-rock aquifer until a significant portion of the then existing water rights were pumped for a substantial period of time to determine whether the pumping of those water rights would have a detrimental impact on existing water rights or the environment.⁹

WHEREAS, Order 1169 required that at least 50%, or 8,050 afa, of the water rights then currently permitted in Coyote Spring Valley be pumped for at least two consecutive years. On April 18, 2002, the State Engineer added the California Wash to the Order 1169 aquifer test basins.

⁵ See NSE Exs. 14-20, Ruling 6254-Ruling 6260, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources.

⁶ See NSE Ex. 14.

⁷ Id.

⁸ See NSE Ex. 3.

⁹ ld.

¹⁰ Id.

¹¹ See State Engineer's Ruling 5115, dated April 18, 2002, official records of the Division of Water Resources.

WHEREAS, subsequent to the issuance of Order 1169, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) expressed concern that current groundwater pumping coupled with additional groundwater withdrawals in Coyote Spring Valley and California Wash may cause reduction of spring flow to the Warm Springs area, tributary thermal springs in the upper Muddy River, which serves as critical habitat to the Moapa dace (*Moapa corciacea*), an endemic fish species federally listed as endangered in 1967. Due to these concerns, on April 20, 2006, the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA), USFWS, CSI, the Moapa Band of Paiute Indians (MBOP) and the Moapa Valley Water District (MVWD) entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). 13

WHEREAS, the MOA stated that all the parties shared "a common interest in the conservation and recovery of the Moapa dace and its habitat." The MOA established certain protections to the Moapa dace, including protocols relating to pumping from the regional carbonate-rock aquifer that may adversely impact spring flow to the dace habitat in the Warm Springs area. Specifically, the MOA identified conservation measures, which included protections for minimum instream flows in the Warm Springs area with trigger levels set at 3.2 cubic feet per second (cfs) at the Warm Springs West gage requiring initial action by the MOA parties, and the most stringent action required at a flow rate of 2.7 cfs. 14

WHEREAS, the MBOP raised concerns that pumping 8,050 afa from the Coyote Spring Valley as part of the aquifer test would adversely impact the water resources at the Warm Springs area, and consequently the Moapa dace, and that the impacts would persist such that protective measures established in the MOA would be inadequate to protect the dace. ¹⁵ As a result, the Order 1169 study participants, which included the LVVWD, SNWA, CSI, Nevada Power Company, ¹⁶ MVWD, Dry Lake Water Company, LLC, Republic Environmental Technologies, Inc. (Republic),

¹² USFWS, Fish and Aquatic Conservation - Moapa dace, https://bit.ly/moapadace (last accessed June 3, 2020). See also SNWA Ex. 8, p. 1-1.

¹³ See NSE Ex. 236, 2006 Memorandum of Agreement between the Southern Nevada Water Authority, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Coyote Springs Investment LLC, Moapa Band of Paiute Indians and Moapa Valley Water District, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources.

¹⁴ Id.

¹⁵ See May 26, 2010, letter from Darren Daboda, Chairperson, Moapa Band of Paiutes, to Jason King, Nevada State Engineer, official records of the Division of Water Resources.

¹⁶ Nevada Power Company, following the merger with Sierra Pacific Power Company and Sierra Pacific Resources subsequently began doing business as NV Energy. See, e.g., NV Energy, Company History, https://bit.ly/NVEhistory (last accessed April 20, 2020).

Chemical Lime Company, Nevada Cogeneration Associates, and the MBOP, or their successors, agreed that even if the minimum 8,050 afa was not pumped, sufficient information would be obtained to inform future decisions relating to the study basins.¹⁷

WHEREAS, on November 15, 2010, the Order 1169 aquifer test began, whereby the study participants began reporting to the Nevada Division of Water Resources (Division) on a quarterly basis the amounts of water pumped from wells in the carbonate-rock and alluvial aquifers during the pendency of the aquifer test.

WHEREAS, on December 21, 2012, the State Engineer issued Order 1169A declaring the completion of the Order 1169 aquifer test to be December 31, 2012, after a period of 25½ months. The State Engineer provided the study participants the opportunity to file reports with the Division until June 28, 2013, to present information gained from the aquifer test in order to estimate water to support applications in the Order 1169 study basins. ¹⁸

WHEREAS, during the Order 1169 aquifer test, an average of 5,290 acre-feet per year (afy) was pumped from carbonate-rock aquifer wells in Coyote Spring Valley, and a cumulative reported total of 14,535 afy of water was pumped throughout the Order 1169 study basins. Of this total, approximately 3,840 afy was pumped from the Muddy River Springs Area alluvial aquifer with the balance pumped from the carbonate-rock aquifer. 19

WHEREAS, during the aquifer test, pumpage was measured and reported from 30 other wells in the Coyote Spring Valley, Muddy River Springs Area, Garnet Valley, California Wash, Black Mountains Area, and Lower Meadow Valley Wash Hydrographic Basin (Lower Meadow Valley Wash). Stream diversions from the Muddy River were reported, and measurements of the natural discharge of the Muddy River and from the Warm Springs area springs were collected daily. Water-level data were collected from a total of 79 monitoring and pumping wells within the Order 1169 study basins. All of the data collected during the aquifer test were made available to each of the study participants and the public.²⁰

¹⁷ See July 1, 2010, letter from Jason King, Nevada State Engineer, to Order 1169 Study Participants, official records of the Division of Water Resources.

¹⁸ See NSE Ex. 2, Order 1169A, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources.

¹⁹ See, e.g., NSE Ex. 1, Appendix B.

²⁰ See Division, Water Use and Availability - Order 1169, https://bit.ly/Order1169

WHEREAS, during the Order 1169 aquifer test, the resulting water-level decline encompassed 1,100 square miles and extended from southern Kane Springs Valley, northern Coyote Spring Valley through the Muddy River Springs Area, Hidden Valley, Garnet Valley, California Wash, and the northwestern portion of the Black Mountains Area.²¹ The water-level decline was estimated to be 1 to 1.6 feet throughout this area with minor drawdowns of 0.5 foot or less in the northern portion of Coyote Spring Valley north of the Kane Springs Wash fault zone.²²

WHEREAS, results of the two-year aquifer test demonstrated that pumping 5,290 afa from the carbonate-rock aquifer in Coyote Spring Valley, in addition to the other carbonate-rock aquifer pumping in Garnet Valley, Muddy River Springs Area, California Wash and the northwest portion of the Black Mountains Area, caused sharp declines in groundwater levels and flows in the Pederson and Pederson East springs, two springs considered to be sentinel springs for the overall condition of the Muddy River due to being higher in altitude than other Muddy River source springs, and therefore are proportionally more affected by a decline in groundwater level in the carbonate-rock aquifer. The Pederson spring flow decreased from 0.22 cfs to 0.08 cfs and the Pederson East spring flow decreased from 0.12 cfs to 0.08 cfs. Additional headwater springs at lower altitude, the Baldwin and Jones springs, declined approximately 4% in spring flow during the test. All of the headwater springs contribute to the decreed and fully-appropriated Muddy River and are the predominant source of water that supplies the habitat of the endangered Moapa dace.

WHEREAS, Order 1169A provided the study participants an opportunity to submit reports addressing three specific questions presented by the State Engineer: (1) what information was obtained from the study/pumping test; (2) what were the impacts of pumping under the pumping test; and, (3) what is the availability of additional water resources to support the pending applications. SNWA, USFWS, National Park Service (NPS) and Bureau of Land Management

²¹ USFWS Ex. 5, Report in Response to Order 1303, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources, pp. 21, 67. See, e.g., NSE Ex. 14. See also NSE Ex. 256, Federal Bureaus Order 1169A Report, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources. There was no groundwater pumping in Hidden Valley, but effects were still observed in the Hidden Valley monitor well.

²² See, e.g., NSE Ex. 14. See also NSE Ex. 256.

²³ See NSE Ex. No. 236.

²⁴ NSE Ex. 256, pp. 43-46, 50-51. See also, USGS, Water Data for Nevada, https://bit.ly/nvwater.

(BLM), MBOP, MVWD, CSI, Great Basin Water Network (GBWN) and Center for Biological Diversity (CBD) submitted either reports or letters.

WHEREAS, in its report, SNWA addressed water levels throughout the Order 1169 basins. SNWA acknowledged that hydrologic connectivity supported the potential need for redistribution of existing pumping, and indirectly acknowledged the limitation on availability of water to satisfy the pending applications. SNWA further acknowledged declines to spring flow in the Pederson and Pederson East springs as a result of the aquifer test, but characterized the decline in spring flow at the Warm Springs West location as minimal. SNWA further correlated the declining trends as associated with climate but opined that Muddy River flow did not decline as a result of the aquifer test and carbonate-rock aquifer pumping; rather, impact to Muddy River flows were due to alluvial aquifer pumping. In the same statement of the same statement of the aquifer test and carbonate-rock aquifer pumping; rather, impact to Muddy River flows were due to alluvial aquifer pumping.

WHEREAS, CSI, through a letter, agreed with SNWA's report and asserted that additional water resources could be developed within the Coyote Spring Valley north of the Kane Springs Fault, which supported granting new appropriations of water.²⁷

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Interior Bureaus (USFWS, NPS and BLM) concluded that the aquifer test provided sufficient data to determine the effects of the aquifer drawdown as well as identify drawdown throughout the region and was sufficient to project future pumping effects on spring flow. Based upon their analysis, the Department of Interior Bureaus concluded that water-level declines due to the aquifer test encompassed 1,100 square miles throughout the Order 1169 study basins. Additionally, the Department of Interior Bureaus' analysis found a direct correlation between the aquifer test pumping and flow declines at Pederson, Plummer and Apcar units and Baldwin Spring, all springs critical to the Moapa dace habitat, and asserted that pumping at the Order 1169 rate at well MX-5 in Coyote Spring Valley could result in both of the high-altitude Pederson and Pederson East springs going dry in 3 years or less. ²⁸

²⁵ See NSE Ex. 245, Southern Nevada Water Authority Order 1169 Report, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources, pp. 23–25.

²⁷ NSE Ex. 247, Coyote Springs Investments, LLC Order 1169 Report, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources.

²⁸ See, e.g., NSE Ex. 14, pp.15-18. See also NSE Ex. 256.

WHEREAS, the Department of Interior Bureaus further found that the groundwater withdrawals that occurred in Coyote Spring Valley during the Order 1169 aquifer test represented approximately one-third of the then existing water rights within Coyote Spring Valley, concluding that even one-third of the existing water rights could not be developed without adversely impacting spring flow to the headwaters of the Muddy River and habitat for the Moapa dace.²⁹ Ultimately, the Department of Interior Bureaus concluded that there was insufficient water available for the pending applications, and that the area that was subject to the Order 1169 aquifer test behaved as one connected aquifer and pumping in one basin would have similar effects on the whole aquifer.³⁰

WHEREAS, MBOP's report disagreed with the magnitude of drawdown resulting from the Order 1169 aquifer test, but ultimately concluded carbonate-rock aquifer pumping in Coyote Spring Valley and the Muddy River Springs Area would have a one-to-one impact on Muddy River flows. MBOP opined to the existence of a southern flow field, which included California Wash, Hidden Valley, Garnet Valley, and the northwest portion of the Black Mountains Area, that could be developed without depleting spring flows. MBOP also argued that changes in the groundwater levels were directly tied to water level declines in Lake Mead. 32

WHEREAS, MVWD's report was limited to water levels and flows within the Muddy River Springs Area. In its report, MVWD acknowledged the groundwater level declines resulting from the aquifer test, including decreased spring flow at the Pederson springs, Warm Springs West gage and Baldwin Spring, but not at Jones Spring or Muddy Spring.³³ Ultimately, MVWD concluded that additional water was available in the Lower Moapa Valley, as that aquifer did not appear hydrologically connected to the regional carbonate-rock aquifer.

WHEREAS, GBWN presented a report that recognized the decline in the groundwater levels in Coyote Spring Valley and discharge to the Muddy River Springs Area resulting from the

²⁹ Id.

³⁰ Id.

³¹ See NSE Ex. 252, Moapa Band of Paiute Indians Order 1169 Report, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources, p. 25.
³² Id.

³³ NSE Ex. 250, Moapa Valley Water District Basin 220 Well Site Analysis, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources; NSE Ex. 251, Moapa Valley Water District Evaluation of MX-5 Pumping Test on Springs and Wells in the Muddy Springs Area, dated June 24, 2013, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources.

aquifer test.³⁴ However, GBWN believed that the aquifer test failed to provide sufficient data to determine water availability throughout the other study basins. GBWN did assert that pumping of existing rights within all of the study basins would unacceptably decrease spring discharge.³⁵

WHEREAS, CBD, relying on GBWN's technical report, opined that pumping existing water rights within the Order 1169 study basins would result in unacceptable decline in spring flow, ultimately threatening the Moapa dace and the habitat necessary for the species survival.³⁶

WHEREAS, based upon the findings of the Order 1169 aquifer test, in denying the pending applications the State Engineer found: (1) that the information obtained from the Order 1169 aquifer test was sufficient to document the effects of pumping from the carbonate-rock aquifer on groundwater levels and spring flow and that the information could assist in forming opinions regarding future impacts of groundwater pumping and availability of groundwater in the study basins; (2) that the impacts of aquifer test pumping in Coyote Spring Valley was widespread throughout the Order 1169 aquifer test study basins and that the additional pumping in Coyote Spring Valley was a significant contributor to the decline in the springs that serve as the headwaters of the Muddy River and habitat for the Moapa dace; and, (3) that additional pumping from the then pending applications would result in significant regional water-level decline, and decreases in spring and Muddy River flows.³⁷

WHEREAS, the basins that were included in the Order 1169 aquifer test were acknowledged to have a unique hydrologic connection and share the same supply of water.³⁸ The State Engineer further went on to find that the total annual supply to the basins could not be more than 50,000 acre-feet, that the perennial yield is much less than that because the Muddy River and the springs in the Warm Springs area utilize the same supply, and that the quantity and location of

³⁴ NSE Ex. 246, Great Basin Water Network Order 1169 Report, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources.
³⁵ Id.

³⁶ NSE Ex. 248, Center for Biological Diversity Order 1169 Report, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources.

³⁷ NSE Exs. 14–21. The study basins include Coyote Spring Valley, Garnet Valley, Hidden Valley, Muddy River Springs Area, California Wash, and that portion of the Black Mountains Area lying within the LWRFS was defined as those portions of Sections 29, 30, 31, 32, and 33, T.18S., R.64E., M.D.B.&M.; Section 13 and those portions of Sections 1, 11, 12, and 14, T.19S., R.63E., M.D.B.&M.; Sections 5, 7, 8, 16, 17, and 18 and those portions of Sections 4, 6, 9, 10, and 15, T.19S., R.64E., M.D.B.&M.

³⁸ See, e.g., NSE Ex. 14, p. 24.

any groundwater that could be developed without conflicting with senior rights on the Muddy River and the springs was uncertain.³⁹

II. INTERIM ORDER 1303

WHEREAS, on January 11, 2019, the State Engineer issued Interim Order 1303 designating the Lower White River Flow System (LWRFS), a multi-basin area known to share a close hydrologic connection, as a joint administrative unit for purposes of administration of water rights. The Interim Order defined the LWRFS to consist of the Coyote Spring Valley, Muddy River Springs Area, California Wash, Hidden Valley, Garnet Valley, and the portion of the Black Mountains Area Hydrographic Basins as described in the Interim Order. Pursuant to Interim Order 1303, all water rights within the LWRFS were to be administered based upon their respective dates of priority in relation to other rights within the regional groundwater unit.

WHEREAS Interim Order 1303 recognized the need for further analysis of the LWRFS because the pre-development discharge of 34,000 acre-feet of the Muddy River system plus the more than 38,000 acre-feet of existing groundwater appropriations within the LWRFS greatly exceed the total water budget, which was determined to be less than 50,000 acre-feet. Stakeholders with interests in water right development within the LWRFS were invited to file a report with the Office of the State Engineer addressing four specific matters, generally summarized as: 1) The geographic boundary of the LWRFS, 2) aquifer recovery subsequent to the Order 1169 aquifer test, 3) the long-term annual quantity and location of groundwater that may be pumped from the LWRFS, and 4) the effect of movement of water rights between alluvial and carbonate wells within the LWRFS. Stakeholders were also invited to address any other matter believed to be relevant to the State Engineer's analysis.

WHEREAS, on May 13, 2019, the State Engineer amended Interim Order 1303 modifying the deadlines for the submission of reports and rebuttal reports by interested stakeholders. Reports

41 Id., p. 7.

^{39 11}

⁴⁰ See NSE Ex. 1, Order 1303 and Addendum to Interim Order 1303, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources.

submitted by interested stakeholders were intended to aid in the fact-finding goals of the Division.⁴²

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held in Carson City, Nevada between, September 23, 2019, and October 4, 2019. The purposes of this hearing were to afford stakeholder participants who submitted reports pursuant to the solicitation in Interim Order 1303 an opportunity to provide testimony on the scientific data analysis regarding the five topics within the Interim Order and to test the conclusions offered by other stakeholder participants.

WHEREAS, during the Interim Order 1303 hearing, testimony was provided by expert witnesses for the participants CSI, USFWS, NPS, MBOP, SNWA and LVVWD⁴³, MVWD, Lincoln County Water District and Vidler Water Company (LC-V), City of North Las Vegas (CNLV), CBD, Georgia Pacific Corporation (Georgia Pacific) and Republic, Nevada Cogeneration Associates Nos. 1 and 2 (collectively "NCA"), Muddy Valley Irrigation Company (MVIC), Western Elite Environmental, Inc. and Bedroc Limited, LLC (collectively "Bedroc"), and NV Energy.

WHEREAS, following the conclusion of the Interim Order 1303 hearing, stakeholder participants were permitted to submit written closing statements no later than December 3, 2019. The specific area evaluated, data analyzed, and methodology used varied by participant. Generally, participants relied on spring and streamflow discharge, groundwater level measurements, geologic and geophysical information, pumping data, climate data, and interpretations of aquifer hydraulics. Methodologies applied ranged from conceptual observations to statistical analysis to numerical and analytical models; the level of complexity and uncertainty differing for each.

WHEREAS, each of the participants' conclusions with respect to the topics set forth in Interim Order 1303 are summarized as follows:

⁴² *Id.*, pp. 16–17.

⁴³ SNWA is a regional water authority with seven water and wastewater agencies, one of which is LVVWD. References to SNWA include its member agency, LVVWD, which too retains water rights and interests within the LWRFS.

Center for Biological Diversity

The primary concern of the CBD was to ensure adequate habitat for the survival and recovery of the Moapa dace. CBD felt "that the Endangered Species Act is the primary limiting factor on the overall quantity of allowable pumping within the [LWRFS] and thus [...] geared [the] analysis toward that goal of protecting the dace." The Moapa dace primarily resides in the springs and pools of the Muddy River; protecting those areas of habitat are of the utmost importance to CBD's goal and have the collateral benefit of protecting the Muddy River decreed rights. Furthermore, CBD "believe[d] that withdrawals from the carbonate aquifer that cause a reduction in habitat quantity for the dace are a take under the Endangered Species Act and thus prohibited."

CBD urges that Kane Springs Valley Hydrographic Basin (Kane Springs Valley) be included and managed as part of the LWRFS; otherwise CBD did not dispute the boundary as presented in Interim Order 1303. The inclusion of Kane Springs Valley was based on a shallow hydraulic gradient between Coyote Spring Valley and Kane Springs Valley; propagation of water level decline into Kane Springs Valley during the Order 1169 aquifer test; and a finding that the carbonate-rock aquifer extends into Kane Springs Valley. In CBD's opinion, adequate management of the LWRFS does not require that the administrative boundary include the White River Flow System north of Coyote Spring Valley.

CBD identified a long-term, declining trend commencing in the 1990s in carbonate-rock aquifer water levels within the Muddy River Springs Area, which was accelerated by the Order 1169 aquifer test. Although CBD observed a partial, immediate recovery in the carbonate-rock aquifer water levels and spring flows, CBD finds that full recovery to pre-Order 1169 aquifer test conditions were never realized. Concurring with multiple other participants, CBD identified higher water levels in response to wet years despite the continued decline in the overall trend in the hydrographs. However, with regards to long-term drought, in their review of the Climate Division Data for southern Nevada, CBD saw no indication of a 20-year drought and disagreed with the conclusions and analysis presented by MBOP. Decreased spring flows in conjunction with

⁴⁴ See CBD Ex. 3, CBD Order 1303 Report by Dr. Tom Myers; 27 pp., Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources, p. 1; Transcript 1504-1505.

⁴⁵ See CBD Ex. 3, pp. 1, 2, 12, 17, 19; See CBD Ex. 4, CBD Order 1303 Rebuttal in Response to Stakeholder Reports by Dr. Tom Myers; 30 pp., Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources, pp. 17-21; Tr. 1516; 1520-1521; 1526-1527; 1538-1539; CSI Ex. 2, p. 38; LC-V Ex. 2, pp. 11-14.

increased carbonate-rock aquifer pumping, led the CBD to infer the dependency of spring flows on carbonate-rock aquifer water supply.⁴⁶

Again, with emphasis on protecting spring flows, and thus the Moapa dace habitat, CBD did not support any pumping of the carbonate-rock aquifer. CBD's desired outcome would be to avoid decreases in spring flow in the Warm Springs area attributed to continued carbonate-rock aquifer pumping. CBD postulated that surface water rights on the Muddy River will be protected by limiting carbonate-rock aquifer pumping.

Alternatively, CBD speculated that some alluvial aquifer pumping, within the Muddy River Springs Area and Coyote Spring Valley, could be sustained without significantly impacting the Warm Springs area. A preliminary estimate of 4,000 afa of sustainable alluvial aquifer pumping was proposed, based on the existing pumping within the Muddy River Springs Area and considering pumping in the 1990s near 5,000 afa when alluvial aquifer water levels were stable.⁴⁷

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (the Church) chose not to directly participate in the hearing but joined the evidentiary submissions of CNLV.⁴⁸ In response to the directives set forth in Interim Order 1303 and considering the testimony provided, the Church requests the continued administration and management of the LWRFS as identified in Interim Order 1303, and to allow for change applications throughout the LWRFS basins that move pumping of groundwater further away from the Muddy River Springs Area and from the alluvial aquifer to the carbonate-rock aquifer. The Church further requests that the testimony and recommendation of Dwight Smith, PE, PG on behalf of CNLV be considered and adopted.⁴⁹

⁴⁶ See CBD Ex. 3, pp. 1, 24; See CBD Ex. 4, p. 8-10, 21-25; Tr. 1508-1525; LC-V Ex. 2, p. 12, GP-REP Ex. 2, p. 3; CBD's expert suggest that the Palmer Drought Severity Index is more robust to evaluate for drought rather than using precipitation.

⁴⁷ See CBD Ex. 3, pp. 20-26; See CBD Ex. 4, p. 28-29; Tr. 1525-1528.

⁴⁸ See Letter from the Church, received August 15, 2019, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources.

⁴⁹ See Closing Brief of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Church closing), Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources.

City of North Las Vegas

In CNLV's report submissions and closing statement it addressed four questions set forth in Interim Order 1303.⁵⁰ CNLV generally urges for more analysis and study of the LWRFS before administrative decisions are made due to lack of agreement on fundamental interpretations of the water availability and basin connectivity. It was agreed to by CNLV that most of Garnet Valley and a small portion of the Black Mountains area were within the larger carbonate-rock aquifer underlying the LWRFS basins, but that there is uncertainty in the boundaries of Garnet Valley with California Wash and Las Vegas Valley Hydrographic Basin (Las Vegas Valley).⁵¹ With respect to the recovery of the groundwater aquifer following the Order 1169 aquifer test, CNLV concluded that the record and evidence demonstrates a long-term declining trend in the groundwater level since the late 1990s and that pumping responses can propagate relatively quickly through the carbonate-rock aquifer and drawdown is directly related to the pumping.⁵²

While CNLV did consider the long-term quantity of groundwater that may be developed without adversely impacting discharge to the Warm Springs area, its opinions were limited to the sustainability of pumping within Garnet Valley.⁵³ CNLV concluded that the safe yield concept should be applied to the management of pumping within the LWRFS and that pumping between 1,500 afa to 2,000 afa does not appear to be causing regional drawdown within the LWRFS carbonate-rock aquifer and that pumping this quantity of water may be sustainable within the APEX Industrial Park area of Garnet Valley.⁵⁴ Finally, CNLV asserted that movement of alluvial water rights from the Muddy River Springs Area along the Muddy River would reduce the capture

⁵⁰ See CNLV Ex. 5, City of North Las Vegas Utilities Department: Interim Order 1303 Report Submittal from the City of North Las Vegas – July 2, 2019, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources. See CNLV Ex. 6, Rebuttal Document submitted on behalf of the City of North Las Vegas, to Interim Order 1303 Report Submittals of July 3, 2019 – Prepared by Interflow Hydrology – August 2019, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources. See Tr. 1416–66, and City of North Las Vegas' Closing Statement (CNLV Closing), Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources.

⁵¹ See CNLV Ex. 5, pp. 2-3. See also CNLV Ex. 3, Garnet Valley Groundwater Pumping Review for APEX Industrial Complex, City of North Las Vegas, Clark County, Nevada- Prepared by Interflow Hydrology, Inc.- July 2019, pp. 7-8, 38.

⁵² Id., p. 3, Technical Memo, pp. 14-16.

⁵³ *Id.*, pp. 3-4.

⁵⁴ *Id.*, p. 4., Technical Memo, p. 45.

of Muddy River flow, move more senior water rights into Garnet Valley to support a secure water supply for the municipal uses within the APEX area, and would support overall objectives relating to the management of the LWRFS.⁵⁵ CNLV advocated that transferring water rights between alluvial aquifer and carbonate-rock aquifer should be considered on a case-by-case basis with consideration given as to location, duration, and magnitude of pumping.⁵⁶

CNLV disagreed with certain conclusions of the NPS relating to the inclusion of the entirety of the Black Mountains Area within the LWRFS boundaries and had concerns relating to the reliability of the Tetra Tech model for future water resource management within the LWRFS.⁵⁷ CNLV further disagreed with stakeholder conclusions that movement of groundwater withdrawals from the alluvial aquifer along the Muddy River to the carbonate-rock aquifer in Garnet Valley will not alleviate the conflicts to Muddy River flow, rather concluding that there may be benefits for overall management of the LWRFS.⁵⁸ Further, CNLV disagreed with certain findings regarding water flow through the carbonate-rock aquifer, finding that it is likely that some groundwater can be pumped within Garnet Valley without capturing groundwater that would otherwise discharge to the Warm Springs area and the Muddy River.⁵⁹ Finally, in its rebuttal the CNLV joined other stakeholders in supporting the conclusion that there is a quantity of water that may be sustainably developed within the LWRFS and that use of carbonate-rock aquifer groundwater in Garnet Valley is critical to the short-term and long-term management and development of the APEX Industrial Complex.⁶⁰

Coyote Springs Investments

In presenting its opinions and conclusions CSI's focus was primarily on climate as the foundation for groundwater elevation declines after the Order 1169 aquifer test, and additional geophysical research that provided evidence of a structural block isolating the west side of Coyote Spring Valley.

⁵⁵ Id., Technical Memo, p. 48-49.

⁵⁶ Id

⁵⁷ See CNLV Ex. 6, pp. 1-2.

⁵⁸ Id., p. 2.

⁵⁹ Id., pp. 2-3.

⁶⁰ Id., p. 3.

CSI did a statistical analysis of climate data, and determined from the results that 1998, 2004, 2005, and 2010 were wetter than normal, with a drying trend from 2006 to 2017.⁶¹ The Order 1169 aquifer test took place toward the end of an extended dry period when all water resources throughout the LWRFS were negatively affected.⁶² Additionally, annual cyclical patterns of groundwater pumping should not be confused with long-term climate variability.⁶³

CSI challenged the basic assumption that the LWRFS, as proposed in Interim Order 1303, is a homogenous unit.⁶⁴ CSI could not duplicate the results of the SeriesSEE, and its own Theis solution modeling concluded that a greater impact occurred from pumping at a well closer in proximity to Pederson Spring than pumping from a well further away, or the combined effect of both wells.⁶⁵ CSI also acknowledged that due to the fragmented nature of the LWRFS, the Theis solution is of limited utility.⁶⁶

CSI presented geologic and geophysical information in support of the idea that the LWRFS administrative unit is a geophysically and hydrogeologically heterogenous area, characterized by multiple flow paths defined by faults and structural elements that control the occurrence and movement of regional and local groundwater along the western side of Coyote Spring Valley, the eastern side of Coyote Spring Valley, and from Lower Meadow Valley Wash into the LWRFS.⁶⁷ CSI stated that the LWRFS does not include Kane Springs Valley.⁶⁸

⁶¹ CSI Ex. 1, CSI July 3, 2019 Order 1303 Report, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources, pp. 4–5; Tr. 53.

⁶² CSI Ex. 1, p. 5.

⁶³ CSI Ex. 2, CSI August 16, 2019 Rebuttal Report, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources, pp. 2, 7.

⁶⁴ CSI Ex. 1, p. 7.

⁶⁵ CSI Ex. 1, p. 7; Tr. 131-132.

⁶⁶ Tr. 154.

⁶⁷ CSI Ex. 2, p. 2; *CSI Closing Statement* (CSI Closing), Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources; CSI recommended including Lower Meadow Valley Wash in its Rebuttal report. See CSI Ex. 2, p. 12; Mr. Herrema said Lower Moapa Valley, but the report said Lower Meadow Valley 10:10.

⁶⁸ CSI Ex. 1, p. 15; the outflow from Kane Springs Valley is included in the water budget, but due to isolating geologic features, groundwater elevations in Kane Springs Valley are not impacted by pumping in the LWRFS, Tr. 135:7–137:3, 160:2–12.

CSI engaged a geophysicist to conduct a CSAMT survey at multiple points in the valley.⁶⁹ CSI's CSAMT study showed evidence of a prominent carbonate block bounded on either side by normal faults.⁷⁰ CIS asserts that the carbonate block isolates recharge from the zone west of the block, such that it eliminates or limits contribution of local recharge to the Warm Springs area.⁷¹ Faulting has created a preferred path for groundwater flow "from the east side Coyote Spring Valley to the Muddy River Springs Area".⁷²

CSI relied on a water budget as the best method to determine available water in the LWRFS, accounting for recharge and subsurface flow as well as climatic variations.⁷³ Comparing several models of recharge, CSI estimated recharge at 5,280 afy from the Sheep Range to the western side of Coyote Spring Valley.⁷⁴ CSI stated that 30,630 afa can be pumped from the LWRFS, but there would be impacts from pumping the water, and that the Coyote Spring Valley can sustain 5,280 afa of pumping from the western side without impact to the Warm Springs area or the Muddy River.⁷⁵

As asserted by CSI, groundwater pumping from the carbonate-rock aquifer in the Muddy River Springs Area affects flow in the carbonate-rock aquifer to the alluvial aquifer, which then affects flow from the alluvial aquifer to the Muddy River. CSI argues that effects are dependent on well location, geologic formations, hydraulic gradients, and elevation. Transfers between carbonate and alluvial pumping should be made on a case-by-case basis, analyzing place of use, points of diversion, and quantity of groundwater. Movement of water rights between alluvial wells and carbonate-rock aquifer wells will only serve to shift the timing and location of impacts and not the amount of the impact.

⁶⁹ CSI Ex. 1, p. 25

⁷⁰ CSI Ex. 1, p. 25.

⁷¹ CSI Ex. 1, p. 29; evidence of impermeability, Tr. 181.

⁷² CSI Ex. 1, p. 29.

⁷³CSI Closing.

⁷⁴ CSI Ex. 1, pp. 31–40.

⁷⁵ Tr. 221-223; CSI Closing, pp. 8-9.

⁷⁶ CSI Closing.

⁷⁷ CSI Closing, p. 19.

⁷⁸ CSI Closing.

⁷⁹ CSI Ex. 1, p. 58.

As a consequence of the heterogenous nature of the LWRFS, CSI recommended sustainable management of the LWRFS through the creation of "Management Areas" that recognize flow paths and their relative contributions to spring flow, surface flow, evapotranspiration, and sub-surface outflow. For example, though pumping in the Muddy River Springs Area near the Warm Springs area would have a direct impact on available surface water resources, structural blocks and faults isolate the effect of groundwater pumping in other areas of the LWRFS. Thus CSI does not recommend a blanket ban on carbonate-rock aquifer pumping, or a decrease in carbonate-rock aquifer pumping in exchange for alluvial aquifer pumping.

Georgia Pacific and Republic

Dry Lake Water, LLC, Georgia Pacific and Republic submitted initial and rebuttal responses to Interim Order 1303 and offered testimony during the hearing. B2 In their response, Georgia Pacific and Republic acknowledged impacts to groundwater elevations throughout the LWRFS, including wells in the Black Mountains Area and Garnet Valley, which does demonstrate a degree of hydraulic connectivity throughout the carbonate-rock aquifer. However, Georgia Pacific and Republic called for collection of more scientific evidence to further understand the LWRFS and its boundaries. Further, it was their opinion that climate, seasonal fluxes and pumping within Garnet Valley and the Black Mountains Area resulted in the groundwater declines observed during the Order 1169 aquifer test. B3 Ultimately, Georgia Pacific and Republic do not believe sufficient information exists to draw distinct conclusions as to the cause of the groundwater declines during the Order 1169 aquifer test and whether carbonate-rock aquifer pumping within

⁸⁰ CSI Closing.

⁸¹ CSI Ex. 2, p. 17.

Republic. See GP-REP Ex. 1, Broadbent July 2, 2019 Initial Report, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources. The rebuttal response was submitted on behalf of Dry Lake Water, LLC, Georgia Pacific Gypsum LLC, and Republic. See GP-REP Ex. 2, Broadbent August 16, 2019 Rebuttal Report, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources. However, the expert only appeared at the Hearing on Interim Order 1303 on behalf of Georgia Pacific and Republic. See Tr. 1588-91.

⁸³ See GP-REP Ex. 01, GP-REP Ex. 02, and Closing Argument of Georgia Pacific Corporation and Republic Environmental Technologies, Inc. (Closing GP-REP), Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources.

the Garnet Valley and the Black Mountains Area has a measurable impact to spring flow in the Warm Springs area.⁸⁴

Great Basin Water Network

GBWN elected to pose procedural suggestions relating to public involvement, availability of documents and data, transparency, and decision making, and did not submit a report with an independent analysis addressing the questions in Interim Order 1303. GBWN advocates for sustainable management of the entirety of the White River Flow System as one unit based on the interconnected nature of all of the hydrologically connected basins, although no analysis to support which areas this would include was provided. GBWN relies on conclusory statements to establish the interconnected nature of the system as support for its position. Later, GBWN chose not to participate in the hearing nor submit a rebuttal report, closing arguments, or public comment.

Lincoln County Water District and Vidler Water Company

LC-V's participation in the LWRFS hearing was driven by their existing and pending groundwater rights in Kane Springs Valley, and an interest in excluding Kane Springs Valley from the LWRFS management area. Ref. They disputed that Kane Springs Valley should be included within the LWRFS boundary based on their assertion of: prior decisions of the State Engineer that acknowledged the separate nature of the basin from the rest of the LWRFS, groundwater elevation comparisons, precipitation and recharge data, groundwater chemistry, and geophysical study results. In general, Kane Springs Valley should be managed based on its perennial yield, recognizing that there is groundwater flow to the LWRFS as there are from other basins into the LWRFS, but where they are excluded from the proposed management area. Ref.

⁸⁴ See Closing GP-REP.

⁸⁵ GBWN Report on Order 1303, (GBWN Report), Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources.

⁸⁶ LC-V Ex. 1, Lower White River Flow System Interim Order #1303 Report Focused on the Northern Boundary of the Proposed Administrative Unit, prepared by Lincoln County Water District and Vidler Water Company in Association with Zonge International Inc., dated July 3, 2019, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources, p. 2-1.

⁸⁷ LC-V Ex. 2, Rebuttal Submittal to Reports Submitted in Response to Interim Order #1303, dated August 16, 2019 and Attachments A, B, C, D and E containing the reports or technical memorandums of Greg Bushner, Peter Mock, Thomas Butler, Todd Umstot and Norman Carlson., Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources, pp. 7, 14–15.

Various rulings of the State Engineer have previously addressed whether appropriation of groundwater from Kane Springs Valley would affect the Muddy River Springs Area. Rea. LC-V states that these findings have not been challenged by any of the Order 1169 participants. However, to the extent that SNWA relied on multiple linear regression models to establish groundwater flow from Kane Springs Valley to the LWRFS, LC-V do not agree.

LC-V identified a distinct "break," or local increase, in water levels in the regional hydraulic gradient between wells drilled in the LWRFS versus wells drilled in Kane Springs Valley and northern Coyote Spring Valley.⁹¹ It attributed the break to geologic structures located throughout the carbonate-rock aquifer. Although wells within the LWRFS exhibit very consistent groundwater levels, indicative of high transmissivity values across the area, the gradient between well KPW-1 and down-basin wells is much steeper, implying an impediment to groundwater flow near the mouth of Kane Springs Valley.⁹²

In a 2006 hearing for protested water rights applications, LC-V presented an analysis of the regional geochemistry data including stable isotopes, temperature, and carbon-14 data. ⁹³ That analysis found that the groundwater pumped from Kane Springs Valley could not be identified in the source water for the Big Muddy Spring, nor other springs farther south and outside the boundaries of the LWRFS. ⁹⁴ LC-V concluded that groundwater pumped from production well KPW-1 is on a different groundwater flow path from the springs, consistent with the differences in hydraulic gradients, groundwater levels, and geophysical data. ⁹⁵ CSVM-4, a well located in Coyote Spring Valley, and KPW-1, in Kane Springs Valley, have similar temperatures compared to the other wells in the basin, and a lower percentage difference on other markers tracked throughout groundwater in the basin. ⁹⁶ LC-V argues that the water from these wells is chemically

⁸⁸ LC-V Ex. 1, pp. 2-2 through 2-3, citing State Engineer's Rulings 5712, 6254, 5712.

⁸⁹ LC-V Ex. 1, p. 2-3.

⁹⁰ Testimony generally at Tr. 1311-1318. "... simply having correlation is not proof of causation. Causation is neither proved nor evaluated in a regression analysis." Tr. 1303.

⁹¹ LC-V Ex. 1, p. 3-1.

⁹² LC-V Ex. 1, pp. 1-1, 3-1 through 3-4. LC-V went on to conclude that local groundwater recharge occurs in Kane Springs Valley that does not flow to the LWRFS, and therefore there is available unappropriated water in the basin. LC-V Ex. 1, p. 3-5.

⁹³ LC-V Ex. 1, Appendix C, pp. 111-153.

⁹⁴ Id., pp. 124-125.

^{95 &}quot;Gradient alone does not mean flow." Thomas Butler, witness on behalf of LC-V, Tr. 1281.

⁹⁶ Tr. 1281–1282; LC-V Ex. 1, pp. 3-7 through 3-11.

unique and does not appear in any other wells in the LWRFS.⁹⁷ LC-V concludes carbon isotope data also confirmed that the water from Kane Springs Valley does not appear in the Muddy River Springs area.⁹⁸

LC-V engaged a geophysical company to perform a CSAMT survey across the boundary line between Kane Springs Valley and Coyote Spring Valley, and identified significant geologic structures in southern Kane Springs Valley and northern Coyote Spring Valley. ⁹⁹ Several transect lines were conducted perpendicular to the axis of the Kane Springs Valley, and one was also conducted along the axis of the southern part of the basin. ¹⁰⁰ Additional transects were run in Coyote Spring Valley. ¹⁰¹ The results of the geophysical data validated concealed faulting indicated on existing maps, and was ground-truthed with observations in the field. ¹⁰² Results indicated a previously unmapped fault at the mouth of Kane Springs Valley, which LC-V named the Northern Boundary LWRFS fault, with a potentially 2,500-foot offset of materials with different resistivities. ¹⁰³ LC-V argues that the extensive faulting that occurs in southern Kane Springs Valley and northern Coyote Spring Valley form the basis for the exclusion of Kane Springs Valley from the LWRFS. ¹⁰⁴

LC-V gave no opinion on the long-term annual quantity of groundwater that could be pumped from the LWRFS. 105 LC-V attributes all reduction in flows of the Muddy River and its associated springs to carbonate-rock aquifer pumping within the Muddy River Springs Area, and finds no discernable effect from carbonate-rock aquifer pumping occurring in Coyote Springs

⁹⁷ Tr. 1284.

⁹⁸ Tr. 1286.

⁹⁹ LC-V Ex. 1, pp. 1-1, 4-1 through 4-10.

¹⁰⁰ LC-V Ex. 1, p. 4-3.

¹⁰¹ LC-V Ex. 1, p. 4-3.

¹⁰² LC-V Ex. 1, p. 4-8, Tr. 1322.

¹⁰³ Tr. 1271-1272; LC-V Ex. 1, p. 4-9.

¹⁰⁴ LC-V Ex. 1, p. 7-1 through 7-2; Tr. 1408. Questions from the National Park Service and the State Engineer inquired whether the areas of high resistivity in the CSAMT necessarily implied low transmissivity, low permeability of the rock. LC-V conceded that the resistivity information alone does not provide data about the hydraulic properties of either side of the resistive area, but when considered with all available information, LC-V concluded that the fault is likely an impediment to groundwater flow. Tr. 1327–1328, 1363–1364.

¹⁰⁵ LC-V Ex. 1, p. 5-2.

Valley.¹⁰⁶ As a result, LC-V finds that the efforts to protect the Warm Springs area must focus on groundwater pumping within the Muddy River Springs Area itself.¹⁰⁷

Moapa Band of Paiutes

The MBOP participated in the administrative hearing due to their interest in the outcome of the proceedings and how it may affect their pending water right applications within California Wash. A regional approach, spanning a large aerial expanse, was taken by MBOP; the analysis and modeling efforts extended into central Nevada and Utah. MBOP stands apart from other participants with their interpretation of the data. MBOP opposed management of the LWRFS as one basin and argues the scientific consensus is lacking amongst participants. Regarding the interpretation of other participants, MBOP disagreed with the methodology and application of the 2013 USFWS SeriesSEE analysis and SNWA's multiple linear regression and requests repudiation of both. 110

While not agreeing with the proposed boundaries of the LWRFS, MBOP did not provide a clear suggestion for which basins or portions therein should be included or excluded. MBOP suggested that pumping in California Wash has little to no impact on the Warm Springs area. MBOP further suggested there are two capture zones, separated by a hydrodynamic and hydrochemical divide, which transects the Moapa River Indian Reservation area and results in south-flowing groundwater into the Las Vegas Valley through the LWRFS, bypassing the Muddy

¹⁰⁶ LC-V Ex. 1, p. 5-3.

¹⁰⁷ LC-V Ex. 1, p. 5-3.

¹⁰⁸ Tr. 772-773; 839.

¹⁰⁹ See Closing Statement by the Moapa Band of Painte Indians for Order 1303 Hearing (MBOP Closing), Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources, pp. 1-2, 6.

¹¹⁰ Id., pp. 7-12, 15-16; See MBOP Ex. 3, Johnson, C., and Mifflin, M. Rebuttal Report of the Moapa Band of Paiutes in Response to Stakeholder Technical Reports Filed under Order #1303: unpublished report and appendices, August 16, 2019. 27 p., Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources.

¹¹¹ See MBOP Ex. 2, Johnson, C., and Mifflin, M. Water Level Decline in the LWRFS: Managing for Sustainable Groundwater Development. Initial Report of the Moapa Band of Paiutes in Response to Order #1303: unpublished report and appendices, July 3, 2019. 84 p., Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources, pp. 2, 4, 14, 35; Tr. 819.

River Springs Area.¹¹² This hydrodynamic divide theory was not shared by SNWA, CBD, CSI, and NPS.¹¹³

Several participants agree that climate impacts were observed in the hydrographs, e.g., periods of wet and dry; however, MBOP interpreted the existing data to show that climate-driven decline, specifically drought, as the primary response observed in the long-term declining groundwater levels. Thus, MBOP concluded that no reduction in pumping will restore high-elevation spring flows. MBOP did not agree with other participants that decreasing groundwater levels and spring flows were attributed to increased carbonate-rock aquifer pumping beginning in the early 1990s. 116

A quantity available for sustainable pumping was not proposed, but MBOP presumed more water is available in California Wash than previously thought. A flux of approximately 40,000 afy of south-flowing groundwater into the Las Vegas Valley, bypassing the Muddy River Springs Area, was postulated in the initial report as possible with the hydrodynamic divide; however, during the hearing this quantity was given a range of plus or minus an order of magnitude based on assumptions for calculations.

MBOP acknowledged that the Muddy River is connected to the alluvial aquifer and thus pumping from the alluvial and carbonate-rock aquifers in the Muddy River Springs Area impact the Muddy River flows. Therefore, to mitigate impacts to the Muddy River, MBOP proposed that alluvial aquifer pumping, specifically between Arrow Canyon and White Narrows, can be moved to the carbonate-rock aquifer in basins to the south, such as California Wash, with minimal anticipated impacts to the Muddy River flows, rather than moving alluvial aquifer pumping from the Muddy River Springs Area to the carbonate-rock aquifer in connected areas, where impacts

¹¹² See MBOP Ex. 2, pp. 2, 4, 12, 14, 20, 35, 55; Tr. 812; 845.

¹¹³ SNWA Ex. 9, pp. 12–13; CBD Ex. 4, p. 15; CSI Ex. 2, p. 23; NPS Ex. 3, National Park Service's Response to July 2019 Interim Order 1303 Reports, Waddell, August 16, 2019, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources, p. 4.

¹¹⁴ See MBOP Ex. 2, pp. 3, 26-32, 35; Tr. 764-771; 805.

¹¹⁵ See MBOP Ex. 2, pp. 3, 35; Tr. 821-826.

¹¹⁶ See MBOP Ex. 2, p. 29; Tr. 775, 838-840; 848.

¹¹⁷ See MBOP Ex. 2, pp. 2, 20, 35.

¹¹⁸ See MBOP Ex. 2, pp. 6, 19, 35; Tr. 850-851.

¹¹⁹ See MBOP Ex. 2, pp. 23-24, 35; Tr. 836.

proportional to pumping may be expected.¹²⁰ Thus, MBOP proposed favoring temporary over permanent uses and transferring of rights between the carbonate-rock and alluvial aquifers on a case-by-case basis.¹²¹

Moapa Valley Water District

MVWD was created by the Nevada legislature in 1983, pursuant to NRS Chapter 477, to provide water service "vital to the economy and well-being of Moapa Valley." MVWD provides municipal water service to approximately 8,500 people with 3,250 metered service connections, including service to the MBOP. 123

MVWD supported the inclusion of Kane Springs Valley within the LWRFS boundary.¹²⁴ Data indicated a direct connection between Kane Springs Valley and Coyote Spring Valley. This data included observations that the water level in KMW-1/KSM-1 decreased 0.5 foot over the duration of the Order 1169 aquifer test.¹²⁵ State Engineer's rulings have concluded that geochemical evidence and groundwater gradient data indicate that groundwater flows from the Kane Springs Valley into Coyote Spring Valley, and MVWD supports LVVWD's 2001 calculation of that quantity of water at approximately 6,000 afy.¹²⁶ MVWD performed its own calculations of the groundwater gradients from Kane Springs Valley at KMW-1 to EH-4, and concluded that the gradient was "an uninterrupted, continuous, exceptionally flat gradient," unlike gradients commonly seen in the western U.S., especially in highly fractured areas.¹²⁷ MVWD also

¹²⁰ See MBOP Ex. 2, pp. 23, 35.

¹²¹ See MBOP Closing.

¹²² Tr 1172

¹²³ MVWD Ex. 3, District July 1, 2019 Report in response to Interim Order 1303, p.5, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources; MVWD Ex. 4, District August 16, 2019 Rebuttal Report, p, 1, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources. MVWD has 3,147 afa of water rights in Arrow Canyon. Tr. 1169–1170.

¹²⁴ MVWD Ex. 3, p. 1; Tr. 1175.

¹²⁵ MVWD Ex. 3, p. 1; MVWD Ex. 4, p. 2.

¹²⁶ MVWD Ex. 3, pp. 1-2, referring to State Engineer's Ruling 5712 (see, NSE Ex. 12, Ruling 5712, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources) and MVWD Ex. 8, Las Vegas Valley Water District, Water Resources and Ground-Water Modeling in the White River and Meadow Valley Flow Systems, Clark, Lincoln, Nye, and White Pine Counties, Nevada (2001), Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources, p. 6-3.

¹²⁷ Tr. 1177-1178.

introduced evidence of a stipulation between LC-V and the USFWS that bases a reduction in pumping in Kane Springs Valley on a lowering of spring discharges in the Warm Springs area, and introduced a letter from SNWA to the State Engineer, as additional support that the participants to the Interim Order 1303 hearing have previously recognized Kane Springs Valley is part of the LWRFS.¹²⁸

MVWD disagreed that a hydrologic barrier exists between Coyote Springs Valley and Kane Springs Valley.¹²⁹ Relying on a 2006 report prepared by another consultant, MVWD said the evidence indicated that the fault at the mouth of Kane Springs Valley was not an impediment to flow, and that there was no evidence of having encountered hydraulic barriers to groundwater flow during a seven-day aquifer test.¹³⁰ Additionally, the "highly transmissive fault zone" is continuous across the basin boundary between Kane Springs Valley and Coyote Spring Valley.¹³¹ MVWD found further support for its position from evidence that KMW-1 showed drawdown during both the seven-day aquifer test on KPW-1, as well as from the Order 1169 aquifer test pumping that occurred from MX-5.¹³² MVWD considered the water level data collected before, during and after the Order 1169 aquifer test, and Warm Springs area spring discharge to support its finding that the fault is not interrupting groundwater flow.¹³³ MVWD found it "questionable" that the first suggestion of a fault that impedes southward groundwater flow would be prepared by LC-V for this hearing.¹³⁴

Although water levels and spring discharge did not recover to the levels measured before the Order 1169 aquifer test, MVWD believed that the LWRFS is at or near steady-state conditions

¹²⁸ Tr. 1195-1197.

¹²⁹ Tr. 1176-1177.

¹³⁰ Tr. 1181-1182. MVWD also quoted from the report that "the fracturing was so extensive that the fractured aquifer system really behaved as an equivalent porous media." *Id.* MVWD later agreed that this would behave like a sandy aquifer. Tr. 1224.

¹³¹ Tr. 1185.

¹³² Tr. 1250.

¹³³ Tr. 1219.

¹³⁴ Post-Hearing Brief of Moapa Valley Water District (MVWD Closing), Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources, p. 5.

regarding aquifer recovery.¹³⁵ MVWD viewed this as being consistent with the State Engineer's statements in Interim Order 1303.¹³⁶

Finally, MVWD did not provide a specific quantity of available water but did acknowledge that the "actual safe pumpage" is less than current pumping rates, and recognized a direct relationship between pumping from the carbonate-rock aquifer, spring and Muddy River flows, and alluvial aquifer pumping.¹³⁷ The timing and magnitude of carbonate-rock aquifer pumping effects on spring discharge is dependent on the volume of water pumped and the proximity of a pumping center to the springs; however, all cumulative carbonate-rock aquifer pumping in the seven interconnected basins will eventually cause depletions on the Warm Springs area springs.¹³⁸ Further, if carbonate rights are transferred to the alluvial aquifer there will be depletions to Muddy River flows and impacts to senior Muddy River water right owners.¹³⁹

MVWD raised additional matters that they believed relevant to the analysis under Interim Order 1303. First, they stressed the importance of municipal water rights, and the necessity for a reasonably certain supply of water for future permanent uses without jeopardizing the economies of the communities that depend on the water supply, and to protect the health and safety of those who rely on the water supply. To that end, MVWD requested that the State Engineer consider designating municipal use as the most protected and highest use of water, and to give MVWD the perpetual right to divert 6,791 afa of permitted and certificated rights from its carbonate-rock aquifer wells. Second, MVWD stated that it had already satisfied its obligation to protect Moapa dace habitat and senior water rights when it dedicated Icfs/724 afa, or approximately 25% of the MVWD current diversions, from its most senior water right, to the enhancement of the Moapa dace habitat. He

¹³⁵ Tr. 1198, MVWD Ex. 3, p. 4.

¹³⁶ Tr. 1199.

¹³⁷ Tr. 1199-1200; MVWD Closing, pp. 9-10.

¹³⁸ MVWD Ex. 3, p. 5.

¹³⁹ Id.

¹⁴⁰ MVWD Ex. 3, p. 5.

¹⁴¹ MVWD Ex. 3, p. 6; Tr. 1203-1204; 6,791 afa constitutes an increase in the carbonate-rock aquifer pumping for MVWD. Tr. 1228.

¹⁴² MVWD Ex. 3, pp. 6–7; Tr. 1202–1203.

Muddy Valley Irrigation Company

The MVIC is a non-profit Nevada corporation with the senior decreed water rights to the Muddy River, who provided testimony that SNWA is a majority shareholder while other participants such as CSI, LC-V, and MVWD are minority shareholders of the decreed rights. MVIC concurred with SNWA's conclusions regarding aquifer recovery, long-term quantity of groundwater, and movement of water between the alluvial and the carbonate-rock aquifers. Mylc Specifically, that any groundwater pumping, from both alluvial or carbonate-rock aquifers, within the Muddy River Springs Area impacts Muddy River flows, thus violating the Muddy River Decree. Mylc did not dispute the geographic boundaries as identified in Interim Order 1303. Mylc argued that the Muddy River and all of its sources are fully appropriated and emphasized the decreed seniority to groundwater rights, and further asserts that these surface water rights are protected by the Muddy River Decree and the prior appropriation doctrine. Mylc Muddy River Decree and the prior appropriation doctrine.

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

NPS submitted both an initial and rebuttal report in response to the Interim Order 1303 solicitation and presented testimony during the hearing. He Based upon NPS's evaluation of the evidence relating to the Order 1169 aquifer test, the use of an updated numerical groundwater flow model previously developed to predict conditions within the LWRFS, data compiled since the conclusion of the Order 1169 aquifer test, and review of other available data, NPS came to multiple conclusions relating to the delineation and management of the LWRFS. NPS advocates for the

¹⁴³ Tr. 1693-1696, 1705.

¹⁴⁴ MVIC Ex. 1, MVIC Rebuttal Report dated August 15, 2019, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources. MVIC identified sections from the SNWA report, but the references do not correspond with sections in SNWA's report. The State Engineer assumes that these section numbers correspond to page numbers of the SNWA report; See also, SNWA Ex. 7, Burns, A., Drici, W., Collins, C., and Watrus, J., 2019, Assessment of Lower White River Flow System water resource conditions and aquifer response, Presentation to the Office of the Nevada State Engineer: Southern Nevada Water Authority, Las Vegas, Nevada, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources.

¹⁴⁵ MVIC Ex. 1, p. 5; Tr. 1698.

¹⁴⁶ See MVIC Ex. 1, p. 3; Tr. 1697-1968.

¹⁴⁷ Muddy Valley Irrigation Company Post Hearing Closing Statement (MVIC Closing), Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources; Tr. 1967, 1700–1708. See also, NSE Ex. 333, Muddy River Decree, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources.

¹⁴⁸ See NPS Ex. 2, Prediction of the Effects of Changing the Spatial Distribution of Pumping in the Lower White River Flow System, Waddell, July 3, 2019; Tr. 494–597.

inclusion of the entirety of the Black Mountains Area within the geographic boundary of the LWRFS based upon its review of geologic conditions that facilitate flow from the southern portion of the LWRFS through the Muddy Mountains thrust sheet and discharging in Rogers Spring and Blue Point Spring. 149 Further supporting this opinion, NPS cites to spring chemistry and isotopic composition of the water discharging from Rogers Spring and Blue Point Spring and the hydraulic head conditions that NPS believes supports the flow of groundwater beneath the Muddy Mountains from the carbonate-rock aquifer to those springs. 150 NPS acknowledge that there is a weak hydraulic connection between Rogers Spring and Blue Point Spring to the LWRFS based upon the geologic conditions within the Muddy Mountains, but argues that the entirety of the Black Mountains Area should be included to allow for management of the regional carbonate-aquifer to protect against diminished discharge to those springs. 151

In addition to advocating for the inclusion of the entirety of the Black Mountains Area, the NPS provided evidence and analysis to support its conclusion that Kane Springs Valley too should be included within the geographic boundary of the LWRFS. 152 Based upon a review of the hydrologic data, geology of the Kane Springs Valley and basin boundaries, Coyote Spring Valley, and data from the Order 1169 aquifer test, NPS concludes that there is a clearly established hydrological connection between Kane Springs Valley and the other LWRFS basins, including discharge to the Warm Springs area. 153 While NPS advocates for the inclusion of the entire Black Mountains Area and Kane Springs Valley, it did not find any evidence to support the inclusion of the Las Vegas Valley within the LWRFS based upon a similar review of the geology and hydrological data. 154

In interpreting data since the conclusion of the Order 1169 aquifer test, NPS reviewed the available data, concluding that the decades long decline of groundwater levels is not attributable to climate, but rather that the groundwater pumping within the LWRFS is the contributing

¹⁴⁹ See NPS Ex. 2, p. 22. See also, Tr. 569-70; NPS, Closing Statements Interim Order 1303 Hearing Testimony (NPS Closing), Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources, p. 2.

¹⁵⁰ NPS Ex. 2, p. 22; NPS Closing, pp. 2-4.

¹⁵¹ Id.

¹⁵² NPS Ex. 2, p. 22; NPS Ex. 3, pp. 5-11; Tr. 550-551; NPS Closing, pp. 4-5.

¹⁵³ NPS Ex. 2, p. 22; NPS Ex. 3, pp. 5-11; Tr. 550-551; NPS Closing, pp. 5-6.

¹⁵⁴ NPS Ex. 2, p. 22; Tr. 552-554.

factor. 155 NPS opined that if recent pumping withdrawals continued, the current declining trend would be accelerated, adversely impacting spring discharge in the Warm Springs area and Muddy River flow. 156 Further, NPS's review of the data lead to its conclusion that it will take many years, if not decades for the LWRFS carbonate-rock aquifer to reach equilibrium, particularly at the current groundwater pumping withdrawals and even longer if pumping withdrawals occurred at Order 1169 aquifer test levels. 157 However, NPS did not provide an opinion as what rate of groundwater withdrawals would be sustainable within the LWRFS.

Finally, NPS concluded that the movement of groundwater withdrawals from the alluvial aquifer within the Muddy River Springs Area to the carbonate-rock aquifer within the LWRFS would ultimately have little impact on capture of Muddy River flow. Specifically, NPS found that while there may be near-term benefits to the Warm Springs area and Muddy River flow, those benefits would eventually disappear, as the impact would only be delayed and not eliminated. 158

Nevada Cogeneration Associates

NCA submitted a Rebuttal Report Pertaining to Interim Order 1303 and provided testimony at the Interim Order 1303 hearing. NCA objected to the inclusion of certain non-profit organizations on the basis that those organizations were not stakeholders and did not have an interest to protect as the non-governmental organizations did not have water rights within the LWRFS basins effected by the proceedings. 160

With respect to the geographic boundary of the LWRFS, in its Rebuttal Report, NCA is of the opinion that the northwestern portion of the Black Mountains Area, as identified by the State Engineer, should be within the LWRFS basins, but expressed its disagreement with other opinions advocating for the inclusion of the entire Black Mountains Area based upon NCA's analysis of the geology and groundwater elevations. ¹⁶¹ During the Interim Order 1303 hearing and in its Post-Hearing Brief, NCA's opinion shifted to advocate for the boundary of the LWRFS to be adjusted

¹⁵⁵ NPS Ex. 2, pp. 7, 22-23. See also NPS Closing, pp. 5-6.

¹⁵⁶ Id.

¹⁵⁷ Id.

¹⁵⁸ NPS Ex. 2, p. 23. See also NPS Closing, p. 6, and Tr. 593-594.

NCA Ex. 1, NCA Rebuttal Report Pertaining to Interim Order 1303 August 16, 2019, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources; Tr. 1602-50.
 NCA Ex. 1, pp. 1, 23.

¹⁶¹ Id., pp. 2, 23.

to exclude its production wells in the Black Mountains Area; however, NCA did not alter its opinion regarding the remaining portion of the Black Mountains Area staying within the LWRFS.¹⁶²

NCA further expressed that the Lower Meadow Valley Wash should not be included in the LWRFS boundaries based upon the fact that observed groundwater levels do not indicate a hydrologic response to carbonate-rock aquifer pumping and that insufficient data supports a finding of continuity between water level trends to support its inclusion in the LWRFS. 163 However, NCA advocated for the inclusion of the Kane Springs Valley within the LWRFS based upon its opinion that the groundwater data demonstrated hydrologic connectivity between Coyote Spring Valley and Kane Springs Valley, acknowledging that the data is slightly attenuated resulting from the Kane Springs fault. 164 Ultimately, NCA concluded that Kane Springs Valley is tributary to the Coyote Spring Valley and the other LWRFS basins, which justify its inclusion within the boundary of the LWRFS. 165

Similarly, based upon the groundwater data from the northern portion of Coyote Spring Valley demonstrating similar water level responses as other wells throughout the LWRFS and pumping data demonstrating high hydrologic connectivity across all the LWRFS basins, NCA concluded that there was no basis to exclude the northern portion of Coyote Spring Valley. 166 Finally, NCA rejected a suggestion that the entirety of the White River Flow system, which extends into northeastern Nevada, be included within the management area. 167 Specifically, NCA concluded that the Pahranagat Shear Zone creates a significant barrier to the northwestern portion of the LWRFS and that review of groundwater levels does not support a finding that groundwater level declines propagate into the northern reaches of the White River Flow System. 168 NCA concluded, advocating that proper management of the LWRFS is appropriate and sufficient for the

¹⁶² Post-hearing brief of Nevada Cogeneration Associates Nos. I and 2 pertaining to Amended Notice of Hearing Interim Order #1303 following the hearing conducted September 23, 2019, through October 4, 2019, before the Nevada State Engineer (NCA Closing), Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources, pp. 2–10. See also Tr. 1619–22. ¹⁶³ NCA Ex. 1 pp. 3–7, 23. See also NCA Closing, pp. 15–16.

¹⁶⁴ NCA Ex. 1, pp. 8-17, 23. See also NCA Closing, pp. 10-14, and Tr. 1629-44.

¹⁶⁵ NCA Ex. 1, pp. 11-16.

¹⁶⁶ Id., pp. 17-18, 23.

¹⁶⁷ Id., pp. 19, 24.

¹⁶⁸ Id.

purpose of managing discharge of groundwater to the Warm Springs area to support habitat for the Moapa dace and serve senior Muddy River decreed rights. 169

In addressing the annual amount of groundwater that could be developed within the LWRFS without adversely impacting senior decreed rights on the Muddy River or Warm Springs area discharge supporting the habitat for the Moapa dace, NCA supported a target of 9,318 afa, a recent three-year average of annual pumping within the LWRFS,¹⁷⁰ as it did not believe there to be sufficient data to support either an increase or decrease from this amount.¹⁷¹ However, in its post-hearing brief, NCA opined that if their production wells located within the northwestern portion of the Black Mountains Area were excluded from the LWRFS boundary, then the annual amount of water that could be sustainably developed was less than the 9,318 afa.¹⁷²

Finally, NCA did not support movement of water rights from the Muddy River Springs Area alluvial aquifer to the carbonate-rock aquifer, as it was of the opinion that the movement of those rights would not mitigate impact to the Warm Springs area.¹⁷³ Rather, NCA concluded that movement of those rights would compound the impact of pumping from the carbonate-rock aquifer.¹⁷⁴ However, NCA did express some support for movement of senior alluvial water rights as a management tool to offset existing junior carbonate-rock aquifer pumping within the LWRFS.¹⁷⁵

NV Energy

NV Energy submitted a rebuttal report outlining its responses to the five matters the State Engineer solicited in Interim Order 1303 and presented its opinions and conclusions during the Interim Order 1303 hearing.¹⁷⁶ In its rebuttal report, NV Energy opined that the geographic boundary of the LWRFS should be as established in Interim Order 1303.¹⁷⁷ NV Energy further

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¹⁷⁰ NCA Ex. 1, p. 19. See, e.g. Draft order of the State Engineer distributed to LWRFS stakeholders at the LWRFS Working Group meeting, September 19, 2018, official records of the Division of Water Resources.

¹⁷¹ Id., pp. 18, 24.

¹⁷² NCA Closing, pp. 14-15.

¹⁷³ NCA Ex. 1, pp. 19–23, 24.

¹⁷⁴ Id.

¹⁷⁵ Id.

¹⁷⁶ NVE Ex. 1, NV Energy Rebuttal Report to State Engineer's Order 1303 Initial Reports by Respondents, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources. ¹⁷⁷ Id., pp. 1–2.

opined that the existence of subsurface outflow from Kane Springs Valley into the LWRFS basins was insufficient to support its inclusion. 178

NV Energy, in its rebuttal report, disagreed with MBOP's conclusion that the groundwater level declines observed during and after the Order 1169 aquifer test were primarily caused by drought. Rather, NV Energy agreed with SNWA's and MVWD's conclusions that the groundwater recovery occurred between 2–3 years following the conclusion of the aquifer test, but that continued pumping within the carbonate-rock aquifer has inhibited recovery to pre-Order 1169 aquifer test groundwater levels, and that at the current rate of carbonate-rock aquifer pumping the aquifer has nearly reached steady-state conditions and discharge to the Warm Springs area has reached equilibrium.¹⁷⁹

NV Energy further agreed in its rebuttal report with MBOP's and CNLV's conclusions that some groundwater flowing within the carbonate-rock aquifer bypassed the Muddy River Springs Area, and ultimately the Muddy River. NV Energy also agreed that groundwater development within the southern boundary of the LWRFS would likely have less of an effect on discharge to the Warm Springs area and the river. NV Energy did not opine as to the quantity of water that bypassed the springs, but inferred that the current 7,000-8,000 afy of carbonate-rock aquifer pumping appeared to support the conclusion that steady-state conditions had been reached. 180 NV Energy also opined that movement of senior certificated alluvial water rights in the Muddy River Springs Area to carbonate-rock aquifer wells located in the southern portion of the LWRFS may be considered acceptable as Nevada law allows for the reasonable lowering of the groundwater table, and such movement would not necessarily result in a conflict to existing rights. 181 NV Energy further concluded that, contrary to the conclusions of MBOP, drought was not a significant cause for the groundwater level declines observed. Finally, NV Energy concluded with suggestions that the State Engineer either: (1) combine the LWRFS basins into a single hydrographic basin and declare the new basin to be a Critical Management Area pursuant to NRS 534.037 and 534.110; or, (2) for the State Engineer to, under his authority in NRS 534.020 and

¹⁷⁸ Id.

¹⁷⁹ Id., pp. 2-7.

¹⁸⁰ NVE Ex. 1, p. 8.

¹⁸¹ Id., pp. 8-9; Nevada Energy's Closing Statements (NV Energy Closing), Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources, pp. 4-5.

¹⁸² Id., pp. 9-12.

534.120, require the water right holders within the LWRFS to develop a conjunctive management plan. 183

After considering all of the evidence and testimony presented at the Interim Order 1303 hearing, NV Energy ultimately altered its opinion and found compelling arguments to both support the inclusion of Kane Springs Valley in the LWRFS as well as its exclusion. ¹⁸⁴ Ultimately, NV Energy changed its opinion with respect to the geographic boundary of the LWRFS and in its closing statement expressed support for the inclusion of Kane Springs Valley within the LWRFS boundary due to the connection with Coyote Spring Valley and thus the potential for impacts to LWRFS from pumping within Kane Springs Valley. ¹⁸⁵ NV Energy proposes that the current pumping regime of 7,000 to 8,000 afy be maintained to evaluate the potential for steady-state conditions and the continued monitoring of the Warm Springs West gage and agrees that moving pumping further south may reduce impact to the Muddy River and springs. With regards to moving water between the alluvial and carbonate-rock aquifers, similar to others, NV Energy agrees with the evaluation of change applications on a case-by-case basis with demonstration that impacts are reduced or unchanged by the proposed point of diversion compared to the existing point of diversion. NV Energy supports an agreement that would include all water users within the LWRFS for the purposes of not exceeding stresses within system and protecting the Moapa dace. ¹⁸⁶

Southern Nevada Water Authority and Las Vegas Valley Water District

The SNWA and LVVWD submitted multiple reports in response to the Interim Order 1303 solicitation. SNWA and LVVWD supported the boundary of the LWRFS as identified in Interim Order 1303, and argued that there was a general consensus of the participants regarding the

¹⁸³ Id., p. 12.

¹⁸⁴ Tr. 1761-1762.

¹⁸⁵ NV Energy Closing, pp. 2-3.

¹⁸⁶ Id., pp. 3-6.

¹⁸⁷ SNWA Ex. 7; SNWA Ex. 8, Marshall, Z.L., and Williams, R.D., 2019, Assessment of Moapa dace and other groundwater- dependent special status species in the Lower White River Flow System, Presentation to the Office of the Nevada State Engineer: Southern Nevada Water Authority, Las Vegas, Nevada, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources; SNWA Ex. 9, Burns, A., Drici, W., and Marshall Z.L., 2019, Response to stakeholder reports submitted to the Nevada State Engineer with regards to Interim Order 1303, Presentation to the Office of the Nevada State Engineer: Southern Nevada Water Authority, Las Vegas, Nevada, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources.

boundaries based upon the hydraulic connectivity within the identified basins. ¹⁸⁸ Further, SNWA and LVVWD argued against the exclusion of the northern and western portions of Coyote Spring Valley, that management of adjoining basins should be done in a manner recognizing an impact on pumping from those basins on water availability in the LWRFS basins, and that the Las Vegas Valley should be excluded from the LWRFS. ¹⁸⁹

With respect to the evaluation of the carbonate-rock aquifer recovery since the conclusion of the Order 1169 aquifer test, SNWA and LVVWD concluded that the aquifer has not returned to pre-Order 1169 levels, and that the evidence demonstrates a continued declining trend within the carbonate-rock aquifer as a result of continued groundwater pumping. SNWA and LVVWD concluded that the current pumping continues to capture groundwater storage and that based upon the current rate of groundwater withdrawals, water levels within the carbonate-rock aquifer will continue to decline for the foreseeable future. Further, SNWA and LVVWD rejected the premise that climate was a significant factor over groundwater withdrawals for the observed groundwater level decline.

Based upon a review of the evidence, SNWA and LVVWD concluded that current rate of groundwater withdrawals were not sustainable without adversely impacting senior Muddy River water rights and Moapa dace habitat. Based upon the analysis performed by SNWA and LVVWD, examining the discharge from the Muddy River Springs Area and groundwater production within the carbonate-rock aquifer within the LWRFS, SNWA and LVVWD concluded that any groundwater development within the carbonate-rock aquifer resulted in a one-to-one (1:1) ratio of capture of Muddy River flow, and that regardless of where that pumping occurred, it still resulted in a 1:1 ratio of capture, only that the period of time that the capture was realized was longer. Ultimately, SNWA and LVVWD concluded that while any amount of pumping results

¹⁸⁸ SNWA Ex. 7, pp. 5-1 through 5-18, 8-1. See also, Tr. 953.

¹⁸⁹ Closing Brief of Southern Nevada Water Authority and Las Vegas Valley Water District (SNWA Closing), pp. 4–9, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources. See also SNWA Ex. 9 at sections 6, 7 and 12.

¹⁹⁰ SNWA Closing, pp. 9–12. See also SNWA Ex. 7, pp. 5-1 through 5-18, and SNWA Ex. 9, pp. 15–20.

¹⁹¹ SNWA Closing, pp. 11-12. See also Tr. 932.

¹⁹² SNWA Closing, pp. 12-14. See also SNWA Ex. 9, pp. 15-17.

¹⁹³ SNWA Ex. 7, pp. 6-3 through 6-4, 8-2 through 8-4.

¹⁹⁴ Id., pp. 6-4 through 6-11, 8-2 through 8-4; SNWA Ex. 9, pp. 22-27.

in a conflict with senior decreed Muddy River rights, approximately 4,000 to 6,000 afa could be sustainably pumped from the aquifer. ¹⁹⁵ In conjunction with SNWA and LVVWD's evaluation of the quantity of water that may be sustainably developed within the LWRFS, SNWA and LVVWD reviewed the interrelationship between discharge from the carbonate-rock aquifer underlying the LWRFS, groundwater pumping and the impact on the habitat and recovery of the Moapa dace. ¹⁹⁶ SNWA and LVVWD ultimately concluded that the flow required to sustain the Moapa dace from adverse effects, including habitat loss and fish population declines was a minimum 3.2 cfs at the Warm Springs West gage. ¹⁹⁷

Finally, it was SNWA and LVVWD's opinion that movement of water rights from the Muddy River Springs Area alluvial aquifer to the carbonate-rock aquifer within the LWRFS may delay the capture of water serving senior decreed rights on the Muddy River, but that movement of water from the alluvial aquifer to the carbonate-rock aquifer would adversely impact the habitat of the Moapa dace. Thus, SNWA and LVVWD concluded transfer of water rights from the Muddy River Springs Area alluvial aquifer to the LWRFS carbonate-rock aquifer would result in further depletion of flow to the Warm Springs area. 199

Technichrome

Technichrome submitted a response and additional response to the Interim Order in July 2019 but did not participate in the hearing.²⁰⁰ Technichrome stated that it had no objection to a "joint administrative basin" consisting of Coyote Spring Valley, Black Mountain Area, Garnet Valley, Hidden Valley, Muddy River Springs Area, and Lower Moapa Valley, expressed no comment regarding the inclusion of Kane Springs Valley, but questioned whether the entirety of the White River Flow System should be included in the State Engineer's analysis.²⁰¹ However,

¹⁹⁵ Tr. 921-22. See also SNWA Ex. 7, pp. 8-1 through 8-5; SNWA Ex. 9, p. 27.

¹⁹⁶ See SNWA Ex. 8.

¹⁹⁷ Id., pp. 8-1 through 8-2. See also SNWA Closing, pp. 17-19.

¹⁹⁸ See SNWA Closing, pp. 19-20. See also SNWA Ex. 7, pp. 6-3 through 6-11, 8-4; SNWA Ex. 9, pp. 21-22.

¹⁹⁹ SNWA Closing, p. 20. See also Tr. 904-05.

²⁰⁰ Response to Interim Order #1303 Submitted [sic] by Technichrome (Technichrome Response), Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources, and Additional Comments from Technichrome (Technichrome Addendum), Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources.

²⁰¹ Technichrome Response, pp. 1–3.

Technichrome did note that it believed that combining all water rights into a single management structure reduced the State Engineer's ability to control groundwater withdrawals. Technichrome stated that it believed that the State Engineer should have the ability to control withdrawals in small areas to best manage the discharge to the Warm Springs area, and that more targeted control over the groundwater withdrawals would be more effective in managing the discharge.²⁰² Technichrome supported this opinion with some analysis of the results of the Order 1169 aquifer test and its opinion that pumping farther from the Warm Springs area had little to no impact on discharge to Pederson Spring.²⁰³

In Technichrome's additional comments, Technichrome addressed concerns regarding the injury that would result from a system-wide reduction of groundwater rights throughout the LWRFS.²⁰⁴ Finally, Technichrome addressed concerns regarding reliance on the priority system, as utilization of the prior appropriation system would benefit senior irrigation uses over the junior industrial uses, and that removal of basin boundaries would remove limitations on movement of water rights between the existing hydrographic basins, which would disrupt junior uses in areas where senior rights may be moved.²⁰⁵

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

USFWS holds several water rights within the LWRFS and its mission is consistent with the scientific and management aspects of the LWRFS and the management area as established in Interim Order 1303. 206 USFWS opted to participate in the proceeding by submitting initial and rebuttal reports and providing testimony during the administrative hearing. 207 The approach of

²⁰² Id.

²⁰³ Id., and Technichrome Addendum.

²⁰⁴ Technichrome Addendum.

²⁰⁵ Id.

²⁰⁶ The USFWS' mission is to work with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. See also, USFWS, About the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, https://bit.ly/aboutusfws (last accessed June 4, 2020).

²⁰⁷ USFWS Ex. 5, Report in Response to Order 1303, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources; USFWS Ex. 7, Rebuttal to: Water Level Decline in the LWRFS: Managing for Sustainable Groundwater Development by Cady Johnson and Martin Mifflin [sic], Mifflin & Associates, Inc., submitted by the Moapa Band of Paiutes in accordance with Order 1303, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources.

USFWS was to review available data, develop a hydrogeologic conceptual model, and answer the specific questions posed in Interim Order 1303.

USFWS proposed that the boundary be based on geologic breaks rather than the surface drainage areas. The boundary would then encompass all Muddy River Springs Area, Hidden Valley, Garnet Valley, most of Coyote Spring Valley, most of California Wash, the northwest portion of the Black Mountains area, Kane Springs Valley, and most of Lower Meadow Valley Wash. The extent to which Kane Springs Valley and Lower Meadow Valley Wash are included would depend on the data from an aquifer test that has not yet been performed.²⁰⁸

Although, USFWS did not directly opine their view on recovery, their report discusses a conceptual model with insight into lag times and hydraulic connections, and how current conditions relate to sustainable pumping. An "undiminished state of decline" in water levels and spring flows indicated that the system was not in equilibrium at the end of the Order 1169 aquifer test. USFWS postulated there was generally good connectivity within the aquifer system with areas of higher and lower transmittivity. Trends in water levels and spring flows allude to the connection between high elevation springs and carbonate-rock aquifer pumping, with a time lag observed in the recovery of carbonate-rock aquifer water levels and spring flows following the cessation of the Order 1169 aquifer test. The exception is Big Muddy Spring where surface water level trends appeared to be unrelated to the carbonate-rock aquifer water levels.²⁰⁹

USFWS determined that the optimum method currently available to estimate the maximum allowable rate of pumping in the LWRFS is the average annual rate of pumping from 2015–2017. USFWS considered the period from 2015 to 2017 because it found that the groundwater withdrawals, the discharge of the Muddy River Springs, and the flow of the Muddy River were all relatively constant; flow rates from Plummer, Pederson, Jones and Baldwin springs, though generally lower than before the Order 1169 aquifer test, were reasonably stable compared to earlier

²⁰⁸ See USFWS Ex. 5, pp. 2, 28-36.

²⁰⁹ USFWS Ex. 5, pp. 3, 32–33, 35, 37–45; Tr. 266–270, 273–281, 299-301, 433-435.

²¹⁰ USFWS Ex. 5, p. 3.

periods.²¹¹ Using the pumpage inventories for this time period, USFWS estimated the sustainable groundwater withdrawals to be 9,318 afa. ²¹²

Even if total carbonate-rock and alluvial aquifer pumping is maintained at a "sustainable" overall level, USFWS did not support increased carbonated-rock aquifer pumping in exchange for reductions in alluvial aquifer pumping, nor did USFWS support increased alluvial aquifer pumping in exchange for reductions in carbonate-rock aquifer pumping. USFWS suggested that carbonate-rock aquifer pumping should not be moved closer to the springs or the river. Similarly, USFWS suggests that alluvial aquifer pumping in the vicinity of the river should not be moved closer to the river. USFWS opines that any movement of water nearer to the springs or the river is anticipated to decrease the lag time for observing responses from pumping and shorten the time to respond to unfavorable impacts.²¹³

Moving forward with management of the LWRFS, USFWS supported the use of the triggers at the Warm Springs West gage, as established under the 2006 MOA. Continuing to use these Warm Springs West flows as a trigger for management will protect and provide habitat for the Moapa dace; a reduction in the flow translates to a reduction in habitat.²¹⁴

USFWS did not deny that water levels were independent of a climate response signal. Using observed data for Nevada Climate Divisions, USFWS visually inspected hydrographs for climate signals. USFWS opined that response to wet periods are observed for wells in both the carbonate-rock and alluvial aquifers and springs that discharge from the carbonate-rock aquifer but stated that response to dry periods cannot be separated from the impacts of pumping. USFWS did not observe these same climate signals in the hydrographs for Jones and Baldwin Springs or the Big Muddy Spring. USFWS disagreed with the conclusion of the MBOP regarding long-term, regional drought, as well as the analytical methods.²¹⁵

²¹¹ USFWS Ex. 5, pp. 3, 37; Tr. 269-270, 433-435.

²¹² USFWS Ex. 5, pp. 3, 36-38; Tr. 268-270.

²¹³ See USFWS Ex. 5, pp. 3-4, 38-39; Tr. 272-273.

²¹⁴ See USFWS Ex. 5, pp. 4, 39–45; Tr. 273–282; See also, NSE Ex. 256; NSE Ex. 244, 2006 Memorandum of Agreement Trigger Levels agreed to by the Southern Nevada Water Authority, Moapa Valley Water District, Coyotes Springs Investments LLC and Moapa Band of Paiute Indians, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources.

²¹⁵ See USFWS Ex. 5, pp. 24–28, 34–35; See USFWS Ex. 7, pp. 2–16; Tr. 258–260, 299–322, 429–432.

Western Elite Environmental/Bedroc

Bedroc is the land holding and water-right holding entity for Western Elite Environmental, Inc., a provider of construction and recyclable waste collection and disposal in Southern Nevada. Bedroc submitted an undated rebuttal report signed by Derek Muaina, General Counsel, and a closing statement. Bedroc presented Jay Dixon as its expert to give a presentation and to discuss the rebuttal report. Mr. Dixon stated that he contributed to the report, and that he agreed with it, but he did not sign the report because he was working for another participant in the hearing (NCA). Mr. Dixon did provide testimony consistent with the report, and adopted the findings of that report, and both the testimony and the report will be considered in this Order.

Bedroc presented testimony and evidence that its source of groundwater is hydraulically disconnected from the regional carbonate aquifer of the LWRFS and that additional groundwater may be available for pumping in their part of Coyote Spring Valley. Bedroc also argued that its basin fill alluvial groundwater pumping should be managed outside of the proposed LWRFS joint administrative unit.²²¹

To show the hydraulic disconnect, Bedroc presented geologic information demonstrating its unique location. ²²² Bedroc showed that a confining shelf of sedimentary rock was noticeably absent in the vicinity of the Bedroc site where recharge from the Sheep Range rises toward the surface between two faults, which results in shallow groundwater that is subject to ET and capture from shallow groundwater wells at the Bedroc site. ²²³ Recharge from the Sheep Range was estimated to be 750 afy, an average of the high and low estimates of the maximum recharge

²¹⁶ Bedroc Ex. 2, Interim Order 1303- Rebuttal Report- Prepared by Bedroc and Dixon Hydrologic, PLLC- August 2019, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources.

²¹⁷ Bedroc Ex. 2; Western Elite Environmental Inc.'s and Bedroc Limited, LLC's Closing Statement (Bedroc Closing), Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources.

²¹⁸ See Tr. 1718-1719.

²¹⁹ Tr. 1719, 1741.

²²⁰ Tr. 1718–1757, 1749–1750.

²²¹ Bedroc Closing, pp. 13–14. Bedroc offered summary responses to the first four questions posed by Order 1303 but did no independent analysis. *See* Bedroc Closing, p. 12.

²²² Bedroc Closing, p. 2.

²²³ Id; Tr. 1726-1733.

available. 224 SNWA challenged this calculation, pointing out that the estimated recharge could be as low as 130 acre-feet. 225

Bedroc believes that it is capturing the recharge that would otherwise be lost to evapotranspiration. Groundwater conditions at Bedroc's site show a rise in water levels between 2003 and 2006. Bedroc attributed this rise in part to the installation of an unlined storage pond upgradient from the well, but also to the 2005 recharge event that was discussed by many participants to the proceeding. Between 2006 and 2011, Bedroc showed that groundwater levels had been relatively stable even though pumping by Bedroc was fairly constant. Bedroc showed photo evidence of evapotranspiration occurring around the Bedroc site, pointing to areas of white surface soils and green occurring in the photo as evidence of salt residue and phreatophytes, both occurring as a result of shallow groundwater evaporation. The area is estimated to be about 2,200 acres, and the ET range is estimated to be 0.2 to 0.3 feet per year. This results in an estimate of 400 to 600 afa of groundwater that potentially could be captured every year without pulling groundwater from storage. If pumping in this area exceeded ET, water levels to the east of Bedroc would be dropping.

Bedroc considered the alluvial system at its location to be a separate aquifer from the carbonate-rock aquifer in the LWRFS.²³⁴ CBD in its report also supports this conclusion, suggesting that some groundwater can be withdrawn from the Coyote Spring Valley alluvial aquifer system because that system is disconnected from and not responsible for substantial recharge to the carbonate-rock aquifer.²³⁵ SNWA testified similarly during the hearing.²³⁶

²²⁴ Tr. 1724-1725, 1755.

²²⁵ Tr. 1755.

²²⁶ Bedroc Closing, pp. 5-9.

²²⁷ Tr. 1735.

²²⁸ Id.

²²⁹ Tr. 1735-1736.

²³⁰ Tr. 1734, 1738.

²³¹ Tr. 1739.

²³² Tr. 1739.

²³³ Tr. 1739. See also Bedroc Closing, p. 8.

²³⁴Tr. 1746.

²³⁵ Bedroc Ex. 2, p. 5.

²³⁶ Tr. 1024.

Relying on a lack of connection between pumping at Bedroc and the carbonate-rock aquifer, Bedroc asserted that there is no likely impact to the Warm Springs area caused by Bedroc.²³⁷ Bedroc compared groundwater elevations over time in two alluvial wells, CSV-3009M and CSVM-7, and showed an upward trend in groundwater elevations.²³⁸ But, when comparing groundwater elevations of two monitoring wells in different sources, CSVM-7 in the alluvium and CSVM-4 in the carbonate-rock aquifers, the carbonate-rock aquifer well elevations showed a decline during the Order 1169 aquifer test, but the alluvial well elevation rose during the same period and leveled off after the conclusion of the test.²³⁹ Bedroc concluded that these data illustrate 1) the hydraulic disconnect between the local alluvial aquifer and carbonate-rock aquifer and 2) if historical alluvial pumping at Bedroc has not impacted water levels in nearby alluvial wells, then there is likely no impact to spring or streamflow in the Muddy River Springs Area.

Finally, Bedroc stated that managing all users in the region under the same system would arbitrarily impact users whose water neither comes from the regional carbonate-rock aquifer system nor impacts the springs of concern downstream.²⁴⁰ It urged caution in allowing transfer of water rights between alluvial and carbonate-rock aquifers due to potential impacts on senior users that are using local recharge that may not sustain pumping from additional users.²⁴¹ Transfers of senior alluvial rights from the Muddy River Springs Area to the area near Bedroc should be considered on a case-by-case basis to protect Bedroc's senior water rights.²⁴²

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

WHEREAS, following the conclusion of the Interim Order 1303 hearing, opportunity for public comment was offered, including the opportunity to submit written public comment, which was due to be submitted to the Division no later than December 3, 2019. Lincoln County Board of

²³⁷ Bedroc Closing, p.11. See also SNWA testimony of Andrew Burns that pumping at Bedroc wells is not likely to impact the carbonate system or the Muddy River. Tr. 1024–1025.

