

## DOCKETED

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BEFORE THE CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

In the Matter of: )  
 ) Docket No. 16-OII-01  
Water Conservation and Water Loss )  
Detection and Control Technologies )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

FIRST FLOOR

ART ROSENFELD HEARING ROOM

1516 NINTH STREET

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2016

10:00 A.M.

Reported by:

Peter Petty

APPEARANCES

Staff

Sean Steffensen, Energy Efficiency Division

Colin Corby, Energy Research and Development Division

Kevin Mori, Energy Efficiency Research Office

Leah Mohne, Appliances Unit

Virginia Lew, Energy Efficiency Research Office

Also Present

Max Gromberg, State Water Board

Todd Thompson, Department of Water Resources

Public Comment

Carissa Boudwin, Electro Scan

Richard Svindland, California American Water

Steve Birndorf, Valor Water Analytics

Michael Klicpera, Rein Tech

Jenna Rodriguez, Ceres Imaging

Bob Hitchner (via WebEx), Nexus eWater

Tanner Kelly, Aclara Technologies

Sofia Marcus (via WebEx), Los Angeles Department of Water  
and Power

Sue Mosburg (via WebEx), Sweetwater Authority

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P R O C E E D I N G S

10:01 A.M.

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2016

MR. STEFFENSEN: This is the start of the Water Conservation and Water Loss Detection and Controls Technology Workshop at the California Energy Commission. Welcome today. So we'll be starting at 10 o'clock, and going through prepared presentations, followed by public comment.

So my name is Sean Steffensen. I'm a Mechanical Engineer with the Efficiency Division at the Energy Commission, and I want to go over a few a procedural items before we begin the discussion today.

There are bathrooms through the double doors and out to the right.

In case of an emergency, please go through the double doors. You can exit the building through either the right or left and follow Staff to the park that is across the street where we'll all meet up.

I will go over the agenda. We have a number of items today. I will provide an introduction to today's topic regarding eliminating water waste. Colin Corby and Kevin Mori will present work related to water conservation and leak reduction that is ongoing at the Energy

1 Commission's Research and Development Division. Max Gomberg  
2 from the State Water Resources Control Board will present on  
3 detection and reduction of leaks in distribution systems.  
4 Todd Thompson from the Department of Water Resources will  
5 present on Senate Bill 555 and leak detection.

6           After the presentations we will have comments and  
7 discussions, followed by next steps and conclusion. We will  
8 start with comments in the room, and then move to comments  
9 online and on the phone. If you are online, please use the  
10 raised hand to indicate you have a question or comment, or  
11 you may type your message in the comment chat box. Times  
12 are approximate, and we will move to the next topic without  
13 pause. The meeting will adjourn when we have received all  
14 public comments.

15           I want to briefly provide the background to why we  
16 are meeting today. California has been in a remarkable  
17 drought, this being the fifth year. We are here to gather  
18 ideas on eliminating water waste.

19           On May 9th, 2016, Governor Brown issued Executive  
20 Order B-37-16 titled Making Water Conservation a California  
21 Way of Life. The executive order lays out a broad  
22 initiative. I will quote in part the California Water  
23 Action Plan that calls for concrete measures and actions to  
24 make conservation a way of life and manage and prepare for  
25 dry spells, and this is in order to improve the use of water

1 in our state. The plan is broken into four parts, and the  
2 four parts are use water more wisely, eliminate water waste,  
3 strengthen local drought resistance, and improve  
4 agricultural water use efficiency and drought planning.

5 The plan involves the State Water Resources  
6 Control Board, the Department of Water Resources, the  
7 California Department of Food and Agriculture, the  
8 California Public Utilities Commission, and the Energy  
9 Commission as an Interagency Team.

10 As part of the eliminate water waste, the Energy  
11 Commission shall certify innovative water conservation and  
12 water loss detection and control technologies that also  
13 increase energy efficiency.

14 In response to the executive order, the Energy  
15 Commission adopted, in July, an Order Instituting  
16 Informational Proceeding to gather ideas on implementing the  
17 initiative. Staff has reviewed prior studies on the topic  
18 and performed outreach to stakeholders. Staff has also  
19 worked collaboratively as part of the inner agency team.