²³⁸ Bedroc Closing, p. 12. See also Tr. 1736-1737, 1752.

²³⁹ Tr. 1737-1738.

²⁴⁰ Bedroc Ex. 2, pp. 2-4.

²⁴¹ *Id.*, p. 6.

²⁴² Tr. 1740.

County Commissioners submitted written public comment in addition to the closing argument submitted by LC-V.²⁴³

IV. AUTHORITY AND NECESSITY

WHEREAS, NRS 533.024(1)(c) directs the State Engineer "to consider the best available science in rendering decisions concerning the availability of surface and underground sources of water in Nevada."

WHEREAS, in 2017 the Nevada Legislature added NRS 533.024(1)(e), declaring the policy of the State to "manage conjunctively the appropriation, use and administration of all waters of this State regardless of the source of the water."

WHEREAS, NRS 534.020 provides that all waters of the State belong to the public and are subject to all existing rights.

WHEREAS, as demonstrated by the results of the Order 1169 aquifer test and in the data collected in the years since the conclusion of the aquifer test, the LWRFS exhibits a direct hydraulic connection that demonstrates that conjunctive management and joint administration of these groundwater basins is necessary and supported by the best available science.²⁴⁴

WHEREAS, the pre-development discharge of 34,000 acre-feet of the fully appropriated Muddy River system plus the more than 38,000 acre-feet of groundwater appropriations within the LWRFS greatly exceed the total water budget that may be developed without impairment of senior existing rights or proving detrimental to the public interest.

WHEREAS, the available groundwater supply within the LWRFS that can be continually pumped over the long-term is limited to the amount that may be developed without impairing existing senior rights, rights on the Muddy River or adversely affecting the public interest in

²⁴³ See Board of County Commissioners, Lincoln County, Nevada, Public Comment to Interim Order #1303 Hearing, Reports, and Evidence on the Lower White River Flow System, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources.

²⁴⁴ See, e.g., NSE Ex. 245; NSE Ex. 248; NSE Ex. 256; NSE Ex. 252; NSE Ex. 282, Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Report Selected References: Comparison of Simulated and Observed Effects of Pumping from MX-5 Using Data Collected to the Endo of the Order 1169 Test, and Prediction of the Rates of Recovery from the Test, TetraTech, 2013, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources. See also, e.g., CBD Ex. 3; MVWD Exs. 3-4; MVIC Ex. 1; NCA Ex. 1, SNWA Exs. 7-9; USFWS Exs. 5-6; NPS Exs. 2-3.

protection of the endangered Moapa dace and the habitat necessary to support the management and recovery of the Moapa dace.

WHEREAS, pursuant to NRS 532.120, the State Engineer is empowered to make such reasonable rules and regulations as may be necessary for the proper and orderly execution of the powers conferred by law.

WHEREAS, pursuant to NRS 534.110(6) the State Engineer is directed to conduct investigations in groundwater basins where it appears that the average annual replenishment of the groundwater is insufficient to meet the needs of all water right holders, and if there is such a finding, the State Engineer may restrict withdrawals to conform to priority rights.

WHEREAS, within an area that has been designated by the State Engineer, as provided for in NRS Chapter 534, and specifically, NRS 534.120, where, in the judgment of the State Engineer, the groundwater basin is being depleted, the State Engineer in his or her administrative capacity may make such rules, regulations and orders as are deemed essential for the welfare of the area involved.²⁴⁵

WHEREAS, the State Engineer has the authority to hold a hearing to take evidence and the interpretation of the evidence with respect to its responsibility to manage Nevada's water resources and to allow willing participants to present evidence and testimony regarding the conclusions relating to the questions presented in Interim Order 1303. The State Engineer recognizes that the MBOP is a federally recognized tribe, and that its participation in the hearing was to facilitate the understanding of the interpretation of data with respect to the Interim Order 1303 solicitation.

V. ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

WHEREAS, the Endangered Species Act (ESA), 16 U.S.C. §1531 et seq. is a federal law designed to serve the purpose of identifying, conserving and ultimately recovering species declining toward extinction. ²⁴⁶ Specifically, while the ESA is primarily a conservation program, a critical element of the conservation component seeks to encourage cooperation and coordination

²⁴⁵ See also NRS 534.030, NRS 534.110.

²⁴⁶ 16 U.S.C. § 1531(a)-(b).

with state and local agencies.²⁴⁷ The responsibility of enforcement and management under the ESA rests predominately with the federal government; however, the ultimate responsibility is shared.²⁴⁸

WHEREAS, the ESA makes it unlawful for any person to "take" an endangered species or to attempt to commit, solicit another to commit, or cause to be committed, a taking. 249 The term "person" is broadly defined to include the State and its instrumentalities.²⁵⁰ "Take" encompasses actions that "harass, harm" or otherwise disturb listed species, including indirect actions that result in a take. 251 For example, a state regulator is not exempted from the ESA for takings that occur as a result of a licensee's regulated activity. States have been faced with the impediment of their administrative management actions being subservient to the ESA. For example, the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries was subject to an injunction prohibiting it from issuing commercial fishing licenses because doing so would likely lead to the taking of an endangered species. 252 In Strahan v. Coxe, the court's decision relied on reading two provisions of the ESA—the definition of the prohibited activity of a "taking" and the causation by a third party of a taking— "to apply to acts by third parties that allow or authorize acts that exact a taking and that, but for the permitting process, could not take place."253 Although Massachusetts was not the one directly causing the harm to the endangered species, the court upheld the injunction because "a governmental third party pursuant to whose authority an actor directly exacts a taking of an endangered species may be deemed to have violated the provisions of the ESA."254 At least three other circuits have held similarly. 255 In each case, "the regulatory entity purports to make lawful an activity that allegedly violates the ESA."256 Thus the action of granting the permit for the regulated activity has been considered an indirect cause of a prohibited taking under the ESA.

²⁴⁷ 16 U.S.C. § 1531(c); 16 U.S.C. § 1536.

²⁴⁸ 16 U.S.C.A. § 1536.

²⁴⁹ 16 U.S.C.A. § 1538(g).

^{250 16} U.S.C.A. § 1532(13).

²⁵¹ 16 U.S.C.A. § 1532(19). The term "harm" is defined by regulation, 50 C.F.R. § 17.3 (1999).

²⁵² Strahan v. Coxe, 127 F.3d 155 (1st.Cir.1997), cert denied 525 U.S. 830 (1998).

²⁵³ *Id.*, p. 163.

²⁵⁴ Id.

²⁵⁵ See Sierra Club v. Yeutter, 926 F.2d 429 (5th Cir.1991); Defenders of Wildlife v. EPA, 882 F.2d 1294 (8th Cir. 1989); Loggerhead Turtle v. County Council, 148 F.3d 1231 (11th Cir.1998); Palila v. Hawaii Dept. of Land & Natural Resources, 852 F.2d 1106 (9th Cir.1988).

²⁵⁶ Loggerhead Turtle, 148 F.3d at 1251.

WHEREAS, the use of water in Nevada is a regulated activity.²⁵⁷ It is the responsibility of the State to manage the appropriation, use and administration of all waters of the state.²⁵⁸ Based on *Strahan* and similar decisions, the act of issuing a permit to withdraw groundwater that reduces the flow of the springs that form the habitat of the Moapa dace and were to result in harm to the Moapa dace exposes the Division, the State Engineer and the State of Nevada to liability under the ESA.

WHEREAS, a USFWS biological opinion for the MOA found that the reduction in spring flow from the warm springs could impact the dace population in multiple ways. First, the USFWS found that declines in groundwater levels will reduce the flow to the Warm Springs area and allow for cooler groundwater seepage into streams. With reduced spring flow, Moapa dace habitat is reduced. Additionally, USFWS determined that the reduced flows of warm water from the springs will also result in cooler water available throughout the dace habitat, reducing spawning habitat and resulting in a population decline. 260

WHEREAS, based upon the testimony and evidence offered in response to Interim Order 1303, it is clear that it is necessary for spring flow measured at the Warm Springs West gage to flow at a minimum rate of 3.2 cfs in order to maintain habitat for the Moapa dace. A reduction of flow below this rate may result in a decline in the dace population. This minimum flow rate is not necessarily sufficient to support the rehabilitation of the Moapa dace.

²⁵⁷ NRS 533.030; 533.325; 534.020.

²⁵⁸ NRS 533.325; 533.024(1)(e); 534.020.

²⁵⁹ USFWS Ex. 5, pp. 50-52.

²⁶⁰ SNWA Ex. 8, pp. 6-2 through 6-3; SNWA Ex. 40, Hatten, J.R., Batt, T.R., Scoppettone, G.G., and Dixon, C.J., 2013, An ecohydraulic model to identify and monitor Moapa dace habitat. PLoS ONE 8(2):e55551, doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0055551., Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources; SNWA Ex. 41, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2006a, Intra-service programmatic biological opinion for the proposed Muddy River Memorandum of Agreement regarding the groundwater withdrawal of 16,100 acre-feet per year from the regional carbonate aquifer in Coyote Spring Valley and California Wash basins, and establish conservation measures for the Moapa Dace, Clark County, Nevada. File No. 1-5-05 FW-536, January 30, 2006., Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources.

²⁶² Tr. 401–402, 1147, 1157–1158.

WHEREAS, the ESA prohibits any loss of Moapa dace resulting from actions that would impair habitat necessary for its survival. Some groundwater users are signatories to an MOA that authorizes incidental take of the Moapa dace; however, the State Engineer and many other groundwater users are not covered by the terms of the MOA.²⁶³ Not only would liability under the ESA for a "take" extend to groundwater users within the LWRFS, but would so extend to the State of Nevada through the Division as the government agency responsible for permitting water use.

WHEREAS, the State Engineer concludes that it is against the public interest to allow groundwater pumping from the LWRFS that will reduce spring flow in the Warm Springs area to a level that would impair habitat necessary for the survival of the Moapa dace and could result in take of the endangered species.

VI. GEOGRAPHIC BOUNDARY OF THE LWRFS

WHEREAS, the geographic boundary of the hydrologically connected groundwater and surface water systems comprising the LWRFS, as presented in Interim Order 1303, encompasses the area that includes Coyote Spring Valley, Muddy River Springs Area, California Wash, Hidden Valley, Garnet Valley and the northwest portion of the Black Mountains Area. 264 The rationale for incorporating these areas into a single administrative unit included the presence of a distinct regional carbonate-rock aquifer that underlies and uniquely connects these areas; the remarkably flat potentiometric surface observed within the area; the diagnostic groundwater level hydrographic pattern exhibited by monitoring wells distributed across the area; and the area-wide diagnostic water level response to pumping during the Order 1169 aquifer test. Each of these characteristics were previously identified and examined in the hydrological studies and subsequent hearing that followed the completion of the Order 1169 aquifer test. Indeed, these characteristics were the foundational basis for the State Engineer's determination in Rulings 6254–6261 that the

²⁶⁴ See NSE Ex. 1, p. 6.

²⁶³ NSE Ex. 236; SNWA Ex. 8, pp. 5-1 through 5-8.

close hydrologic connection²⁶⁵ and shared source and supply of water in the LWRFS required joint management.²⁶⁶

WHEREAS, evidence and testimony presented during the Interim Order 1303 hearing indicated a majority consensus among stakeholder participants that this originally defined area is appropriately combined into a single unit.²⁶⁷ Evidence and testimony was also presented on whether to add adjacent basins, or parts of basins to the administrative unit; to modify boundaries within the existing administrative unit; or to eliminate the common administrative unit boundaries. The State Engineer has considered this evidence and testimony on the basis of a common set of criteria that are consistent with the original characteristics considered critical in demonstrating a close hydrologic connection requiring joint management in Rulings 6254–6261 and more specifically, include the following:

 Water level observations whose spatial distribution indicates a relatively uniform or flat potentiometric surface are consistent with a close hydrologic connection.

²⁶⁵ The State Engineer notes that the terminology "hydrologic connection" and "hydraulic connection" have been used by different parties sometimes interchangeably, and commonly with nearly the same meaning. The State Engineer considers a hydraulic connection to be intrinsically tied to the behavior and movement of water. With regard to aquifers, it may be thought of as the natural or induced movement of water through permeable geologic material. The degree of hydraulic connection can be considered a measure of the interconnection between locations as defined by a cause and effect change in potentiometric surface or a change in groundwater inflow or outflow that reflects characteristics of both the aquifer material and geometry, and groundwater behavior. It is commonly characterized by a response that is transmitted through the aquifer via changes in hydraulic head, ie., groundwater levels. Hydrologic connections may include hydraulic connections but can also represent more complex system interactions that can encompass all parts of the water cycle, and in some cases may focus on flow paths, water budgets, geochemical interactions, etc. The State Engineer's use of the term "close hydrological connection" is intended to encompass and include a direct hydraulic connection that is reflected in changes in groundwater levels in response to pumping or other fluxes into or out of the aquifer system within a matter of days, months, or years. The closeness, strength, or directness of the response is indicated by timing. with more distinct and more immediate responses being more "close". ²⁶⁶ See NSE Ex. 14, p. 12, 24.

²⁶⁷ See Participant testimony from SNWA (Tr. 875–876), CNLV (Tr. 1418), and CSI (Tr. 95–96). Several other participants agreed, too, that the State Engineer's delineation of the LWRS as defined in Interim Order 1303 was acceptable. See also Bedroc Closing, p. 12, Church Closing, p. 1; Technichrome Response, p. 1. Other participants recommended larger areas be included within the LWRFS boundary. See Tr. 261–266 (USFWS), 1571–1572 (CBD), 1697–1698 (MVIC). See also NV Energy Closing, pp. 2–3; NPS Closing pp. 2–5.

- 2) Water level hydrographs that, in well-to-well comparisons, demonstrate a similar temporal pattern, irrespective of whether the pattern is caused by climate, pumping, or other dynamic is consistent with a close hydrologic connection.
- 3) Water level hydrographs that demonstrate an observable increase in drawdown that corresponds to an increase in pumping and an observable decrease in drawdown, or a recovery, that corresponds to a decrease in pumping, are consistent with a direct hydraulic connection and close hydrologic connection to the pumping location(s).
- 4) Water level observations that demonstrate a relatively steep hydraulic gradient are consistent with a poor hydraulic connection and a potential boundary.
- 5) Geological structures that have caused a juxtaposition of the carbonate-rock aquifer with low permeability bedrock are consistent with a boundary.
- 6) When hydrogeologic information indicate a close hydraulic connection (based on criteria 1-5), but limited, poor quality, or low resolution water level data obfuscate a determination of the extent of that connection, a boundary should be established such that it extends out to the nearest mapped feature that juxtaposes the carbonate-rock aquifer with low-permeability bedrock, or in the absence of that, to the basin boundary.

WHEREAS, some testimony was presented advocating to include additional areas to the LWRFS based principally on water budget considerations and/or common groundwater flow pathways. ²⁶⁸ Indeed, some participants advocate to include the entire White River Flow System, or other basins whose water may ultimately flow into or flow out of the system. ²⁶⁹ Other participants used, but did not rely on, water budget and groundwater flow path considerations to support their analysis. Like those participants, the State Engineer agrees that while water budget and groundwater flow path analysis are useful to demonstrate a hydrologic connection, additional information is required to demonstrate the relative strength of that connection. Thus, the State

²⁶⁸ See e.g., CNLV Ex. 3, p. 33, Tr. 1430; NPS Closing, p. 2. See also Tr. 253-257; Sue Braumiller, Interpretations of available Geologic and Hydrologic Data Leading to Responses to Questions Posed by the State Engineer in Order 1303 regarding Conjunctive Management of the Lower White River Flow System (USFWS Braumiller presentation), slide 11, Item 6., bullet 1, official records of the Division of Water Resources; MBOP Ex. 2, p. 11.

²⁶⁹ See e.g., GBWN Report, pp. 1-2.

Engineer recognizes that while any hydrologic connection, weak or strong, needs to be considered in any management approach, many of the connections advocated based principally on a water budget or flow path analysis, including those between nearby basins like Las Vegas Valley and Lower Meadow Valley Wash, are not demonstrated to provide for the uniquely close hydraulic connection that require joint management.

WHEREAS, in their closing statement, NPS proposes that all adjacent hydrographic areas to the original Interim Order 1303 administrative unit where a hydraulic interconnection exists, whether weak or strong, be included in the LWRFS. To does so to alleviate the need for developing new management schemes for the excluded remnants and to provide for appropriate management approaches based on new information and improved understanding of differing degrees of hydraulic interconnection in various sub-basins. The State Engineer agrees with this logic, up to a point, and has applied these concepts to the extent practical as demonstrated in his criteria for determining the extent of the LWRFS. However, the State Engineer also finds that there must be reasonable and technically defensible limits to the geographic boundary. Otherwise, if management were to be based on the entire spectrum of weak to strong hydraulic interconnection, then exclusion of an area from the LWRFS would require absolute isolation from the LWRFS; every sub-basin would have its own management scheme based on some measure of its degree of connectedness; and proper joint management would be intractable.

WHEREAS, evidence and testimony was also presented by the NPS regarding the specific inclusion of the entirety of the Black Mountains Area in the LWRFS.²⁷¹ The State Engineer recognizes that there may be a hydrologic connection between the Black Mountains Area and upgradient basins that are sources of inflow, and that outflow from the LWRFS carbonate-rock aquifer may contribute to discharge from Rogers and Blue Point Springs. However, the State Engineer does not find that this supports inclusion of the entirety of the Black Mountains Area. This determination is made based on the lack of contiguity of the carbonate-rock aquifer into this

²⁷⁰ NPS Closing, pp. 3-5.

²⁷¹ NPS Closing pp. 3-4. See also Tr.534, 555-569; Richard K. Waddell, Jr., Testimony of Richard K. Waddell on behalf of the National Park Service, presentation during hearing for Interim Order 1303 (NPS Presentation), slides 32-46, official records of the Division of Water Resources.

area,²⁷² the difference in observed water level elevations compared to those in adjacent carbonate-rock aquifer wells to the north and west,²⁷³ and the absence of observed diagnostic hydrographic patterns and responses that define the uniquely close hydraulic connection that characterizes the LWRFS.²⁷⁴

WHEREAS, evidence and testimony presented by USFWS relied principally on SeriesSEE analysis of water level responses submitted by the Department of Interior Bureaus following the Order 1169 aquifer test to establish the general extent of the LWRFS. This was supported by the application of hydrogeology and principles of groundwater flow to define specific boundary limits to the LWRFS. It proposed that most of the Lower Meadow Valley Wash be considered for inclusion in the LWRFS based on the potential geologic continuity between carbonate rocks underlying the Lower Meadow Valley Wash and the carbonate-rock aquifer underlying Coyote Spring Valley, the Muddy River Springs Area, and California Wash.²⁷⁵ Additionally, it asserted that the alluvial aquifer system in Lower Meadow Valley Wash contributes to and is connected to both the Muddy River and the alluvial aquifer system in California Wash. The State Engineer finds that while carbonate rocks may underlie the Lower Meadow Valley Wash and be contiguous with carbonate rocks to the south and west, data are lacking to characterize the potential hydraulic connection that may exist. Regarding the hydraulic connection between the Lower Meadow Valley Wash alluvial aquifer and the LWRFS, the State Engineer agrees with USFWS that a connection exists, but finds that any impacts related to water development in the Lower Meadow Valley Wash alluvial aquifer are localized, and unrelated to the carbonate-rock aquifer, and can be appropriately managed outside the LWRFS joint management process.

WHEREAS, NCA advocated for the exclusion of the portion of the Black Mountains Area from the LWRFS that contains their individual production wells. NCA premise this primarily on testimony and analysis performed by SNWA with respect to the impact of pumping from this area

²⁷² See CSI Ex. 14, Plate 2, Map and Plate 4, Cross section K-K', in Peter D. Rowley et. al., Geology and Geophysics of White Pine and Lincoln Counties, Nevada and Adjacent Parts of Nevada and Utah: The Geologic Framework of Regional Groundwater Flow Systems, Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology Report 56.

²⁷³ See, e.g., USFWS Ex. 5, p. 30.

²⁷⁴ Id., p. 17.

²⁷⁵ Id., pp. 19-24.

on discharge to the Warm Springs area. 276 It also used hydrogeologic and water level response information to conclude that strike-slip faulting and a weak statistical correlation between water levels at NCA well EBM-3 and EH-4 in the Warm Springs area support a boundary to the north of the NCA production wells. While the State Engineer finds logic in NCA's position, other testimony describing flaws in the SNWA analysis make for a compelling argument against relying on SNWA's statistically-based results.²⁷⁷ The substantial similarity in observed water level elevation and water level response at EBM-3 compared to EH-4²⁷⁸ and limitations in relying on poor resolution water level measurements for statistical or comparative analysis²⁷⁹ requires a more inclusive approach that places the boundary to the south of the NCA production wells to a geological location that coincides with the projection of the Muddy Mountain Thrust. This more closely coincides with the measurable drop in water levels recognized to occur south of the NCA wells, between EBM-3 and BM-ONCO-1 and 2, that is indicative of a hydraulic barrier or zone of lower permeability.²⁸⁰ It also better honors the State Engineer's criteria by acknowledging the uncertainty in the data while reflecting a recognized physical boundary in the carbonate-rock aquifer. Specifically, this shall be defined to include that portion of the Black Mountains Area lying within portions of Sections 29, 30, 31, 32, and 33, T.18S., R.64E., M.D.B.&M.; portions of Sections 1, 11, 12, 14, 22, 23, 27, 28, 33, and 34 and all of Sections 13, 24, 25, 26, 35, and 36, T.19S., R.63E., M.D.B.&M.; portions of Sections 4, 6, 9, 10, and 15 and all of Sections 5, 7, 8, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 29, 30, and 31, T.19S., R.64E., M.D.B.&M.²⁸¹

WHEREAS, numerous participants advocated to include Kane Springs Valley in the LWRFS basins. 282 Other participants advocated to exclude Kane Springs Valley. 283 Several expert witnesses recommended the exclusion of Kane Springs Valley based on their characterization of water level elevation data, temporal hydrographic response patterns, geochemistry, and/or the

²⁷⁶ See, Tr. 1622, 1624; NCA Closing.

²⁷⁷ See, e.g., Tr. 1467-1469 CNLV presentation, slides 21-23; Tr. 1784-1786; NV Energy presentation, slides 32-33.
²⁷⁸ NCA Closing, p. 18, Figure 3.

²⁷⁹ NCA Closing, p. 8.

²⁸⁰ See e.g., USFWS Ex. 5.

²⁸¹ See map of the LWRFS Hydrographic Basin as defined by this Order, Attachment A.

²⁸² See, e.g., NV Energy Closing, p. 2; NCA Closing, p. 10-14; MVWD Closing, p. 2-8.

²⁸³ See e.g., Written Closing Statement of Lincoln County Water District and Vidler Water Company, Inc. (LC-V Closing), Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources, p. 3-6; CSI Closing, p. 2.

geophysically-inferred presence of structures that may act as flow barriers. Others recommended inclusion based on the same or similar set of information. Water level elevations observed near the southern edge of Kane Springs Valley are approximately 60 feet higher than those observed in the majority of carbonate-rock aquifer wells within the LWRFS to the south; consistent with a zone of lower permeability. 284 Some experts suggested that the hydrographic response pattern exhibited in wells located in the southern edge of Kane Springs Valley is different compared to that exhibited in wells in the LWRFS, being muted, lagged, obscured by climate response, or compromised by low-resolution data.²⁸⁵ In this regard, the State Engineer recognizes these differences. However, he finds that the evidence and testimony supporting a similarity in hydrographic patterns and response as provided by expert witnesses, like that of the NPS, to be persuasive. 286 Namely, that while attenuated, the general hydrographic pattern observed in southern Kane Springs Valley reflects a response to Order 1169 pumping, consistent with a close hydraulic connection with the LWRFS. The State Engineer also finds that occurrence of the carbonate-rock aquifer in the southern Kane Springs Valley indicates that there is no known geologic feature at or near the southern Kane Springs Valley border that serves to juxtapose the carbonate-rock aquifer within the LWRFS with low permeability rocks in Kane Springs Valley.²⁸⁷ He also finds that while geologic mapping²⁸⁸ indicates that the carbonate-rock aquifer does not extend across the northern portion of the Kane Springs Valley, there is insufficient information available to determine whether the non-carbonate bedrock interpreted to underlie the northern part of the Kane Springs Valley represents low-permeability bedrock that would define a hydraulic boundary to the carbonate-rock aquifer. 289 After weighing all of the testimony and evidence relative to his criteria

²⁸⁴ LC-V Closing, p. 7.

²⁸⁵ See, e.g., LC-V Closing, pp. 5-6; LC-V Ex. 1, pp. 3-3-3-4; CSI Closing, pp. 5-6.

²⁸⁶ See Tr. 524-55. See, e.g., NPS presentation, slides 23-27.

²⁸⁷ Pursuant to the criteria requiring joint management of hydrographic basins and the sixth criteria establishing that the boundary should extend to the nearest mapped feature that juxtaposes the carbonate-rock aquifer with low-permeability bedrock, or where a mapped feature cannot be adequately identified, to the basin boundary, the State Engineer includes the entirety of Kane Springs Valley.

^{28B} See, e.g., NSE Ex. 12; Page, W.R., Dixon, G.L., Rowley, P.D., and Brickey, D.W., 2005, Geologic Map of Parts of the Colorado, White River, and Death Valley Groundwater Flow Systems, Nevada, Utah, and Arizona: Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology Map 150, Plate plus text.

²⁸⁹ See, e.g., SNWA Ex. 7, pp. 2-4, 2-5, 2-10, 2-11, and 4-1, that describe volcanic rocks as important aquifers, and calderas as both flow paths and barriers depending on structural controls

for inclusion into the LWRFS, the State Engineer finds that the available information requires that Kane Springs Valley be included within the geographic boundary of the LWRFS.

WHEREAS, limited evidence and testimony were provided by participants advocating to either include or exclude the northern portion of Coyote Spring Valley. The State Engineer finds that while information such as that provided by Bedroc is convincing and supports a finding that local, potentially discrete aquifers may exist in parts of the northern Coyote Springs Valley, his criteria for defining the LWRFS calls for the inclusion of the entirety of the basin in the LWRFS. However, the State Engineer also acknowledges that there may be circumstances, like in the northern Coyote Spring Valley, where case-by-case considerations for proper management are warranted.

WHEREAS, evidence and testimony from Georgia-Pacific and Republic, and MBOP advocated against creating a single LWRFS administrative unit. Their arguments were principally based on concerns that there was insufficient consensus on defining the LWRFS geographic boundaries and that there were inherent policy implications to establishing an LWRFS administrative unit. MBOP recommended continuing to collect data and focusing on areas of scientific consensus. Georgia-Pacific and Republic asserted that boundaries are premature without additional data and without a legally defensible policy and management tools in place. They expressed concern that creating an administrative unit at this time inherently directs policy without providing for due process. The State Engineer has considered these concerns and agrees that additional data and improved understanding of the hydrologic system is critical to the process. He also believes that the data currently available provide enough information to delineate LWRFS boundaries, and that an effective management scheme will provide for the flexibility to adjust boundaries based on additional information, retain the ability to address unique management issues on a sub-basin scale, and maintain partnership with water users who may be affected by management actions throughout the LWRFS.

to flow, citing Peter D. Rowley, and Dixon, G.L., 2011, Geology and Geophysics of Spring, Cave, Dry Lake, and Delamar Valleys, White Pine and Lincoln Counties, and Adjacent Areas, Nevada and Utah: The Geologic Framework of Regional Flow Systems,.

WHEREAS, evidence and testimony support the delineation of a single hydrographic basin as originally defined by the State Engineer in Interim Order 1303, with the adjustment of the Black Mountain Area boundary and the addition of Kane Springs Valley. The State Engineer acknowledges that special circumstances will exist with regard to both internal and external management. Water development both inside and outside of the perimeter of the LWRFS will continue to be evaluated on the best available data and may become subject to or excluded from the constraints or regulations of the LWRFS.

WHEREAS, the geographic extent of the LWRFS is intended to represent the area that shares both a unique and close hydrologic connection and virtually all of the same source and supply of water, and therefore will benefit from joint and conjunctive management. In that light, the State Engineer recognizes that different areas, jointly considered for inclusion into the LWRFS, have been advocated both to be included and to be excluded by the different hearing participants based on different perspectives, different data subsets, and different criteria. For the Muddy River Springs Area, California Wash, Garnet Valley, Hidden Valley, Coyote Spring Valley, and a portion of the Black Mountain Area, there is a persuasive case previously laid out in Rulings 6254-6261, and the consensus amongst the participants support their inclusion in the LWRFS. For other sub-basins such as Kane Springs Valley and the area around the NCA production wells in the Black Mountain Area, there is persuasive evidence to support their inclusion or exclusion; however, the State Engineer's criteria and available data mandate their inclusion. Their inclusion in the LWRFS provides the opportunity for conducting additional hydrologic studies in sub-basins such as these, to determine the degree to which water use would impact water resources in the LWRFS and to allow continued participation by holders of water rights in future management decisions. Thus, these sub-basins, and any other portions of the LWRFS that may benefit from additional hydrological study, can be managed more effectively and fairly within the LWRFS. For other basins whose inclusion was advocated, such as the northern portion of Las Vegas Valley and the Lower Meadow Valley Wash, the State Engineer finds that data do not exist to apply his criteria, and therefore they cannot be considered for inclusion into the LWRFS. These types of areas may require additional study and special consideration regarding the potential effects of water use in these areas on water resources within the LWRFS.

VII. AQUIFER RECOVERY SINCE COMPLETION OF THE ORDER 1169 AQUIFER TEST

WHEREAS, during the Order 1169 aquifer test an average of 5,290 afa were pumped from the carbonate-rock aquifer wells in Coyote Spring Valley and a cumulative total of 14,535 afa were pumped throughout the Order 1169 study basins. A portion of this total, approximately 3,840 acrefeet per year, was pumped from the alluvial aquifer in the Muddy River Springs Area. ²⁹⁰ In the years since completion of the Order 1169 aquifer test, pumping from wells in the LWRFS has gradually declined. ²⁹¹ Pumping in 2013-2014 averaged 12,635 afa; pumping in 2015-2017 averaged 9,318 afa. ²⁹² Pumpage inventories for 2018 that were published after the completion of the hearing report a total of 8,300 afa. ²⁹³ Pumping from alluvial aquifer wells in the Muddy River Spring Area has consistently declined since closure of the Reid Gardner power plant beginning in 2014, while pumping from the carbonate-rock aquifer since the completion of the aquifer test has consistently ranged between approximately 7,000 and 8,000 afa.

WHEREAS, the information obtained from the Order 1169 aquifer test and in the years since the conclusion of the test demonstrates that while, following conclusion of the aquifer test, there was a recovery of groundwater levels, the carbonate-rock aquifer has not recovered to pre-Order 1169 test levels.²⁹⁴ Evidence and testimony submitted during the 2019 hearing does not refute the conclusions made by the State Engineer in Rulings 6254–6261 regarding interpretations of the Order 1169 aquifer test results, which were based on observations and analysis by multiple technical experts. Groundwater level recovery reached completion approximately two to three years after the Order 1169 aquifer test pumping ended.²⁹⁵

²⁹⁰ NSE Ex. 1, p. 4.

²⁹¹ See, e.g. NSE Ex. 50, Pumpage Report Coyote Spring Valley 2017; NSE Ex. 67, Pumpage Report Black Mountains Area 2017; NSE Ex. 84, Pumpage Report Garnet Valley Area 2017; NSE Ex. 86, Pumpage Report California Wash Area 2017; Ex. 88, Pumpage Report Muddy River Springs Area 2017, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources.

²⁹² Id.

[™] Id.

²⁹⁴ See, e.g., SNWA Ex. 7, pp. 5-17-5-18, 8-2; NPS Closing, p. 4; MVWD Closing, p. 8. See also Tr. 1807; NV Energy presentation, p. 11.

²⁹⁵ SNWA Ex, 7, pp. 5-17-5-18; NVE Ex. 1, p. 2

WHEREAS, several participants testified about the effects of drought and climate on the recovery of groundwater levels and spring discharge after the Order 1169 aquifer test. Droughts, or periods of drier than normal conditions that last weeks, months, or years can lead to declines in groundwater levels. 296 The LWRFS is within National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Nevada Climate Division 4 (Division 4). Precipitation records for Division 4 from 2006 to the 2019 season records indicate that 10 of those 14 seasons received lower than average precipitation.²⁹⁷ Despite low precipitation, several participants submitted evidence that water levels continue to rise under current climate conditions in other areas with a relative lack of pumping that are tributary to the LWRFS, such as Dry Lake Valley, Delamar Valley, Garden Valley, Tule Desert, Dry Lake Valley, and other areas.²⁹⁸ These rises have been attributed to efficient winter recharge that has occurred despite low cumulative precipitation.²⁹⁹ Based on these observations, it was argued that the continued stress of pumping in the LWRFS carbonate-rock aquifer is limiting the recovery of water levels. 300 The State Engineer acknowledges that spring discharge is affected by both pumping and climate, and finds that groundwater levels remain a useful tool for monitoring the state of the aquifer system in the LWRFS regardless of the relative contribution of climate and drought to the measured groundwater levels. The State Engineer only has the authority to regulate pumping, not climate, in consideration of its potential to cause conflict or to be detrimental to the public interest and must do so regardless of the relative contributing effects of climate.

WHEREAS, evidence and testimony during the 2019 hearing was divided on whether water levels in the Warm Springs area and carbonate-rock aquifer indicate the system has reached or is approaching equilibrium,³⁰¹ or is still in a state of decline.³⁰² Hydrographs and evidence presented show that water levels at well EH-4 near the Warm Springs area have been relatively stable for several years following recovery from the Order 1169 aquifer test.³⁰³ However, other

²⁹⁶ See USGS, 1993, Drought, US Geological Survey Open File Report 93-642, accessible at https://bit.ly/93-642, (last accessed June 6, 2020).

²⁹⁷ SNWA Ex. 7, pp. 4-1-4-4.

²⁹⁸ Tr. 577, 304-307.

²⁹⁹ NPS Ex. 3, Appendix A.

³⁰⁰ See, e.g., SNWA Closing, p. 11. NPS Closing, p. 4. See also Tr. 642, 644-45, 1545.

³⁰¹ MVWD Closing, pp. 8-9. See also NV Energy Closing, p. 3; CNLV Closing, pp. 5-7.

³⁰² SNWA Closing, pp. 11-12. NPS Closing, pp. 4-5.

³⁰³ SNWA Ex. 7, pp. 5-7.

carbonate-rock aquifer wells located further away from the Warm Springs area such as CSVM-1, TH-2, GV-1, and BM-DL-2 appear to have reached peak recovery from the Order 1169 aquifer test in 2015-2016 and have exhibited downward trends for the past several years.³⁰⁴ The State Engineer agrees that water levels in the Warm Springs area may be approaching steady state with current pumping conditions. However, the trend is of insufficient duration to make this determination with absolute assurance and continued monitoring is necessary to determine if this trend continues or if water levels are continuing to decline slowly.

VIII. LONG-TERM ANNUAL QUANTITY OF WATER THAT CAN BE PUMPED

WHEREAS, the evidence and testimony presented at the 2019 hearing did not result in a consensus among experts of the long-term annual quantity of groundwater that can be pumped. Recommendations range from zero to over 30,000 afa, though most experts agreed that the amount must be equal to or less than the current rate of pumping. There is a near consensus that the exact amount that can be continually pumped for the long-term cannot be absolutely determined with the data available and that to make that determination will require more monitoring of spring flows, water levels, and pumping amounts over time.

WHEREAS, evidence and testimony were presented arguing that the regional water budget demonstrates that far more groundwater is available for development within the LWRFS than is currently being pumped. CSI argues that the total amount of groundwater available for extraction from the LWRFS may be up to 30,630,305 which is an estimate of the entirety of natural discharge from the system that occurs through groundwater evapotranspiration and subsurface groundwater outflow. Nearly all other experts disagreed that pumping to that extent could occur without causing harm to the Moapa dace or conflict with senior Muddy River decreed rights. The disagreement is not about the amount of the water budget, but rather the importance of the water budget in determining the amount of groundwater in the LWRFS that can continually be pumped,306 not the amount of inflow and outflow to the system. In addition, availability of groundwater for pumping based on water budget should consider whether the same water is appropriated for use in upgradient and downgradient basins, and CSI did not account for this.

³⁰⁴ Id.

³⁰⁵ CSI Closing, p. 2.

³⁰⁶ See e.g., SNWA Ex. 9, p. 24.; MVWD Ex. 3, p. 4; NPS Ex. 3, p. 23.

The State Engineer recognizes that the water budget is important to fully understand the hydrology of the regional flow system but also agrees with nearly all participants that the regional water budget is not the limiting measure to determine water available for development in the LWRFS. The potential for conflict with senior rights and impacts that are detrimental to the public interest in the LWRFS is controlled by aquifer hydraulics and the effect of pumping on discharge at the Warm Springs area rather than the regional water budget.

WHEREAS, evidence and testimony were presented arguing that the location of pumping within the LWRFS is an important variable in the determination of the amount that can be pumped. Participants representing groundwater users in Garnet Valley and the APEX area at the south end of the LWRFS testified that pumping within Garnet Valley does not have a discernable signal at wells near the Warm Springs area and that the hydraulic gradient from north-to-south within the LWRFS indicates that there is a component of groundwater flow in Garnet Valley that does not discharge to the Warm Springs area. Several participants agreed that moving pumping to more distal locations within the LWRFS will lessen the effect of that pumping on spring flows. NV Energy testified that there would be a lesser effect because pumping areas around the periphery of the main carbonate-rock aquifer are less well-connected to the springs, and because of the likelihood that some amount of subsurface outflow occurs along and southern and southeastern boundary of the LWRFS and it is possible to capture some of that subsurface outflow without a drop-for-drop effect on discharge at the Warm Springs area. Others drew the same conclusion based on their review of the data and characterization of a heterogeneous system on weak connectivity between peripheral locations and the Warm Springs area.

CSI argues that more groundwater development can occur in the LWRFS because subsurface fault structures create compartmentalization and barriers to groundwater flow that reduce the effects of pumping on discharge at the Warm Springs area.³¹¹ They rebut the contention by others that spring flow is affected homogeneously by pumping within the LWRFS.³¹² CSI used geophysical data to map a north-south trending subsurface feature that bisects Coyote Spring

³⁰⁷ See CNLV Ex. 3, pp. 45-47; GP-REP Ex. 1, pp. 2-3.

³⁰⁸ NVE Ex. 1, pp. 8-9.

³⁰⁹ See e.g. MBOP Ex. 2, p. 23; GP-REP Ex. 2, pp. 4-5. See also Technichrome Response.

³¹⁰ See e.g. NCA Closing, pp. 2-10; LC-V Closing, pp. 4-6; Bedroc Closing, pp. 9-11.

³¹¹ CSI Closing, pp. 2-5.

³¹² CSI Ex. 2, pp. 40-41.

Valley. They hypothesize that this structure is an impermeable flow barrier that creates an isolated groundwater flow path on the west side of Coyote Spring Valley from which pumping would capture recharge from the Sheep Range without spring flow depletion at the Warm Springs area.³¹³ MBOP also contends that the system is far too complex to characterize it as a homogeneous "bathtub" and that preferential flow paths within the region mean that pumping stress will greatly differ within the LWRFS depending on where the pumping occurs.³¹⁴ Rebuttals to MBOP and CSI contend that an emphasis on complexities in geologic structure is a distraction from the question at hand, and that the hydraulic data collected during and after the Order 1169 aquifer test clearly demonstrate close connectivity and disproves CSI's hypothesis.³¹⁵

The State Engineer finds that the data support the conclusion that pumping from locations within the LWRFS that are distal from the Warm Springs area can have a lesser impact on spring flow than pumping from locations more proximal to the springs. The LWRFS system has structural complexity and heterogeneity, and some areas have more immediate and more complete connection than others. For instance, the Order 1169 aquifer test demonstrated that pumping 5,290 afa from carbonate-rock aquifer wells in Coyote Spring Valley caused a sharp decline in discharge at the springs, but distributed pumping since the completion of the aquifer test in excess of 8,000 afa has correlated with a stabilization of spring discharge. The data collected during and after the Order 1169 aquifer test provide substantial evidence that groundwater levels throughout the LWRFS rise and fall in common response to the combined effects of climate and pumping stress, which controls discharge at the Warm Springs area.³¹⁶ The State Engineer finds that the best available data do not support the hypotheses that variable groundwater flow paths and heterogeneous subsurface geology are demonstrated to exist that create hydraulically isolated compartments or subareas within the LWRFS carbonate-rock aquifer from which pumping can occur without effect on the Warm Springs area. However, there remains some uncertainty as to the extent that distance and location relative to other capturable sources of discharge either delay, attenuate, or reduce capture from the springs.

³¹³ Id. See also CSI Ex. 1, pp. 31-40.

³¹⁴ MBOP Closing, p. 7.

³¹⁵ See e.g., SNWA Ex. 9, pp. 23-24.

³¹⁶ NSE Exs. 15-21.

WHEREAS, evidence and testimony were presented to argue that no amount of groundwater can be pumped from the carbonate-rock aquifer or from the LWRFS without conflicting with the Muddy River decree or causing harm to the Moapa dace habitat. This argument is predicated on the interpretation that lowering of groundwater level anywhere within the LWRFS, whether caused by climate or pumping, eventually has an effect on spring discharge, and that any reduction in spring discharge caused by pumping conflicts with senior decreed rights or harms the Moapa dace or both. MVIC and SNWA agree that capturing discharge from the Warm Springs area springs and the Muddy River are a conflict with the Muddy River decree, which appropriates "all of the flow of the said stream, its sources of supply, headwaters and tributaries."

The Muddy River Decree was finalized in 1920, decades before any significant amount of groundwater development within the Muddy River springs area or the LWRFS. The statement quoted above, or something similar to it, is a common conclusion in decrees to establish finality to the determination of relative priority of rights. By including this statement, the decreed right holders are afforded the assurance that no future claimants will interject a new priority right. However, it is also common on decreed systems for junior rights to be appropriated for floodwater or other excess flows, provided that no conflict occurs with the senior priorities. Similarly, groundwater development almost always exists in the tributary watersheds of decreed river systems, even though groundwater in a headwater or tributary basin is part of the same hydrologic system. There is no conflict as long as the senior water rights are served.

The State Engineer disagrees with SNWA and MVIC that the above quoted statement in the decree means that any amount of groundwater pumped within the headwaters that would reduce flow in the Muddy River conflicts with decreed rights. The State Engineer finds that capture or potential capture of the waters of a decreed system does not constitute a conflict with decreed right holders if the flow of the source is sufficient to serve decreed rights. Muddy River decreed rights were defined by acres irrigated and diversion rates for each user. The sum of diversion rates greatly exceeds the full flow of the River, but all users are still served through a rotation schedule managed by the water master. The total amount of irrigated land in the decree is 5,614 acres. The

³¹⁷ See, e.g., CBD Ex. 3, p. 23; SNWA Ex. 7, p. 8-4; MVIC Ex. 1, p. 3.

³¹⁸ NSE Ex. 333.

³¹⁹ Id.

Flow in the Muddy River at the Moapa Gage has averaged approximately 30,600 afa since 2015,³²⁰ which is less than the predevelopment baseflow of about 33,900.³²¹ If all decreed acres were planted with a high-water use crop like alfalfa, the net irrigation water requirement would be 28,300 afa, based on a consumptive use rate of 4.7 afa.³²² Conveyance loss due to infiltration is an additional consideration to serve all decreed users; however, this is limited in the Muddy River because the alluvial corridor is narrow and well defined so water stays within the shallow groundwater or discharges back to the river. The State Engineer finds that the current flow in the Muddy River is sufficient to serve all decreed rights in conformance with the Muddy River Decree, and that reductions in flow that have occurred because of groundwater pumping in the headwaters basins is not conflicting with Decreed rights.

WHEREAS, the majority of experts agree that there is an intermediate amount of pumping approximated by recent pumping rates that can continue to occur in the LWRFS and still protect the Moapa dace and not conflict with decreed rights. USFWS and NCA endorsed the use of average pumping over the years 2015-2017 (9,318 afa as reported by State Engineer pumpage inventories) as a supportable amount that can continue to be pumped, because the system appears to have somewhat stabilized. CSI also endorsed this approach as an initial phase, though they suggested 11,400 afa, which was the average pumping reported by State Engineer inventories over the years 2010-2015 that included the period of the Order 1169 aquifer test. CNLV makes a rough estimate that no more than 10,000 afa can be supported throughout the entire region, based on their professional judgment and review of the data. NV Energy concludes that 7,000-8,000 afa can continue to be pumped, based on the amount of pumping in recent years from carbonate-rock aquifer wells and the observation that steady-state conditions in Warm Springs area spring

³²⁰ NSE Ex. 211, USGS 09416000 Muddy River Moapa 1914-2013, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources.

³²¹ SNWA Ex. 7, p. 5-4.

³²² See, e.g., Huntington, J.L. and R. Allen, (2010), Evapotranspiration and Net Irrigation Water Requirements for Nevada, Nevada State Engineer's Office Publication, accessible at https://bit.ly/etniwr, (last accessed June 7, 2020), official records of the Division of Water Resources.

³²³ USFWS Ex. 5, p. 3; NCA Ex. 1, p. 19.

³²⁴ CSI Closing, p. 2.

³²⁵ CNLV Ex. 3, p. 2.

flow are being reached.³²⁶ SNWA estimates that only 4,000–6,000 afa of carbonate-rock aquifer pumping can continually occur within the LWRFS.³²⁷

WHEREAS, the State Engineer finds that the evidence and testimony projecting continual future decline in spring flow at the current rate of pumping is compelling but not certain. Several participants pointed out rising trends in groundwater levels at many locations in Southern Nevada, outside of the LWRFS, that are distant from pumping³²⁸ even though total precipitation has been below average and since 2006 has been described as a drought.³²⁹ This suggests that climate and recharge efficiency may have actually buffered the full effect of pumping on discharge at the Warm Springs area, and that the system could not support the current amount of groundwater pumping during an extended dry period with lesser recharge. In addition, slight declining trends that are observed in Garnet Valley monitoring wells are not evident in wells close to the Warm Springs area.³³⁰ If drawdown in Garnet Valley has not yet propagated to the Muddy Springs area, then the resilience of the apparent steady state of spring flow is in doubt. Projections of continued future decline in spring discharge suggests that the current amount of pumping in the LWRFS is a maximum amount that may need to be reduced in the future if the stabilizing trend in spring discharge does not continue.

WHEREAS, there is an almost unanimous agreement among experts that data collection is needed to further refine with certainty the extent of groundwater development that can be continually pumped over the long term. The State Engineer finds that the current data are adequate to establish an approximate limit on the amount of pumping that can occur within the system, but that continued monitoring of pumping, water levels, and spring flow is essential to refine and validate this limit.

³²⁶ NVE Ex. 1, p. 8.

³²⁷ SNWA Ex. 7, p. 8-4.

³²⁸ NPS Ex. 3, Appendix A. See also Tr. 304-307, 577.

³²⁹ Tr. 1292-1300. See, also LC-V Ex. 11, PowerPoint Presentation of Todd G. Umstot, entitled Drought and Groundwater, Hearing on Interim Order 1303, official records of the Division of Water Resources, slides 3-10.

³³⁰ CNLV Ex. 3, pp. 45-46.

WHEREAS, pumping from wells in the LWRFS has gradually declined since completion of the Order 1169 aquifer test and is approaching 8,000 afa. This coincides with the period of time when spring discharge may be approaching steady state. The State Engineer finds that the maximum amount of groundwater that can continue to be developed over the long term in the LWRFS is 8,000 afa. The best available data at this time indicate that continued groundwater pumping that consistently exceeds this amount will cause conditions that harm the Moapa dace and threaten to conflict with Muddy River decreed rights.

IX. MOVEMENT OF WATER RIGHTS

WHEREAS, the data and evidence are clear that location of pumping within the LWRFS relative to the Warm Springs area and the Muddy River can influence the relative impact to discharge to the Warm Springs area and/or senior decreed rights on the Muddy River. The transfer of groundwater pumping from the Muddy River Springs Area alluvial wells to carbonate-rock aquifer wells may change the timing of any impact to Muddy River flows and amplify the effect on discharge to the Warm Springs area, thus potentially adversely impacting habitat for the Moapa dace. And the transfer of groundwater withdrawals from the carbonate-rock aquifer into the Muddy River alluvial aquifer may reduce the impact to the Moapa dace habitat but increase the severity of impact to the senior decreed rights on the Muddy River. The State Engineer recognizes that the LWRFS is fundamentally defined by its uniquely close hydrologic interconnection and shared source and supply of water. However, the State Engineer also recognizes that there can be areas within the LWRFS that have a greater or lesser degree of hydraulic connection due to distance, local changes in aquifer properties, or proximity to other potential sources of capturable water.

WHEREAS, Rulings 6254–6261 acknowledge that one of the main goals of Order 1169 and the associated pumping test at well MX-5 was to observe the effects of increased pumping on groundwater levels and spring flows. Coyote Spring Valley carbonate-rock aquifer pumping during the Order 1169 aquifer test was the largest localized carbonate-rock aquifer pumping in the LWRFS. In addition, concurrent carbonate-rock aquifer and alluvial aquifer pumping in Garnet Valley, Muddy River Springs Area, California Wash, and the northwest portion of the Black Mountains Area occurred during the test period. Rulings 6254–6261 described the data and analysis used to determine that additional pumping at the MX-5 well contributed significantly to decreases in high elevation springs (Pederson Springs) and other springs that are the sources to the

Muddy River. Evidence and reports provided under Interim Order 1303 do not challenge the findings in Rulings 6254–6261 that pumping impacts were witnessed. There is a strong consensus among participants that pumping during the Order 1169 aquifer test along with concurrent pumping caused drawdowns of water levels throughout the LWRFS.³³¹ However, the effects of pumping from different locations within the LWRFS on discharge at the Warm Springs area is not homogeneous.³³² The State Engineer finds that movement of water rights that are relatively distal from the Warm Springs area into carbonate-rock aquifer wells that have a closer hydraulic connection to the Warm Springs area is not favorable.

WHEREAS, evidence and testimony provided by participants during the Interim Order 1303 hearing provides a strong consensus that alluvial aquifer pumping in the Muddy River Springs Area affects Muddy River discharge. There is also strong evidence that carbonate-rock aquifer pumping throughout the LWRFS affects spring flow but can also be dependent on proximity of pumping to springs. No participant is a proponent of moving additional water rights closer to the headwaters of the Muddy River within the Muddy River Springs Area, and most participants agree that carbonate-rock aquifer and alluvial aquifer pumping in the Muddy River Springs Area captures Muddy River flow. The State Engineer finds that any pumping within close proximity to the Muddy River could result in capture of the Muddy River. The State Engineer also finds that any movement of water rights into carbonate-rock aquifer and alluvial aquifer wells in the Muddy River Springs Area that may increase the impact to Muddy River decreed rights is disfavored.

WHEREAS, the Order 1169 aquifer test demonstrated that impacts from the test along with concurrent pumping was widespread within the LWRFS encompassing 1,100 square miles and supported the conclusion of a close hydrologic connection among the basins.³³⁵ While the effects of movement of water rights between alluvial aquifer wells and carbonate-rock aquifer wells on deliveries of senior decreed rights to the Muddy River or impacts to the Moapa dace may not be uniform across the entirety of the LWRFS, the relative degree of hydrologic connectedness

³³¹ See SNWA Closing, pp. 10, 16; MVIC Closing, p. 6.

³³² See, e.g., SNWA Closing, p. 10.

³³³ CNLV Closing, p. 8; Tr. 1456–1457, 1458. *See also* SNWA Closing, p. 16; MVWD Closing, p. 11; MVIC Closing, p. 6.

p. 11; MVIC Closing, p. 6.
 334 CNLV Closing, pp. 8-10; Tr. 1457, 1458; NV Energy Closing, p. 4; MVIC Closing, p. 6.
 335 NSE Ex. 256. See also NSE Ex. 14, pp. 20-21; NSE Ex. 17, p. 19; SNWA Closing pp. 2, 3.

in the LWRFS will be the principle factor in determining the impact of movement of water rights. The State Engineer recognizes that there may be discrete, local aquifers within the LWRFS with an uncertain hydrologic connection to the Warm Springs area. Determining the effect of moving water rights into these areas may require additional scientific data and analysis. Applications to move water rights under scenarios not addressed in this Order will be evaluated on their individual merits to determine potential impact to existing senior rights, potential impact to the Warm Springs area and Moapa dace habitat, and impacts to the Muddy River.

X. ORDER

NOW THEREFORE, the State Engineer orders:

- 1. The Lower White River Flow System consisting of the Kane Springs Valley, Coyote Spring Valley, Muddy River Springs Area, California Wash, Hidden Valley, Garnet Valley, and the northwest portion of the Black Mountains Area as described in this Order, is hereby delineated as a single hydrographic basin. The Kane Springs Valley, Coyote Spring Valley, Muddy River Springs Area, California Wash, Hidden Valley, Garnet Valley and the northwest portion of the Black Mountains Area are hereby established as sub-basins within the Lower White River Flow System Hydrographic Basin.
- The maximum quantity of groundwater that may be pumped from the Lower White River Flow System Hydrographic Basin on an average annual basis without causing further declines in Warm Springs area spring flow and flow in the Muddy River cannot exceed 8,000 afa and may be less.
- The maximum quantity of water that may be pumped from the Lower White River Flow System Hydrographic Basin may be reduced if it is determined that pumping will adversely impact the endangered Moapa dace.
- All applications for the movement of existing groundwater rights among sub-basins of the Lower White River Flow System Hydrographic Basin will be processed in accordance with NRS 533.370.

- The temporary moratorium on the submission of final subdivision or other submission concerning development and construction submitted to the State Engineer for review established under Interim Order 1303 is hereby terminated.
- All other matters set forth in Interim Order 1303 that are not specifically addressed herein are hereby rescinded.

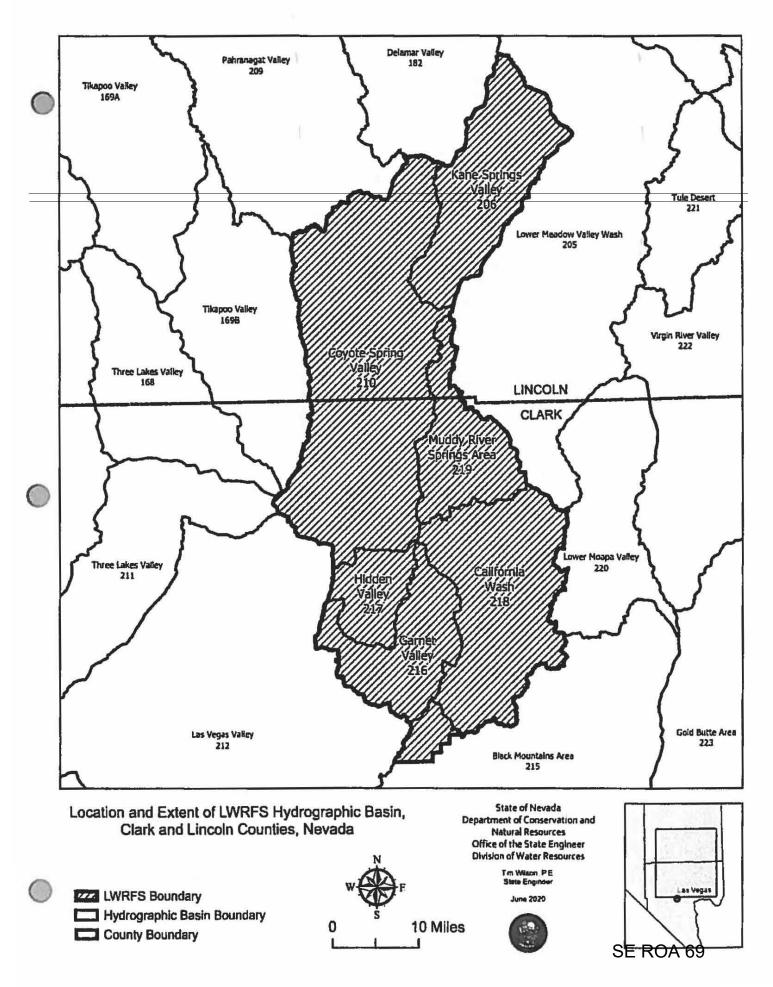
TIM WILSON, P.E.

State Engineer

Dated at Carson City, Nevada this

15th day of <u>June</u>, 2020.

ATTACHMENT A



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

INTERIM ORDER

#1303

DESIGNATING THE ADMINISTRATION OF ALL WATER RIGHTS WITHIN COYOTE SPRING VALLEY HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (210), A PORTION OF BLACK MOUNTAINS AREA BASIN (215), GARNET VALLEY BASIN (216), HIDDEN VALLEY BASIN (217), CALIFORNIA WASH BASIN (218), AND MUDDY RIVER SPRINGS AREA (AKA UPPER MOAPA VALLEY) BASIN (219) AS A JOINT ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT, HOLDING IN ABEYANCE APPLICATIONS TO CHANGE EXISTING GROUNDWATER RIGHTS, AND ESTABLISHING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON THE REVIEW OF FINAL SUBDIVISION MAPS

I. PURPOSE

WHEREAS, the purpose of this Interim Order is to designate a multi-basin area known to share a close hydrologic connection as a joint administrative unit, which shall be known as the Lower White River Flow System (LWRFS).

WHEREAS, an adequate and predictable supply of groundwater within the LWRFS supports the health, safety and welfare of the area, and this Interim Order aims to protect existing senior rights and the public interest in an endangered species, recognize existing beneficial use, and limit development actions that are dependent on a supply of water that may not be available in the future.

WHEREAS, during the interim period that this Order is in effect, holders of existing rights and other interested parties are encouraged to submit reports to the Nevada Division of Water Resources (NDWR) analyzing the data available regarding sustainable groundwater development in the LWRFS, the geographic extent of the LWRFS, and considerations relating to groundwater pumping within the LWRFS and its effects on the fully decreed Muddy River. This collected and analyzed data is an essential step to optimize the beneficial use of the available water supply in the LWRFS.

WHEREAS, concurrent with this interim order, holders of existing rights and other interested parties are encouraged to participate in the public process to develop a conjunctive management plan.

I. BASIN DESIGNATIONS PURSUANT TO NRS § 534.030

WHEREAS, the Coyote Spring Valley Hydrographic Basin was designated pursuant to Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) § 534.030 by Order 905 dated August 21, 1985, which also declared municipal, power, industrial and domestic uses as preferred uses of the groundwater resource pursuant to NRS § 534.120.

WHEREAS, the Black Mountains Area Hydrographic Basin was designated pursuant to NRS § 534.030 by Order 1018 dated November 22, 1989, which also declared municipal, industrial, commercial and power generation purposes as preferred uses of the groundwater resource pursuant to NRS § 534.120, declared irrigation of land using groundwater to be a non-preferred use, and ordered that applications to appropriate groundwater for irrigation purposes would be denied.

WHEREAS, the Garnet Valley Hydrographic Basin was designated pursuant to NRS § 534.030 by Order 1025 dated April 24, 1990, which also declared municipal, quasimunicipal, industrial, commercial, mining, stockwater and wildlife purposes as preferred uses pursuant to NRS § 534.120, and declared irrigation of land using groundwater to be a non-preferred use, and ordered that applications to appropriate groundwater for irrigation purposes would be denied.

WHEREAS, the California Wash Hydrographic Basin was designated pursuant to NRS § 534.030 by Order 1026 dated April 24, 1990, which also declared municipal, quasi-municipal, industrial, commercial, mining, stockwater and wildlife purposes as preferred uses pursuant to NRS § 534.120, and declared irrigation of land using groundwater to be a non-preferred use, and ordered that applications to appropriate groundwater for irrigation purposes would be denied.

WHEREAS, the Hidden Valley Hydrographic Basin was designated pursuant to NRS § 534.030 by Order 1024 dated April 24, 1990, which also declared municipal, quasimunicipal, industrial, commercial, mining, stockwater and wildlife purposes as preferred uses pursuant to NRS § 534.120, and declared irrigation of land using groundwater to be a non-preferred use, and ordered that applications to appropriate groundwater for irrigation purposes would be denied.

WHEREAS, the Muddy River Springs Area was partially designated pursuant to NRS § 534.030 by Order 392 dated July 14, 1971, and was fully designated by Order 1023 dated April 24, 1990, which also declared municipal, quasi-municipal, industrial, commercial, mining, stockwater and wildlife purposes as preferred uses pursuant to NRS § 534.120, and declared irrigation of land using groundwater to be a non-preferred use, and ordered that applications to appropriate groundwater for irrigation purposes would be denied.

II. ORDERS 1169 AND 1169A

WHEREAS, on March 8, 2002, the State Engineer issued Order 1169 holding in abeyance carbonate-rock aquifer system groundwater applications either pending or to be filed in Coyote Spring Valley (Basin 210), Black Mountains Area (Basin 215), Garnet Valley (Basin 216), Hidden Valley (Basin 217), Muddy River Springs Area (Basin 219), and Lower Moapa Valley (Basin 220) and ordering an aquifer test of the carbonate-rock aquifer system, which was not well understood, to determine whether additional appropriations could be developed from the carbonate-rock aquifer system. The Order required that at least 50%, or 8,050 acre-feet annually (afa), of the water rights then currently permitted in Coyote Spring Valley be pumped for at least two consecutive years.

WHEREAS, on April 18, 2002, in Ruling 5115, the State Engineer added the California Wash (Basin 218) to the Order 1169 aquifer test basins.

WHEREAS, prior to the Order 1169 aquifer test beginning, there were significant concerns that pumping 8,050 afa from the Coyote Spring Valley as part of the aquifer test would adversely impact the water resources at the Muddy River Springs, and consequently the Muddy River. Ultimately, the Order 1169 study participants agreed that even if the minimum 8,050 afa was not pumped, sufficient information would be obtained to inform future decisions relating to the study basins.

WHEREAS, on November 15, 2010, the Order 1169 aquifer test began, whereby the study participants began reporting to NDWR on a quarterly basis the amounts of water being pumped from wells in the carbonate and alluvial aquifer during the pendency of the aquifer test.

WHEREAS, on December 21, 2012, the State Engineer issued Order 1169A declaring the completion of the aquifer test to be December 31, 2012, after a period of 25½ months. The

State Engineer provided the study participants the opportunity to file reports with NDWR until June 28, 2013, addressing the information gained from the aquifer test and the water available to support applications in the aquifer test basins.

WHEREAS, during the Order 1169 aquifer test, an average of 5,290 acre-feet per year was pumped from carbonate wells in Coyote Spring Valley, and a cumulative total of approximately 14,535 acre-feet per year of water was pumped throughout the LWRFS. Of this total, approximately 3,840 acre-feet per year was pumped from the Muddy River Springs Area alluvial aquifer.¹

WHEREAS, during the aquifer test, pumpage was measured and reported from 30 other wells in the Muddy River Springs Area, Garnet Valley, California Wash, Black Mountains Area, and Lower Meadow Valley Wash. Stream diversions from the Muddy River were reported, and measurements of the natural discharge of the Muddy River and several of the Muddy River's headwater springs were collected daily. Water-level data were collected from a total of 79 monitoring and pumping wells within the LWRFS. All of the data collected during the aquifer test was made available to each of the study participants and the public.

WHEREAS, during the Order 1169 aquifer test, the resulting water-level decline encompassed 1,100 square miles and extended from northern Coyote Spring Valley through the Muddy River Springs Area, Hidden Valley, Garnet Valley, California Wash, and the northwestern part of the Black Mountains Area.^{2,3} The water-level decline was estimated to be 1 to 1.6 feet in this area with minor drawdowns of 0.5 feet or less in the northern part of Coyote Spring Valley north of the Kane Springs Wash fault zone.

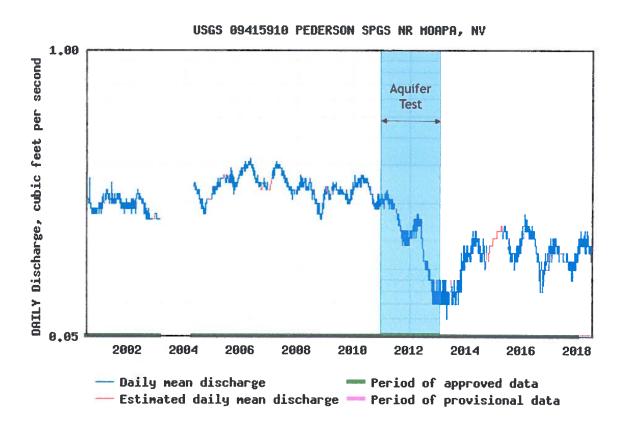
WHEREAS, results of the two-year test demonstrated that pumping 5,290 acre-feet annually from the carbonate aquifer in Coyote Spring Valley, in addition to the other carbonate pumping in Garnet Valley, Muddy River Springs Area, California Wash and the northwest part

¹ See, e.g., Ruling 6254, p. 17; Appendix B.

² See, e.g., Ruling 6254. See also U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management and U.S. National Park Service Order 1169A Report, Test Impacts and Availability of Water Pursuant to Applications Pending Under Order 1169, June 28, 2013, official records in the Office of the State Engineer.

³ There was no groundwater pumping in Hidden Valley but effects were still observed in the Hidden Valley monitor well.

of the Black Mountains Area, caused sharp declines in groundwater levels and flows in the Pederson and Pederson East springs. These two springs are considered to be sentinel springs for the overall condition of the Muddy River because they are at a higher altitude than other Muddy River source springs, and therefore are proportionally more affected by a decline in groundwater level in the carbonate aquifer.⁴ The Pederson spring flow decreased from 0.22 cubic feet per second (cfs) to 0.08 cfs and the Pederson East spring flow decreased from 0.12 cfs to 0.08 cfs. The following hydrograph at Pederson spring illustrates the decline in discharge during the aquifer test and also demonstrates that in the five years since the end of the aquifer test, spring flow has not recovered to pre-test flow rates.



⁴ See the 2006 Memorandum of Agreement among the Southern Nevada Water Authority, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Coyote Springs Investments, Moapa Band of Paiutes, and the Moapa Valley Water District.

Additional headwater springs at lower altitude, the Baldwin and Jones springs, declined approximately 4% during the test.⁵ All of the headwater springs contribute to the decreed and fully appropriated Muddy River and are the predominant source of water that supplies the habitat of the endangered Moapa dace, a fish federally listed as an endangered species since 1967.

WHEREAS, based upon the analysis of the carbonate aquifer test, it was asserted that pumping at the Order 1169 rate at well MX-5 in Coyote Spring Valley could result in both of the high-altitude Pederson and Pederson East springs going dry in 3 years or less.⁶

WHEREAS, based upon the findings of the aquifer test, the carbonate aquifer underlying Coyote Spring Valley, Garnet Valley, Hidden Valley, Muddy River Springs Area, California Wash and the northwest part of the Black Mountains Area⁷ (the LWRFS as depicted in Appendix A) was acknowledged to have a unique hydrologic connection and share the same supply of water.⁸

III. RULINGS 6254, 6255, 6256, 6257, 6258, 6259, 6260, AND 6261

WHEREAS, on January 29, 2014, the State Engineer issued Ruling 6254 on pending applications of the Las Vegas Valley Water District (LVVWD) and Coyote Springs Investment, LLC (CSI) in the Coyote Spring Valley; Ruling 6255 on pending applications of Dry Lake Water, LLC (Dry Lake), and CSI in Coyote Spring Valley; Ruling 6256 on pending applications of Bonneville Nevada Corporation, Nevada Power Company (Nevada Power), Dry Lake, and the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) in the Garnet Valley; Ruling 6257 on pending applications of Nevada Power, Dry Lake, and SNWA in the Hidden Valley; Ruling 6258 on

⁵ U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management and U.S. National Park Service Order 1169A Report, *Test Impacts and Availability of Water Pursuant to Applications Pending Under Order 1169*, pp. 43-46, 50-51, June 28, 2013, official records in the Office of the State Engineer. *See also*, http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nv/nwis/.

⁶ See, e.g., Ruling 6254. See also U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management and U.S. National Park Service Order 1169A Report, Test Impacts and Availability of Water Pursuant to Applications Pending Under Order 1169, p. 85, June 28, 2013, official records in the Office of the State Engineer.

⁷ That portion of the Black Mountains Area lying within the Lower White River Flow System is defined as those portions of Sections 29, 30, 31, 32, and 33, T.18S., R.64E., M.D.B.&M.; Section 13 and those portions of Sections 1, 11, 12, and 14, T.19S., R.63E., M.D.B.&M.; Sections 5, 7, 8, 16, 17, and 18 and those portions of Sections 4, 6, 9, 10, and 15, T.19S., R.64E., M.D.B.&M.

⁸ See, e.g., State Engineer Ruling 6254, p. 24, official records in the Office of the State Engineer.

pending applications by LVVWD, Nevada Power, Dry Lake, and the Moapa Band of Paiute Indians in the California Wash; Ruling 6259 on pending applications by the Moapa Valley Water District in the Muddy River Springs Area; and Ruling 6260 on pending applications by Nevada Cogeneration Associates #1, Nevada Cogeneration Associates #2, and Dry Lake, in the Black Mountains Area, upholding in part the protests to said applications and denying the applications on the grounds that there was no unappropriated groundwater at the source of supply, the proposed use would conflict with existing rights, and the proposed use of the water would threaten to prove detrimental to the public interest because it would threaten the water resources upon which the endangered Moapa dace are dependent.

IV. LOWER WHITE RIVER FLOW SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the total long-term average water supply to the LWRFS, from subsurface groundwater inflow and local precipitation recharge, is not more than 50,000 acre-feet annually.⁹

WHEREAS, the Muddy River, a fully appropriated surface water source, has its headwaters in the Muddy River Springs Area and has the most senior rights in the LWRFS. Spring discharge in the Muddy River Springs Area is produced from the regional carbonate aquifer. Prior to groundwater development, the Muddy River flows at the Moapa gage were approximately 34,000 acre-feet annually.¹⁰

WHEREAS, the alluvial aquifer surrounding the Muddy River ultimately derives virtually all of its water supply from the carbonates, either through spring discharge that infiltrates into the alluvium or through subsurface hydraulic connectivity between the carbonate rocks and the alluvium.¹¹

WHEREAS, the State Engineer has determined that pumping of groundwater within the LWRFS has a direct interrelationship with the flow of the decreed and fully appropriated Muddy River, which has the most-senior rights.¹²

⁹ *Id*.

¹⁰ United States Geological Survey Surface-Water Annual Statistics for the Nation, USGS 09416000 MUDDY RV NR MOAPA, NV, accessed at

https://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/annual/?search_site_no=09416000&agency_cd=USGS&referred _module=sw&format=sites_selection_links.

¹¹ See, e.g., State Engineer Ruling 6254, p. 24, official records in the Office of the State Engineer.

¹² *Id*.

WHEREAS, since the conclusion of the Order 1169 aquifer test, the State Engineer has jointly managed the groundwater rights within LWRFS.

WHEREAS, the State Engineer, under the joint management of the LWRFS, has not distinguished pumping from wells in the Muddy River Springs Area alluvium from pumping carbonate wells within the LWRFS.

WHEREAS, within the LWRFS, there exist more than 38,000 acre-feet of groundwater appropriations. Groundwater pumping from 2007 forward is included in Appendix B and is significantly less than the total appropriations.

WHEREAS, groundwater levels within the LWRFS have been relatively flat in the five years since the end of the Order 1169 aquifer test, but groundwater levels have not recovered to pre-test levels.¹³

IV. PUMPAGE INVENTORIES

WHEREAS, annual groundwater pumpage inventories in the Coyote Spring Valley have been published by the State Engineer since 2005. In the years 2005 through 2017 pumping has ranged from 665 acre-feet to 5,606 acre-feet, averaging 2,605 acre-feet. The average pumping in Coyote Spring Valley, excluding the years 2011 and 2012 when the aquifer test was being conducted, is 2,068 acre-feet.¹⁴

WHEREAS, annual groundwater pumpage inventories in the Black Mountains Area have been published by the State Engineer since 2001. In the years 2001 through 2017 pumping in the northwest portion of the basin has ranged from 1,137 acre-feet to 1,591 acre-feet, with an average of 1,476 acre-feet.¹⁵

¹³ See, e.g., USGS water level data for Site 364650114432001 219 S13 E65 28BDBA1 USGS CSV-2. waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis.

¹⁴ See, e.g., Nevada Division of Water Resources, Coyote Spring Valley Hydrographic Basin 13-210 Groundwater Pumpage Inventory, 2017.

¹⁵ See, e.g., Nevada Division of Water Resources, Black Mountains Area Hydrographic Basin 13-215 Groundwater Pumpage Inventory, 2017.

WHEREAS, annual groundwater pumpage inventories in the Garnet Valley have been published by the State Engineer since 2001. In the years 2001 through 2017 pumping has ranged from 797 acre-feet to 2,181 acre-feet, averaging 1,358 acre-feet. ¹⁶

WHEREAS, the State Engineer does not conduct annual groundwater pumpage inventories in the Hidden Valley basin because there is no groundwater pumping in the basin.

WHEREAS, annual groundwater pumpage inventories in the California Wash have been published by the State Engineer since 2016. In the years 2016 and 2017 pumping has ranged from 88 acre-feet to 252 acre-feet, averaging 170 acre-feet. Groundwater pumpage data have been reported by water right holders since 2009.

WHEREAS, annual groundwater pumpage inventories in the Muddy River Springs Area have been published by the State Engineer since 2016. In the years 2016 and 2017 pumping has ranged from 3,553 acre-feet to 4,048 acre-feet, with an average of 3,801 acre-feet. Groundwater pumpage data have been reported by water right holders since 1976.

WHEREAS, total groundwater pumpage in Coyote Spring Valley, Muddy River Springs Area (MRSA), California Wash, Hidden Valley, Garnet Valley, and the northwest portion of the Black Mountains Area in calendar years 2007 through 2017, ranged from 9,090 acre-feet to 14,766 acre-feet. Pumpage in years 2011-2012 during the aquifer test averaged 14,535 afa. Pumpage in years 2015 through 2017, when alluvial pumping in the MRSA was greatly reduced because of the Reid Gardner Generating Station closure, ranged from 9,090 afa to 9,637 afa.

V. AUTHORITY AND NECESSITY

WHEREAS, NRS § 533.024(1)(c) directs the State Engineer "to consider the best available science in rendering decisions concerning the availability of surface and underground sources of water in Nevada."

¹⁶ See, e.g., Nevada Division of Water Resources, Garnet Valley Hydrographic Basin 13-216 Groundwater Pumpage Inventory, 2017.

¹⁷ See, e.g., Nevada Division of Water Resources, California Wash Hydrographic Basin 13-218 Groundwater Pumpage Inventory, 2017.

¹⁸ See, e.g., Nevada Division of Water Resources, Muddy River Springs Area (AKA Upper Moapa Valley) Hydrographic Basin 13-219 Groundwater Pumpage Inventory, 2017.

WHEREAS, NRS § 533.024(1)(e) was added in 2017 to declare the policy of the State to "manage conjunctively the appropriation, use and administration of all waters of this State regardless of the source of the water."

WHEREAS, given that the State Engineer must use the best available science and manage conjunctively the water resources in the LWRFS, consideration of any development of long-term, permanent, uses that could ultimately be curtailed due to water availability will be examined with great caution.

WHEREAS, as demonstrated by the results of the aquifer test, Coyote Spring Valley, Muddy River Springs Area, Hidden Valley, Garnet Valley, California Wash, and the northwestern part of the Black Mountains Area have a direct hydraulic connection, and as a result must be administered as a joint administrative unit, including the administration of all water rights based upon the date of priority of such rights in relation to the priority of rights in the other basins.¹⁹

WHEREAS, the pre-development discharge of 34,000 acre-feet of the Muddy River system, which is fully appropriated, plus the more than 38,000 acre-feet of groundwater appropriations within the LWRFS greatly exceed the total water budget within the flow system.

WHEREAS, the results from the aquifer test, the data from groundwater level recovery and spring flow, and climate data indicate to the State Engineer that the quantity of water that may be pumped within the LWRFS without conflicting with senior rights on the Muddy River or adversely affecting the habitat of the Moapa dace is less than the quantity pumped during the aquifer test.

WHEREAS, the current amount of pumping corresponds to a period of time in which spring flows have remained relatively stable and have not demonstrated a continuing decline.

¹⁹ See, e.g., Southern Nevada Water Authority, Nevada State Engineer Order 1169 and 1169A Study Report, June 2013; Tom Meyers, Ph.D., Technical Memorandum Comments on Carbonate Order 1169 Pump Test Data and Groundwater Flow System in Coyote Springs and Muddy River Springs Valley, Nevada, June 25, 2013; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management and U.S. National Park Service Order 1169A Report, Test Impacts and Availability of Water Pursuant to Applications Pending Under Order 1169, June 28, 2013; Johnson and Mifflin, Summary of Order 1169 Testing Impacts, per Order 1169A, June 28, 2013; Tetra Tech, Comparison of Simulated and Observed Effects of Pumping from MX-5 Using Data Collected to the End of the Order 1169 Test, and Prediction of Recovery from the Test, June 10, 2013, official records in the Office of the State Engineer.

WHEREAS, the precise extent of the development of existing appropriations of groundwater within the LWRFS that may occur without conflicting with the senior rights of the fully decreed Muddy River has not been determined.

WHEREAS, recognizing that there exists a need for further analysis of the historic and ongoing groundwater pumping data, the relationship of groundwater pumping within the LWRFS to spring discharge and flow of the fully decreed Muddy River, the extent of impact of climate conditions on groundwater levels and spring discharge, and the ultimate determination of the sustainable yield of the LWRFS, the State Engineer finds that input by means of reports by the stakeholders in the interpretation of the data from the aquifer test and from the years since the conclusion of the aquifer test is important to fully inform the State Engineer prior to setting a limit on the quantity of groundwater that may be developed in the LWRFS or to developing a long-term Conjunctive Management Plan for the LWRFS and Muddy River.

WHEREAS, the State Engineer finds that it is necessary to carefully monitor the effects of groundwater development within the LWRFS under current conditions, toward the goal of collaboratively (with stakeholders) evaluating the amount of groundwater that may ultimately be developed within the LWRFS without conflicting with senior decreed rights on the Muddy River or adversely affecting the public interest in maintaining the habitat of the endangered Moapa dace. The evaluation process will include public meetings, meetings of a stakeholder representative working group, and coordination with the Hydrologic Review Team (HRT) developed under the 2006 Memorandum of Agreement among the Southern Nevada Water Authority, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Coyote Springs Investments, Moapa Band of Paiutes, and the Moapa Valley Water District. The process will provide the opportunity for the stakeholders to engage in the development of a conjunctive management plan that will be informed by the determination of the total quantity of groundwater that may be developed within the LWRFS and that will facilitate the continued use of groundwater by junior priority groundwater rights holders whom have perfected their water rights while protecting the senior decreed rights on the Muddy River.

WHEREAS, recognizing that an amount less than the full quantity of the appropriated groundwater rights within the LWRFS may be developed in a manner that will provide for a reasonably certain supply of water for future permanent uses without jeopardizing the economies of the communities reliant on the water supply within the LWRFS, the health and safety of those

whom are either presently reliant the water, existing public interests, or those who may in the future become reliant on a reliable and sustainable source of supply, the State Engineer, with the following exception, finds that it is necessary to issue a temporary moratorium on the review and decision by the Division of Water Resources regarding any final subdivision map or other construction or development submission requiring a finding that adequate water is available to support the proposed development. During the pendency of this Interim Order, the State Engineer may review and grant approval of a subdivision or other submission if a showing of an adequate and sustainable supply of water to meet the anticipated life of the subdivision, other construction or development can be made to the State Engineer's satisfaction.

WHEREAS, through continued monitoring of the LWRFS during the effective period of this Interim Order, the State Engineer seeks to maintain recent groundwater pumping amounts, while providing time for the submission of additional scientific data and analysis regarding the total quantity of water that may be sustainably withdrawn from the LWRFS over the long-term without conflicting with senior Muddy River decreed rights or jeopardizing the communities, water users, or public interests identified above.

WHEREAS, the State Engineer is empowered to make such reasonable rules and regulations as may be necessary for the proper and orderly execution of the powers conferred by law.²⁰

WHEREAS, within an area that has been designated by the State Engineer, as provided for in NRS Chapter 534, where, in the judgment of the State Engineer, the groundwater basin is being depleted, the State Engineer in his or her administrative capacity may make such rules, regulations and orders as are deemed essential for the welfare of the area involved.²¹

WHEREAS, the State Engineer finds that additional data relating to the impacts of groundwater pumping from the LWRFS coupled with the public process will allow his office to make a determination as to the appropriate long-term management of groundwater pumping that may occur in the LWRFS by existing holders of water rights without conflicting with existing senior decreed rights or adversely affecting the endangered Moapa dace.

²⁰ NRS § 532.120.

²¹ Id

VI. ORDER

NOW THEREFORE, the State Engineer orders:

- 1. The Lower White River Flow System consisting of the Coyote Spring Valley, Muddy River Springs Area, California Wash, Hidden Valley, Garnet Valley, and the portion of the Black Mountains Area as described in this Order, is herewith designated as a joint administrative unit for purposes of administration of water rights. All water rights within the Lower White River Flow System will be administered based upon their respective date of priorities in relation to other rights within the regional groundwater unit.
- 2. Any stakeholder with interests that may be affected by water right development within the Lower White River Flow System may file a report in the Office of the State Engineer in Carson City, Nevada, no later than the close of business on Monday, June 3, 2019.²² Reports filed with the Office of the State Engineer should address the following matters:
 - a. The geographic boundary of the hydrologically connected groundwater and surface water systems comprising the Lower White River Flow System;
 - b. The information obtained from the 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;

²² For any stakeholder affected by the shut-down of the United States government beginning in December 2018, upon a request and showing of good cause to the satisfaction of the State Engineer, an extension of time may be granted to those affected parties.

- 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.
- 3. Any stakeholder with interests that may be affected by water right development within the Lower White River Flow System may file with the Office of the State Engineer no later than the close of business on Thursday July 18, 2019, a rebuttal to the Reports filed on June 3, 2019.
- 4. The State Engineer will schedule an administrative hearing within the month of September 2019 to take comment on the submitted reports.
- 5. During the pendency of this Interim Order:
 - a. Permanent applications to change existing groundwater rights shall be held in abeyance pending the submission of the reports as required by Paragraph 2 of this Order and as authorized by NRS §§ 532.165(1), 533.368 and 533.370(4)(d). Temporary applications to change existing groundwater rights will be processed pursuant to NRS § 533.345.
 - b. A temporary moratorium is issued regarding any final subdivision or other submission concerning development and construction submitted to the State Engineer for review, and such submissions shall be held in abeyance pending the conclusion of the public process to determine the total quantity of groundwater that may be developed within the Lower White River Flow System. The State Engineer may review and grant approval of a subdivision or other submission if a showing of an adequate and sustainable supply of water to meet the anticipated life of the subdivision, other construction or development can be made to the State Engineer's satisfaction.

- c. Holders of water rights who maintain their water rights in good standing by filing all required applications for extension of time in conformity with the requirements of NRS §§ 533.390, 533.395 and 533.410 may cite this order in support of their applications for extension of time.
- d. Holders of water rights who file all required applications for extension of time in conformity with the requirements of NRS § 534.090 may cite this order in support of their applications for extension of time to prevent the working of a forfeiture.

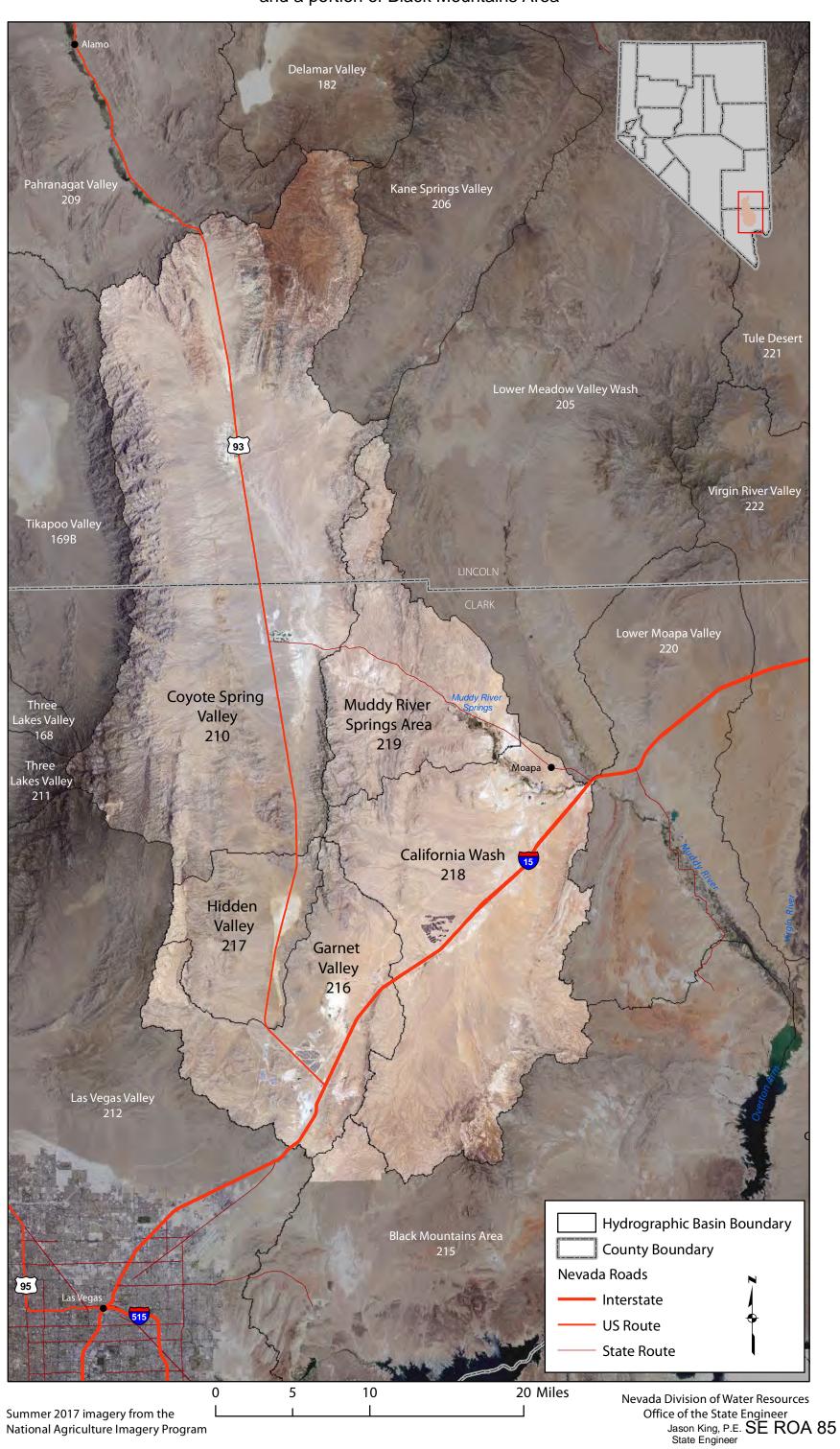
JASON KING, P.E. State Engineer

Dated at Carson City, Nevada this

1/ TH day of _ AMUARY, 2019

Order 1303, Appendix A: LOWER WHITE RIVER FLOW SYSTEM

Coyote Spring Valley, Muddy River Springs Area, Hidden Valley, Garnet Valley, California Wash, and a portion of Black Mountains Area



Order 1303, APPENDIX B: Groundwater Pumping in the Lower White River Flow System, 2007-2017

Basin No.	219				215		210	216	218	217	Total
Basin Name	Muddy River Springs Area				Black Mountains Area		Coyote Spring Valley	Garnet Valley	California Wash	Hidden Valley	pumping in the LWRFS
Year	Carbonate pumping (reported by MVWD)	Alluvial pumping (reported by NV Energy)	All other Alluvial Pumping ¹	Total Pumping in Basin 219 ¹	Carbonate pumping in the Northwest Portion of Basin 215	Total Pumping in Basin 215					
2007	2,079	4,744	253	7,076	1,585	1,732	3,147	1,412	272	0	13,247
2008	2,272	4,286	253	6,811	1,591	1,759	2,000	1,552	272	0	11,981
2009	2,034	4,092	253	6,379	1,137	1,159	1,792	1,427	213	0	10,756
2010	1,826	4,088	253	6,167	1,561	1,572	2,923	1,373	26^{3}	0	12,050
2011	1,837	4,212	253	6,302	1,398	1,409	5,606	1,427	33^{3}	0	14,766
2012	2,638	2,961	253	5,852	1,556	1,564	5,516	1,351	28^{3}	0	14,303
2013	2,496	3,963	253	6,712	1,585	1,776	3,407	1,484	66^{3}	0	13,254
2014	1,442	4,825	253	6,520	1,429	1,624	2,258	1,568	2413	0	12,016
2015	2,396	1,249	253	3,898	1,448	1,708	2,064	1,520	460	0	9,390
2016	2,795	941	312	4,048	1,434	1,641	1,722	2,181	252	0	9,637
2017	2,824	535	194	3,553	1,507	1,634	1,961	1,981	88	0	9,090

The LWRFS includes basins 210, 216, 217, 218, 219 and the northwest portion of 215.

All values in this table are from State Engineer basin pumpage inventory reports except as noted in the footnotes below:

- 1. Alluvial Pumping not reported by NV Energy for years 2007–2015 estimated as the average of inventoried years 2016–2017.
- 2. Estimated as the average of groundwater pumping in years 2009-2012.
- 3. Reported to the State Engineer but not published in a basin inventory report.

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

ADDENDUM TO INTERIM ORDER #1303

DESIGNATING THE ADMINISTRATION OF ALL WATER RIGHTS WITHIN COYOTE SPRING VALLEY HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (210), A PORTION OF BLACK MOUNTAINS AREA (BASIN 215), GARNET VALLEY (BASIN 216), HIDDEN VALLEY (BASIN 217), CALIFORNIA WASH (BASIN 218), AND MUDDY RIVER SPRINGS AREA (AKA UPPER MOAPA VALLEY) (BASIN 219) AS A JOINT ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT, HOLDING IN ABEYANCE APPLICATIONS TO CHANGE EXISTING GROUNDWATER RIGHTS, AND ESTABLISHING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON THE REVIEW OF FINAL SUBDIVISION MAPS

WHEREAS, the purpose of this Addendum is to modify the schedule for the submission of reports and rebuttal reports of interested stakeholders analyzing the data available regarding sustainable groundwater development in the Lower White River Flow System (LWRFS), the geographic extent of the LWRFS, and considerations relating to the movement of groundwater pumping between the alluvial wells and carbonate wells and its effects on the fully decreed Muddy River.

WHEREAS, NRS § 533.024(1)(c) directs the State Engineer "to consider the best available science in rendering decisions concerning the availability of surface and underground sources of water in Nevada."

WHEREAS, NRS § 533.024(1)(e) was added in 2017 to declare the policy of the State to "manage conjunctively the appropriation, use and administration of all waters of this State regardless of the source of the water."

WHEREAS, based upon the recognition that a need exists for further analysis of the groundwater pumping data, the relationship of groundwater pumping within the LWRFS to spring discharge and flow of the fully decreed Muddy River, the extent of impact of climate conditions on groundwater levels and spring discharge, and the ultimate determination of the sustainable yield of the LWRFS, and the interest in the stakeholders having sufficient time to prepare reports, the State Engineer finds that it is reasonable and appropriate to modify the schedule originally established in Interim Order 1303.

WHEREAS, the State Engineer is empowered to make such reasonable rules and regulations as may be necessary for the proper and orderly execution of the powers conferred by law.¹

WHEREAS, within an area that has been designated by the State Engineer, as provided for in NRS Chapter 534, where, in the judgment of the State Engineer, the groundwater basin is being depleted, the State Engineer in his or her administrative capacity may make such rules, regulations and orders as are deemed essential for the welfare of the area involved.²

ORDER

NOW THEREFORE, the State Engineer orders.

- 1. The deadline for any stakeholder with interests that may be affected by water right development within the Lower White River Flow System to file a report in the Office of the State Engineer in Carson City, Nevada, is extended to no later than the close of business on Wednesday, July 3, 2019. The substance of the reports should include the same elements as established originally in Interim Order 1303.
- 2. Any rebuttal report to the Reports filed on July 3, 2019, to be submitted by a stakeholder with interests that may be affected by water right development within the Lower White River Flow System shall be submitted to the Office of the State Engineer no later than the close of business on Friday August 16, 2019.

3.	All other	matters containe	d in	Interim Or	rder 1303	remain "inak	fered

TIM WILSON, P.E.

State Engineer

Dated at Carson City, Nevada this

13 th day of May , 2019

2 14

¹ NRS § 532.120.



IN REPLY

REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior REGENED

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR Pacific Southwest Region 2800 Cottage Way Room E-1712 Sacramento, California 95825-1890

2013 MAY - 1 AM II: 09

STATE ENGINEERS OFFICE

April 26, 2019

Mr. Tim Wilson, Acting State Engineer Nevada Division of Water Resources Department of Conservation and Natural Resources 901 S. Stewart St., Suite 2002 Carson City, NV 89701

RE:

Request for an Extension of Time to the Report and Rebuttal Submission Dates Pursuant to Order No. 1303

Dear Mr. Wilson:

On behalf of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service (the Services), and pursuant to the provisions contained in footnote no. 22 of your January 11, 2019 Order No. 1303, I am writing to you to request an extension of time of the current June 3, 2019 deadline to submit Reports to your office, and a similar extension of time of the July 18, 2019 deadline to submit rebuttals to the Reports. The request is to extend the initial Report deadline to July 18, 2019 and the rebuttal report deadline to August 29, 2019.

In support of this request, I would note that the 35-day long shutdown of the federal government significantly disrupted the Services capacity to respond to the request for information in Order 1303. This disruption and the ongoing efforts to resume normal operations have substantially impeded the efforts of the Services to complete data analysis, including contracting for and completing groundwater modeling services as necessary, and to prepare and submit the comprehensive and cogent reports to address the matters deemed worthy of further investigation by your office in Order No. 1303 by the current deadlines.

If you or your staff have any questions or concerns regarding this request for extension, please contact me at your convenience. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Stephen R. Palmer

Attorney for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

and the National Park Service

cc: via email

BRADLEY CROWELL Director



TIM WILSON, P.E. Acting State Engineer

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

901 South Stewart Street, Suite 2002 Carson City, Nevada 89701-5250 (775) 684-2800 • Fax (775) 684-2811 http://water.nv.gov

May 2, 2019

Re: Request for extension of deadlines in State Engineer Interim Order 1303

Dear Stakeholder:

The Nevada Division of Water Resources is in receipt of a formal request from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Park Service to extend the deadlines identified in State Engineer's Interim Order 1303. The request is to extend the Report submittal deadline from June 3, 2019, to July 18, 2019, and to extend the rebuttal deadline from July 18, 2019, until August 29, 2019. There is no request to extend the date of the hearing planned for September 2019. The reason for the request is the government shutdown in late 2018 and early 2019 that disrupted the Service's capacity to respond to the requested information in Interim Order 1303.

You are receiving this letter because you are identified as a water right holder or other interested party in the area that may be affected by the outcome of the Order. Please contact our office by May 8, 2019, if you have any objection or other comments on this request for extension. If no merit-based objection to this request is presented to the State Engineer, an extension of the deadline dates will be established by addendum to Interim Order 1303.

Tim Withou P.E.

Tim Wilson, P.E. Acting State Engineer

Attachment: Letter from USFWS and NPS requesting extension of time

Re: Request for extension of deadlines in State Engineer Interim Order 1303

May 2, 2019 Page 2

SERVICE Water Right Holders within the Lower White River Flow System

3335Hillside, LLC 3420 North Buffalo Drive Las Vegas, NV 89129

Bedroc Limited, LLC 2745 North Nellis Boulevard Las Vegas, NV 89115

Larry Brundy P.O. Box 136 Moapa, NV 89025

Casa De Warm Springs, LLC 1000 North Green Valley Parkway, #440-350 Henderson, NV 89074

Clark County 500 S. Grand Central Pkwy. Las Vegas, NV 89155

Clark County Commissioners 500 S. Grand Central Pkwy., 6th Fl. Las Vegas, NV 89155-1111

Clark County Coyote Springs Water Resources GID 1001 S. Valley View Blvd. Las Vegas, NV 89153

Mary K. Cloud P.O. Box 31 Moapa, NV 89025

Coyote Springs Investment, LLC c/o Wingfield Nevada Group 6600 N. Wingfield Pkwy. Sparks, NV 89436

Don J. & Marsha L. Davis P.O. Box 400 Moapa, NV 89025 Dry Lake Water, LLC 2470 St. Rose Pkwy., Ste. 107 Henderson, NV 89074

Georgia Pacific Corporation P.O. Box 337350 Las Vegas, NV 89033

Kelly Kolhoss P.O. Box 232 Moapa, NV 89025

Lake At Las Vegas Joint Venture, Inc. 1600 Lake Las Vegas Parkway Henderson, NV 89011

Laker Plaza, Inc. 7181 Noon Rd. Everson, WA 98247-9650

Lincoln County Commissioners P.O. Box 90 Pioche, NV 89043

Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints Area 4, 61 E. North Temple Salt Lake City, UT 84150-0001

Moapa Band of Paiute Indians P.O. Box 340 Moapa, NV 89025

Moapa Valley Water District P. O. Box 257 Logandale, NV 89021

State of Nevada Department of Transportation 1263 S. Stewart Street Carson City, NV 89712 Re: Request for extension of deadlines in State Engineer Interim Order 1303 May 2, 2019 Page 3

Nevada Cogeneration Associates 420 N. Nellis Blvd., #A3-117 Las Vegas, NV 89110

Nevada Cogeneration Associates #1 420 N. Nellis Blvd. #A3-148 Las Vegas, NV 89110

Nevada Power Company, DBA NV Energy 6226 West Sahara Avenue Las Vegas, NV 89146

State of Nevada, Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources, Division of State Parks 901 S. Stewart Street, Suite 5005 Carson City, NV 89701

City of North Las Vegas 2250 Las Vegas Blvd. North N. Las Vegas, NV 89030

Pacific Coast Building Products, Inc. P.O. Box 364329 Las Vegas, NV 89036

Republic Environmental Technologies, Inc. 770 East Sahara Ave. Las Vegas, NV 89104 S & R, Inc. 808 Shetland Road Las Vegas, NV 89107

Southern Nevada Water Authority 1001 South Valley View Blvd., Mail Stop #485 Las Vegas, NV 89153

Technichrome 4709 Compass Bow Lane Las Vegas, NV 89130

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1020 New River Parkway, Suite 305 Fallon, NV 89406-2613

William O'Donnell 2780 S. Jones Blvd. Ste. 210 Las Vegas, NV 89146

Mark D. Stock Global Hydrologic Services, Inc. 561 Keystone Avenue, # 200 Reno, NV 89503-4331

United States Department of the Interior



IN REPLY REFER TO: OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR
Pacific Southwest Region
2800 Cottage Way
Room E-1712
Sacramento, California 95825-1890

April 26, 2019

Mr. Tim Wilson, Acting State Engineer Nevada Division of Water Resources Department of Conservation and Natural Resources 901 S. Stewart St., Suite 2002 Carson City, NV 89701

RE: Request for an Extension of Time to the Report and Rebuttal Submission Dates Pursuant to Order No. 1303

Dear Mr. Wilson:

On behalf of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service (the Services), and pursuant to the provisions contained in footnote no. 22 of your January 11, 2019 Order No. 1303, I am writing to you to request an extension of time of the current June 3, 2019 deadline to submit Reports to your office, and a similar extension of time of the July 18, 2019 deadline to submit rebuttals to the Reports. The request is to extend the initial Report deadline to July 18, 2019 and the rebuttal report deadline to August 29, 2019.

In support of this request, I would note that the 35-day long shutdown of the federal government significantly disrupted the Services capacity to respond to the request for information in Order 1303. This disruption and the ongoing efforts to resume normal operations have substantially impeded the efforts of the Services to complete data analysis, including contracting for and completing groundwater modeling services as necessary, and to prepare and submit the comprehensive and cogent reports to address the matters deemed worthy of further investigation by your office in Order No. 1303 by the current deadlines.

If you or your staff have any questions or concerns regarding this request for extension, please contact me at your convenience. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Stephen R. Palmer

Attorney for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

and the National Park Service

cc: via email

May 2, 2019



Via Electronic Mail

Tim Wilson, PE
Acting State Engineer
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Division of Water Resources
901 South Stewart Street, Suite 2002
Carson City, Nevada 89701-5250

Re: Interim Order 1301; U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service May 2, 2019 letter

Dear Mr. Wilson:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the letter submitted by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and National Park Service requesting an extension of the timelines for submittal of reports and/or rebuttal reports to Interim Order 1303.

Coyote Springs Investment LLC has no objection to the above request provided that (i) the time extension is available equally to all stakeholders and (2) the intended hearing date in September 2019 is not extended or delayed.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

7 IIII YU

Emilia K. Cargill Chief Operating Officer

Senior Vice President & General Counsel



Micheline Fairbank

From: Juanita Mordhorst

Sent: Thursday, May 02, 2019 3:24 PM **To:** Adam Sullivan; Micheline Fairbank

Cc: Allyson Aragon

Subject: FW: Request for comments on extension of deadlines in State Engineer Interim Order

1303

Response from Rich Berley.

Juanita Mordhorst

Administrative Assistant III, Hearings & Adjudications Sections Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Nevada Division of Water Resources 901 S. Stewart St., Suite 2002 Carson City, NV 89701 imordhorst@water.nv.gov (O) 775-684-2800 | (F) 775-684-2811





From: Rich Berley <rberley@ziontzchestnut.com>

Sent: Thursday, May 02, 2019 2:43 PM

Subject: RE: Request for comments on extension of deadlines in State Engineer Interim Order 1303

Ms. Mordhurst -

We represent the Moapa Band of Paiutes (Tribe) in this matter. The Tribe does not object to the requested extension, with the understanding that the deadlines would be extended for all participants.

Thanks very much.

Richard Berley

Richard M. Berley

Ziontz Chestnut 2101 Fourth Avenue, Suite 1230 Seattle, WA 98121 206-448-1230/phone

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This email is intended for the person to whom it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged, confidential or otherwise exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient, any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is prohibited. If you have received this in error, please notify us immediately.

From: Juanita Mordhorst < imordhorst@water.nv.gov >

Sent: Thursday, May 2, 2019 1:22 PM

To: Rich Berley <rberley@ziontzchestnut.com>; 'devaulr@cityofnorthlasvegas.com'

<doug@nvfb.org>

Subject: Request for comments on extension of deadlines in State Engineer Interim Order 1303

On behalf of Tim Wilson, P.E., Acting State Engineer, please find attached Request for comments on extension of deadlines in State Engineer Interim Order 1303.

Juanita Mordhorst

Administrative Assistant III, Hearings & Adjudications Sections Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Nevada Division of Water Resources 901 S. Stewart St., Suite 2002 Carson City, NV 89701 imordhorst@water.nv.gov (O) 775-684-2800 | (F) 775-684-2811





Micheline Fairbank

From: Juanita Mordhorst

Sent: Thursday, May 09, 2019 11:14 AM **To:** Micheline Fairbank; Adam Sullivan

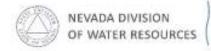
Subject: FW: Request for comments on extension of deadlines in State Engineer Interim Order

1303

A response came to Ally and me. LWRFS

Juanita Mordhorst

Administrative Assistant III, Hearings & Adjudications Sections Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Nevada Division of Water Resources 901 S. Stewart St., Suite 2002 Carson City, NV 89701 imordhorst@water.nv.gov (O) 775-684-2800 | (F) 775-684-2811





From: Golden Welch <golden@apexindustrialpark.com>

Sent: Thursday, May 09, 2019 11:04 AM

To: Juanita Mordhorst < jmordhorst@water.nv.gov>; Allyson Aragon < aaragon@water.nv.gov> **Subject:** RE: Request for comments on extension of deadlines in State Engineer Interim Order 1303

Juanita:

Thank you. Dry Lake Water, LLC is in favor of the extension of deadlines.

Golden W. Welch Dry Lake Water, LLC 2470 St. Rose Parkway, Suite 107 Henderson, Nevada 89074 702-324-4689

From: Juanita Mordhorst [mailto:jmordhorst@water.nv.gov]

Sent: Thursday, May 2, 2019 11:16 AM

To: 'Lindseyd@mvdsl.com'; 'rberley@ziontzchesnut.com'; 'Lisa@ldalv.com'; 'Dbrown@ldalv.com'; 'dluttrell@lcpdl.com'; 'Kevin_Desroberts@fws.gov'; 'Coop@opd5.com'; 'david_stone@fws.gov'; 'derekm@westernelite.com'; 'kimberley.jenkins@clarkcountynv.gov'; 'devaulr@cityofnorthlasvegs.com'; 'Iroy@broadbentinc.com'; 'moapalewis@gmail.com'; 'rteague@republicservices.com'; 'dvossmer@republicservices.com'; 'kacqul@gmail.com'; 'greatsam@usfds.com'; 'craig.primas@snvgrowers.com'; 'kingmont@charter.net'; 'christy.smith@fws.gov'; 'edna@comcast.net'; 'admin.mbop@moapabandofpaiutes.org'; 'marcjandjensen@gmail.com'; 'craig.wilkinson@pabcogypsum.com'; 'muddyvalley@mvdsl.com'; 'twtemt@hotmail.com'; 'glen_knowles@fws.gov';

'coopergs@ldschurch.org'; 'Howard.Forepaugh@nsgen.com'; 'lle@mvdsl.com'; 'kdhass@mvdsl.com';

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'Chris.Benkman@nsgen.com'; 'dennis.barrett10@gmail.com'; 'joe@moapawater.com'; 'Rott@nvenergy.com'; 'raymand.roessel@bia.gov'; 'robert.dreyfus@gmail.com'; 'rhoerth@vidlerwater.com'; 'gbushner@vidlerwater.com'; 'dorothy@vidlerwater.com'; 'lon@moapawater.com'; 'lazars@gloretageo.com'; 'wpoulsen@lincolnny.com'; 'hjjiatt@gmail.com'; 'tommyers1872@gmail.com'; 'doug@nfb.org'; 'emilia.cargill@coyotesprings.com'; 'golden@apexindustrialpark.com'; 'Sarahpeterson@blm.gov'; 'lbenezet@yahoo.com'; 'greg.walch@lvvwd.com'; 'jim.watrus@snwa.com'; 'Jeff.white@ethosenergygroup.com'; 'wbhardy20@gmail.com'; 'dixonjm@gmail.com'; 'michael_schwemm@fws.gov'; 'ircady@yahoo.com'; 'andrew.burns@snwa.com'; 'sc.anderson@snwa.com'; 'chair.mbop@moapabandofpaiutes.org'; 'Costa.tassiadamis@lhoist.com'; 'martinmifflin@yahoo.com'; 'mjohns@nvenergy.com'; 'reisterer@glorietageo.com'; 'gmorrison@parsonsbehle.com'; 'sixfeetfwr@gmail.com'; 'paul@legaltnt.com'; 'MBHoffice@earthlink.net'; 'muddyvalley@mvdsl.com'; 'luke.stewart@pabcogypsum.com'; 'sue_braumiller@fws.gov'; 'LuckyDirt@icloud.com'; 'progress@mvdsl.com'; 'william.paff@rocklandcapital.com'; 'kbrown@vvh2o.com'; '8milelister@gmail.com'; 'gary_karst@nps.gov'; 'fraakae@msn.com'; 'whitfam@mvdsl.com'; 'whitfam@mvdsl.com'; 'liamleavitt@hotmail.com'; 'alaskajulie12@gmail.com'; 'sc.anderson@lvvwd.com'; 'ieff.phillips@lasvegaspaving.com'; 'dan.peressini@lasvegaspaving.com'; 'vsandu@republicservices.com'; Bennie Vann; 'mmmiller@cox.net'; 'twtemt@hotmail.com'; 'bostajohn@gmail.com'; 'kurthlawoffice@gmail.com'; 'rozaki@opd5.com'; 'fan4philly@gmail.com'; 'onesharp1@gmail.com'; 'mjohns@nvenergy.com'; 'Timv@embargmoile.com'; 'craft@cityofnorthlasvegas.com'; 'stever@stetsonengineers.com'; 'barbnwalt325@gmail.com'; 'hartthethird@gmail.com'; 'johnhuston@yahoo.com'; 'jaucole@land-wake.com'; 'Terryb@clarkcounty.nv.gov'; 'golds@nevcogen.com'; 'Colby.pellegrino@snwa.com'; 'pdonnelly@biologicaldiversity.org'; 'lbelenky@biologicaldiversity.org'; 'rafelling@charter.net'; 'gbushner@vidlerwater.com'; 'muddyvalley@mvdsl.com'; 'trobison@mvdsl.com'; 'dwight.smith@interflowhydro.com'; 'lazarus@glorietageo.com'

Cc: Tim Wilson; Micheline Fairbank; Adam Sullivan; John Guillory; Christi Cooper; Bridget Bliss; Levi Kryder **Subject:** Request for comments on extension of deadlines in State Engineer Interim Order 1303

On behalf of Tim Wilson, P.E., Acting State Engineer, please find attached Request for comments on extension of deadlines in State Engineer Interim Order 1303.

Juanita Mordhorst

Administrative Assistant III, Hearings & Adjudications Sections Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Nevada Division of Water Resources 901 S. Stewart St., Suite 2002 Carson City, NV 89701 mordhorst@water.nv.gov (O) 775-684-2800 | (F) 775-684-2811







Virus-free. www.avast.com

Micheline Fairbank

From: Patrick Donnelly <PDonnelly@biologicaldiversity.org>

Sent: Monday, May 06, 2019 12:27 PM

To: Tim Wilson; Micheline Fairbank; Adam Sullivan

Cc: Lisa Belenky
Subject: 1303 extension

Tim, Micheline, and Adam,

The Center for Biological Diversity supports an extension on the Order 1303 deadlines.

Best, -Patrick

Patrick Donnelly
Nevada State Director
Center for Biological Diversity
pdonnelly@biologicaldiversity.org
702.483.0449
@bitterwaterblue

TAGGART & TAGGART, LTD.

PAUL G. TAGGART SONIA E. TAGGART A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION 108 NORTH MINNESOTA STREET CARSON CITY, NEVADA 89703 www.nywaterlaw.com DAVID H. RIGDON TIMOTHY D. O'CONNOR EVAN J. CHAMPA

May 8, 2019

2819 MAY -8 PM 4: 38

Tim Wilson, P.E.
Acting State Engineer
Division of Water Resources
901 South Stewart Street, Suite 2002
Carson City, Nevada 89701

Re: Request for Extension of Deadlines in State Engineer Interim Order 1303

Mr. Wilson:

We are writing this letter in response to your May 2, 2019, letter regarding the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ("FWS") and National Park Service's ("NPS") request to extend the deadlines for reports set in Interim Order 1303. In that letter, you stated that FWS and NPS requested to extend the report submittal deadline from June 3, 2019, to July 18, 2019, and the rebuttal report deadline from July 18, 2019, to August 29, 2019. FWS and NPS did not request that the hearing date be continued.

The Southern Nevada Water Authority and the Las Vegas Valley Water District generally do not oppose FWS and NPS's suggested new deadlines regarding the report and rebuttal report submission deadlines. However, the State Engineer must maintain the integrity of the reports and fairness to all parties involved. An extension of time for FWS and NPS should only be granted if all hearing participants receive the same extension. If reports are made public when filed, and only some participants receive an extension, those participants filing reports at later deadlines are being given a distinct advantage. Those participants filing later reports have the opportunity to use their report as a quasi-rebuttal, and their rebuttal reports as sur-rebuttals. Thus, if any extensions are granted, they should be granted uniformly to all participants to assure fairness and equity.

Additionally, we would recommend the State Engineer consider a brief continuance of the hearing dates currently set for September 2019 if the extension requested by FWS and NPS is granted. All participants, as well as the State Engineer, will need time to review rebuttal reports. Also, the participants may find it necessary to file pre-hearing motions. If the deadline for reports and rebuttal reports are extended, the September 2019 scheduled hearing date may not afford adequate time for these pre-hearing preparations. As such, we recommend continuing the hearing to conclude no later than October 11, 2019, to match the requested extensions for the reports and rebuttal reports. In the event that the early October 2019 dates are not acceptable to all participants,

TELEPHONE (775) 882-9900 ~ FACSIMILE (775) 883-9900

Tim Wilson, P.E. Acting State Engineer Division of Water Resources May 8, 2019 Page 2

SNWA requests moving the hearing to January. As your office is aware, other proceedings regarding the SNWA groundwater applications and your office's Ruling 6446 are scheduled for November.

Finally, we request the State Engineer schedule the dates and identify the format for the hearing as soon as possible. Due to the important and technical matters at issue we believe a full evidentiary hearing is necessary. And, because a significant number of SNWA staff may be involved in the hearing, reserving those dates as soon as possible will ease workflow and scheduling issues that will arise if the dates are not identified in a timely manner.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to your decision. Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact this office.

Sincerely,

Timothy D. O'Connor, Esq.

TAGGART & TAGGART, LTD.



July 26, 2019

2019 JUL 29 AMM: 44

STATE ENGINEERS OFFICE

Timothy Wilson, P. E.
Nevada State Engineer
Division of Water Resources
Department of Conservation and Natural
Resources
901 South Stewart Street, Suite 2002
Carson City, Nevada 89701

Re: Notice of Nevada Cogeneration Associates Nos. 1 and 2 of intent to participate in pre-hearing and hearing on LWRFS

Dear Tim:

I am writing to provide notice that Nevada Cogeneration Associates Nos. 1 and 2 (collectively "NCA") desires to participate in any pre-hearing conference involving the Lower White River Flow System ("LWRFS") as well as the hearings that will be conducted involving the LWRFS, and by this letter I am requesting that I be provided notice of both the pre-hearing conference and the hearings on behalf of NCA. At the last public meeting where the pre-hearing conference date and the hearing date were discussed, NCA did not have a representative present; nonetheless, I am writing to confirm that we are clearly an interested party and definitely do want to participate in the process.

I had heard from others that the pre-hearing conference was tentatively set for August 8, 2019, in Carson City, and the hearings would begin on September 23, 2019, but the exact times and schedule had not yet been confirmed.

Your office may already have intended to notify NCA (perhaps Jay Dixon and/or Hugh Ricci), and if so, we appreciate that inclusion. This is a formal request to include my office in those notices and to continue to notify Messrs. Dixon and Ricci. I look forward to receiving the formal notice of the pre-hearing conference date and time. Thank you.

/110 ps/

Alex J. Flangas

AJF Cc: Client Micheline Fairbank Adam Sullivan Melissa Flatley

Michelle Barnes

From: Patrick Donnelly <PDonnelly@biologicaldiversity.org>

Sent: Sunday, August 18, 2019 7:59 AM

To: Tim Wilson

Cc: Micheline Fairbank; Adam Sullivan; Kyle Roerink

Subject: GBWN not appearing at LWRFS hearing

Mr. Wilson,

As I've mentioned in the past, I'm a board member for the Great Basin Water Network. In that capacity I'm writing to inform you that the Network will not be offering a witness for testimony and rebuttal at the Lower White River Flow System hearings in September-October. You should feel free to skip including them in the scheduling order.

Best regards,
-Patrick Donnelly

Patrick Donnelly

Nevada State Director

Center for Biological Diversity

pdonnelly@biologicaldiversity.org

702.483.0449

@bitterwaterblue

and Sierra Pacific Power Company

Nevada Power Company

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IN THE OFFICE OF THE STATE ENGINEER OF THE STATE OF NEMADA 20 PM 4: 38

DESIGNATING THE ADMINISTRATION OF STATE EN L. LEWI D. THEE ALL WATER RIGHTS WITHIN COYOTE SPRING VALLEY HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (210), A PORTION OF BLACK MOUNTAINS AREA BASIN (215), GARNET VALLEY BASIN (216), HIDDEN VALLEY BASIN (217), CALIFORNIA WASH BASIN (218), AND INTERIM Order #1303 MUDDY RIVER SPRINGS AREA (AKA UPPER MOAPA VALLEY) BASIN (219) AS A JOINT ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT, HOLDING IN ABEYANCE APPLICATIONS TO CHANGE EXISTING GROUNDWATER RIGHTS, AND ESTABLISHING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON THE REVIEW OF FINAL SUBDIVISION MAPS.

NEVADA ENERGY'S MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE REPLY COMMENTS PURSUANT TO NRCP (6)(b)(1)(B)(ii)

Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy ("Nevada Power") and Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy ("Sierra" and together with Nevada Power, "NV Energy" or the "Companies") hereby files a Motion for Extension of Time to file its reply comments pursuant to NRCP 6(b)(1)(B)(ii). This motion is based upon the following Memorandum of Points and Authorities, and the Exhibit A, the Declaration of Justina A. Caviglia, Esq.

MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

I. BACKGROUND

On Thursday, August 15, 2019, NV Energy hired TC's Courier Delivery Service ("TC's") to serve three documents in Carson City: one to the Public Utilities Commission, the second to the Bureau of Consumer Protection, the third being the Order 1303 Reply Report to the Nevada State Engineer. *See* Exhibit A, attachment 1. TC's picked up the three documents on or around 8:30 am. *Id.* Later that day or the next, TC's updated its Order history indicating that all three documents had been delivered on or around 10:30 am on August 15, 2019. *Id.*

On Monday, August 19, 2019, counsel for Southern Nevada Water Authority inquired into whether or not NV Energy had filed its reply comments, as they were not posted on the Nevada State Engineer's website. *Id.* Undersigned counsel, her Senior Legal Assistant Lori

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Petersen, and NV Energy's consultant Rick Felling began inquiring into the whereabouts of the report. Id. The waybill posted to TC's website did not show a signature was obtained. Id. at attachment 2. NV Energy contacted TC's and the recipients of the other two filings. The Public Utilities Commission and the Bureau of Consumer Affairs confirmed that they received their deliveries on Thursday, August 15. Id. TC's claimed it delivered the package and claimed it had confirmed the delivery with the driver; however, the State Engineer's office was unable to locate anything from NV Energy being filed either Thursday, August 15 or Friday, August 16. Id.

On or around 2:55pm, the State Engineer's office informed undersigned counsel that the runner had delivered the report, not on Thursday as indicated in their tracking system but rather, on Monday, August 19, 2019 at 2:39 pm. Id. at attachment 3.

II. Argument

NV Energy is seeking leave of the State Engineer to have its reply comments filed and considered in the underlying procedure pursuant to NRCP 6(b)(1)(B)(ii). NRCP 6(b)(1)(B)(ii) provides "the court may, for good cause, extend time: (B)(ii) on motion made after the time has expired if the party failed to act because of excusable neglect." The concept of "excusable neglect" "applies to instances where some external factor beyond a party's control affects the party's ability to act or respond as otherwise required. See, e.g., Moseley v. Eighth Judicial Dist. Court, 124 Nev. 654, 667-68, 188 P.3d 1136, 1145-46 (2008) (concluding that, under NRCP 6(b)(2), excusable neglect may justify an enlargement of time to allow for substitution of a deceased party where the delay was caused by a lack of cooperation from the decedent's family and attorney); Stoecklein v. Johnson Elec., Inc., 109 Nev. 268, 273, 849 P.2d 305, 308 (1993) (affirming a district court's finding of excusable neglect under NRCP 60(b)(1) where default judgment resulted from a lack of notice); Yochum v. Davis, 98 Nev. 484, 486-87, 653 P.2d 1215, 1216-17 (1982) (reversing a district court's order denying a motion to set aside a default judgment under NRCP 60(b)(1) where default resulted from a lack of procedural knowledge)." Clark v. Coast Hotels & Casinos, Inc., No. 62603, 2014 WL 3784262, at 4 (Nev. July 30, 2014).

Nevada Power Company and Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy

NV Energy is requesting an extension of time based upon excusable neglect as it relied on TC's delivery confirmation that it had timely served the State Engineer. TC's failure was beyond NV Energy's control. NV Energy acted in good faith and showed due diligence when it hired TC to deliver the reply comments one day prior to the August 16, 2019 deadline. NV Energy tracked its package and relied upon its hired courier's notification that it had delivered the reply comments to the Nevada State Engineer on August 15, 2019. NV Energy was unaware that's courier had failed to deliver the comments until counsel from SNWA contact undersigned counsel after the deadline had expired. The other parties in this matter will not suffer prejudice as the hearing for this matter is not set until September 23, 2019, which will grant them ample opportunity to review NV Energy's succinct report.

III. Conclusion

NV Energy requests leave of the State Engineer to grant its extension of time and accept its reply comments, which were filed on August 19, 2019.

Respectfully submitted this 20th day of August, 2019.

NV Energy

Justina Caviglia Senior Attorney

Nevada Bar No. 9999

6100 Neil Road Reno, Nevada 89511

775-834-3551

jcaviglia@nvenergy.com

Exhibit A

SE ROA 229

Nevada Power Company and Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy

DECLARATION OF JUSTINA ALYCE CAVIGLIA, ESQ.

I, Justina A. Caviglia, Esq., declare as follows

- 1. My name is Justina Alyce Caviglia, Esq. and I am employed by Nevada Power Company and Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy as a Senior Regulatory Attorney. I am filing this declaration in support of NV Energy's Motion for an Extension of Time
- 2. On or about 8 am on Thursday, August 15, 2019, I gave my Senior Legal Assistant Lori Petersen permission to send the Reply Comments to Interim Order 1303 to the Nevada State Engineer one day early, as the courier service NV Energy uses was commissioned to deliver two other packages that day to Carson City, Nevada.
- 3. On or about 8:30 am on Thursday, August 15, TC's Courier Delivery Service picked up all three packages for delivery. *See* Attachment 1.
- 4. On or before Friday, August 16, when I had Ms. Petersen check the status of the delivery, TC's Courier Delivery Service updated its tracking system and indicated that all three packages were delivered around 10:30 am on Thursday, August 15, 2019.
- 5. On Monday August 19, 2019, at approximately 10:12 am, I received a phone call from Southern Nevada Water Authority's counsel Tim O'Connor asking if NV Energy filed reply comments, and if so, could I email him a copy. He indicated that NV Energy's reply comments were not posted on the State Engineer's website.
- 6. On or about 10:23 am, NV Energy's consultant Rick Felling called me to tell me NV Energy's comments were not posted and that he had contacted the State Engineer's office who informed him that they did not receive any comments from NV Energy.
- 7. Ms. Petersen and I began contacting TC's Courier Delivery Service as well as the recipients of the other two packages that TC was hired to deliver on August 15. The Bureau of Consumer Protection, a division of the Nevada Attorney General's Office, and the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada were both able to confirm that they received their delivery from TC's on Thursday, August 15. TC's returned our calls around 1:00 pm and informed us that they confirmed with the driver that he had delivered the package on Thursday, August 15 and he

vividly remembers giving the package to a brunette in a building near the DMV, however, he had failed to obtain a signature. See Attachment 2.

- On or about 2:55 pm on Monday, August 19, I received an email from Micheline Fairbank, J.D., Deputy Administrator with the Nevada Division of Water Resources informing me that the package had been delivered at 2:39 pm on Monday, August 19 by TC Courier Delivery Service. See Attachment 3.
- 9. As TC's Courier Delivery Service has been retained by NV Energy before I began employment with the companies in April 2019, and their delivery system has historically been accurate, I relied upon their assertion they had delivered NV Energy's Reply Comments to the Nevada State Engineer on August 15, 2019.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on August 20, 2019.

Justina Alyce Caviglia, Esq.

Attachment 1

Sent:

From:

Subject:

R

8/15/19

32 AM

270918

NV ENERGY 6100 Neil Rd

PUCN, 1150 East William St

Order Delivered at 8/15/19 10:27 AM

Print

Order Delivered at: 8/15/19 10:27 AM

Print

8/15/19 Date:

8:33 AM

270919

NV ENERGY 6100 Neil Rd Pickup At:

Division of Water Resources. S. Stewart Street, Ste. 2002

. 901

Status:

Order Delivered at 8/15/19 10:28 AM

Print

Deliver To:

ime:

Waybill #:

8/15/19

30 AM

270916

NV ENERGY 6100 Neil Rd

Bureau of Consumer Protection, 100 North Carson Street

Order History for NV ENERGY:

Show Calendar >

August

√ 15 ✓ 2019 ✓

Submit

Caviglia, Justina Sent from Snipping Tool Monday, August 19, 2019 10:18 AM Petersen, Lori

775.291.2055

Attachment 2

Petersen, Loń	Monday, August 19, 2019 10:19 AM	Caviglia, Justina	Sent from Snipping Tool
From:	Sent:	To:	Subject:

	Order Delivered at: 8/15/19 10:28 AM	\$0.00		Division of Water Resources Tim Wilson 901 S. Stewart Street. Ste. 2002		Carson	City	N	United States			Same Day Envelope	No	:98:
	Status: Signature: Driver	Invoice Price:	Deliver To:	Company Contact: Street Address:	Surfe:	Crty	Zip Code	State	Country	Phone		Service Type: Package Type:	Round Trip:	Special Instructions:
	8/15/19 8:33 AM 270919			NV ENERGY Lon 6100 Neil Rd		Reno	89511	≩	United States	775-834-4224		qua		Water Matter
Tracking Info:	Ready Date: Ready Time: Order Number:		Pickup At:	Company Contact Street Address		City			Country	Phone	Details:	Parcel Details:	Total Weight (lbs.)	Reference

Attachment 3

Caviglia, Justina

From:

Micheline Fairbank <mfairbank@water.nv.gov>

Sent:

Monday, August 19, 2019 2:51 PM

To:

Caviglia, Justina

Cc:

Rick Felling; Adam Sullivan

Subject:

[INTERNET] RE: NV Energy response

** Remember SAIL when reading email **

Sender	The sender of this email is mfairbank@water.nv.gov using a friendly name of Micheline Fairbank Are you expecting the message? Is this different from the message sender displayed above?
Attachments	Does this message contain attachments? Yes If yes, are you expecting them? image002.gif, image003.gif, image004.gif, image005.jpg, image007.png, image009.gif, image011.png, image001.jpg, image012.jpg, image013.jpg
Internet Tag	Messages from the internet should have [INTERNET] added to the subject.
Links	Does this message contain links? Yes Check links before clicking them or removing BLOCKED in the browser.

Good Afternoon Justina,

We just had the report delivered to our office this afternoon by your runner at 2:39 p.m.

Micheline

Micheline N. Fairbank, J.D. **Deputy Administrator** Nevada Division of Water Resources Department of Conservation and Natural Resources 901 S. Stewart St., Suite 2002 Carson City, NV 89701 Mfairbank@water.nv.gov (O) 775-684-2872 | (F) 775-684-2810





Connect with us: 6 0 0

From: Caviglia, Justina <JCaviglia@nvenergy.com>

Sent: Monday, August 19, 2019 10:37 AM

To: Micheline Fairbank <mfairbank@water.nv.gov>

Subject: NV Energy response

Micheline,

i believe Rick called. I am trying to track down what happened to NV Energy's report. Our courier shows that he delivered it (or claims to) on Thursday. Please let me know if you find it or have any questions, etc.

Thank you,

Justina A. Caviglia, Esq. Senior Attorney NVEnergy 6100 Neil Rd. Reno, NV 89511 Direct (775) 834-3551 Cell (775)548-6542 Fax (775) 834-4098 jcaviglia@nvenergy.com



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Exhibit B



August 16, 2019

Tim Wilson, P.E.
Acting State Engineer
Division of Water Resources
901 South Stewart Street, Suite 2002
Carson City, Nevada 89701

RE: Interim Order 1303 Rebuttal Report

Dear Mr. Wilson:

Enclosed please find four copies of NV Energy's Rebuttal Report to State Engineer's Order 1303 Initial Reports by Respondents and the Curriculum Vitae of Richard A. Felling.

Should you have any questions regarding the contents of this report, please contact me at (775) 834-3551 or jcaviglia@nvenergy.com.

Regards

Justina Caviglia Senior Attorney

NV Energy Rebuttal Report to State Engineer's Order 1303 Initial Reports by Respondents

Richard A. Felling PG

August 16, 2019

NVEnergy offers the following rebuttal arguments to the five topics requested pursuant to State Engineer Order 1303.

The geographic boundary of the hydrologically connected groundwater and surface water systems comprising the Lower White River Flow System.

Contrary to the opinions of the Center for Biological Diversity (CBD), Lincoin-Vidier, Moapa Band of Paiutes (MBOP), Moapa Valley Water District (MVWD), City of North Las Vegas (CNLV), the Great Basin Water Network (GBWN), and the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), NV Energy believes the jointly-managed Lower White River Flow System (LWRFS) should consist of the five basins plus the northern portion of the Black Mountains Area as presently defined by the State Engineer. The reason for the current boundary is due to the fact recognized by most of the responding parties and the State Engineer that the basins share an extremely highly transmissive carbonate aquifer and water levels that move in lockstep throughout much of the area. It was demonstrated in the Order 1169 aquifer test that water development in one of the basins effects the remaining basins.

Submitted reports by the USFWS and the CBD argue for the inclusion of Kane Springs Valley into the LWRFS jointly managed area. Lincoin-Vidler and USFWS suggest adding the Lower Meadow Valley Wash to the LWRFS jointly managed area. Their arguments are similar. They are in agreement that subsurface water flows from the two basins into Coyote Spring Valley and the Muddy River Springs Area, respectively. That in itself is not sufficient for inclusion into the LWRFS jointly managed area. Those two basins have water levels that are significantly higher than the LWRFS carbonate aquifer and did not immediately respond during the Order 1169 aquifer test. If one were to add all basins whose groundwater flows into the LWRFS basins, then we would also need to add the entire White River Flow System as well as the Meadow Valley Flow System.

Most, if not all, of Nevada's Hydrographic basins have subsurface inflow or outflow to adjacent basins to some extent, but that does not mean joint management is warranted. The basins are best managed individually because the aquifers are separate and distinct, water budgets are easily distinguished between the basins, and management as individual hydrographic basins is straightforward and appropriate. The State Engineer should consider the water budgets of interconnected basins, but to require joint management at this late stage is unnecessary.

it also does not make sense to exclude from joint management those portions of the five plus basins whose groundwater levels differ from the central carbonate aquifer. If, for example, the northern portion of Coyote Spring Valley, as proposed by Lincoln-Vidler, or areas east of the Dry Lake Thrust in

NV Energy Order 1303 Rebuttal Report

California Wash, as proposed by CNLV, were excluded from joint management, how would the excluded areas be managed? As new hydrographic basins? Those areas are not basins, but portions of mountain block, alluvial fan, or vailey floor. What would be the perennial yield of those partial basins when their recharge is already included in the groundwater supply of the basin as a whole and the LWRFS? The area as defined is acceptable.

The information obtained from the 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.

NVEnergy does not agree that a significant portion of the water-level decline during and after the Order 1169 aquifer test was due to drought, as argued by MBOP. We agree with Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) and MVWD that recovery was complete approximately two to three years after completion of the test. Full recovery to pre-test levels dld not occur, and could not occur, because water levels regionally were still declining due to existing pumping as noted by SNWA. Contrary to the arguments made by SNWA and MBOP, NVEnergy argues that there is significant data to support the conclusion that the system is approaching steady state in the Muddy River Springs Area (MRSA) and other locations, and that water levels, spring flow, and the Muddy River are nearly equilibrated with the current carbonate pumping rate of 7,000 to 8,000 acre-feet annually.

The following hydrographs rebut their arguments, and display carbonate water levels at EH-4, located in the MRSA, Muddy River at Moapa gage flow, and carbonate pumpage. Figure 1 shows water levels in EH-4 and carbonate pumpage. The linear segments sketched and described on the hydrographs are self-explanatory. Note that since the recovery from the Order 1169 test, the hydrograph is nearly flat, indicating steady state conditions are almost present. Careful examination of the hydrograph since the middle of 2016 indicates that the water levels are no longer decilning, and are perhaps even rising.

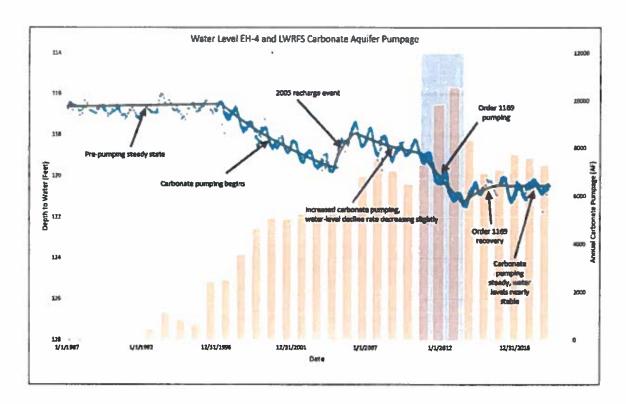


Figure 1. EH-4B hydrograph, annual carbonate aquifer pumpage in the LWRFS, and linear trend segments corresponding the various hydrologic stresses on the carbonate aquifer since 1987. Annual carbonate pumping from SNWA initial report, Table D-1. Water levels from State Engineer's website.

Figure 2 shows monthly flow at the Warm Springs West gage along with carbonate pumpage. The linear segments sketched on Figure 1 are unchanged and overlain on the Figure 2 hydrograph. The fit is not perfect, but is quite close. This comparison supports the findings of SNWA and the USFWS that spring flows are a direct function of groundwater levels.

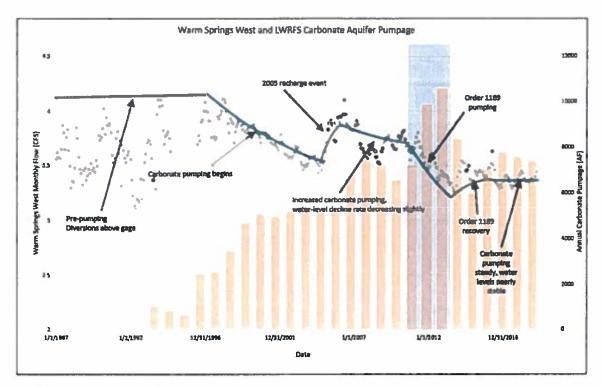


Figure 2. Monthly flow at Warm Springs West (grey dots) and annual carbonate pumpage in the LWRFS. The trendline segments from Figure 1 shown here for comparison purposes. Warm Springs West flow data from USGS website.

Figure 3 is a reconstructed hydrograph, displaying the segments of the hydrograph drafted in Figure 1, portraying their location as if they were not affected by the short-term stresses of the 2005 recharge event or the Order 1169 aquifer test. The deciling portions of the hydrograph were simply copied and moved lower to indicate what the hydrograph might look like in the absence of those two stresses. In Figure 3 the hydrograph has not quite reached steady state, but is close. NVEnergy argues that this clear and empirical analysis rebuts those arguments by SNWA and MBOP that continued pumping at existing rates and locations will result in a significant and continued reduction in water levels and flows in the MRSA. Instead, future pumping at current rates and locations will result in minimal future water-level decline in the MRSA or significant decrease in the flow of Warm Springs West or the Muddy River.

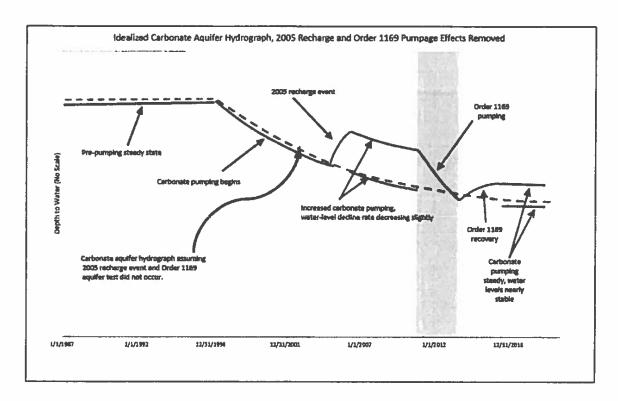


Figure 3. Hypothetical hydrograph of carbonate water levels and Warm Springs West flow (dashed blue line) in the absence of the 200S recharge event and the Order 1169 aquifer test. Note the hydrograph is approaching steady state, contrary to the arguments of SNWA and MBOP.

SNWA's Figure 5-3 from their June report (Figure 4) shows that natural flows of the Muddy River at Moapa have increased since the Order 1169 pumping stress. The flow deficit since maximum recovery from the Order 1169 aquifer test in mid-2015 (per SNWA) is on the order of 2,300 to 3,750 afy, and is decreasing. The recovery of the Muddy River flow at Moapa further rebuts arguments for continued or increasing decline in the flow of the Muddy River, and supports the argument that the hydrologic system is reaching steady state under the present pumping regime.

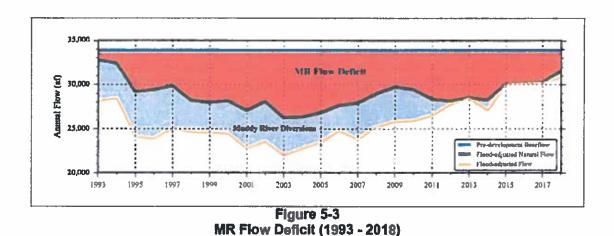


Figure 4. Figure 5-3 from SNWA, June 2019 Assessment of Lower White River Flow System Water Resource Conditions and Aquifer Response report, submitted to the Nevada State Engineer pursuant to Order 1303.

Other areas in the LWRFS show a continuing decline in water levels as noted by several of the parties, but water levels also appear to levelling off in locations more distant from the center of the current pumping stress. Figure 5 shows the hydrograph for EH-4 in the Muddy River Springs Area and BM DL-2 at the southern end of the LWRFS in the Black Mountains Area. The total head tracks very closely through the end of the Order 1169 test, but diverge just a bit after the test pumping stopped. MBOP argues that drought alone could be responsible for 0.18 ft/yr of decline in the Apex area, it should be noted that pumping in the Apex area has increased in recent years, and could easily be responsible for the divergence.

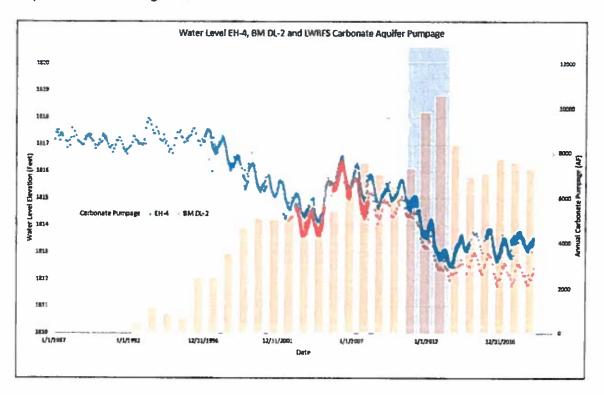


Figure 5. Hydrographs of EH-4 and BM DL-2 showing divergence since the end of Order 1169 pumping. Water-level data from NDWR website, pumping data from SNWA Table D-1.

The long-term annual quantity of groundwater that may be pumped from the LWRFS, including the relationships between the location of pumping on discharge of the Muddy River Springs and the capture of Muddy River flow.

Each of the parties appears to believe that they can pump their water rights without impacting the springs or the flow of the Muddy River, that is, it is always the other party's fault. In this case, NV Energy both agrees with and disagrees with the arguments of many of the parties. NVEnergy does not rebut the arguments of SNWA and USFWS that it is likely that all pumping in the LWRFS, and perhaps Kane Spring Vailey and Lower Meadow Valley Wash, will ultimately impact the springs and the Muddy River. It is simply a matter of how much of an impairment and when will it occur. As discussed above, it is likely that the majority of impact for much of the pumping has aiready occurred.

in the 2011 State Engineer hearing on pending applications for groundwater in Delamar, Dry Lake and Cave Vaileys, SNWA presented evidence and expert testimony in support of subsurface flow that bypassed the Muddy River and springs, flowing in the subsurface south from the Muddy River Springs Area to California Wash. The groundwater then exited the LWRFS somewhere along the southern or southeastern perimeter of the area. This amount was estimated to be 9,900 afy. The State Engineer accepted this evidence and expert testimony in Rulings 6254 through 6261. The source of that water was groundwater recharge distributed among all of the upgradient basins, including those basins in which SNWA had applications to appropriate groundwater. SNWA now argues that probably all of the groundwater in the LWRFS discharges to the Muddy River and springs, and that there is no bypass flow. NVEnergy disagrees.

Other respondents to Order 1303 information requests also believe that some amount of groundwater bypasses the Muddy River. The Moapa Band of Paiutes argue that perhaps up to 40,000 afy flows through Hidden and Garnet Vaileys to the Las Vegas Valley. The City of North Las Vegas believes that there is some amount of subsurface discharge in the southeast portion of the LWRFS, but do not go so far as to estimate the amount. NV Energy agrees that there is some amount of groundwater that bypasses the Muddy River and springs. The amount is unclear, but SNWA argued in the 2011 hearing that the amount is 9,900 afy, and the State Engineer agreed. There is an approximately 40-mile perimeter east of California Wash and south of Garnet Valley and the Black Mountains Area where there is a potentiometric gradient to the east and south, away from the LWRFS. It seems impossible that the entire perimeter of the LWRFS is impermeable. Given the existing gradients, the thickness of the carbonate aquifer, and the length of the perimeter, it is possible that 10,000 afy could exit the LWRFS to the Las Vegas Valley or to the lower portions of the Black Mountains Area or Lake Mead.

The likelihood of subsurface flow bypassing the Muddy River and springs is important because that means that it is possible to capture groundwater discharge without causing a 1:1 depletion of the Muddy River or springs. The post-Order 1169 analyses discussed above show clear evidence that steady state conditions are being reached in the Muddy River Springs Area with 7,000 to 8,000 afy of carbonate pumping. The depletion of the Muddy River with this amount of pumping appears to be on the order of 2,300 to 3,750 afy, and is not increasing. Using these figures, impacts to the Muddy River appear to be on the order of 25% to 50% of the amount of groundwater pumped under the current pumping regime. NVEnergy agrees with respondents MBOP, North Las Vegas and others that groundwater pumping at locations further south, toward the southern boundary of the LWRFS, are likely to have less effect on the Muddy River and springs than pumping in Coyote Spring Valley or the Muddy River Springs Area.

The effects of movement of water rights between aliuvial wells and carbonate wells on deliveries of senior decreed rights to the Muddy River.

Respondents to Order 1303 generally agree that pumping from the alluvial aquifer in the Muddy River Springs Area impacts the Muddy River flows and deplete those flows on a near 1:1 ratio in a short period of time. SNWA also argues that carbonate pumping in the LWRFS will have a 1:1 effect on discharge from the springs and the Muddy River, but the time frame is longer for these effects to occur. NV Energy disagrees with SNWA that all pumping will ultimately deplete the Muddy River at a 1:1 ratio. As discussed above, water levels, spring flows, and the flow of the Muddy River at the Moapa gage have essentially stabilized under the current pumping regime. Depletion of the Muddy River at Moapa was 3,750 acre-feet in 2015, 3,598 acre-feet in 2016, 3,569 acre-feet in 2017, and decreased to about 2,300 acre-feet in 2018 (SNWA Fig 5-3 and Table 7-2), increases in flow that occurred during a time period that carbonate aquifer pumping was relatively stable. Furthermore, because there does appear to be

NV Energy Order 1303 Rebuttai Report

groundwater underflow that bypasses the Muddy River and springs, some of that bypass flow could potentially be captured by pumping south of the Muddy River without impacting the river or springs.

Many of the parties that own water rights in California Wash and Garnet Valley argue that their pumping does not impact the Muddy River. That is likely true in part. However, many of the water rights in those areas have never been pumped. Nevada water law is based on two main tenants: prior appropriation and beneficial use. If the five plus basin area is managed as one, those parties with senior and certificated groundwater rights must be allowed the continued use of those rights over junior water rights that have never been put to beneficial use. That would be accomplished by changing some of these senior, certificated alluvial water rights to the carbonate aquifer in the southern LWRFS.

Any Other Matter believed to be relevant to the State Engineer's analysis.

Drought

Drought is not a significant cause for decreased water levels and spring flows in the LWRFS. MBOP argues that discharge at Big Muddy Spring correlates to discharge of the Humboidt River at Palisade, with a time lag of 12 to 22 years. It is not demonstrated by any scientific analysis that any water from the Humboidt River Basin contributes to the LWRFS, nor why any correlation between the two makes any sense. The preponderance of the water supply in the LWRFS is derived from groundwater recharge in NV Climate Division 3. Local recharge events in NV Climate Division 4, extreme southern Nevada, have been shown to almost immediately increase water levels and spring flows, as shown by SNWA. This occurred in 2005 and 2006 as a result of exceptional precipitation in 2005 (Figure 1 and Figure 6). The hydrograph of EH-4 in Figure 1 demonstrates that water levels are steady in the 10 years prior to significant carbonate pumping.

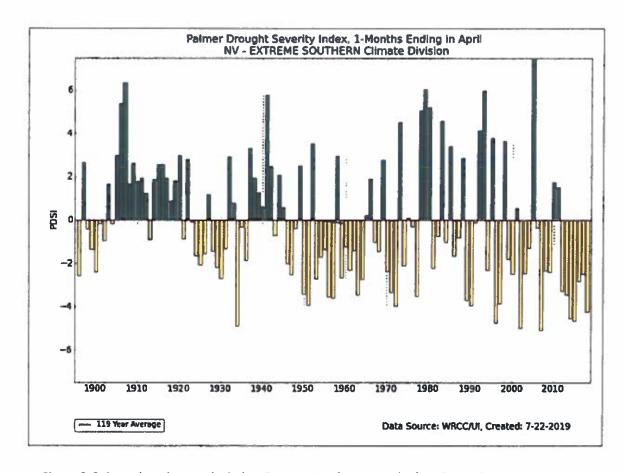


Figure 6. Palmer drought severity index, Extreme Southern Nevada, for 12-month periods ending in April. Note 2005 was extremely wet.

The subsurface flow into the LWRFS from upgradient basins is a function of the potentiometric gradient between Delamar Valley and Pahranagat Valley and Coyote Spring Valley. As documented by several of the respondents, water levels decline approximately 900 feet across the Pahranagat Shear Zone. The Delamar MX well (Figure 7), unaffected by groundwater pumping, shows steady or increasing water levels since 1982 even though there are significant drought periods in Climate Division 3 (Figure 8). SNWA monitor well 209-M1, east of Hiko and completed in carbonate, shows no change since its first measurements in 2008. These water levels in the source basins for the majority of the LWRFS groundwater supply show no evidence of drought. Perhaps the wells relied on by MBOP to demonstrate drought are in fact being affected by LWRFS pumping.

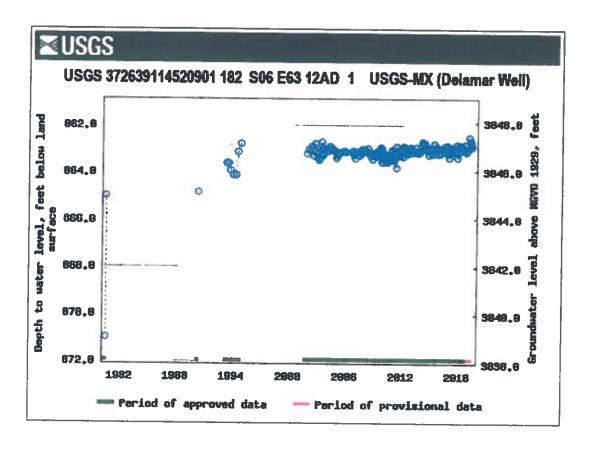


Figure 7. Hydrograph of USGS Delamar MX well. No evidence of drought or water-level decline.

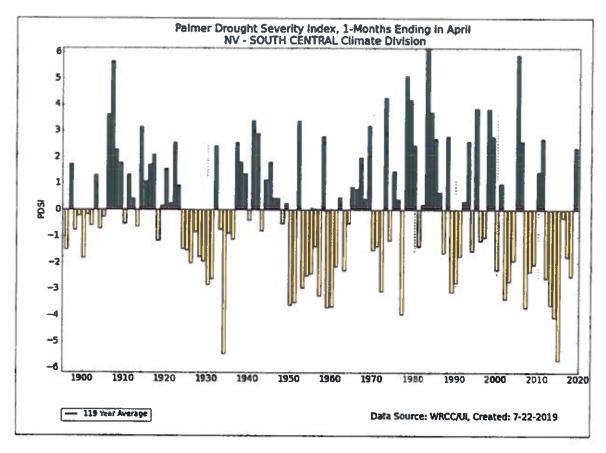


Figure 8. Palmer drought severity index for South Central Nevada climate division 3, the principal source of groundwater supply to the LWRFS.

Suggested actions for consideration in a later phase

it is highly unlikely that the water rights holders in the LWRFS can come to a voluntary agreement on a conjunctive management plan to manage surface water and groundwater in the LWRFS. Even assuming a majority could agree, those opposed would be under no obligation to abide by any such agreement. SNWA is claiming that groundwater use conflicts with their senior surface water rights, and is asking that all groundwater users mitigate their full water use on a 1:1 basis. A thorough analysis of the hydrologic data does not support this drop-for-drop depletion of Muddy River flow.

Two options are proposed. The first option would be for the State Engineer to officially combine the basins into a new hydrographic basin and to then deciare the new basin a Critical Management Area pursuant to NRS S34.037 and 534.110. The water rights holders would then have 10 years to come up with a plan that would need approval by simple majority of water rights in the basin. The State Engineer would only approve the plan if it was equitable for all the parties.

The second option is for the State Engineer to take control of the process for creating a conjunctive management plan for the LWRFS. The State Engineer has authority to make rules for the administration of underground waters under NRS 534.020 and 534.120.

RICHARD A. FELLING – Curriculum Vitae rafeiling@charter.net

EDUCATION

M.S., Hydrogeology, University of Nevada, Reno. 2003 M.S., Geology, University of Colorado, Bouider. 1985

B.S., Chemistry, Southern Utah University, Cedar City, UT. 1977

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2014 – 2018 Nevada Division of Water Resources, Carson City, NV Deputy Administrator

- Responsible for oversight of the Hydrology and GIS Section and the Division's Las Vegas Branch office.
- Drafted regulations for conjunctive management and a mitigation program for the Humboldt River Basin surface water and groundwater resources, the first such program of its kind in Nevada. Process included comprehensive hydrologic studies and models to quantify the water resource and the relationship between groundwater pumping and river flow and to determine potential conflicts between water rights. Studies are currently in progress. Regulations have been submitted to the Legislative Counsel Bureau for review.
- Initiated and directed a groundwater pumping curtailment program for the Walker River Basin to protect water supply due to a prolonged drought. Hydrologic support included a novel modeling forecast approach with variable curtailment requirements depending on future drought conditions.
- Represented the State Engineer in the development of a Groundwater Management Plan for the Diamond Valley Basin Critical Management Area, the first such designated basin in Nevada. The Plan is nearly complete and pending submittal to the State Engineer for approval.
- Drafted rulings on contentious and litigated water rights applications. Review and support for legal briefings before Nevada District and Supreme Courts and Federal District Courts. Provided expert testimony in State District Court hearings.
- Represented the division before public and private organizations with technical and legal presentations.

2007 – 2013 Nevada Division of Water Resources, Carson City, NV Chief, Hydrology Section

- Created and managed the Hydrology Section in the Division of Water Resources.
- Oversaw or personally completed all hydrologic reviews for pending water rights applications.
- Responsible for determination and confirmation of Nevada's Hydrographic Basin groundwater supply (Perennial Yield) assuring permanent reliable water resource for appropriation.
- Represented the State and the Division of Water Resources in numerous water negotiations, including an agreement to share groundwater resources between Nevada and Utah in Snake Valley, and settlement negotiations between the Unites States, California, Mineral County, NV, the Waiker River Paiute Tribe, and the Walker River Irrigation District.
- Generated grant funding and oversaw the development of a GIS-based Point of Diversion/Piace of Use database, providing web-available water right information depicting the location of all valid water right permits in Nevada.

- Managed the development and publication of consumptive Use and Net Irrigation water Rights in Nevada, currently used to determine water use for all crops grown in the State and the amount of water available for water right manner of use changes.
- Managed all responsibilities of the Hydrology Section, including formal monitoring programs for mines, municipalities, and large water users, aquifer storage and recovery projects, all hydrologic monitoring, GIS programs, groundwater flow model review, and applicant hydrologic studies.

2003 – 2007 Nevada Division of Water Resources, Carson City, NV Hydrologist

- Nevada Division of Water Resources first dedicated staff hydrologist.
- Created the Division's water level database for all historical groundwater-level measurements collected by the State. Information is available on-line, making available complete historical data available for download or as hydrographs.
- Oversaw the development of Nevada stream and spring flow database, providing over 100 years of flow measurements available on the Division's web site.
- Represented the Division in numerous high-profile hearings on protested water right applications, drafted rulings, and provided technical support in litigated cases.

2001 – 2003 Washoe County Department of Water Resources, Reno, NV Hydrogeologist Intern

- Worked as a hydrology intem while attending graduate school as part of professional retooling.
- Completed a groundwater flow model for the South Truckee Meadows, predicting future conditions for a variety of pumping scenarios and an aquifer storage and recovery program.
- Published a report documenting groundwater conditions and historical changes in the South Truckee
 Meadows, Washoe County, NV.

2002 – 2003 Nevada Geothermai Specialists, Reno, NV

 Recommended acquisition of an undeveloped geothermal prospect and conducted initial exploration and modeling, resulting in a new geothermal discovery at Salt Wells, NV, which is currently in production

1987 – 2000 Battle Mountain Gold Company, Reno, NV Geologist, Project Geologist, Senior Geologist

- Gold exploration geologist in the Great Basin, South America and China, serving in increasing levels of responsibility and oversight.
- Supervised exploration and drilling programs in the discovery of the Phoenix gold deposit, a six millionounce deposit which became the primary asset of the company.
- Created detailed three-dimensional computer models, which incorporated geologic data, mineralization, structure, and alteration, facilitating mine planning, site characterization, and permitting.
- Directed the exploration program at a newly acquired project in Peru, which utilized a diverse group of local professionals, contractors, and technicians to discover significant new gold resources.
- Instituted a systematic data management program on a new gold discovery in Argentina, resulting in improved data quality control, project organization, and resource assessment.

RICHARD A. FELLING

- Coordinated with multidisciplinary teams on advanced-stage property acquisitions, providing professional geologic and economic evaluation and estimation of undiscovered mineral potential.
- Designed and implemented reclamation and remediation programs for exploration projects.
- Led an evaluation team in the People's Republic of China, resulting in the acquisition of a promising new mining opportunity.
- Managed initial-stage gold projects, including permitting, budgeting, geologic mapping and geochemical sampling programs, drilling and reciamation.
- Completed regional geologic mapping and soil-rock-stream sediment geochemical sampling programs.
- Utilized multi-element geochemical data to model element dispersion and geochemical zonation, focusing future exploration efforts.

1981 - 1987 Seasonal Exploration Geologist - Various Firms, Nevada and Colorado

Surface and underground seasonal mineral exploration for various mining companies and the U.S.
 Geological Survey during and after graduate school.

1977 – 1980 NL Baroid and Drilling Mud inc., Wyoming and Colorado <u>Drilling Fluids Engineer</u>

 Designed drilling fluid systems for oil exploration and production wells, which maintained bore hole stability and sample return while preventing aquifer contamination and blow-outs.

1975 – 1977 U.S. Geological Survey, Cedar City UT and Golden, CO Hydrologic Field Technician

- Completed surface water geochemical studies for site characterization in the early-stage Nuclear Waste Disposal program.
- Installed geothermal temperature gradient wells and performed down-hole electronic logging.
- Water-level monitoring and stream flow measurements.

MEMBERSHIPS/REGISTRATIONS

Professional Geologist (California), registration number 7362 Nevada Water Resources Association – Board of Directors 2004-2010 National Ground Water Association

PUBLICATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Felling, Richard A., 2017. Mine Dewatering in Nevada's Carbonate-Rock Aquifers: Modeling, Monitoring, and Management, Nevada Water Resources Association annual conference, Reno, NV.

Felling, Richard A., 2017. Humboldt River Basin Conflict Issues and Proposed Regulations, Nevada CLE Water Law Workshop, Reno, NV.

Felling, Richard A., 2016. Recent Drought-related Issues and Actions of the State Engineer's Office, Nevada Water Resources Association annual conference, Las Vegas, NV.

RICHARD A. FELLING

Carroll, R. W., Pohll, G. M., Benedict, J., Felling, R., 2016. *Curtalling Agricultural Pumping in an Era of Extended Drought: Infusing Science and Legality into a Common Hydrologic Framework*, American Geophysical Union: San Francisco, CA, December 12, 2016-December 16, 2016.

Felling, Richard A., 2014. Monitoring, Management and Mitigation Programs Administered by the Nevada Division of Water Resources, Nevada Water Resources Association annual conference, Las Vegas, NV.

Felling, Richard A., 2014. Water Availability in the Southern White River Flow System and results of the State Engineer's Order 1169 Aquifer Test, Nevada Water Resources Association annual conference, Las Vegas, NV.

Felling, Richard A., 2003. A Revised Transient-Calibrated Groundwater Flow Model for the South Truckee Meadows, Washoe County, NV, Washoe County Department of Water Resources publication.

Felling, Richard A., 2002. Groundwater Level Status, South Truckee Meadows, Washoe County, NV, Washoe County Department of Water Resources publication.

Cary, J.C., Johnson, Todd, Nicholes, Jeff, Campo, Art, Felling, Rick, Slayton, Jim, Lappin, Steve, Mohn, Pat, Moss, Ken, Lane, Chuck, and Kennedy, Larry, 2000. Geology, skarn alteration, and Au-Cu-Ag mineralization of the Phoenix Project, (Battle Mountain mining district), Lander County, Nevada, in Cluer, J.K., Price, J.G., Struhsacker, E.M., Hardyman, R.F., and Morris, C.L., eds., Geology and Ore Deposits 2000: The Great Basin and Beyond: Geological Society of Nevada Symposium Proceedings, May 15-18, 2000, p. 1021-1045.

Felling, Richard A., 1985. Geology and Mineralization of the Mount Evans Area, Deer Lodge County, Montana, University of Colorado, Boulder MS Thesis.

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).

ORDER
GRANTING NEVADA ENERGY'S
MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF
TIME TO FILE REPLY
COMMENTS

This Matter, having come before the Nevada State Engineer on Nevada Energy's Motion for Extension of Time to File Reply Comments Pursuant to NRCP 6(b)(1)(B)(ii) for Nevada Energy to file a rebuttal report relating to the initial reports filed pursuant to Order 1303, and

It Appearing, that the Motion is brought based upon good cause and excusable neglect shown, it is hereby

ORDERED that Nevada Energy's Motion for Extension of Time to File Reply Comments Pursuant to NRCP 6(b)(1)(B)(ii) is hereby GRANTED.

Micheline M. Fairbace
MICHELINE N. FAIRBANK

Deputy Administrator

Dated this 21st day of

August, 2019.

Re: Order Granting Nevada Energy's Motion for Extension of Time to File Reply Comments, In the Matter of the Administration and Management of the LWRFS August 21, 2019
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SERVICE LIST

Order Granting Nevada Energy's Motion for Extension of Time to File Reply Comments, In the Matter of the Administration and Management of the Lower White River Flow System.

3335 Hillside, LLC 3420 North Buffalo Drive Las Vegas, NV 89129

Bedroc Limited, LLC 2745 North Nellis Boulevard Las Vegas, NV 89115

Larry Brundy P.O. Box 136 Moapa, NV 89025

Casa De Warm Springs, LLC 1000 North Green Valley Parkway, #440-350 Henderson, NV 89074

Clark County 500 S. Grand Central Pkwy. Las Vegas, NV 89155

Clark County Commissioners 500 S. Grand Central Pkwy., 6th Fl. Las Vegas, NV 89155-1111

Clark County Coyote Springs Water Resources GID 1001 S. Valley View Blvd. Las Vegas, NV 89153

Mary K. Cloud P.O. Box 31 Moapa, NV 89025

Coyote Springs Investment, LLC c/o Wingfield Nevada Group 6600 N. Wingfield Pkwy. Sparks, NV 89436

Don J. & Marsha L. Davis P.O. Box 400 Moapa, NV 89025

Dry Lake Water, LLC 2470 St. Rose Pkwy., Ste. 107 Henderson, NV 89074

Georgia Pacific Corporation P.O. Box 337350 Las Vegas, NV 89033

Kelly Kolhoss P.O. Box 232 Moapa, NV 89025

Lake At Las Vegas Joint Venture, Inc. 1600 Lake Las Vegas Parkway Henderson, NV 89011

Laker Plaza, Inc. 7181 Noon Rd. Everson, WA 98247-9650

Lincoln County Commissioners P.O. Box 90 Pioche, NV 89043

Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints Area 4, 61 E. North Temple Salt Lake City, UT 84150-0001

Moapa Band of Paiute Indians P.O. Box 340 Moapa, NV 89025 Re: Order Granting Nevada Energy's Motion for Extension of Time to File Reply Comments, In the Matter of the Administration and Management of the LWRFS August 21, 2019
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Moapa Valley Water District P. O. Box 257

Logandale, NV 89021

State of Nevada Department of Transportation 1263 S. Stewart Street Carson City, NV 89712

Nevada Cogeneration Associates 420 N. Nellis Blvd., #A3-117 Las Vegas, NV 89110

Nevada Cogeneration Associates #1 420 N. Nellis Blvd., #A3-148 Las Vegas, NV 89110

Nevada Power Company DBA NV Energy 6226 West Sahara Avenue Las Vegas, NV 89146

Division of State Parks
State of Nevada, Dept. of Conservation and
Natural Resources
901 S. Stewart Street, Suite 5005
Carson City, NV 89701

City of North Las Vegas 2250 Las Vegas Blvd. North N. Las Vegas, NV 89030

Pacific Coast Building Products, Inc. P.O. Box 364329 Las Vegas, NV 89036

Republic Environmental Technologies, Inc. 770 East Sahara Ave. Las Vegas, NV 89104

E-mail:

8milelister@gmail.com ablack@mcdonaldcarano.com S & R, Inc. 808 Shetland Road Las Vegas, NV 89107

Southern Nevada Water Authority 1001 South Valley View Blvd., Mail Stop #485 Las Vegas, NV 89153

Technichrome 4709 Compass Bow Lane Las Vegas, NV 89130

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1020 New River Parkway, Suite 305 Fallon, NV 89406-2613

William O'Donnell 2780 S. Jones Blvd. Ste. 210 Las Vegas, NV 89146

Mark D. Stock Global Hydrologic Services, Inc. 561 Keystone Avenue, #200 Reno, NV 89503-4331

Scott Millington, General Manager Muddy Valley Irrigation Co. P.O. Box 665 Overton, NV 89040

Sylvia Harrison McDonald Carano 100 West Liberty St., Tenth Fl. Reno, NV 89501

admin.mbop@moapabandofpaiutes.org alaskajulie12@gmail.com

Re: Order Granting Nevada Energy's *Motion for Extension of Time to File Reply Comments*, In the Matter of the Administration and Management of the LWRFS

August 21, 2019

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mmmiller@cox.net
moapalewis@gmail.com
muddyvalley@mvdsl.com
onesharp1@gmail.com
paul@legaltnt.com

pdonnelly@biologicaldiversity.org

progress@mvdsl.com rafelling@charter.net raymond.roessel@bia.gov rberley@ziontzchestnut.com rhoerth@vidlerwater.com robert.dreyfus@gmail.com Rott@nvenergy.com

Rott@nvenergy.com rozaki@opd5.com

rteague@republicservices.com Sarahpeterson@blm.gov SCarlson@kcnvlaw.com sc.anderson@lvvwd.com sc.anderson@snwa.com

sharrison@mcdonaldcarano.com stever@stetsonengineers.com sue_braumiller@fws.gov technichrome@jps.net tommyers1872@gmail.com Re: Order Granting Nevada Energy's *Motion for Extension of Time to File Reply Comments*, In the Matter of the Administration and Management of the LWRFS August 21, 2019
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trobison@mvdsl.com twtemt@hotmail.com veronica.rowan@sol.doi.gov vsandu@republicservices.com whitfam@mvdsl.com william.paff@rocklandcapital.com wpoulsen@lincolnnv.com

cc: Division of Water Resources, E-mail

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 **BASIN** VALLEY HYDROGRAPHIC (216),HIDDEN VALLEY HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (217), CALIFORNIA WASH HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (218), AND MUDDY RIVER SPRINGS (AKA UPPER MOAPA VALLEY) HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (219), LINCOLN AND CLARK COUNTIES, NEVADA.)

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., and 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	Moapa Valley Water District				
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.	Moapa 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, the 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.

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 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.

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 23rd 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
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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.

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NSE Ex. No. 166	Water Level Data 219 S13 E64 35DCAD1 Muddy River Springs Area
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NSE Ex. No. 230	2017 Southern Nevada Water Authority Muddy River Intentionally Created
_	Surplus Certification Report
NSE Ex. No. 231	State of Nevada, Nevada Water Resources Water Planning Report No. 3, Water for Nevada, October 1971
NSE Ex. No. 232	State of Nevada, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Ground-
1100 01110.000	Water Resources – Reconnaissance Series Report 25: Ground-Water
	Appraisal of Coyote Spring and Kane Spring Valleys and Muddy River
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NSE Ex. No. 233 NSE Ex. No. 234 NSE Ex. No. 235	Appraisal of Coyote Spring and Rane Spring Valleys and Muddy River Springs Area, Lincoln and Clark Counties, Nevada, by Thomas E. Eakin, February 1964 State of Nevada, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Ground Water Resources – Reconnaissance Series Report 50: Water-Resources Appraisal of the Lower Moapa-Lake Mead Area, Clark County, Nevada, by Feugene Rush, December 1968 State of Nevada, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Division of Water Resources, Nevada Water Resources-Informational, Nevada Streamflow Characteristics, October 1978 State of Nevada, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Water Resources Bulletin No. 33, A Regional Interbasin Ground-Water System in the White River Area, Southeastern Nevada, by Thomas E. Eakin, 1966

NSE Ex. No. 236	2006 Memorandum of Agreement between the Southern Nevada Water Authority, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Coyote Springs
	Investment LLC, Moapa Band of Paiute Indians and Moapa Valley Water District.
NSE Ex. No. 237	2001 Stipulation for Dismissal of Protests between Las Vegas Valley Water District, Southern Nevada Water Authority and Federal Bureaus
NSE Ex. No. 238	4/20/2006 Southern Nevada Water Authority Agenda Item Re: Memorandum of Agreement, Water Supply Agreement and Back-Up Water Rights Agreement
NSE Ex. No. 239	4/18/2006 Las Vegas Valley Water District Board of Directors Agenda Item Re: Water Supply Agreement and Water Supply Agreement
NSE Ex. No. 240	4/13/2006 Letter from Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Re: Supporting Water Settlement Agreement
NSE Ex. No. 241	April 2006 Back-Up Water Rights Agreement Between Southern Nevada Water Authority, Moapa Valley Water District, Moapa Valley Irrigation Company and Coyote Springs Investments LLC
NSE Ex. No. 242	April 2006 Surface Water Lease Between Moapa Valley Irrigation Company and Moapa Band of Paiute Indians
NSE Ex. No. 243	2006 Water Rights Deed Between Las Vegas Valley Water District and Moapa Band of Paiute Indians
NSE Ex. No. 244	2006 Memorandum of Agreement Trigger Levels agreed to by the Southern Nevada Water Authority, Moapa Valley Water District, Coyote Springs Investments LLC and Moapa Band of Paiute Indians
NSE Ex. No. 245	Southern Nevada Water Authority Order 1169 Report
NSE Ex. No. 246	Great Basin Water Network Order 1169 Report
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NSE Ex. No. 257	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Report Appendix A
NSE Ex. No. 258	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Report Selected References: Water-Surface Elevations, Discharge, and Water-Qualify Data for Selected Sites in the Warm Springs Area near Moapa, Nevada, Beck et. al., 2006

NSE Ex. No. 259	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Report Selected References: Hydraulic-Property Estimates for Use with a Transient Ground-Water Flow Model of the Death Valley Regional Ground-Water Flow System, Nevada and California, Belcher et. al., 2001
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NSE Ex. No. 261	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Report Selected References: It Is the Discharge, Bredehoeft, 2007
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NSE Ex. No. 263	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Report Selected References: Extinction Rates in North American Freshwater Fishes, 1900-2010, Burkhead, 2012
NSE Ex. No. 264	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Report Selected References: The Disconnect Between Restoration Goals and Practices: A Case Study of Watershed Restoration in the Russian River Basin, California, Christian-Smith and Merenlender, 2010
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NSE Ex. No. 266	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Report Selected References: A Regional Interbasin Groundwater System in the White River Area, Southeastern Nevada, Eakin, 1966
NSE Ex. No. 267	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Report Selected References: Detecting Drawdowns Masked by Environmental Stresses with Water-Level Models, Garcia et. al., 2013
NSE Ex. No. 268	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Report Selected References: Advanced Methods for Modeling Water-Levels and Estimating Drawdowns with SeriesSEE, and Excel Add-In, Halford et. al., 2012
NSE Ex. No. 269	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Report Selected References: An Ecohydraulic Model to Identify and Monitor Moapa Dace Habitat, Hatten et. al., 2013
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NSE Ex. No. 272	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Report Selected References: The AEM and Regional Carbonate Aquifer Modeling, Johnson and Mifflin, 2006
NSE Ex. No. 273	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Report Selected References: Evaluating Climate Variability and Pumping Effects in Statistical Analyses, Mayer and Congdon, 2008
NSE Ex. No. 274	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Report Selected References: Vanishing Fishes of North America, Ono et. al., 1983

NSE Ex. No. 275	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Report Selected References: Life History, Abundance, and Distribution of Moapa Dace, Scoppettone et. al., 1992
NSE Ex. No. 276	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Report Selected References: Geology of White Pine and Lincoln Counties and Adjacent Areas, Nevada and Utah: The Geologic Framework of Regional Groundwater Flow Systems, Southern Nevada Water Authority, 2007
NSE Ex. No. 277	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Report Selected References: Water-Resources Assessment and Hydrogeologic Report for Gave, Dry Lake, and Delamar Valleys, Southern Nevada Water Authority, 2007
NSE Ex. No. 278	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Report Selected References: Hydrologic Data Analysis Report for Test Well 184W105 in Spring Valley Hydrographic Area 184, Southern Nevada Water Authority, 2009
NSE Ex. No. 279	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Report Selected References: Warm Springs Natural Area Stewardship Plan, Southern Nevada Water Authority, 2011
NSE Ex. No. 280	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Report Selected References: Development of a Numerical Groundwater Flow Model of Selected Basins within the Colorado Regional Groundwater Flow System, Southeastern Nevada, Tetra Tech 2012
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NSE Ex. No. 282	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Report Selected References: Comparison of Simulated and Observed Effects of Pumping from MX-5 Using Data Collected to the Endo of the Order 1169 Test, and Prediction of the Rates of Recovery from the Test, TetraTech,2013
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NSE Ex. No. 284	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Report Selected References: Federal Register, Vol. 32, No. 48, p. 4001, Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service Endangered Species Listing (Moapa Dace), 1967
NSE Ex. No. 285	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Report Selected References: United States Fish and Wildlife Service, 2013 Moapa dace survey data (1994-2013)
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NSE Ex. No. 287	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Report Selected References: Prospects for Recovering Endemic Fishes Pursuant to the U.S. Endangered Species Act, Williams et. al., 2005
NSE Ex. No. 288	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 United States Fish and Wildlife Service Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Ash Meadows, Desert, Moapa Valley, and Pahranagat National Wildlife Refuges, Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement Summary, August 2009

NSE Ex. No. 289	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 United States Fish and Wildlife Service Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Ash Meadows, Desert, Moapa Valley, and Pahranagat National Wildlife Refuges, Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, Volume 1, August 2009
NSE Ex. No. 290	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 United States Fish and Wildlife Service Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Ash Meadows, Desert, Moapa Valley, and Pahranagat National Wildlife Refuges, Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, Volume 2, Appendix A Index
NSE Ex. No. 291	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 United States Fish and Wildlife Service Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Ash Meadows, Desert, Moapa Valley, and Pahranagat National Wildlife Refuges, Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, Volume 2, Appendix B References
NSE Ex. No. 292	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 United States Fish and Wildlife Service Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Ash Meadows, Desert, Moapa Valley, and Pahranagat National Wildlife Refuges, Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, Volume 2, Appendix C List of Preparers
NSE Ex. No. 293	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 United States Fish and Wildlife Service Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Ash Meadows, Desert, Moapa Valley, and Pahranagat National Wildlife Refuges, Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, Volume 2, Appendix D Distribution List
NSE Ex. No. 294	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 United States Fish and Wildlife Service Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Ash Meadows, Desert, Moapa Valley, and Pahranagat National Wildlife Refuges, Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, Volume 2, Appendix E Laws and Regs
NSE Ex. No. 295	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 United States Fish and Wildlife Service Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Ash Meadows, Desert, Moapa Valley, and Pahranagat National Wildlife Refuges, Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, Volume 2, Appendix F GOS
NSE Ex. No. 296	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 United States Fish and Wildlife Service Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Ash Meadows, Desert, Moapa Valley, and Pahranagat National Wildlife Refuges, Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, Volume 2, Appendix G CDs
NSE Ex. No. 297	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 United States Fish and Wildlife Service Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Ash Meadows, Desert, Moapa Valley, and Pahranagat National Wildlife Refuges, Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, Volume 2, Appendix H Biological Resources

11000	
NSE Ex. No. 298	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 United States Fish and Wildlife Service Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Ash Meadows, Desert, Moapa Valley,
	and Pahranagat National Wildlife Refuges, Final Comprehensive
	Conservation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, Volume 2, Appendix I Wilderness Review
NSE Ex. No. 299	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 United States Fish and Wildlife Service Desert
	National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Ash Meadows, Desert, Moapa Valley,
	and Pahranagat National Wildlife Refuges, Final Comprehensive
	Conservation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, Volume 2, Appendix
	J Bighorn Sheep
NSE Ex. No. 300	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 United States Fish and Wildlife Service Desert
	National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Ash Meadows, Desert, Moapa Valley,
	and Pahranagat National Wildlife Refuges, Final Comprehensive
	Conservation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, Volume 2, Appendix
NICE E. N. 201	K Implementation
NSE Ex. No. 301	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 United States Fish and Wildlife Service Desert
	National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Ash Meadows, Desert, Moapa Valley, and Pahranagat National Wildlife Refuges, Final Comprehensive
	Conservation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, Volume 2, Appendix
	L Moapa LPP-CMP
NSE Ex. No. 302	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 United States Fish and Wildlife Service Desert
	National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Ash Meadows, Desert, Moapa Valley,
	and Pahranagat National Wildlife Refuges, Final Comprehensive
	Conservation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, Volume 2, Appendix
	M Response to Comments
NSE Ex. No. 303	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Detailed Production Data w CHECKS
NSE Ex. No. 304	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Groundwater level & production data
NSE Ex. No. 305	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Baldwin Jones Monthly Data 2002-2019
NSE Ex. No. 306	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 NV Climate Divisional 3, 4 and PRISM pcp data 1985-2012
NSE Ex. No. 307	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 EH4 Data NDWR Dec 2012
NSE Ex. No. 308	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Monthly Pumpage Data 2000-2012
NSE Ex. No. 309	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Southern Nevada Water Authority shallow
	monitor wells MRSA periodic measurements 2009-2012
NSE Ex. No. 310	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Muddy Springs LDS Moapa NV (all data)
NSE Ex. No. 311	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Pederson E. Springs near Moapa 2002-2012
NSE Ex. No. 312	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Pederson Springs near Moapa 1985-2013
NSE Ex. No. 313	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Warm Springs West all data 1985-2012
NSE Ex. No. 314	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Warm Springs Confluence at Iverson Flume
	2001-2010
NSE Ex. No. 315	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Muddy River near Moapa all data 1914-2013
NSE Ex. No. 316	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Muddy River Springs Partial
NSE Ex. No. 317	2/27/2014 Tetra Tech Cover Letter
NSE Ex. No. 318	Responses Tetra Tech Model final

NSE Ex. No. 319	Lincoln County/Vidler Water Company Response to National Park Service
NSE Ex. No. 320	Settlement Agreement between the Nevada State Engineer, Lincoln County
	and Vidler Water Company
NSE Ex. No. 321	Clearing the Waters: Unraveling Hydrologic Trends in the Muddy River
	Springs Area, Tim Mayer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, March, 2008,
	NWRA Annual Meeting
NSE Ex. No. 322	Geologic Map of Lincoln County
NSE Ex. No. 323	Geologic Map of Clark County
NSE Ex. No. 324	April 26, 2019, United States Fish and Wildlife Service Request for Extension
	of Time to submit Order 1303 Reports
NSE Ex. No. 325	May 2, 2019, NDWR Letter Seeking Responses to Request for Extension of
	Time to submit Order 1303 Reports
NSE Ex. No. 326	May 2, 2019, Coyote Springs Investment, LLC Response to Request for
	Extension of Time to submit Order 1303 Reports
NSE Ex. No. 327	May 2, 2019, Moapa Band of Paiutes Response to Request for Extension of
	Time to submit Order 1303 Reports
NSE Ex. No. 328	May 6, 2019, Centers for Biological Diversity Response to Request for
	Extension of Time to submit Order 1303 Reports
NSE Ex. No. 329	May 8, 2019, Las Vegas Valley Water District and Southern Nevada Water
	Authority Response to Request for Extension of Time to submit Order 1303
	Reports
NSE Ex. No. 330	May 9, 2019, Dry Lake Water Response to Request for Extension of Time to
	submit Order 1303 Reports
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,
NODE N. 222	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)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of <u>Notice of Hearing in the Matter of the Administration and Management of the Lower White River Flow System</u> was served:

By E-mail, on August 23, 2019, on the following:

8milelister@gmail.com;

ablack@mcdonaldcarano.com;

admin.mbop@moapabandofpaiutes.org;

alaskajulie12@gmail.com; andrew.burns@snwa.com; barbnwalt325@gmail.com; bbaldwin@ziontzchestnut.com;

bostajohn@gmail.com; bvann@ndow.org;

chair.mbop@moapabandofpaiutes.org;

Chris.Benkman@nsgen.com; Colby.pellegrino@snwa.com;

Coop@opd5.com;

coopergs@ldschurch.org; counsel@water-law.com;

craig.primas@snvgrowers.com; craig.wilkinson@pabcogypsum.com; dan.peressini@lasvegaspaving.com;

david_stone@fws.gov; Dbrown@ldalv.com;

dennis.barrett10@gmail.com; derekm@westernelite.com;

devaulr@cityofnorthlasvegas.com; dfrehner@lincolncountynv.gov;

dixonjm@gmail.com; dorothy@vidlerwater.com;

doug@nvfb.org;

dvossmer@republicservices.com; dwight.smith@interflowhydro.com;

edna@comcast.net;

emilia.cargill@coyotesprings.com;

fan4philly@gmail.com; gary_karst@nps.gov; gbushner@vidlerwater.com; glen_knowles@fws.gov; gmorrison@parsonsbehle.com; golden@apexindustrialpark.com;

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ircady@yahoo.com; info4gbwn@gmail.com; JCaviglia@nvenergy.com;

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jim.watrus@snwa.com; joe@moapawater.com; Karen.glasgow@sol.doi.gov;

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martinmifflin@yahoo.com; MBHoffice@earthlink.net; michael_schwemm@fws.gov; mjohns@nvenergy.com; mmmiller@cox.net;

moapalewis@gmail.com;

moorea@cityofnorthlasvegas.com;

muddyvalley@mvdsl.com; onesharpl@gmail.com; paul@legaltnt.com; Certificate of Email Service August 23, 2019 Page 2

pdonnelly@biologicaldiversity.org; progress@mvdsl.com; rafelling@charter.net; raymond.roessel@bia.gov; rberley@ziontzchestnut.com; rhoerth@vidlerwater.com; robert.dreyfus@gmail.com; Rott@nvenergy.com; rozaki@opd5.com; rteague@republicservices.com; Sarahpeterson@blm.gov; SCarlson@kenvlaw.com; sc.anderson@lvvwd.com; sc.anderson@snwa.com; sharrison@mcdonaldcarano.com; stever@stetsonengineers.com; sue braumiller@fws.gov; technichrome@jps.net; tim@legaltnt.com; tommyers1872@gmail.com; trobison@mvdsl.com; twtemt@hotmail.com; veronica.rowan@sol.doi.gov; vsandu@republicservices.com; whitfam@mvdsl.com; william.paff@rocklandcapital.com; wpoulsen@lincolnnv.com

Juaniu Mordhorst, AAll
Division of Water Resources
Hearings Section

cc: Division of Water Resources, E-mail Sam Monteleone, E-mail Thomas K. Gallagher, P.E., E-mail Capitol Reporters, E-mail STEVE SISOLAK Governor BRADLEY CROWELL
Director

TIM WILSON, P.E. Acting State Engineer



DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

901 South Stewart Street, Suite 2002 Carson City, Nevada 89701-5250 (775) 684-2800 • Fax (775) 684-2811 http://water.nv.gov

August 26, 2019

Re: Amended Notice of Hearing regarding Order 1303

Please take notice that an Amended Notice of Hearing will be posted on the Division of Water Resources website (http://www.water.nv.gov), which corrects typographic errors on page 4 of the Notice of Hearing and page 7 of Exhibit A, which erroneously identified the "Moapa Valley Irrigation Company" rather than the "Muddy Valley Irrigation Company." All other matters within the Enclosed Notice of Hearing remain unchanged.