20 Today we ask for public comments and discussion at  
21 this workshop. Staff will review all comments and submit a  
22 revised draft to the Interagency Team to be incorporated  
23 into the Drought Executive Order Report, which is currently  
24 underway. There will be two additional opportunities to  
25 comment on this effort, one on November 7th for the draft

1 Interagency Report, and another on January 10th, after the  
2 final Interagency Report is released.

3           One of the roles of the Energy Commission is to  
4 undertake a public rule-making process to develop standards  
5 that improve the efficiency of appliances. A vital process  
6 is gathering information to show technical feasibility and  
7 cost effectiveness of the proposed standards. These two  
8 requirements are mandatory for an appliance efficiency rule  
9 making. Technical feasibility can be shown through  
10 surveying the marketplace for available technologies or  
11 technological trends to show the efficiency goal can be met  
12 by the effective date.

13           As a recent example, Staff reviewed showerhead  
14 flow rates as provided to the Energy Commission for  
15 manufacturer data. Staff used this information to set a  
16 proposed maximum flow rate. Staff could show through the  
17 data that well over 1,000 showerhead models were ready and  
18 available to meet the proposed maximum flow rate standard.

19           Cost effectiveness is shown by calculating the  
20 value of the water and energy savings. The cost is compared  
21 to the increase cost to the consumer for products that  
22 comply with the standard. The value of the savings must  
23 exceed the cost to the consumers for the proposed standard  
24 to be cost effective.

25           The next two slides introduce the discussion

1 topics that we hope to look into further today. We hope to  
2 identify and gather information on water conservation ideas.

3 An increase in appliance efficiency means a decrease in  
4 water and energy usage, and therefore conservation. Recent  
5 Commission rule makings on low-flow toilets, urinals,  
6 faucets and showerheads will yield 150 billion gallons per  
7 year of savings for California when all of the stock is  
8 turned over.

9 Some questions to consider today are: What  
10 appliances provide an opportunity for water conservation  
11 through increased efficiency? What technologies would lead  
12 to water conservation by using water more wisely? What  
13 information would support the technical feasibility and cost  
14 effectiveness of these opportunities?

15 We hope to gather information on water loss  
16 detection and control technologies. I have shown a rough  
17 categorization of products and technologies. Distribution  
18 losses occur within the distribution system. What tools are  
19 there to identify real and apparent losses? What tools can  
20 detect background and unreported leakage?

21 I have identified a trend where devices are in  
22 development that employ unique approaches to identifying the  
23 types of water use to inform the homeowner or business owner  
24 of when and how water is used.

25 Additionally, there are devices that are intended

1 to be placed close to appliances to provide an alert if a  
2 leak happens. Under a dishwasher, clothes washer, water  
3 heater or faucet are locations where these products could be  
4 placed. The speakers after me will discuss in more detail  
5 approaches to leak detection and control.

6           So again, some of the questions are: What  
7 techniques can be used to detect and control leakage from  
8 distribution systems? What products could be used to  
9 identify leaks within a home or business? And again, what  
10 information would support the technical feasibility and cost  
11 effectiveness of these opportunities?

12           We are in a comment period right now. Comments  
13 may be submitted electronically at the link above or emailed  
14 to the docket. Hard copies may also be sent to the Energy  
15 Commission at the address shown on the slide.

16           For those of you on the phone, this entire slide  
17 package, as well as the other slide packages on the agenda,  
18 have been docketed and are available in the docket, 16-OII-  
19 01. Comments are due to the Energy Commission by 5:00 p.m.  
20 October 28th, 2016.

21           Thank you for your participation today. My  
22 contact information is shown here.

23           We will next proceed into the formal  
24 presentations, followed by an opportunity to receive  
25 comments from the public. I can take clarifying questions

1 on this presentation, but substantial comments and  
2 statements should be saved for the public comments following  
3 the remaining formal presentations. Thank you.

4 So at this time are there any questions or  
5 comments as to this presentations? Okay. Thank you.

6 I would like to next invite up Colin Corby from  
7 the Research and Development Division.

8 MR. CORBY: Good morning. Thank you, Sean.

9 Good morning, everybody. Welcome to the  
10 California Energy Commission. Thank you for joining us this  
11 morning. I'm Colin Corby. I'm a Supervisor in the Energy  
12 Efficiency Office, which is part of the Energy Research and  
13 Development Division. My contact information is on this  
14 first slide.