Sincerely,

Micheline N. Fairbank Deputy Administrator

Micheline 7. Taiskane

MNF/

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** 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., and 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	Moapa Valley Water District
September 30, 2019, 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., and October 1, 2019, 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	Lincoln County Water District and Vidler Water Company

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October 1, 2019, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.	City of North Las Vegas
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, the 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.

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 ¹
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.

NSE Ex. No. 35	Hudrographia Dasin Cummon, Hidden Velley (Dasin 217)
	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
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	NSE Ex. No. 318	Responses Tetra Tech Model final

NSE Ex. No. 319	Lincoln County/Vidler Water Company Response to National Park Service
NSE Ex. No. 320	Settlement Agreement between the Nevada State Engineer, Lincoln County
	and Vidler Water Company
NSE Ex. No. 321	Clearing the Waters: Unraveling Hydrologic Trends in the Muddy River
	Springs Area, Tim Mayer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, March, 2008,
	NWRA Annual Meeting
NSE Ex. No. 322	Geologic Map of Lincoln County
NSE Ex. No. 323	Geologic Map of Clark County
NSE Ex. No. 324	April 26, 2019, United States Fish and Wildlife Service Request for Extension
	of Time to submit Order 1303 Reports
NSE Ex. No. 325	May 2, 2019, NDWR Letter Seeking Responses to Request for Extension of
	Time to submit Order 1303 Reports
NSE Ex. No. 326	May 2, 2019, Coyote Springs Investment, LLC Response to Request for
İ	Extension of Time to submit Order 1303 Reports
NSE Ex. No. 327	May 2, 2019, Moapa Band of Paiutes Response to Request for Extension of
	Time to submit Order 1303 Reports
NSE Ex. No. 328	May 6, 2019, Centers for Biological Diversity Response to Request for
	Extension of Time to submit Order 1303 Reports
NSE Ex. No. 329	May 8, 2019, Las Vegas Valley Water District and Southern Nevada Water
	Authority Response to Request for Extension of Time to submit Order 1303
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NSE Ex. No. 330	May 9, 2019, Dry Lake Water Response to Request for Extension of Time to
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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)

Robison, Sharp,

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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).

INTERIM ORDER #1303

NOTICE OF APPEARANCE ON BEHALF OF COYOTE SPRINGS INVESTMENT, LLC

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that BRADLEY J. HERREMA, ESQ., of the law firm of BROWNSTEIN HYATT FARBER SCHRECK, KENT R. ROBISON, ESQ., of the law firm of ROBISON, SHARP, SULLIVAN & BRUST, and EMILIA K. CARGILL, ESQ. will represent Coyote Springs Investment, LLC in these proceedings and at the September 23, 2019 hearing.

Dated this 27th of August, 2019.

KEŃT R. ROBISON, ESQ. – NSB #1167 ROBISON, SHARP, SULLIVAN & BRUST

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Attorneys for Coyote Springs Investment, LLC

Dated this 27th of August, 2019. 1 2 3 4 BRADLEY J. HERREMA, ESQ. - NSB #10368 5 BROWNSTEIN HYATT FARBER SCHRECK 100 N. City Parkway, Suite 1600 6 Las Vegas, Nevada 89106 TELEPHONE: (310) 500-4609 7 Email: bherrema@bhfs.com Attorneys for Coyote Springs Investment, LLC 8 9 10 11 12 13 [/]EMILIA K. CARGILL, ESQ. – NSB #6493 14 Chief Operating Officer Senior Vice President-General Counsel 15 Coyote Springs Investments, LLC 3100 State Route 168 16 Coyote Springs, Nevada 89037 17 TELEPHONE: (702) 422-1433 Email: emilia.cargill@coyotesprings.com 18 Attorneys for Coyote Springs Investment, LLC 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

lobison, Sharp, uflivan & Brust 1 Washington St. eno, NV 89503 175) 329-3151

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I am an employee of ROBISON, SHARP, SULLIVAN & BRUST, and that on this date I caused a true copy of **NOTICE OF APPEARANCE ON BEHALF OF COYOTE SPRINGS INVESTMENT, LLC** to be served on all parties to this action by emailing an attached Adobe Acrobat PDF version of the document to the email addresses below:

4		
_	8milelister@gmail.com;	jim.watrus@snwa.com;
5	ablack@mcdonaldcarano.com	joe@moapawater.com;
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Dated this 2.7th day of August, 2019.

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IN THE OFFICE OF THE STATE ENGINEER

OF THE STATE OF NEVADA 2819 AUG 28 AM 18: 20

STATE ENCIREERS OFFICE

4	IN THE MATTER OF THE
5	ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE LOWER
6	WHITE RIVER FLOW SYSTEM
	WITHIN COYOTE SPRING VALLEY HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN
7	(210), A PORTION OF BLACK
8	MOUNTAINS AREA HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (215),
9	GARNET VALLEY
	HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (216), HIDDEN VALLEY
	HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (217),
1	CALIFORNIA WASH HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (218),
2	AND MUDDY RIVER SPRINGS
-	AREA (AKA UPPER MOAPA

VALLEY HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN

INTERIM ORDER #1303

COYOTE SPRINGS INVESTMENT, LLC'S REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION AND REVISION OF STATE ENGINEER'S NOTICE OF HEARING

Coyote Springs Investment, LLC ("CSI") respectfully requests that the State Engineer reconsider and revise that portion of the August 23, 2019 Notice of Hearing that provides CSI a single seven-hour day for the presentation of its evidence and cross-examination of its witnesses. The Notice of Hearing gives the Southern Nevada Water Authority ("SNWA") nine hours for the presentation of its evidence and crossexamination of its witnesses and, at the August 8, 2019 pre-hearing conference, when SNWA suggested that it needed a day and a half to present its case (Hearing transcript, 22:18-23:20), CSI immediately responded by notifying all concerned that CSI should receive the same amount of time (Hearing transcript, 26:11-13). Neither the State Engineer nor any other participant objected to CSI's request.

There is no applicant or protestant in these proceedings and each party should be provided an equal opportunity to present its case. Accordingly, CSI requests that the State Engineer reconsider and revise the August 23, 2019 Notice of Hearing's

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Sequence of Presentation of Evidence and Cross-Examination of Witnesses such that CSI be given as much time for its presentation as any other party is provided. CSI's preferred mechanism for addressing its concerns in this regard would be to increase its time for the presentation of its evidence and cross-examination of its witnesses to that amount provided to SNWA.

Dated this 26th of August, 2019.

KENT/R. ROBISON, ESQ.

ROBISON, SHARP, SULLIVAN & BRUST

71 Washington Street Reno. Nevada 89503

Email: krobison@rssblaw.com

Attorneys for Coyote Springs Investment, LLC

In Association With:

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I am an employee of ROBISON, SHARP, SULLIVAN & BRUST, and that on this date I caused a true copy of **COYOTE SPRINGS INVESTMENT**, **LLC'S REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION AND REVISION OF STATE ENGINEER'S NOTICE OF HEARING** to be served on all parties to this action by emailing an attached Adobe Acrobat PDF version of the document to the email addresses below:

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Dated this 26th day of August, 2019.

V. JAYNÉ PERRETTO

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402 North Division Street, P.O. Box 646, Carson City, NV 89702 Telephone: (775) 687-0202 Fax: (775) 882-7918 E-Mail Address: law@allisonmackenzie.com ALLISON MacKENZIE, LTD.

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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 ÀRÉA HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (215), GARNET VALLEY HYDROGRAPHIC BASÌN (216), HIDDEN VALLEY HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (217), CALIFORNIA WASH HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (218), AND MUDDY RIVER SPRINGS AREA (ÀKÁ UPPER MOAPA VALLEY) HYDRÒGRAPHIC BASIN (219).

ORDER #1303

NOTICE OF APPEARANCE OF LINCOLN COUNTY WATER DISTRICT AND VIDLER WATER COMPANY, INC.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT DYLAN V. FREHNER, ESQ. the LINCOLN COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY and KAREN A. PETERSON, ESO. of the law firm of ALLISON MacKENZIE, LTD. will be representing LINCOLN COUNTY WATER DISTRICT and VIDLER WATER COMPANY, INC. in the above-referenced proceedings before the Nevada State Engineer and at the September 23, 2019 hearing.

DATED this 28 day of Augus

LINCOLN COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

181 North Main Street, Suite 205

P.O. Box 60

Pioche, NV 89043 Telephone: (775) 962-8073

Email: dfrehner@lincolncountynv.gov

V. FREHNER, ESQ. Nevada State Bar No. 9020

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E-Mail Address: law@allisonmackenzie.com

DATED this 45 day of September

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BY: KAREN A. PETERSON, ESQ. Nevada State Bar No. 0366

Attorneys for LINCOLN COUNTY WATER DISTRICT and VIDLER WATER COMPANY, INC.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I am an employee of **ALLISON MacKENZIE**, **LTD**., Attorneys at Law, and on this date, I caused the foregoing document to be served via electronic transmission as follows:

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DATED this 4th day of September, 2019.

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Procedural Questions relating to Order 1303

All,

Cc:

Subject:

The State Engineer has received several questions relating to the coming hearing on the Order 1303 reports. In an effort to provide clarification to all parties with respect to these questions, we are providing the following questions and responses.

1) Is it the State Engineer's position that all participants are obligated to introduce their respective reports as a form of written testimony; and, therefore, will also have to enter them as an exhibit during the hearing (i.e., should be listed on exhibit list due 9/6)?

Yes. While the participants have submitted reports to the State Engineer in conformity with the deadlines set forth in the Addendum to Order 1303, each participant should identify their respective reports as an exhibit and the report should be included in the disclosures ordered to be served upon the State Engineer on September 6, 2019, in the Notice of Hearing.

2) Is it the State Engineer's expectation that any material reference in an expert report that is not part of Exhibit A be introduced at the hearing to guarantee consideration by State Engineer?

If a participant wishes the State Engineer to take notice and of referenced materials, those materials should be included in the September 6, 2019, disclosures. If a participant objects to an exhibit, such will be taken under the consideration of the State Engineer, and whether a foundation needs to be established during the hearing for that objected-to exhibit to permit the State Engineer to determine whether to admit the objected-to exhibit will be addressed at that time and on a case-by-case basis.

3) Will the State Engineer permit a participant with multiple experts to be examined and cross-examined in a panel format as provided for in NAC 533.240(3)?

Yes, consistent with NAC 533.240(3), the State Engineer will permit a participant with more than one expert to present its evidence and testimony in a panel format, and participants will be permitted through either their attorney or expert to cross examine the panel. The State Engineer believes that this will allow for a more efficient presentation of the salient points in which a participant wishes the State Engineer to consider and to take note of for the purpose of addressing the matters set forth in Order 1303.

4) Will the State Engineer permit participants with multiple attorneys to allow examination and/or cross examination by more than one attorney if such attorney's examination is limited to an Order 1303 inquiry topic and is not redundant or duplicative?

Yes, within reason. The State Engineer recognizes that participants who may have multiple attorneys appearing on their behalf may desire to divide the particular issues and examination. The State Engineer does not intend to micromanage how individual participants wish to present their opinions and evidence and desires to allow a full and fair opportunity for those participants to efficiently and succinctly present their positions. However, the State Engineer may limit examination or cross-examination within his discretion if it appears that the participation by multiple attorneys is disruptive, abusive, or otherwise not in keeping with the purpose and goals of the hearing. Further, the State Engineer will restrict redundant or duplicative questioning and expects that the participants and their attorneys limit the making of any objections to a single primary attorney.

5) The Notice of Hearing does not clearly address the participants' use of PowerPoints, etc. as summaries/overviews for their direct presentations. Do these need to be produced as exhibits, or can participants treat them as demonstrative (not evidence to be introduced as

an exhibit) and just make copies available at the hearing for participants that wish to have one?

As stated during the pre-hearing conference, PowerPoint presentations would be in a separate exhibit unless it is purely a summarization of the expert report taking data or analysis of hydrographs of other data and of the reports, then it may be used purely as a demonstrative exhibit. However, the State Engineer would appreciate an advance copy of any PowerPoint presentation in advance to the extent practicable. However, if a PowerPoint presentation is not submitted in advance as an exhibit, the participant should be prepared to bring copies of any presentation used as demonstrative evidence to assure all participants have a copy to review at the time of the hearing.

6) The Notice of Hearing does not specify that if a participant not use all of its allotted presentation time on direct, will cross-examination remain limited regardless of hours spent on direct (e.g., cross-exam for participants presenting during week 1 will not exceed 3.5 hours, no matter length of direct presentation)?

The State Engineer endeavors to afford the participants a reasonable opportunity to examine and cross-examine a witness; however redundant or repetitive questioning will not be permitted. The State Engineer is not establishing specific limitations with respect to the distribution of time where a presenting participant does not use its full allotment of time and such matters will be addressed on a case-by-case basis as the State Engineer deems appropriate during the pendency of the proceeding.

7) The Notice of Hearing does not address whether a participant will have an opportunity for re-direct. To that end, should a participant reserve some of its direct time for re-direct, if warranted?

As stated during the pre-hearing conference, a witness may be subject to direct examination, cross-examination, and re-direct examination and questions by the State Engineer and his staff. If a participant wishes to assure time is reserved for re-direct, the State Engineer would encourage the participant to specifically reserve time at the commencement of their examination of their witness(es).

8) There appears to be an error in documents identified by the State Engineer in Exhibit A to the Notice of Hearing, will the State Engineer substitute a corrected version, add additional exhibits to Exhibit A with the corrected version, or should the participant file a motion to have the document substituted?

The documents included in Exhibit A to the Notice of Hearing are documents that are copies of documents within the official records of the Office of the State Engineer. As set forth in the Notice of Hearing, the documents which the State Engineer has identified as the administrative record before him in this matter is set out in Exhibit A, and as stated at the pre-hearing conference, if a participant believes a document is relevant and should be considered by the State Engineer and included in the record of these proceedings, the participant should include that document in the evidentiary disclosure due on September 6, 2019. If a participant believes a document identified in Exhibit A has a substantive or material error, the participant may address that error during the time allotted for the presentation of its opinions and evidence to the State Engineer.

Additionally, our office has received several inquiries regarding whether certain questions or clarifications should be brought by means of a motion, and the answer is no. The State Engineer is not inclined to invite motion practice in this matter, and as this matter is not an adversarial proceeding, the State Engineer is happy to respond to procedural inquiries and will endeavor to provide responses to all parties, as is occurring in this communication.

Finally, the State Engineer became aware of a clerical error in the Notice of Hearing where the Muddy Valley Irrigation Company was erroneously identified as the Moapa Valley Irrigation Company. The errors were corrected and an Amended Notice of Hearing was issued. No other matters were altered in the Amended Notice of Hearing.

Kindly,

Micheline

Micheline N. Fairbank, J.D.

Deputy Administrator
Nevada Division of Water Resources
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
901 S. Stewart St., Suite 2002
Carson City, NV 89701

Mfairbank@water.nv.gov
(O) 775-684-2872 | (F) 775-684-2810





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

IN THE MATTER OF THE
ADMINSTRATION 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
HYDROGRAPHOC BASIN (218), AND
MUDDY RIVER SPRINGS AREA (aka
UPPER MOAPA VALLEY
HYDROGRAPHOC BASIN (219).

INTERIM ORDER #1303

NOTICE OF APPEARANCE ON BEHALF OF GEORGIA PACIFIC CORPORATION

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that SYLVIA HARRISON, ESQ. and SARAH FERGUSON, ESQ. of the law firm of McDONALD CARANO, LLP, will represent GEORIGA PACIFIC CORPORATION in these proceedings and at the hearing scheduled to commence September 23, 2019.

DATED: August <u>30</u>, 2019.

McDONALD CARANO LLP

Sylvia Harrison (#4106) Sarah Ferguson (#41515)

McDonald Carano LLP 100 West Liberty Street, 10th Floor Reno, Nevada 89501 (775) 788-2000 sharrison@mcdonaldcarano.com

MCDONALD (CARANO

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to NRCP 5(b), I hereby certify that I am an employee of McDONALD CARANO LLP, and that on August 2019, I served the foregoing NOTICE OF APPEARANCE via direct email to the addresses indicated below:

5	8milelister@gmail.com;
	ablack@mcdonaldcarano.com
6	admin.mbop@moapabandofpaiutes.org
	alaskajulie12@gmail.com;
7	andrew.burns@snwa.com;
_	barbnwalt325@gmail.com;
8	bbaldwin@ziontzchestnut.com;
	bostajohn@gmail.com;
9	Bennie Vann bvann@ndow.org ;
10	chair.mbop@moapabandofpaiutes.org;
10	Chris.Benkman@nsgen.com;
11	Colby.pellegrino@snwa.com;
11	Coop@opd5.com;
12	coopergs@ldschurch.org;
14	counsel@water-law.com;
13	craig.primas@snvgrowers.com;
13	craig.wilkinson@pabcogypsum.com;
14	dan.peressini@lasvegaspaving.com;
14	david_stone@fws.gov; Dbrown@ldalv.com;
15	dennis.barrett10@gmail.com;
13	derekm@westernelite.com;
16	devaulr@cityofnorthlasvegas.com;
10	dfrehner@lincolncountynv.gov;
17	dixonjm@gmail.com;
1 /	dorothy@vidlerwater.com;
18	doug@nvfb.org;
	dvossmer@republicservices.com;
19	dwight.smith@interflowhydro.com;
	edna@comcast.net;
20	emilia.cargill@coyotesprings.com;
	fan4philly@gmail.com;
21	gary karst@nps.gov;
	gbushner@vidlerwater.com;
22	glen_knowles@fws.gov;
	gmorrison@parsonsbehle.com;
23	golden@apexindustrialpark.com;
	golds@nevcogen.com;
24	greatsam@usfds.com;
	greg.walch@lvvwd.com;
25	hartthethird@gmail.com;
•	Howard.Forepaugh@nsgen.com;
26	ircady@yahoo.com;
27	info4gbwn@gmail.com;
27	JCaviglia@nvenergy.com;
20	jeff.phillips@lasvegaspaving.com;
28	stever@stetsonengineers.com;

jim.watrus@snwa.com;
joe@moapawater.com;
Karen.glasgow@sol.doi.gov;
kbrown@vvh2o.com;
Kevin Desroberts@fws.gov;
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kingmont@charter.net;
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KRobison@rssblaw.com;
kurthlawoffice@gmail.com;
lazarus@glorietageo.com;
lbelenky@biologicaldiversity.org;
lbenezet@yahoo.com;
liamleavitt@hotmail.com;
Lindseyd@mvdsl.com;
Lisa@ldalv.com;
lle@mvdsl.com;
lon@moapawater.com;
lroy@broadbentinc.com;
LuckyDirt@icloud.com;
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mmmiller@cox.net;
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paul@legaltnt.com;
pdonnelly@biologicaldiversity.org;
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robert.dreyfus@gmail.com;
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rozaki@opd5.com;
rteague@republicservices.com;
Sarahpeterson@blm.gov;
SCarlson@kenvlaw.com;
sc.anderson@lvvwd.com;
sc.anderson@snwa.com;
,

MCDONALD CARANO 100 WEST LIBERTY STREET, TENTH FLOOR • RENO, NEVADA 89501 PHONE 775.788,2000 • FAX 775.788,2020

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sue braumiller@fws.gov;
technichrome@jps.net;
tim@legaltnt.com;
tommyers1872@gmail.com;
trobison@mvdsl.com;
twtemt@hotmail.com;
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vsandu@republicservices.com;
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william.paff@rocklandcapital.com;
wpoulsen@lincolnnv.com

An employee of McDonald Carano LLP

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE
ADMINSTRATION 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
HYDROGRAPHOC BASIN (218), AND
MUDDY RIVER SPRINGS AREA (aka
UPPER MOAPA VALLEY
HYDROGRAPHOC BASIN (219).

INTERIM ORDER #1303

MOTION TO ASSOCIATE COUNSEL

GEORGIA PACIFIC CORPORATION ("Georgia Pacific"), by and through its undersigned counsel, hereby moves this Court for an Order permitting Paulina Williams, Esq., with the law firm of Baker Botts, L.L.P., located at 98 San Jacinto Blvd., Suite 1500, Austin, Texas 78701, to practice in Nevada pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 42. Supreme Court Rule 42(6) provides this Agency with discretion to allow attorneys in good standing in other jurisdictions to appear in Nevada proceedings *pro hac vice*. As demonstrated in the exhibits attached hereto, Paulina Williams is an attorney in good standing in the State of Texas and State of New York.

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This Motion is supported by the attached "Verified Application for Association of Counsel" (Exhibit A), "Certificate of Good Standing" from the State Bar of Texas and State Bar of New York (Exhibit B), the "State Bar of Nevada Statement" (Exhibit C) and a proposed Order granting this Motion (Exhibit D).

DATED: August 2019.

McDONALD CARANO LLP

Sylvia Harrison (#4106) Sarah Ferguson (#41515) McDonald Carano LLP 100 West Liberty Street, 10th Floor Reno, Nevada 89501 (775) 788-2000 sharrison@mcdonaldcarano.com

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to NRCP 5(b), I hereby certify that I am an employee of McDONALD CARANO LLP, and that on August 2019, I served the foregoing MOTION TO ASSOCIATE COUNSEL via direct email to the addresses indicated below:

7	ASSOCIATE COUNSEL VIA UITECT
5	8milelister@gmail.com;
11	ablack@mcdonaldcarano.com
6	admin.mbop@moapabandofpaiutes.org
	alaskajulie12@gmail.com;
7	andrew.burns@snwa.com;
_ ′	barbnwalt325@gmail.com;
8	bbaldwin@ziontzchestnut.com;
١	bostajohn@gmail.com;
9	Bennie Vann bostajoin@gman.com , Bennie Vann bostajoin@gman.com ,
_	chair.mbop@moapabandofpaiutes.org;
10	Chris.Benkman@nsgen.com;
10	
11	Colby.pellegrino@snwa.com;
11	Coop@opd5.com;
12	coopergs@ldschurch.org;
12	counsel@water-law.com;
12	craig.primas@snvgrowers.com;
13	craig.wilkinson@pabcogypsum.com;
	dan.peressini@lasvegaspaving.com;
14	david_stone@fws.gov;
	Dbrown@ldalv.com;
15	dennis.barrett10@gmail.com;
	derekm@westernelite.com;
16	devaulr@cityofnorthlasvegas.com;
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17	dixonjm@gmail.com;
	dorothy@vidlerwater.com;
18	doug@nvfb.org;
	dvossmer@republicservices.com;
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20	emilia.cargill@coyotesprings.com;
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21	gary karst@nps.gov;
	gbushner@vidlerwater.com;
22	glen knowles@fws.gov;
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26	ircady@yahoo.com;
_ •	info4gbwn@gmail.com;
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28	stever@stetsonengineers.com;
	ne i si jugate do mengino era sonni,

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An employee of McDonald Carano LLP

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Exhibit A

Exhibit A

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))

VERIFIED APPLICATION FOR ASSOCIATION OF COUNSEL UNDER NEVADA SUPREME COURT RULE 42

Paulina	Antonia	Williams	, Petitioner, respectfully r	represents:
First	Middle Name	Last		•
1. Petitioner re	esides at1500 Spring G	arden Road		
	-		Street Address	
Austin	,	Travis	Texas ,	78746
	City	County	State	Zip Code
(512) 657.52	16 (personal cell)			
	Telephone			
2. Petitioner is	s an attorney at law and	l a member o	f the law firm of:Baker Bo	otts L.L.P.
with offices at	98 San Jacinto Boulevard	l, Suite 1500		
		Street Address		
Austin		Travis	Texas	78701
	City	County	State	Zip Code
512 322.25	43		paulina.williams@bakerbotts.com	n
*	Telephone		Email	

3. Petitioner has been retained personally or as a member of t	he above named law firm by
Georgia-Pacific LLC t	o provide legal representation in
connection with the above-entitled matter now pending before	e the above referenced court.
4. Since November 7 of 2008, petitioner has been, and preser	ntly is, a member of good standing of
the bar of the highest court of the State of Texas	where petitioner regularly practices
law.	
5. Petitioner was admitted to practice before the following	United States District Courts, United
States Circuit Courts of Appeal, the Supreme Court of the Unit	ed States, and/or courts of other states
on the dates indicated for each, and is presently a member in go	ood standing of the bars of said Courts:
	DATE ADMITTED
New York (4377156)	01/09/2006
Texas (24066295)	11/07/2008
Southern District of Texas (2200013)	2014
6. Is Petitioner currently suspended or disbarred in any court	? You must answer yes or no. If yes,
give particulars; e.g., court, jurisdiction, date: No	
4	
7. Is Petitioner currently subject to any disciplinary proceeding	gs by any organization with authority
at law? You must answer yes or no. If yes, give particulars,	e.g. court, discipline authority, date,
status: No	

8. Has Petitioner e	ever received public	e discipline including, but not lin	mited to, suspension or
disbarment, by any o	rganization with aut	hority to discipline attorneys at la	w? You must answer yes
or no. If yes, give pa	rticulars, e.g. court,	discipline authority, date, status:	No
9. Has Petitioner ev	er had any certificat	e or privilege to appear and practi	ce before any regulatory
administrative body	suspended or revoke	ed? You must answer yes or no. If	yes, give particulars, e.g.
date, administrative	body, date of susper	nsion or reinstatement: No	
10. Has Petitioner, e	either by resignation	, withdrawal, or otherwise, ever te	rminated or attempted to
terminate Petitioner's	s office as an attorne	y in order to avoid administrative,	disciplinary, disbarment,
or suspension proceed	edings? You must a	nswer yes or no. If yes, give partic	culars: No
11. Petitioner has fi	iled the following a	pplication(s) to appear as counsel	under Nevada Supreme
Court Rule 42 during	g the past three (3) y	ears in the following matters, if n	one, indicate so: (do not
include Federal Pro	Hacs)		
Date of Application	Cause	Title of Court Administrative Body or Arbitrator	Was Application Granted or <u>Denied?</u>
None			
(If n	ecessary nlease atta	ach a statement of additional appli	cations)

12. Nevada Counsel of Record for Petition in this matter is:

(must be the same as the signature on the Nevada Counsel consent page)

THIS MATTER ONLY.

Sylvia		Harrison	4106
First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	NV Bar #
who has offices at	McDonald Carano		
	Firm N	lame/Company	
100 West Liberty Stree	t, Tenth Floor	Reno	Washoe
Street Address		City	County
89501	, (775)788.2000		
Zip Code	Phone	Number	
			of each party in this matter,
WHETHER OR NO	OT REPRESENTED E	BY COUNSEL, and the r	names and addresses of each
counsel of record w	ho appeared for said pa	rties: (You may attach as	an Exhibit if necessary.)
NAME		MAILI	NG ADDRESSS
Exhibit A attached			
14. Petitioner agree	s to comply with the pro	ovisions of Nevada Supre	me Court Rule 42(3) and (13)
and Petitioner cons	ents to the jurisdiction	of the courts and discip	linary boards of the State of
Nevada in accordan	ce with provisions as s	set forth in SCR 42(3) and	1 (13). Petitioner respectfully
requests that Petition	ner be admitted to practi	ce in the above-entitled co	art FOR THE PURPOSES OF

15. Petitioner has disclosed in writing to the client that the applicant is not admitted to practice in this jurisdiction and that the client has consented to such representation.

- I, Paulina Antonia Williams, do hereby swear/affirm under penalty of perjury that the assertions of this application and the following statements are true:
 - 1) That I am the Petitioner in the above entitled matter.
- 2) That I have read Supreme Court Rule (SCR) 42 and meet all requirements contained therein, including, without limitation, the requirements set forth in SCR 42(2), as follows:
 - (A) I am not a member of the State Bar of Nevada;
 - (B) I am not a resident of the State of Nevada;
 - (C) I am not regularly employed as a lawyer in the State of Nevada;
 - (D) I am not engaged in substantial business, professional, or other activities in the State of Nevada;
 - (E) I am a member in good standing and eligible to practice before the bar of any jurisdiction of the United States; and
 - (F) I have associated a lawyer who is an active member in good standing of the State

 Bar of Nevada as counsel of record in this action or proceeding.
 - 2) That I have read the foregoing application and know the contents thereof; that the same is true of my own knowledge except as to those matters therein stated on information and belief, and as to the matter I believe them to be true.

That I further certify that I am subject to the jurisdiction of the Courts and disciplinary boards of this state with respect to the law of this state governing the conduct of attorneys to the same extent as a member of the State Bar of Nevada; that I understand and shall comply with the standards of professional conduct required by members of the State Bar of Nevada; and that I am subject to the disciplinary jurisdiction to the State Bar of Nevada with respect to any of my actions occurring in the course of such appearance.

DATED this 16 day of August, 2019

Bula William

Petitioner/Affiant (blue ink)

STATE OF JOXOS

) ss

COUNTY OF They'S

Subscribed and sworn to before me

this 16th da

,20 /9

Notary Public

MARSHA CELESE SMITH

57665-6

NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF TEXAS
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES
AUGUST 21, 2021

DESIGNATION, CERTIFICATION AND CONSENT OF NEVADA COUNSEL

SCR 42(14) Responsibilities of Nevada attorney of record.

Notary Public

- (a) The Nevada attorney of record shall be responsible for and actively participate in the representation of a client in any proceeding that is subject to this rule.
- (b) The Nevada attorney of record shall be present at all motions, pre-trials, or any matters in open court unless otherwise ordered by the court.
- (c) The Nevada attorney of record shall be responsible to the court, arbitrator, mediator, or administrative agency or governmental body for the administration of any proceeding that is subject to this rule and for compliance with all state and local rules of practice. It is the responsibility of Nevada counsel to ensure that the proceeding is tried and managed in accordance with all applicable Nevada procedural and ethical rules.

I	Sylvia Harrison	hereby agree to associate with Petitioner referenced hereinabove
	Print Nevada Counsel Name	
and	further agree to perform all of	the duties and responsibilities as required by Nevada Supreme
Cou	rt Rule 42.	
		DATED this 19 day of argust, 20/9
		Nevada Counsel of Record (blue ink)
	ATE OF Nevada	ANGELA M. ARGUELLO) SS ANGELA M. ARGUELLO Notary Public - State of Nevada
COI	UNTY OF Washoe	Appointment Recorded in Washoe County No: 97-2924-2 - Expires August 11, 2021
Sub	scribed and sworn to before me	e ANGELANICHOLS
this	19 day of August	Notary Public - State of Nevada Appointment Hecorded in Washoe County No: 97-2924-2 - Expires August 11, 2013
	V.V.	

EXHIBIT A

3335 Hillside, LLC 3420 North Buffalo Drive Las Vegas, NV 89129 Mary K. Cloud P.O. Box 31 Moapa, NV 89025

Bedroc Limited, LLC 2745 North Nellis Boulevard Las Vegas, NV 89115 Coyote Springs Investment, LLC c/o Wingfield Nevada Group 6600 N. Wingfield Pkwy. Sparks, NV 89436

Larry Brundy P.O. Box 136 Moapa, NV 89025

Don J. & Marsha L. Davis P.O. Box 400 Moapa, NV 89025

Casa De Warm Springs, LLC 1000 North Green Valley Parkway, #440-350 Henderson, NV 89074

Dry Lake Water, LLC 2470 St. Rose Pkwy., Ste. 107 Henderson, NV 89074

Clark County 500 S. Grand Central Pkwy. Las Vegas, NV 89155

Georgia Pacific Corporation P.O. Box 337350 Las Vegas, NV 89033

Clark County Commissioners 500 S. Grand Central Pkwy., 6th Fl. Las Vegas, NV 89155-1111

Kelly Kolhoss P.O. Box 232 Moapa, NV 89025

Clark County Coyote Springs Water Resources GID 1001 S. Valley View Blvd. Las Vegas, NV 89153

Lake At Las Vegas Joint Venture, Inc. 1600 Lake Las Vegas Parkway Henderson, NV 89011

Laker Plaza, Inc. 7181 Noon Rd. Everson, WA 98247-9650 Nevada Cogeneration Associates #1 420 N. Nellis Blvd., #A3-148 Las Vegas, NV 89110

Lincoln County Commissioners P.O. Box 90 Pioche, NV 89043 Nevada Power Company DBA NV Energy 6226 West Sahara Avenue Las Vegas, NV 89146

Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints Area 4, 61 E. North Temple Salt Lake City, UT 84150-0001

State of Nevada, Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources Division of State Parks 901 S. Stewart Street, Suite 5005 Carson City, NV 89701

Moapa Band of Paiute Indians P.O. Box 340 Moapa, NV 89025

City of North Las Vegas 2250 Las Vegas Blvd. North N. Las Vegas, NV 89030

Moapa Valley Water District P. O. Box 257 Logandale, NV 89021

Pacific Coast Building Products, Inc. P.O. Box 364329 Las Vegas, NV 89036

State of Nevada Department of Transportation 1263 S. Stewart Street Carson City, NV 89712

Republic Environmental Technologies, Inc. 770 East Sahara Ave. Las Vegas, NV 89104

Nevada Cogeneration Associates 420 N. Nellis Blvd., #A3-117 Las Vegas, NV 89110

S & R, Inc. 808 Shetland Road Las Vegas, NV 89107 Southern Nevada Water Authority 1001 South Valley View Blvd., Mail Stop #485 Las Vegas, NV 89153

Technichrome 4709 Compass Bow Lane Las Vegas, NV 89130 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1020 New River Parkway, Suite 305 Fallon, NV 89406-2613

William O'Donnell 2780 S. Jones Blvd. Ste. 210 Las Vegas, NV 89146

Global Hydrologic Services, Inc. Mark D. Stock 561 Keystone Avenue, #200 Reno, NV 89503-4331

Exhibit B

Exhibit B

Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of the State of New York First Judicial Department

I, Susanna Rojas, Clerk of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, First Judicial Department, certify that

PAULINA ANTONIA WILLIAMS

was duly licensed and admitted to practice as an Attorney and Counsellor at Law in all the courts of the State of New York on January 9, 2006, has duly taken and subscribed the oath of office prescribed by law, has been enrolled in the Roll of Attorneys and Counsellors at Law on file in my office, has duly registered with the administrative office of the courts, and according to the records of this court is in good standing as an attorney and counsellor at law.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of this court on

August 9, 2019

8508

Clerk of the Court

STATE BAR OF TEXAS



Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel

August 08, 2019

Re: Ms. Paulina Antonia Olin Williams, State Bar Number 24066295

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to certify that Ms. Paulina Antonia Olin Williams was licensed to practice law in Texas on November 07, 2008, and is an active member in good standing with the State Bar of Texas. "Good standing" means that the attorney is current on payment of Bar dues; has met Minimum Continuing Legal Education requirements; and is not presently under either administrative or disciplinary suspension from the practice of law.

This certification expires 30 days from the date, unless sooner revoked or rendered invalid by operation of rule or law.

Sincerely,

Seana Willing

Chief Disciplinary Counsel

SW/aa



P.O. BOX 12487, CAPITOL STATION, AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711-2487, 512.427.1350; FAX: 512.427.4167

Exhibit C

Exhibit C

STAT

28 ||

BEFORE THE OFFICE OF THE STATE ENGINEER

STATE OF NEVADA

In The Matter Of The Administration River Flow System Within Coyote and Management Of The Lower White Spring Valley Hydrographic Basin

STATE BAR OF NEVADA STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SUPREME COURT RULE
42(3)(b)

THE STATE BAR OF NEVADA, in response to the application of Petitioner, submits the following statement pursuant to SCR42(3):

SCR42(6) **Discretion**. The granting or denial of a motion to associate counsel pursuant to this rule by the court is discretionary. The court, arbitrator, mediator, or administrative or governmental hearing officer may revoke the authority of the person permitted to appear under this rule. Absent special circumstances, repeated appearances by any person or firm of attorneys pursuant to this rule shall be cause for denial of the motion to associate such person.

- (a) Limitation. It shall be presumed, absent special circumstances, and only upon showing of good cause, that more than 5 appearances by any attorney granted under this rule in a 3-year period is excessive use of this rule.
- (b) Burden on applicant. The applicant shall have the burden to establish special circumstances and good cause for an appearance in excess of the limitation set forth in subsection 6(a) of this rule. The applicant shall set forth the special circumstances and good cause in an affidavit attached to the original verified application.
- 1. DATE OF APPLICATION: 8/26/2019
- 2. APPLYING ATTORNEY: Paulina Antonia Williams, Esq.

- 3. FIRM NAME AND ADDRESS: Baker Botts, L.L.P., 98 San Jacinto Blvd., Suite 1500, Austin, TX 78701
- 4. NEVADA COUNSEL OF RECORD: Sylvia L Harrison, Esq., McDonald Carano Wilson LLP, 100 W. Liberty St., 10th Floor, P.O. Box 2670, Reno, NV 89501-2670
- 5. There is no record of previous applications for appearance by petitioner within the past three (3) years.

DATED this August 26, 2019

Suzy Moore Member Services Admin. Pro Hac Vice Processor STATE BAR OF NEVADA

Exhibit D

Exhibit D

///

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE
ADMINSTRATION 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
HYDROGRAPHOC BASIN (218), AND
MUDDY RIVER SPRINGS AREA (aka
UPPER MOAPA VALLEY
HYDROGRAPHOC BASIN (219).

INTERIM ORDER #1303

ORDER GRANTING MOTION TO ASSOCIATE COUNSEL

Georgia Pacific Corporation, through its counsel of record, filed a Motion to Associate Counsel seeking an order permitting Paulina Williams, Esq. to practice in Nevada pursuant to Nevada Supreme Court Rule 42. The Motion was supported by Ms. Williams Verified Application for Association of Counsel, Certificate of Good Standing from the State Bar of Texas and the State Bar of New York, and the State Bar of Nevada's Statement Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 42(3)(b). The Motion was served on all appearing parties and no objections were filed. Good cause appearing,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Motion is granted and Paulina Williams, Esq. is hereby admitted to practice before this Administrative Agency for purposes of this matter only.

DATED t	this	day of	,	2019.
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DEDITY	ADMINISTRATOR	

Respectfully submitted by:

McDONALD CARANO LLP

Sylvia Harrison (#4106) Sarah Ferguson (#41515) McDonald Carano LLP 100 West Liberty Street, 10th Floor Reno, Nevada 89501 (775) 788-2000

sharrison@mcdonaldcarano.com

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

Regarding Interim Order 1303 and Hearing Beginning on September 23, 2019

Notice of Appearance of Counsel for The United States Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service and National Park Service

In accordance with Nevada Supreme Court Rule 43.1, which states:

Attorneys employed by or representing the United States Government, in matters before the courts of this state in which the United States has a direct interest, shall be permitted by the courts of this state to appear on behalf of the United States Government and to represent the interests thereof in any litigation in which the United States Government is interested.

Luke Miller, on behalf of The United States Department of the Interior ("DOI"), Fish and Wildlife Service ("FWS"); and Karen Glasgow, on behalf of DOI's National Park Service ("NPS"), enter this Notice of Appearance as DOI's attorneys of record and to provide notice that service and notification of matters in this proceeding be delivered to:

For FWS:

LUKE MILLER
Office of the Regional Solicitor
U.S. Department of the Interior
2800 Cottage Way, Suite E-1712
Sacramento, CA 95825
Telephone: (916) 978-6133
Telefax: (916) 978-5694
luke.millerasol.doi.gos

- 1

SE ROA 346

1 For NPS: 2. KAREN GLASGOW Office of the Regional Solicitor 3 San Francisco Field Office 4 U.S. Department of the Interior 333 Bush Street, Suite 775 5 San Francisco, CA 94104 Telephone: (415) 296-3381 6 Telefax: (415) 296-3371 7 karen.glasgow@sol.doi.gov 8 All such service and notification should also continue to the FWS and NPS addressees on the 9 current e-mail service list. 10 11 In support of this Notice of Appearance, and in accordance with Rule 43.2, affidavits are 12 attached that set forth confirmation of the United States' interest in this proceeding and statements of representation. 13 14 Dated this 5th day of September, 2019. 15 16 17 18 19 By: **Assistant Regional Solicitor** 20 Office of the Regional Solicitor 21 22 23 24 Karen Glasgow By: 25 **Field Solicitor** Office of the Regional Solicitor 26 San Francisco Field Office 27

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- 2

Attachment 1

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

Regarding Interim Order 1303 and Hearing Beginning on September 23, 2019

Affidavit in Support of Notice of Appearance of Counsel for The United States Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service

I, Luke Miller, am an attorney with the Department of the Interior's ("DOI") Office of the Solicitor, Pacific Southwest Region. I am licensed within the State of California, and have been since 2005 (Bar No. 238360). In this capacity, I represent various bureaus and agencies within DOI. The United States' Fish and Wildlife Service ("FWS") is one such agency.

The FWS has been engaged in water utilization issues surrounding what is now called the Lower White River Flow System ("LWRFS") in front of Nevada's Office of the State Engineer ("NSE"). In particular, the FWS has a continuing interest regarding the utilization of surface and subsurface water within the LWRFS that may impact springs in the Muddy River Springs area, including the Moapa Valley National Wildlife Refuge. FWS has engaged in the NSE's review and consideration of these issues by, most recently, submitting a substantive report on July 3, 2019, as requested by the Nevada State Engineer through its Interim Order 1303. The FWS also filed one rebuttal report on August 16, 2019. The NSE recently issued a Notice of Hearing on August 23, 2019, regarding a hearing scheduled to begin September 23, 2019, to hear testimony on all the reports that were filed in response to Order 1303. Through this Notice of Hearing, the NSE elected to apply Nevada Administrative Code ("NAC") 533.250 to require any party that supplied a report/rebuttal report to present the author(s) of such for cross-examination. Not

1

doing so risks an NSE discretionary action to disregard such report/rebuttal report. The FWS has a continuing interest to have its reports taken into consideration by the NSE, and currently plans to participate in the hearing beginning September 23.

Therefore, subject to the forgoing and in accordance with Nevada Supreme Court Rule 43.2, I submit this affidavit in support of my Notice of Appearance which is made in performance of my duties as a legal representative of the United States government's FWS.

I declare under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the United States, that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed in Sacramento, CA, on this 5th day of September, 2019.

Luke Miller

Assistant Regional Solicitor
Office of the Regional Solicitor
U.S. Department of the Interior
2800 Cottage Way, Suite E-1712
Sacramento, CA 95825

Telephone: (916) 978-6133 Telefax: (916) 978-5694 luke.miller <u>a</u> sol.doi.gov

he Miller

Attachment 2

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

Regarding Interim Order 1303 and Hearing Beginning on September 23, 2019

Affidavit in Support of Notice of Appearance of Counsel for The United States Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service

I, Karen Glasgow, am an attorney with the Department of the Interior's ("DOI") Office of the Solicitor, Pacific Southwest Region. I am licensed within the State of Texas, and have been since 1993 (Bar No. 00787547). In this capacity, I represent various bureaus and agencies within DOI. The United States' National Park Service ("NPS") is one such agency.

The NPS has been engaged in water utilization issues surrounding what is now called the Lower White River Flow System ("LWRFS") in front of Nevada's Office of the State Engineer ("NSE"). In particular, the NPS has a continuing interest regarding the utilization of surface and subsurface water within the LWRFS that may impact its water rights. NPS has engaged in the NSE's review and consideration of these issues by, most recently, submitting a substantive report on July 3, 2019, as requested by the Nevada State Engineer through its Interim Order 1303. The NPS also filed one rebuttal report on August 16, 2019. The NSE recently issued a Notice of Hearing on August 23, 2019, regarding a hearing scheduled to begin September 23, 2019, to hear testimony on all the reports that were filed in response to Order 1303. Through this Notice of Hearing, the NSE elected to apply Nevada Administrative Code ("NAC") 533.250 to require any party that supplied a report/rebuttal report to present the author(s) of such for cross-examination. Not doing so risks an NSE discretionary action to disregard such report/rebuttal report. The NPS

has a continuing interest to have its reports taken into consideration by the NSE, and currently plans to participate in the hearing beginning September 23.

Therefore, subject to the forgoing and in accordance with Nevada Supreme Court Rule 43.2, I submit this affidavit in support of my Notice of Appearance which is made in performance of my duties as a legal representative of the United States government's NPS.

I declare under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the United States, that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed in San Francisco, CA, on this 5th day of September 2019.

Karen D. Glasgow Field Solicitor

Office of the Field Solicitor-SF Field Office

U.S. Department of the Interior

333 Bush Street, Suite 775 San Francisco, CA 94104

(415) 293-3381 (o)

(415) 293-3371 (f)

karen.glasgow@sol.doi.gov

1	CERTIFIC	CATE OF SERVICE
2	RE: Interim Order 1303 Hearing Beginn	ing on September 23, 2019
3	I, the undersigned, declare that:	
4	I am a citizen of the United States, o	over the age of eighteen, and on September 5 th 2019
5	I served the foregoing	
7		The United States Department of the Interior vice and National Park Service
8	via e-mail and regular mail to:	
9 10 11	State Engineer Nevada Division of Water Resource 901 South Stewart Street, Suite 200 Carson City, NV 89701	
13	mfairbank@water.nv.gov	
14	and via e-mail to the addresses indicated be	elow:
15		
16	8milelister@gmail.com; ablack@mcdonaldcarano.com;	devaulr@cityofnorthlasvegas.com; dfrehner@lincolncountynv.gov;
17	admin.mbop@moapabandofpaiutes.org;	dixonjm@gmail.com;
	alaskajulie12@gmail.com;	dorothy@vidlerwater.com;
18	andrew.burns@snwa.com; barbnwalt325@gmail.com;	doug@nvfb.org; dvossmer@republicservices.com;
19	bbaldwin@ziontzchestnut.com;	dwight.smith@interflowhydro.com;
20	bostajohn@gmail.com;	edna@comcast.net;
21	bvann@ndow.org;	emilia.cargill@coyotesprings.com:
_	chair.mbop@moapabandofpaiutes.org; Chris.Benkman@nsgen.com;	fan4philly@gmail.com; gary_karst@nps.gov;
22	Colby.pellegrino@snwa.com;	gbushner@vidlerwater.com;
23	Coop@opd5.com;	glen_knowles@fws.gov;
24	coopergs@ldschurch.org; counsel@water-law.com;	gmorrison@parsonsbehle.com;
24	craig.primas@snvgrowers.com;	golden@apexindustrialpark.com; golds@nevcogen.com;
25	craig.wilkinson@pabcogypsum.com;	greatsam@usfds.com;
26	dan.peressini@lasvegaspaving.com;	greg.walch@lvvwd.com;
27	david_stone@fws.gov;	hartthethird@gmail.com;
٠,	Dbrown@ldalv.com; dennis.barrett10@gmail.com;	Howard.Forepaugh@nsgen.com; ircady@yahoo.com;
28	derekm@westernelite.com;	info4gbwn@gmail.com;

JCaviglia@nvenergy.com; onesharp1@gmail.com; 1 jeff.phillips@lasvegaspaving.com; paul@legaltnt.com; jim.watrus@snwa.com; pdonnelly@biologicaldiversity.org; joe@moapawater.com; progress@mvdsl.com: 3 Karen.glasgow@sol.doi.gov; rafelling@charter.net: kbrown@vvh2o.com; raymond.roessel@bia.gov; 4 Kevin Desroberts@fws.gov; rberley@ziontzchestnut.com; kimberley.jenkins@clarkcountynv.gov; rhoerth@vidlerwater.com; 5 kingmont@charter.net; robert.dreyfus@gmail.com; 6 kpeterson@allisonmackenzic.com; Rott@nvenergy.com; krobison@rssblaw.com; rozaki@opd5.com: kurthlawoffice@gmail.com; rteague@republicservices.com; lazarus@glorietageo.com; Sarahpeterson@blm.gov; lbelenky@biologicaldiversity.org; SCarlson@kcnvlaw.com; lbenezet@yahoo.com; sc.anderson@lvvwd.com; liamleavitt@hotmail.com; sc.anderson@snwa.com; 10 Lindseyd@mvdsl.com; sharrison@mcdonaldcarano.com; Lisa@ldalv.com; stever@stetsonengineers.com; 11 lle@mvdsl.com; sue braumiller@fws.gov; 12 lon@moapawater.com; technichrome@ips.net: tim@legaltnt.com; lroy@broadbentinc.com; 13 LuckyDirt@icloud.com; tommyers1872@gmail.com; luke.miller@sol.doi.gov; trobison@mvdsl.com; 14 luke.stewart@pabcogypsum.com; twtemt@hotmail.com; 15 martinmifflin@yahoo.com; veronica.rowan@sol.doi.gov; MBHoffice@earthlink.net; vsandu@republicservices.com; 16 michael schwemm@fws.gov; whitfam@mvdsl.com; mjohns@nvenergy.com; 17 william.paff@rocklandcapital.com; mmmiller@cox.net; wpoulsen@lincolnnv.com moapalewis@gmail.com; moorea@cityofnorthlasvegas.com; 19 muddyvalley@mvdsl.com; 20 21 I certify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on the 22 day of September 2019. 23 24 25 Luke Miller Assistant Regional Solicitor 26 27

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

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BEHLE &

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 HIDDEN VALLEY HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (217), CALIFORNIA WASH HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (218), AND MUDDY RIVER SPRINGS AREA (AKA UPPER MOAPA VALLEY) HYDRIGRAPHIC BASIN (219), LINCOLN AND CLARK COUNTIES, NEVADA.

MOAPA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that GREGORY H. MORRISON, ESQ. of the law firm of PARSONS BEHLE & LATIMER will represent MOAPA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT in these proceedings and at the hearing scheduled to begin on September 23, 2019.

DATED: September _______, 2019.

PARSONS BEHLE & LATIMER

Gregory H. Morrison, Esq. 50 W. Liberty St., Suite 750

Reno, NV 89501

Telephone: 775.323.1601 Email: gmorrison@parsonsbehle.com

Attorneys for Moapa Valley Water District

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

2		-1h
2	I certify that I am an employee of Parson	ns Behle & Latimer and that on the 5th day of
3		py of the foregoing document to be delivered via
5	email to the following:	
	8milelister@gmail.com;	ablack@mcdonaldcarano.com;
6	Admin.mbop@moapabandofpaiutes.org;	alaskajulie12@gmail.com;
7	andrew.bums@snwa.com;	barbnwalt325@gmail.com;
·	bbaldwin@ziontzchestnut.com;	bostajohn@gmail.com;
8	<u>bvann@ndow.org;</u>	chair.mbop@moapabandofpaiutes.org;
	Chris.Benkman@nsgen.com;	Colby.pellegrino@snwa.com;
9	Coop@opd5.com;	coopergs@ldschurch.org;
10	counsel@water-law.com;	craig.primas@snvgrowers.com;
10	craig.wilkinson@pabcogypsum.com;	dan.peressini@lasvegaspaving.com;
11	<u>david_stone@fws.gov;</u>	Dbrown@ldalv.com;
	dennis.barrett10@gmail.com;	derekm@westernelite.com;
12	devaulr@cityofnorthlasvegas.com;	dfrehner@lincolncountynv.gov;
	dixonjm@gmail.com;	dorothy@vidlerwater.com;
13	doug@nvfb.org;	dvossmer@republicservices.com;
14	dwight.smith@interflowhydro.com;	edna@comcast.net;
-	emilia.cargill@coyotesprings.com;	fan4philly@gmail.com;
15	gary karst@nps.gov;	gbushner@vidlerwater.com;
	glen_knowles@fws.gov;	golden@apexindustrialpark.com;
16	golds@nevcogen.com;	greatsam@usfds.com;
	greg.walch@lvvwd.com;	hartthethird@gmail.com;
17	Howard.Forepaugh@nsgen.com;	<u>iready@yahoo.com;</u>
18	info4gbwn@gmail.com;	JCaviglia@nvenergy.com;
'	jeff.phillips@lasvegaspaving.com;	jim.watrus@snwa.com;
19	joe@moapawater.com;	Karen.glasgow@sol.doi.gov;
	kbrown@vvh2o.com;	Kevin Desroberts@fws.gov;
20	kimberley.jenkins@clarkcountynv.gov;	kingmont@charter.net;
,,	kpeterson@allisonmackenzie.com;	KRobison@rssblaw.com;
21	kurthlawoffice@gmail.com;	lazarus@glorietageo.com;
22	lbelenky@biologicaldiversity.org;	lbenezet@yahoo.com;
	liamleavitt@hotmail.com;	<u>Lindseyd@mvdsl.com</u> ;
23	<u>Lisa@ldalv.com;</u>	<u>lle@mvdsl.com;</u>
	lon@moapawater.com;	<u>lroy@broadbentinc.com;</u>
24	LuckyDirt@icloud.com;	luke.miller@sol.doi.gov;
25	luke.stewart@pabcogypsum.com;	martinmifflin@yahoo.com;
ا د	MBHoffice@earthlink.net;	michael_schwemm@fws.gov;
26	mjohns@nvenergy.com;	mmmiller@cox.net;
	moapalewis@gmail.com;	moorea@cityofnorthlasvegas.com;
27	muddyvalley@mvdsl.com;	onesharpl@gmail.com;
,	paul@legaltnt.com;	pdonnelly@biologicaldiversity.org;
28	progress@mvdsl.com;	rafelling@charter.net;

PARSONS BEHLE & LATIMER

1	raymond.roessel@bia.gov;	rberley@ziontzchestnut.com;
2	rhoerth@vidlerwater.com; Rott@nvenergy.com;	<pre>robert.dreyfus@gmail.com; rozaki@opd5.com;</pre>
3	rteague@republicservices.com;	Sarahpeterson@blm.gov;
4	SCarlson@kcnvlaw.com; sc.anderson@snwa.com;	<pre>sc.anderson@lvvwd.com; sharrison@mcdonaldcarano.com;</pre>
	stever@stetsonengineers.com;	sue braumiller@fws.gov;
5	technichrome@jps.net; tommyersl872@gmail.com;	<u>tim@legaltnt.com;</u> <u>trobison@mvdsl.com;</u>
6	twtemt@hotmail.com;	veronica.rowan@sol.doi.gov;
7	<pre>vsandu@republicservices.com; William.paff@rocklandcapital.com;</pre>	whitfam@mvdsl.com; wpoulsen@lincolnnv.com;
8	mfairbank@water.nv.gov;	mflatley@water.nv.gov
9		Folipshallu
10		Employee of Parsons Behle & Latimer
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PARSONS BEHLE & LATIMER

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 (217), CALIFORNIA WASH HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (218), AND MUDDY RIVER SPRINGS AREA (AKA UPPER MOAPA VALLEY) HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (219), LINCOLN AND CLARK COUNTIES, NEVADA

INTERIM ORDER #1303

NOTICE OF APPEARANCE ON BEHALF OF NV ENERGY

Please take notice that JUSTINA A. Caviglia, Esq. will represent Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy ("Nevada Power") and Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy ("Sierra" and together with Nevada Power, "NV Energy" or the "Companies") in these proceedings and at the hearing scheduled to commence September 23, 2019.

Dated this 5th day of September, 2019.

NV Energy

Justina Caviglia Senior Attorney

Nevada Bar No. 9999

6100 Neil Road

Reno, Nevada 89511 775-834-3551

jcaviglia@nvenergy.com

985 -5 PH 2:

Nevada Power Company and Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

1		
2	Pursuant to NRCP 5(b), I hereby cert	ify that I am an employee of NV Energy, and
3	that on September 5, 2019, I served the foreg	going Notice of Appearance via direct email to
4	the addresses indicated below:	
5	8milelister@gmail.com;	joe@moapawater.com;
6	ablack@mcdonaldcarano.com; admin.mbop@moapabandofpaiutes.org;	Karen.glasgow@sol.doi.gov; kbrown@vvh2o.com;
7	alaskajulie12@gmail.com; andrew.burns@snwa.com;	Kevin_Desroberts@fws.gov; kimberley.jenkins@clarkcountynv.gov;
<i>'</i>	barbnwalt325@gmail.com;	kingmont@charter.net;
8	bbaldwin@ziontzchestnut.com;	kpeterson@allisonmackenzie.com;
	bostajohn@gmail.com;	krobison@rssblaw.com;
9	bvann@ndow.org;	kurthlawoffice@gmail.com;
1	chair.mbop@moapabandofpaiutes.org;	lazarus@glorietageo.com;
10		
10	Chris.Benkman@nsgen.com;	lbelenky@biologicaldiversity.org;
11	Colby.pellegrino@snwa.com;	lbenezet@yahoo.com;
11	Coop@opd5.com;	liamleavitt@hotmail.com;
10	coopergs@ldschurch.org;	Lindseyd@mvdsl.com;
12	counsel@water-law.com;	Lisa@ldalv.com; lle@mvdsl.com;
12	craig.primas@snvgrowers.com;	lon@moapawater.com;
13	craig.wilkinson@pabcogypsum.com;	lroy@broadbentinc.com;
14	dan.peressini@lasvegaspaving.com;	LuckyDirt@icloud.com;
14	david_stone@fws.gov;	luke.miller@sol.doi.gov;
1.5	Dbrown@ldalv.com;	luke.stewart@pabcogypsum.com;
15	dennis.barrett10@gmail.com;	martinmifflin@yahoo.com;
10	derekm@westernelite.com;	MBHoffice@earthlink.net;
16	devaulr@cityofnorthlasvegas.com;	michael_schwemm@fws.gov
1,74	dfrehner@lincolncountynv.gov;	MJohns@nvenergy.com;
17	dixonjm@gmail.com;	mmmiller@cox.net;
.	dorothy@vidlerwater.com;	moapalewis@gmail.com;
18	doug@nvfb.org;	moorea@cityofnorthlasvegas.com;
10	dvossmer@republicservices.com;	muddyvalley@mvdsl.com;
19	dwight.smith@interflowhydro.com;	onesharp1@gmail.com;
20	edna@comcast.net;	paul@legaltnt.com;
20	emilia.cargill@coyotesprings.com;	pdonnelly@biologicaldiversity.org;
21	fan4philly@gmail.com;	progress@mvdsl.com;
21	gary_karst@nps.gov;	rafelling@charter.net;
	gbushner@vidlerwater.com;	raymond.roessel@bia.gov;
22	glen_knowles@fws.gov;	rberley@ziontzchestnut.com;
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23	golden@apexindustrialpark.com;	robert.dreyfus@gmail.com;
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	3	twtemt@hotmail.com; veronica.rowan@sol.doi.gov;	
	4	<u>Via US Mail:</u>	
	5		
	6	3335 Hillside, LLC 3420 North Buffalo Drive	Nevada Cogeneration Associates 420 N. Nellis Blvd., #A3-1 17
	7	Las Vegas, NV 89129	Las Vegas; NV 89110
	8	Bedroc Limited, LLC 2745 North Nellis Boulevard	Don J. & Marsha L. Davis P.O. Box 400
	9	Las Vegas, NV 89115	Moapa. NV 89025
oany	10	Larry Brundy P.O. Box 136	Dry Lake Water, LLC
Nevada Power Company and Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy	11	Moapa, NV 89025	2470 St. Rose Pkwy., Ste.107 Henderson, NV 89074
Nevada Power Company Sierra Pacific Power Com d/b/a NV Energy	12	Casa De Warm Springs, LLC	Georgia Pacific Corporation
ower ific Po NV E		1000 North Green Valley Parkway #440-350	P.O. Box 337350 Las Vegas, NV 89033
da Po Paci /b/a	13	Henderson, NV 89074	Kelly Kolhoss
Neva ierra d	14	Clark County 500 S. Grand Central Pkwy.	P.O. Box 232
I S pui	15	Las Vegas, NV 89155	Moapa. NV 89025
64	16	Clark County Commissioners	Lake at Las Vegas Joint Venture, Inc. 1600 Lake Las Vegas Parkway
	17	500 S. Grand Central Pkwy., 6th Fl. Las Vegas, NV 89155-1111	Henderson, NV 89011
	18	Clark County Coyote Springs Water	Laker Plaza, Inc. 7181 Noon Rd.
	19	Resources GID 1001 S. Valley View Blvd.	Everson, WA 98247-9650
		Las Vegas, NV 89153	Lincoln County Commissioners
	20	Mary K. Cloud	P.O. Box 90 Pioche, NV 89043
	21	P.O. Box 31 Moapa, NV 89025	Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day
	22	Coyote Springs Investment, LLC	Saints Area 4,
	23	c/o Wingfield Nevada Group	61 E. North Temple Salt Lake City, UT 84150-0001
	24	6600 N. Wingfield Pkwy. Sparks, NV 89436	Moapa Band of Paiute Indians
	25	Moapa Valley Water District	P.O. Box 340 Moapa, NV 89025
	26	P.O. Box 257 Logandale, NV 89021	S & R, Inc.
	27		808 Shetland Road Las Vegas, NV 89107
	28		240, 117 07107

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28

Southern Nevada Water Authority 1001 South Valley View Blvd. Mail Stop #485 Las Vegas, NV 89153

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1020 New River Parkway, Suite 305 Fallon, NV 89406-2613

William O'Donnell 2780 S. Jones Blvd. Ste. 210 Las Vegas, NV 89146

Mark D. Stock Global Hydrologic Services, Inc. 561 Keystone Avenue, #200 Reno, NV 89503-4331

Scott Millington, General Manager Muddy Valley Irrigation Co. P.O. Box 665 Overton, NV 89040

Sylvia Harrison McDonald Carano 100 West Liberty St, Tenth Fl. Reno, NV 89501

Senior Legal Administrative Assistant

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE)	
ADMINISTRATION AND)	
MANAGEMENT OF THE LOV/ER	ĺ	Regarding Nevada State Engineer
WHITE RIVER FLOW SYSTEM	<i>)</i>	Interim Order 1303
WITHIN COYOTE SPRING VALLEY)	internii Order 1303
HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (210), A)	
PORTION OF BLACK MOUNTAINS)	
AREA HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (215),)	
GARNET VALLEY HYDROGRAPHIC)	NOTICE OF APPEARANCE
BASIN (216), HIDDEN VALLEY)	
HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (217),	ĺ	
CALIFORNIA WASH	`	
HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (218), AND)	
MUDDY RIVER SPRINGS AREA (AKA)	
UPPER MOAPA VALLEY))	
HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN)	
(2t9), LINCOLN AND CLARK)	
COUNTIES, NEVADA)	

NOTICE OF APPEARANCE FOR PATRICK DONNELLY LOWER WHITE RIVER FLOW SYSTEM ORDER 1303 PROCEEDING

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2 an agent of the Center for Biological Diversity 3 4 In accordance with the rules set forth in the Lower White River Flow System Order 1303 Notice of 5 Hearing dated August 23, 2019, Patrick Donnelly, an employee of the Center for Biological Diversity, enters this notice of appearance as the Center for Biological Diversity's agent of record 6 for the above referenced matter. Agent Patrick Donnelly requests that service of pertinent documents 7 8 be delivered, preferably in electronic format, to: 9 Patrick Donnelly 10 11 Center for Biological Diversity 7345 S. Durango Dr. 12 13 B-107, Box 217 Las Vegas, NV 89113 14 15 pdonnelly@biologicaldiversity.org 16 17 Lisa Belenky 18 Center for Biological Diversity 19 1212 Broadway #800 20 Oakland, CA 94612 lbelenky@biologicaldiversity.org 21 22 Dated this 6th day of September. 23 24 25 26

Notice of Appearance for Patrick Donnelly,

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Patrick Donnelly

DECLARATION OF PATRICK DONNELLY IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

RECENTED

Therese A. Ure, NSB 10255 Laura A. Schroeder, NSB 3595 Schroeder Law Offices, P.C. 10615 Double R Blvd., Ste. 100 Reno, Nevada 89521 PHONE (775) 786-8800; FAX (877) 600-4971 counsel@water-law.com Attorneys for City of North Las Vegas

Affirmation: This document does not contain the social security number of any person.

2019 SEP -6 AM N : 37

STATE ENGRAFERA OFFICE

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 THE COYOTE SPRING VALLEY HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (210), A PORTION OF BLACK MOUNTAINS AREA HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (215), GARNET VALLEY HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (216), HIDDEN VALLEY HYDROGRÁPHIC BASIN (217), CALIFORNIA WASH HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (218), AND MUDDY RIVER SPRINGS AREA (AKA UPPER MOAPA VALLEY) HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (219), LINCOLN AND CLARK COÚNTIES, NEVADA

NOTICE OF APPEARANCE OF COUNSEL FOR CITY OF NORTH LAS VEGAS

NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Therese A. Ure and Laura A. Schroeder, of Schroeder Law Offices, P.C., along with Deputy City Attorney Andrew Moore for City of North Las Vegas, hereby appear in the above referenced matter as counsel for City of North Las Vegas.

Page 1 – NOTICE OF APPEARANCE OF COUNSEL FOR CITY OF NORTH LAS VEGAS



440 Marsh Avenue Reno, NV 89509 PHONE (775) 786-8800 FAX (877) 600-4971

Counsel, Schroeder Law Offices, P.C. and the City Attorney's Office for the City of North Las Vegas intend to participate in any proceeding related to the administration and management of the Lower White River Flow System ("LWRFS").

Counsel Schroeder Law Offices, P.C. requests that service of pleadings, notices and other correspondence relating to the above referenced matter be directed to:

Therese A. Ure Laura A. Schroeder Schroeder Law Offices, P.C. 10615 Double R Blvd., Ste. 100 Reno, Nevada 89521 counsel@water-law.com

Andy Moore City Attorney's Office City of North Las Vegas 2250 N. Las Vegas Blvd., Ste. 810 North Las Vegas, NV 89030 moorea@cityofnorthvegas.com

DATED this 5 day of September, 2019.

SCHROEDER LAW OFFICES, P.C.

Laura A. Schroeder, NSB #3595 Therese A. Ure, NSB #10255 Email: counsel@water-law.com 10615 Double R Blvd., Ste. 100

Reno, Nevada 89521Phone: (775) 786-8800

Fax: (877) 600-4971

Attorneys for City of North Las Vegas



CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on September 5, 2019, I caused a copy of the foregoing NOTICE OF

APPEARANCE OF COUNSEL FOR CITY OF NORTH LAS VEGAS to be served on the

following parties as outlined below:

VIA US MAIL from the State of Nevada:

Nevada State Engineer Nevada Division of Water Resources 901 South Stewart Street, Suite 2002 Carson City, NV 89701

VIA ELECTRONIC DELIVERY:

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bvann@ndow.org

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Page 1 of 2 – CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE



10615 Double R Blvd., Suite 100 Reno, NV 89521 PHONE (775) 786-8800 FAX (877) 600-4971

OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

3

1

2

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),

HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (216),

AREA (AKA UPPER MOAPA

COUNTIES, NEVADA.

VALLEY) HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (219). LINCOLN AND CLARK INTERIM ORDER 1303

9

HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (217), CALIFORNIA WASH HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (218), AND MUDDY RIVER SPRINGS

GARNET VALLEY

HIDDEN VALLEY

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NOTICE OF APPEARANCE ON BEHALF OF MUDDY VALLEY IRRIGATION COMPANY

Please take notice that Steven D. King, Esq., of the Law Office of Steven D. King, will represent Muddy Valley Irrigation Company, in these proceedings and at the September 23, 2019 hearing.

Dated this 616 of September, 2019.

Steven D. King, Esq.- NSB #4034

227 River Road

Dayton, Nevada 89403
Telephone: (775) 427-5821
EMAIL: kingmont@charter.net
Attorney for Muddy Valley
Irrigation Company

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I, Steven D. King, on this date, caused a true copy of **NOTICE OF APPEARANCE ON BEHALF OF MUDDY VALLEY IRRIGATION COMPANY**, to be served on all parties to this action by emailing an attached copy of the document to the email addresses below:

4 8milelister@gmail.com; ablack@mcdonaldcarano.com 5 admin.mbop@moapabandofpaiutes.org alaskajulie12@gmail.com; 6 andrew.burns@snwa.com; barbnwalt325@gmail.com; 7 bbaldwin@ziontzchestnut.com; bostajohn@gmail.com; Bennie Vann

bvann@ndow.org>; 8 chair.mbop@moapabandofpaiutes.org; Chris.Benkman@nsgen.com; 9 Colby.pellegrino@snwa.com; Coop@opd5.com; 10 coopergs@ldschurch.org; counsel@water-law.com; 11 craig.primas@snvgrowers.com; craig.wilkinson@pabcogypsum.com; 12 dan.peressini@lasvegaspaving.com; david stone@fws.gov; 13 Dbrown@ldalv.com; dennis.barrett10@gmail.com; 14 derekm@westernelite.com; devaulr@cityofnorthlasvegas.com; 15 dfrehner@lincolncountynv.gov; dixonim@gmail.com; dorothy@vidlerwater.com; 16 doug@nvfb.org; dvossmer@republicservices.com; 17 dwight.smith@interflowhydro.com; edna@comcast.net; 18 emilia.cargill@coyotesprings.com; fan4philly@gmail.com; 19 gary karst@nps.gov; gbushner@vidlerwater.com; 20 glen knowles@fws.gov; gmorrison@parsonsbehle.com; 21 golden@apexindustrialpark.com; golds@nevcogen.com; 22 greatsam@usfds.com; greg.walch@lvvwd.com; 23 hartthethird@gmail.com; Howard.Forepaugh@nsgen.com; 24 ircady@yahoo.com; info4gbwn@gmail.com; 25 JCaviglia@nvenergy.com; jeff.phillips@lasvegaspaving.com;

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sharrison@mcdonaldcarano.com; stever@stetsonengineers.com; sue braumiller@fws.gov; technichrome@jps.net; tim@legaltnt.com; tommyers1872@gmail.com; trobison@mvdsl.com; twtemt@hotmail.com; veronica.rowan@sol.doi.gov; vsandu@republicservices.com; whitfam@mvdsl.com; william.paff@rocklandcapital.com; wpoulsen@lincolnnv.com bherrema@bhfs.com Dated this 6 day of September, 2019.

TO:17756842811 FR

Date: 9/6/19

FROM: 7023597590

NULLIZED Page:

1

FAX

Kaempfer Crowell

50 West Liberty Street, Suite 700

Reno, NV 89501

Phone:

(775) 852-3900

Fax:

(775) 327-2011

E-Mail: info@kcnvlaw.com

No. of Pages: 5

(Including cover sheet)

TO:

Fax No:

Phone No:

Office of the State Engineer of the State of

Nevada

775-684-2811

775-684-2800

FROM:

J Harris

Client/Matter No:

Regarding:

Notice of Appearance

Message:

Re: Matter of the Administration and Management of the Lower White River Flowsystem within Coyote Spring Valley Hydrographic Basin et al.

THE FOLLOWING PAGES ARE A CONFIDENTIAL ATTORNEY-CLIENT COMMUNICATION INTENDED ONLY FOR THE PERSON NAMED ABOVE. IF YOU ARE NOT THE PERSON NAMED ABOVE, OR THE EMPLOYEE OR AGENT RESPONSIBLE FOR DELIVERY OF THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION, YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT ANY DISSEMINATION, DISTRIBUTION OR COPYING OF THIS COMMUNICATION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS COMMUNICATION IN ERROR, PLEASE NOTIFY US IMMEDIATELY BY TELEPHONE AND RETURN THE ORIGINAL MESSAGE TO US BY MAIL. WE WILL GLADLY REIMBURSE YOUR POSTAGE EXPENSE. THANK YOU.

9/6/2019,	,10 ₂ ;06	AM PRT	TO:17756842811	FROM: 702359	97590 NU. 1240	Page:, 3
		Alex J.	Flancae			
	$\begin{array}{c c} & \\ & \\ 2 \end{array}$		er Crowell			
	$\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$	50 W. L	iberty Street, Suite 700 evada 89501			
		<u>aflangas</u>	@kcnvlaw.com			
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٠	5		852-3900			
	6		775-393-1783 75-219-9163			
	7	in a minima	ent office on a	2010		
	8	DATEL	this 5 th day of Septemb			
	9		KAEMP	FER CROWELL	h	
	10		BY:	/ Med X	Days,	1
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	18		CERTI	FICATE OF SEF	RVICE	
	19	I hereby	certify that I am an en	ployee of KEMI	FER CROWELL, an	d on this date, I
	20	caused the fore	going document to be ser	ved via electronic	transmission as follo	ws:
		8milelister@gr ablack@mcdor	nail.com; aldcarano.com;		rst@water.nv.gov; papawater.com;	
13.00 also			moapabandofpaiutes.org	; <u>Karen.g</u>	lasgow@sol.doi.gov; @yyh2o.com;	
KAEMPFEN CROWELL. 50 West Liberty Street, Salis 740	58 23	alaskajulie12@ andrew.burns@	gmail.com;	Kevin_1	Desroberts@fws.gov;	.+
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á á		bostajohn@gn	ntzchestnut.com; nail.com;		on@allisonmackenzie n@rssblaw.com;	<u>com;</u>
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	chair.mbop@moapabandofpaiutes.org;	lazarus@glorietageo.com;			
2	chris.benkman@nsgen.com;	lbelenky@biologicaldiversity.org;			
	Colby.pellegrino@snwa.com;	lbenezet@yahoo.com;			
3	Coop@opd5.com;	liamleavitt@hotmail.com;			
	coopergs@ldschurch.org;	Lindseyd@mvdsl.com;			
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5	dan.peressini@lasvegaspaving.com;	lon@moapawater.com;			
	david_stone@fws.gov;	lroy@broadbentinc.com;			
6	<u>Dbrown@ldalv.com;</u>	LuckyDirt@icloud.com;			
	dennis.barrett10@gmail.com;	luke miller@sol.doi.gov;			
7	derekm@westernelite.com;	martinmifflin@yahoo.com			
	devaulr@cityofnorthlasvegas.com;	mfairbank@water.nv.gov			
8	dfrehner@lincolncountynv.gov;	mlflatley@water.nv.gov			
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	fan4philly@gmail.com;	onesharpl@gmail.com;			
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	golds@nevcogen.com;	rberley@ziontzchestnut.com;			
16	greatsam@usfds.com;	rhoerth@vidlerwater.com;			
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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.

INTERIM ORDER #1303

NOTICE OF APPEARANCE ON BEHALF OF 3335HILLSIDE LLC

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Robert O. Kurth, Jr. of the KURTH LAW OFFICE

hereby enters his appearance as counsel of record concerning these proceedings and will represent

3335HILLSIDE LLC at the hearing scheduled to commence on or about September 23, 2019.

DATED this 6th day of September, 2019.

Submitted by:

KURTH LAW OFFICE

ROBERT O. KURTH, JR. Nevada Bar No. 4659 3420 North Buffalo Drive Las Vegas, NV 89129

Tel: (702) 438-5810 Fax: (702) 459-1585

E-mail: kurthlawoffice@gmail.com Attorney for 3335Hillside LLC

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

2 I HEREBY CERTIFY that on the 6th day of September, 2019, I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing NOTICE OF APPEARANCE ON BEHALF OF 3 3335HILLSIDE LLC via electronic delivery and email to the following: 4 8milelister@gmail.com; gmorrison@parsonsbehle.com; golden@apexindustrialpark.com; ablack@mcdonaldcarano.com admin.mbop@moapabandofpaiutes.org golds@nevcogen.com; alaskaiuliel2@gmail.com; greatsam@usfds.com: andrew.bums@snwa.com; greg.walch@lvvwd.com; barbnwalt325@gmail.com; hartthethird@gmail.com; 8 bbaldwin@ziontzchestnut.com; Howard.Forepaugh@nsgen.com; bostajohn@gmail.com; ircady@yahoo.com; Bennie Vann

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An employee of KURTH LAW OFFICE

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)	ORDER DENYING REQUEST FOR
AREA HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (215), GARNET)	RECONSIDERATION AND
VALLEY HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (216),)	REVISION OF STATE
HIDDEN VALLEY HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN)	ENGINEER'S NOTICE OF
(217), CALIFORNIA WASH HYDROGRAPHIC)	HEARING
BASIN (218), AND MUDDY RIVER SPRINGS)	
AREA (AKA UPPER MOAPA VALLEY))	
HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (219), LINCOLN AND)	
CLARK COUNTIES, NEVADA.)	

At the pre-hearing conference held on August 8, 2019, in the above captioned matter, certain parties made requests relating to the amount of time to be allotted to them.¹ Specifically, counsel expressed concern relating to the proposed time to be allotted based upon the number of witnesses and other factors.² In response, counsel for Coyote Springs Investments, LLC (CSI) asked for the same allotment of time as another party without further justification.³ On August 23, 2019, the State Engineer issued the Notice of Hearing whereby participants were assigned certain dates and time for the presentation of their evidence relating to the matters established in Order 1303.⁴

On August 28, 2019, CSI filed a *Request for Reconsideration and Revision of State Engineer's Notice of Hearing* (Request). In that request, CSI stated the basis for its request to be to provide "an equal opportunity to present its case." CSI provided no other justification for its request for additional time.⁶

Generally, the Nevada State Engineer does not accept requests for reconsideration.⁷ While the administrative regulations set forth in Nevada Administrative Code Chapter 533 are

¹ See generally Notice of Pre-Hearing Conference, dated July 25, 2019; see also Transcript of the public pre-hearing conference before the State Engineer, August 8, 2019, official records in the Office of the State Engineer.

² See Transcript at pp. 22-23.

³ *Id.* at p. 26.

⁴ Official records in the office of the State Engineer.

⁵ See Coyote Springs Investment, LLC's Request for Reconsideration and Revision of State Engineer's Notice of Hearing, official records in the Office of the State Engineer.
⁶ Id.

⁷ See NAC 533.365.

generally directed toward the practice and procedure in protest hearings conducted before the State Engineer, the State Engineer finds such regulations and procedures persuasive, but not binding in this matter.

Further, while the Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure are not binding on the State Engineer or these proceedings, the State Engineer finds NRCP 60 to be informative in considering CSI's Request. Under NRCP 60, a motion for relief from a judgment or order may be based upon mistake, inadvertence, excusable neglect, newly discovered evidence, fraud, or other bases.⁸

Having considered the statements of counsel during the August 8, 2019, pre-hearing conference as well as the Request, the State Engineer does not find that CSI has demonstrated a basis to revise the Notice of Hearing.

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED that the Request for Reconsideration and Revision of State Engineer's Notice of Hearing filed by Coyote Springs Investments, LLC is DENIED.

MICHELINE N. FAIRBANK Deputy Administrator

Dated this 6th day of

September, 2019.

⁸ See NRCP 60(b).

SERVICE LIST

Order Denying Request for Reconsideration and Revision of State Engineer's Notice of Hearing In the Matter of the Administration and Management of the Lower White River Flow System

Bedroc Limited, LLC Western Elite Environmental, Inc. 2745 North Nellis Boulevard Las Vegas, NV 89115

Coyote Springs Investment, LLC c/o Wingfield Nevada Group 6600 N. Wingfield Pkwy. Sparks, NV 89436

Dry Lake Water, LLC 2470 St. Rose Pkwy., Ste. 107 Henderson, NV 89074

Georgia Pacific Corporation Georgia Pacific Gypsum P.O. Box 337350 Las Vegas, NV 89033

Moapa Band of Paiute Indians P.O. Box 340 Moapa, NV 89025

Moapa Valley Water District P. O. Box 257 Logandale, NV 89021

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Nevada Power Company DBA NV Energy 6226 West Sahara Avenue Las Vegas, NV 89146

City of North Las Vegas 2250 Las Vegas Blvd. North N. Las Vegas, NV 89030 Republic Environmental Technologies, Inc. 770 East Sahara Ave. Las Vegas, NV 89104

Southern Nevada Water Authority 1001 South Valley View Blvd., Mail Stop #485 Las Vegas, NV 89153

Nigel Macrae, Vice President Technichrome 4709 Compass Bow Lane Las Vegas, NV 89130

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1020 New River Parkway, Suite 305 Fallon, NV 89406-2613

Lincoln County Water District P.O. Box 60 Pioche, NV 89043

Peter Fahmy National Park Service 1201 Oakridge Dr. Fort Collins, CO 80525

Patrick Donnelly Center for Biological Diversity 7345 S. Durango Dr., B-107, Box 217 Las Vegas, NV 89116

Kyle Roerink Great Basin Water Network P.O. Box 75 Baker, NV 89311

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Scott Millington, General Manager Todd Robison, Chairman of the Board Muddy Valley Irrigation Company P.O. Box 665 Overton, NV 89040

Greg L. Bushner Vidler Water Company 3480 GS Richards Blvd., Suite 101 Carson City, NV 89703

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Larry Brundy P.O. Box 136 Moapa, NV 89025

Casa De Warm Springs, LLC 1000 North Green Valley Parkway, #440-350 Henderson, NV 89074

Clark County 500 S. Grand Central Pkwy. Las Vegas, NV 89155

Clark County Commissioners 500 S. Grand Central Pkwy., 6th Fl. Las Vegas, NV 89155-1111

Clark County Coyote Springs Water Resources GID 1001 S. Valley View Blvd. Las Vegas, NV 89153

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Kelly Kolhoss P.O. Box 232 Moapa, NV 89025

Lake At Las Vegas Joint Venture, Inc. 1600 Lake Las Vegas Parkway Henderson, NV 89011

Laker Plaza, Inc. 7181 Noon Rd. Everson, WA 98247-9650

Lincoln County Commissioners P.O. Box 90 Pioche, NV 89043

Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints Area 4, 61 E. North Temple Salt Lake City, UT 84150-0001

State of Nevada Department of Transportation 1263 S. Stewart Street Carson City, NV 89712

Nevada Cogeneration Associates #1 420 N. Nellis Blvd., #A3-148 Las Vegas, NV 89110

Division of State Parks State of Nevada Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources 901 S. Stewart Street, Suite 5005 Carson City, NV 89701

Pacific Coast Building Products, Inc. P.O. Box 364329 Las Vegas, NV 89036

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

2019 SEP -6 PM 3: 38

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADMINSTRATION 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 HYDROGRAPHOC BASIN (218), AND MUDDY RIVER SPRINGS AREA (aka UPPER MOAPA VALLEY HYDROGRAPHOC BASIN (219).

INTERIM ORDER #1303

NOTICE OF APPEARANCE ON BEHALF OF

REPUBLIC ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that SYLVIA HARRISON, ESQ. and SARAH FERGUSON, ESQ. of the law firm of McDONALD CARANO, LLP, will represent REPUBLIC ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGIES, INC.¹ at the hearing scheduled to commence September 23, 2019.

DATED: September 6 2019.

McDONALD CARANO LLP

Sylvia Harrison (#4106) Sarah Ferguson (#41515)

McDonald Carano LLP 100 West Liberty Street, 10th Floor Reno, Nevada 89501 (775) 788-2000 sharrison@mcdonaldcarano.com sferguson@mcdonaldcarano.com

¹ Counsel filed a Notice of Appearance on August 30, 2019 on behalf of Georgia Pacific Corporation and will jointly represent the parties in these proceedings.

MCDONALD (CARANO DO WEST LIBERTY STREET, TENTH FLOOR • RENO, NEVADA 89501

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to NRCP 5(b), I hereby certify that I am an employee of McDONALD CARANO LLP, and that on September 2019, I served the foregoing NOTICE OF APPEARANCE via direct email to the addresses indicated below:

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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.

789 SEP - 6 PH 3:52

NOTICE OF APPEARANCE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that PAUL G. TAGGART, ESQ. and TIMOTHY D. O'CONNOR, ESQ., of the law firm of TAGGART & TAGGART, LTD., and STEVEN C. ANDERSON, ESQ., of SOUTHERN NEVADA WATER AUTHORITY, hereby enter their appearance as counsel of record for SOUTHERN NEVADA WATER AUTHORITY and LAS VEGAS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT in this matter.

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Service of pleadings, notices, and other documents related to this matter should be delivered to:

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DATED this

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Attorneys for Southern Nevada Water Authority and Las Vegas Valley Water District

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

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 the foregoing document via electronic delivery, addressed as follows:

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DATED this _

day of September, 2019.

Employee of TAGGART & TAGGART, LTD.

RUCEVED

2019 SEP - 6 AM H: 37

STATE ENGINEERS OFFICE

Therese A. Ure, NSB 10255
Laura A. Schroeder, NSB 3595
Schroeder Law Offices, P.C.
10615 Double R Blvd., Ste. 100
Reno, Nevada 89521
PHONE (775) 786-8800; FAX (877) 600-4971
counsel@water-law.com
Attorneys for Bedroc

Affirmation: This document does not contain the social security number of any person.

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 THE 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 COÚNTIES, NEVADA

NOTICE OF APPEARANCE OF COUNSEL FOR WESTERN ELITE ENVIRONMENTAL, INC. AND BEDROC LIMITED, LLC

NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Therese A. Ure and Laura A. Schroeder, of Schroeder Law Offices, P.C., along with Derek Muaina, General Counsel for Western Elite Environmental,

Page 1 – NOTICE OF APPEARANCE OF COUNSEL FOR WESTERN ELITE ENVIRONMENTAL, INC. AND BEDROC LIMITED, LLC



440 Marsh Avenue Reno, NV 89509

PHONE (775) 786-8800 FAX (877) 600-4971

Inc., hereby appear in the above referenced matter as counsel for Western Elite Environmental, Inc., and Bedroc Limited, LLC (collectively "Bedroc").

Counsel, Schroeder Law Offices, P.C. intends to participate in any proceeding related to the administration and management of the Lower White River Flow System ("LWRFS").

Counsel Schroeder Law Offices, P.C. requests that service of pleadings, notices and other correspondence relating to the above referenced matter be directed to:

Therese A. Ure Laura A. Schroeder Schroeder Law Offices, P.C. 10615 Double R Blvd., Ste. 100 Reno, Nevada 89521 counsel@water-law.com

Derek Muaina, General Counsel Western Elite 2745 N. Nellis Blvd. Las Vegas, NV 89115 DerekM@WesternElite.com

DATED this day of September, 2019.

SCHROEDER LAW OFFICES, P.C.

Laura A. Schroeder, NSB #3595 Therese A. Ure, NSB #10255 Email: counsel@water-law.com 10615 Double R Blvd., Ste. 100

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Fax: (877) 600-4971 Attorneys for Bedroc

Page 2 – NOTICE OF APPEARANCE OF COUNSEL FOR WESTERN ELITE ENVIRONMENTAL, INC. AND BEDROC LIMITED, LLC



CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on September 5, 2019, I caused a copy of the foregoing NOTICE OF

APPEARANCE OF COUNSEL FOR WESTERN ELITE ENVIRONMENTAL, INC. AND

BEDROC LIMITED,LLC to be served on the following parties as outlined below:

VIA US MAIL from the State of Nevada:

Nevada State Engineer Nevada Division of Water Resources 901 South Stewart Street, Suite 2002 Carson City, NV 89701

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Page 1 of 2 - CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE



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raymond.roessel@bia.gov

Dated this 5th day of September, 2019.

Lisa Gage, Paralegal for: Schroeder Law Offices

Laura A. Schroeder, NSB # 3595 Therese A. Ure, NSB #10255

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and Bedroc Limited LLC

Page 2 of 2 - CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE



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IN THE OFFICE OF THE STATE ENGINEER PM 12: 18

OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADMINISTATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE LOWER WHITE RIVER FLOWSYSTEM 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).

NOTICE OF APPEARANCE OF COUNSEL FOR THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT Severin A. Carlson of the law firm of KAEMPFER CROWELL, LTD. will be representing The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, a Utah corporation sole, in the above referenced proceedings before the Nevada State Engineer.

The undersigned requests that service of all documents, notices and other correspondence relating to the above referenced matter be directed to counsel at the following address:

> Severin A. Carlson Kaempfer Crowell, Ltd. 50 W. Liberty Street, Suite 700 Reno, Nevada 89511 scarlson@kenvlaw.com asaintil@kcnvlaw.com Tel: (775) 852-3900

Fax: (775) 327-2011

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SE ROA 396 Page 1 of 4

DATED this <u>9</u>^m day of September, 2019.

KAEMPFER CROWELL

BY:

Nevada Bar No. 9373

50 West Liberty Street, Suite 700

Reno, NV 89501

Attorneys for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-

day Saints, a Utah corporation sole

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SE ROA 397 Page 2 of 4

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I am an employee of KEMPFER CROWELL, and on this date, I

caused the foregoing document to be served via electronic transmission as follows:

4	8milelister@gmail.com;	jmordhorst@water.nv.gov;
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SE ROA 398 Page 3 of 4

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8	schroeder@water-law.com; c.skulan@water-law.com;	
9	C.Skulanawater-law.com,	
7	Additionally I caused the original doo	cument to be delivered to the Office of the State
10	Traditionally, I caused the original door	cument to be derivered to the office of the state
10	Engineer at 901 S. Stewart Street, Suite 2002	2, Carson City, Nevada 89701, on September 10,
11		J,
	2019.	
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	DATED this 9 day of September, 20	19.
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KAEMPFER CROWELL 50 West Liberty Street, Suite 700 Reno, Nevada 89501

IN THE OFFICE OF THE STATE ENGINEER

OF THE STATE OF NEVADA 2019 SEP 13 AM 18: 12

STATE EN INTERNO OFFIC.

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).

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INTERIM ORDER #1303

NOTICE OF APPEARANCE OF THERESE M. SHANKS, ESQ. ON BEHALF OF COYOTE SPRINGS INVESTMENT, LLC

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that THERESE M. SHANKS, ESQ., of the law firm of ROBISON, SHARP, SULLIVAN & BRUST, hereby associates with BRADLEY J. HERREMA, ESQ., of the law firm of BROWNSTEIN HYATT FARBER SCHRECK, KENT R. ROBISON, ESQ., of the law firm of ROBISON, SHARP, SULLIVAN & BRUST, and EMILIA K. CARGILL, ESQ. to represent Coyote Springs Investment, LLC in these proceedings and at the September 23, 2019 hearing.

Dated this 12th of September, 2019.

KENT R. ROBISON, ESQ. – NSB #1167 THERESE M. SHANKS, ESQ. – NSB #12890 ROBISON, SHARP, SULLIVAN & BRUST 71 Washington Street

71 Washington Street Reno, Nevada 89503

TELEPHONE: (775) 329-3151 Email: krobison@rssblaw.com

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Attorneys for Coyote Springs Investment, LLC

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Robison, Sharp, Sullivan & Brust 71 Washington St. Reno, NV 89503 (775) 329-3151

IN ASSOCIATION WITH:

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EMILIA K. CARGILL, ESQ. – NSB #6493 Chief Operating Officer Senior Vice President-General Counsel Coyote Springs Investments, LLC 3100 State Route 168 Coyote Springs, Nevada 89037 TELEPHONE: (702) 422-1433 Email: emilia.cargill@coyotesprings.com

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I am an employee of ROBISON, SHARP, SULLIVAN & BRUST, and that on this date I caused a true copy of **NOTICE OF APPEARANCE OF THERESE M.**SHANKS, ESQ. ON BEHALF OF COYOTE SPRINGS INVESTMENT, LLC to be served on all parties to this action by emailing an attached Adobe Acrobat PDF version of the document to the email addresses below:

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1 sharrison@mcdonaldcarano.com; 2 stever@stetsonengineers.com; sue_braumiller@fws.gov; 3 technichrome@jps.net; tim@legaltnt.com; 4 tommyers1872@gmail.com; trobison@mvdsl.com; 5 twtemt@hotmail.com; veronica.rowan@sol.doi.gov; 6 vsandu@republicservices.com; whitfam@mvdsl.com; 7 william.paff@rocklandcapital.com; wpoulsen@lincolnnv.com 8 bherrema@bhfs.com sferguson@mcdonaldcarano.com; 9 aflangas@kcnvlaw.com mmarsh@kenvlaw.com 10 jharris@kenvlaw.com asaintil@kcnvlaw.com 11 12 Dated this 12th day of September, 2019. 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21

Robison, Sharp, Sullivan & Brust 71 Washington St. Reno, NV 89503 (775) 329-3151

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SE ROA 403

Employee of Robison, Sharp, Sullivan & Brust

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(219)

STATE OF NEVADA

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

BEFORE MELISSA FLATLEY, HEARING OFFICER

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

INTERIM ORDER #1303

COYOTE SPRINGS INVESTMENT, LLC'S OBJECTION TO CERTAIN DISCLOSED SCOPES OF TESTIMONY

Coyote Springs Investment, LLC ("CSI") does hereby object to portions of the scopes of testimony identified in the September 6, 2019 disclosures pertaining to the following witnesses:

- 1. John Davis, Moapa Valley Water District;
- 2. Todd Robison, Muddy River Irrigation Company;
- 3. Warda Drici, Southern Nevada Water Authority; and
- 4. Colby Pellegrino, Southern Nevada Water Authority.

This objection is based upon Interim Order 1303 and the State Engineer's Notice of Hearing dated August 23, 2019. The State Engineer ("SE") has identified specific and discrete issues to be addressed at the administrative hearing scheduled to commence September 23, 2019. Those discrete issues are:

Robison, Sharp, Sullivan & Brust 71 Washington St. Reno, NV 89503 (775) 329-3151

- 1. The geographic boundary of the hydrologically connected groundwater and surface water system comprising the Lower White River Flow System;
- 2. The information obtained from the State Engineer's Order 1169 Aquifer Test and subsequent to the Aquifer Test in Muddy River headwater spring flow as it relates to Aquifer recovery since the completion of the Aquifer Test;
- 3. The long-term annual quantity of groundwater that may be pumped from the Lower White River Flow System, including relationships between the location of pumping on the discharge to the Muddy River Springs, and the capture of the Muddy River Flow:
- 4. The effects of movements of water rights between alluvial wells and carbonate wells on deliveries of senior decreed rights to the Muddy River; and
 - 5. Other relevant matters concerning 1 through 4 above.¹

CSI understands that the SE intends that the presently scheduled hearing be limited to receiving evidence regarding the science relating to the above issues and that, based on the SE's determinations regarding to these issues, future proceedings relating to other issues may be necessary. The SE's Notice of Hearing and the SE's comments made at the August 8, 2019 prehearing conference made it exceedingly clear that the testimony of witnesses was to be restricted and limited to the four issues identified in Interim Order 1303. CSI's intent in submitting this objection is to ensure the efficiency of the present two-week proceeding, to focus the parties' preparation for this proceeding, and to ensure that all parties have the ability to present evidence on any additional topics at the same time, as may be necessary in future proceedings.

TESTIMONY OUTSIDE THE SCOPE OF THE HEARING

MOAPA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT.

Joseph Davis has been identified by the Moapa Valley Water District to give testimony, among other topics, regarding "the district's history and function as a municipal water supplier to several communities in the LWRFS" and "municipal use as

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 $^{^{\}rm 1}\,See$ page 1, II Procedural Background of SE's Notice of Hearing.

preferred uses." These topics are outside limited scope identified by the SE's office as set forth above quoted from the SE's Notice of Hearing. Given the hearing scope and stringent time restrictions allowed by the SE for the hearing, this type of testimony – which is not relevant to the four issues – should be excluded from the upcoming hearing.

2. MUDDY VALLEY IRRIGATION COMPANY ("MVIC")

The MVIC has identified Todd Robison as a witness to testify concerning MVIC's history, MVIC's irrigation facilities and water rights adjudicated in the Muddy River Decree, and MVIC's responsibility to its shareholders. These topics exceed the scope of the SE's issues to be heard at the September 23, 2019 hearing. These topics do not pertain to geographic boundaries, the 1169 Aquifer Tests and subsequent tests, the long-term annual quantity of groundwater, or the effect of the movement of water rights between alluvial wells and carbonate wells. While they may be relevant in future proceedings related to the LWRFS, this testimony should be excluded from the present hearing as irrelevant as it is outside the issues identified by the SE.

3. SOUTHERN NEVADA WATER AUTHORITY ("SNWA")

a. Water Right Applications and Water Resource Development

SNWA has identified Ms. Drici as a SNWA hydrologist who will provide testimony regarding the analysis of groundwater data in support of the subject water right applications and water resource development, among other topics. This proceeding is not about and does not pertain to water right applications or the potential development of water resources thereunder. For this reason, Ms. Drici's identified testimony as to these topics exceeds the narrow scope of issues to be addressed as set forth in the SE's Notice of Hearing. Accordingly, this identified testimony as to these particular topics is not relevant to and should not be included in the September 23, 2019 hearing proceedings.

b. SNWA's Water Supply Planning

CSI also objects that certain portions of the testimony identified to be given by

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Colby Pellegrino are outside the scope of the present hearing proceedings. Ms. Pellegrino has been identified to testify, among other topics, as to "SNWA's outlooks and future plans for its water resources in the Lower White River Flow System, that resource's place in the overall SNWA water portfolio, SNWA's directive regarding water supplies for southern Nevada, the intentionally created surplus program and Lower White River Flow System water resource involvement therein, effects of groundwater pumping on the SNWA water portfolio, [and] SNWA and the Las Vegas Valley Water District's obligations to other stakeholders in the Lower White River Flow System." It is unclear how any of these topics relate to the issues that the SE has identified for presentation of evidence and testimony at this hearing. Again, while additional issues may become relevant in future proceedings related to the LWRFS, the scope of the September 23, 2019 hearing has been limited to geographic boundaries, the 1169 Aguifer Tests and subsequent tests, the long-term annual quantity of groundwater, and the effect of the movement of water rights between alluvial wells and carbonate wells. These topics of Ms. Pellegrino's potential testimony should be excluded from the present hearing.

In conclusion, based on CSI's understanding of the purpose and focus of the September 23 hearing, the identified testimony topics of Mr. Davis, Mr. Robison, Ms. Drici, and Ms. Pellegrino are outside the scope of the issues to be addressed at the hearing, and CSI requests that the SE exclude them from the September 23 hearing proceedings.

Respectfully submitted this 13th of September, 2019.

KENT/R. ROBISON, ESQ.

ROBÍSON, SHARP, SULLIVAN & BRUST

71 Washington Street

Reno, Nevada 89503

Attorneys for Coyote Springs Investment, LLC

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In Association With:

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EMILIA K. CARGILL, ESQ. Chief Operating Officer Senior Vice President-General Counsel Coyote Springs Investments, LLC 3100 State Route 168 Coyote Springs, Nevada 89037

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I am an employee of ROBISON, SHARP, SULLIVAN & BRUST, and that on this date I caused a true copy of **COYOTE SPRINGS INVESTMENT, LLC'S OBJECTION TO CERTAIN DISCLOSED SCOPES OF TESTIMONY** to be served on all parties to this action by emailing an attached Adobe Acrobat PDF version of the document to the email addresses below:

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE
ADMINSTRATION 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
HYDROGRAPHOC BASIN (218), AND
MUDDY RIVER SPRINGS AREA (aka
UPPER MOAPA VALLEY
HYDROGRAPHOC BASIN (219).

INTERIM ORDER #1303

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NOTICE OF APPEARANCE ON BEHALF OF GEORGIA PACIFIC CORPORATION

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that PAULINA WILLIAMS, ESQ. of the law firm BAKER BOTTS, L.L.P., admitted *pro hac vice* pursuant to the Order Granting Motion to Associate Counsel granted on September 3, 2019, will represent GEORIGA PACIFIC CORPORATION, together with SYLVIA HARRISON and SARAH FERGUSON of the law firm of McDONALD CARANO, L.L.P., in these proceedings and at the hearing scheduled to commence September 23, 2019.

DATED: September 13, 2019.

McDONALD CARANO LLP

Sylvia Harrison (NSB #4106) Sarah Ferguson (NSB #14515) McDonald Carano LLP 100 West Liberty Street, 10th Floor Reno, Nevada 89501 (775) 788-2000 sharrison@mcdonaldcarano.com sferguson@mcdonaldcarano.com

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to NRCP 5(b), I hereby certify that I am an employee of McDONALD CARANO LLP, and that on September 13, 2019, I served the foregoing NOTICE OF APPEARANCE via direct email to the addresses indicated below:

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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).

2019 SEP | 3 PH 3: 22

LINCOLN COUNTY WATER DISTRICT AND VIDLER WATER COMPANY, INC.'s OBJECTIONS TO PROFFERED EXPERTS AND EXHIBITS

LINCOLN COUNTY WATER DISTRICT ("LINCOLN COUNTY") and VIDLER WATER COMPANY, INC. ("VIDLER"), by and through their attorneys, DYLAN V. FREHNER, ESQ. the LINCOLN COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY and KAREN A. PETERSON, ESQ. of the law firm of ALLISON MacKENZIE, LTD., in accordance with the State Engineer's Amended Notice of Hearing dated August 26, 2019, provide their objections to the proffered experts and exhibits as follows:

A. PROFFERED EXPERTS

1. <u>Nevada Cogeneration Associates</u>

LINCOLN COUNTY/VIDLER object to Robert Coache and Hugh Ricci being qualified as experts in the areas of groundwater and surface water hydrology. They do not hold degrees in hydrology and have no direct work experience in the field of hydrology listed in their resumes. They do not have any background, specialized knowledge, professional degrees, or years of work experience in the proffered field of expertise. They have no direct field experience in locating, designing or constructing wells, well test design and analysis, hydrologic mapping, aquifer testing or data interpretation, water resource assessments or water resource management, groundwater recharge

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studies, groundwater or surface water studies, writing or developing hydrologic work plans, developing or conducting hydraulic tests, technical studies and reporting, or similar work experience in the hydrology field.

In addition, LINCOLN/VIDLER object to Mr. Dixon, Mr. Coache and Mr. Ricci being qualified as experts in "the application of Nevada water law as affecting Nevada water rights" to the extent such testimony is proffered as legal opinions.

LINCOLN COUNTY/VIDLER note Jay Dixon has submitted expert reports for two different clients in this matter. There is an apparent conflict in certain opinions he has proffered in his respective reports, but LINCOLN COUNTY/VIDLER understand Mr. Dixon will clarify his reports at the hearing.

2. Southern Nevada Water Authority

LINCOLN COUNTY/VIDLER object to the testimony of James Watrus if offered as an expert. There was no curriculum vitae provided for Mr. Watrus. However, the description of Mr. Watrus' testimony provided appears to indicate he may offer testimony of "analysis and outcomes of various lines of evidence" and "the aquifer properties described in the SNWA and similar expert reports". See SNWA List of Witnesses and Summary of Testimony at p. 5. To the extent this testimony will be opinions, LINCOLN COUNTY/VIDLER object because Mr. Watrus has not been proffered as an expert entitled to give expert opinion testimony and his proffered testimony would not be rationally based on the perception of the witness or helpful to a clear understanding of the testimony of the witness or the determination of a fact in issue.

3. <u>United States National Park Service</u>

LINCOLN COUNTY/VIDLER object to Sue Braumiller being qualified as an expert in hydrology. Ms. Braumiller has no direct work experience in the field of hydrology listed in her resume. While she has reviewed numerous projects for her employer, she has no direct background, experience or years of work in the proffered field of expertise. She has no direct field experience in locating, designing or constructing wells, well test design and analysis, hydrologic mapping, aquifer testing or data interpretation, water resource assessments or water resource management, groundwater recharge studies, groundwater or surface water studies, hydrologic field investigations, writing or

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developing hydrologic work plans, developing or conducting hydraulic tests, technical studies and reporting, or similar work experience.

В. **EVIDENCE**

General Objections: LINCOLN COUNTY/VIDLER object to any additional opinions by experts not offered in their expert reports and rebuttal testimony to other rebuttal reports because that testimony is additional expert opinion testimony not included in the expert's reports.

LINCOLN COUNTY/VIDLER object to exhibits provided in the document exchange that are not related to a party's expert report, not listed in the references listed in the expert's report, do not support the expert's report or cannot be shown as relevant to the State Engineer's examination of the five issues identified in Order 1303 and making any determination related to those issues.

Except as set forth below, LINCOLN COUNTY/VIDLER will not be able to address objections related to foundation for an exhibit or if the exhibit is relevant until the hearing when testimony is proffered related to the exhibit.

LINCOLN COUNTY/VIDLER reserve all their general objections above to the time of the hearing.

1. Moapa Band of Paiute Indians

LINCOLN COUNTY/VIDLER were not able to access or open MBOP Exhibit 19b and LINCOLN COUNTY/VIDLER reserve any objection to that exhibit.

LINCOLN COUNTY/VIDLER object to Dr. Johnson's proposed testimony to "respond to criticism of his opinions expressed in rebuttal reports filed by other parties on August 16, 2019 and provide rebuttal testimony that explains, counteracts or disproves facts and opinions offered into evidence by other parties." See Evidentiary and Witness Disclosure of the Moapa Band of Paiute Indians for Order 1303 Hearing at pp. 1-2. This expert opinion testimony is not provided in any written reports and LINCOLN COUNTY/VIDLER object to any additional expert opinions not provided in an expert's written reports.

2. Nevada Cogeneration Associates Nos. 1 and 2

LINCOLN COUNTY/VIDLER object to the additional testimony of Mr. Dixon, Mr. Coache and Mr. Ricci on the topics outside their written rebuttal report as described on page 2, lines 16-24 1

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and page 3, lines 1 and 4-14 in the Witness List, Exhibit List, and Summary of Anticipated Testimony of Witnesses for Nevada Cogeneration Associates Nos. 1 and 2.

LINCOLN COUNTY/VIDLER object to NCA Exhibit 1 to the extent it contains opinions of Mr. Coache or Mr. Ricci in the areas of groundwater and surface water hydrology if they are not qualified as experts in the areas of groundwater and surface water hydrology as set forth in LINCOLN COUNTY/VIDLER's expert witness objection above.

LINCOLN COUNTY/VIDLER object to NCA Exhibits 29, 30 and 31 based on foundation and relevancy. LINCOLN COUNTY/VIDLER believe Nevada Cogeneration Associates Nos. 1 and 2 will not be able to lay the proper foundation to admit these exhibits into evidence or show relevance to the issues of the hearing. The Nevada Cogeneration Associates Nos. 1 and 2 witnesses were not the authors of the exhibits, the authors of the exhibits have not been listed as witnesses, the Nevada Cogeneration Associates Nos. 1 and 2 witnesses have no personal knowledge of the contents of the exhibits and LINCOLN COUNTY/VIDLER are not able to cross examine the authors of said exhibits.

3. United States Fish and Wildlife Service

LINCOLN COUNTY/VIDLER object to FWS Exhibits 13-32 on the basis the exhibits are not relevant to any of the issues of Order 1303. LINCOLN COUNTY/VIDLER object to FWS Exhibits 33 and 34 on the basis of foundation and relevancy.

LINCOLN COUNTY/VIDLER object to FWS Exhibit 35 on the basis the exhibit appears to be provided for the purpose of including the statements of Mr. Gardner of the USGS made in the email (hearsay) and Mr. Gardner is not listed as a witness and being made available for cross examination. In addition, LINCOLN COUNTY/VIDLER object to this exhibit because the entire email string was not provided, the email information was not relied upon for purposes of any FWS expert report since the email was generated after the date rebuttal expert reports were due and LINCOLN COUNTY/VIDLER object on the basis of relevancy.

LINCOLN COUNTY/VIDLER object to FWS Exhibit 94 on the basis of Ms. Braumiller's lack of expert qualification as set forth above. In addition, the exhibit admits on its face it has information different or beyond that, including proffered opinions, provided in the July 3 report.

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4. <u>United States National Park Service</u>

The National Park Service did not provide copies of NPS Exhibits 2 through 12 of its proposed exhibits. LINCOLN COUNTY/VIDLER have not had an opportunity to review most of the exhibits and object to such exhibits based on the National Park Services' failure to provide the exhibits in accordance with the State Engineer's Amended Notice of Hearing dated August 26, 2019.

DATED this 13th day of September, 2019.

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~ and ~

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BY:

KAREN A. PETERSON, ESQ. Nevada State Bar No. 0366

Attorneys for LINCOLN COUNTY WATER DISTRICT and VIDLER WATER COMPANY, INC.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I am an employee of ALLISON MacKENZIE, LTD., Attorneys at Law, and on this date, I caused the foregoing document to be served on the following via Hand Delivery and/or Electronic Transmission as follows:

Via Hand Delivery:

Micheline N. Fairbank Deputy Administrator Nevada State Engineer's Office 901 S. Stewart Street, Suite 2002 Carson City, NV 89701

Via Electronic Transmission:

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bherrema@bhfs.com; bostajohn@gmail.com; bvann@ndow.org;
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Attorneys for Moapa Band of Paiutes

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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

NOTICE OF APPEARANCE

Please take notice that Debbie Leonard of Leonard Law, PC and Carolyn E. Tanner of Tanner Law & Strategy Group, Ltd. enter their appearance in this matter to represent the Moapa Band of Paiutes, along with Richard M. Berley and Beth Baldwin of the Ziontz Chestnut law firm. A motion to associate Mr. Berley and Ms. Baldwin pursuant to Nevada Supreme Court Rule 42 will be forthcoming.

DATED this 13th day of September, 2019 LEONARD LAW, PC

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Attorneys for Moapa Band of Paiutes

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I am an employee of Leonard Law, PC and that on September

13, 2019 a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was served via email upon the parties 3 4 listed below: 5 fan4philly@gmail.com 8milelister@gmail.com gary karst@nps.gov ablack@mcdonaldcarano.com 6 gbushner@vidlerwater.com aflangas@kcnvlaw.com glen knowles@fws.gov alaskajulie12@gmail.com 7 gmorrison@parsonsbehle.com andrew.burns@snwa.com golden@apexindustrialpark.com 8 barbnwalt325@gmail.com golds@nevcogen.com bherrema@bhfs.com 9 greatsam@usfds.com bostajohn@gmail.com greg.walch@lvvwd.com bvann@ndow.org 10 hartthethird@gmail.com Chris.Benkman@nsgen.com Howard.Forepaugh@nsgen.com Colby.pellegrino@snwa.com 11 info4gbwn@gmail.com Coop@opd5.com JCaviglia@nvenergy.com coopergs@ldschurch.org 12 jeff.phillips@lasvegaspaving.com counsel@water-law.com jharris@kcnvlaw.com 13 craig.primas@snvgrowers.com jim.watrus@snwa.com craig.wilkinson@pabcogypsum.com 14 joe@moapawater.com dan.peressini@lasvegaspaving.com Karen.glasgow@sol.doi.gov david stone@fws.gov 15 kbrown@vvh2o.com Dbrown@ldalv.com Kevin Desroberts@fws.gov dennis.barrett10@gmail.com 16 derekm@westernelite.com kimberley.jenkins@clarkcountynv.gov kingmont@charter.net 17 devaulr@cityofnorthlasvegas.com kpeterson@allisonmackenzie.com dfrehner@lincolncountynv.gov 18 krobison@rssblaw.com dixonjm@gmail.com kurthlawoffice@gmail.com dorothy@vidlerwater.com 19 lazarus@glorietageo.com doug@nvfb.org lbelenky@biologicaldiversity.org dvossmer@republicservices.com 20 lbenezet@yahoo.com dwight.smith@interflowhydro.com liamleavitt@hotmail.com edna@comcast.net 21 Lindseyd@mvdsl.com emilia.cargill@coyotesprings.com

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Tricia Trevino

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.

SOUTHERN NEVADA WATER
AUTHORITY AND LAS VEGAS
VALLEY WATER DISTRICT'S
OBJECTIONS TO VARIOUS PARTIES'
PROPOSED EVIDENCE

COME NOW, Southern Nevada Water Authority ("SNWA") and Las Valley Water District ("LVVWD" and together as "SNWA") hereby submit the following objections to certain proposed evidence as set forth in the State Engineer's Notice of Hearing dated August 23, 2019.

I. Objection to Stetson Engineers, Inc.'s staff's qualification as experts in certain fields

SNWA hereby objects to Stetson Engineers, Inc.'s staff's qualifications as experts in certain fields, because Coyote Springs Investment, LLC ("CSI") failed to specify what area(s) of expertise each expert will be testifying in. SNWA does not object to Stetson Engineers staff's expertise in geology (Stephen Reich), hydrogeology (Jean Moran), or another field that the expert has testified as an expert to in prior Nevada State Engineer hearings. SNWA does object to the Stetson Engineers' staff testifying as experts in the all other fields, including, but not limited to: Nevada water law, Nevada water rights, sustainable water management, and fields relating to biology, environmental resources, or state and federal environmental laws and regulations.

Also, the engineers at Stetson are not licensed in Nevada, and should not be permitted to testify in areas that are specific to Nevada law and regulation. Additionally, in past hearings, Stetson Engineers' staff have recognized that they are unqualified to give opinions in areas relating

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to biology and the complexities of aquatic-dependent species.¹ Further, the State Engineer has limited the scope of this portion of the Interim Order 1303 hearing to fact-gathering and data interpretation, so it would be premature to collect legal or policy opinions on how to best manage the Lower White River Flow System ("LWRFS"). SNWA hereby requests that the State Engineer limit the Stetson Engineers' staff's expertise to those areas which they have been previously qualified before the State Engineer in, and to those areas of expertise which the proposed experts have sufficient training and experience in. SNWA objects to their testimony as an expert into any other area, and reserves the right to raise that objection at the administrative hearing.

II. Objection to CSI's proposed testimony from Timothy Durbin

SNWA objects to any testimony proffered from Timothy Durbin, as proposed by CSI in its submitted witness list. Mr. Durbin did not submit any report. CSI listed Timothy Durbin as an expert witness on its Witness List, proposed that Timothy Durbin testify in an expert capacity, but he did not submit any written expert report, opinions, or conclusion.

The State Engineer has specific authority to require "parties and witnesses to submit their testimony in written form before the hearing date" and has done so repeatedly in this matter. On July 25, 2019, the State Engineer issued a Notice of Pre-Hearing Conference ("Pre-Hearing Notice") and scheduled a pre-hearing for August 8, 2019 ("Pre-hearing Conference"). The Prehearing Notice specified that "[t]he hearing will be limited to taking evidence and testimony on the submitted reports by those parties whom either submit initial and/or rebuttal reports in response to the directive of the State Engineer in Order 1303." During the Pre-hearing Conference, SNWA specifically asked for clarification on whether experts will be admitted if they have not submitted a report. The Hearing Officer clarified that if a witness is being "proffered as

¹ See Transcript, October 4, 2017, Vol. 7, pg. 1523:6-10 (Mr. Reich stating "[Y]ou know, I'm not an expert, certainly, on the, you know, aquatic-dependent species and I will rely on the services whether it be the Fish and Wildlife Service or [Nevada Division of Water Resources] or whoever takes that upon themselves...").

³ See State Engineer's Notice of Pre-Hearing Conference, July 25, 2019.

⁴ Transcript of Proceedings Public Hearing Pre-Hearing Conference, Thursday, August 8, 2019, p. 49:17-22 (Taggart).

an expert, they should have offered – they should have had a report or rebuttal report submitted. So, if they're going to be proffered as an expert, they're going to be in relation to a report [...]."5 Then, on August 23, 2019, the State Engineer issued a Notice of Hearing which again specified that:

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.

SNWA and LVVWD object to Mr. Durbin testifying before this hearing because CSI has not submitted any expert report from Timothy Durbin. If Timothy Durbin wanted to proffer an expert opinion, he had time to draft a rebuttal report and file it timely with this office pursuant to the rules set forth by the State Engineer. Additionally, the State Engineer should not permit Timothy Durbin to testify as a 'fact' witness, as he has not been offered as such.

III. Objection to specific portions of City of North Las Vegas' filed reports

SNWA hereby objects to specific portions of the reports filed by InterFlow Hydrology, Inc., on behalf of the City of North Las Vegas. Interflow Hydrology, Inc. filed reports that were written and signed by both Dwight Smith and Alexa Terrell. Dwight Smith is the only expert listed to testify on City of North Las Vegas' witness list. To the extent that Dwight Smith can attest to his knowledge and expertise in all areas and subject matter contained in the submitted reports, SNWA has no objection. However, if Dwight Smith cannot attest to all portions, conclusions, or opinions contained in the report, including how the conclusion or opinion was reached and the data behind such conclusion or opinion, SNWA objects to those portions of the report being entered into the record in this matter, as no opportunity to cross-examine the witness will be afforded. Alternatively, SNWA has no objection to the City of North Las Vegas' witness list being

⁵ Transcript of Proceedings Public Hearing Pre-Hearing Conference, Thursday, August 8, 2019, p. 49:23-50:4 (Hearing Officer Fairbank).

supplemented with information reflecting Alexa Terrell's qualifications and proposed testimony, and her being present to be examined regarding the submitted reports.

IV. Objection to specific portions of Dry Lake Water, LLC; Georgia Pacific Gypsum LLC; and Republic Environmental Technologies, Inc.'s filed reports

SNWA hereby objects to specific portions of the reports filed by Broadbent and Associates, Inc. on behalf of Dry Lake Water, LLC, Georgia Pacific Gypsum LLC, and Republic Environmental Technologies. Broadbent and Associates, Inc. filed its initial expert report on behalf of the three aforementioned parties, signed by both Jonathan Bell and Lonnie Roy. Broadbent and Associates, Inc. then filed a rebuttal report presumably written, and signed, by only Jonathan Bell. Jonathan Bell is the only expert listed to testify on Georgia Pacific Gypsum LLC, and Republic Environmental Technologies' shared witness list. Dry Lake Water, LLC did not file any witness or exhibit lists in this matter.

To the extent that Jonathan Bell can attest to his knowledge and expertise in all areas and subject matter contained in the submitted reports, SNWA has no objection. However, if Jonathan Bell cannot attest to any portions, conclusions, or opinions contained in the report, including how the conclusion or opinion was reached and the data behind such conclusion or opinion, SNWA objects to those portions of the report being entered into the record in this matter, as no opportunity to cross-examine the witness will be afforded. Alternatively, SNWA has no objection to Georgia Pacific Gypsum LLC, and Republic Environmental Technologies' witness list being supplemented with information reflecting Lonnie Roy's qualifications and proposed testimony and Lonnie Roy being present to be examined regarding the submitted reports.

V. Objection to improperly listed and submitted exhibits

SNWA hereby objects to proposed exhibits that were not properly submitted according to the State Engineer's Notice of Hearing dated August 23, 2019. That notice required that any proposed exhibits be 1) listed on an Exhibit List filed with the State Engineer, and 2) have a copy filed with the State Engineer for uploading to the State Engineer's website. SNWA has discovered

that multiple parties have submitted Exhibit Lists which do not materially match the actual exhibits submitted to the State Engineer. In some cases, the parties' Exhibit List includes documents that were not uploaded to the State Engineer's website, so they were presumably not filed timely with the State Engineer.⁶ For these instances, opposing parties have not had an opportunity to review the proposed exhibit and therefore the exhibit should not be entered. In other cases, the parties' submitted exhibits are not included on the filed Exhibit List, and it is unclear whether that proposed exhibit will be offered by the party.⁷

SNWA proposes that if the proper documents are submitted prior to September 18, 2019, to allow parties to properly review the documents prior the State Engineer's expert *voir dire* hearing, the exhibits should be deemed timely. However, any exhibits that are not properly disclosed should not be entertained by the State Engineer during the Interim Order 1303 hearing. SNWA reserves the right to object to any of these undisclosed exhibits that are submitted for entry into evidence during the Interim Order 1303 hearing.

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⁶ See, e.g., Nevada Cogeneration Associates Exhibit List, Proposed Exhibit 7 (Drilling, Construction, Water Chemistry, Water Levels, and Regional Potentiometric Surface of the Upper Carbonate-rock Aquifer in Clark County, Nevada) is listed but does not appear to have been disclosed to the State Engineer's office.

⁷ See, e.g., Moapa Band of Paiutes, document entitled "Order 1169 Impacts (with September 8, 2010 Addendum)" by Mifflin & Associates, May 27, 2010. This document does not appear on the Moapa Band of Paiutes Exhibit List.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, SNWA and LVVWD asks that the State Engineer exclude or in appropriate circumstances order correction for the above-discussed evidence.

DATED this ______ day of September, 2019.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

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 the foregoing document via electronic delivery, addressed as follows:

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McDONALD (M. CARANO

IN THE MATTER OF THE
ADMINSTRATION 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
HYDROGRAPHOC BASIN (218), AND
MUDDY RIVER SPRINGS AREA (aka
UPPER MOAPA VALLEY

HYDROGRAPHOC BASIN (219).

INTERIM ORDER #1303

GEORGIA PACIFIC CORPORATION AND REPUBLIC ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGIES' RESPONSE TO SOUTHERN NEVADA WATER AUTHORITY AND LAS VEGAS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT'S OBJECTIONS TO VARIOUS PARTIES PROPOSED EVIDENCE

Georgia Pacific Corporation and Republic Services Environmental Technologies (collectively "Georgia Pacific/Republic") by and through undersigned counsel, respond to the provisional objection filed by Southern Nevada Water Authority ("SNWA") and Las Vegas Valley Water District ("LVVWD" and together as "SNWA") regarding certain portions of the report submitted by Broadbent and Associates, Inc, on behalf of Dry Lake Water, LLC, Georgia Pacific Corporation, and Republic Environmental Technologies (hereinafter the "Report"). SNWA asserts that the Report was signed by both Jonathan Bell and Lonnie Roy, and that to extent Jonathan Bell can attest to his knowledge and expertise in all areas and subject matter contained in the submitted reports, SNWA has no objection.

Georgia Pacific/Republic wish to clarify that the initial Report was authored by Jonathan Bell and was simply reviewed and approved by Mr. Roy. The rebuttal report was also authored solely by Mr. Bell. The conclusions and opinions in the reports are those of Mr. Bell and he is prepared to testify as to all aspects of the reports.

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Based upon this response and in order to simplify proceedings at the pre-hearing scheduled for September 19th, Georgia Pacific/Republic respectfully request that SNWA withdraw its provisional objection to the referenced reports.

DATED: September 16, 2019.

McDONALD CARANO LLP

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Debbie Leonard (Nevada Bar No. 8260) Leonard Law, PC 2 955 S. Virginia Street, Ste. 220 Reno, NV 89502 Phone: (775) 964-4656 debbie@leonardlawpc.com 4 Carolyn Tanner Tanner Law & Strategy Group, Ltd. 216 East Liberty St. Reno, NV 89501 (775) 323-4657 7 lina@tanner1nv.com Attorneys for Moapa Band of Paiutes 9 IN THE OFFICE OF THE STATE ENGINEER 10 OF THE STATE OF NEVADA 11 * * * * * 12 IN THE MATTER OF THE ADMINISTRATION 13 AND MANAGEMENT OF THE LOWER WHITE RIVER FLOW SYSTEM WITHIN 14 COYOTE SPRING VALLEY HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (210), A PORTION OF BLACK MOUNTAINS AREA HYDROGRAPHIC MOTION TO ASSOCIATE COUNSEL 16 | BASIN (215), GARNET VALLEY HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (216), HIDDEN 17 | VALLEY HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (217), CALIFORNIA WASH HYDROGRAPHIC 18 BASIN (218), AND MUDDY RIVER SPRINGS AREA (AKA UPPER MOAPA VALLEY) 19 HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (219), LINCOLN AND CLARK COUNTIES, NEVADA 20 21 22 MOAPA BAND OF PAIUTES, through its Nevada counsel Debbie Leonard of Leonard Law, PC and Carolyn E. Tanner of Tanner Law & Strategy Group, Ltd., moves the Office of the 23 24 State Engineer for an order permitting Beth Baldwin, Esq. and Richard Berley, Esq. to practice in Nevada pursuant to Nevada Supreme Court Rule 42. 26 | /// 27 || /// 28 SE ROA 445

This motion is supported by the attached "Verified Applications for Association of Counsel" (Exhibit 1), "Certificates of Good Standing" (Exhibit 2), and "State Bar of Nevada Statements" (Exhibit 3). Also attached is a proposed Order Admitting to Practice (Exhibit 4). DATED this 19th day of September, 2019 LEONARD LAW, PC Debbie Leonard (NV Bar #8260) 955 S. Virginia Street, Suite 220 Reno, Nevada 89502 Phone: (775) 964-4656 debbie@leonardlawpc.com TANNER LAW & STRATEGY GROUP, LTD. Carolyn E. Tanner (NV Bar #5520) 216 East Liberty St. Reno, NV 89501 (775) 323-4657 lina@tanner1nv.com Attorneys for Moapa Band of Paiutes

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

2

3

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I am an employee of Leonard Law, PC and that on this date a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was served via email upon the parties listed below:

4	8milelister@gmail.com	fan4philly@gmail.com
5	ablack@mcdonaldcarano.com	gary karst@nps.gov
	aflangas@kcnvlaw.com	gbushner@vidlerwater.com
6	alaskajulie 12@gmail.com	glen knowles@fws.gov
٦	andrew.burns@snwa.com	gmorrison@parsonsbehle.com
7	barbnwalt325@gmail.com	golden@apexindustrialpark.com
- 1	bherrema@bhfs.com	golds@nevcogen.com
8	bostajohn@gmail.com	greatsam@usfds.com
اہ	bvann@ndow.org	greg.walch@lvvwd.com
9	Chris.Benkman@nsgen.com	hartthethird@gmail.com
10	Colby.pellegrino@snwa.com	Howard.Forepaugh@nsgen.com
10	Coop@opd5.com	info4gbwn@gmail.com
-11	coopergs@ldschurch.org	JCaviglia@nvenergy.com
	counsel@water-law.com	jeff.phillips@lasvegaspaving.com
12	craig.primas@snvgrowers.com	jharris@kcnvlaw.com
13	craig.wilkinson@pabcogypsum.com	<u>jim.watrus@snwa.com</u>
	dan.peressini@lasvegaspaving.com	joe@moapawater.com
14	david stone@fws.gov	Karen.glasgow@sol.doi.gov
14 15	Dbrown@ldalv.com	kbrown@vvh2o.com
15	dennis.barrett10@gmail.com	Kevin Desroberts@fws.gov
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16	devaulr@cityofnorthlasvegas.com	kingmont@charter.net
	dfrehner@lincolncountyny.gov	kpeterson@allisonmackenzie.com
17	<u>dixonjm@gmail.com</u>	krobison@rssblaw.com
18	dorothy@vidlerwater.com	kurthlawoffice@gmail.com
10	doug@nvfb.org	lazarus@glorietageo.com
19	dvossmer@republicservices.com	lbelenky@biologicaldiversity.org
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20	edna@comcast.net	<u>liamleavitt@hotmail.com</u>
	emilia.cargill@coyotesprings.com	Lindseyd@mvdsl.com
21	<u>Lisa@ldalv.com</u>	paulina.williams@bakerbotts.com
	<u>lle@mvdsl.com</u>	robert.dreyfus@gmail.com
22	lon@moapawater.com	Rott@nvenergy.com
23	lroy@broadbentinc.com	rozaki@opd5.com
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24	luke.miller@sol.doi.gov	Sarahpeterson@blm.gov
	luke.stewart@pabcogypsum.com	SCarlson@kcnvlaw.com
25	MBHoffice@earthlink.net	sc.anderson@lvvwd.com
2	mfairbank@water.nv.gov	sc.anderson@snwa.com
26	Michael schwemm@fws.gov	sferguson@mcdonaldcarano.com
27	MJohns@nvenergy.com	sharrison@mcdonaldcarano.com
- '	mmarsh@kcnvlaw.com	stever@stetsonengineers.com
28	mmmiller@cox.net	sue braumiller@fws.gov

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twtemt@hotmail.com
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whitfam@mvdsl.com
william.paff@rocklandcapital.com
wpoulsen@lincolnnv.com

Tricia Trevino

EXHIBIT 1

EXHIBIT 1

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

-	
IN THE MATTER OF THE ADMINISTRATION AND	j
MANAGEMENT OF THE LOWER WHITE RIVER	}
FLOW SYSTEM WITHIN COYOTE SPRING	ì
VALLEY HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (210), A	,
PORTION OF BLACK MOUNTAINS AREA)
HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (215), GARNET VALLEY)
HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN 216), HIDDEN VALLEY)
HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (217), CALIFORNIA	í
WASH HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (218) AND	′
MUDDY RIVER SPRINGS AREA (AKA UPPER	,
MOAPA VALLEY) HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (219).)
LINCOLN AND CLARK COUNTIES NEVADA	١

VERIFIED APPLICATION FOR ASSOCIATION OF COUNSEL UNDER NEVADA SUPREME COURT RULE 42

BETH	ANN	BALDWIN	, Petitioner, respectful	ly represents:
First	Middle Name	Last	, romionor, rospositar	.y ropresenta.
I. Petitioner res	ides at3401 191	H AVENUE S.		
			Street Address	
SEATTLE		KING	WA	98144
(City	County	State	Zip Code
(347) 852-3	3004			
Т	elephone			
2. Petitioner is a	nn attorney at law an	d a member of the	ne law firm of: ZION	TZ CHESTNUT
with offices at	2101 4TH AVENUI	E, SUITE 1230		
_		Street Address		
SEATTLE	, K	ING	WA	98121
C	ity	County	State	Zip Code
(206) 448-12	230	bbald	win@ziontzchestnut.c	com
T	elephone		Email	

3. Petitioner has been retained personally or as a member of the	above na	amed l	aw firm by
THE MOAPA BAND OF PAIUTES to	provide	legal	representation in
connection with the above-entitled matter now pending before the	ne above	referer	iced court.
4. Since MAY of 2013, petitioner has been, and presently	is, a mei	mber o	f good standing of
the bar of the highest court of the State of WASHINGTON w	here peti	tioner i	regularly practices
law.			
5. Petitioner was admitted to practice before the following Uni	ited State	s Dist	rict Courts. United
States Circuit Courts of Appeal, the Supreme Court of the United	States, an	nd/or co	ourts of other states
on the dates indicated for each, and is presently a member in good	standing	of the l	bars of said Courts:
	_		ATE ADMITTED
WASHINGTON STATE			/2013
9TH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS		1/27	7/2015
U.S. COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS		9/2	3/2014
USDC WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON		9/2	9/2014
*SEE CONTINUATION PAGE 6. Is Petitioner currently suspended or disbarred in any court? Y	ou must :	answer	yes or no. If yes,
give particulars; e.g., court, jurisdiction, date: NO			
7. Is Petitioner currently subject to any disciplinary proceedings b	y any org	anizati	on with authority
at law? You must answer yes or no. If yes, give particulars, e.g.	court, di	sciplin	e authority, date,
status: NO			
		· ·	

8. Has Petitioner	ever received publi	ic discipline including, but not I	imited to, suspension or
disbarment, by any o	organization with au	athority to discipline attorneys at la	aw? You must answer yes
		, discipline authority, date, status	
9. Has Petitioner ev	er had any certifica	te or privilege to appear and pract	ice before any regulatory
		ed? You must answer yes or no. If	yes, give particulars, e.g.
uate, aummstrative	body, date of suspe	rision of reinstatement:	
terminate Petitioner's	s office as an attorne	, withdrawal, or otherwise, ever te ey in order to avoid administrative, enswer yes or no. If yes, give partic	disciplinary, disbarment,
		pplication(s) to appear as counsel	•
include Federal Pro	Hacs)	mul co	
Date of Application NONE	<u>Cause</u>	Title of Court Administrative Body or Arbitrator	Was Application Granted or <u>Denied?</u>
(If no	ecessary, please atta	ach a statement of additional appli	cations)

12. Nevada Counsel of Record for Petition in this matter is:

(must be the same as the signature on the Nevada Counsel consent page)

DEBBIE

A. LEONARD

8260

 DEBBIE
 A.
 LEONARD
 8260

 First Name
 Middle Name
 Last Name
 NV Bar #

 who has offices at
 LEONARD LAW, PC
 Firm Name/Company

 955 S. VIRGINIA STREET, SUITE 220
 RENO
 WASHOE

 Street Address
 City
 County

 89502
 , (775)
 964-4656

 Zip Code
 Phone Number

13. The following accurately represents the names and addresses of each party in this matter, WHETHER OR NOT REPRESENTED BY COUNSEL, and the names and addresses of each counsel of record who appeared for said parties: (You may attach as an Exhibit if necessary.)

NAME MAILING ADDRESSS
SEE ATTACHED EXHIBIT

- 14. Petitioner agrees to comply with the provisions of Nevada Supreme Court Rule 42(3) and (13) and Petitioner consents to the jurisdiction of the courts and disciplinary boards of the State of Nevada in accordance with provisions as set forth in SCR 42(3) and (13). Petitioner respectfully requests that Petitioner be admitted to practice in the above-entitled court FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS MATTER ONLY.
- 15. Petitioner has disclosed in writing to the client that the applicant is not admitted to practice in this jurisdiction and that the client has consented to such representation.

- I, BETH ANN BALDWIN , do hereby swear/affirm under penalty of perjury that the assertions of this application and the following statements are true:
 - 1) That I am the Petitioner in the above entitled matter.
- 2) That I have read Supreme Court Rule (SCR) 42 and meet all requirements contained therein, including, without limitation, the requirements set forth in SCR 42(2), as follows:
 - (A) I am not a member of the State Bar of Nevada;
 - (B) I am not a resident of the State of Nevada;
 - (C) I am not regularly employed as a lawyer in the State of Nevada;
 - (D) I am not engaged in substantial business, professional, or other activities in the State of Nevada;
 - (E) I am a member in good standing and eligible to practice before the bar of any jurisdiction of the United States; and
 - (F) I have associated a lawyer who is an active member in good standing of the State Bar of Nevada as counsel of record in this action or proceeding.
 - 2) That I have read the foregoing application and know the contents thereof; that the same is true of my own knowledge except as to those matters therein stated on information and belief, and as to the matter I believe them to be true.

That I further certify that I am subject to the jurisdiction of the Courts and disciplinary boards of this state with respect to the law of this state governing the conduct of attorneys to the same extent as a member of the State Bar of Nevada; that I understand and shall comply with the standards of professional conduct required by members of the State Bar of Nevada; and that I am subject to the disciplinary jurisdiction to the State Bar of Nevada with respect to any of my actions occurring in the course of such appearance.

DATED this_	515 day of_	50	tember	, 20 19
	7	34h	Bri	
•		etitione	r/Affiant (blu	e ink)

COMMISSION EXPIRES JUNE 19, 2023

STATE OF Washington) ss
COUNTY OF King

Subscribed and sworn to before me

this 5th day of September, 2019

Notary Public

DESIGNATION, CERTIFICATION AND CONSENT OF NEVADA COUNSEL

SCR 42(14) Responsibilities of Nevada attorney of record.

- (a) The Nevada attorney of record shall be responsible for and actively participate in the representation of a client in any proceeding that is subject to this rule.
- (b) The Nevada attorney of record shall be present at all motions, pre-trials, or any matters in open court unless otherwise ordered by the court.
- (c) The Nevada attorney of record shall be responsible to the court, arbitrator, mediator, or administrative agency or governmental body for the administration of any proceeding that is subject to this rule and for compliance with all state and local rules of practice. It is the responsibility of Nevada counsel to ensure that the proceeding is tried and managed in accordance with all applicable Nevada procedural and ethical rules.

I	DEBBIE A. LEONARD	_hereby agree to associate with Petitioner referenced hereinabove
	Print Nevada Counsel Name	
and	further agree to perform all of	the duties and responsibilities as required by Nevada Supreme
Cou	rt Rule 42.	

DATED this 13th day of September, 2019

Supering A Command

Nevada Counsel of Record (blue ink)

STATE OF YWARD

COUNTY OF Washoe) ss

Subscribed and sworn to before me

this 13th day of Suprember 2019

Notary Public

PATRICIA E. TREVINO
Notary Public, State of Nevada
Appointment No. 99-51850-2
My Appt. Expires Dec 31, 2020

*CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2, PARAGRAPH 5

DATE ADMITTED

USDC EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

12/9/2014

EXHIBIT

Bedroc Limited, LLC Western Elite Environmental, Inc. 2745 North Nellis Boulevard Las Vegas. NV 89115

Coyote Springs Investment, LLC c/o Wingfield Nevada Group 6600 N. Wingfield Pkwy. Sparks, NV 89436

Dry Lake Water, LLC 2470 St. Rose Pkwy., Ste. 107 Henderson, NV 89074

Georgia Pacific Corporation Georgia Pacific Gypsum P.O. Box 337350 Las Vegas, NV 89033

Moapa Band of Paiute Indians P.O. Box 340 Moapa, NV 89025

Moapa Valley Water District P.O. Box 257 Logandale, NV 89021

Nevada Cogeneration Associates 420 N. Nellis Blvd., #A3-117 Las Vegas, NV 89110

Nevada Power Company DBA NV Energy 6226 West Sahara Avenue Las Vegas, NV 89146

City of North Las Vegas 2250 Las Vegas Blvd. North N. Las Vegas, NV 890.30 Republic Environmental Technologies, Inc. 770 East Sahara Ave. Las Vegas, NV 89104

Southern Nevada Water Authority 1001 South Valley View Blvd. Mail Stop #485 Las Vegas, NV 89153

Nigel Macrae, Vice President Technichrome 4709 Compass Bow Lane Las Vegas. NV 89130

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1020 New River Parkway, Suite 305 Fallon, NV 89406-2613

Lincoln County Water District P.O. Box 60 Pioche, NV 89043

Peter Fahmy National Park Service 1201 Oakridge Dr. Fort Collins. CO 80525

Patrick Donnelly
Center for Biological Diversity
7345 S. Durango Dr., B-107, Box 217
Las Vegas, NV 89116
Attorney for Center for Biological Diversity

Kyle Roerink Great Basin Water Network P.O. Box 75 Baker, NV 89311

Don J. & Marsha L. Davis P.O. Box 400 Moapa, NV 89025 Timothy D. O'Connor, Esq. Las Vegas Valley Water District c/o Taggart & Taggart, Ltd. 108 North Minnesota Street Carson City, NV 89703 Kelly Kolhoss P.O. Box 232 Moapa, NV 89025

Scott Millington, General Manager Todd Robison, Chairman of the Board Muddy Valley Irrigation Company P.O. Box 665 Overton, NV 89040

Lake At Las Vegas Joint Venture, Inc. 1600 Lake Las Vegas Parkway Henderson, NV 89011

Greg L. Bushner Vidler Water Company 3480 GS Richards Blvd., Suite 101 Carson City, NV 89703 Laker Plaza, Inc. 7181 Noon Rd. Everson, WA 98247-9650

3335 Hillside, LLC 3420 North Buffalo Drive Las Vegas, NV 89129 Lincoln County Commissioners P.O. Box 90 Pioche, NV 89043

Larry Brundy P.O. Box 136 Moapa, NV 89025

Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints Area 4, 61 E. North Temple Salt Lake City, UT 84150-0001

Casa De Warm Springs, LLC 1000 North Green Valley Parkway, #440-350 Henderson, NV 89074

State of Nevada Department of Transportation 1263 S. Stewart Street Carson City, NV 89712

Clark County 500 S. Grand Central Pkwy. Las Vegas, NV 89155 Nevada Cogeneration Associates #1 420 N. Nellis Blvd., #A3-148 Las Vegas, NV 89110

Clark County Commissioners 500 S. Grand Central Pkwy., 6th Fl. Las Vegas, NV 89155-1111

State of Nevada
Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources
Division of State Parks
901 S. Stewart Street, Suite 5005
Carson City, NV 89701

Clark County Coyote Springs Water Resources GID 1001 S. Valley View Blvd. Las Vegas, NV 89153

Pacific Coast Building Products, Inc. P.O. Box 364329
Las Vegas, NV 89036

Mary K. Cloud P.O. Box 31 Moapa, NV 89025

Taggart & Taggart, Ltd. 108 N. Minnesota St. Carson City, NV 89701 Attorneys for Southern

Paul G. Taggart

Tim O'Connor

Attorneys for Southern Nevada Water Authority and Las Vegas Valley Water District

S & R, Inc. 808 Shetland Road Las Vegas, NV 89107 Karen Glasgow Office of the Solicitor-DOI 333 Bush St, #775 San Francisco, CA 94619

Attorney for National Park Service

Mark D. Stock Global Hydrologic Services, Inc. 561 Keystone Avenue, #200 Reno, NV 89503-4331 Kathryn Brinton Office of the Solicitor-DOI 1340 Financial Blvd. Reno, NV 89502

Sylvia Harrison
Sarah Ferguson
McDonald Carano
100 West Liberty St., 10th Fl.
Reno, NV 89501
Attorneys for Republic Environmental
Technologies, Inc. and Georgia Pacific Corp.

Steven C. Anderson Southern Nevada Water Authority 1001 South Valley View Boulevard, MS #480 Las Vegas, Nevada 89153 Attorneys for Southern Nevada Water Authority and Las Vegas Valley Water District

Kent Robison Robison, Sharp, Sullivan and Brust 71 Washington Street Reno, NV 89503 Attorney for Coyote Springs Investment, LLC Laura A. Schroeder Therese A. Ure 10615 Double R Blvd., Ste. 100 Reno, NV 89521 Attorneys for Bedroc

Alex J. Flangas
Kaempfer Crowell
50 W. Liberty Street, Suite 700
Reno, NV 89501
Attorneys for Nevada Cogeneration
Associates Nos. 1 and 2

William O'Donnell 2780 S. Jones Blvd., Ste. 210 Las Vegas, NV 89146

Justina Caviglia 6100 Neil Road Reno, NV 89511 Attorney for NV Energy Gregory Morrison Parsons Behle & Latimer 50 W. Liberty St., Ste. 750 Reno, NV 89501

Attorneys for Moapa Valley Water District

Robert O. Kurth Kurth Law Office 3420 N. Buffalo Dr. Las Vegas, NV 89129 Attorney for 3335Hillside LLC

Steven D. King 227 River Rd. Dayton, NV 89403 Attorney for Muddy Valley Irrigation Co.

Dylan V. Frehner 181 North Main Street, Suite 205 P.O. Box 60 Pioche, NV 89043 Attorney for Lincoln County District

Karen A. Peterson Allison MacKenzie, Ltd. 402 North Division Street Carson City, Nevada 89703 Attorney for Vidler Water Company

Emilia K. Cargill Coyote Springs Investments, LLC 3100 State Route 168 Coyote Springs, NV 89037 Attorney for Coyote Springs Investment, LLC Derek Muaina, General Counsel Western Elite 2745 N. Nellis Blvd. Las Vegas, NV 89115

Luke Miller
Office of the Regional Solicitor
US DOI
2800 Cottage Way, Suite E-1712
Sacramento, CA 95825
Attorney for Fish and Wildlife Service

Lisa Belenky Center for Biological Diversity 1212 Broadway #800 Oakland, CA 94612

Bradley J. Herrema Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck 100 N. City Parkway, Ste. 1600 Las Vegas, NV 89106 Attorney for Coyote Springs Investment, LLC

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	١
FLOW SYSTEM WITHIN COYOTE SPRING	Ì
VALLEY HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (210), A	<i>)</i>
PORTION OF BLACK MOUNTAINS AREA)
HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (215), GARNET VALLEY)
HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN 216), HIDDEN VALLEY)
HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (217), CALIFORNIA	١
WASH HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (218) AND	۱
MUDDY RIVER SPRINGS AREA (AKA UPPER)
MOAPA VALLEY) HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (219).	J
LINCOLN AND CLARK COUNTIES, NEVADA.	١

VERIFIED APPLICATION FOR ASSOCIATION OF COUNSEL UNDER NEVADA SUPREME COURT RULE 42

RICHARD	MAYER	BERLEY , Po	etitioner, respectfull	ly represents:
First	Middle Name	Last		J 1
I. Petitioner resides at	2202 NE 115	TH STREET		
			Street Address	
SEATTLE	KIN	1G	, WA	98125
City		County	State	Zip Code
(206) 364-7252 Telephon 2. Petitioner is an attor		a member of the	law firm of: ZION	TZ CHESTNUT
with offices at2101 4	TH AVENUE,	SUITE 1230		
-		eet Address		
SEATTLE	KIN	G	, WA	98121
City		County	State	Zip Code
(206) 448-1230		rberley	ziontzchestnut.con	n
Telephone	2	Email		

3. Petitioner has been retained personally or as a member of the above	e named law firm by
THE MOAPA BAND OF PAIUTES to provi	ide legal representation in
connection with the above-entitled matter now pending before the above-	ove referenced court.
4. Since OCTOBER of 1979, petitioner has been, and presently is, a	member of good standing of
the bar of the highest court of the State of WASHINGTON where	petitioner regularly practices
law.	
5. Petitioner was admitted to practice before the following United S	States District Courts, United
States Circuit Courts of Appeal, the Supreme Court of the United State	s, and/or courts of other states
on the dates indicated for each, and is presently a member in good stand	ding of the bars of said Courts:
	DATE ADMITTED
WASHINGTON STATE	10/30/1979
	4/0/1.070
NEW YORK STATE	4/9/1979
NEW YORK STATE US SUPREME COURT	1/11/1988
US SUPREME COURT	2/20/1981
US SUPREME COURT 9TH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS *SEE CONTINUATION PAGE	2/20/1981
US SUPREME COURT 9TH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS *SEE CONTINUATION PAGE 6. Is Petitioner currently suspended or disbarred in any court? You make the supplementary of the suppleme	2/20/1981
US SUPREME COURT 9TH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS *SEE CONTINUATION PAGE 6. Is Petitioner currently suspended or disbarred in any court? You make the supplementary of the suppleme	2/20/1981
US SUPREME COURT 9TH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS *SEE CONTINUATION PAGE 6. Is Petitioner currently suspended or disbarred in any court? You make the supplementary of the suppleme	1/11/1988 2/20/1981 nust answer yes or no. If yes,
US SUPREME COURT 9TH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS *SEE CONTINUATION PAGE 6. Is Petitioner currently suspended or disbarred in any court? You make give particulars; e.g., court, jurisdiction, date: NO	2/20/1981 nust answer yes or no. If yes, y organization with authority
US SUPREME COURT 9TH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS *SEE CONTINUATION PAGE 6. Is Petitioner currently suspended or disbarred in any court? You make give particulars; e.g., court, jurisdiction, date: NO 7. Is Petitioner currently subject to any disciplinary proceedings by any	2/20/1981 nust answer yes or no. If yes, y organization with authority

(snoits:	n a statement of additional application	necessary, please attac	(If)
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		(soppl o	ng Federal Pr
one, indicate so: (do not	ars in the following matters, if no	ng the past three (3) ye	Court Rule 42 durin
under Nevada Supreme	olication(s) to appear as counsel	lds gniwollo1 əd1 bəli1	11. Petitioner has
Ulars: NO	swer yes or no. If yes, give partic	ans 12um uoY 92gnibəə	or suspension proc
aiscibiinary, aisparment,	in order to avoid administrative,	เ ร ดเมอะ สุร สุน สถอนเอริ	commate remindie
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ot bolgmotts to bolanim	withdrawal, or otherwise, ever ter	either by resignation,	10. Has Petitioner,
	sion or reinstatement: NO	e body, date of suspen	date, administrativ
yes, give particulars, e.g.	1? You must answer yes or no. If	λ snsbeugeg ot tevoke	administrative bod
violelugei vne egulatorv	inari brivilege to appear and practi	yer had any certificate	9. Has Petitioner e
ON	discipline authority, date, status:	particulars, e.g. court, o	or no. If yes, give I
w? You must answer yes	hority to discipline attorneys at la) organization with aut	disbarment, by any
no noisuadene (or nonu	discipline including, but not li	alland pakiasai iaka	lanoma i entre co
an animomnum of betim	it ton tud anibutani anilaissib	vildum havioner rave :	anoititad 28H . 8

SEE ATTACHED EXHIBIT

NYWE

(must be the same as the signature on the Nevada Coursel consent page)	
Nevada Counsel of Record for Petition in this matter is:	15.

	byone Number		Zip Code
	•	9594-496 (577) ,	70568
County	City		Street Address
MYZHOE	. KENO	STREET, SUITE 220	955 S. VIRGINIA
	c/Company	meV mri3	
		LEONARD LAW, PC	who has offices at
NV Bar#	Last Name	Middle Name	First Name
8560	LEONARD	.A	DEBBIE

WHETHER OR NOT REPRESENTED BY COUNSEL, and the names and addresses of each 13. The following accurately represents the names and addresses of each party in this matter,

counsel of record who appeared for said parties: (You may attach as an Exhibit if necessary.)

MAILING ADDRES		

Vevada in accordance with provisions as set forth in SCR 42(3) and (13). Petitioner respectfully
and Petitioner consents to the jurisdiction of the courts and disciplinary boards of the State of
14. Petitioner agrees to comply with the provisions of Nevada Supreme Court Rule 42(3) and (13)

15. Petitioner has disclosed in writing to the client that the applicant is not admitted to practice in THIS MATTER ONLY.

requests that Petitioner be admitted to practice in the above-entitled court FOR THE PURPOSES OF

this jurisdiction and that the client has consented to such representation.

L, RICHARD MAYER BERLEY, do hereby swearfaffirm under penalty of perjury that the assertions of this application and the following statements are true:

- 1) That I am the Petitioner in the above entitled matter.
- 2) That I have read Supreme Court Rule (SCR) 42 and meet all requirements contained

therein, including, without limitation, the requirements set forth in SCR 42(2), as follows:

- (A) I am not a member of the State Bar of Nevada;
- (B) I am not a resident of the State of Nevada;
- (C) I am not regularly employed as a lawyer in the State of Nevada;
- (D) I am not engaged in substantial business, professional, or other activities in the
- State of Nevada;

course of such appearance.

- (E) I am a member in good standing and eligible to practice before the bar of any
- jurisdiction of the United States; and
 (F) I have associated a lawyer who is an active member in good standing of the State
- Bar of Nevada as counsel of record in this action or proceeding.

 2) That I have read the foregoing application and know the contents thereof; that the same is true of my own knowledge except as to those matters therein stated on information and

Delief, and as to the matter I believe them to be true.

That I further certify that I am subject to the jurisdiction of the Courts and disciplinary boards of this state with respect to the law of this state governing the conduct of attorneys to the same extent as a member of the State Bar of Nevada; that I understand and shall comply with the standards of professional conduct required by members of the State Bar of Nevada; and that I am subject to the disciplinary jurisdiction to the State Bar of Nevada with respect to any of my actions occurring in the disciplinary jurisdiction to the State Bar of Nevada with respect to any of my actions occurring in the

MATIN M

5076

Petitioner/Affiant (blue ink)

DATED This Ath day of September

LAURA A BARTHOLET
NOTARY PUBLIC#126561
STATE OF WASHINGTON
COMMISSION EXPIRES
JUNE 19, 2023

STATE OF Washington) ss

Subscribed and sworn to before me

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Sildud vastok

DESIGNATION, CERTIFICATION AND CONSENT OF NEVADA COUNSEL

SCR 42(14) Responsibilities of Nevada attorney of record.

- (a) The Nevada attorney of record shall be responsible for and actively participate in the
- representation of a client in any proceeding that is subject to this rule.

 (b) The Nevada attorney of record shall be present at all motions, pre-trials, or any matters in
- open court unless otherwise ordered by the court.

 (c) The Nevada attorney of record shall be responsible to the court, arbitrator, mediator, or

administrative agency or governmental body for the administration of any proceeding that is subject to this rule and for compliance with all state and local rules of practice. It is the responsibility of Nevada counsel to ensure that the proceeding is tried and managed in accordance with all applicable

Nevada procedural and ethical rules.

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	Print Nevada Counsel Name
hereby agree to associate with Petitioner referenced hereinabove	DEBBIE V. LEONARD

and further agree to perform all of the duties and responsibilities as required by Nevada Supreme

6/07

Court Rule 42.

ATED this List day of Superior, 2019

Nevada Counsel of Record (blue ink)

Appointment No. 99-51850-2 My Appt. Expires Dec 31, 2020

PATRICIA E. TREVINO Notary Public, State of Nevada

STATE OF MAShoe state) ss

Subscribed and sworn to before me

Notary Public

MAD ANTIM

US TAX COURT

DATE ADMITTED

3/72/7011

15/1/1616

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17/50/1615 0007/8/7

*CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2, PARAGRAPH 5

OSDC EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

USDC WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

FEDERAL CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS

US COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS

1011 CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS

JA 664

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N. Las Vegas, NV 890.30

City of North Las Vegas

2250 Las Vegas Blvd. North

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Dylan V. Frehner 181 North Main Street, Suite 205 P.O. Box 60 Pioche, NV 89043 Attorney for Lincoln County District

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Bradley J. Herrema Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck 100 N. City Parkway, Ste. 1600 Las Vegas, NV 89106 Attorney for Coyote Springs Investment, LLC

EXHIBIT 2

EXHIBIT 2

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADMISSION) BAR NO. 46018
OF) CERTIFICATE
BETH ANN BALDWIN	OF
TO PRACTICE IN THE COURTS OF THIS STATE	GOOD STANDING

I, Susan L. Carlson, Clerk of the Supreme Court of the State of Washington, hereby certify

BETH ANN BALDWIN

was regularly admitted to practice as an Attorney and Counselor at Law in the Supreme Court and all the Courts of the State of Washington on May 23, 2013, and is now and has continuously since that date been an attorney in good standing, and has a current status of active.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Court this 5th day of September, 2019.

Susan L. Carlson Supreme Court Clerk

Washington State Supreme Court

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

)
) BAR NO. 9209
) CERTIFICATE
OF
) GOOD STANDING)

I, Susan L. Carlson, Clerk of the Supreme Court of the State of Washington, hereby certify

RICHARD MAYER BERLEY

was regularly admitted to practice as an Attorney and Counselor at Law in the Supreme Court and all the Courts of the State of Washington on October 30, 1979, and is now and has continuously since that date been an attorney in good standing, and has a current status of active.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Court this 11th day of September, 2019.

Susan L. Carlson
Supreme Court Clerk

Washington State Supreme Court

Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of the State of New York First Judicial Department

I, Susanna Rojas, Clerk of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, First Judicial Department, certify that

RICHARD MAYER BERLEY

was duly licensed and admitted to practice as an Attorney and Counsellor at Law in all the courts of the State of New York on April 9, 1979, has duly taken and subscribed the oath of office prescribed by law, has been enrolled in the Roll of Attorneys and Counsellors at Law on file in my office, has duly registered with the administrative office of the courts, and according to the records of this court is in good standing as an attorney and counsellor at law.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of this court on

September 10, 2019

9301

Clerk of the Court

EXHIBIT 3

EXHIBIT 3

STAT

BEFORE THE OFFICE OF THE STATE ENGINEER

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)

STATE BAR OF NEVADA STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SUPREME COURT RULE
42(3)(b)

THE STATE BAR OF NEVADA, in response to the application of Petitioner, submits the following statement pursuant to SCR42(3):

SCR42(6) Discretion. The granting or denial of a motion to associate counsel pursuant to this rule by the court is discretionary. The court, arbitrator, mediator, or administrative or governmental hearing officer may revoke the authority of the person permitted to appear under this rule. Absent special circumstances, repeated appearances by any person or firm of attorneys pursuant to this rule shall be cause for denial of the motion to associate such person.

- (a) Limitation. It shall be presumed, absent special circumstances, and only upon showing of good cause, that more than 5 appearances by any attorney granted under this rule in a 3-year period is excessive use of this rule.
- (b) Burden on applicant. The applicant shall have the burden to establish special circumstances and good cause for an appearance in excess of the limitation set forth in subsection 6(a) of this rule. The applicant shall set forth the special circumstances and good cause in an affidavit attached to the original verified application.
- 1. DATE OF APPLICATION: 9/16/2019
- 2. APPLYING ATTORNEY: Beth Ann Baldwin, Esq.

- 3. FIRM NAME AND ADDRESS: Ziontz Chestnut, 2101 4th Avenue, Suite 1230, Seattle, WA 98121
- 4. NEVADA COUNSEL OF RECORD: <u>Debbie A. Leonard, Esq., Leonard Law, PC, 955 S. Virginia Street, Suite 220, Reno, NV 89502</u>
- 5. There is no record of previous applications for appearance by petitioner within the past three (3) years.

DATED this September 16, 2019

Suzy Moore

Member Services Admin. Pro Hac Vice Processor STATE BAR OF NEVADA

STAT

BEFORE THE OFFICE OF THE STATE ENGINEER

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)

STATE BAR OF NEVADA STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SUPREME COURT RULE 42(3)(b)

THE STATE BAR OF NEVADA, in response to the application of Petitioner, submits the following statement pursuant to SCR42(3):

SCR42(6) **Discretion**. The granting or denial of a motion to associate counsel pursuant to this rule by the court is discretionary. The court, arbitrator, mediator, or administrative or governmental hearing officer may revoke the authority of the person permitted to appear under this rule. Absent special circumstances, repeated appearances by any person or firm of attorneys pursuant to this rule shall be cause for denial of the motion to associate such person.

- (a) Limitation. It shall be presumed, absent special circumstances, and only upon showing of good cause, that more than 5 appearances by any attorney granted under this rule in a 3-year period is excessive use of this rule.
- (b) Burden on applicant. The applicant shall have the burden to establish special circumstances and good cause for an appearance in excess of the limitation set forth in subsection 6(a) of this rule. The applicant shall set forth the special circumstances and good cause in an affidavit attached to the original verified application.
- 1. DATE OF APPLICATION: 9/17/2019
- 2. APPLYING ATTORNEY: Richard Mayer Berley, Esq.

3. FIRM NAME AND ADDRESS: Ziontz Chesnut, 2101 4th Avenue, Suite 1230, Seattle, WA 98121

- 4. NEVADA COUNSEL OF RECORD: Debbie A. Leonard, Esq., Leonard Law, PC, 955 S. Virginia Street, Suite 220, Reno, NV 89502
- 5. There is no record of previous applications for appearance by petitioner within the past three (3) years.

DATED this September 17, 2019

Suzy Moore

Member Services Admin. Pro Hac Vice Processor STATE BAR OF NEVADA

EXHIBIT 4

EXHIBIT 4

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

INTERIM ORDER

#1303

DESIGNATING THE ADMINISTRATION OF ALL WATER RIGHTS WITHIN COYOTE SPRING VALLEY HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (210), A PORTION OF BLACK MOUNTAINS AREA BASIN (215), GARNET VALLEY BASIN (216), HIDDEN VALLEY BASIN (217), CALIFORNIA WASH BASIN (218), AND MUDDY RIVER SPRINGS AREA (AKA UPPER MOAPA VALLEY) BASIN (219) AS A JOINT ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT, HOLDING IN ABEYANCE APPLICATIONS TO CHANGE EXISTING GROUNDWATER RIGHTS, AND ESTABLISHING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON THE REVIEW OF FINAL SUBDIVISION MAPS

I. PURPOSE

WHEREAS, the purpose of this Interim Order is to designate a multi-basin area known to share a close hydrologic connection as a joint administrative unit, which shall be known as the Lower White River Flow System (LWRFS).

WHEREAS, an adequate and predictable supply of groundwater within the LWRFS supports the health, safety and welfare of the area, and this Interim Order aims to protect existing senior rights and the public interest in an endangered species, recognize existing beneficial use, and limit development actions that are dependent on a supply of water that may not be available in the future.

WHEREAS, during the interim period that this Order is in effect, holders of existing rights and other interested parties are encouraged to submit reports to the Nevada Division of Water Resources (NDWR) analyzing the data available regarding sustainable groundwater development in the LWRFS, the geographic extent of the LWRFS, and considerations relating to groundwater pumping within the LWRFS and its effects on the fully decreed Muddy River. This collected and analyzed data is an essential step to optimize the beneficial use of the available water supply in the LWRFS.

WHEREAS, concurrent with this interim order, holders of existing rights and other interested parties are encouraged to participate in the public process to develop a conjunctive management plan.

I. BASIN DESIGNATIONS PURSUANT TO NRS § 534.030

WHEREAS, the Coyote Spring Valley Hydrographic Basin was designated pursuant to Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) § 534.030 by Order 905 dated August 21, 1985, which also declared municipal, power, industrial and domestic uses as preferred uses of the groundwater resource pursuant to NRS § 534.120.

WHEREAS, the Black Mountains Area Hydrographic Basin was designated pursuant to NRS § 534.030 by Order 1018 dated November 22, 1989, which also declared municipal, industrial, commercial and power generation purposes as preferred uses of the groundwater resource pursuant to NRS § 534.120, declared irrigation of land using groundwater to be a non-preferred use, and ordered that applications to appropriate groundwater for irrigation purposes would be denied.

WHEREAS, the Garnet Valley Hydrographic Basin was designated pursuant to NRS § 534.030 by Order 1025 dated April 24, 1990, which also declared municipal, quasimunicipal, industrial, commercial, mining, stockwater and wildlife purposes as preferred uses pursuant to NRS § 534.120, and declared irrigation of land using groundwater to be a non-preferred use, and ordered that applications to appropriate groundwater for irrigation purposes would be denied.

WHEREAS, the California Wash Hydrographic Basin was designated pursuant to NRS § 534.030 by Order 1026 dated April 24, 1990, which also declared municipal, quasi-municipal, industrial, commercial, mining, stockwater and wildlife purposes as preferred uses pursuant to NRS § 534.120, and declared irrigation of land using groundwater to be a non-preferred use, and ordered that applications to appropriate groundwater for irrigation purposes would be denied.

WHEREAS, the Hidden Valley Hydrographic Basin was designated pursuant to NRS § 534.030 by Order 1024 dated April 24, 1990, which also declared municipal, quasimunicipal, industrial, commercial, mining, stockwater and wildlife purposes as preferred uses pursuant to NRS § 534.120, and declared irrigation of land using groundwater to be a non-preferred use, and ordered that applications to appropriate groundwater for irrigation purposes would be denied.

WHEREAS, the Muddy River Springs Area was partially designated pursuant to NRS § 534.030 by Order 392 dated July 14, 1971, and was fully designated by Order 1023 dated April 24, 1990, which also declared municipal, quasi-municipal, industrial, commercial, mining, stockwater and wildlife purposes as preferred uses pursuant to NRS § 534.120, and declared irrigation of land using groundwater to be a non-preferred use, and ordered that applications to appropriate groundwater for irrigation purposes would be denied.

II. ORDERS 1169 AND 1169A

WHEREAS, on March 8, 2002, the State Engineer issued Order 1169 holding in abeyance carbonate-rock aquifer system groundwater applications either pending or to be filed in Coyote Spring Valley (Basin 210), Black Mountains Area (Basin 215), Garnet Valley (Basin 216), Hidden Valley (Basin 217), Muddy River Springs Area (Basin 219), and Lower Moapa Valley (Basin 220) and ordering an aquifer test of the carbonate-rock aquifer system, which was not well understood, to determine whether additional appropriations could be developed from the carbonate-rock aquifer system. The Order required that at least 50%, or 8,050 acre-feet annually (afa), of the water rights then currently permitted in Coyote Spring Valley be pumped for at least two consecutive years.

WHEREAS, on April 18, 2002, in Ruling 5115, the State Engineer added the California Wash (Basin 218) to the Order 1169 aquifer test basins.

WHEREAS, prior to the Order 1169 aquifer test beginning, there were significant concerns that pumping 8,050 afa from the Coyote Spring Valley as part of the aquifer test would adversely impact the water resources at the Muddy River Springs, and consequently the Muddy River. Ultimately, the Order 1169 study participants agreed that even if the minimum 8,050 afa was not pumped, sufficient information would be obtained to inform future decisions relating to the study basins.

WHEREAS, on November 15, 2010, the Order 1169 aquifer test began, whereby the study participants began reporting to NDWR on a quarterly basis the amounts of water being pumped from wells in the carbonate and alluvial aquifer during the pendency of the aquifer test.

WHEREAS, on December 21, 2012, the State Engineer issued Order 1169A declaring the completion of the aquifer test to be December 31, 2012, after a period of 25½ months. The

State Engineer provided the study participants the opportunity to file reports with NDWR until June 28, 2013, addressing the information gained from the aquifer test and the water available to support applications in the aquifer test basins.

WHEREAS, during the Order 1169 aquifer test, an average of 5,290 acre-feet per year was pumped from carbonate wells in Coyote Spring Valley, and a cumulative total of approximately 14,535 acre-feet per year of water was pumped throughout the LWRFS. Of this total, approximately 3,840 acre-feet per year was pumped from the Muddy River Springs Area alluvial aquifer.¹

WHEREAS, during the aquifer test, pumpage was measured and reported from 30 other wells in the Muddy River Springs Area, Garnet Valley, California Wash, Black Mountains Area, and Lower Meadow Valley Wash. Stream diversions from the Muddy River were reported, and measurements of the natural discharge of the Muddy River and several of the Muddy River's headwater springs were collected daily. Water-level data were collected from a total of 79 monitoring and pumping wells within the LWRFS. All of the data collected during the aquifer test was made available to each of the study participants and the public.

WHEREAS, during the Order 1169 aquifer test, the resulting water-level decline encompassed 1,100 square miles and extended from northern Coyote Spring Valley through the Muddy River Springs Area, Hidden Valley, Garnet Valley, California Wash, and the northwestern part of the Black Mountains Area.^{2,3} The water-level decline was estimated to be 1 to 1.6 feet in this area with minor drawdowns of 0.5 feet or less in the northern part of Coyote Spring Valley north of the Kane Springs Wash fault zone.

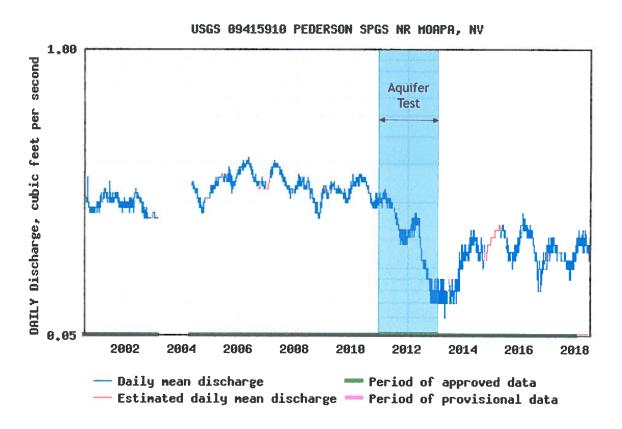
WHEREAS, results of the two-year test demonstrated that pumping 5,290 acre-feet annually from the carbonate aquifer in Coyote Spring Valley, in addition to the other carbonate pumping in Garnet Valley, Muddy River Springs Area, California Wash and the northwest part

¹ See, e.g., Ruling 6254, p. 17; Appendix B.

² See, e.g., Ruling 6254. See also U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management and U.S. National Park Service Order 1169A Report, Test Impacts and Availability of Water Pursuant to Applications Pending Under Order 1169, June 28, 2013, official records in the Office of the State Engineer.

³ There was no groundwater pumping in Hidden Valley but effects were still observed in the Hidden Valley monitor well.

of the Black Mountains Area, caused sharp declines in groundwater levels and flows in the Pederson and Pederson East springs. These two springs are considered to be sentinel springs for the overall condition of the Muddy River because they are at a higher altitude than other Muddy River source springs, and therefore are proportionally more affected by a decline in groundwater level in the carbonate aquifer.⁴ The Pederson spring flow decreased from 0.22 cubic feet per second (cfs) to 0.08 cfs and the Pederson East spring flow decreased from 0.12 cfs to 0.08 cfs. The following hydrograph at Pederson spring illustrates the decline in discharge during the aquifer test and also demonstrates that in the five years since the end of the aquifer test, spring flow has not recovered to pre-test flow rates.



⁴ See the 2006 Memorandum of Agreement among the Southern Nevada Water Authority, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Coyote Springs Investments, Moapa Band of Paiutes, and the Moapa Valley Water District.