15 Here's a brief overview, quick overview of what  
16 I'd like to cover today. This is just a brief look at part  
17 of our research program and what relates to the water  
18 research. I'd like to look at the water and energy R&D  
19 background, our Electric Program Investment Charge, EPIC,  
20 and how it's water and energy related activities, examples  
21 of the water and energy R&D projects we've funded, and just  
22 a brief intro into our energy innovation showcase.

23 Okay, let's just make sure I get all the slides  
24 here.

25 Since 2000, we've been involved in water and

1 wastewater energy efficiency research. We currently have  
2 two funding programs. The first one is our EPIC program,  
3 Electric Program Investment Charge, which funds clean energy  
4 technology projects promoting greater electricity  
5 reliability, lower costs, and increased safety. We also  
6 have a Natural Gas Research and Development Program that  
7 funds natural gas related to energy research. As related to  
8 water, this is mostly having to do with hot water  
9 reductions.

10           We are also involved with a lot of water agency  
11 coordination, specifically through WET-CAT, which is the  
12 Water-Energy Team of the Climate Action Team, which is  
13 tasked with coordinating efforts to reduce greenhouse gas  
14 emissions associated with the energy intensity of water use,  
15 and of coordinating how such efforts to reduce the energy  
16 intensity of water use can help with efforts to address  
17 potential climate change impacts to water. WET-CAT focuses  
18 on information sharing to inform actions that help reduce  
19 energy intensity of water use.

20           Okay, Electric Program Investment Charge, or EPIC,  
21 and these are some of the water-related activities, and just  
22 a little history of a couple of our past solicitations.

23           Solicitation 15-327 (phonetic) was released in  
24 2015 and was focused exclusively on water and energy  
25 efficiency, including consideration from better energy and

1 water projects. The purpose of this -- I'm sorry. The  
2 purpose of this solicitation was to fund advanced and  
3 innovative pre-commercial technologies to strategies that  
4 result in both water and energy savings and overcoming  
5 barriers to large-scale deployment.

6 Another purpose was to fund innovative and  
7 replicable approaches to accelerate the deployment of  
8 drought-resilient strategies, minimizing the need for new  
9 water-related energy infrastructure. Some of our targeted  
10 sectors for the solicitation include ag, industry,  
11 businesses, residences, local governments, water districts,  
12 and the disadvantaged communities.

13 The second one we released in 2016 was  
14 Solicitation 15-323 (phonetic). And the purpose of this  
15 solicitation was to fund advanced pre-commercial  
16 technologies and processes that would result in both air --  
17 I'm sorry, both water and energy savings. And each  
18 application was to encompass at the demonstration site major  
19 reductions in onsite energy use through energy efficiency,  
20 and onsite water reuse, reduction and or production of water  
21 that would meet drinking water, water recycling, or onsite  
22 water use standards, which is Title 22. The targeted  
23 sectors for this solicitation include industrial, including  
24 food processing industry, water or wastewater facilities,  
25 commercial facilities, and disadvantaged communities.

1           Examples of our water-energy R&D projects funded,  
2 and these are types of projects, not specific, through our  
3 EPIC program we've funded the following types, energy and  
4 water management for industrial, commercial and agriculture  
5 sectors, wastewater treatment and reuse, treatment of  
6 degraded water supplies and reuse, and our latest one which  
7 I call it, Kevin will speak about it in a couple of minutes,  
8 is a leak reduction strategy. As these are all EPIC funded,  
9 all projects must show electric IOU ratepayer benefits.

10           We currently have one funding solicitation that  
11 does have some water elements with it. It's Funding  
12 Opportunity 16-305. For more information regarding this,  
13 you can please check our funding page on the Energy  
14 Commission website. We'll be glad -- you know, Kevin has a  
15 little bit of information about that, although we're not  
16 allowed to speak much about it, but it is out there. And  
17 proposals are due by October 21st, if you're interested.

18           And finally, this is our energy innovation page.  
19 This is new. For more information on our water research  
20 projects, or any other research we are working on, I ask you  
21 to please look at our energy innovation page. The website  
22 is listed. It has quite a bit of information on what we're  
23 doing, not only in water but in other areas, as well.

24           Do we have any questions at this time?

25           If not, I'm going to turn this presentation over

1 to my colleague, Kevin Mori, who will be discussing one of  
2 our newest projects, which is demonstrating leakage  
3 reduction strategies.