Additional headwater springs at lower altitude, the Baldwin and Jones springs, declined approximately 4% during the test.⁵ All of the headwater springs contribute to the decreed and fully appropriated Muddy River and are the predominant source of water that supplies the habitat of the endangered Moapa dace, a fish federally listed as an endangered species since 1967.

WHEREAS, based upon the analysis of the carbonate aquifer test, it was asserted that pumping at the Order 1169 rate at well MX-5 in Coyote Spring Valley could result in both of the high-altitude Pederson and Pederson East springs going dry in 3 years or less.⁶

WHEREAS, based upon the findings of the aquifer test, the carbonate aquifer underlying Coyote Spring Valley, Garnet Valley, Hidden Valley, Muddy River Springs Area, California Wash and the northwest part of the Black Mountains Area⁷ (the LWRFS as depicted in Appendix A) was acknowledged to have a unique hydrologic connection and share the same supply of water.⁸

III. RULINGS 6254, 6255, 6256, 6257, 6258, 6259, 6260, AND 6261

WHEREAS, on January 29, 2014, the State Engineer issued Ruling 6254 on pending applications of the Las Vegas Valley Water District (LVVWD) and Coyote Springs Investment, LLC (CSI) in the Coyote Spring Valley; Ruling 6255 on pending applications of Dry Lake Water, LLC (Dry Lake), and CSI in Coyote Spring Valley; Ruling 6256 on pending applications of Bonneville Nevada Corporation, Nevada Power Company (Nevada Power), Dry Lake, and the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) in the Garnet Valley; Ruling 6257 on pending applications of Nevada Power, Dry Lake, and SNWA in the Hidden Valley; Ruling 6258 on

⁵ U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management and U.S. National Park Service Order 1169A Report, *Test Impacts and Availability of Water Pursuant to Applications Pending Under Order 1169*, pp. 43-46, 50-51, June 28, 2013, official records in the Office of the State Engineer. *See also*, http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nv/nwis/.

⁶ See, e.g., Ruling 6254. See also U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management and U.S. National Park Service Order 1169A Report, Test Impacts and Availability of Water Pursuant to Applications Pending Under Order 1169, p. 85, June 28, 2013, official records in the Office of the State Engineer.

⁷ That portion of the Black Mountains Area lying within the Lower White River Flow System is defined as those portions of Sections 29, 30, 31, 32, and 33, T.18S., R.64E., M.D.B.&M.; Section 13 and those portions of Sections 1, 11, 12, and 14, T.19S., R.63E., M.D.B.&M.; Sections 5, 7, 8, 16, 17, and 18 and those portions of Sections 4, 6, 9, 10, and 15, T.19S., R.64E., M.D.B.&M.

⁸ See, e.g., State Engineer Ruling 6254, p. 24, official records in the Office of the State Engineer.

pending applications by LVVWD, Nevada Power, Dry Lake, and the Moapa Band of Paiute Indians in the California Wash; Ruling 6259 on pending applications by the Moapa Valley Water District in the Muddy River Springs Area; and Ruling 6260 on pending applications by Nevada Cogeneration Associates #1, Nevada Cogeneration Associates #2, and Dry Lake, in the Black Mountains Area, upholding in part the protests to said applications and denying the applications on the grounds that there was no unappropriated groundwater at the source of supply, the proposed use would conflict with existing rights, and the proposed use of the water would threaten to prove detrimental to the public interest because it would threaten the water resources upon which the endangered Moapa dace are dependent.

IV. LOWER WHITE RIVER FLOW SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the total long-term average water supply to the LWRFS, from subsurface groundwater inflow and local precipitation recharge, is not more than 50,000 acre-feet annually.⁹

WHEREAS, the Muddy River, a fully appropriated surface water source, has its headwaters in the Muddy River Springs Area and has the most senior rights in the LWRFS. Spring discharge in the Muddy River Springs Area is produced from the regional carbonate aquifer. Prior to groundwater development, the Muddy River flows at the Moapa gage were approximately 34,000 acre-feet annually.¹⁰

WHEREAS, the alluvial aquifer surrounding the Muddy River ultimately derives virtually all of its water supply from the carbonates, either through spring discharge that infiltrates into the alluvium or through subsurface hydraulic connectivity between the carbonate rocks and the alluvium.¹¹

WHEREAS, the State Engineer has determined that pumping of groundwater within the LWRFS has a direct interrelationship with the flow of the decreed and fully appropriated Muddy River, which has the most-senior rights.¹²

⁹ Id.

¹⁰ United States Geological Survey Surface-Water Annual Statistics for the Nation, USGS 09416000 MUDDY RV NR MOAPA, NV, accessed at

https://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/annual/?search_site_no=09416000&agency_cd=USGS&referred _module=sw&format=sites_selection_links.

¹¹ See, e.g., State Engineer Ruling 6254, p. 24, official records in the Office of the State Engineer.

¹² *Id*.

WHEREAS, since the conclusion of the Order 1169 aquifer test, the State Engineer has jointly managed the groundwater rights within LWRFS.

WHEREAS, the State Engineer, under the joint management of the LWRFS, has not distinguished pumping from wells in the Muddy River Springs Area alluvium from pumping carbonate wells within the LWRFS.

WHEREAS, within the LWRFS, there exist more than 38,000 acre-feet of groundwater appropriations. Groundwater pumping from 2007 forward is included in Appendix B and is significantly less than the total appropriations.

WHEREAS, groundwater levels within the LWRFS have been relatively flat in the five years since the end of the Order 1169 aquifer test, but groundwater levels have not recovered to pre-test levels.¹³

IV. PUMPAGE INVENTORIES

WHEREAS, annual groundwater pumpage inventories in the Coyote Spring Valley have been published by the State Engineer since 2005. In the years 2005 through 2017 pumping has ranged from 665 acre-feet to 5,606 acre-feet, averaging 2,605 acre-feet. The average pumping in Coyote Spring Valley, excluding the years 2011 and 2012 when the aquifer test was being conducted, is 2,068 acre-feet.¹⁴

WHEREAS, annual groundwater pumpage inventories in the Black Mountains Area have been published by the State Engineer since 2001. In the years 2001 through 2017 pumping in the northwest portion of the basin has ranged from 1,137 acre-feet to 1,591 acre-feet, with an average of 1,476 acre-feet.¹⁵

¹³ See, e.g., USGS water level data for Site 364650114432001 219 S13 E65 28BDBA1 USGS CSV-2. waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis.

¹⁴ See, e.g., Nevada Division of Water Resources, Coyote Spring Valley Hydrographic Basin 13-210 Groundwater Pumpage Inventory, 2017.

¹⁵ See, e.g., Nevada Division of Water Resources, Black Mountains Area Hydrographic Basin 13-215 Groundwater Pumpage Inventory, 2017.

WHEREAS, annual groundwater pumpage inventories in the Garnet Valley have been published by the State Engineer since 2001. In the years 2001 through 2017 pumping has ranged from 797 acre-feet to 2,181 acre-feet, averaging 1,358 acre-feet. ¹⁶

WHEREAS, the State Engineer does not conduct annual groundwater pumpage inventories in the Hidden Valley basin because there is no groundwater pumping in the basin.

WHEREAS, annual groundwater pumpage inventories in the California Wash have been published by the State Engineer since 2016. In the years 2016 and 2017 pumping has ranged from 88 acre-feet to 252 acre-feet, averaging 170 acre-feet. Groundwater pumpage data have been reported by water right holders since 2009.

WHEREAS, annual groundwater pumpage inventories in the Muddy River Springs Area have been published by the State Engineer since 2016. In the years 2016 and 2017 pumping has ranged from 3,553 acre-feet to 4,048 acre-feet, with an average of 3,801 acre-feet. Groundwater pumpage data have been reported by water right holders since 1976.

WHEREAS, total groundwater pumpage in Coyote Spring Valley, Muddy River Springs Area (MRSA), California Wash, Hidden Valley, Garnet Valley, and the northwest portion of the Black Mountains Area in calendar years 2007 through 2017, ranged from 9,090 acre-feet to 14,766 acre-feet. Pumpage in years 2011-2012 during the aquifer test averaged 14,535 afa. Pumpage in years 2015 through 2017, when alluvial pumping in the MRSA was greatly reduced because of the Reid Gardner Generating Station closure, ranged from 9,090 afa to 9,637 afa.

V. AUTHORITY AND NECESSITY

WHEREAS, NRS § 533.024(1)(c) directs the State Engineer "to consider the best available science in rendering decisions concerning the availability of surface and underground sources of water in Nevada."

¹⁶ See, e.g., Nevada Division of Water Resources, Garnet Valley Hydrographic Basin 13-216 Groundwater Pumpage Inventory, 2017.

¹⁷ See, e.g., Nevada Division of Water Resources, California Wash Hydrographic Basin 13-218 Groundwater Pumpage Inventory, 2017.

¹⁸ See, e.g., Nevada Division of Water Resources, Muddy River Springs Area (AKA Upper Moapa Valley) Hydrographic Basin 13-219 Groundwater Pumpage Inventory, 2017.

WHEREAS, NRS § 533.024(1)(e) was added in 2017 to declare the policy of the State to "manage conjunctively the appropriation, use and administration of all waters of this State regardless of the source of the water."

WHEREAS, given that the State Engineer must use the best available science and manage conjunctively the water resources in the LWRFS, consideration of any development of long-term, permanent, uses that could ultimately be curtailed due to water availability will be examined with great caution.

WHEREAS, as demonstrated by the results of the aquifer test, Coyote Spring Valley, Muddy River Springs Area, Hidden Valley, Garnet Valley, California Wash, and the northwestern part of the Black Mountains Area have a direct hydraulic connection, and as a result must be administered as a joint administrative unit, including the administration of all water rights based upon the date of priority of such rights in relation to the priority of rights in the other basins.¹⁹

WHEREAS, the pre-development discharge of 34,000 acre-feet of the Muddy River system, which is fully appropriated, plus the more than 38,000 acre-feet of groundwater appropriations within the LWRFS greatly exceed the total water budget within the flow system.

WHEREAS, the results from the aquifer test, the data from groundwater level recovery and spring flow, and climate data indicate to the State Engineer that the quantity of water that may be pumped within the LWRFS without conflicting with senior rights on the Muddy River or adversely affecting the habitat of the Moapa dace is less than the quantity pumped during the aquifer test.

WHEREAS, the current amount of pumping corresponds to a period of time in which spring flows have remained relatively stable and have not demonstrated a continuing decline.

¹⁹ See, e.g., Southern Nevada Water Authority, Nevada State Engineer Order 1169 and 1169A Study Report, June 2013; Tom Meyers, Ph.D., Technical Memorandum Comments on Carbonate Order 1169 Pump Test Data and Groundwater Flow System in Coyote Springs and Muddy River Springs Valley, Nevada, June 25, 2013; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management and U.S. National Park Service Order 1169A Report, Test Impacts and Availability of Water Pursuant to Applications Pending Under Order 1169, June 28, 2013; Johnson and Mifflin, Summary of Order 1169 Testing Impacts, per Order 1169A, June 28, 2013; Tetra Tech, Comparison of Simulated and Observed Effects of Pumping from MX-5 Using Data Collected to the End of the Order 1169 Test, and Prediction of Recovery from the Test, June 10, 2013, official records in the Office of the State Engineer.

WHEREAS, the precise extent of the development of existing appropriations of groundwater within the LWRFS that may occur without conflicting with the senior rights of the fully decreed Muddy River has not been determined.

WHEREAS, recognizing that there exists a need for further analysis of the historic and ongoing groundwater pumping data, the relationship of groundwater pumping within the LWRFS to spring discharge and flow of the fully decreed Muddy River, the extent of impact of climate conditions on groundwater levels and spring discharge, and the ultimate determination of the sustainable yield of the LWRFS, the State Engineer finds that input by means of reports by the stakeholders in the interpretation of the data from the aquifer test and from the years since the conclusion of the aquifer test is important to fully inform the State Engineer prior to setting a limit on the quantity of groundwater that may be developed in the LWRFS or to developing a long-term Conjunctive Management Plan for the LWRFS and Muddy River.

WHEREAS, the State Engineer finds that it is necessary to carefully monitor the effects of groundwater development within the LWRFS under current conditions, toward the goal of collaboratively (with stakeholders) evaluating the amount of groundwater that may ultimately be developed within the LWRFS without conflicting with senior decreed rights on the Muddy River or adversely affecting the public interest in maintaining the habitat of the endangered Moapa dace. The evaluation process will include public meetings, meetings of a stakeholder representative working group, and coordination with the Hydrologic Review Team (HRT) developed under the 2006 Memorandum of Agreement among the Southern Nevada Water Authority, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Coyote Springs Investments, Moapa Band of Paiutes, and the Moapa Valley Water District. The process will provide the opportunity for the stakeholders to engage in the development of a conjunctive management plan that will be informed by the determination of the total quantity of groundwater that may be developed within the LWRFS and that will facilitate the continued use of groundwater by junior priority groundwater rights holders whom have perfected their water rights while protecting the senior decreed rights on the Muddy River.

WHEREAS, recognizing that an amount less than the full quantity of the appropriated groundwater rights within the LWRFS may be developed in a manner that will provide for a reasonably certain supply of water for future permanent uses without jeopardizing the economies of the communities reliant on the water supply within the LWRFS, the health and safety of those

whom are either presently reliant the water, existing public interests, or those who may in the future become reliant on a reliable and sustainable source of supply, the State Engineer, with the following exception, finds that it is necessary to issue a temporary moratorium on the review and decision by the Division of Water Resources regarding any final subdivision map or other construction or development submission requiring a finding that adequate water is available to support the proposed development. During the pendency of this Interim Order, the State Engineer may review and grant approval of a subdivision or other submission if a showing of an adequate and sustainable supply of water to meet the anticipated life of the subdivision, other construction or development can be made to the State Engineer's satisfaction.

WHEREAS, through continued monitoring of the LWRFS during the effective period of this Interim Order, the State Engineer seeks to maintain recent groundwater pumping amounts, while providing time for the submission of additional scientific data and analysis regarding the total quantity of water that may be sustainably withdrawn from the LWRFS over the long-term without conflicting with senior Muddy River decreed rights or jeopardizing the communities, water users, or public interests identified above.

WHEREAS, the State Engineer is empowered to make such reasonable rules and regulations as may be necessary for the proper and orderly execution of the powers conferred by law.²⁰

WHEREAS, within an area that has been designated by the State Engineer, as provided for in NRS Chapter 534, where, in the judgment of the State Engineer, the groundwater basin is being depleted, the State Engineer in his or her administrative capacity may make such rules, regulations and orders as are deemed essential for the welfare of the area involved.²¹

WHEREAS, the State Engineer finds that additional data relating to the impacts of groundwater pumping from the LWRFS coupled with the public process will allow his office to make a determination as to the appropriate long-term management of groundwater pumping that may occur in the LWRFS by existing holders of water rights without conflicting with existing senior decreed rights or adversely affecting the endangered Moapa dace.

²⁰ NRS § 532.120.

²¹ Id

VI. ORDER

NOW THEREFORE, the State Engineer orders:

- 1. The Lower White River Flow System consisting of the Coyote Spring Valley, Muddy River Springs Area, California Wash, Hidden Valley, Garnet Valley, and the portion of the Black Mountains Area as described in this Order, is herewith designated as a joint administrative unit for purposes of administration of water rights. All water rights within the Lower White River Flow System will be administered based upon their respective date of priorities in relation to other rights within the regional groundwater unit.
- 2. Any stakeholder with interests that may be affected by water right development within the Lower White River Flow System may file a report in the Office of the State Engineer in Carson City, Nevada, no later than the close of business on Monday, June 3, 2019.²² Reports filed with the Office of the State Engineer should address the following matters:
 - a. The geographic boundary of the hydrologically connected groundwater and surface water systems comprising the Lower White River Flow System;
 - b. The information obtained from the 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;

²² For any stakeholder affected by the shut-down of the United States government beginning in December 2018, upon a request and showing of good cause to the satisfaction of the State Engineer, an extension of time may be granted to those affected parties.

- 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.
- 3. Any stakeholder with interests that may be affected by water right development within the Lower White River Flow System may file with the Office of the State Engineer no later than the close of business on Thursday July 18, 2019, a rebuttal to the Reports filed on June 3, 2019.
- 4. The State Engineer will schedule an administrative hearing within the month of September 2019 to take comment on the submitted reports.
- 5. During the pendency of this Interim Order:
 - a. Permanent applications to change existing groundwater rights shall be held in abeyance pending the submission of the reports as required by Paragraph 2 of this Order and as authorized by NRS §§ 532.165(1), 533.368 and 533.370(4)(d). Temporary applications to change existing groundwater rights will be processed pursuant to NRS § 533.345.
 - b. A temporary moratorium is issued regarding any final subdivision or other submission concerning development and construction submitted to the State Engineer for review, and such submissions shall be held in abeyance pending the conclusion of the public process to determine the total quantity of groundwater that may be developed within the Lower White River Flow System. The State Engineer may review and grant approval of a subdivision or other submission if a showing of an adequate and sustainable supply of water to meet the anticipated life of the subdivision, other construction or development can be made to the State Engineer's satisfaction.

- c. Holders of water rights who maintain their water rights in good standing by filing all required applications for extension of time in conformity with the requirements of NRS §§ 533.390, 533.395 and 533.410 may cite this order in support of their applications for extension of time.
- d. Holders of water rights who file all required applications for extension of time in conformity with the requirements of NRS § 534.090 may cite this order in support of their applications for extension of time to prevent the working of a forfeiture.

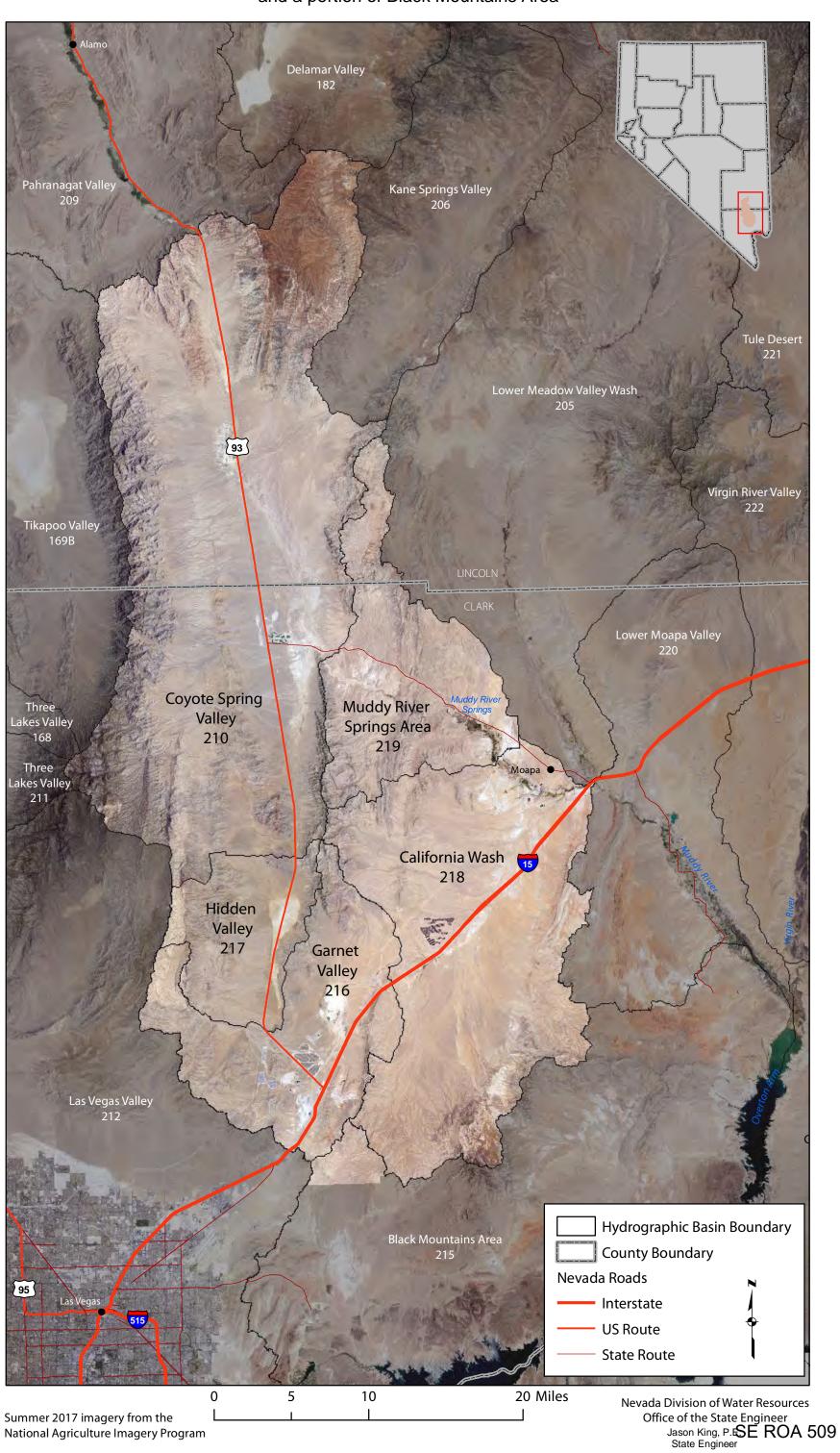
JASON KING, P.E. State Engineer

Dated at Carson City, Nevada this

// TH day of _ AMUREY, 2019

Order 1303, Appendix A: LOWER WHITE RIVER FLOW SYSTEM

Coyote Spring Valley, Muddy River Springs Area, Hidden Valley, Garnet Valley, California Wash, and a portion of Black Mountains Area



Order 1303, APPENDIX B: Groundwater Pumping in the Lower White River Flow System, 2007-2017

Basin No.		219			215		210	216	218	217	Total
Basin Name	N	Muddy River S	prings Area		Black Mountai	ins Area	Coyote Spring Valley	Garnet Valley	California Wash	Hidden Valley	pumping in the LWRFS
Year	Carbonate pumping (reported by MVWD)	Alluvial pumping (reported by NV Energy)	All other Alluvial Pumping ¹	Total Pumping in Basin 219 ¹	Carbonate pumping in the Northwest Portion of Basin 215	Total Pumping in Basin 215					
2007	2,079	4,744	253	7,076	1,585	1,732	3,147	1,412	27^{2}	0	13,247
2008	2,272	4,286	253	6,811	1,591	1,759	2,000	1,552	272	0	11,981
2009	2,034	4,092	253	6,379	1,137	1,159	1,792	1,427	213	0	10,756
2010	1,826	4,088	253	6,167	1,561	1,572	2,923	1,373	26^{3}	0	12,050
2011	1,837	4,212	253	6,302	1,398	1,409	5,606	1,427	33^{3}	0	14,766
2012	2,638	2,961	253	5,852	1,556	1,564	5,516	1,351	28^{3}	0	14,303
2013	2,496	3,963	253	6,712	1,585	1,776	3,407	1,484	66^{3}	0	13,254
2014	1,442	4,825	253	6,520	1,429	1,624	2,258	1,568	2413	0	12,016
2015	2,396	1,249	253	3,898	1,448	1,708	2,064	1,520	460	0	9,390
2016	2,795	941	312	4,048	1,434	1,641	1,722	2,181	252	0	9,637
2017	2,824	535	194	3,553	1,507	1,634	1,961	1,981	88	0	9,090

The LWRFS includes basins 210, 216, 217, 218, 219 and the northwest portion of 215.

All values in this table are from State Engineer basin pumpage inventory reports except as noted in the footnotes below:

- 1. Alluvial Pumping not reported by NV Energy for years 2007–2015 estimated as the average of inventoried years 2016–2017.
- 2. Estimated as the average of groundwater pumping in years 2009-2012.
- 3. Reported to the State Engineer but not published in a basin inventory report.

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

ADDENDUM TO INTERIM ORDER #1303

DESIGNATING THE ADMINISTRATION OF ALL WATER RIGHTS WITHIN COYOTE SPRING VALLEY HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (210), A PORTION OF BLACK MOUNTAINS AREA (BASIN 215), GARNET VALLEY (BASIN 216), HIDDEN VALLEY (BASIN 217), CALIFORNIA WASH (BASIN 218), AND MUDDY RIVER SPRINGS AREA (AKA UPPER MOAPA VALLEY) (BASIN 219) AS A JOINT ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT, HOLDING IN ABEYANCE APPLICATIONS TO CHANGE EXISTING GROUNDWATER RIGHTS, AND ESTABLISHING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON THE REVIEW OF FINAL SUBDIVISION MAPS

WHEREAS, the purpose of this Addendum is to modify the schedule for the submission of reports and rebuttal reports of interested stakeholders analyzing the data available regarding sustainable groundwater development in the Lower White River Flow System (LWRFS), the geographic extent of the LWRFS, and considerations relating to the movement of groundwater pumping between the alluvial wells and carbonate wells and its effects on the fully decreed Muddy River.

WHEREAS, NRS § 533.024(1)(c) directs the State Engineer "to consider the best available science in rendering decisions concerning the availability of surface and underground sources of water in Nevada."

WHEREAS, NRS § 533.024(1)(e) was added in 2017 to declare the policy of the State to "manage conjunctively the appropriation, use and administration of all waters of this State regardless of the source of the water."

WHEREAS, based upon the recognition that a need exists for further analysis of the groundwater pumping data, the relationship of groundwater pumping within the LWRFS to spring discharge and flow of the fully decreed Muddy River, the extent of impact of climate conditions on groundwater levels and spring discharge, and the ultimate determination of the sustainable yield of the LWRFS, and the interest in the stakeholders having sufficient time to prepare reports, the State Engineer finds that it is reasonable and appropriate to modify the schedule originally established in Interim Order 1303.

WHEREAS, the State Engineer is empowered to make such reasonable rules and regulations as may be necessary for the proper and orderly execution of the powers conferred by law.¹

WHEREAS, within an area that has been designated by the State Engineer, as provided for in NRS Chapter 534, where, in the judgment of the State Engineer, the groundwater basin is being depleted, the State Engineer in his or her administrative capacity may make such rules, regulations and orders as are deemed essential for the welfare of the area involved.²

ORDER

NOW THEREFORE, the State Engineer orders

- 1. The deadline for any stakeholder with interests that may be affected by water right development within the Lower White River Flow System to file a report in the Office of the State Engineer in Carson City, Nevada, is extended to no later than the close of business on Wednesday, July 3, 2019. The substance of the reports should include the same elements as established originally in Interim Order 1303.
- 2. Any rebuttal report to the Reports filed on July 3, 2019, to be submitted by a stakeholder with interests that may be affected by water right development within the Lower White River Flow System shall be submitted to the Office of the State Engineer no later than the close of business on Friday August 16, 2019.
- 3. All other matters contained in Interim Order 1303 remain unaltered.

TIM WILSON, P.E.

State Engineer

Dated at Carson City, Nevada this

13th day of May , 2019

2 14

¹ NRS § 532.120.

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) (AKA UPPER MOAPA VALLEY)) **HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (219).**)

NOTICE OF PRE-HEARING CONFERENCE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a pre-hearing conference in the above-referenced matter will begin promptly at 9:00 a.m., on Thursday, August 8, 2019, to be held at the Nevada Division of Water Resources, Tahoe Hearing Room, 901 South Stewart, Second Floor, Carson City, Nevada.

The State Engineer issued Interim Order 1303 Designating the Administration of all Water Rights 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) as a Joint Administrative Unit, Holding in Abeyance Applications to Change Existing Groundwater Rights, and Establishing a Temporary Moratorium on the Review of Final Subdivision Maps on January 11, 2019. Order 1303 further directed stakeholders with interests that may be affected by water right development in the Lower White River Flow System (LWRFS), who so wished, to file a report and/or rebuttal reports with the State Engineer addressing five matters: (1) the geographic boundary of the hydrologically connected groundwater and surface-water systems comprising the LWRFS; (2) the information obtained from the Order 1169 aguifer 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; (3) the long-term annual quantity of water that may be pumped from the LWRFS, including the relationships between the location of pumping on discharge to the Muddy River Springs, and the capture of Muddy River flow; (4) the effects of movement of water rights between alluvial wells and carbonate wells on deliveries of senior decreed rights to the Muddy River; and, (5) any other matter believed to be relevant to the State Engineer's analysis. Order 1303 further ordered that an administrative hearing would be held within the month of September 2019 to take comment on the submitted reports.

The hearing will be limited to taking evidence and testimony on the submitted reports by those parties whom either submit initial and/or rebuttal reports in response to the directive of the State Engineer in Order 1303. Stakeholders or interested persons who do not submit a report in

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Notice of Pre-hearing Conference

Re: In The Matter of the Administration and Management of the LWRFS

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response to Order 1303 will be allowed the opportunity to introduce comments during the public comment period during the September 2019 hearing.

At the August 8, 2019, pre-hearing conference, the parties should be prepared to discuss the following issues:

- 1. The timing and length of the hearing;
- 2. The sequence of the presentation of the participating parties reports and evidence; and
- 3. The timing for disclosures of witnesses and evidence anticipated to be relied upon during the hearing.

As set forth in Nevada Administrative Code Chapter 533, the pre-hearing conference 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. The costs of the transcript will be borne equally by all the parties. Anyone wanting a copy of the transcript should make arrangements with the court reporter.

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

Michelinen Laubank
MICHELINE N. FAIRBANK

Deputy Administrator

Dated this 25th day of

July, 2019.

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July 25, 2019

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SERVICE LIST

Notice of Pre-hearing Conference in the matter of In The Matter of the Administration and Management of the Lower White River Flow System.

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Certified Mail

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Larry Brundy
P.O. Box 136
Moapa, NV 89025
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Casa De Warm Springs, LLC 1000 North Green Valley Parkway, #440-350 Henderson, NV 89074 Certified Mail #9214 7969 0099 9790 1777 4143 97

Clark County 500 S. Grand Central Pkwy. Las Vegas, NV 89155 Certified Mail #9214 7969 0099 9790 1777 4144 03

Clark County Commissioners 500 S. Grand Central Pkwy., 6th Fl. Las Vegas, NV 89155-1111 Certified Mail #9214 7969 0099 9790 1777 4144 10

Clark County Coyote Springs Water Resources GID 1001 S. Valley View Blvd. Las Vegas, NV 89153 Certified Mail #9214 7969 0099 9790 1777 4144 27 Mary K. Cloud P.O. Box 31 Moapa, NV 89025 Certified Mail #9214 7969 0099 9790 1777 4144 34

Coyote Springs Investment, LLC c/o Wingfield Nevada Group 6600 N. Wingfield Pkwy. Sparks, NV 89436 Certified Mail #9214 7969 0099 9790 1777 4144 41

Don J. & Marsha L. Davis P.O. Box 400 Moapa, NV 89025 Certified Mail #9214 7969 0099 9790 1777 4144 58

Dry Lake Water, LLC 2470 St. Rose Pkwy., Ste. 107 Henderson, NV 89074 Certified Mail #9214 7969 0099 9790 1777 4144 65

Georgia Pacific Corporation P.O. Box 337350 Las Vegas, NV 89033 Certified Mail #9214 7969 0099 9790 1777 4144 72

Kelly Kolhoss P.O. Box 232 Moapa, NV 89025 Certified Mail #9214 7969 0099 9790 1777 4144 89

Lake At Las Vegas Joint Venture, Inc. 1600 Lake Las Vegas Parkway Henderson, NV 89011 Certified Mail #9214 7969 0099 9790 1777 4144 96

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Moapa Valley Water District P. O. Box 257 Logandale, NV 89021 Certified Mail #9214 7969 0099 9790 1777 4145 40

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City of North Las Vegas 2250 Las Vegas Blvd. North N. Las Vegas, NV 89030 Certified Mail #9214 7969 0099 9790 1777 4146 01

Pacific Coast Building Products, Inc. P.O. Box 364329 Las Vegas, NV 89036 Certified Mail #9214 7969 0099 9790 1777 4146 18

Republic Environmental Technologies, Inc. 770 East Sahara Ave.
Las Vegas, NV 89104
Certified Mail
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S & R, Inc. 808 Shetland Road Las Vegas, NV 89107 Certified Mail #9214 7969 0099 9790 1777 4146 32 Notice of Pre-hearing Conference
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Technichrome 4709 Compass Bow Lane Las Vcgas, NV 89130 Certified Mail #9214 7969 0099 9790 1777 4146 56 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1020 New River Parkway, Suite 305 Fallon, NV 89406-2613 Certified Mail #9214 7969 0099 9790 1777 4146 63

William O'Donnell 2780 S. Jones Blvd. Ste. 210 Las Vegas, NV 89146 Certified Mail #9214 7969 0099 9790 1777 4146 70

Global Hydrologic Services, Inc. Mark D. Stock 561 Keystone Avenue, #200 Reno, NV 89503-4331 Certified Mail #9214 7969 0099 9790 1777 4146 87

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July 25, 2019

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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

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- So this is the time set for the hearing, the 1
- 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,
- the hearing on the Order 1303 reports is going to commence on 5
- September 23rd, but prior to issuing a scheduling order,
- 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
- As we've kind of noted all a long, this is a 11
- 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
- participants and those stakeholders in the Lower White River
- 16 Flow System to come forth and have an opportunity to present
- their reports that they've submitted or rebuttal reports that 17
- 18 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. 20
- So, just to go ahead and get started, I'm just 21
- going to state we're a little bit limited in time this
- 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
 - 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
 - or cross-examining.
 - 10 And just because a participant has submitted a
 - 11 report or rebuttal report does not require to party to
 - something evidence beyond their reports.
 - So the State Engineer will consider all reports 13
 - 14 and opinions submitted, regardless of whether there's --
 - actual parties proffer witnesses or testimony. 15
 - Participants will be limited to offering 16
 - testimony and evidence relating to the most salient 17
 - conclusions, including data, evidence and other information
 - 19 supporting those conclusions.
 - 20 So, the idea is that participants who have
 - submitted reports, the State Engineer and staff, we will have
 - 22 reviewed those reports prior to the commencement of the
 - 23 hearing and the State Engineer staff within the Division of
 - 24 Water Resources, we are well qualified to review, consider,

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- 1 So we're not going to extend past the lunch hour.
- 2 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
- morning, or this hearing this morning.
- So the purpose of this conference is to go over
- 6 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. 9
- To discuss the sequence of presentation by the different 10 participants. 11
- To go over procedures and other administrative 12
- 13 matters relating to the Order 1303 hearing and to determine
- 14 the time for disclosures of witnesses and evidence anticipated
- 15 to be filed and relied upon during the hearing. And then to
- address any other questions. 16
- So, just to kind of provide a summary for the 17
- 18 purpose of the hearing. The purpose of the hearing is to
- consider the reports solicited pursuant to Order 1303.
- And so the State Engineer views the purpose of 20
- Order 1303 and the report submitted in response to the 21
- 22 solicitation as an opportunity for the participants who have
- 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
- 5 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
- submit evidence identifying those salient conclusions and
- findings contained in those reports. 9
- And really the purpose is to direct the State 10
- 11 Engineer and our staff to the data, information and relevant
- 12 evidence within the State Engineer's administrative record or
- 13 to provide that evidence in support of those conclusions.
- So, this isn't -- the hearing is not intended to 14
- 15 have everybody and every participant to go through each and
- every sub detail of their reports. 16
- 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
- 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
- the detail and such. 23
- So the hearing is not and the State Engineer will 24

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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
- the most significant matters as is addressed in the Order 1303
- solicitation which are the geographic boundary of
- 6 hydrologically connected groundwater and surface water systems
- comprising the Lower White Water River Flow System.
- The information obtained from the Order 1169
- aquifer test, and subsequent to the aquifer test, the Muddy
- 10 River Headwater Spring Flow as it relates to aquifer recovery
- since the completion of the aquifer test. 11
- The long term annual quantity of groundwater that 12
- 13 maybe pumped from the Lower White River Flow System, including
- 14 relationships between location of pumping on discharge to the
- Muddy River Springs and the capture of Muddy River flow. 15
- The effects of movement on water rights between 16
- alluvial wells and carbonate wells on deliveries of senior 17
- decreed rights in the Muddy River and other matters
- participants have included in their reports that they believe
- to be relevant in the State Engineer's analysis.
- MR. FLANGAS: A question? 21

be decided and determined.

this particular proceeding.

determinations and decisions.

- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes. 22
- MR. FLANGAS: When you say "other matters
- 24 relevant", are you limiting to that to the hydrology, other

1 matters relevant to the hydrology or any other matter relevant

4 not any other matter relevant period. It's relevant to these

particular issues and questions that we're asking.

And so, and I'm going to talk about this and

threshold reporting aspect, that this is part of a

And that is those particular, those four

That's part of later proceedings, but this is

7 we've spoken about this before, is that really this is a

multi-tiered process in terms of determining the appropriate

management strategy to the Lower River Flow System.

with water right holders and determining what an appropriate

management strategy is, there's threshold matters that have to

components that we've solicited in the Order 1303 report.

This larger substantive policy determinations is not part of

what has to occur in order to inform those future policy

And while some people have addressed some policy

24 interplays, because there are some policy interplays into some

And in order for the office to go ahead and start

12 to engage in working with the -- with the community, working

HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So it's not -- it's

- 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.
- 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 the
- 7 threshold matter.
- So, kind of to follow up on Alex's question, to
- the extent participants intend or desire to spend time
- addressing future policy considerations which are not
- 11 encompassed within the issues specifically identified in the
- solicitation of the reports, those matters will not be
- considered during these proceedings. 13
- 14 The State Engineer anticipates that any future
- decision will address -- that the future decision coming out 15
- of this Order 1303 hearing will address the following issues. 16
- The geographic boundary of the hydrologically 17
- 18 connected water system comprising the Lower White River Flow
- System. To whether or not that's a singular basin, whether or 19
- 20 not it's encompassing multiple basins, that's going to be a
- decision that is ultimately determined by the State Engineer
- 22 following this hearing.
- The quantity of water that may be sustainably 23
- 24 developed within the Lower White River Flow System without

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- 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
- the LWRFS.
- And the purpose of the hearing is not to resolve
- 7 or address allegations of conflict between groundwater pumping
- 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
- 10 to be deciding at this point in time.
- The purpose of the hearing is to determine what 11
 - 12 the sustainability is, what the impact is on decreed rights,
 - and then addressing and resolving allegations of conflict
 - should that be a determination that will be addressed in, at a 14
 - 15 future point in time.
 - Also, I want to provide a little bit of kind of a 16
 - framework for parties to understand what our office is looking
 - at when we're reviewing the reports received in response to 18
 - our solicitation. 19
 - Our office is looking for the following, and this 20
 - 21 is not a comprehensive list, but this is just kind of a
 - framework. 22
 - We're looking for how conclusions are supported 23
 - 24 by the available data.

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period?

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- How those conclusions differ from positions our 1 office has previously taken. 2
- Whether there's new interpretations of data based 3
- upon what has been observed since the conclusion of the Order
- 1169 aquifer test. 5
- Whether the conclusions that are drawn are
- sufficiently supported by the available data and cited to
- 8
- Whether the conclusions and data and evidence 9
- 10 relied upon in rendering those conclusions are independently
- reproducible and verifiable. 11
- So if our office can't go through and reproduce 12
- the data that you're relying upon in terms of making your 13
- 14 conclusions, it's going to be difficult for us to go ahead and
- substantiate those findings. And we're also going to be
- looking for commonalities and conclusions amongst the various 16
- participants. 17
- So, again, that's a general overview, it's not an 18
- exhaustive list of what we're looking for. 19
- So that I just kind of wanted to provide 20
- everybody a little bit of a framework of what we anticipate 21
- the Order 1303 hearing to be encompassing and the little bit
- about what the direction and the lane in which we're intending
- to operate in.

- 1 their opinions, respond to any rebuttal, and for inclusion for
- 2 rebuttal opinions.
- So we've been looking at what we're thinking for 3
- 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
- substantial initial reports.
- So in the sense we've had a variation as 9
- 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
- then there's a tab for LWRFS and then we have all the reports
- within there.
- And so we've been reviewing the reports and there 15
- 16 are some that are more comprehensive than other reports. And
- so the more comprehensive reports and the more substantial
- ones that are addressing a more broad variety of the
- 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 23
- 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.

1

- So, as I mentioned before, we're scheduling the
- 5 hearing to commence on September 23rd, 2019. At this point in
- time, we're anticipating that the hearing will be held from
- 8:30 a.m. until 5 o'clock p.m. with an hour and 30 minute
- lunch break and the hearing will be set for two weeks and will end on October 4th.
- 9
- So, again, as I've outlined, the purpose of the 10
- 11 hearing is limited and the expectation of the parties will
- distill the reports and conclusions into a succinct
- presentation of the salient opinions and direct our office to
- the data and other information supporting of those
- 15 conclusions.
- And, again, the Division of Water Resources has 16
- the expertise and experience to review the reports submitted 17
- and we are actively engaged in reviewing all of the reports
- that have been submitted for our office and every report will 19
- be submitted prior to the hearing on September 23rd. 20
- So the State Engineer does not desire 21
- participants to rehash the reports, and on that basis, the 22
- learing is being set for two weeks. And we believe this
- 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.
- MR. ROBISON: Sorry, could you repeat that, 4
- 5 please?
- 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 12
- 13 rebuttal?
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes. Yes, that will 14
- 15 include the rebuttal.
- MR. ROBISON: Thank you. Kent Robison for CSI 16
- 17 Projects.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So the next 18
- participants we believe will need more than probably about a 19
- 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
- centers -- Center for Biologic Diversity. 23
- So we believe we should be able to move through 24

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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
- 5 will be sufficient to address Dry Lake and their Dry Lake
- Georgia Pacific and Republic Services, Great Basin Water
- Network, Technichrome and any rebuttal report submissions.
- Yes, Mr. Robison.
- MR. ROBISON: The one day that is assigned to the
- 10 major report, the first week, that day includes
- cross-examination of whatever is presented by that person? 11
- 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
- is we have the capacity to go ahead and review the reports and 17
- the evidence and the data relied upon, but this is the
- opportunity for the participants to really highlight the
- salient conclusions and point us in the direction of what the
- evidence is that supports those conclusions.
- MR. TAGGART: Could I just ask a question? 22

parties that you just listed submitted reports?

- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes.
- MR. TAGGART: For the record, Paul Taggart, for 24

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

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

7 least three parties that will be submitting rebuttal reports.

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

And part of the idea, and just to be completely

14 candid with everyone, is as we move through these different

And kind of the idea is starting out with the

19 more substantive reports and the more substantive analysis

22 lot of either evidence and conclusions that they have either

And so we're not going to have to spend a lot of

first is that it's going to have a funnel effect in the extent

that people will have had an opportunity to go ahead, get a

processes and get through the different parties, a lot of the

different issues and rebuttal issues are going to have been

But the rebuttal reports, again, they haven't

opinions to the extent necessary.

supported already presented.

HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: No. There's still

- 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 6
- 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
- relied upon in rendering why they believe that certain 9
- conclusions are not supported by other parties. 10
- Most of that will have and should have been drawn 11
- out during the proceedings leading up to it. 12
- Yes, Kent. 13
- 14 MR. ROBISON: Yes. Is the order of presentation
- that which you just related for the major report -- reporting
- parties? Is that the order, or is that to be determined?
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: That's to be 17
- determined. We'll have that discussion, but that's kind of a 18
- general order of which I've -- we've been contemplating at 19
- this point in time. 20
- 21 MR. ROBISON: Thank you.
- 22 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes.
- MS. GLASGOW: Hi, Karen Glasgow for the 23
- 24 Department of Interior representing the National Park Service.

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- With respect to questioning or cross-examination,
- 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
- were submitted. 12
- I think my client anticipated submitting much 13
- 14 more of a substantial rebuttal report and as the community who
- 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 19
- 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 23
- 24 very, you know, focused and, again, have people highlight the

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addressed.

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- salient points, the salient opinions and point us in thedirection.
- 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.
- 20 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. And
- 7 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

- 1 participants to, you know, be, you know, working to avoid
- 2 redundancy 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 go 20 ahead and account for that.
- 21 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
- 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.
- 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.
- 11 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.
- 24 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
- 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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- MR. FLANGAS: Alex Flangas, Nevada Cogeneration. 1
- 2 In that vein, trying to be as efficient as possible, and given
- that there's going to be limited period of time for rebuttal,
- ultimate rebuttal, I'm contemplating the idea of whether the
- state would consider allowing cross-examination to be, for
- example, if a particular period of time was allowed for Nevada
- Cogeneration, whether my cross-examination could be by me or
- by my expert, specifically.
- Because, let's be candid, my expert may have
- questions that they can phrase right then on the spot better 10
- than I can phrase and I don't want to be sitting, consulting
- with my expert then asking a question, then consulting with my
- expert and asking a question and wasting time. 13
- At the same time, we all know in a courtroom, 14
- 15 typically, you have one person that's allowed to
- cross-examine, not two, and this is not a courtroom. 16
- So I'm wondering if there's any thought given to 17
- 18 whether the cross-examination could literally be by experts of
- experts which I see happen from the State quite often where
- the State's expert is the one doing the cross examining, not
- an attorney. 21
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Mr. Flangas, I don't 22
- 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 1
- 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
- with the exception of reports and rebuttal reports that will
- be listed, those will also be listed on that list of the
- 10 documents and evidence before the State Engineer that he is
- taking administrative notice of, any documents and evidence
- 12 that is identified in that list not being reintroduced for the
- purpose of this hearing. 13
- 14 So we would ask that the parties endeavor to the
- extent possible to refer back to those particular documents as 15
- 16 the administrative record in this proceeding is already
- extremely voluminous and so we don't need a whole lot more
- redundancy of documents and records.
- Additionally, to the extent that any party has, 19
- 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 either
- address when we have the scheduling order or address that at
- the commencement of the proceedings on the 23rd.
- MR. DONNELLY: This is Patrick Donnelly, Center
- for Biological Diversity. I would echo that. I think that's
- a really important thing I think for our expert to do
- cross-examination. If we could hear that in the order and not
- the day of the hearing, that would be very helpful.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So, I'm going to get 9
- 10 to the timing, like the sequence of presentation of
- participant reports a little bit later.
- But I'm going to move to the hearing procedures 12
- 13 and kind of other administrative matters that might then help
- 14 inform some of the other sequence issues or the sequence
- concerns, questions. 15
- So, when the scheduling order setting the 16
- September 23rd hearing is issued, just let everyone know the 17
- 18 scheduling order will come out the week of August 19th. So,
- 19 it will come out the week following the submission of rebuttal 20 reports.
- And the scheduling order will include a list 21
- 22 identifying all of the documents and records and evidence that
- 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 prior
- 2 to the comment of the hearing on September 23rd.
- So in short, what we're going to do is list out 3
- 4 everything that we believe is part of our administrative
- 5 record and what we're going to be taking administrative notice
- of for purposes of this hearing.
- And if there's something in there that you want 7
- 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 12
- 13 that's not listed and you think it's important for our
- consideration, please get it in front of us before the
- 15 hearing, and you're going to have an opportunity to go ahead
- and provide at that point in time. 16
- 17 Yes, Mr. Taggart.
- MR. TAGGART: Thank you. The -- will those 18
- documents on that list have document numbers, State Engineer 19
- 20 documents on those already and start the exhibit numbering
- process at that point? 21
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: We will have a -- we 22
- will have them marked out, yes. 23
- MR. TAGGART: Okay. 24

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- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: We'll have them Bate 1 stamped and numbered out. 2
- MR. TAGGART: Okay. And then will they be 3
- 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
- is, but you know, if it was put on a website and all, not only
- is there the list, but then on a website someone could go in
- and every one of those documents is there on the website, then
- we don't have to serve everyone, or you don't have to serve
- 10 everyone.

1

12

13

- Is that what you contemplate, or --11
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: We're hoping to 12
- 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
- formatted manner. 15
- I'll be completely candid with you, some it is a 16
- 17 bunch data spread sheets and we're having a hard time getting
- 18 those formatted into a mechanism that you can actually have
- them in a readable format. 19

to be quite the task.

scheduling order comes out.

look at it if it was just digital.

- MR. TAGGART: Okay. 20
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So to the extent where
- 22 possible, we're trying to get everything into a digitized
- format and make it available. So that's the intent that it

Is it all going to be available when we issue the

2 scheduling order, probably not all of it because it's proving

So, we are endeavoring to do so, but it's going

But it will be -- it will be coming up and it be

will be part of our hearing under that news tab in LWRFS.

available here at your office if people wanted to come and

MR. TAGGART: For -- I'm just exploring how this

5 to -- it may not all be complete by the time that the

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.
- MR. TAGGART: Okay. And can I just clarify one 6
- 7 thing, is that when we submit exhibits, they are intended to
- 8 be documents that support our expert reports. And will new
- expert opinions and new expert reports are not authorized to
- be submitted when exhibits are submitted? 10
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Correct. 11
- 12 MR. TAGGART: Okay.
- 13 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: The expert reports,
- 14 those deadlines are established pursuant to the order and the
- addendum to the order, or the amendment -- the amended order.
- MR. TAGGART: All right. 16
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So, correct. New 17
- 18 expert reports or new rebuttal reports beyond those deadlines
- will not be accepted.
- 20 The additional evidence is if there's supporting
- documentation for those things, you know, those things that
- are relevant to the point equally that you believe that the
- State Engineer should take it into consideration. 23
- 24 But there -- the administrative record should be

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- 1 relatively complete we believe, particularly with the
 - 2 inclusion of the expert report.
 - But, somebody may have something out there that
 - 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
 - consider that as part of his decision making process.
 - MR. ROBISON: Is there a definitive service list
 - 11 identify?
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Um-hum.

10 is going can work. Is it possible that you could make things

- MR. TAGGART: And had you a hard time, you know, 14
- 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. 17
- And so if there's additional documents, then we 18
- 19 would provide those to your office and to who? I guess, from
- a notice standpoint, how should we handle that? 20
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Right. So what we're 21
- going to do, and that's down a little bit --22
- MR. TAGGART: Okay. 23
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: -- disclosure of 24

- 10 of who would be served with whatever additional documents we
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: It will be attached to 12 13 the scheduling order.
- MR. ROBISON: Thank you. 14
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So the scheduling 15
- order will establish that service list, and so then, just as 16
- everybody understands is we also have for the purposes is we 17
- have an email list which is really kind of a, more of an
- informal notification list, but for the purpose of the
- hearing, the scheduling order will have a service list 20
- attached to it. 21
- MR. FLANGAS: Service meaning mailing? 22
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Mailing, yes. 23
- MR. ROBISON: Does email suffice? 24

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- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Currently our 1
- 2 administrative regulations don't recognize electronic service,
- 3 however the parties are free to go ahead and -- I mean, so --
- 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 6
- 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.

1 2

3

13

15 16 it.

17

- 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
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: I guess I could go 19
- 20 ahead and ask it this way. Is there anybody who objects to

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

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

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

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

- utilizing e-Service based upon the emails that we have been
- 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.

MS. PELLEGRINO: Just the list on the order?

MS. PELLEGRINO: Colby Pellegrino.

24 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes.

- SPEAKER ON SPEAKER PHONE: The best contact, 1
- 2 ma'am?
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: The best contact will 3
- 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,
- 6 Micheline Fairbank with the Division of Water Resources.
- So moving to that next question which is the 7
- 8 disclosure of the witnesses and evidence is indicated to be
- relied on. So, obviously, we're going to have the expert
- 10 reports, those would have already been submitted.
- I was contemplating two weeks prior to the 11
- 12 commencement of the hearing for the disclosure of witnesses
- and any evidence. 13
- 14 Does that seem to be a reasonable period of time
- for the participants? 15
- MR. TAGGART: Again, Paul Taggart for SNWA. We 16
- were hoping September 3rd which would three weeks in advance 17
- which would give us more times to prepare for other sides' 18
- cases. 19
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Does anybody have any 20
- thought or feedback with regards to moving it to 21
- September 3rd? 22
- 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
- out approximately August 19th?
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: It will come out some
- 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 --10
- 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
- you two weeks; right? If it's the 19th.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: No, you're correct, 15
- that is, that's two weeks. 16
- MR. ROBISON: Yep, two. 17
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Plus the time that you 18
- got right now. 19
- MS. PETERSON: This is Karen Peterson. How about 20
- 21 the end of that week? That's September 3rd.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: September 6th? I'm 22
- fine with that. Okay. So we will set the date --23
- 24

19 individual that is with the City that's on there is no longer with the City. 20

HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: And if there's any 21

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

- 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.

MR. TAGGART: We're fine with that as well.

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- 1 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
- 6 administrative record.
- 7 One other kind of witness issue I wanted to go
- 8 ahead and address with the parties. Is the State Engineer has
- 9 already qualified numerous individuals as experts before the 10 office in the State Engineer.
- 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
- 14 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
- 17 who has already been qualified by the State Engineer as an
- 18 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.

- 1 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.
- 6 MR. DONNELLY: Is that NRS, or --
- 7 MR. ROBISON: NRS 48.
- 8 MR. DONNELLY: Thank you.
- 9 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?
- 13 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: We could set that for
- 14 September 6th as well.
- MR. ROBISON: Thank you.
- MR. TAGGART: Will that -- I don't -- I don't
- 17 disagree, necessarily. I'm just exploring this idea. Is we
- 18 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.
- 22 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Um-hum.
- 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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- 1 Unless any party has a compelling reason as to
- 2 why we should expend the amount of time qualifying each and
- 3 every witness that has already been done so before our office.
- 4 And then if there's individuals who have been
- 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
- 8 the September 3rd hearing to just go ahead and run through
- 9 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
- 17 September 23rd, we don't have to go through that process of
- 18 qualifying experts and voir dire and such.
- 19 It's a little bit of a different process, but
- 20 we're also trying to determine efficiency, and so just trying
- 21 to explore different ideas. Patrick?
- MR. DONNELLY: Patrick Donnelly, Center for
- 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.
- 3 MR. ROBISON: I agree, but the CV has to be
- 4 disclosed so we know what the qualifications are.
- 5 MR. TAGGART: Sure. I would expect the CV would
- 6 be part of the exhibits.
- 7 MR. ROBISON: That was my request.
- 8 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Then we'll go ahead
- 9 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
- 17 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.
- 21 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
- experts, and then we can always vacate that qualifying hearing
- date if necessary.
- So, let's go ahead and have objections to any
- submitted or proffered expert. Objections to be submitted to
- the State Engineer no later than the close of business on
- September 13th.
- And then let me double check, and then I just 10
- 11 want to see for location. And then 9:00 a.m., September 20th
- which will be the Friday before the commencement of the
- hearing, for a hearing on any challenged experts.
- And that will be here at the Tahoe Hearing Room. 14
- 15 Yes?
- MR. FAHMY: Peter Fahmy for the National Park 16
- Service. Is it possible that experts could have been 17
- qualified in other jurisdictions and other administrative or
- judicial proceedings. 19
- And I was wondering whether the State Engineer's 20
- office would consider, given it's going to have the CVs and
- this information contained in the expert witness reports,
- ould make a judgment at that time whether that he or she
- believes that that expert is qualified and therefore dispense

- 1 as an expert.
- Certainly, I think the expectation of the parties 2
- 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
- to challenge the particular qualification of a particular 7 expert.
- MR. ROBISON: Does the scheduling order include 8
- the names of experts pre-qualified with the State Engineer? 9
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: The scheduling order 10
- 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
- qualified before the State Engineer. 15
- And to provide their CVs so that the parties can 16
- then make a determination by that September 13th day as to 17
- whether or not to challenge any of those individuals. 18
- And if an individual has already been qualified 19
- 20 in that particular discipline before the State Engineer, then
- those individuals will -- the State Engineer will recognize
- those individuals as already being qualified as experts before
- this office. 23
- 24 MR. ROBISON: Thank you.

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- with the need for this challenge hearing.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So, I think it's -- so
- what I am a thinking is part of that September 6th exchange of
- witnesses and identification of experts, as well as providing
- 5 in the scheduling order, we'll set this out is to identify the
- qualifications and where those individuals have been
- previously qualified as an expert, and then the parties can go
- ahead and review that. And then I think if -- I'm hoping
- people will be reasonable, but --9
- MR. TAGGART: I'll just offer that I think we 10
- 11 would all take that into consideration, but in the past, it
- isn't an automatic you're qualified in the State Engineer's
- office because you were qualified in the Federal District
- Court of, you know, Eastern Illinois or something. 14
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Correct. 15
- MR. TAGGART: So, I think that we would certainly 16
- take that into account when looking at a CV if someone's been
- qualified in three other jurisdictions on the same topic, that
- would certainly go to the merit of whether we can challenge 19
- 20 them.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: And I -- because I 21
- 22 think we're going to an allow the parties to go ahead and
- present their, proffer their experts and provide the
- 24 qualifications and demonstration that they should be qualified

- 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.
- MS. CAVIGLIA: And this is Justina Caviglia. I
- 5 have the same conflict as Ms. Peterson.
- 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.
- MS. GLASGOW: One last point. Karen Glasgow for 9
- 10 the Park Service. With respect to the 9/19 hearing, can we
- participate by telephone? Can somebody participate by
- telephone rather than in person? 12
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes. And, optimally, 13
- 14 I'm going to be optimistic that our whole new system with the
- video-conferencing will be up and running by then. And there
- 16 might actually be an opportunity for you to participate via
- video-conference from remote from your location.
- So, but we'll allow telephonic appearances for 18
- that hearing on the 19th. And we will keep everyone posted 19 for video capacity as well. 20
- We should -- the new system is supposed to allow 21
- 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
- 24 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.
- MS. PETERSON: This is Karen Peterson. So with 3
- the expert that is being challenged would be present in Carson
- City, though? 5
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes.
- MS. PETERSON: Okay. 7
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: We would need that in
- order for them to be able to examined, yes. 9
- MS. PETERSON: Okay. 10
- MR. TAGGART: Can I ask another clarifying 11
- 12 question about the witness list?
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes, Mr. Taggart. 13
- MR. TAGGART: Based on everything you've been 14
- 15 about saying restricting this to the topics, and in the
- 16 interim order, my understanding is the witness list should
- only have individuals who actually submitted a report. And so
- I think it's -- it would be prudent to indicate whether that's
- 19
- Otherwise, are we going -- is it possible we're 20
- 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.
- So if a party or participant is representing
- 3 themselves, that's permitted within the -- before the office
- 4 of the State Engineer.
- With respect -- like I said, we will address a
- 6 particular question about allowing experts cross-examine. I
- -- 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
- proceed with that particular question.
- Yes? 10
- MS. PELLEGRINO: I just -- as you can consider 11
- 12 that question, I don't necessarily agree with experts
- cross-examining experts, but I -- I strongly feel it should 13
- 14 only be one person that's allowed to examine them, having been
- 15 through --
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: I appreciate that. 16
- MR. TAGGART: So, just so I'm clear about the 17
- question I asked before, because I don't want to end up
- 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. That's pretty elementary now. If someone wants
- So, if they're going to be proffered as an
- expert, they're going to be in relation to a report that has
- been submitted.
- 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
- their reports.
- 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 12
- 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
- able to do that? Will, I mean, will I be able to do that as a 16
- non-attorney? 17
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So, the -- you know, 18
- 19 in terms of appearance before the State Engineer, you're not
- required to have an attorney. If you have an attorney who is
- representing a participant or a party, then the attorney has
- 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

- 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?
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: That is correct.
- MR. TAGGART: Okay. And then one other question 7
- 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.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Correct. 11
- MR. TAGGART: It won't be individuals who didn't 12
- 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 16
- rebutting, pointing to a statement in an existing report and
- addressing whether they agree or disagree with that statement. 18
- As opposed to developing an entire new level of 19
- 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 23
- 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.
- 5 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 extent 12 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?
- MS. GLASGOW: Question?
- 15 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes.
- 16 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.
- 11 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
- 16 present their evidence and also challenge conclusions that are
- 17 present 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.

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- 1 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.
- 6 But at the same time, we have people that have
- 7 submitted, you know, quite, you know, somewhat limited
- 8 submissions to our office.
- 9 And to require those participants to go ahead
- 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
- 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
- 19 the initial reports.
- Now, there may be some validity in the fact that
- 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
- 23 would think.
- So, I don't think there is a fairness issue here

- 1 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Correct.
- 2 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
- 6 party know that?
- 7 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: But what would the
- 8 resolution be?
- 9 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.
- 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
- 18 should be considered by the State Engineer.
- 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 --
- 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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- with regards to not being able to examine that witness.
- 2 MS. PETERSON: I would disagree -- Karen. I
- 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
- 6 cross-examination.
- And maybe we can let people know in advance if
- 8 there's not going to be any cross-examination, but until we
- 9 see the rebuttal report.
- 10 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Ms. Glasgow.
- 11 MS. GLASGOW: To the point of -- and less in
- 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
- 18 or this expert or the not this other one, but that's leaving
- 19 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.
- 4 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
- 9 cross questions, then you're done.
- But, if you don't do that, I think you are
- 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.
- 17 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
- 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
- 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
- an author of a report or rebuttal report, they're going to
- 16 have to be made available for cross-examination.
- MS. PETERSON: Thank you. 17
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes. 18
- 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
- talk to them.
- Karen Glasgow, NPS. Because, I, like him, we
- 24 just don't have money to have people sitting around on the

- 1 cross-examination.
- Yes? 2
- 3 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 --
- 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?
- 12 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: If they are identified
- as the as the individual who is signing off on the report or 13
- 14 submitting the report, and I'll use for an example -- so for
- 15 example, City of North Las Vegas submitted their expert report
- and it's identified Dwight Smith and Alexa Turrell as the
- 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
- individuals for direct examination on their behalf. 21
- So that's -- so it's those individuals who have 22
- submitted the reports to the State Engineer. 23
- 24 MR. DONNELLY: Patrick Donnelly, Center for

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- 1 chance that somebody wants to talk to them.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So -- so, for the day
- 3 that you are scheduled, so if a party is scheduled and they
- want to go ahead and submit their report without direct
- 5 testimony on that particular day, that particular author of
- that expert report is going to have to be available.
- So they don't have to sit here for the entire
- period of time, but they're going to have to be available on
- that particular day. 9
- And so -- so, just kind of jumping ahead a little 10
- 11 bit in some of the procedure and scheduling. The idea is
- 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. 14
- So if, for example, you're up for the next -- the 15
- following day. The prior day we're going to have people 16
- planning on cross-examining and perhaps at that point in time
- somebody's going to say no, nobody in tends to cross-examine
- that particular individual and so we can go ahead and resolve
- those particular issues. 20
- 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
- submit -- they don't have to present for direct testimony, but
- that individual does have to be available for

- 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? 9
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: If they're preparing 10
- 11 reports on behalf of two different entities, then yes, if they
- submitted a report, then that's -- yes? 12
- MR. MOORE: Andy Moore, City of North Las Vegas. 13
- 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
- them present or just one? 16
- 17 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: As they're the author,
- 18 I think they have to both be present to the extent that they
- submitted they signed off on the report. 19
- MR. TAGGART: And do all reports have to be 20
- 21 signed by an expert?
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Well --22
- MR. TAGGART: -- or --23
- 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
- back and start going through all of these.
- And so if the reports identify particular 3
- individuals who submitted the reports. Whether or not there's
- 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
- were submitted as initial reports and they have identified
- individuals as being authors, those are the individuals that
- the State Engineer is considering to be the authors of those 10
- reports and have to be available for cross-examination. 11
- If they're not being presented by those 12
- particular participants as the primary, you know, as they're
- -- if they're not being produced for their own particular
- interests in presenting testimony on behalf of their client. 15
- All right. So, we're going to go ahead and move 16
- on. All right. So, initially, earlier when I was talking 17
- 18 about the timing and the duration of the hearing and how the
- State Engineer's evaluating or considering structuring this
- particular hearing, we established kind of different -- a
- different order.
- Mr. Robison had asked whether or not that was
- intended to kind of -- or if that was a preliminary kind of
- listing of the planned order of the participants.

- So I don't know if the National Park Service and 1
- 2 Fish and Wildlife Service believes that they can combine their
- presentations into a single day.
- I'm seeing shakes of the head, so I'm going to
- take that as a no. 5
- 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
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Okay. 11
- 12 MR. ROBISON: We'll trade up to Monday.
- MS. BALDWIN: Thanks. 13
- 14 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: All right.
- MR. ROBISON: Thank you. 15
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: All right. So -- so 16
- that's essentially what we're going to do. Again, I'm going 17
- to take under advisement the request by the Moapa Valley Water
- District to have more time than a half day. How -- Mr. 19
- Morrison, how long do you think you guys --
- MR. MOORE: I think, looking at this proposed 21
- 22 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 1
- 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.
- Coyote Springs Investments. The Southern Nevada Water
- Authority. Moapa Valley Water District. Then Vidler, Lincoln
- County. The City of North Las Vegas. Centers for Biologic
- 7 Diversity. Dry Lake Water, and the other participants on
- their report. Great Basin Water Network. Technichrome. And
- then the rebuttal report submissions. So you will only submit rebuttal reports.
- 10
- Is there any -- anybody have any strong concern 11
- with going with that order? 12
- MR. DONNELLY: Patrick Donnelly, Center for 13
- 14 Biological Diversity. I would request since we have a half
- day plus and Great Basin Water Network has a short amount of
- time that we could combine that and be one date. 16
- 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
- Service and Wild Life so similar they can take one? 21
- **HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: They submitted** 22
- 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.
- MS. GLASGOW: Karen Glasgow 7
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes. 8
- 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
- some other person has asked that question and that information
- is out there and thus decide they don't need to do that 13
- themselves. 14
- 15 To that extent, would not the order benefit from
- people who have similar things going, you know, who have 16
- similar conclusions going one after the other to avoid, you 17
- know, like if you ask -- if, say, the Park and Fish had the
- same sort of attitudes and we were, day after day, or next to
- 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
- ask them of Fish and Wildlife Service. 23
- 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
- participants, and when I laid it out was -- that's why I had
- 4 National Park Service and Fish and Wild Life Service adjoining
- days was so that -- with that in mind.
- But then we're also trying to keep the full day,
- those -- those participants and reports that we anticipate
- that we're going to take a full day during the first week and
- then those ones that would be -- have less of a time
- commitment during the second. 10
- MR. MOORE: Andy Moore, City of North Las Vegas. 11
- 12 Can I just make sure that -- I know -- I think it's going to
- be early in that second week based on the scheduling 13
- structure, but I just want to make sure that we don't get
- assigned to October 4th of that week, because our expert is
- not available, and I don't want to start opening it up to that
- stuff, but I wanted to clarify that and put it on the record. 17
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: No. Absolutely, we'll 18
- accommodate that. 19
- MR. MOORE: Thank you. 20
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: All right. Yes, Mr. 21
- 22
- 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.
- MR. DONNELLY: Okay, thank you. Thanks. 5
- 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
- scheduling order.
- So the order is going to be similarly, we're 10
- 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 15
- 16 to be extremely limited, but like I said, you know, in terms
- 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. 23
- 24 Like I said, once we get all the rebuttal reports in, while

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- get back into what qualifies as an expert?
- Are we setting up a situation where the only way
- you can participate in this is if you have a PHD level
- 4 hydrologist as representing you which is somewhat
- 5 exclusionary.
- You know, for instance, for the water network,
- 7 right. The water network submitted a report that asserts a
- position. It is backed up by many, many years of data over a
- different proceeding. 9
- The water network may or may not have funds or 10
- 11 ability to procure the expert who wrote those opinions years
- and years ago for this. 12
- So, otherwise, the -- for instance, the executive 13
- 14 director of the water network would be the one to appear since
- apparently it's mandated that someone appear? 15
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So, since -- so, for 16
- the purpose of Great Basin Water Network, Mr. Roerink was the 17
- individual who submitted the report. If he's going to be
- proffered as an expert, he has to go ahead and identify what 19 20
- his qualifications are.
- If his qualifications is he's an expert in 21
- 22 economics, I mean there's different types of experts. So, you
- 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
- on into the week of October 7th.
- 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.
- So, are there any other questions or procedural
- questions with respect to the hearing or other matters that we
- 10 need to address this morning?
- Yes, Mr. Taggart. 11
- MR. TAGGART: Paul Taggart for SNWA. One is, is 12
- 13 this room big enough?
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So, I -- so, we will 14
- 15 probably have it at the legislative building. So just to be
- 16 completely candid with everyone, I wanted to see how full the
- room was today. 17
- Also knowing that we were going to have 18
- 19 video-conferencing capabilities and people would be able to
- 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
- same time. 22
- But based upon the participation today, 23
- 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.
- 12 And that's also making it available to those
- 13 community members within the Low White River Flow System
- affected basins to be able to participate without having to
- travel to Carson City. So we'll be able to take public
- comment from both the north and the south. 16
- Yes? 17
- 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
- Order 1303.
- Obviously, the ultimate order that's going to 22
- come down in the Lower White River Flow System is going to
- involve more than just science, when the does the State

- So that's kind of a loose time frame, I know it's 1
- 2 not very specific, but --
- MR. MORRISON: That's okay. Confirming it's on 3
- the radar.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes. And we're -- we 5
- 6 recognize that there's a lot of different components in the
- 7 decisions that come out of this particular proceeding are
- 8 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
- And so that -- and what impacts that may have on 11
- 12 stakeholders is certainly going to be, you know, something
- that we want to -- we're cognitive of. 13
- And so we're trying to be as timely as possible 14
- with while still doing, you know, practicing good, scientific 15
- 16 analysis in relying on supported data to render ultimate
- decisions.
- MR. MORRISON: Great. Thanks. 18
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: There was a question 19
- 20 in the back. Yes?
- MR. MILLER: Luke Miller with the Office of the 21
- 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 1 issues that might be presented on a day if we're now being
- just scientific in nature?
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So, that will probably
- 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.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: -- probably more 9
- challenging issues that we have to grapple with. 10
- MR. MORRISON: The reason why --11
- 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,
- as I mentioned, we have a voluminous record. 20
- There's a lot of testimony. We're going to have 21
- 22 to go back through all the evidence and testimony and reports
- and have careful consideration of what ultimate decisions are
- 24 rendered.

- 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
- 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? 10
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: I mean, we haven't, 11
- 12 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
- show or testify as to why that data supports those
- conclusions. 17
- I don't know that there's really a feasible way 18
- 19 of narrowing the focus at this point in time.
- I'm certainly open to suggestions and those are 20
- 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.
- Yes, Mr. Fahmy?
- 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.
 - 4 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.
 - 7 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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haven't osed orders, but ue to consider. It time,

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    STATE OF NEVADA
                           ss.
 2
     CARSON CITY
 3
                 I, MICHEL LOOMIS, a Certified Court Reporter, do
    hereby certify;
 5
                 That on the 8th of August, 2019, in Carson City,
 7
    Nevada, I was present and took stenotype notes of the hearing
    held before the Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural
    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
     transcription of my stenotype notes of said hearing.
14
15
16
                 Dated at Carson City, Nevada, this 11th day of
17
    August, 2019.
18
19
20
                                       MICHEL LOOMIS, RPR
NV CCR #228
21
22
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24
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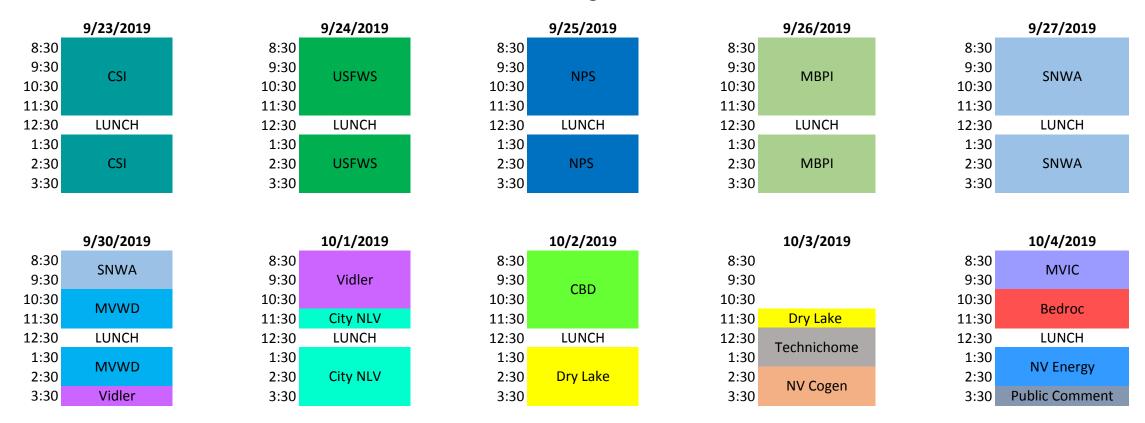
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14,17;73:18 waternvgov (1)	20:7;22:23;24:2;35:1,	23rd (10)	
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27:8;30:18,19;40:7,21;	writers (2)		-
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Order 1303 Hearing Schedule Matrix



09/23/2019 Nevada Division of Water Resources LWRFS Public Hearing (21921) - Room 2135: http://nvleg.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish_id=f0f8a938-df19-11e9-9542-0050569183fa

09/24/2019 Nevada Division of Water Resources LWRFS Public Hearing (21922) - Room 2135: http://nvleg.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish_id=c75e59f5-dfca-11e9-9542-0050569183fa

09/25/2019 Nevada Division of Water Resources LWRFS Public Hearing (21923) - Room 2135: http://nvleg.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish_id=2a59d978-e156-11e9-9542-0050569183fa

09/26/2019 Nevada Division of Water Resources LWRFS Public Hearing (21924) - Room 2135: http://nvleg.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish_id=6a9d2ac6-e156-11e9-9542-0050569183fa

09/27/2019 Nevada Division of Water Resources LWRFS Public Hearing (21925) - Room 2135: http://nvleg.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish_id=ea30714f-e3b4-11e9-9542-0050569183fa

09/30/2019 Nevada Division of Water Resources LWRFS Public Hearing (21926) - Room 2135: http://nvleg.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish_id=01656d22-e4a5-11e9-9542-0050569183fa

10/01/2019 Nevada Division of Water Resources LWRFS Public Hearing (21927) - Room 2135: http://nvleg.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish id=7b15f4e9-e4a5-11e9-9542-0050569183fa

10/02/2019 Nevada Division of Water Resources LWRFS Public Hearing (21928) - Room 2135: http://nvleg.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish_id=8a313c99-e633-11e9-9542-0050569183fa

10/03/2019 Nevada Division of Water Resources LWRFS Public Hearing (21929) - Room 2135: http://nvleg.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish_id=bcbd905d-e633-11e9-9542-0050569183fa

10/04/2019 Nevada Division of Water Resources LWRFS Public Hearing (21930) - Room 2135: http://nvleg.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish_id=132b53e8-e94f-11e9-9542-0050569183fa

AMENDED 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 1169A Order 1169
NSE Ex. No. 4	Order 1036
NSE Ex. No. 5	Order 1026 Order 1025
NSE Ex. No. 6	Order 1023 Order 1024
NSE Ex. No. 7	Order 1024 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 ¹
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)

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SE ROA 555

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.

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 2007 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 2009 Pumpage Report Garnet Valley Area 2010
NSE Ex. No. 78	Pumpage Report Garnet Valley Area 2010 Pumpage Report Garnet Valley Area 2011
115E EX. 110. /8	Tumpage Report Gamet valley Area 2011

NSE Ex. No. 79	Pumpage Report Garnet Valley Area 2012
NSE Ex. No. 80	Pumpage Report Garnet Valley Area 2012 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
NSE Ex. No. 101	Water Level Data 205 S14 E66 34ADCA1 Lower Meadow Valley Wash
NSE Ex. No. 102	Water Level Data 205 S14 E66 35BDAB1 Lower Meadow Valley Wash
NSE Ex. No. 103	Water Level Data 205 S14 E66 35CA 1 Lower Meadow Valley Wash
NSE Ex. No. 104	Water Level Data 205 S14 E66 35CABA2 Lower Meadow Valley Wash
NSE Ex. No. 105	Water Level Data 205 S14 E66 35CACC1 Lower Meadow Valley Wash
NSE Ex. No. 106	Water Level Data 205 S14 E66 35DACC1 Lower Meadow Valley Wash
NSE Ex. No. 107	Water Level Data 205 S14 E66 35DD 1 Lower Meadow Valley Wash 205
NSE Ex. No. 108	Water Level Data 206 S11 E64 06CACC1 Kane Springs
NSE Ex. No. 109	Water Level Data 210 S10 E62 25ACAD1 Coyote Spring Valley
NSE Ex. No. 110	Water Level Data 210 S10 E62 25CBCC1 Coyote Spring Valley
NSE Ex. No. 111	Water Level Data 210 S11 E62 13BDDC1 Coyote Spring Valley
NSE Ex. No. 112	Water Level Data 210 S11 E62 24BA 2 Coyote Spring Valley
NSE Ex. No. 113	Water Level Data 210 S11 E62 24BD 1 Coyote Spring Valley
NSE Ex. No. 114	Water Level Data 210 S11 E62 24DB 1 Coyote Spring Valley
NSE Ex. No. 115	Water Level Data 210 S11 E63 13CBAB1 Coyote Spring Valley
NSE Ex. No. 116	Water Level Data 210 S11 E63 19ABAA1 Coyote Spring Valley
NSE Ex. No. 117	Water Level Data 210 S11 E63 21ABCA1 Coyote Spring Valley
NSE Ex. No. 118	Water Level Data 210 S12 E63 29ADCC1 Coyote Spring Valley
NSE Ex. No. 119	Water Level Data 210 S12 E63 29DABC1 Coyote Spring Valley
NSE Ex. No. 120	Water Level Data 210 S13 E63 05ABCC1 Coyote Spring Valley
NSE Ex. No. 121	Water Level Data 210 S13 E63 10DCCA1 Coyote Spring Valley
NSE Ex. No. 122	Water Level Data 210 S13 E63 11BACD1 Coyote Spring Valley Water Level Data 210 S13 E63 11BACD1 Coyote Spring Valley
115L LA. 110. 122	Trace Level Data 210 513 Los 11 Drebt Coyote Spring Valley

NSE Ex. No. 123	Water Level Data 210 S13 E63 11BCCC1 Coyote Spring Valley
NSE Ex. No. 124	Water Level Data 210 S13 E63 22DCAC1 Coyote Spring Valley
NSE Ex. No. 125	Water Level Data 210 S13 E63 23BAAB1 Coyote Spring Valley
NSE Ex. No. 126	Water Level Data 210 S13 E63 23DDDC1 Coyote Spring Valley
NSE Ex. No. 127	Water Level Data 210 S13 E63 25BDBB1 Coyote Spring Valley
NSE Ex. No. 128	Water Level Data 210 S13 E63 26AAAA1 Coyote Spring Valley
NSE Ex. No. 129	Water Level Data 210 S13 E63 26AABD1 Coyote Spring Valley
NSE Ex. No. 130	Water Level Data 210 S13 E64 31DAAD1 Coyote Spring Valley
NSE Ex. No. 131	Water Level Data 210 S14 E62 01ADBD1 Coyote Spring Valley
NSE Ex. No. 132	Water Level Data 210 S14 E63 28ACDC1 Coyote Spring Valley
NSE Ex. No. 133	Water Level Data 210 S15 E63 03BBCC1 Coyote Spring Valley
NSE Ex. No. 134	Water Level Data 215 S19 E63 13AADD1 Black Mountains Area
NSE Ex. No. 135	Water Level Data 215 S19 E63 13ABCB1 Black Mountains Area
NSE Ex. No. 136	Water Level Data 215 S19 E63 13DAAB1 Black Mountains Area
NSE Ex. No. 137	Water Level Data 215 S19 E63 13DACA1 Black Mountains Area
NSE Ex. No. 138	Water Level Data 215 S19 E63 13DACA1 Black Mountains Area
NSE Ex. No. 139	Water Level Data 215 S20 E65 08CDBA1 Black Mountains Area
NSE Ex. No. 140	Water Level Data 215 S20 E65 08DCAA1 Black Mountains Area
NSE Ex. No. 141	Water Level Data 216 S16 E64 19DCDB1 Garnet Valley
NSE Ex. No. 142	Water Level Data 216 S17 E63 32AABA1 Garnet Valley
NSE Ex. No. 143	Water Level Data 216 S17 E63 32CCCB1 Garnet Valley
NSE Ex. No. 144	Water Level Data 216 S17 E63 33CBCB1 Garnet Valley
NSE Ex. No. 145	Water Level Data 216 S17 E64 09DDCD1 Garnet Valley
NSE Ex. No. 146	Water Level Data 216 S17 E64 10CBCC1 Garnet Valley
NSE Ex. No. 147	Water Level Data 216 S17 E64 21CBBD1 Garnet Valley
NSE Ex. No. 148	Water Level Data 216 S17 E64 21CCAB1 Garnet Valley
NSE Ex. No. 149	Water Level Data 216 S18 E63 04CBBA1 Garnet Valley
NSE Ex. No. 150	Water Level Data 216 S18 E63 05AADB1 Garnet Valley
NSE Ex. No. 151	Water Level Data 216 S18 E63 05DBCA1 Garnet Valley
NSE Ex. No. 152	Water Level Data 216 S18 E63 05DBCD1 Garnet Valley
NSE Ex. No. 153	Water Level Data 216 S18 E63 15AACC1 Garnet Valley
NSE Ex. No. 154	Water Level Data 216 S18 E63 15AACD1 Garnet Valley
NSE Ex. No. 155	Water Level Data 216 S18 E63 27ACAD1 Garnet Valley
NSE Ex. No. 156	Water Level Data 216 S18 E64 07DDCC1 Garnet Valley
NSE Ex. No. 157	Water Level Data 216 S18 E64 18ACDB1 Garnet Valley
NSE Ex. No. 158	Water Level Data 216 S18 E64 20BABA1 Garnet Valley
NSE Ex. No. 159	Water Level Data 217 S16 E63 09DDAB1 Hidden Valley
NSE Ex. No. 160	Water Level Data 218 S15 E66 31DACA1 California Wash
NSE Ex. No. 161	Water Level Data 218 S16 E64 02ABCD1 California Wash
NSE Ex. No. 162	Water Level Data 218 S16 E64 15AAAA1 California Wash
NSE Ex. No. 163	Water Level Data 218 S16 E64 15AADD1 California Wash
NSE Ex. No. 164	Water Level Data 218 S16 E64 15ADAA1 California Wash
NSE Ex. No. 165	Water Level Data 218 S16 E64 34CDBC1 California Wash
NSE Ex. No. 166	Water Level Data 219 S13 E64 35DCAD1 Muddy River Springs Area

NSE Ex. No. 167	Water Lavel Date 210 S12HE64 22DDDC1 Muddy Diver Springs Area
	Water Level Data 219 S13HE64 33DBBC1 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 168	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 07ADDA1 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 169	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 07ADDA2 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 170	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 08AB 1 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 171	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 08AB 2 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 172	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 08ABBD1 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 173	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 08AC 1 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 174	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 08AC 2 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 175	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 08ADBB1 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 176	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 08BD 1 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 177	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 08BDBD1 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 178	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 08BDCC1 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 179	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 08DB 1 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 180	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 08DB 2 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 181	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 08DD 1 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 182	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 09CA 1 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 183	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 09CBCC1 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 184	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 09CC 1 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 185	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 09CCBC1 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 186	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 09DC 1 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 187	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 09DD 1 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 188	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 14CD 1 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 189	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 14CDBB1 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 190	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 15AC 1 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 191	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 15BBCA1 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 192	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 16AACD1 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 193	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 21AB 1 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 194	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 21ACAA1 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 195	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 22AA 1 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 196	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 22AABB1 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 197	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 22AABB2 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 198	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 23AB 1 Muddy River Springs Area Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 23AB 1 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 199	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 23BB 1 Muddy River Springs Area Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 23BB 1 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 200	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 23BB 2 Muddy River Springs Area Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 23BB 2 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 201	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 23BB 2 Muddy River Springs Area Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 23BB 3 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 202	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 23BBBB1 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 202	Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 23BC 1 Muddy River Springs Area Water Level Data 219 S14 E65 23BC 1 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 204	Water Level Data 219 S14 E66 35DD 1 Muddy River Springs Area Water Level Data 219 S14 E66 35DD 1 Muddy River Springs Area
NSE Ex. No. 204	Nevada Climate Divisional 3, 4 and PRISM Precipitation Data 1985-2012
NSE Ex. No. 206	USGS 09415900 Muddy Springs LDS Moapa NV (all data)
NSE Ex. No. 200 NSE Ex. No. 207	
	USGS 09415908 Pederson E. Springs Moapa 2002-2012
NSE Ex. No. 208	USGS 09415910 Pederson Springs Moapa 1985-2013
NSE Ex. No. 209	USGS 09415920 Warm Springs West_1985-2012
NSE Ex. No. 210	USGS 09415927 Warm Springs Confluence at Iverson Flume 2001-10

NIGHT NI OII	112 GG 0041 6000 M 11 P' M 1014 2010
NSE Ex. No. 211	USGS 09416000 Muddy River Moapa 1914-2013
NSE Ex. No. 212	USGS Partial Muddy River Springs 11, 12, 13, 19, 15, 16,
NSE Ex. No. 213	All Order 1169 Water Level Data
NSE Ex. No. 214	Baldwin Jones Monthly Data 2002-2019
NSE Ex. No. 215	Moapa Valley Water District Data Baldwin Jones Daily/Monthly 2010-2012
NSE Ex. No. 216	Order 1169 EH4 Data NDWR Dec. 2012
NSE Ex. No. 217	Order 1169 Daily Pumpage 2010-2013
NSE Ex. No. 218	Order 1169 Monthly Pumpage Data 2000-2012
NSE Ex. No. 219	Order 1169 Monthly Pumpage Data 2000-2019
NSE Ex. No. 220	Intentionally Omitted
NSE Ex. No. 221	Southern Nevada Water Authority Shallow Monitor Wells Muddy River
	Springs Area Periodic Measurements 2009-2012
NSE Ex. No. 222	Stricken- Southern Nevada Water Authority Solver White River Flow System 10-11-2011
NSE Ex. No. 223	Order 1169 Nevada State Engineer Monitoring Well Site ID and Locations
NSE Ex. No. 224	Lower White River Flow System Water Rights by Priority
NSE Ex. No. 225	2016 Hydrologic Review Team Annual Determination Report with
	Appendices
NSE Ex. No. 226	2017 Hydrologic Review Team Annual Determination Report
NSE Ex. No. 227	Lower White River Flow System Rights by Priority with 2017 Pumpage Data
NSE Ex. No. 228	2018 Hydrologic Review Team Annual Determination Report with Appended
	Moapa Valley Water District and Moapa Band of Paiutes Reports
NSE Ex. No. 229	2016 Southern Nevada Water Authority Muddy River Intentionally Created
	Surplus Certification Report
NSE Ex. No. 230	2017 Southern Nevada Water Authority Muddy River Intentionally Created
	Surplus Certification Report
NSE Ex. No. 231	State of Nevada, Nevada Water Resources Water Planning Report No. 3,
	Water for Nevada, October 1971
NSE Ex. No. 232	State of Nevada, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Ground-
	Water Resources – Reconnaissance Series Report 25: Ground-Water
	Appraisal of Coyote Spring and Kane Spring Valleys and Muddy River
	Springs Area, Lincoln and Clark Counties, Nevada, by Thomas E. Eakin,
	February 1964
NSE Ex. No. 233	State of Nevada, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Ground-
	Water Resources – Reconnaissance Series Report 50: Water-Resources
	Appraisal of the Lower Moapa-Lake Mead Area, Clark County, Nevada, by F.
	Eugene Rush, December 1968
NSE Ex. No. 234	State of Nevada, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Division
	of Water Resources, Nevada Water Resources-Informational, Nevada
	Streamflow Characteristics, October 1978
NSE Ex. No. 235	State of Nevada, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Water
	Resources Bulletin No. 33, A Regional Interbasin Ground-Water System in
	the White River Area, Southeastern Nevada, by Thomas E. Eakin, 1966

NSE Ex. No. 236	2006 Memorandum of Agreement between the Southern Nevada Water
	Authority, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Coyote Springs
	Investment LLC, Moapa Band of Paiute Indians and Moapa Valley Water
	District.
NSE Ex. No. 237	2001 Stipulation for Dismissal of Protests between Las Vegas Valley Water
1 (2 2 2 1 (1 (c) 2 c)	District, Southern Nevada Water Authority and Federal Bureaus
NSE Ex. No. 238	4/20/2006 Southern Nevada Water Authority Agenda Item Re: Memorandum
11,22 2 11,01 20 0	of Agreement, Water Supply Agreement and Back-Up Water Rights
	Agreement
NSE Ex. No. 239	4/18/2006 Las Vegas Valley Water District Board of Directors Agenda Item
1102 271110. 239	Re: Water Supply Agreement and Water Supply Agreement
NSE Ex. No. 240	4/13/2006 Letter from Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural
110E EA. 110. 210	Resources Re: Supporting Water Settlement Agreement
NSE Ex. No. 241	April 2006 Back-Up Water Rights Agreement Between Southern Nevada
110L LA. 110. 211	Water Authority, Moapa Valley Water District, Moapa Valley Irrigation
	Company and Coyote Springs Investments LLC
NSE Ex. No. 242	April 2006 Surface Water Lease Between Moapa Valley Irrigation Company
115L LX. 110. 242	and Moapa Band of Paiute Indians
NSE Ex. No. 243	2006 Water Rights Deed Between Las Vegas Valley Water District and
NSL LA. NO. 243	Moapa Band of Paiute Indians
NSE Ex. No. 244	2006 Memorandum of Agreement Trigger Levels agreed to by the Southern
115L LX. 110. 244	Nevada Water Authority, Moapa Valley Water District, Coyote Springs
	Investments LLC and Moapa Band of Paiute Indians
NSE Ex. No. 245	Southern Nevada Water Authority Order 1169 Report
NSE Ex. No. 246	Great Basin Water Network Order 1169 Report
NSE Ex. No. 247	Coyote Springs Investments, LLC Order 1169 Report
NSE Ex. No. 248	Center for Biological Diversity Order 1169 Report
NSE Ex. No. 249	Moapa Valley Water District Order 1169 Report
NSE Ex. No. 250	Moapa Valley Water District Order 1109 Report Moapa Valley Water District Basin 220 Well Site Analysis
NSE Ex. No. 251	Moapa Valley Water District Evaluation of MX-5 Pumping Test on Springs
NSE EX. NO. 231	
NSE Ex. No. 252	and Wells in the Muddy Springs Area Moapa Band of Paiute Indians Order 1169 Report
NSE Ex. No. 253	Hydrogeologic and Groundwater Modeling Analysis for the Moapa Paiute
NICE E NI - 254	Energy Center by Mifflin and Associates
NSE Ex. No. 254	PowerPoint Presentation Re: Lewis Well Field Production Effects on
NCE E N. OFF	Groundwater Temperatures
NSE Ex. No. 255	Cover Letter Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Report
NSE Ex. No. 256	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Report
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NSE Ex. No. 270	Model to Identify and Monitor Moapa Dace Habitat, Hatten et. al., 2013
NSE EX. NO. 2/0	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Report Selected References: The Myths of
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NSE Ex. No. 293	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 United States Fish and Wildlife Service Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Ash Meadows, Desert, Moapa Valley, and Pahranagat National Wildlife Refuges, Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, Volume 2, Appendix D Distribution List
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NSE Ex. No. 303	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Detailed Production Data w CHECKS
NSE Ex. No. 304	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Groundwater level & production data
NSE Ex. No. 305	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Baldwin Jones Monthly Data 2002-2019
NSE Ex. No. 306	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 NV Climate Divisional 3, 4 and PRISM pcp data 1985-2012
NSE Ex. No. 307	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 EH4 Data NDWR Dec 2012
NSE Ex. No. 308	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Monthly Pumpage Data 2000-2012
NSE Ex. No. 309	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Southern Nevada Water Authority shallow monitor wells MRSA periodic measurements 2009-2012
NSE Ex. No. 310	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Muddy Springs LDS Moapa NV (all data)
NSE Ex. No. 311	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Pederson E. Springs near Moapa 2002-2012
NSE Ex. No. 312	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Pederson Springs near Moapa 1985-2013
NSE Ex. No. 313	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Warm Springs West all data 1985-2012
NSE Ex. No. 314	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Warm Springs Confluence at Iverson Flume 2001-2010
NSE Ex. No. 315	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Muddy River near Moapa all data 1914-2013
NSE Ex. No. 316	Federal Bureaus Order 1169 Muddy River Springs Partial
NSE Ex. No. 317	2/27/2014 Tetra Tech Cover Letter
NSE Ex. No. 318	Responses Tetra Tech Model final
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NSE Ex. No. 319	Lincoln County/Vidler Water Company Response to National Park Service
NSE Ex. No. 320	Settlement Agreement between the Nevada State Engineer, Lincoln County
	and Vidler Water Company
NSE Ex. No. 321	Clearing the Waters: Unraveling Hydrologic Trends in the Muddy River
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NSE Ex. No. 322	Geologic Map of Lincoln County
NSE Ex. No. 323	Geologic Map of Clark County
NSE Ex. No. 324	April 26, 2019, United States Fish and Wildlife Service Request for Extension
	of Time to submit Order 1303 Reports
NSE Ex. No. 325	May 2, 2019, NDWR Letter Seeking Responses to Request for Extension of
	Time to submit Order 1303 Reports
NSE Ex. No. 326	May 2, 2019, Coyote Springs Investment, LLC Response to Request for
	Extension of Time to submit Order 1303 Reports
NSE Ex. No. 327	May 2, 2019, Moapa Band of Paiutes Response to Request for Extension of
	Time to submit Order 1303 Reports
NSE Ex. No. 328	May 6, 2019, Centers for Biological Diversity Response to Request for
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NSE Ex. No. 329	May 8, 2019, Las Vegas Valley Water District and Southern Nevada Water
	Authority Response to Request for Extension of Time to submit Order 1303
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NSE Ex. No. 331	March 5, 2018, Memorandum by Stetson Engineer Inc. to Coyote Spring
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NSE Ex. No. 335	Solver WRFS 10-11-2011 Ruling 6165 6167.xlsx
NSE Ex. No. 336 NSE Ex. No. 337	LWRFS Sign-in sheet, September 23, 2019 LWRFS Sign-in sheet, September 24, 2019
NSE Ex. No. 337	LWRFS Sign-in sheet, September 24, 2019 LWRFS Sign-in sheet, September 25, 2019
NSE Ex. No. 338	LWRFS Sign-in sheet, September 25, 2019 LWRFS Sign-in sheet, September 26, 2019
NSE Ex. No. 340	LWRFS Sign-in sheet, September 20, 2019 LWRFS Sign-in sheet, September 27, 2019
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NSE Ex. No. 344	LWRFS Sign-in sheet, October 2, 2019 LWRFS Sign-in sheet, October 3, 2019
NSE Ex. No. 345	LWRFS Sign-in sheet, October 4, 2019

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 HIDDEN VALLEY HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (217), CALIFORNIA WASH HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (218), AND MUDDY RIVER SPRINGS (AKA AREA UPPER **MOAPA** VALLEY) HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (219), LINCOLN AND) CLARK COUNTIES, NEVADA.

ORDER ON OBJECTIONS TO WITNESSES AND EVIDENCE

In the Amended Notice of Hearing on Order 1303 dated August 23, 2019, the participants to the hearing on the Lower White River Flow System under Order 1303 (LWRFS hearing) were ordered to submit any objections to the evidence or expert witnesses designated by the other participants by September 13, 2019. The State Engineer received objections from Coyote Springs Investment, LLC (CSI); Lincoln County Water District (LCWD) and Vidler Water Company, Inc. (Vidler); and Southern Nevada Water Authority and Las Vegas Valley Water District (SNWA).

The CSI Objection

CSI objected to portions of the scope of testimony identified in the disclosures of Joseph Davis, for Moapa Valley Water District; Todd Robison, for Muddy Valley Irrigation Company; and Warda Drici and Colby Pellegrino, for SNWA. The basis for CSI's objection is that the scope of testimony provided by these witnesses must be limited to the discrete issues identified in the Amended Notice of Hearing.

The State Engineer agrees that the evidence presented in the hearing is to be limited to the four issues identified in the Notice of Hearing. However, the State Engineer also recognizes that the fifth issue, "any other matter believed to be relevant to the State Engineer's analysis," provides some subjective determination in what information the participants believe is necessary for the State Engineer to consider.

Therefore, the objection by CSI is overruled, but the State Engineer reserves the right to determine during the hearing whether any line of questions and/or testimony is outside the scope of the issues identified in Order 1303 and may order a line of questioning to cease or to remain limited to the relevant issues that are the subject of the hearing.

The LCWD and Vidler Objection

LCWD and Vidler objected to the following witnesses: experts Robert Coache and Hugh Ricci, proffered by Nevada Cogeneration Associates, for their qualifications in the areas of

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groundwater and surface water hydrology; testimony by Mr. Coache, Mr. Ricci, or Jay Dixon which may be considered legal opinions regarding the application of Nevada water law; testimony of James Watrus, proffered by SNWA, to extent that Mr. Watrus has not been identified as an expert; expert Sue Braumiller, proffered by the National Park Service, for her qualifications as a hydrologist.

As stated in the Notice of Hearing, the State Engineer will convene a hearing to conduct *voir dire* on the qualifications of these witnesses, as set forth in more detail below.

The objection to the testimony of Mr. Watrus is sustained. The State Engineer will not allow Mr. Watrus to offer expert opinions because he has not been identified or qualified as an expert witness.

LCWD and Vidler also objected to documentary evidence submitted by the Moapa Band of Paiute Indians, Nevada Cogeneration Associates Nos. 1 and 2, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Park Service. The objections were based on the inability to access or review the submitted documents, the relevance of the documents to either an expert report or the five issues identified in Order 1303, hearsay, and a lack of foundation for the exhibits submitted.

The objections by LCWD and Vidler related to documentary evidence of the participants are overruled. The State Engineer will admit the documents provided, as limited below, and will determine the appropriate weight given to them.

The SNWA and LVVWD Objection

SNWA and LVVWD objected to the qualification of experts from Stetson Engineers, Inc., proffered by CSI, and the scope of their testimony; testimony from Timothy Durbin, proffered by CSI, because he has not authored any written expert report; portions of the reports by City of North Las Vegas and by Dry Lake Water, LLC, Georgia Pacific Gypsum LLC, and Republic Environmental Technologies, Inc., for the failure to proffer all authors of their respective reports; and to documentary exhibits that were not provided timely or were submitted without being identified on the participant's exhibit list.

The State Engineer will include Stephen Reich, Jean Moran, and Molly Palmer in the hearing for expert qualification, and will allow SNWA and CSI to conduct *voir dire*, as set forth more fully below.

CSI has proffered Timothy Durbin as an expert witness, but has not provided any written testimony of Mr. Durbin by the deadlines required for the submission of reports or rebuttal reports under Order 1303. The State Engineer requires, for this hearing, that all expert testimony have been provided in advance of the hearing. Because CSI has not provided Mr. Durbin's written testimony, the State Engineer will not allow Mr. Durbin to provide expert testimony.

The State Engineer finds that the exhibits SNWA identified as not having been disclosed, or not included on the exhibit list, have been resolved. The "Drilling, Construction, Water Chemistry, Water Levels, and Regional Potentiometric Surface of the Upper Carbonate-Rock Aquifer in Clark County, Nevada" is located on page 17 of 17 in Nevada Cogeneration Associates exhibit 7. Additionally, the Moapa Band of Paiutes have provided an updated list of exhibits including the document that was excluded from the prior version.

Finally, objections to portions of the reports are premature. The State Engineer will admit the reports provided by and authenticated by an author and will determine the appropriate weight given to those reports.

Hearing on Voir Dire

The State Engineer will convene a hearing on <u>Thursday</u>, <u>September 19</u>, <u>2019</u>, <u>to begin at 1:30 p.m. at the Tahoe Hearing Room</u>, <u>901 S. Stewart Street</u>, <u>Second Floor</u>, <u>Carson City</u>, <u>Nevada and will be video conferenced to the Nevada Division of Water Resources Southern <u>Nevada Business Office</u>, <u>400 Shadow Lane</u>, <u>Suite 201</u>, <u>Las Vegas</u>, <u>Nevada</u> for the purpose of qualifying the following individuals as expert witnesses in the fields in which the Participant has proffered their expertise:</u>

- 1. Hugh Ricci: hydrology, water rights, and water law; proffered by Nevada Cogeneration, objected to by LCWD and Vidler.
- 2. Robert Coache: hydrology, water rights, and water law; proffered by Nevada Cogeneration, objected to by LCWD and Vidler.
- 3. Sue Braumiller: groundwater hydrologist; proffered by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, objected to by LCWD and Vidler.
- 4. Stephen Reich: water rights, hydrology; proffered by CSI, objected to by SNWA and LVVWD.
- 5. Jean Moran: registered geologist, hydrogeologist; proffered by CSI, objected to by SNWA and LVVWD.
- 6. Molly Palmer: registered civil engineer; proffered by CSI, objected to by SNWA and LVVWD.

The proffering and objecting participants, and their witnesses, may appear in person in Carson City, or by video-conference from the Division of Water Resources office in Las Vegas, Nevada. The failure of any participant to appear is a waiver of the objection, or an admission that the objection is valid. If the witness does not appear, the State Engineer shall exclude that witness from testifying.

THEREFORE, good cause appearing, on behalf of the State Engineer in the objections to witnesses and evidence brought in the hearing on Order 1303, I make the following orders:

1. The qualification of expert witnesses shall take place on Thursday, September 19, 2019, from 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Tahoe Hearing Room at the Division of Water Resources in Carson City, and Division of Water Resources office in Las Vegas, Nevada SE ROA 569

- 2. The scope of witness testimony in the hearing that commences on Monday, September 23, 2019, shall be limited to the four issues identified in Order 1303, and other information that the participants can demonstrate is useful to the State Engineer in his evaluation of those four issues, and the testimony of experts shall be limited to their area of qualification and previously provided written testimony contained in their expert reports.
- 3. All documentary evidence, except the expert reports, received by the State Engineer is hereby admitted, and the State Engineer shall consider the documentary evidence with the appropriate weight given the concerns raised by the participants, including but not limited to, hearsay, relevance and foundation.
- 4. All expert reports properly affirmed that the report is true and correct and that the affiant personally prepared or directed its preparation, and submitted to cross-examination, shall be admitted.

MICHELINE N. FAIRBANK

Deputy Administrator

Dated this 16th day of

September, 2019.

SERVICE LIST

Order on Objections To Witnesses And Evidence in the Matter of the Administration and Management of the Lower White River Flow System

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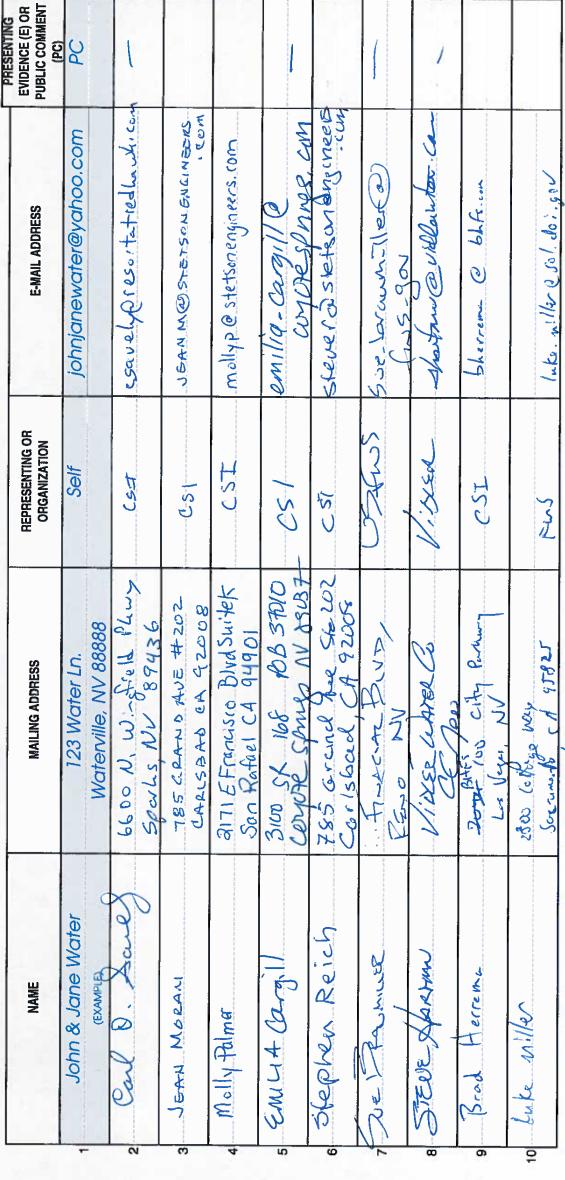
greatsam@usfds.com; greg.walch@lvvwd.com; hartthethird@gmail.com; Howard.Forepaugh@nsgen.com; ircady@yahoo.com; ibell@broadbentinc.com JCaviglia@nvenergy.com; ieff.phillips@lasvegaspaving.com; jim.watrus@snwa.com; joe@moapawater.com; Karen.glasgow@sol.doi.gov; kbrown@vvh2o.com; Kevin Desroberts@fws.gov; kimberley.jenkins@clarkcountynv.gov; kingmont@charter.net; kpeterson@allisonmackenzie.com; krobison@rssblaw.com; kurthlawoffice@gmail.com; lazarus@glorietageo.com; lbelenky@biologicaldiversity.org; Ibenezet@yahoo.com; liamleavitt@hotmail.com; Lindseyd@mvdsl.com; Lisa@ldalv.com; lle@mvdsl.com: lon@moapawater.com; lroy@broadbentinc.com; LuckyDirt@icloud.com; luke.miller@sol.doi.gov; luke.stewart@pabcogypsum.com; martinmifflin@yahoo.com; MBHoffice@earthlink.net; michael_schwemm@fws.gov; mjohns@nvenergy.com; mmmiller@cox.net; moapalewis@gmail.com; moorea@cityofnorthlasvegas.com; muddyvalley@mvdsl.com; NFontenot@AllisonMacKenzie.com onesharp | @gmail.com; paul@legaltnt.com; **SE ROA 571**

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STATE OF NEVADA DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES September 19, 2019

Lower White River Flow System (LWRFS) Hearing on Voir Dire

SIGN IN SHEET - PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY





SE ROA 573

DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES STATE OF NEVADA **September 19, 2019**

Lower White River Flow System (LWRFS) Hearing on Voir Dire

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NAME	MAILING ADDRESS	REPRESENTING OR ORGANIZATION	E-MAIL ADDRESS	FRESENTING EVIDENCE (E) OR PUBLIC COMMENT (PC)
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In The Matter Of:

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Division of Water Resources

September 19, 2019

Capitol Reporters
123 W. Nye Lane, Ste 107

Carson City, Nevada 89706

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- 1 MacKenzie law firm on behalf of Lincoln County Water District
- 2 and Vidler Water Company.
- 3 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Okay. And other
- 4 attorneys present?
- 5 MR. FLANGAS: Alex Flangas on behalf of NCA.
- 6 MR. MILLER: Luke Miller on behalf of Fish and
- 7 Wildlife Service.
- 8 MR. TAGGART: Paul Taggart on behalf of the Las
- 9 Vegas Valley Water District, Southern Nevada Water Authority.
- 10 With me is Tim O'Connor and Steve Anderson.
- 11 MR. O'CONNOR: Good morning -- afternoon.
- MS. CAVIGLIA: Justina Caviglia on behalf of NV
- 13 Energy.
- 14 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Okay. Any other
- 15 attorneys making appearances?

1 designated or proffered.

- MS. HARRISON: I'm not making an appearance, but
- 17 Sylvia Harrison with Republic Environmental Services and
- 18 Jersey Pacific.
- 19 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: All right. Thank you.
- So just to take a moment to talk about today. So
- 21 this afternoon's proceeding will be limited to making a
- 22 determination as to whether or not certain witnesses who have
- 23 been offered as experts will be accepted to provide expert
- 24 testimony in those subject matters in which they have been

So the order that we are going to go through

today is first, we will address Coyote Springs Investments'

experts Stephen Reich, Jean Moran, and Molly Palmer.

The Southern Nevada Water Authority and the Las

Vegas Valley Water District did not object to Mr. Reich's

7 testimony in the field of geology and Ms. Moran's testimony in

8 hydrology but has objected to Mr. Reich, Mr. Moran, and Miss

11 Department of Interior Fish and Wildlife Services' designation 12 of Sue Braumiller, who has been objected to by Lincoln County

13 Water District and Vidler Water Company on the basis that

14 Ms. Braumiller lacks direct work experience in the field of

And finally, we will address Nevada cogeneration

associates number 1 and 2's witnesses Robert Coache and Hugh

18 Ricci, who have also been objected to by Lincoln County Water

19 District and Vidler Water Company on the basis that Mr. Coache20 and Mr. Ricci lack expertise in the areas of groundwater and

And, before we get started, I do understand that

23 there have been some discussions amongst the parties with

24 respect to the objections raised as to the experts identified

Second, we will address the United States

Palmer testifying on matters beyond those fields of expertise.

- 1 and designated, and so I just wanted to ask if there had been
- 2 any resolution to any of the objections?
- 3 MR. TAGGART: Nothing that I can report.
- 4 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Okay. Seeing that, so
- 5 then just as preliminary matter before we get started, for the
- 6 purposes of Mr. Robison, Mr. Miller, and Mr. Flangas, if you
- 7 will identify the specific disciplines in which you seek to
- 8 qualify your experts to testify in this matter so that there's
- 9 no confusion as to those disciplines in which we are seeking
- 10 to have them qualified.
- And with that, I'll go ahead and open it up to
- 12 Mr. Robison.
- MR. ROBISON: Your Honor, is it the preference
- 14 that we simply call the witness as an expert and qualify
- 15 through examination?
- 16 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes.
- MR. ROBISON: Are you taking administrative
- 18 notice of the CV's that have been submitted with the reports?
- 19 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes.
- 20 MR. ROBISON: All right.
- We'd like to call Steve Reich first.
- 22 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Right over here,
- 23 please.
- MR. ROBISON: Face the court reporter and be
- 2 STEPHEN BARRY REICH,
- 3 called as a witness in this matter,
- 4 having been first duly sworn,
- 5 testified as follows:
- 6 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: All right. Go ahead
- 7 and have a seat.

1 sworn to testify.

- 8 Yes, sir.
- 9 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 10 BY MR. ROBISON:
- 11 Q. Good afternoon, sir. Please state your full
- 12 name.
- 13 A. Stephen, S-T-E-P-H-E-N. Barry, B-A-R-R-Y.
- 14 Reich, R-E-I-C-H.
- 15 Q. And for whom are you employed?
- 16 A. Stetson Engineers.
- 17 Q. What is your duties and functions as an engineer
- with Stetson Engineers?
- 19 A. I am a principal with Stetson Engineers. I have
- 20 been with the company for coming on 28 years in December, and
- 21 my current position is to supervise engineers and geologists
- in the disciplines of water supply and water-related
- engineering and geologic activities.
- 24 Q. Did you participate in the preparation of the

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Min-U-Script®

surface water hydrology.

15 hydrology.

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Capitol Reporters 775-882-5322

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- initial report submitted by Stetson on behalf of CSI?
- 2 A. Yes, I did.
- 3 Q. Did you participate in the rebuttal reports
- 4 submitted on behalf of CSI in this proceeding?
- 5 A. Yes, I did.
- 6 Q. Are you aware that we intend to offer you as an
- 7 expert in geology?
- 8 A. Yes, I do.
- 9 Q. In hydrology?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And groundwater management?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. And to an extent, groundwater rights?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Would you give us an idea of whether or not you
- 16 have ever been confronted with examination in a State Engineer
- 17 proceeding with regard to your qualifications.
- 18 A. Most recently, I was -- or specifically, I was
- 19 involved in the 2017 Cave Dry -- or Spring Cave, Dry Lake and
- 20 Delmar Valley hearings.
- And I was offered, and I would have to check the
- 22 record, but I believe as a civil engineer and a geology and --
- 23 groundwater management -- expert in civil engineering and
- 24 groundwater management.

- 1 of that has to do with looking at, you know, how is
- 2 groundwater managed in the sense of a sustainable point of
- 3 view, the impacts that are related to that, the effects of
- 4 pumping on groundwater levels and evapotranspiration and other
- 5 issues that are kind of a complex measure of how a system, the
- 6 physical characteristics of a system respond to -- to pumping
- 7 and how these values are accounted for.
- 8 In our review of the Lower White River Flow
- 9 System, we also looked at the same type of things in terms of
- 10 how is groundwater pumping affecting groundwater levels and
- 11 how is it affecting resources throughout the system, whether
- those resources be water-related resources or
- evapotranspiration of groundwater levels.
- 14 Q. The fact that Mr. Taggart stipulated to your
- 15 expertise as a groundwater management expert, do you see any
- 16 distinction between what you're doing in that case and this
- 17 case with respect to your expertise?
- **18** A. No, I do not.
- 19 Q. Would you please give the State Engineer's office
- a description of your educational background.
- 21 A. I went to high school -- and you want me to start
- 22 at --
- 23 Q. Wherever you are comfortable.
- 24 A. Well, actually, I went to high school near here

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- 1 O. And do you recall, sir, that Southern Nevada
- 2 Water Authority stipulated that you were an expert in
- 3 groundwater management?
- 4 A. Yes, I do.
- 5 Q. And do you recall that they had some question
- 6 about you being proffered as an expert in civil engineering?
- 7 A. Yes, I do.
- 8 Q. And despite that question, were you admitted and
- 9 qualified as an expert before the State Engineer in civil
- 10 engineering?
- 11 A. Yes, I was.
- 12 Q. And that is a reflected in transcript Volume VII,
- October 3rd, 2017, that we reviewed today; correct, sir?
- 14 A. That's correct.
- 15 Q. So the groundwater management issue to which SNWA
- stipulated to your expertise, is that groundwater management
- 17 assignment in that proceeding substantially different than the
- 18 groundwater management assignment we've given you in this
- 19 case?
- 20 A. No, it is not.
- 21 Q. Explain, please.
- 22 A. You know, I -- my scope was limited in 2017 to
- 23 looking at the -- SNWA's 3M Plan for operations and management
- of Spring Valley under future pumping conditions. And a lot

- 1 in Truckee. And then from Truckee, I eventually matriculated
- 2 from the Colorado School of Mines with a Bachelor's Degree
- 3 in -- or a bachelor of science degree in geophysical
- 4 engineering.
- 5 After working a couple years in geophysics, I
- 6 went back to the Colorado School of Mines, and I received a
- 7 master's of science degree in geophysical engineering.
- 8 Q. Is that geophysical engineering education
- 9 pertinent to the work you've done in your two reports?
- 10 A. Yes, it is. You know, part of that was
- 11 application of geophysical techniques to groundwater
- 12 management.
- So we were using -- in my education, we were
- 14 using geophysical techniques such as seismic refraction and
- 15 electrical methods in order to identify groundwater levels as
- well as different structural features that are related to the
- occurrence and movement of groundwater.
- 18 Q. Those type of characteristics are included in
- 19 addressing your reports?
- 20 A. Yes, they are.
- 21 Q. All right.
- And have you had training in addition to that
- education with respect to that field?
- 24 A. Yes, I've had training --

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- 1 Q. I'm sorry. Go ahead.
- 2 A. No, I'm sorry. You know, I've worked in -- I've
- 3 attended professional seminars throughout the years. I have
- 4 worked in the field itself under supervising -- under -- when
- 5 I was younger, I was working under supervising engineers and
- 6 hydrologists and hydrogeologists, and then as I've worked
- 7 throughout the years, I've obviously participated through
- 8 experience in different aspects of both civil engineering and
- 9 hydrology.
- 10 Q. I'm going to use as a format for some questions I
- 11 have of you this afternoon NRS 50.275, which is the Nevada
- 12 code on qualifying experts.
- Have you performed scientific and technical
- 14 research and applications with respect to your involvement in
- this case?
- 16 A. Yes, I have.
- 17 Q. Please explain, sir.
- 18 A. In terms of my involvement in this case, I have
- 19 looked at the relationship between groundwater pumping and
- 20 groundwater levels and impacts due to that pumping throughout
- 21 the Lower White River Flow System.
- I've also worked with a geophysicist that we
- 23 hired to review geophysical results of doing a survey in the
- 24 Coyote Springs Valley in April of 2019.

- 1 your work?
- 2 A. That's a good question. I -- I never received a
- 3 written criticism or written objections, no.
- 4 Q. Okay.
- 5 A. Actually, on -- I've submitted an October concept
- 6 paper on sustainable management, and it was -- I believe it
- 7 was Adam and maybe members of the State Engineer's office who
- 8 actually came up to discuss that with me on what they thought
- 9 about the paper, and it was positive remarks that I got at
- 10 that time.
- 11 Q. Did SNWA challenge that?
- 12 A. Challenge the conversation or challenge the --
- 13 Q. No, the position paper?
- 14 A. I don't know. I did not receive a written
- 15 response from that.
- 16 Q. NRS 50.275 also refers to specialized knowledge.
- 17 What specialized knowledge do you bring to the table in this
- 18 proceeding with regard to hydrology?
- 19 A. I'll have to think about it. That's a broad
- question. I like to think of it as I first started in
- 21 groundwater management in 1995. In 1995, it was related to a
- 22 water rights case that was a longstanding well-known riparian
- 23 case that actually established riparian law in California,
- 24 which is the Santa Margarita River. And in that case, as a

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- Q. In formulating your opinions with regard to
- 2 groundwater management, have you relied on various sources and
- 3 publications?
- 4 A. Yes, I have.
- 5 Q. First of all, before you identify those, do you
- 6 consider those reliable sources?
- 7 A. Yes, I do consider the reliable sources. They're
- 8 published papers, typically peer-reviewed like such as a USGS
- 9 would be a peer-reviewed paper. Documents that were produced
- 10 by the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology, which are typically
- 11 peer-reviewed.
- And, of course, some of the previous material
- that's been presented in -- or some of the material that's
- been presented in previous hearings, I've looked at that also.
- 15 Q. You've been involved in the workshop process all
- 16 along --
- 17 A. Yes, I have.
- 18 Q. -- prior to this hearing; correct?
- 19 A. (Nodded head.)
- 20 Q. And have you presented to the participants in
- 21 those workshops?
- 22 A. Yes, I have.
- 23 Q. With respect to the material you presented to the
- workshops, did you receive any objections or criticisms about

- settlement proceeding, we developed tools for basin
- 2 management.
- Those tools that we developed were both
- 4 analytical and numerical groundwater mod flow models. We used
- 5 those tools to establish how we would manage that basin under
- 6 safe yield conditions, how we would manage water levels with
- 7 respect to pumping, with respect to stream flow and how that
- 8 can be tied together in to a -- a settlement agreement between
- 9 the parties that would allow them to exercise their water
- 10 rights and manage the basin at the same time. So --
- 11 Q. How does that specialized knowledge that you
- 12 utilized and acquired in that case apply to the reports that
- 13 you've submitted in this case and your expected testimony?
- 14 A. Well, I think a lot of the principles are pretty
- much the same. You know, the principles of, you know,
- 16 physical -- physical impacts that result from, you know, a
- 17 certain anthropogenic action.
- So, you know, what we're trying to understand and
- 19 what we're trying to provide in our July and August reports is
- 20 information to the State Engineer on that relationship
- 21 between, say, groundwater pumping and resultant groundwater
- 22 levels, what observations are expected; what may affect those
- 23 observations; whether they be, you know -- you know, using --

24 due to the aquifer characteristics or whether it's due to

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- structural geology or whether it might be due to anthropogenic
- stresses, you know, to provide that information for the State 2
- Engineer to consider in terms of understanding how the flow 3
- system works.
- 5 Q. Have you been qualified in a court of law?
- 6 A. Yes, I have.
- 7 Q. And would you explain, please.
- A. My -- you know, one of the really interesting
- cases I worked on was in Arizona. And Arizona was a subflow
- issue where we were trying to identify, you know, what --10
- what pumping within a basin impacts the flow of a river. 11
- So -- and so what we did, and this was back in 12
- 1996, because I remember the -- I believe it was the Olympics 13
- were going on at the same time, and we were out and doing 14
- geophysical drilling and water level investigation along the 15
- San Pedro River where then we took that information in terms 16
- of the relationship between different types of geologic 17
- sediments and stream flow, and then we prepared our expert 18
- reports and testified in front of the Superior Court judge in 19
- that case. 20
- And at that time, I was accepted as an expert to 21
- testify on the geologic formations that affect -- that affect 22
- the extraction of water and their impact on stream flow.
- Q. Did anyone object to your qualifications in that

- 1 Q. When you were qualified in the October 2017
- hearing, the one in which Mr. Taggart stipulated to your
- expertise in groundwater management, did you hold a Nevada 3
- license?
- A. No. I did not.
- 6 Q. And the last not having a Nevada license did not
- stop the State Engineer from accepting your expertise?
- 8 A. That's correct.
- Q. Now, getting back to your background and your 9
- experience as an engineer for Stetson, can you tell us 10
- generally what kind of projects you've been involved in. 11 12
 - And keep it short because we don't have all day.
- A. I'm sorry. You know, most of the projects I have 13
- been involved in have been related to water supply on a 14
- basin-wide scale. So, typically, what we'll do -- I think a 15
- good example is a case that I'm working on in Indian Wells 16
- Valley in Ridgecrest, California, which is -- which is a case 17
- where they are performing a groundwater management plan under 18
- the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act which was recently 19
- passed in California. 20
- And under that plan, I'm supporting the 21
- 22 groundwater manager, who actually happens to be my partner,
- who is the groundwater manager for that basin. And we provide
- information on how we might be able to establish thresholds

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- case?
- 2 A. You know, I do not remember. I would have to go
- back and check the transcripts. All I know is that I
- testified in court on that.
- 5 Q. The Court permitted you to testify as an expert?
- 6 A. Yeah, and I apologize. I don't know if there
- were objections at the time.
- 8 Q. With respect to your field and your expertise,
- what licenses do you hold?
- A. I -- from the State of California, I have a civil 10
- engineering license. I believe that's from 1997 or 1998. I'd 11
- have to check the date. 12
- And I also am a registered professional geologist 13
- in the state of California. 14
- 15 Q. What's required to get those licenses?
- A. Each one of them has a fundamentals test, so you 16
- take a fundamentals of engineering four-hour test or 17
- eight-hour test. I can't remember. And you take a 18
- fundamental geology test that you understand those 19
- 20 fundamentals, and then you practice under a licensed engineer
- or a licensed geologist. And then after a certain amount of 21
- time, you go back and you take a professional test. 22
- So the first test tests you on fundamentals; the 23
- second test, on professional applications. 24

- and triggers in terms of what kind of impacts can be -- can
- 2 occur in the basin and the sustainability of how those are
- 3 managed.
- So -- and, again, I don't want to go on too far, 4
- but that takes a knowledge of, you know, basically how -- how 5
- does stream flow recharge groundwater aquifers. How does
- precip affect stream flow. How does pumping impact 7
- groundwater levels, and then what is the results of that 8
- 9 pumping.
- So it's really just a matter of looking at kind 10
- of a multidisciplinary field. 11
- Q. Those are the issues that we have asked you to 12
- testify in this case with regard to geology and hydrological 13
- involvement? 14
- 15 A. That's correct.
- Q. The key question -- and I have a, Mr. Reich,
- given the -- how long have you been doing this? 17
- 18 A. 28 years in December.
- 19 Q. All right.
- And with the special knowledge and skill, 20
- expertise, training, and education you have, tell us the 21
- crucial question. 22
- How do you see that assisting the State Engineer 23
- in the administrative hearing that is scheduled for next week? 24

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- 1 A. Well, I look at it as ability to have a
- wide-varying degree of experience where I've worked in many
- different types of environments. 3
- You know, and it even goes back before Stetson
- because when I worked for an oil company doing geophysics in 5
- southeastern Turkey and I was on the border of Iran and Iraq,
- and it was all carbonate rock province and we were using 7
- electrical geophysical techniques to identify boundaries and
- structures in this case which affected the flow of oil. 9
- So that was another lifetime ago, but I've been 10
- practicing engineering geology and geophysics, you know, 11
- throughout those last 30 years of my life. 12
- And in each case, you know, I find a little bit 13
- more knowledge and understanding of how different physical 14
- systems react and can work or react to, say, pumping or water 15
- levels or stream flow. You know, how does, you know, 16
- precipitation affect -- precipitation events affect that. 17
- And so it's really this collection of knowledge 18
- of working throughout the western United States and, to a 19
- certain degree, other parts of the world that can bring an 20
- understanding of complex ideas together. 21
- Q. Is the methodology that you use to prepare your
- parts of these expert witness reports and your anticipated
- testimony, are they considered by you to be reliable and

- 1 Q. Have you been out to --
- 2 A. Oh, yes. I'm sorry. No, I've visited -- I've
- visited the field many times.
- 4 Q. On what premise?
- 5 A. Well, one, geologic investigation. So we took
- geologic maps, and we went out and we identified some of the
- 7 formations that were out there.
- One was to inspect wells, to look at different 8
- monitoring and production wells and their location. I went 9
- out there and I inspected the Muddy River Springs area. I met 10
- with Fish and Wildlife and toured the refuge. They explained 11
- 12 to me the location and the habitat that the Dais are in. So
- I've -- I've done --13
- 14 Also vehicle surveys and other parts in -- say,
- driven through Hidden Valley and Garnet-Black Mountain areas 15
- and other areas other than just the Muddy River or Muddy River 16
- Springs area and Coyote Springs Valley. 17
- Q. Mr. Reich, tell us, please, your experience in 18
- dealing with water rights. 19
- A. Most of the cases that I've worked on one way or 20
- another reflect or are due to water rights. 21
- 22 And so in water rights, the -- what -- the role
- that I take in looking at water rights are looking at their 23
- 24 assigned use, the beneficial use; their point of diversion;

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- well-recognized methodology?
- 2 A. Yeah, they're basic principles of geology and
- engineering.

8

- Q. Tell us, if you would, please, whether you
- believe -- and if so, why -- what you bring to the table in
- this case with regard to your expertise as both relevant and
- reliable? 7
- A. Well, it's relevant because we've studied
- specifically the information and data that's available in the 9
- Lower White River System Flow System in response to 10
- Order 1303. 11
- So I reviewed Order 1303. I looked at the five 12
- issues that were stated in the order itself in terms of 13
- responding, and I believe I submitted a report that's relevant 14
- to each one of those issues. 15
- And the experience I bring that makes that 16
- reliable is that the opinions that I formed were really, 17
- again, based on my experience and -- both education and 18
- 19 experience that brings a -- you know a lot of different cases
- together in order to understand that. 20
- Q. Have you been physically present to conduct 21
- examinations and tests in the administrative unit that's being 22
- contested in this case?
- 24 A. I'm sorry?

- you know, how they are -- how the terms of those water rights
- are -- can affect, you know, the use of a certain well, a
- point of diversion, how that can be exercised. 3
- So when I'm looking at a basin management plan, I 4
- might look at a water right and say, you know, here's it's
- season of use. Here's it's type of use. Here's what it can
- be used for, and I might assign that as a certain amount of 7
- water. 8
- And then I take a look to see how that would 9
- affect -- by exercising that right, how that might affect the 10
- resources. 11
- Q. What education, experience, and training do you 12
- bring to the table with respect to water rights? 13
- 14 A. You know, in terms of -- in terms of water rights
- 15 in terms of experience, the first case I worked on was -- in
- 1992 was a water rights case. 16
- And, again, that goes back to the Santa Margarita 17
- case I mentioned before which really, I think -- and people 18
- know in California it's a system of both appropriative and 19
- riparian kind of water right law. And I was looking at 20
- specifically water rights that has to deal with federal 21
- reserve water rights also on top of that and how are those 22 rights exercised inside that basin. 23
- So the experience that I've gained throughout the 24

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- 1 years is -- really started in 1992 when I first started
- 2 working on that case.
- And then just how those -- and that included
- 4 also, for instance, you know, reviewing rights in Nevada. How
- 5 does the State Engineer issue and maintain those rights.
- 6 Q. And during your 29 years of experience in these
- 7 areas, has your effort to provide expert testimony or
- 8 consultation ever been rejected or objected to successfully?
- 9 A. No, not -- no.
- MR. ROBISON: I'll pass the witness.
- 11 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Mr. Taggart?
- MR. TAGGART: Thank you. Do you mind if I sit
- 13 down?
- 14 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: No, that's fine.
- 15 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 16 BY MR. TAGGART:
- 17 Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Reich. My name is Paul
- 18 Taggart. I represent Southern Nevada Water Authority and Las
- 19 Vegas Valley Water District. We've had the pleasure of doing
- 20 this before, and I hope you understand that the water district
- is not objecting to your expertise in -- in geology and in
- 22 groundwater hydrology.
- MR. TAGGART: Could I just ask for a bit of
- clarification from counsel for CSI. What is he being offered

- 1 regard?
- 2 Q. That there's multiple phases.
- 3 A. Oh. My understanding of this phase is that we
- 4 were just really restricted to responding to the questions in
- 5 Order 1303. That's my understanding of this phase.
- 6 Q. Okay. And -- and do you intend to offer any
- 7 opinions to the State Engineer regarding how the State
- 8 Engineer should manage the Lower White River System Flow
- 9 System?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Okay. In this proceeding or in the subsequent
- 12 proceeding?
- 13 A. That's a good question. I'm just going through
- 14 my reports right now, and I'm trying to think about in terms
- 15 of, you know, am I -- I've -- I've provided evidence, provided
- 16 documents in the past about sustainable groundwater management
- 17 techniques.
- This certainly is something that I have provided
- 19 to the State Engineer, and I believe that they're part of the
- 20 record.
- 21 Q. Okay.
- 22 A. And so I would have to say that, yes, I am going
- 23 to provide information that I hope that the State Engineer
- 24 considers when his office makes that decision on -- on this

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- 1 in exactly?
- 2 MR. ROBISON: Well, as he testified, he's being
- 3 offered as an expert in proceedings geology, hydrology,
- 4 groundwater management -- it's stipulated to -- and
- 5 groundwater rights.
- 6 MR. TAGGART: All right. It's just that in
- 7 communications before, it was groundwater hydrology, and I'm
- 8 not sure if there's a difference there.
- 9 MR. HERREMA: Hydrology relevant to this
- 10 particular case.
- 11 BY MR. TAGGART:
- 12 Q. So, Mr. Reich, you know, the Water Authority
- 13 recognizes your expertise in these areas, and I hope you
- 14 understand that our objection goes to the discipline that
- you're offered in by your counsel specifically with respect to
- water rights in Nevada.
- So that's what my questions will be about. And
- 18 you understand that?
- 19 A. Yes, I do.
- 20 Q. And do you understand that this is a bifurcated
- 21 proceeding where the State Engineer has restricted the initial
- proceeding to a series of questions that you've offered an
- 23 expert report on?

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24 A. Just for clarification, bifurcated in what

- 1 phase of the project, and that would include --
- 2 Q. So if you're qualified to be an expert in
- 3 groundwater management, you intend to offer opinions to the
- 4 State Engineer in terms of how to manage the Lower White River
- 5 System Flow System; is that correct?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. In this proceeding that starts on Monday;
- 8 correct?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Okay. In your -- in your report, which I think
- has been marked as CSI 1 and CSI 2 -- and just for the record,
- 12 CSI 1 is your initial report and CSI 2 is your rebuttal
- 13 report.
- Are you familiar with those reports?
- 15 A. Yes, I am.
- 16 Q. And did you write those reports?
- 17 A. We have multiple authors, yes.
- 18 Q. Is it fair to save you supervised the completion
- of those reports?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. Okay. And I -- I heard you talk a lot in your
- 22 discussion with your counsel about your experience and
- 23 knowledge, and I heard quite a bit of discussion about
- 24 analyzing the effect of groundwater pumping on other locations

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- 1 in the groundwater system, looking at geophysical evidence to
- 2 determine the effect of pumping in one location in another
- 3 location.
- 4 Is that -- and would you agree with me that
- 5 that's generally covered in a discipline called groundwater
- 6 hydrology or geology?
- 7 A. Yeah. This is groundwater -- groundwater
- 8 hydrology. You know, in groundwater hydrology and groundwater
- 9 management, that's what we look at, yes.
- 10 Q. Okay. What opinions in your reports, CSI 1 and
- 11 CSI 2, are specifically groundwater management and not just
- 12 groundwater hydrology or geology?
- 13 A. Yeah, can you provide a copy of my report? I'm
- sorry. I don't know it that well in the sense that I didn't
- 15 come prepared today to discuss the actual report, but I'm
- 16 happy to do that. And so do you have an example that you
- would like me to respond to?
- 18 Q. Well, I'm just -- no, I don't really. I'm asking
- 19 you to tell us if there is any opinions in your report that
- 20 are specifically groundwater management only opinions and are
- 21 not opinions that were -- that would arise out of your
- 22 expertise in groundwater hydrology and geology.
- 23 A. Like I said --
- 24 Q. Do you understand my question?

- 1 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Certainly.
- 2 MR. ROBISON: Objection.
- 3 MR. HERREMA: Mr. Reich has already been
- 4 qualified by the State Engineer as an expert in groundwater
- 5 management. I'm just kind of wondering where this line of
- questioning is going if he's already been qualified in thatregard.
- 8 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Well, I think the
- 9 question is -- if I understand correctly, the line of question
- as to his qualifications in groundwater hydrology or
- 11 hydrology, and so I think that's the line of questions as to
- his expertise in that specific discipline as it differentiates
- 13 from groundwater management.
 - I'll go ahead and allow the line of questions,
- because that's certainly something that we're of interest in
- 16 terms of his specific expertise in that subdiscipline or that
- 17 specific discipline.

14

- But if that's the direction that this is going,
- 19 then we'll certainly allow the line of questions. If it's
- 20 just regarding his qualifications in groundwater management,
- 21 he has been qualified, and we do acknowledge that.
- MR. HERREMA: Thank you.
- BY MR. TAGGART:
- 24 Q. And are you familiar with what's been marked as

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- 1 A. Somewhat.
- 2 Q. I'll ask it again.
- 3 A. If you could just simplify it for me. You know
- 4 that I'm not the quickest --
- 5 Q. Are there any opinions in your report --
- 6 A. Right.
- 7 Q. -- that arise out of only a groundwater
- 8 management expertise --
- 9 A. Right.
- 10 Q. -- and not from groundwater hydrology or geology?
- 11 A. Yeah, it's a -- it's a great question because I'm
- trying to -- as you say that question, I'm trying to figure
- 13 out can you do groundwater management without having the
- 14 groundwater hydrology.
- 15 Can you actually separate those fields? Right?
- 16 Is that kind of what you're asking me here? Like if -- from a
- 17 groundwater management point of view, it's very important that
- we understand the hydrogeologic aspects of it.
- I don't think you can -- I don't think that you
- 20 can make, you know, say, necessarily groundwater management
- 21 decisions without having a clear understanding of how
- 22 hydrogeology works.
- MR. HERREMA: Madam Hearing Officer, may I ask a
- 24 question?

- 1 CSI 3, which is a concept paper that I think you were asked
- 2 about during your questions from your counsel? I can show you
- 3 a copy.
- 4 A. No, I'm familiar with that.
- 5 O. Okay.
- 6 A. Is that the October date, October 2018?
- 7 Q. October 4th.
- 8 A. October 4th, yes.
- 9 Q. Okay. And are you familiar with that document?
- 10 A. Yes, I am.
- 11 Q. And would you consider that document to be more
- 12 groundwater management-based as opposed to hydrology,
- 13 groundwater hydrology or geology? It's more of a policy --
- 14 A. No, again, I think it's a great question because
- 15 you know, it's really, you know, can you -- can you do
- 16 groundwater management without having the influence and the
- 17 understanding of groundwater hydrology.
- Like I'm saying, and so I'm really -- I'm really
- 19 kind of -- it's very interesting the way you put that because,
- 20 you know, can you be in a field of groundwater management
- 21 that's -- that would be, you know, separate from, say,
- 22 groundwater hydrology or groundwater hydrology.
- You know, like -- you know, is it really -- are
- 24 there two separate hats is kind of the way -- I mean, I think

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- that's what you're asking me? Right? Like could I write
- the --2
- Q. I'm asking you a pretty simple question. So can 3
- you understand me or would you agree with the statement that
- hydrology, geology, hydrogeology goes into the factual
- analysis of what occurs in a groundwater system?
- 7 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. And would you agree with me that 8
- groundwater management has more policy associated with it than 9
- it does the principles of physical science that control water 10
- 11 movement?
- 12 A. Not necessarily because policy -- I don't look at
- it as policy. I don't look at it as groundwater management 13
- as -- you know, when you say policy to me, you know, I -- the 14
- groundwater management and the purpose of writing that report 15
- was to talk about how we can incorporate some of these ideas 16
- into actually managing the basin. 17
- You know, if you said to me the policy is write a 18
- report that reflects the policy of a certain thing, that's 19
- why -- that's why I'm trying to separate the two. I really am 20
- because --21
- Q. Well, let me ask you this. If you're familiar
- with this document, then what -- what geologic analysis
- occurred to arrive at the statements that are made in this

- opinion on groundwater rights. So are you -- you know, this
- is -- I think we talked about that before. Is this -- the
- 3 purpose of this is to provide the State Engineer with -- with
- information regarding the physical relationships that are
- occurring in the Lower White River System Flow System with 5
- respect to the four or five questions that were asked in
- Order 1303, and I don't believe that those included, you know, 7
- providing and opining on water rights.
- Q. Okay. And I just want to clarify that I -- my 9
- understanding was that your counsel offered you as an expert 10
- in groundwater rights as well. 11
- 12 Do you consider yourself an expert in Nevada
- groundwater rights? 13
- 14 A. You know, I've been working in Nevada groundwater
- since -- again, since 1991, and I reviewed water rights 15
- throughout the State of Nevada. So have I ever testified on 16
- water rights? 17
- Q. That was not my question, sir. 18
- Do you consider yourself to be an expert? 19
- 20 A. Yeah, if I -- if we were to -- I think my
- knowledge would qualify me as an expert. No question.
- 22 Q. Okay. So do you know what the basis, measure,
- and limit of a groundwater right is in Nevada?
- 24 A. The basis, the limit -- say that again.

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- document? 1
- 2 A. Oh, I think -- I think there's a lot there. I
- think there's a lot about citing thresholds and triggers. How
- do you -- you know, how do you know that those thresholds and
- triggers and action items, what can -- what can allow you to
- say that those are really valuable things to do if you don't 7 understand how the system reacts? You know, so that's -- that
- would be one case.
- 9 Another case in that document might be to support
- with ongoing studies. So, you know, do we -- you know, what 10
- is the information that's available out there? You know, do 11
- we have that? Do we need to continue to do more studies? 12
- Q. Okay. So, sir, you don't see a difference 13
- between groundwater management and geology and hydrogeology. 14
- Is that a fair statement? 15
- A. My statement is that groundwater management 16
- requires an understanding and knowledge of groundwater 17
- hydrology and geology. 18
- Q. All right. 19
- And what portions of the -- well, let me ask you 20
- this question: 21
- Do you consider yourself to be an expert in 22
- Nevada groundwater rights?
- 24 A. Nevada groundwater rights? I'm not offering an

- 1 O. The base, the measure, and the limit.
- 2 A. Right. Is it a measure of -- well, in what
- context do you -- can you refer to?
- 4 Q. Well, do you know what the basis, the measure,
- and the limit is of a groundwater right in Nevada?
- 6 A. No. I do not.
- 7 Q. Have you ever testified as an expert on Nevada
- groundwater rights before the Nevada State Engineer?
- 9 A. No, I have not.
- 10 Q. Have you testified for CTGR, the Confederate
- Tribes of the Goshute, Goshute Reservation in the Spring, 11
- Delamar, Dry and Cave Valley hearing; correct? 12
- 13 A. Yes, I did.
- 14 Q. But you were not qualified as an expert in Nevada
- 15 groundwater rights in that case; correct?
- 16 A. No, I was not.
- Q. And CTGR does not have groundwater rights in 17
- Spring Valley; is that correct?
- 19 A. That's correct.
- 20 Q. And you also represented Long Now Foundation in a
- hearing before the State Engineer in 2011; is that correct?
- 22 A. That's correct.
- Q. And in that case, you also were not an expert in 23
- Nevada groundwater rights or in that regard, or in any

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- discipline at all; correct?
- That's correct. 2 A.
- Q. And in that case, you represented Long Now as 3
- their representative. You made closing statements, you
- presented witnesses, you -- you put on the case for Long Now
- Foundation; right?
- A. That's correct. 7
- Q. Okay. Have you ever testified as an expert in
- Nevada groundwater rights in a Nevada state court?
- 10 A. In a Nevada state court, no.
- Q. Have you ever testified as an expert in Nevada
- water rights before a Federal Court regarding Nevada 12
- groundwater rights? 13
- 14 A. Groundwater rights, no.
- 15 Q. On your resume, you listed the Te-Moak case?
- 16 A. Correct.
- 17 Q. As being a case you were involved in. And what
- was your role in that case? 18
- A. I was hired by the Department of Justice, my 19
- recollection, it was, I believe, 18 or 19 years ago was that 20
- the Te-Moak Tribe was claiming sovereignty against not having 21
- to pay for their share of their use of their water rights to 22
- the -- to the special master for the Humboldt River management 23
- area.

1

- 1 Q. So you don't recall being qualified as an expert
- in that proceeding; correct?
- 3 A. No, that's absolutely correct. I'd have to
- review the transcripts.
- 5 Q. And do you recall who represented the State of
- Nevada in that case?
- 7 A. Was that you? No.
- 8 Q. I think it was.
- 9 A. I'm just starting -- I'm just starting to come --
- were you there when the gentleman from the Department of 10
- 11 Justice showed up without his suit on? Were you there that
- day? 12
- Q. Now, I think Mr. Robison already asked you this, 13
- but you're not licensed as an engineer in Nevada; is that 14
- correct? 15
- A. That's correct. 16
- Q. And previously you were admitted by the State 17
- Engineer as an expert in civil engineering, but you're not 18
- being offered in civil engineering in this case; right? 19
- A. You know, civil engineering is a wide field that
- includes, you know, hydrology and water flow and so forth. 21
- 22 So, you know, most people think of civil
- engineering as a -- kind of design and construction aspect. 23
- 24 You know, due to my skills as a civil engineer,

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- And so I was hired to go out and to review the
- use of their water, and as I recall, it was diversion ditches
- along the Te-Moak Reservation which is located on the western
- side of the Ruby Mountains tributary to the Humboldt River.
- And I testified on their use of those water rights.
- Q. Did you testify regarding the -- did you testify
- regarding Nevada groundwater rights at that hearing?
- A. My recollection is no. The wells and water,
- groundwater right was not an issue in that hearing.
- Q. Okay. Do you -- do you recall testifying 10
- regarding water rights, Nevada water rights that the Tribe in 11
- that case claim? 12
- A. I'd have to go back and review. You know, my 13
- recollection of that case was that we were looking at the --14
- how they were using those water rights, where those ditches 15
- were located on the reservation and how the water was being 16
- diverted from those diversion points. 17
- So I would have reviewed, you know, whatever 18
- decree or water right that they were claiming that under. 19
- Q. Were you qualified as an expert in that case? 20
- A. Yeah. It wasn't a process like this, you know, 21
- the recollection was that we -- we met in Federal Court up in 22
- Reno, and -- and I -- I provided evidence in terms of what I 23
- observed out on the reservation. 24

- do they support my opinion, and you know, my answer would be
- But my -- my, you know -- my -- what I've done is 3
- groundwater -- groundwater hydrology and hydrogeology, you
- know, as they relate to responding to the questions by the
- State Engineer.
- 7 Q. But you don't have a license in Nevada, so you
- can't practice civil engineering without it; correct?
- A. That's correct. Well -- that's correct.
- Q. Now -- and I just have a few more questions about 10
- Nevada groundwater rights that you believe you're an expert 11
- in. In California is a permit required for someone to drill 12
- for a groundwater right? 13
- 14 A. It's a different type of permit. So, if you're
- drilling for -- you know, so --
- 16 Q. Simple question, sir.
- 17 A. No, it's not a simple question.
- 18 Q. Okay.
- A. So in California, if you're drilling in to a 19
- sub-flow zone, you need an appropriative permit to drill into 20
- that sub-flow zone. 21
- If you're drilling an overlying ground well into 22
- say a percolating basin, you would need a permit from the 23
- county to drill that well. 24

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- But, as you know -- well know that those
- 2 appropriate -- that those overlying rights would more fall
- 3 under the control of the court, not so much the State Water
- 4 Resource Control Board which would be offering that
- 5 appropriative right.
- 6 Q. Okay. What about in Nevada?
- 7 A. Yeah, we file with the State Engineer for a
- 8 permit to -- for a point of diversion.
- 9 Q. Okay. And in Nevada, what's the difference
- 10 between a groundwater permit and a groundwater certificate?
- 11 A. A certificate would be gained after showing --
- 12 the permit would be applied for and then you would drill and
- construct the well and then you would certify its use.
- 14 Q. How would you do that?
- 15 A. Filing reports through -- up to the period of
- the -- of the -- the period of time that you're given for,
- basically, for perfection or for -- you know -- I'm sorry, I'm
- missing the word here, for completing the project.
- 19 Q. Okay. Have you ever filed any documents like
- 20 that with the State Engineer in Nevada for groundwater rights?
- 21 A. No, I have not.
- 22 Q. When is the priority of a water right in Nevada
- 23 perfected? When the proof of beneficial use is proved or when
- 24 the application is filed; do you --

- 1 A. No, I have -- no, I have not.
- 2 Q. Are you qualified to file a water right
- 3 application in Nevada?
- 4 A. I would have to read the regulations to
- 5 understand that.
- 6 Q. Do you know what documents are required to
- 7 accompany a water rights application in Nevada?
- 8 A. No, I do not.
- 9 Q. Have you ever researched or quantified Nevada
- 10 groundwater rights?
- 11 A. Yes, I have.
- 12 Q. When?
- 13 A. The first research I did was for the Long Now
- 14 Foundation. So, we looked at -- in Spring Valley, we looked
- at the water rights that were issued really to -- at that
- 16 time, Las Vegas Valley Water District, so --
- 17 Q. You didn't -- you didn't prepare a report or
- 18 testify in this case; right?
- 19 A. No.
- 20 Q. Okay. Do you know what the term in Nevada total
- 21 combined duty means?
- 22 A. My -- my understanding of total combined duty
- would be the duties assigned to a specific water right that
- 24 might have multiple points of diversion. I've seen that in

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- 1 A. When the application is filed.
- 2 Q. Do you understand what a vested groundwater right
- 3 is in Nevada?
- 4 A. A vested right in the sense of a -- say, a
- 5 riparian right, for example.
- 6 Q. Do you understand what a vested groundwater right
- 7 is in Nevada?
- 8 A. I'll answer no to that.
- 9 Q. Okay. Under Nevada water law, is a groundwater
- 10 permit subject to forfeiture?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Are you a Nevada water rights surveyor?
- 13 A. No.
- 14 Q. Do you know what the process is to become a water
- 15 right surveyor in Nevada?
- 16 A. I believe there's a test to take.
- 17 Q. Are you qualified to be a Nevada water rights
- 18 surveyor?
- 19 A. I haven't reviewed the qualifications for the
- 20 test.
- 21 Q. And you've never applied?
- 22 A. And I've never applied.
- 23 Q. Have you filed for any water rights in the State
- of Nevada?

- 1 different cases throughout the Lower White River Flow System.
- 2 Q. Are you familiar with the State Engineer's files
- 3 and filing system?
- 4 A. Yes, I am.
- 5 Q. And do you have experience with the computer data
- 6 base that's maintained by the State Engineer?
- 7 A. Yes, I do.
- 8 Q. What information is contained on that database
- 9 about groundwater rights?
- 10 A. There's -- there's a wealth of information on the
- 11 water rights. You know, the location -- the location, the
- point of diversion, the place of use, the type of well, some
- of them have links to the well logs, the water use. I mean,
- 14 there's -- it's a -- it's a big, long widespread sheet of
- 15 information on that.
- There's links to the actual application. There's
- 17 links to the certificates that have been issued for those.
- 18 There's, you know -- there's PDF documents associated with it.
 - There's a wide range of information that's
- 20 available on the State Engineer site. It's actually quite --
- 21 Q. Are there lengths of extension of time that have
- been granted?
- 23 A. You know, some of the documents that are included
- in files that are located here in this building and some

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- information is located on the website itself.
- And so I do not have specific knowledge -- I do 2
- know that those extension in time forms exist. I don't have 3
- extensive knowledge on whether those are located in the paper
- files or whether they're located on line. 5
- Q. Is it -- is -- do any of the opinions that are in 6
- your report regarding the four or five issues that the State
- Engineer's asked for information on. 8
- Do you understand what I mean by four or five? 9
- 10 A. Yeah. And there's four with the fifth one being
- any other information. 11
- Q. Do any of the opinions in your report regarding 12
- those four or five issues require groundwater management as an 13
- 14
- A. That's a great -- that is a -- I -- there's --15
- does it require groundwater management, yes. I mean, 16
- groundwater management is what we talked about today. 17
- To me, it's the understanding of hydrology and 18
- hydrogeology and geology as we look towards how can we manage 19
- the basin. 20
- So -- so, yes in the respect that includes the 21
- knowledge of those fields, yes. 22
- O. Okay. So geology, hydrogeology, hydrology, that
- wouldn't be enough, you would need also have to have

- offered in response to that question was the relationship
- between how pumping in the alluvium would affect stream flow
- advice, how the pumping in the carbonate aquifer would affect 3
- stream flow. But I did not opine on moving water rights from
- alluvium to carbonate or from carbonate to alluvium.
- respect to your findings on the alluvial and carbonate wells?
- A. My -- my testimony would be on, you know, wells
- 9
- 10
- 11
- location and geologic structure that occurs between it and say 12
- the Muddy River for example. 13
- Q. What education, experience and training do you 14
- bring to the table to justify your opinions in that respect? 15
- A. That has to do with my understanding of 16
- groundwater hydrology, geology and groundwater management. 17
- MR. ROBISON: Thank you. Submit it. 18
- MR. TAGGART: Yeah. If I -- so we -- we concede 19
- the expert is an expert in geology, in groundwater hydrology. 20
- 21 I mean, to dance around admitting that groundwater management
- 22 as something different to me is bizarre.
 - I mean, obviously groundwater management is what you're going to entertain in the next phase. The State

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Engineer has been very clear about that. groundwater management as an expertise to introduce your

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- report; is that your testimony?
- A. No, that's not what I said. I said I used those
- fields in order to you know develop an understanding of
- groundwater management. 5
- MR. TAGGART: That's all the questions we have,
- and I'll just offer this, is that --7
- MR. ROBISON: May I redirect? Miss Fairbank, may 8
- I redirect very briefly? 9
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Absolutely. 10
- MR. ROBISON: Thank you. 11
- REDIRECT EXAMINATION 12
- BY MR. ROBISON: 13
- Q. With respect to the water right classification, I 14
- want to address your attention to Item 4 I'll call it in the 15
- issues that the State Engineer wants testimony, the effects of 16
- movement of water rights between alluvial wells and carbonate 17
- wells and deliveries to senior decreed rights in the Muddy 18
- River. 19
- Now, what is your expertise, training and 20
- experience with respect to being able to testify as an expert 21
- about that kind of water right in this hearing? 22
- A. Well, I didn't make an opinion of moving the 23
- actual water right in my report. You know, the opinion that I

- 2 We've conceded that he can be offered and we
- would not object to him being an expert in geology and
- groundwater hydrology. We believe that everything he talked
- about is really confined within those disciplines.
- And we did -- we did not know the exact subjects 6
- that this witness would be offered in as a result of the
- 8
- evidence exchange. While what we learned is that he would be
- offered to testify about the subjects in his report.
- When we asked about what he would testify in, we 10 learned what he would be offered in and then that's when we 11
- immediately said we would not object to him coming in in 12
- groundwater hydrology and geology. 13
- The question of groundwater management we believe 14 is clearly part of the second phase of this proceeding and --15
 - and is not part of this proceeding.
- So we object because it's outside the scope of 17
- the 1303 questions that are being asked, even though he was 18
- previously admitted in groundwater management, we don't deny 19 20 that. That is not relevant to this proceeding at this time.
- Whatever opinions he wants to offer under that 21
- discipline will come in after -- after we're done with this 22 proceeding and findings have been made regarding the physical 23
 - principles of geology and groundwater hydrology.

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Q. And so what is the expected testimony with that are pumping in the alluvium will have a direct impact on the flow of the Muddy River. While wells that are pumping in the carbonate aquifer will have an impact based on its

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- There were four specific areas that the State 1
- Engineer wanted information on when we were in Overton on 2
- July 24th, you were very clear that we were going to handle 3 4
- this in a multi-phase process.
- You did not want policy issues, groundwater 5
- management issues being discussed in this phase. CSI was at 6 that meeting and knew that. 7
- In the notice in the prehearing conference on 8
- July 25th, 2019, the State Engineer again reiterated that the 9 testimony would only be in direct -- in response to the
- 10 directives of the State Engineer in Order 1303. 11
- At the prehearing conference itself, you again 12
- clarified that these were threshold matters that we would be 13 reviewing and that policy determinations were part of a later 14
- proceeding. 15

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- Then, specifically, you said to the extent participation -- participants intend to or desire to spend
- time addressing future policy considerations which are not 18
- encompassed in the issues specifically identified in the 19
- solicitation of the reports, those matters will not be 20
- considered during these proceedings. 21
- 22 In the notice of hearing, again, the State
- Engineer specified that those -- that these proceedings on the
- 24 factual questions that were identified in 1303.

- be offered. 1
- 2 And if that's true, then we will ask that that
- not be allowed into evidence, and if it is allowed into 3
- evidence, that will not be in our view proper as we have not a
- 5 had an opportunity to offer groundwater management testimony.
- Now with respect to groundwater rights, again, we 6
- think groundwater rights, the issue of that is outside the 7 scope of this hearing. What rights for instance are in 8
- priority, what the quantity are rights, those are all issues 9
- that will subsequently come later. 10
 - But, nonetheless, we think it's clear that Mr.
- 12 Reich is not an expert in groundwater rights. His expertise
- did not -- as I asked him a few questions, it was clear he did 13
- 14 not know the answers, he did not know what a vested
- groundwater right is in Nevada. He's not a licensed water 15
- right surveyor in Nevada. 16
 - He -- he didn't know what the basis, the measure and the limit is of a water right which we all know is
- 19 beneficial use.

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- 20 So, Mr. Reich just simply, and I don't mean to
- disparage, the man is very smart in what he's qualified in, 21
- 22 but he's not a Nevada water rights specialist. And we should
- not allow someone to be qualified as a Nevada groundwater 23
- 24 rights specialist, one, when it's not necessary for the

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- SNWA replied upon that and did not identify 1
- witnesses who are groundwater management experts.
- Specifically, James Prieur who is a groundwater management
- expert and was admitted as a groundwater management expert in
- the hearing, the same hearing that we spoke about with Mr. 5
- Reich, the Spring, Spring, Delamar, Dry and Cave Valley
- hearing. 7

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- And CSI understood this limitation when it filed
- its objection to evidence and indicated that certain witnesses 9
- should not be allowed to testified because their testimony 10
 - could be outside of those four areas.
 - So the State Engineer has made it exceedingly clear that we're going to limit questions in this proceeding
- to those fact questions. 14
- The State Engineer in that order of this week, 15
- Monday of this week, indicated that the folks who were 16
- objected to by CSI would not be excluded, but if they were --17
- if he this brought up testimony that was outside the scope 18
- during the hearing that would be addressed at that time. 19
- We -- we suggest that the State Engineer allow 20
- Mr. Reich to be qualified or admit him as a qualified expert 21
- in groundwater hydrology and in geology, but that you defer 22
- ruling on any expertise in groundwater management until he 23
- identifies an opinion that needs that discipline in order to 24

- hearing, and two, when they don't have those qualifications.
- 2 So -- so for those reasons, we think the State
- Engineer needs to maintain the really clear sideboards to what
- this proceeding is about and to restrict it to the four areas
- that we believe do not include groundwater management. 5
 - And despite the grayness that may have been
- described in groundwater management, or I'm sure CSI will take 7
- the position that it's not that clear. 8
 - In our view, it's absolutely clear. You know,
- how are you going to manage the water river flow system. That 10
- decision is going to be made at a subsequent proceeding. CSI 11
- knew that. They based their objection on that. And so we 12
- think it's improper for any witness to be identified as a 13
- groundwater management witness. 14
- 15 And, again, if -- and I think you have to -- you
- have to keep that sideboard on there, otherwise it wouldn't be 16
- 17 fair to my client who has groundwater management experts, but we haven't offered them. 18
- And I also want to say the reports, we reviewed 19 the reports, we think that the reports are admissible under 20
- the disciplines that we've identified as -- and not objected 21
- So this isn't a question of whether the reports 23
 - will come in either. We just think that the disciplines that

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- he's being offered groundwater rights and groundwater
 management are unnecessary qualifications for this proceeding.
- And for that reason, we'd ask that he not be accepted in those disciplines.
- 5 MR. HERREMA: Madam Chair.
- 6 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yeah.
- 7 MR. HERREMA: So what we hear is that the water 8 authority agrees that Mr. Reich has sufficient expertise to
- 9 testify as an expert as to the contents of those reports.

And so we would stipulate to that to the extent that there are questions about the scope the hearing, we read your order for Monday to say that's not what we are here to talk about today.

And if we would have understood from the water authority that they thought that Mr. Reich was sufficiently qualified as an expert to testify about his reports, I'm not sure that he would have to be here today.

The questions about the scope we read would be deferred to next week because that fifth criterion or that fifth question that's in your list is as you said somewhat subjective and it would be dealt on a case by case basis.

MR. TAGGART: Well, I want to be clear, and if we weren't clear with opposing counsel because we had phone calls about this, we --

1 first four questions.

It certainly was not the State Engineer's intention to dictate how the parties were to ad

intention to dictate how the parties were to address those particular questions and how they saw fit to address those

5 particular questions.

So, while I agree that the intent behind this is not to get into the policy side of things, Mr. Reich has previously been qualified before the State Engineer's office in the subject water of groundwater management, I don't have an intention of unqualifying him for that purpose.

But, absolutely, you know, let me be clear that during the course of the hearing, our intention is to go ahead and try to maintain the lane, and if the line of questions and the line of testimony goes beyond really what the fundamental issues are and that is to provide the State Engineer the opinions and evidence necessary to allow our office to digest and come up with a determination as to those four questions.

The geographic boundaries of this particular area. Whether or not it should be individualized units or a large, you know, a larger single unit. What is the total duty or total quantity of water that can be sustainably developed within that area.

The location of pumping within the larger region and whether or not the there's effects and the effect or the

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HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: I think I understand
 where both parties are coming from. With respect to Mr.
 Reich's qualifications in geology, we'll certainly qualify him

4 in geology.5 And I rec

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And I recognize that there's a dispute as to the scope of, you know, whether or not the groundwater management is appropriate or necessary for the purposes of the scope of this hearing.

And one of the things that was discussed at the prehearing conference was that the question number five is somewhat broad. And, you know, if I recall correctly, it might have been counsel for the Moapa Valley Water District kind of suggested that with respect to the issues and the manner in which they were addressing, they, you know, were addressing the issues in their particular report, leaned a little bit heavily on kind of the openness and broadness of question five.

And it's certainly absolutely the State Engineer's intention is this hearing is not to address those policy considerations.

The policy considerations are absolutely to be reserved for the next phase to the extent that parties have integrated some of those concerns and issues in their interpretation of number five and how that applies to those

- implications of the movement of groundwater from alluvial
 pumping to carbonate pumping. Those are the questions and
 that's the testimony that the State Engineer intends this to
 be.
 - But it's also not the State Engineer's intention to dictate and micromanage how participants have determined to present their particular conclusions as to those issues.

So there will also be restrictions, but there will also be some allowances understanding that different participants are approaching it from different perspectives.

So in that regard, I'm not going to make a position with are respect to prohibiting or inviting testimony with respect to groundwater management in these particular proceedings. I agree that the policy issues are to be addressed in a later phase.

With regards to the proffering of Mr. Reich as a Nevada water law, or excuse me, water rights expert, we're not going to qualify Mr. Reich as a water rights expert and I agree it is not necessarily germane to the issues that we're addressing in these particular proceedings.

I'm going to go ahead and ask Mr. Sullivan, Ms. Barnes if they have any questions with regards to the hydrology, because quite candidly I'm not certain that we're satisfied as to Mr. Reich's individual qualifications in

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- groundwater hydrology. 1
- He certainly has extensive experience and 2
- knowledge and understanding of the interrelationships, but 3
- whether or not that level of expertise rises to the expertise
- necessary as an expert in hydrology and certainly open to if 5
- there's any questions that provide further clarification for 6
- our office. 7
- **EXAMINATION** 8
- BY MS. BARNES: 9
- Q. This is Michelle Barnes. For -- with regards to 10
- hydrology, are you looking to be an expert in hydrology as a 11
- whole, like basin-wide or just with regard to groundwater 12
- surface water interactions due to pumping? 13
- A. So -- so there's -- so, am I looking at 14
- hydrology -- yeah, I'm looking at hydrology as a whole for the 15
- entire watershed. So, you know, how and when I was talking 16
- about hydrology, I'm talking about everything from 17
- precipitation to stream flow generation to recharge and from 18
- that transition from suface water into groundwater. So that 19
- -- my answer to you would be yes. 20
- Also, did we look, and you know, at making, and I 21
- was thinking of it more of hydrogeology, if you asked the 22
- question about groundwater pumping with respect to impact on 23
- surface flow, then I -- I have extensive knowledge and work

- proceedings, and if there's future proceedings before the
- State Engineer, we're certainly going to explore this a little 2
- 3 bit more in depth.
- But for the purposes of this Order 1303 hearing
- commencing on Monday, we'll go ahead and accept that testimony 5
- as the basis of being presented for the expert qualification. 6
 - MR. ROBISON: We are aware of that ruling and
- we'll stay within the four issues. 8
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Perfect. Thank you. 9
- Let's go ahead and take like a five-minute brief recess. 10
- (Recess at 2:42 p.m.) 11
 - HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Let's go ahead and go
- back on the record, please. 13
- 14 MR. ROBISON: CSI and the Southern Nevada Water
- Authority have reached a stipulation with regard to Jean, our 15
- expert who has been stipulated as an expert on the four issues 16
- in hydrology and hydrogeology. 17
- MR. HERREMA: And at this time, we'll withdraw 18
- our request our to qualify her in groundwater management. 19
- MR. TAGGART: And we agree. 20
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Okay. So for the 21
- 22 purposes of these proceedings, then is it Jean Monroe?
- MR. HERREMA: Moran. 23
- 24 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Moran, excuse me. So

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- for the purposes of this proceedings, Ms. Moran will be
 - 2 qualified for hydrology and geology.
 - MR. ROBISON: Hydrogeology. 3
 - MR. HERREMA: Hydrogeology. 4
 - HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Hydrogeology. So that 5
 - -- again, that, pursuant to the stipulation, that will be
 - limited to these proceedings. 7
 - And so then for Ms. Palmer?
 - MR. ROBISON: If we can have a five-minute 9
 - recess, I think we can work something out as well. 10
 - HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Would you have an 11 objection if we continued on with the qualifications for Miss 12

 - Braumiller, and that way we -- because we have other people 13 that have commitments here this evening.
 - 14
 - 15 MR. ROBISON: The proposal by SNWA is.
 - MR. TAGGART: So we would object of not object to 16 17 fact testimony from Miss Molly Palmer regarding the work that
 - she did that contributed to the report. 18
 - Our objection is to the qualification as an 19
 - expert, but we believe that she could testify from a factual 20
 - standpoint on the collection of data and the way that the data 21
 - was reviewed, but ultimately the conclusion should be made by 22
 - Mr. Reich or Miss Moran. 23
 - HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: And Mr. Robison? 24

- experience and educational experience in the sense of the
- impact of pumping a groundwater on -- on the sub flow and
- surface flow of a stream system.
- Q. So back to your kind of precipitation of the
- infiltration portion, I guess, where did that experience come
- from within your background?
- 7 A. From my resume?
- Q. Um-hum?
- A. I -- I would say it's all work experience. You
- know, in college I took hydrology, so, you know -- you know we 10
- have hydrologic sciences, but for the most part on a 11
- basin-wide scale, it all has been formulated over the last 12
- 30 years of doing watershed-wide studies through out the west, 13
- both in Nevada, in Arizona and California. 14
- 15 MS. BARNES: I don't have any more questions,
- Micheline. 16
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So for the purpose of 17 these proceedings, again, I think there's some reservation 18
- with respect to the experience in the -- but for the purpose 19
- 20 of these proceedings, given the fact that SNWA has essentially
- withdrawn their objection to Mr. Reich's qualifications as a 21 -- in groundwater hydrology, we'll go ahead and allow the 22
- 23 testimony.
- But it's going to be limited to these 24

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- MR. ROBISON: Well, I'm waiting for co-counsel to 1
- bless this. He thinks it's okay, so we stipulate. 2
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Okay. Then we will go 3
- ahead and allow Ms. Palmer to testify in her capacity as a 4
- fact witness, but not as an expert qualified within in any 5
- particular discipline. 6
- MR. O'CONNOR: And that's confined to the 7
- standard four issues that we just talked about; is that 8
- correct? 9
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Correct. 10
- MR. O'CONNOR: I agree. 11
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Okay. So let's go 12
- ahead and move on for U.S. United States Department of Fish 13
- and Wildlife. 14
- MR. ROBISON: Thank you. 15
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Thank you, very much. 16
- Mr. Miller. 17
- MR. MILLER: Howdy. 18
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: You're ready? 19
- MR. MILLER: Well, yes. The name is Luke Miller, 20
- I'm with the Department of Interior, Office of Solicitor on 21
- behalf of Fish and Wildlife Service. 22
- If I understood from the last presentation
- correctly, the exhibits, or the CVs have already been

- DIRECT EXAMINATION 1
- 2 BY MR. MILLER:
- 3 Q. Ms. Braumiller, can you state what your current
- occupation is?
- 5 A. I'm a groundwater hydrologist for the U.S. Fish
- and Wildlife Service.
- 7 Q. And is your job title position the same as your
- current occupation?
- A. Is my current -- say that again, I'm sorry.
- 10 Q. I'm just making sure there's no title --
- 11 A. Yeah, my title with U.S. Fish and Wildlife
- 12 Service is hydrologist, my position description is
- hydrogeologist or groundwater hydrologist. Right. But the 13
- 14 federal government doesn't have a job titled groundwater
- hydrologist. Hydrologist is what it is officially. 15
- Q. On your way to this position, could you go back 16
- and describe your academic degree that's relevant to this 17 position? 18
- A. Okay. I'll start there, although I believe the 19
- questions are about my direct work experience in groundwater
- hydrology, so I'll get to that in a minute. 21
- But I went to the University of Arizona, 22
- Department of Hydrology and Water Resources in Tucson. It is 23
- 24 the number one rated groundwater program in the U.S. and

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- admitted? 1
- 2 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes.
- MR. MILLER: Is it appropriate to allow the 3
- witness to see a copy? 4
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Absolutely. And so 5
- then we want to go ahead and swear in the witness. 6
- MR. MILLER: Wrong time? 7
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Nope, that's okay. Go 8
- 9 ahead.
- MR. MILLER: Ms. Braumiller, could you please 10
- state your full name and spell it for the record? 11
- THE WITNESS: Sure. Sue Braumiller, that's 12
- B-R-A-U-M-I-L-E-R. 13
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Go ahead and 14
- administer the oath, please. 15
- SUE BRAUMILLER, 16
- called as a witness in this matter, 17
- having been first duly sworn, 18
- testified as follows: 19
- 20

24

- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: All right. Thank you. 21
- Please proceed, Mr. Miller. 22
- MR. MILLER: All right. 23

- arguably internationally. I did all my coursework for my
- Ph.D.. 2
- I left without doing my Ph.D. because it was 3
- taking a long time and I wanted to go to work, but I did
- complete all my coursework at the Department for my Ph.D.
- which included 12, 13, 14 specific courses in groundwater flow
- and transport, saturated and unsaturated flow and transport 7
- and numerical modeling of groundwater problems. 8 Yep. So that's -- and I have a master's degree 9
- in strictly speaking hydrology, but groundwater hydrology from 10
- the Department in Tucson. 11
- Q. And you have a bachelor's of science as well? 12
- 13 A. I do, in biochemistry, long time ago. Right.
- 14 Q. And since this objection or challenge here was
- directed at the basic nature of the work history of 15
- Ms. Braumiller, I'll just kind of focus on that primarily. 16
- And if you'd like, you can --17
- 18 A. Sure.
- 19 Q. -- describe to the --
- A. Yeah, I'll try -- I'll try to give it to you in a
- nutshell. You know, so in terms of direct work experience in 21
- hydrology and specifically groundwater hydrology. And I have 22
- focused exclusively on groundwater hydrology in my 24 years of 23
- work, 22 years at a senior level, that I would summarize as

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succinctly as I can this way.

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Investigation of groundwater flow systems at 2 regional watershed and local site scales, characterization of 3 groundwater, surface water interactions, development of hydrologic monitoring networks and interpretation of 5 monitoring data that's groundwater surface water, soil and 6 water quality, numerical modeling, model development, 7 application and review. 8

Hydraulic test interpretation by a number of means. Contaminated site investigation and remediation, that's groundwater and soils, mine monitoring and closure, nuclear waste performance assessment, natural resources protection. That was basically the application of all those things to my work at the National Park Service for four years and then U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service over the last 11 and a half years.

And lastly, development and management of Alaska statewide Source Water Assessment and Protection program. I -- I -- I guess I would add that since I'm the only -- I am the hydrologist for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Nevada, I've worked at -- you know, worked on problems in many basins and regions and even sites in Nevada as U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's only full-time groundwater hydrologist nationwide. I've also worked on problems in Alaska and

investigated and characterized contaminated sites in 2

California. And finally to the Park Service where I was 3

would describe hydrology issues in the Midwest region, which 5 stretches from the Dakotas to Arkansas and the southern half 6

responsible for assisting parks with their more generally I

7 of the intermountain region which included Colorado, New

Mexico and the like. 8

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So that brings me to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service where I've been working all over Nevada, Alaska, California, et cetera.

And I might mention also that in my current position as a groundwater hydrologist for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, I have done most of the types of work that I initially listed off, but particularly the characterization and investigation of groundwater flow systems at regional and watershed scales, all kinds of locations across the state.

Particular focus on characterization of groundwater/surface water interactions because the habitat that listed species occupy are -- truly they're all groundwater in this state, but it's surface water/groundwater; right?

Development of monitoring networks and interpretation of monitoring data of groundwater and surface

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California for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. And in my

previous positions, which there were a number before Fish and

Wildlife Service in NPS. I have worked in Arizona, Texas and

a whole slew of other states.

And, you know, maybe it would be relevant to mention kind of going in chronological order, I left graduate school, I think there's been some question about the extent of which I've done fieldwork in my career.

I've done some but very limited. I went from graduate school to the Yucca Mountain project where I did the far-field flow and transport modeling for the 1994 total system performance assessment for the repository.

Went out to the USGS hydrologic research facility, did some laboratory testing and some fieldwork, a little bit of fieldwork out there at Yucca Mountain. Went back to Alaska, went to work for USGS in Alaska.

Then briefly to the Corps of Engineers Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory, then to the state of Alaska where I developed the statewide Source Water Assessment and Protection program. Okay. Let me think.

Then to SRK Consulting where I built a model to close a very large copper mine in Arizona, at the time it was the largest cooper mine in the U.S.

Then to CH2M Hill in Sacramento where I

water primarily and numerical -- mostly numerical model review

2 since I took my position with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, although I was building a lot more models myself earlier on.

Gee whiz, hydrologic test interpretation of order 1169 pumping 4

test six years ago. 5

And I work on a lot of mines in my current position so it's all about dewatering and impacts on surface water resources over and over again.

And I guess what I would stress is that just like the analysis that I just did to respond to your order of 1303 questions, what I do and I think one of the comments was that in my current position I do a lot of review of other people's assessments. And -- and I do because I am U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's groundwater specialist; right? So of course I review those.

But I do the same thing that I've done at every other site for every other problem for 24 years, just every time I gather all the available relevant geologic and hydrologic data. I interpret it. I assess the problem myself and then I review whatever I'm looking at.

20 So it's pretty much a nonstop stream of at least 21 22 years of it. So that's how I would summarize it. 22 So, Ms. Braumiller, in your current position --23

24 A. Right.

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- 1 Q. -- with Fish and Wildlife Service, you did in
- fact direct part of the Fish and Wildlife Services report that
- was filed July 3rd --3
- A. Um-hum.
- 5 Q. -- this year in response to Nevada State Engineer
- in order 1303?
- A. Right. Sections 1.1 through 1.5 and 1.7. Right.
- Oh, and I'm sorry, if this is okay, in terms of
- my hands-on work experience as a groundwater hydrologist and 9
- particularly as it relates to my preparation of an analysis to 10
- respond to the questions in your order, you know, I have been 11
- a key participant in the HRT hydrologic review team for the 12
- Muddy River Springs, you know, it was created to implement the 13
- MOA between U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and a number of 14
- parties, SNWA, Moapa Valley Water District, CSI and Moapa Band 15
- of Paiutes. That I've been a key participant on that 16
- technical team for a little over 11 years. 17
- Q. And so part of the background, information and 18
- work experience you were just trying to describe there --19
- 20 A. Um-hum.
- Q. -- that's also what you applied in your drafting 21
- of your report?
- A. Yeah, it -- it always and previously there were
- questions about how geology relates to doing groundwater

- 1 A. No, there's some real differences actually. I
- mean, every problem in groundwater hydrology is a little
- different; right? 3

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- In that case, it was absolutely regional scale, 4
- not subregional scale. And unlike the little Lower White 5
- River Flow System, which I would consider subregional. And
- SNWA prepared a groundwater flow model to predict the impacts 7
- of the proposed water supply pumping. 8

And I evaluated the certainty associated with the structure and the calibration of the groundwater flow model to arrive at conclusions concerning the certainty associated with their predictions about impacts. And which I didn't always agree with and prepared the programmatic biological opinion

along with the senior biologist for that project. 14

So it was somewhat different because in this 15

case, this is a synthesis of all the available geologic and 16 hydrologic data to perform a qualitative characterization of 17

the flow system, I would say. That's what I did here. 18

Um-hum. Right. So it's somewhat different. Um-hum. But 19

still requires the same skills. I would say that. 20

Q. And is there any other -- any other -- I believe

22 you had some publications listed, is there anything that you

believe is pertinent or relevant to --

24 A. Well, you know, because -- because my employers

- have been U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Park Service,
- formal graduate training is in groundwater hydrology, flow the Corps of Engineers, briefly USGS and I did have three
 - publications in the works but left before they were -- got
 - through to publication mill, they're all GRADE literature
 - working reports; right? So, you know.
 - 6 Q. In the positions you were referencing, Park
 - Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, USGS, were those all
 - positions you held as a hydrologist?
 - 9 A. Yeah, okay. So the first one was with the

consultant called Interra to the Yucca Mountain project where 10

I was hired as a hydrologist/modeler. 11

The second one, went out to the USGS hydrologic 12

research facility at Yucca Mountain. And there I was just 13

a -- I think I even went on as a hydrotech, I was determined 14

to get out to the USGS. Okay. 15

The -- at USGS in Alaska I was kind of a junior 16

level hydrologist at that point because I was just new with 17

the USGS. Corps of Engineers, groundwater 18

hydrologist/modeler. They primarily hired me to review a 19

model that they had built for a contaminated site in 20

Fairbanks. 21

At the State of Alaska, I was a program 22

coordinator/senior level hydrologist for the State of Alaska. 23

At SRK I was hired as a groundwater hydrologist/modeler. At

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- hydrology. I am not a geologist, okay, but by virtue and my
- dynamics, transport, phedozone saturated numerical modeling,
- but my work of 24 years, at least 22 of the 24 years has I think qualified me as a hydrogeologist, although, you know,
- I'll just call it groundwater hydrology, but there's always
- geology involved. 7
- And each and every time it's a joint
- interpretation of all the reliable available geologic and 9
- hydrologic data, groundwater level, spring -- and spring 10
- flows, sometimes climactic data that -- that I can get a joint 11
- interpretation of that to perform the assessment each and 12
- every time. 13
- 14 Q. I believe you mentioned the -- I think it's the
- SNWA's groundwater development project --
- 16 A. Um-hum.
- 17 Q. -- in the eastern Nevada area --
- 18 A. Um-hum.
- 19 Q. -- as another example in the state of Nevada of
- some of the work you've done, it's on page 4 if you'd like to 20
- kind of check it out --21
- 22 A. Oh. no. I'm well familiar with it.
- 23 Q. -- is there any comparatives the hydro -- work
- you did there in this report?

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- CH2M Hill I was hired as a hydrologist, groundwater
- hydrologist, although I did do some modeling there as well. 2
- CH2M Hill -- okay. Park Service, I was hired as 3
- a hydrologist generally and that was more general. Some of it 4
- was groundwater, some of it was surface water, some of it was 5
- the interaction between the two. And at U.S. Fish and
- Wildlife Service as a hydrologist/hydrogeologist.
- Q. In any of these --8
- A. Yeah. 9
- 10 Q. In any of the correlated projects that you've
- identified in your CV that relates to some of these positions, 11
- do they involve the assessment of information as it relates to 12
- water wells and interaction of the surface and groundwater? 13
- 14 A. Oh, yeah. Well, it's all groundwater hydrology,
- includes all those areas of investigation that I cited and 15
- they -- you know, data from water levels from wells is just 16
- one piece of basic essential data, one of many. All right. 17
- Q. And just -- and just coming back in just in 18
- relation to the report that was filed in July in response to 19
- the 1303 order. 20
- A. Um-hum. 21
- Q. Would you consider the information relied upon or
- the methods you applied the scientific standards for your
- profession?

- it's -- that is my interest and particularly fractured rock
- hydrogeology.
- 3 Q. Is fieldwork necessary for the portions of your
- report that you drafted?
- 5 A. No, completely unnecessary. I relied on
- published or otherwise public data except for the SNWA data
- which they -- they graciously provided to me to assist in
- preparing that BO. 8
- 9 MR. MILLER: All right. Well, I don't want to
- just continue on kind of in redundancy here with different 10
- types of -- just rogue samples. 11
- 12 So I think we would like to clarify that we are
- going to proffer Ms. Braumiller as a groundwater hydrologist 13
- that's labeled in the front of her witness summary statement. 14
- And -- well, I have no further questions, I'll turn the 15
- witness over. 16
- **HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Ms. Peterson?** 17
- MS. PETERSON: Thank you. 18
- **CROSS-EXAMINATION** 19
- 20 BY MS. PETERSON:
- 21 O. Ms. Braumiller, my name's Karen Peterson, I'm the
- attorney representing the Lincoln County Water District and
- Vidler Water Company. 23
- 24 A. Um-hum.

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- 1 A. Yeah. The data was all cited, most of it is
- publicly available, although SNWA did make a large dataset
- available to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to support the
- development of our biological opinion. Let's see, what else? 4
- Oh, you know, at least five different published 5
- geologic maps. The geologic cross sections by Page, et al.,
- 7 2006, the data provided by SNWA for their -- for their BO for
- their groundwater project also included a 3D hydrogeologic
- framework model, which, you know, is still an interpretation 9
- but helpful. 10
- Yeah. Wow. Climactic data from the climate 11
- center, I'm not going to give you the entire quotation here. 12
- There's a whole range of climactic, hydrologic, including 13
- groundwater-related data, spring and spring flow data, the 14
- works. All the basic data. 15
- Q. So, is it fair to say that you would say you have 16
- 20, 25 years of pretty solid sound work experience --17
- A. I have 24 years of experience, 22 of it as a 18
- senior level. And again, I'll stress, I came straight out of 19
- grad school even without -- before finishing my master's 20
- degree and went to Yucca Mountain. 21
- I have never endeavored to do fieldwork in my 22
- career. I've done a little bit, but really I just went 23
- straight to interpretive work and interpretation and analysis, 24

- 1 O. And first starting out with your education, I
- noted that you indicated that you had completed a lot of
- coursework for your Ph.D. --
- 4 A. Um-hum.
- 5 O. -- is that correct?
- 6 A. I completed all the coursework required for my
- 7 Ph.D.
- 8 Q. And that's not listed on your CV; is that
- correct?
- 10 A. It is in my CV actually. Right. Do you want to
- know what page it's on? 11
- 12 Q. Yes.
- 13 A. Okay. Yeah, and, you know, I include it because
- -- because this -- this volume of coursework is not available
- everywhere. It's on page 14. 15
- 16 Q. Okay.
- 17 A. Right. Yep.
- 18 Q. And is that -- any of it indicate that it's
- towards your Ph.D.? 19
- 20 A. No. Because I didn't leave with my Ph.D. and I
- didn't eventually get my Ph.D., so it's -- it's -- as it 21
- states in my CV it's my graduate coursework completed at the 22
- University of Arizona; right. Um-hum. 23
- 24 Q. And then have you ever testified before the

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- 1 Nevada State Engineer?
- 2 A. No, this would be the first time.
- 3 Q. Okay. Have you ever testified before any other
- 4 State Engineer in any other jurisdiction?
- 5 A. No. This would be the first time.
- 6 Q. So Alaska, Arizona, Texas, I know those were some
- 7 of the states that you had testified --
- 8 A. Right.
- 9 Q. -- you have not testified before a State Engineer
- in any of those jurisdictions?
- 11 A. Yep, no, they were all different kinds of
- 12 entities and issues.
- 13 Q. Have you -- have you testified before at all?
- 14 A. No.
- 15 O. This is the first time?
- 16 A. No. Yes, um-hum. Right.
- 17 Q. So you obviously haven't been qualified in any
- 18 federal or state court?
- 19 A. Correct.
- 20 Q. And I believe you said you weren't a geologist,
- 21 so you're not a registered or professional geologist in any
- 22 jurisdiction?
- 23 A. Absolutely not.
- 24 Q. And you do not hold any kind of hydrologist

- 1 Q. Where it's indicated that I didn't believe that
- 2 you had any direct field experience in -- and then it goes on
- 3 for a couple lines. Are you familiar with that?
- 4 A. Yeah, that the emphasis on field experience was
- 5 repeated a couple of times in your objection, I think.
- 6 Q. Right.
- 7 A. Right.
- 8 Q. And -- and do you want me to go through all of
- 9 these and ask you if you have any field experience in them or
- 10 do you agree you don't have any field experience --
- 11 A. I would not say that I don't have any. I would
- say that it has not been the focus of my work.
- My -- my work to be fair has always been as a --
- 14 more advanced than that. Interpretation, analysis, no, I
- never stood on a drill rig and that those were not the skills
- that I acquired in graduate school or I sought to develop.
- 17 Okay. Analysis, interpretive work.
- 18 Q. Do you want to look at this list and you can tell
- me what areas you feel you have experience?
- 20 A. I have experience that's extensive, 20, 22 years
- at a senior level in the joint interpretation of geologic and
- 22 hydrologic data to assess basically the full range of problems
- 23 that a groundwater hydrologist can be asked to look at, I -- I
- 24 would say.

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- accreditation in any state or by any hydrology and crediting
- 2 jurisdiction; is that correct?
- 3 A. No, I've never felt that it was necessary. My
- 4 degree from the University of Arizona, Department of Hydrology
- 5 and Water Resources is usually sufficient.
- 6 Q. And I know you -- I mean, you pretty much
- 7 indicated that your fieldwork is limited?
- 8 A. It -- it is.
- 9 Q. And that you thought that fieldwork I wrote down
- 10 was not necessary?
- 11 A. No, I believe what Luke asked me was it -- was it
- 12 necessary to prepare the analysis, correct me if I'm wrong,
- that I submitted to your office. Right. And it is not.
- 14 Right.
- What I said was that fieldwork has never been the
- 16 focus of my work. My work is interpretive analytical,
- 17 qualitative analytical and numerical.
- 18 Q. And have you seen the objection that --
- 19 A. Oh, yes.
- 20 Q. Okay.
- 21 A. Right.
- 22 Q. Did you see on page 2 -- I'm just trying to speed
- 23 this along.
- 24 A. Sure.

- I mean, from nuclear waste disposal performance
- 2 assessment, the closure of mines to large scale water supply
- 3 projects, it just -- really the full range. But my work is
- 4 focused, has always been focused and I intend to keep it
- 5 focused on the interpretation of data to assess groundwater
- 6 large issues as it relates to surface water as it frequently
- 7 does.

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- 8 But my focus has never been on, you know, taking
- 9 water level measurements and wells in the field or standing on
- 10 a drill rig. That's -- you know, other folks do tend to focus
- on that, at least early in their careers, but as I said, I
- went straight to Yucca Mountain and did far-field flow and
- 13 transport modeling. So that has never been the focus of my
- 14 career and I never intended it to.
- 15 Q. In -- I don't know the exact number of the
- 16 exhibit for your CV.
- 17 A. Um-hum.
- 18 Q. But in looking at your CV in the different
- 19 categories of -- you have projects --
- 20 A. Um-hum.
- 21 Q. -- different projects.
- 22 A. Sure.
- 23 Q. Some of those in the different categories are
- 24 duplicative, would you agree?

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- 1 A. Are what?
- 2 O. Are duplicative?
- 3 A. No, every single problem was different and every
- single problem also involved almost without exception of
- bringing together all the available reliable data, geologic 5
- and hydrologic, interpreting it, assessing the problem and
- even in the many instances in this current position where I
- have reviewed other people's assessments, that is always 8
- prerequisite to reviewing their assessment. Right. 9
- So, there are -- it's duplicative in -- in the 10
- sense that I always go back to basics, interpret the data 11
- jointly, perform my own assessment over and over and over 12
- again, one problem after another, one location after another. 13
- And then -- then review the analysis of others. Right. 14
- 15 Q. And --
- 16 A. So --
- 17 Q. -- I -- I apologize --
- 18 A. Yeah.
- 19 Q. -- if my question was not very good.
- 20 A. Well, that's okay.
- 21 Q. The projects that you list --
- 22 A. Right.
- 23 O. -- some of them are listed the same project under
- different headings, would you agree --

- component of which was the unreliability of the model
- predictions, which -- which I've described on page 8. Yeah.
- 3 Q. So we both agree that Donlin Gold Mine Project
- was listed on page 1 of your resume --
- 5 A. Yeah.
- 6 Q. -- and page 8?
- 7 A. And, you know, if I could clarify, my -- my CV is
- in a functional format. So, you know, the first section of my
- resume stresses basically qualitative interpretations of 9
- geologic and hydrologic data. 10

And other sections stress things like either 11

numerical modeling or review of numerical models or, you know 12

-- so, yeah, it seemed to me to be the only logical way to put 13 14

my CV together.

Other sections stress my interpretation of 15

development of hydrological monitoring networks and 16

interpretation of hydrologic monitoring data. So it's in a 17

functional format. 18

So to the extent there was some major component 19

of an overall project that was numerical modeling or the 20

review of a large numerical model, yeah, it appears in the 21

22 numerical modeling section. Because it was a very big effort.

Q. And then directing your attention to page 14 --

24 A. Sure.

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- 1 A. No, I don't --
- 2 Q. -- with that?
- 3 A. -- think so. No, I would not agree with that.
- 4 Q. All right. Would you look at page 1?
- 5 A. Sure.
- 6 Q. Donlin Gold Mine Project?
- 7 A. Yeah.
- 8 Q. And isn't that the same Donlin Gold Mine --
- 9 A. Well --
- **10** Q. -- that's on page 8?
- 11 A. Okay. So the difference is -- okay. The
- difference is -- yeah, I can understand why you might not 12
- quite get the difference. 13
- The difference is that on page 8, you know, I 14
- stress -- and it was a very involved review of a numerical 15
- model built for a very large proposed mine in western Alaska. 16
- So that was -- I'm focusing on that component, 17
- that was an extensive numerical model review, very extensive. 18
- And on page 1 I brought the results of that numerical model 19 20 review together with a qualitative assessment of great many
- other pieces of information to provide detailed critical 21
- comments on this proposed mining project. 22
- So, one of them is really a qualitative 23
- assessment of the potential impacts of the proposed mine, one 24

- 1 Q. -- 15 and 16 of your CV.
- 2 A. Yeah.
- 3 Q. Are there any of those items that you have listed
- under publications you reviewed besides your thesis?
- A. No. As I said, it's all GRADE literature, it's
- working reports. Right. Except for a few in grad school when
- I worked on an international research project. Um-hum.
- Right. And those were GRADE literature. 8
- It was GRADE literature, it was reports to the 9
- international study team. But yeah, it's working -- working 10
- reports, yeah, um-hum. 11
- Q. So -- and just getting back to one of the 12
- comments that you kept on making that you never sat on a drill 13
- rig. 14
- A. Um-hum.
- 16 Q. If you -- if you haven't sat on a drill rig then
- how do you know how to interpret and use the data? 17
- **18** A. They're unrelated. They really are.
- 19 Q. So you just take --
- 20 A. You know, so if -- if you're the hydrogeologist
- sitting on a drill rig, you're logging -- you're logging, 21
- you're creating a driller's log or lithologic log. And I have 22
- access to those. And I then interpret them in terms of 23
- groundwater flow. Right. Yeah. 24

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- 1 So you don't have to be the person logging the
- 2 well to have access to the lithologic log or to use it.
- 3 Right.
- 4 Q. So you just take the data and you use it; is that
- 5 fair?
- 6 A. Yeah. Yeah, that particular -- yes, of course.
- 7 Right. I'm not going not use a well log. Some are better
- 8 than others, but if I can I'm going to use it.
- 9 Q. And therefore, you would never know if there was
- something wrong with the data if you've never actually
- 11 collected it --
- 12 A. I never take --
- 13 Q. -- is that correct?
- 14 A. -- any data --
- 15 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Ms. Braumiller, I
- 16 don't mean to interrupt.
- 17 THE WITNESS: Yeah.
- 18 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: But if you'll let
- 19 Ms. Peterson --
- THE WITNESS: Oh, okay.
- 21 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: -- finish her question
- before you start answering.
- THE WITNESS: Sorry.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Nope. That's okay.

- 1 questions? So, Ms. Braumiller, we will go ahead and qualify
- 2 you in the discipline of groundwater hydrology. And we thank
- 3 you very much.
- 4 MR. MILLER: Okay.
- 5 All right. So finally, Mr. Flangas?
- 6 MR. COACHE: Who's going first, Alex? You?
- 7 MR. FLANGAS: Mr. Coache's in Las Vegas.
- 8 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Okay.
- 9 MR. FLANGAS: I think we'll do Mr. Ricci first.
- 10 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Mr. Coache, Mr. Ricci
- is going to go first.

12

- MR. COACHE: Can we just take five minutes?
- MR. FLANGAS: Sure. I think. Well, let me ask
- the hearing officer here.
- 15 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Do we need to take
- 16 five minutes? I'd like -- I mean, we are on a time frame. Is
- 17 there a way we can go ahead and just keep moving on and take a
- break after Mr. Ricci is done?
- MR. FLANGAS: You could step out, Mr. Coache, I'm
- 20 sure that's fine. Isn't it?
- 21 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: He doesn't need to be
- present unless you need him.
- MR. FLANGAS: Sure. No, that's fine. I think
- part of the problem is I'm not sure we told him when we first

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- THE WITNESS: All right. Go ahead, sorry.
- 2 BY MS. PETERSON:
- 3 Q. So you wouldn't know if there was something wrong
- 4 with the data if you've never collected it; is that true?
- 5 A. I wouldn't know except I never assume it's
- 6 accurate anyway but may be useful.
- 7 Q. So the data that you're using, you never assume
- 8 that it's accurate?
- 9 A. Well, a lithologic -- logging is interpretive.
- 10 So I take into account that it's subjective; right? Other
- 11 types of data are much less subjective or not subjective at
- all, just subject to measurement error and water levels on a
- 13 well.
- But yeah, it's clear that a lithologic log was
- 15 interpretive and is subjective. And I would never assume that
- they're a hundred percent accurate.
- 17 Q. All right.
- 18 A. Yeah, right.
- MS. PETERSON: I don't have any other questions.
- THE WITNESS: Okay.
- 21 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Mr. Miller, do you
- have any follow-up questions?
- MR. MILLER: I don't.
- 24 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Do we have any

- 1 stepped out. I apologize, I didn't notice if you had him
- 2 swear a witness or not.
- 3 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: We're having
- 4 everyone's witness sworn in.
- 5 MR. FLANGAS: Thank you.
- 6 HUGH RICCI.
- 7 called as a witness in this matter,
- 8 having been first duly sworn,
- 9 testified as follows:
- 10 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Go ahead and proceed,
- 11 Mr. Flangas.
- BY MR. FLANGAS:
- 13 Q. Could you state your name for the record, please?
- 14 A. My name is Hugh Ricci, last name is spelled
- 15 R-I-C-C-I.
- 16 Q. Mr. Ricci, what's your current occupation?
- 17 A. I'm retired.
- 18 Q. We all wish we were you. Mr. Ricci, are you
- sometimes hired as a private consultant?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. Have you been hired as a private consultant by
- 22 Nevada Cogeneration Associates Numbers 1 and 2 in this case?
- 23 A. I don't work as a private consultant directly, I
- work as an intermediary through Jay Dixon.

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- 1 Q. And Mr. Dixon works for Nevada Cogeneration
- 2 Associates under consulting agreements; is that right?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 MR. FLANGAS: I have a copy of Mr. Ricci's CV. I
- 5 realize you've taken administrative notice, but I would like
- 6 to provide a copy for the witness to use if that's all right.
- 7 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Absolutely.
- 8 THE WITNESS: I have one.
- 9 MR. FLANGAS: Oh, you have a copy?
- 10 THE WITNESS: I do.
- 11 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Mr. Ricci has a copy
- of his own.
- MR. FLANGAS: Can we take administrative notice
- 14 of Mr. Ricci's CV which was marked as NCA2120 to 2121?
- 15 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yes, we'll take
- administrative notice of that, Mr. Flangas.
- MS. PETERSON: I think this was admitted, wasn't
- 18 it?
- MR. FLANGAS: Okay. Thank you.
- THE WITNESS: May I make one correction to that
- 21 is the letterhead, when I made a copy of it, I should have
- 22 taken the Ricci Engineering, Limited, which is no longer in
- 23 existence.
- MR. FLANGAS: Thank you.

- 1 report, you would be prepared to testify that yes, you did
- 2 have involvement in NCA's rebuttal work; correct?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. And essentially what was your involvement in the
- 5 rebuttal report just generally just for the purposes of
- 6 establishing a background here so we understand that?
- 7 A. My involvement mostly was just in the review of
- 8 what Mr. Coache and Mr. Dixon came to the conclusions.
- 9 Q. Review and consultation with them?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Okay. So you didn't do any independent testing
- or analysis on your own --
- 13 A. No, I did not.
- 14 Q. -- of the work in this report; correct?
- 15 A. I'm sorry, no, I did not.
- 16 Q. Okay. Now, Mr. Ricci, taking a look at your --
- 17 your CV if you would for a moment, you started with the Nevada
- 18 Division of Environmental Protection back in 1974?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. And you were actually a civil engineer, I'm
- sorry, before that for the Division of Highways?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. But then you joined the Nevada Division of Water
- 24 Resources in 1981?

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- 1 BY MR. FLANGAS:
- 2 Q. Now, Mr. Ricci, we're here today to determine
- 3 qualifications for you as an expert, but you recognize that
- 4 the witness statement provided by NCA, you're not being called
- 5 as a direct witness or not intended to be called as a direct
- 6 witness as part of NCA's case; correct?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. But we will make you available for
- 9 cross-examination as that was one of the requirements of the
- 10 ruling out of the Division of Water Resources for this
- 11 hearing; correct?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. So you will be available on the day that we
- 14 present on October 3rd; correct?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. We haven't been notified by anyone that we are --
- 17 you are subject to cross-examination at this point, no one's
- 18 identified that they intend to call you for cross-examination;
- 19 is that right?

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- 20 A. Not that I'm aware of.
- 21 Q. Okay. But if you're called for
- 22 cross-examination, at that point, if you were asked questions
- and you're asked questions as an expert as one who signed off
- 24 on the report which was submitted by NCA as NCA's rebuttal

1 A. Yes.

5

9

- 2 Q. And your CV indicates that you held various
- 3 positions with the Division from '81 until 2000, and it lists
- 4 all of the various things that you've done here.
 - Indicated in your CV, responsibilities included
- 6 but were not limited to approval of underground and surface
- 7 water uses, subdivision review, dam review and permitting,
- 8 making recommendations to the State Engineer on all issues
 - involving the engineering branch.
- During those years, '81 to 2000, I want to focus
- a little bit, and this is difficult because I know it's a long time ago, but the objection that was raised by -- by Lincoln
- The ago, but the objection that was falsed by by Elifeon
- 13 County is essentially that your -- your qualifications are
- objected to in a sense that you do not have any experience --
- and let me -- let me read this specifically.
- That you have no background, you don't have any
- 17 background, no specialized knowledge, professional degrees or
- 18 years of work experience in the proffered field of expertise.
- And the proffered field of expertise they're
- 20 talking about are experience in locating, designing or
- 21 constructing wells, well test design and analysis, hydrologic
- mapping, aquifer testing or data interpretation, water
- resource assessments or water resource management, groundwater resource studies, groundwater or surface water studies,

21 resource statics, groundwater or surface water statics

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- writing or developing hydrologic work plans, developing or
- conducting hydraulic tests, technical studies in reporting or 2
- similar work experience in the hydrology field. 3
- You saw that statement, didn't you, Mr. Ricci? 4
- A. Yes. 5
- 6 Q. Let me focus back on your CV for a moment. From
- 1981 to 2000 when you were approving underground and surface
- water usage doing subdivision review, dam review and
- permitting, did you have an opportunity to involve yourself 9
- with any resource assessments or resource management? 10
- 11 A. Excuse me, were you talking between 1981 and
- 2000? 12
- 13 Q. Yeah.
- 14 A. Okay. Because I was I was not approving any
- permits at that time, I was --
- Q. What was your job between '81 and 200? 16
- A. Okay. From 1981 until 1991, I was -- they had 17
- the division set up in two different groups. One was in the 18
- engineering section and the other one was the office section. 19
- I was in charge of the engineering section, which -- which 20
- dealt with mostly well drilling and those types of things. 21
- From 1991 to 2000, I was the Deputy State 22
- Engineer in which many of the issues that we dealt with were
- interpretation of data that we would receive -- or actually

- and drill wells?
- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. That wasn't a function of the State Engineer's
- Office?
- 5 A. No, it was not.
- 6 Q. In your experience, would it have assisted you as
- the State Engineer in making determinations as to -- water
- availability in a particular basin, would it have assisted you
- to know how to turn on a well drilling rig? 9
- 10 A. No.
- 11 Q. Would it have assisted you to know how to operate
- 12 a backhoe?
- A. No. 13
- 14 Q. Would that field experience have come in handy
- for you? 15

20

5

- 16 A. As far as assessment for water rights, no.
- Q. These are some of the objections, so I'm just
- sort of curious. 18
- In terms of your work as the State Engineer, 19
 - moving to 2000 to 2006, said the Division is responsible for
- quantifying existing water rights, monitoring water use, 21
- 22 distributing water in accordance with core degrees, reviewing
- water availability for new subdivisions and condominiums, 23
- 24 reviewing the construction and operation of dams,

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- not data, but evidence in the form of data received at appropriating geothermal water licensing and regulating well
- hearings, looking at that information and making a
- determination based on that information which was both
- hydrologic, groundwater and surface water and dealing with
- that to determine whether there was going to be the two things
- that the State Engineer originally were under -- under the
- statutes was, was there water available and was it going to 7
- have an impact on existing rights? And without -- without
- that type of information, you could not make some of those 9
- decisions. 10
- 11 Q. Looking at when you were involved in the
- engineering section and well drilling, did you have occasion 12
- to evaluate well construction and analysis? 13
- Well construction?
- 15 Q. Well construction?
- 16 A. No.
- Q. Did you have any involvement with any of the well
- -- well drillers and well -- were well drillers hired by the
- State Engineer's Office? 19
- 20 A. Well drillers --
- 21 Q. Well drillers?
- 22 A. Well drillers are required to have a license by
- the Division of Water Resources for drilling wells.
- 24 Q. Did anyone in the State Engineer's Office go out

- drillers and water right surveyors, reviewing flood control
- projects, monitoring resource data and records and providing
- technical assistance to public and governmental agencies. 4
 - Tell me how you carried out your function as
- State Engineer in terms of how did you perform a determination
- in reviewing water availability and whether a particular 7
- application for a permit was appropriate for approval? 8
- How did you perform that function as the State 9
- **Engineer?** 10
- 11 A. Okay. As I mentioned, the State Engineer was
- responsible to either -- upon any application either to 12
- approve it or deny it or deny it -- excuse me, approve it with 13
- conditions. 14
- So in every instance you had to look at each 15
- particular application and one, again, as I mentioned, was 16
- water available. So you would look at all the information 17
- that you had available to you for that particular application, 18
- whether it came through the individual studies that were 19
- 20 already previously done or studies that were performed for
- that specific project, and then make a determination as to 21
- whether that permit should be issued or not issued. 22
- Q. Were you evaluating hydrologic studies? 23
- 24 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. How did you have the understanding to evaluate
- hydrologic studies? When did you begin performing that test?
- 3 A. When -- when I became the Deputy State Engineer,
- I became much more involved in the hearing process. And
- within the hearing process, many of the times I actually 5
- attended the hearings and listened to the testimony and 6
- evidence of expert witnesses relating to that particular
- project, whether they were for the project or against the 8
- project. 9
- After that, all the information was assessed or 10
- submitted to the State Engineer, assessed and subsequently 11
- then made a determination as to whether -- or made a 12
- determination as to what to do with that particular part. 13
- And many times it included hydrologic studies, it 14
- included groundwater/surface water interaction, modeling, 15
- whatever else was necessary which to -- to again, go back to 16
- those two things as to whether there was water available and 17
- whether there was an impact on existing rights. 18
- Q. So I'm just curious. In terms of your CV, 19
- looking at your CV, between 1981 and 2000, did you do any 20
- evaluation of any hydrology between 1981 and 2000 or only 21
- after 2000 when you became State Engineer?
- 23 A. No, from about 1981 forward.
- **24** Q. From 1981 forward?

- hydrologic standpoint of whether there was going to be an
- impact on somebody else's well, what was going to be the
- impact on any surface water sources or what it was going to do
- to the overall groundwater basin.
- 5 Q. So if you were analyzing groundwater permits in
- 1991 through -- through your period of time as State Engineer
- in 2006, we're talking about a period of approximately looks 7
- like --
- 9 A. 16 years.
- 10 Q. -- 16 years?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. If a particular application for appropriation of
- additional groundwater in a basin was made, you were analyzing
- the hydrologic impacts of that groundwater withdrawal --
- 15 A. Yeah.
- 16 Q. -- if it was a new appropriation?
- 17 A. Yes.
- **18** Q. And hydrologic impacts of that groundwater
- withdrawal on surface water sources in that same basin?
- Yes.
- Q. And you would be responsible for performing that
- analysis to make sure that the approval of the permit would
- not be detrimental to the basin?
- 24 A. Myself and in consultation with others also in

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- Excuse me, excuse me, 1991 forward.
- 2 Q. Pardon me. 1991 forward?
- з A. Yes.

14

- 4 Q. 1991. Then explain just so that we understand,
- how did your duties change in 1991 so that you began
- evaluating the hydrology of the various applications?
- A. Again -- again, as I mentioned, I became much
- more involved with the whole process of assisting the State
- 9 Engineer in making a determination on -- on the evidence of
- testimony required or submitting to the State Engineer an 10
- analysis that was done internally as to whether that 11
- particular permit should be approved or denied. 12
- Q. And focus if you would, because I think the panel 13 here needs to focus on the hydrology aspects. When you say
- whether the permit should be approved or denied, not just on 15
- policy grounds, I'm talking about the hydrology aspects. 16
- If a particular permit would have an adverse 17
- effect on adjacent water right holders or adjacent wells, did 18
- you have to do an analysis of those things in determining 19
- 20 whether a permit should be approved?
- A. Yes. But you mentioned, you know, policy and --21
- and hydrology. The -- the -- there was no policy involved as 22
- to whether the permit should be issued. 23
- You have to look at from the -- from the 24

- the agency.
- 2 Q. Did you have occasion to deny certain permits?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. And on what basis would you deny a permit?
- 5 A. Again, going back to the -- I keep going back to
- the same two things, water availability and impacts on
- existing rights.
- 8 Q. What sort of -- when you're making a water
- availability determination, is that a hydrologic
- determination? 10
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Based on recharge?
- 13 A. Recharge and the amount of water that's already
- pumped from that particular -- or excuse me, not pumped, but 14
- 15 how many permits are also -- had been issued in that -- in
- that basin. 16
- Q. The suggestion, however, is that you have no 17
- background or years of work experience in groundwater recharge 18
- studies; is that an accurate statement, sir? 19
- 20 A. No.
- 21 Q. Can you give us an example of areas where you've
- had to analyze ground -- groundwater recharge? 22
- A. I -- I cannot --
- 24 Q. In the permits that you were working on?

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- 1 A. I cannot tell you the specific instance. But in
- some instances the Division of Water Resources used a series
- of reports that were done in cooperation with the U.S. 3
- geologic survey and the Division of Water Resources called
- recognizance reports. And there was a recharge/discharge 5
- calculation that was done in there and made an available 6
- amount of water based on the perennial yield. 7
- From that, some -- some Applicants would submit 8
- to the State Engineer new data that possibly could alter that 9
- number and provided those to the State Engineer for his 10
- analysis to determine whether those were based -- or those 11
- were in -- in concert with what already had been done or even 12
- more. 13
- 14 Q. And you had to analyze those -- the new data in
- comparison to the recon reports to see --
- 16 A. Yes.
- Q. -- whether the new data supplied would justify a 17
- greater perennial yield --
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. -- for example?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. I doubt that anyone supplied you with reports
- that showed there was a lesser perennial yield, at least from
- the Applicant side?

- essentially the 15, 16 years that you did that same job at the
- State Engineer's Office?
- 3 A. Yes. And the -- the essence of the whole reason
- that we were here -- we are here is a -- an order that was
- issued by the Division of Water Resources while I was the 5
- State Engineer in performing the analysis of what was going on 6 7
 - in these particular areas.

And the very issue -- the very issue that's going 8

on today is exactly the reason why order 1169 was issued was 9 to determine what was going to happen in public. 10

And that all came about as a result of the

hearing that was held in review of those Coyote Springs 12

investments, applications and finding that there was -- after 13

14 reviewing all of the information on both the Applicant side

and the Protestant side, this coming up and saying well, gosh, 15

is there enough information here to say what's going to happen 16

if these permits are granted and subsequently years later have 17

to say, whoops, I'm sorry, you made a mistake and we'll do --18

we have to have a redo. 19

So that -- to me that is the essence of this 20

whole -- this whole process that we're going through now is

22 after that data has been -- after that data's been collected

23 from the -- the two-year pump test -- I must say that the pump

24 tests never occurred while I was still the State Engineer.

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- 1 A. That -- that is correct.
- 2 Q. Perhaps from the protesting side you would obtain
- those on occasion?
- A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And you had to analyze those as well?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And would you perform that analysis?
- A. Yes. Again, as I mentioned earlier, in
- conjunction with others within the office.
- 10 Q. In order to do the assessment of the particular
- rebuttal report here and the conclusions that were reached by 11
- Mr. Coache and Mr. Dixon here, what specifically did you need 12
- 13
- 14 A. Well, in the review of the report, I looked at
- the conclusions and reviewed the analysis that reached that 15
- conclusion and came up with -- I -- I concurred with those 16
- particular -- those particular conclusions. 17
- Q. So again, the signature on the report was 18
- essentially a concurrence with the conclusions and a 19
- concurrence with the analysis? 20
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. And that's based on again the years of experience
- 23 that you have doing the same -- the same type of analysis and
- 24 the same type of hydrologic evaluation that you performed for

- I had retired and also Mr. Coache who is also --1
- is also mentioned in this -- in this objections was also
- retired at that time. So I don't know the -- and let me back
- 4 up.

5

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11

- In that ruling, all of these applications were
- put in abeyance to determine what might happen if these
- permits would be issued. So then -- subsequently then Jason
- King who is the State Engineer denied all of them after the 8
 - pump test had been done.
 - So again, I point to that is to say that

without -- without the interpretation that -- that I had along 11 with others in the office, we would have never come to that 12

conclusion.

We would have either said yes or no and then we would have been -- probably challenged in either way, but we

came up with what we thought was the best conclusion.

17 There have been many other instances that I've

been involved with as far as making a determination. Back 18

19 when I first became the Deputy State Engineer we were involved

20 in an interbasin transfer of water from Northern Washoe County

21 to the Truckee Meadows, three-year study done by the United

22 States geologic survey in cooperation with the Division of

Water Resources of which I attended quarterly meetings on 23 24

updates to that study as to whether there was additional

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- things that should be involved in that study or not.
- Subsequently, we had a hearing which went on for 2
- I believe -- I don't remember, 15 days or so. And based on 3
- the evidence and testimony we made a decision.
- Other hydrologic studies that I've been involved 5
- with -- I say these are hydrologic studies from the fact that 6
- the Division of Water Resources never did them. We ordered
- somebody to do them. 8
- And we just didn't say okay, well, the 9
- conclusions of this report of the study is what we should do. 10
- We had to analyze that entire data. 11
- And the one that I can think of mostly are mine 12
- dewater projects and what impact they have to the alluvium and 13
- what impact they had to surface water sources. And if they 14
- did have some impact to the surface water sources what could 15
- be done to mitigate them. 16
- In a particular one where there was -- in 17
- Northern Nevada there was a well that went dry -- excuse me, a 18
- spring that went dry. We had to find a way to mitigate that 19
- particular spring. 20
- We also had to locate recharge basins so that the 21
- water that they were pumping out and not utilizing from the 22
- dewatering project would go back into the -- into the 23
- groundwater from where it came, from the same basin in which

- individuals; right?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. In your opinion --
- 4 A. In my --
- 5 Q. -- you believe they're also qualified to do this
- work?
- 7 A. In my opinion, yes.
- 8 Q. In all the years that you performed those same
- analysis of reports that were provided to the State Engineer
- that you said the State Engineer didn't independently do the 10
- reports, but then independently had to evaluate and assess 11
- 12 those reports that were provided to the State Engineers by the
- Protestants and by Applicants who were asking the State 13
- 14 Engineer to evaluate the hydrology of particular applications
- and particular projects, mine dewatering, water transfers, 15
- applications for permits to appropriate. 16
- Were you performing essentially the same types of 17
- task? 18
- A. Yes. 19
- Q. Do you feel that you have the expertise to
- perform that task for the review of the NCA rebuttal report
- here? 22
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 MR. FLANGAS: I have no further questions.

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- it came.
- 2 Q. How do you make those determinations if you're
- not performing hydrologic analysis?
- A. Say that again?
- 5 Q. How would you make those determinations if you're
- not performing a hydrologic analysis?
- 7 A. How I would say you are performing a hydrologic
- analysis.

14

- Q. In performing your -- last question, Mr. Ricci.
- In performing your duties as State Engineer and in performing 10
- your duties as Deputy State Engineer, and in all the years 11
- you've talked about in participating as part of the team that 12
- analyzed these reports and provided recommendations to the 13 Deputy State Engineer and the State Engineer, before you were
- Deputy and State Engineer, were you performing hydrologic 15
- analysis similar to what you did when you worked on this 16
- report with Mr. Coache and Mr. Dixon? 17
- 18 A. I'm going to see if I can --
- 19 Q. Is that too long of a question?
- 20 A. Yes, yeah.
- Okay. I'm sorry. You know what you did here to 21 Q.
- sign off on this report?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. Analyze the work of two other qualified

- **HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Ms. Peterson?** 1
- 2 MS. PETERSON: Thank you.
- **CROSS-EXAMINATION** 3
- BY MS. PETERSON:
- Q. Mr. Ricci, Karen Peterson representing Lincoln
- County Water District and Vidler Water Company. And I do have
- a couple questions. 7
- Would you liken your description of your job and 8
- your assessment of these hydrologic studies and
- groundwater/surface water interaction -- interaction studies, 10
- I guess, that you reviewed while you were the State Engineer, 11
- would you liken that to like a judge hearing evidence in a 12
- case, in a court case? 13
 - I mean, you didn't perform the work yourself, I
- think you agreed to that; right? 15
- MR. FLANGAS: Objection, compound, multiple 16 questions.
- 17 THE WITNESS: What is the question again? 18
- MS. PETERSON: Your Honor, may --19
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Please go ahead. 20
- BY MS. PETERSON: 21
- Q. Mr. Ricci, you said in response to questions from 22
- your counsel that you eval -- as State Engineer you -- in --23
- in hearings, I got the impression it was mainly in hearings, 24

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- but in granting water right applications and determining if
- the water was available so that you could grant a water 2
- application and determine that if there was any impact on 3
- existing rights, you asked Applicants or Protestants to
- provide information to you like hydrologic studies or an 5
- evaluation of the groundwater/surface water interactions; is
- that correct?
- A. Yes. 8
- Q. And -- and you working for the State Engineer's 9
- Office did not perform that work -- excuse me, yourself; is 10
- that correct? 11
- 12 A. That is correct.
- Q. And you were a fact finder because you were the 13
- State Engineer, you were making determinations on water right 14
- applications; is that correct? 15
- 16 A. Yes.
- Q. And isn't that similar, you know, to a judge that 17
- hears cases and there's evidence brought in front of the judge 18
- and the judge listens to all the evidence and then the judge 19
- or the jury make a determination, would you agree that your 20
- roles are similar? 21
- A. I would say it's different than being a judge,
- because a judge is the law. I'm only interpreting the law. 23
- Okay.

- hydrologist that's hired by the State Engineer's office?
- 2 A. Is there a difference? Is that what you --
- 3 Q. Is there a difference in experience, skill,
- education?
- 5 A. Well, a hydrologist has a hydrologist degree. I
- do not have a hydrology degree. I have a civil engineering
 - degree. 7
 - Q. And your office recognizes -- I mean, I guess --
- well, the law, to be a State Engineer, says you have to be a
- licensed engineer; is that correct? 10
- A. Yes. 11
- 12 Q. It doesn't say you have to be a licensed
- hydrologist. Would you agree with that? 13
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. All right. And there's a difference, there's a
- distinction between those professions and this office. Would
- you agree with that in the job descriptions? 17
- 18 A. Yes.
- Q. Would you agree -- I think you said that you read 19
- the field experience that was described on page 1 to 2 of our
- objection. Did you read that? 21
- 22 Do you have our objections in front of you?
- A. It reads, "they do not hold degrees in hydrology
- and have no direct work experience in the field of hydrology

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- And the information that is given to me, I use it 1
- as the law provides me to do so or the statutes allow me to do
- so. And then I make a determination on that. I am not the
- final arbiter of any particular application because the
- statute allows any person aggrieved may file an appeal to that
- particular decision. So I am not the final decision.
- Q. Right. But what I'm getting at is your role and
- when you get this information and you're evaluating it is
- similar to a judge where you're a fact finder. Would you 9
- agree with that? 10
- 11 A. I'm a fact finder for determining what to do,
- yes.
- 13 Q. Right. And you're --
- 14 A. But --
- 15 Q. And you didn't do any of the underlying work?
- 16 A. No.
- Q. And I mean, if a judge reads medical reports, we
- wouldn't say that the judge is a doctor, would we?
- 19 A. No.
- 20 Q. Just because he read medical reports?
- 21 A. No, but he'd have -- he would have to understand
- the basis of that. 22
- 23 Q. And in your mind, is there a difference between
- an engineer, a licensed professional engineer and a

- listed in their resumes".
- 2 Q. Right.
- 3 A. "And they do not have background, specialized
- knowledge". I have a professional degree.
- 5 Q. Right. But not in hydrology; right?
- 6 A. Oh, in the field -- okay. You're referencing in
- the field of hydrology. No, I do not have a professional
- degree in hydrology.
- Q. Right. Their -- I mean, you're being offered as
- groundwater and surface water hydrology expert? 10
- 11 A. Well, I think my background, my background of
- 16 years of reviewing information surely would -- surely 12
- should count for something. 13
- Q. I agree. I agree. But the field -- you don't
- 15 have direct field experience, would you agree, in the areas
- that I've listed at the bottom here of page 1 to the top of 16
- page 2? 17
- **18** A. I would disagree on water resource assessments
- and water resource management specifically.
- 20 Q. Okay. But the other areas are basically
- accurate?
- 22 A. That I have no field experience?
- 23 Q. Correct.
- 24 A. Yes.

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- 1 Q. Would you agree that you relied on Mr. Dixon's
- 2 conclusions in your report in the rebuttal report as the
- 3 expert hydrologist?
- 4 A. I -- yes, I would say based on my experience and
- 5 the review of that report, I would -- I concurred with his
- 6 conclusions.
- 7 Q. And Mr. Dixon has been recognized by the State
- 8 Engineer as a licensed hydrologist; is that correct?
- 9 A. I couldn't answer that.
- 10 Q. Or not as a licensed, as an expert in hydrology;
- 11 is that correct?
- 12 A. I have no -- I have no knowledge of that.
- MS. PETERSON: I don't have anything further.
- 14 Thank you.
- 15 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Do you have any
- 16 questions, Adam?
- 17 EXAMINATION
- 18 BY MR. SULLIVAN:
- 19 Q. Yes, Mr. Ricci. So you don't have a degree in
- 20 hydrology or hydrogeology. Do you have any formal
- 21 certification or training in those fields?
- 22 A. No, just work experience.
- 23 Q. Just work experience. And so you had 16 years of
- 24 experience reviewing reports and this was before our time.

- 1 any independent opinion or conclusion in Nevada Cogen
- 2 Associates' rebuttal report; is that correct?
- 3 A. No. All I did review -- all I did was review it
- 4 and concurred with their conclusions.
- 5 Q. And so in your -- your involvement in the
- 6 rebuttal report was -- your involvement did not involve the
- 7 performance of any interpretation of the data in formulating
- 8 an independent opinion other than those expressed?
- 9 A. No. All I did was just review the data that had
- 10 been submitted as part of the rebuttal report -- I mean,
- 11 excuse me, reviewed the report as to the data that was
- supplied in that report, and it seemed consistent with my
- 13 background.
- 14 Q. And, Mr. Ricci, in your experience within the
- 15 Division of Water Resources and in your position as Deputy
- 16 State Engineer and State Engineer, you certainly met then that
- 17 experience provides you an understanding, an overall
- 18 comprehension of water management, you know, on a larger
- 19 scale; is that correct?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. But in terms of the specific, you know,
- 22 application of that, of those individual disciplines outside
- of your engineering background in terms of performing
- 24 hydrologic calculations analyses, do you have any education

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- Can you give examples of hydrologic or
- 2 hydrogeologic analyses that you personally did while you were
- 3 here?

1

- 4 A. I'm assuming you are asking me if I took the data
- 5 myself and made my own -- looked at it only through my eyes
- 6 and with no other assistance. Is that what you're asking me?
- 7 Q. Yes. I'm wondering if you can recall doing
- 8 original analysis, given hydrologic data or hydrogeologic
- 9 data, or if your experience was in reviewing the work of
- 10 others to make water rights decisions regarding the
- availability of water or potential facts on existing rights?
- 12 A. In every instance that I spoke to is review of
- other people's works. Nothing that I did myself.
- 14 Q. And in your time at working at the State
- 15 Engineer's office, did you employ hydrologists or
- 16 hydrogeologists?
- 17 A. Yes. Do I need to further elaborate?
- 18 Q. No, that was my question.
- 19 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Mr. Ricci, I have a
- 20 couple questions.
- THE WITNESS: Sure.
- 22 EXAMINATION
- BY HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK:
- 24 Q. So if I understand correctly, you did not render

- 1 and experience in those particular calculations in performance
- 2 of those functions?
- 3 MR. FLANGAS: I'm sorry, you said education and
- 4 experience. I think that's -- in my mind, that's compound.
- 5 I'm sorry, I have to object to that.
- 6 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Education or
- 7 experience. It's what -- did he have --
 - MR. FLANGAS: You said "and".
- 9 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Well, then let me
- 10 clarify it, Mr. Flangas, for you.
 - MR. FLANGAS: Okay. Thank you. Thank you.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: I don't believe it was
- 13 a compound question.
 - MR. FLANGAS: Sorry.
- 15 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: But certainly I'll
- 16 clarify it for you.
- 17 MR. FLANGAS: Sorry.
- THE WITNESS: Okay. As far as the educational
 - portion of it, the only thing I can refer back to is any
- 20 college courses that I may have had in hydrology.
- BY HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK:
- 22 Q. And what college courses did you take in
- 23 hydrology?
- 24 A. Whatever the requirement was at the time for an

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- engineering degree. I mean, you have to realize that was
- 55 years ago. So I am going to plead ignorance to that one 2
- because I really don't recall. 3
- But as far as then, going back to the experience 4
- again, it is just what I was able to glean from people who 5
- were knowledgeable in hydrology to be able to learn from them. 6
- Q. Okay. Thank you. 7
- MR. FLANGAS: I'm sorry. I hope you understand 8
- it's -- there is a distinction there in the question. If I 9
- didn't make the point, then my witness might be confused by 10
- the answer. So thank you. 11
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Mr. Flangas, do you 12
- have anything further? 13
- MR. FLANGAS: I was just going to ask Mr. Ricci 14
- one or two questions if I could. 15
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Okay. Go right on 16
- 17
- FURTHER REDIRECT EXAMINATION 18
- BY MR. FLANGAS: 19
- Q. Mr. Ricci, in terms of specific hydrologic 20
- analysis, when you are evaluating the impacts on the 21
- groundwater basin in your role as Deputy State Engineer and 22
- advising the State Engineer and in your role as State 23
- Engineer, are you evaluating the impacts using your analytical

- 1 Q. And the question I think the State would ask you,
- though, is: Did you simply rely on someone in the State's
- office who was a hydrologist to give you the answer or did you
- perform the analysis?
- 5 A. Well, I was assisted obviously. I mean, I took
- everybody's information because every issue -- everything that
- ever went out of this office was done under the State 7
- Engineer's name in which I was responsible for that. And I 8
- had to make sure that I understood what was going on in that 9
- particular decision. 10
- 11 Q. So you had to understand the analysis?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. Thank you. Appreciate that.
- 14 MR. FLANGAS: That's all I have.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Okay. Let's go ahead 15
- and take a brief five-minute recess. 16
- (Recess at 4:15 p.m.) 17
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So we go back on the 18
- record. So, Mr. Flangas, again, I think we're still --19
- there's a little bit of confusion. 20
- We understand that the objection raised to Mr. 21
- 22 Ricci was based upon the objection of having him qualified as
- an expert in hydrology. 23
- 24 And so I guess we haven't received real clear

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- 1 abilities to evaluate the data in front of you or are you --
- did you simply accept all of the hydrology that was provided
- to you by other hydrologists?
- A. No. As I mentioned earlier, you took the
- information and you analyzed it as to were there any errors in
- that particular thought process. And in -- if you had
- 7 conflicting information, then you made a determination as to
- what information was sound and what information possibly was
- not sound. 9
- 10 Q. So were you performing the -- were you performed
- analysis when you were doing that? 11
- 12 A. Oh, yes, yes.
- Q. You weren't simply relying on the hydrologists at 13
- the State Engineer's office and what they told you it said?
- 15 A. I have to relate back to certain hearings. And
- you had, at one side, saying I want to do this one, one side 16
- saying, no, you shouldn't be able to do this, and both of them 17
- had their reports and you -- I can tell you that the side that 18
- said that they wanted it provided all the information that 19
- 20 they said they -- that's why it should be done.
- The person on the other side says that's why it 21
- shouldn't be done, and you had to take that and make a 22
- determination based on the best analysis that you could make 23
- of that data from both sides. 24

- clarification from you with respect to what are the specific
- 2 disciplines in which you're proffering Mr. Ricci as an expert.
- MR. FLANGAS: Well, my witness statement says --3
- and this is exactly, "each of these witnesses is proffered as
- an expert in the areas of groundwater and surface water
- hydrology, water rights, and to the extent necessary, the
- application of Nevada water laws affecting Nevada water 7
- rights." 8
- 9 To the extent the report calls for an analysis of
- groundwater and surface water hydrology, he signed off on the 10
 - report. We're not calling Mr. Ricci as a witness to testify
- directly. 12

11

20

- But to the extent that he signed off as an 13
- engineer on the report, he concurs with the conclusions in the 14
- 15 report. So I'm offering him as an author of the report in
- those areas. 16
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Are you -- so you're 17
- -- but are you offering him as an expert in surface water and 18
- groundwater hydrology? 19 MR. FLANGAS: Yes.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Then on that basis, 21
- 22 Mr. Ricci clearly has extensive experience in reviewing the
- 23 work of other individuals and being involved in the process.
- And Mr. Ricci's experience certainly is understanding on a 24

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But Mr. Ricci's testimony clearly indicates that
he did not perform the independent hydrologic analysis
himself. He relied on -- as part of a team and that's -those are the qualities of a good State Engineer.

A good State Engineer compiles a team of individuals who are experts and who have that specialized knowledge that they can rely upon in rendering decisions that they can feel confident in signing off on.

And so it's -- and, you know, with absolute respect to Mr. Ricci's experience and how that certainly translates into his role in managing the water resources and water management within the State, whether or not that rises to the specific discipline of groundwater and surface water hydrology, for the purposes of this particular hearing, we're not going to qualify him in that particular discipline.

I don't recall that there was any line of testimony with respect to his specific experience with respect to water rights. He did talk about generally the water rights process. We will qualify him with respect to the issues of water rights.

With respect to his expertise in Nevada water law, Mr. Ricci didn't provide any testimony with respect to his experience in interpreting and analyzing Nevada water law

That's the statutory job of the State Engineer,to take the Nevada statutes and apply them to the applications

3 before the State Engineer, which is, you know, perhaps not the

4 focus of this phase of the hearing. That's my understanding.

5 That's not the focus of this phase of the hearing. But to the extent that I'm offering Mr. Ricci at some point for that,

then we'll have to address that at that point, I guess.

HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: We'll certainly revisit it.

MR. FLANGAS: I'm not sure if that's the ruling you're making that he's not qualified to do that portion -- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: We're not going -- MR. FLANGAS: But certainly not as a legal

conclusion, the way a Judge would do it, because I don't think anyone is qualified to take that role.

HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: So, Mr. Flangas, so as I've repeatedly stated, the purpose of these -- this particular proceeding and this particular phase is -- and as I stated, that the decisions that we're making with respect to Mr. Ricci are limited to these proceedings right here and now, before us.

And with respect to those further issues, those will be addressed as we -- as this particular matter proceeds and how -- in whatever form it does.

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out -- you know, from a legal analysis. He didn't express any
legal training or legal degree.

And I -- and those two, quite candidly, I think
qualifies legal opinions, which we're not going to go ahead
and qualify an expert in that particular discipline because
those are legal decisions, legal opinions that'll be not left
to the expertise of experts, and certainly those types of
issues are going to be beyond the scope of this particular

hearing in those four particular matters.

And that's not saying that we're not -- that, you know, these are decisions that are, you know, specific and limited to this particular proceeding with respect to Mr. Ricci.

MR. FLANGAS: I don't think anyone is qualified to be an expert. I mean, just for the record, I don't think anyone is qualified to be an expert in Nevada water law. You can't call an attorney to the stand to testify about water law if they're the most qualified person in the United States. A Judge makes determinations on water law, period.

When it comes to the application of Nevada water law to permits, that's the job of the State Engineer. That is exactly what the State Engineer does. So that's -- that was the reason it was proffered in that fashion, is the application of Nevada water law to Nevada water rights.

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But I thought I made myself fairly clear that the decision that we are making with respect to this particular proceeding and that we're not going to qualify anybody in -- as an expert in water law.

The application of Nevada water law to pending permits or applications or anything of that nature is not -- is beyond the scope of this particular proceeding. Okay? And so you can go ahead and move onto your next.

9 MR. FLANGAS: I would call Robert Coache who is 10 in Las Vegas.

HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Okay.

MR. FLANGAS: I do have a document that I'll have to mark up here.

HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Is this a document that is -- been provided with respect to the additional disclosures?

MR. FLANGAS: No, it's not. I just received it from Mr. Coache in response to the objections that we got to his qualifications.

HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: We're not going to take any new evidence with respect to it. So you're certainly -- you know, we're not going to accept any new evidence.

The deadline for filing documents to be under

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- consideration for the State Engineer has already passed and
- we've told other parties that we're not accepting additional 2
- evidence with respect to these proceedings, so --3
- MR. FLANGAS: The objection was only raised to
- Mr. Coache after the deadline was -- just so -- for the 5
- record, I want to make an objection to that. The objection to
- Mr. Coache was raised after the deadline for submission of
- documents. I didn't know that Mr. Coache was going to be 8
- objected to. This is a response to that objection, so --9
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: I appreciate that, but 10
- we've made a decision with respect to other parties that we're 11
- not adding additional documents to the record with respect to 12
- these particular proceedings. 13
- Mr. Coache has supplied a resume. You're going 14
- to be able to examine him and articulate his qualifications 15
- with respect to the particular objections that were raised. 16
- The objecting party will be permitted to cross -- you know, 17
- voir dire Mr. Coache. 18
- MR. FLANGAS: I understand. 19
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: And we'll proceed on 20
- this basis. 21
- MR. FLANGAS: Okay. I just wanted it on the 22
- record. Mr. Coache, do you -- can you hear us from up -- from 23
- down there?

- and it was in watershed science, bachelor of science in
- watershed science.
- 3 Q. Could you tell the State Engineer -- I'm sorry,
- could you tell the hearing officer here what watershed science
- degree entails?
- 6 A. It's a bachelor of science and hydrology.
- 7 Q. Could you be a little bit more specific in terms
- of the overall things that you studied in that particular
- degree? 9
- 10 A. Are you talking like course work?
- 11 Q. Yes, please.
- 12 A. Okay. I actually brought a list for you, but I
- thought you'd have something like that. Soils and water in 13
- 14 the environment, studied environmental law, weather and
- climate, watershed instrumentation, watershed management, 15
- water -- wild and water quality, watershed water quality, 16
- small watershed hydrology, watershed analysis and planning, 17
- applied to hydraulics, range hydrology, engineering hydrology, 18
- watershed science probabilities, and then some other core 19
- classes like in writing, technical reports and things of that 20
- 22 Q. When did you obtain that degree, sir?
- 23 A. Let's see here. 1981.
- 24 Q. Okay. Now, in your CV, there's a note. We

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- THE WITNESS: Yes. 1
- MR. FLANGAS: Okay. Could you -- do you want to 2
- swear the witness, ma'am? 3
- ROBERT COACHE. 4
- called as a witness in this matter, 5
- having been first duly sworn, 6
- testified as follows: 7
- **DIRECT EXAMINATION**
- BY MR. FLANGAS: 9
- 10 Q. Could you state your name for the record, please?
- 11 A. Robert Coache, C-O-A-C-H-E.
- 12 Q. Mr. Coache, what's your occupation?
- 13 A. Currently I'm retired and I have a hydrologic
- consulting company.
- 15 Q. What's the name of that company?
- 16 A. Hydrotech Consulting Services, LLC.
- 17 Q. Okay. Do you have a copy of your CV in front of
- you that was submitted to the State Engineer?
- 19 A. Yes, I do.
- 20 Q. For these proceedings?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. Okay. Mr. Coache, where did you receive your
- degree and what was it in?
- 24 A. I received my degree from Utah State University

- should probably make a correction. You have May of 1980 to
- May of 1980, hydrology research aid. Is that a typographical
- error?
- A. Yes, I apologize. It should be May of 1980 to
- May of 1981.
- 6 Q. And you said you were a hydrology research aid.
- Who were you working with; do you remember?
- A. I was working for Professor Gerald Gifford.
- Q. When you say that you were studying hydrology in
- watershed science, Gerald Gifford wrote a letter for you in 10
- 1981. It was a referral letter; is that right? 11
- 12 A. That is correct.
- 13 Q. And in that letter, he indicated that --
- MS. PETERSON: Objection, hearsay. 14
- 15 MR. FLANGAS: Well, this is an informal --
- MS. PETERSON: You're trying to get into 16
- evidence, the evidence that is not allowed to be admitted. 17
- MR. FLANGAS: I'm trying to qualify my expert at 18
- a hearing that we were called to qualify an expert. I'm 19
- 20 asking him some questions about his background. Everything
- we're talking about today is additional evidence that was not 21
- submitted on September 6th. 22
- MS. PETERSON: But for the record, you're reading 23
- right from the letter that we tried to introduce and --24

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- MR. FLANGAS: That's exactly what I'm doing. 1
- MS. PETERSON: And the hearing officer said that 2
- that information couldn't be introduced as an exhibit. So you 3
- shouldn't be allowed to introduce it then through your
- questions and testimony. 5
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Objection is 6 sustained. 7
- MR. FLANGAS: Okay. 8
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Please move on, 9
- Mr. Flangas. 10
- BY MR. FLANGAS: 11
- Q. Mr. Coache, in your CV from 1981 to 1990, you 12
- indicate that you were a hydraulic engineer and a hydraulic 13
- engineer II at NDWR for approximately nine years. Can you 14
- tell us what that entailed? 15
- A. Pretty much as I stated in my CV. We collected 16
- all kinds of field data, prepared just tons of data for crop 17
- inventories, collected groundwater information. That was 18
- pre-Excel, pre-computers. 19
- For a lot of the office, we didn't have stuff, 20
- then we created hydrographs by hand at that time. Collected 21
- precip data throughout southern Nevada, measured spring stream 22
- discharge rates in southern Nevada, you know, the -- started 23
- out in measuring stuff in Muddy River Springs. 24

- 1 Q. Okay. 1990 to 1996, you have your -- you have
- listed as NDWR hydrologist. Can you tell us what your duties
- entailed there?
- 4 A. A lot of the same duties. I was -- my level of
- responsibility was increased at that time and it was more
- independent working and working directly with Carson City on 6
- projects, and then also was responsible for the Las Vegas
- Valley Water District groundwater recharge program at that 8
- time, analyzing that data, meeting with those folks and 9
- drafting for mid terms and/or other terms of what the data 10
- 11 collection was going to be for each of the recharge permits.
- analyze expert reports and write my summaries and make the 13
- recommendations based on my interpretation of the information 14
- to Hugh -- excuse me, to Mr. Ricci and/or Mr. Turnipseed at 15
- 16

12

17

- I did start, at that time, being able to sit at
- the table up front where these folks are at today, going 18
- through and sitting at hearings and, you know, taking notes 19
- and getting my -- wrapping my arms around the entire process 20
- of what's required to evaluate data in compliance with the 21
- Nevada statutes. 22
- Q. When you say "in compliance with Nevada
- statutes," what are you referring to? 24

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- That was the first -- well, within the first week 1
- of my starting work in November of '81. I went out to the
- Muddy River Springs area and we were taking the equipment off
- of the flumes and stuff out there from the original MX-5 pump 4
- 5
- I conducted informal/formal field investigations,
- kind of seeing where property's at, where water is at, what's
- going on with these applications, making recommendations at
- that time at a very low level obviously. 9
- And then actually on the one with Jason and some 10
- other people that I've seen install the flumes that are in the 11
- Muddy River Springs area to this day. 12
- Q. Sir, what's a hydrograph? 13
- A. Hydrograph is a plot over an XY axis, showing
- what -- the X axis being time and the Y axis being depth to 15
- groundwater for four measurements from a well or to be a 16
- hydrograph of spring stream or river flows also, showing the 17
- rate of flow of the river at that time. 18
- 19 Q. And between 1981 and 1990, did you do both of
- 20 those?
- 21 A. Mostly groundwater hydrographs is what we did.
- We did some minor stuff on transfer data in the Muddy River 22
- Springs area, because the -- there was recorders on those 23
- flumes when those measurements were taken. 24

- 1 A. Well, there's parameters that require -- that are
- required to be met to issue a permit. So it's is
- unappropriated water available, is it going to impair existing
- rights, is it detrimental to the public interests, or is it
- going to impair domestic wells.
- The domestic well parameter wasn't always in 6
- there at that time, but the first couple were. And so you had
- to obviously make a determination if the perennial yield was
- available to issue the permit, and then also make a 9
- determination within reason of what the -- because this -- the 10
- statute allows for reasonable lowering of the water table. 11
- So you had to make a determination on what those 12 impacts were and how adverse the effects could be on 13
- neighboring wells or to the entire system. 14
- Q. How did you make a determination of what the 15
- impacts were? Were you performing a hydrologic analysis? 16
- A. Through hydrologic analysis, I've taken the 17
- position, you know, when all the reports come in and stuff, 18
- I've read thousands and thousands of pages of reports and 19
- 20 reviewed them.
- I always took the position that none of them 21
- pretty much were accurate and went through to prove or 22
- 23 disprove what was in those reports, did my own analysis many
- times, followed their chain -- their train of thought on what 24

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Let's see. What else did I do there? I did

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- they were doing, and then we would -- I would sit down with
- the State Engineer or Hugh or whatever and make somewhat --2
- what I thought about everything. 3
- Q. Would you perform an independent hydrologic
- analysis based on the data provided?
- A. I cross-checked their data and/or performed
- independent analysis sometimes, yes.
- Q. How many times do you think you did that in the
- entire time you were with the State Engineer's office?
- 10 A. I couldn't even look at how many times I've done
- stuff. You know, looking at projects, how -- you know, some 11
- projects were continuous. A lot. I mean, you know, very -- a 12
- lot. 13
- 14 Q. Can you give us a little more specific
- information than that? I mean, are we talking about once a 15
- year? Are we talking about once a month? 16
- A. Oh, again, it would depend on what was happening. 17
- But it could be, you know, several times during a month or --18
- and, you know, it could be stretched out over more time. But 19
- if something -- you know, if there was a lull in big projects 20
- or permits or, excuse me, applications that were being heard. 21
- Q. And that was over a period of several years?
- A. Oh, yes, absolutely. Well, that started in 1990,
- pretty much, and it just increased with responsibility. And

- passed that and then went and did a little bit of extra
- studying and passed the PE test based on the information I had
- in my hydrology background. 3
- And then -- so I became a registered professional 4
- engineer. After I got that registration, I got promoted to 5
- run the southern Nevada branch office as that professional 6
- engineer, to run that office.

- Southern Nevada Division of Water Resources in the Las Vegas 10
- Valley hydrographic basin artificial recharge program. Did 11
- you evaluate that program? 12
- 14 Q. Independently?
- A. Independently. I was the only person working on 15
- 17
- 18 O. When --
- A. And I'll build some more off of that. 19
- 20
- 22 2001, I was the person that sat with Hugh for the original --
- 23 as he was talking about the original CSI hearings and Southern
- Nevada Water Authority hearings.

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- as time went by, the degree of review and the degree of -- you 1 And I'm the one that did the analysis of the
- know, the light that was shined on this stuff just got
- brighter and brighter and brighter as time went by because we
- had fewer and fewer resources.
- So from 1990 on, these things got more 5
- complicated, more complex, and those reviews changed with that
- as it went. 7

1

- Q. Did you continue to perform your own independent
- reviews?
- 10 A. I didn't hear that, sir.
- 11 Q. Did you continue to perform your own independent
- reviews? 12
- 13 A. Throughout that, yes. As you come up to the
- next -- my next phase, when I -- ask me that question when we
- go to the next job on the resume. 15
- Q. When you're an NDWR Manager II, registered 16
- professional engineer, '96 through 2006? 17
- 18 A. Yes, sir.
- 19 Q. Did you continue to perform independent reviews
- during that time? 20
- A. Yes. And while I have a -- I have a degree in 21
- hydrology, I went at that time a little bit -- it was about a 22
- year before that, I had -- well, starting a couple years 23
- before that, I went and I studied up and took the EIT test, 24

- information provided by SNWA and CSI, Park Service, and the
- Fish and Wildlife Service that made the recommendation to Hugh
- that I didn't believe there was water sufficient for these 4
- applications and that's how we decided to do the 11 -- order
- the 1169 pump test.
- Q. That was based on a hydrologic analysis that you
- performed?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. From June of 2000 -- July of 2006 to May 2010,
- you were Deputy State Engineer?
- 12 A. Yes, I was.
- 13 Q. And what were your duties in that role?
- 14 A. Again, a lot of the same duties, but more
- responsibility. So I was the head of the team at that time 15
- that -- I was involved in the pipeline -- we called it the 16
- pipeline project, but it was basically the hearings for Spring 17
- Valley, Cave, Delamar, Dry where SNWA wanted to build a 18
- pipeline up through northern Nevada. 19
- 20 And at that point, we had hired Mr. Felling as a
- 21 hydrologist so -- because there was a long time that, in the
- 22 office, there actually wasn't a hydrologist for many, many
- 23 years of my time I was there, because once I moved out of the
- 24 hydrologist position in southern Nevada, they never filled it.

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Q. You indicated you were involved in the

preparation of draft rulings and orders in accordance with the

- A. Yes, I did. 13

- that project in southern Nevada from the Division of Water 16
- Resources office.

- In June and -- I can't remember if it was June or
- July or July and August. I think it was June and August of 21
- 24

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- And so I worked on those projects and I was the 1
- senior person up -- on those projects that developed -- did 2
- the analysis on those projects, worked with Rick Felling on 3
- the analysis of those projects. We'd sometimes break
- different things up or do different odds and ends on that, and 5
- then drafted the rulings for the State Engineer. 6
- Q. In drafting those rulings, did you have to apply
- Nevada statutes and analyze Nevada statutes with regard to the
- rulings? 9
- A. Yes. In all of those ones I just told you, there 10
- was the regular statutes with regards to the four parameters 11
- for the appropriation of water. In addition, it was the 12
- parameters that -- there were interbasin transfers. 13
- So then you had to look at the health and wealth 14
- of the basin of origin, make sure that there was water 15
- available in those basins for future growth and development, 16
- and there was a higher bar with regards to impacts and things 17
- of that nature. 18
- I can't recall the other one off the top of my 19
- head, but we definitely looked at all the statutes of 20
- appurtenance to the appropriations of water. 21
- Q. When you looked at impacts, were you looking at
- hydrologic impacts as well as economic impacts and other
- impacts required by statute?

- pretty easy. I've done water -- a lot of water quality
- analysis. Hydrologic, I did a hydrologic report for aging of
- 3
- And that's other -- you know, a lot of that 4
- stuff, I didn't do aging stuff at DWR, but I've done it in 5
- projects outside of DWR in a different state.
- And now, you know, we do it -- anytime you 7
- transfer water rights in Amargosa now, you have to do 8
- basically a Theis analysis for gain of impacts. You can't 9
- increase impacts of de la Salle. I've done some of that on 10
- 11 protest -- answer to a protest in Pahrump on the fan. Same
- stuff we would do when I was at water resources also. 12
- MR. FLANGAS: I have nothing further for 13
- 14 Mr. Coache.
- **HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Ms. Peterson?** 15
- MS. PETERSON: Thank you. 16
- CROSS-EXAMINATION 17
- BY MS. PETERSON: 18
- Q. Mr. Coache, Karen Peterson here, representing the
- Lincoln County Water District and the Vidler Water Company.
- And can you hear me?
- 22 A. Barely. You have a very soft voice.
- MS. PETERSON: Is that a microphone there? 23
- 24 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Yeah, go ahead.

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- 1 A. It was a broad -- it was a broad brush because
- it's not well defined. I can't remember the exact wording in
- the statute, but it's a very, very broad brush. And I mean,
- it goes from bugs and bunnies to the economics to a water for
- development from anything, and then the regular parameters
- about detrimental to existing rights and water available. Q. After 2010, your were a principal with Hydrotech
- Consulting. Have you been involved in any specific hydrology
- as a principal in Hydrotech? 9
- A. Yes, I've done some stuff in Pahrump. I've done 10
- some stuff in Amargosa. I do a lot of generalized water 11
- rights work, water analysis and the whole water right frame of 12
- TCD's and Humboldt -- I've done some Humboldt River stuff. 13
- Priority dates are becoming a big deal, so you've got to 14
- prioritize the basin inventories. 15
- I did a basin inventory. I can't think of it off 16
- the top of my head, but I did a full basin inventory for -- I 17
- can't even think of the name of the town now. But that was 18
- required for an interbasin transfer. So I've done that. 19
- Q. Were you involved in any well work at all? 20
- 21 A. What now?
- 22 Q. Involved in any well work specifically?
- A. Yeah, yeah, I -- even before that, I've designed
- a well before. I didn't find it very challenging, but it was

- BY MS. PETERSON:
- **2** Q. Sorry about that.
- 3 A. That's all right.
- 4 Q. So, Mr. Coache, I went to Utah State University
- and got their program here for their bachelor of science in
- watershed science.
- 7 A. Okay.
- 8 Q. And I notice that it's under the department of
- forestry and outdoor recreation?
- 10 A. Maybe today.
- 11 Q. No, this is from 1980 to 1982.
- 12 A. Okay. It was actually under the college of
- agriculture. 13
- **14** Q. When you were there?
- 15 A. Yep.
- 16 Q. All right. And I looked under the specific --
- 17 A. I mean, the letterhead -- the head of the letter
- that you won't let me submit as evidence says College of 18
- 19 Natural Resources, watershed science unit.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: And, Mr. Coache, if 20
- you'll let Ms. Peterson finish her questions before 21
- interrupting with an answer. 22
- THE WITNESS: I was finishing my answer from the 23
- previous question. Thank you. 24

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- 1 BY MS. PETERSON:
- 2 Q. And I'm looking at the course requirements for
- 3 the watershed science degree?
- 4 A. Okay.
- 5 Q. And I don't see anything in hydrology. I know
- 6 you testified that you had some courses in hydrology, but --
- 7 A. Well, you're looking at the wrong requirements
- 8 then.
- 9 Q. Well, then let me look at the U of A requirements 10 for a degree in hydrology.
- MR. FLANGAS: I'll object on hearsay. We're in
- 12 the same kind of dilemma here. I haven't seen the documents
- that Ms. Peterson is referring to. You've just indicated
- 14 you're not going to allow additional documents in.
- I'm going to object to the documents that she's
- 16 cross-examining from because I haven't seen them. They
- 17 haven't been produced. They're not part of this hearing on
- 18 the same basis, the same ruling that you just made a few
- 19 minutes ago.
- MS. PETERSON: There -- this is for impeachment
- 21 purposes and I'm going to ask -- I would like to ask questions
- 22 related to course work for a degree in hydrology. And it's my
- 23 materials, it's my work product. I'm not trying to submit it
- as an exhibit. It's for impeachment purposes.

- 1 hydrology?
- 2 A. I took courses in engineering hydrology, range
- 3 hydrology, watershed hydrology, so yes. And I didn't even go
- 4 through some of my other science background.
- 5 Q. Did you take any courses in hydrogeology?
- 6 A. Hydro what?
- 7 Q. Geology?
- 8 A. I have no idea what you're talking about.
- 9 Q. Hydrogeology?
- 10 A. You mean regular hydrology?
- 11 Q. Hydrogeology?
- 12 A. Again, I have no idea what you're talking about
- in a class with hydrogeology.
- 14 Q. All right. Have you -- did you take any applied
- 15 groundwater modeling courses?
- 16 A. We didn't have computers then, ma'am.
- 17 Q. How about fundamentals of subsurface hydrology?
- 18 A. I took a class in watershed -- small watershed
- 19 hydrology, watershed analysis and planning, applied
- 20 hydraulics, which was an excellent engineering class and
- 21 engineering in hydrology, range hydrology and probabilities of
- 22 watershed science. Those are -- that's just some of them I
- 23 took.
- 24 Q. Okay. So no courses in field hydrology?

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- 1 MR. FLANGAS: I don't know if it's real and I
- 2 haven't been able to take any discovery, find out what she's
- 3 got. I don't know if it's real impeachment or not
- 4 impeachment.
- 5 MS. PETERSON: I'll rephrase my question.
- 6 HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Go ahead and do that.
- 7 Ms. Peterson.
- 8 MS. PETERSON: I'll rephrase my question.
- 9 BY MS. PETERSON:
- 10 Q. First of all, Mr. Coache, do you -- can you tell
- 11 us why your degree is not in hydrology and the name of it is
- watershed science?
- 13 A. Because that's what hydrology is. Hydrology
- 14 originates from the watershed. You don't have hydrology
- without a watershed. Paint Springs Valley, Garnet Valley,
- those are all watersheds. Waterfalls within that watershed
- 17 and goes somewhere, goes up, goes down, goes out, one of
- 18 those.
- So that's what hydrology is. This is 1981, okay?
- 20 I mean, I'm old. We didn't have computers then and my course
- 21 work was in hydrology. Many of the classes I took have
- 22 hydrology in the name and I have a letter that you won't let
- 23 me introduce that says I graduated in hydrology.
- 24 Q. Did you take any courses in principles of

- 1 A. Range hydrology is field hydrology.
- 2 Q. Any geology?
- 3 A. Again, I don't know what you're reading off of,
- 4 because I took every core class I needed to pass this thing.
- 5 this degree. And it included -- it's a bachelor's of science.
- 6 It's not a bachelor's in arts of something. It's a bachelor's
- of science in watershed science, which is hydrology.
- 8 Q. Did you take any courses in geology?
- 9 A. I took courses in soils, which is more important
- to hydrology than geology is.
- 11 Q. You signed the report, your expert rebuttal
- report as a licensed engineer in the State of Nevada; is that
- 13 correct?
- 14 A. That's correct.
- 15 Q. And are there any hydrology disciplines in the
- 16 engineering licensing?
- 17 A. Well, there's no hydrology provisions in the
- 18 entire State of Nevada for any licensing.
- 19 Q. And just for the record, I don't see it on your
- 20 CV, but you're not a registered or professional geologist in
- 21 any jurisdiction, are you?
- 22 A. No. I've never claimed to be.
- 23 Q. And you're not an accredited or, I guess,
- 24 registered or licensed hydrologist in any jurisdiction or with

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- any accreditating entity; is that correct?
- 2 A. Well, you can't be registered in something that
- does not exist, ma'am.
- 4 Q. It would be fair to say that you relied on
- Mr. Dixon's conclusions with regard to hydrology in the report
- and you signed off on those conclusions, like Mr. Ricci
- testified to earlier today?
- A. That's not true.
- Q. And I noticed on your CV that you do have some
- expert testimony experience, but I don't see --10
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. I don't see that it's in hydrology?
- 13 A. That's correct.
- 14 Q. And I also see that you have a -- two
- publications listed?
- 16 A. That's correct.
- 17 Q. And you're listed as the editor; is that correct?
- 18 A. And as the writer.
- 19 Q. And you wrote on order 1169; is that correct?
- 20 A. In one of them, I did for sure. I don't know
- about the other one.
- Q. But any of the hydrology articles or geology
- articles or even the history of Ely that Mr. Ricci included in
- these, those were all drafted by other people or authored by

- We don't publish publications. So I'm not sure 1
- about your -- the broadness of that question.
- Q. Do you have any publications specifically with
- regard to any work you may have done on hydrology that have
- been peer reviewed?
- 6 A. No, I did -- the reports -- the one report I did
- for Arizona was not peer reviewed.
- Q. Have you conducted hydrologic investigations
- which involve field work, data and report research, 9
- computation of data, preparing and authoring the report? Have 10
- you done any work like that? 11
- 12 A. I've done all that work.
- Q. And was that your work with the State Engineer's 13
- 14
- 15 A. That's correct and then I've done some of it
- privately.
- 17 Q. But I don't see that listed in your resume?
- A. Yeah, I didn't really think it was relevant to
- the four questions being proposed to us for these hearings.
- Q. The hydrology, surface and groundwater hydrology
- is not relevant to the four questions?
- 22 A. That's not what you asked me.
- 23 Q. Well, do you -- you do understand you're trying
- to be qualified as an expert in surface and groundwater

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- other people; is that correct?
- 2 A. Not completely, no.
- 3 Q. All right. Where -- in each one of those
- publications, where is any article or submission that you
- included in those related to hydrology, other than the Order
- 1169 article you did?
- 7 A. I edited every one of those articles as the
- editor of that booklet.
- Q. And what'd you do with the editor?
- A. I cleaned them up. I made them all one voice. I 10
- took out anything that was political. We were not looking for 11
- a political interpretations of impacts or whatever and -- but 12
- personally edited every one of those reports. 13
- 14 Q. And by "edited," you mean like an editor does for
- a book where you clean up the grammar and the punctuation and 15
- that kind of thing? 16
- A. No, you're the -- I'm the last person you want 17
- cleaning up your grammar or your punctuation.
- Q. Do you have any publications or anything that 19
- you've offered that has been peer reviewed?
- A. I don't know if you call pumpage inventories that 21
- thing, but those have been peer reviewed tons of times. The 22
- State Engineer's office doesn't do technical analysis of 23
- 24 publications.

- hydrology?
- 2 A. Absolutely. And I am an expert in that.
- 3 Q. But you didn't think it was important to put that
- information on your resume?
- 5 A. You're going to have to back up on what
- information?
- 7 Q. Experience in hydrologic investigations?
- A. My whole resume is background and experience in
- hydrologic resumes -- or investigations.
- 10 Q. Have you been involved in permitting development
- in any ongoing operations of aquifer and recovery facilities?
- 12 A. I can't hear you, ma'am. Sorry.
- 13 Q. Have you been involved in the permitting,
- development and any ongoing operations of aquifer and recovery
- 15 facilities?
- 16 A. I don't understand over what time and I have no
- -- I don't understand your question. Aquifer recovery system, 17
- I have no idea what you're talking about. 18
- Q. Aquifer and recovery facilities, have you been
- involved in any projects related to those?
- 21 A. Aquifer and recovery systems?
- 22 O. Yes.
- 23 A. You mean pumping from an aquifer?
- 24 Q. Well, have you been involved in -- I don't see

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- any project experience on your resume.
- 2 A. I have 30 years at the State Engineer's office
- for projects. They came in all the time.
- 4 Q. Okay. That's fair. Thank you.
- 5 A. And I have -- if you want to go in my personal
- experience of just projects, me personally, yes, I've done a
- hydrologic report in Arizona. I designed a 4,000-foot deep
- well in Arizona. I mean, that's --
- O. Was that well --
- 10 A. To me, that's almost insignificant in the whole
- thing of doing 20 whatever, eight years, 7 years I did at 11
- water resources and reviewed these reports all the time. 12
- Q. Have you independently developed any groundwater 13
- 15 A. Not a groundwater model, no.
- 16 Q. Have you prepared any spring flow analysis?
- A. I can't hear you, ma'am. 17
- 18 Q. Have you prepared any spring flow analysis?
- A. I did water analysis on the Muddy River. When we
- did the initial work beforehand -- excuse me, on the King --20
- not the King, sorry, the CSI and the SNWA, the original Coyote 21
- Springs hearings in 1991. 22
- I've done spring analysis, surface water analysis
- at Water Resources. I actually -- with Rick, we developed a

- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Mr. Flangas, do you 1
- have any follow-up questions? 2
- MR. FLANGAS: Just a couple. 3
- REDIRECT EXAMINATION 4
- BY MR. FLANGAS: 5
- 6 Q. Mr. Coache, you signed off on the report and I
- want to clarify this answer. You did not disagree with
- Mr. Dixon on any aspect of this report, did you, the --
- 9 A. No, absolutely not. Absolutely not.
- 10 Q. The NCA rebuttal report I'm referring to?
- 11 A. Yes, yes, sir. And, no, I did not.
- 12 Q. Okay. So in response to the question when you
- said you did not rely upon and sign off like Mr. Ricci, you're 13
- 14 indicating that you did additional work, more so than
- Mr. Ricci; is that correct? 15
- A. Yeah, I did not rely on Mr. Dixon because he did 16
- work separate from myself in that report.
- 18 Q. So you did a separate analysis and came up with
- your independent analysis of the data; correct? 19
- 20 A. That's correct.
- 21 Q. And then you ultimately concurred on similar
- conclusions; right?
- 23 A. Not necessarily, because he's -- he was
- specifically responsible for his sections, I was responsible

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- method of predicting stream flows, and what have you, using
- hydrographs and information from other flow systems. 2
- 3 I've done that. Did analysis of springs flows in
- the Muddy River Springs area, Peterson Springs and Laurel
- Springs at the time. Because you've got to remember, I was
- involved -- I was at Water Resources from the initial hearing
- on the Coyote Springs Valley, the drafting of the parameters 7
- and the pump test for 1169, the base work to get up to the
- 9 point.
- And then on -- you know, I wish I would be have 10
- been able to see it through, but the pump tests started a 11
- little bit after I left. 12
- 13 Q. Were you here for Mr. Ricci's testimony?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Would you agree that your experience in the
- office, the State Engineer's office was similar to his
- experience? 17
- 18 A. No.
- 19 Q. You did more than he did?
- 20 A. I can't hear you, ma'am.
- 21 Q. You did more work than he did?
- 22 A. We did different types of work.
- MS. PETERSON: I don't have any further 23
- questions. 24

- for my sections. I reviewed his sections and found, you know,
- to be acceptable and I -- and looks correct to me, you know,
- and everything. But I was specifically responsible for my
- sections in the report.
- 5 Q. Understood. Okay. But different than Mr. Ricci
- in terms of just reviewing, you actually performed work on the
- report? 7
- 8 A. Absolutely.
- Q. So that's what you meant when you said no to
- Ms. Peterson's question. It's not that you disagreed with the 10
- report, it's that you did something different than Mr. Ricci 11
- did? 12
- 13 A. That's correct.
- MR. FLANGAS: That's all I have. Thank you. 14
- 15 MS. PETERSON: I just have one follow-up.
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Okay. 16
- RECROSS-EXAMINATION 17
- BY MS. PETERSON: 18
- Q. Which sections of the report did you work on, 19
- 20 Mr. Coache?
- MR. FLANGAS: I'll object to that. That doesn't 21
- go to his qualifications. 22
- HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: I'm going to allow the 23
- 24 question because I was going to ask the exact same question.

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THE WITNESS: Four, five. Excuse me. I have to 1 correct a little bit. Six -- number six, I worked on, we did 2

do that one jointly and seven we did jointly. So 4, 5, 6 and 3

7 -- oh, and then I did eight and that was it.

So I did 4, 5 independently. I did eight 5

independently and then 6 and 7 were a joint collaboration.

MR. FLANGAS: Could I ask a follow-up question 7

then? 8

6

HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: One last one and then 9

we're going to take a break. 10

FURTHER REDIRECT EXAMINATION 11

BY MR. FLANGAS: 12

Q. Do you know -- do you know if Mr. Dixon performed 13

analysis on any of the ones that you said you did 14

independently? Could he have done his own analysis as well? 15

He's not here, that's why I'm asking. 16

A. My understanding is he reviewed everything just 17

like I did, his stuff, and that's why we all signed off 18

jointly on the report. 19

Q. I'm sorry. I'm not sure I understand that. Do 20

you know if he independently did perhaps the same analysis 21

that you did on those actions? Do you know whether he did or

not?

24 A. I cannot say for sure how much work he did in

purpose of this hearing is not to address the policy

considerations with respect to the application of Nevada water

3 law to any particular water right permit or certificate, and

we're not qualifying anybody as an expert in Nevada water law. 4

But -- so it's going to be that limited purpose

of the qualifications, limited to this report and this

hearing. I thank everyone for their time. Mr. Coache, 7

Mr. Walsh if you will go ahead and extend my great gratitude 8

9 to my staff in Las Vegas for hanging out a little bit after

hours and I appreciate everybody's time, and we'll see you guys on Monday.

THE WITNESS: We will. Thank you.

HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Thank you.

(Proceedings concluded at 5:15 p.m.)

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1 reviewing my work.

MR. FLANGAS: Okay. Thank you. 2

HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: All right. Let's go 3

ahead and take a short break. 4

(Recess at 5:06 p.m.) 5

HEARING OFFICER FAIRBANK: Okay. So for purposes

of Mr. Coache's qualifications, he's been offered as an expert 7

in hydrology, surface water and groundwater hydrology, water

rights. 9

13

17

18

Oh, sorry, let's go ahead and do this again. 10

Starting over because we had the mute button and Mr. Sullivan 11

so kindly gestured at me. 12

So for the purposes of Mr. Coache's

qualifications, he's been proffered in the disciplines of 14

surface water and groundwater hydrology, water rights and the 15

application of Nevada water law to water rights. 16

And so what we're going to go ahead and do is for the purposes -- for the limited purposes of this particular

hearing, based upon Mr. Coache's representations of his course 19

20 work and work experience and elements of his involvement in

the report submitted by Nevada Cogen Associations will qualify 21

him in those disciplines for the limited purpose of this 22

hearing. 23 Again, I'm just going to reiterate that the 24

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1 STATE OF NEVADA SS 2 CARSON CITY

I, MICHEL LOOMIS, a Certified Court Reporter, do

That on the 19th of September, 2019, in Carson

hereby certify;

City, Nevada, I was present and took stenotype notes of the

8 hearing held before the Nevada Department of Conservation and

9 Natural Resources, Division of Water in the within entitled

10 matter, and thereafter transcribed the same into typewriting

as herein appears;

That the foregoing transcript, consisting of pages 1 through 155 hereof, is a full, true and correct

transcription of my stenotype notes of said hearing.

Dated at Carson City, Nevada, this 21st day of September, 2019.

MICHEL LOOMIS, RPR

NV CCR #228

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