4 Kevin?

5 MR. MORI: Bear with me one second. Okay. All  
6 right. There we go. All right.

7 So good morning. I am Kevin Mori from the Energy  
8 and Efficiency Research Office. Today I will be going over  
9 our leak detection with American Water Works Company.

10 As you may know, nothing lasts forever. That  
11 includes our water piping infrastructure. This piping is  
12 aging and is reaching the point where the number of cracks  
13 in the system is increasing. Typically, leaks are only  
14 found when they reach the surface. American Water Works  
15 will be demonstrating three leak detection technologies that  
16 have the potential to find leaks that don't make it to the  
17 surface. These technologies will be compared to one another  
18 and evaluated for further improvement, cost effectiveness  
19 and reliability. The three technologies are correlating  
20 continuous acoustic monitoring, flow sensitive pressure  
21 reducing valves, and satellite imagery leak detection.

22 The correlating continuous acoustic monitoring  
23 system uses sensors attached to the fire hydrants to listen  
24 for vibrations normally caused by leaks. With these sensors  
25 installed throughout the water district, they will be able

1 to narrow down the location of the potential leak.

2           The flow sensitive pressure reducing valves will  
3 be combined with district metering to analyze the flow at  
4 night. A leak is detected when the flow system sees an  
5 abnormally high night flow. The system has a dual purpose  
6 and not only can it detect leaks, but can also reduce the  
7 pressure in the system to prevent leaks from getting larger.

8           Satellite imagery is the more vetted technology of  
9 the three and will be used to find leaks that reach the  
10 subsurface.

11           On this slide we have the four sites, and the  
12 technologies that will be demonstrated at each site.  
13 There's Coronado, Duarte, Ventura and Baldwin Hills.

14           If you would like more information, please don't  
15 hesitate to contact me after today's presentations. And  
16 thank you. If you have any questions, I'll be happy to  
17 answer any.

18           MR. STEFFENSEN: Hi, this is Sean Steffensen. I  
19 just had maybe one question where you could briefly discuss  
20 the schedule for the project?

21           MR. MORI: Currently, it hasn't started yet. But  
22 I think in maybe like a year or so they'll start installing  
23 the technologies at these sites.

24           MR. STEFFENSEN: Okay.

25           MS. BOUDWIN: Carissa Boudwin with Electro Scan.

1 I was wondering how you narrowed down to those  
2 three technologies for the project?

3 MR. MORI: It was not my decision, it was American  
4 Water Works. They found these technologies outside of the  
5 U.S. and thought they would be good for California.

6 MS. MOHNEY: This is Leah Mohney. I just wanted -  
7 - I'm the supervisor for the Appliances Unit. And I had  
8 formerly worked in the Research and Development Division.

9 These projects were chosen. It was part of an  
10 open solicitation where people had to submit their  
11 proposals. They had to meet a number of criteria. The ones  
12 that were scored above 70 percent were then considered, and  
13 they were awarded based on the quality of the technology,  
14 the quality of the research. And then awards were made  
15 based on the highest scoring proposals. So that's how that  
16 whole process works.

17 And as Kevin and Colin mentioned, if you look at  
18 the website, we do have a solicitation that is open right  
19 now, and there are a number of solicitations available. You  
20 can sign up for the listserv if you wish to be notified.

21 So that's how the projects were chosen. It was  
22 through a solicitation process.

23 MR. SVINDLAND: Hey, good morning. I'm Rich  
24 Svindland with California American Water, the local entity  
25 of American Water Works that's running this project.

1 My understanding is that we're in the process of  
2 signing agreements. It's, I think, in your court, soon to  
3 come to our court to sign. So we're trying to get this  
4 going pretty quick. And we're hoping for a kickoff in  
5 November-December.

6 MR. MORI: Yeah.

7 MR. SVINDLAND: So that's where I understood the  
8 project is. And I'm certainly -- if there's any questions,  
9 you know, feel free to ask me and I can answer them.

10 Yeah, we did partner with a national engineering  
11 firm to help put in the solicitation, and then we were  
12 successful in getting it.

13 Thanks.

14 MR. MORI: Thank you.

15 Any more comments or questions? Nope? Thank you.

16 MR. GOMBERG: Is it up? You guys are going to  
17 have find it. It's probably four. Thanks.

18 Good morning, everyone. I'm Max Gromberg with the  
19 State Water Board. And the State Water Board, as was  
20 mentioned, is one of the partners, along with five other  
21 agencies, including the Energy Commission, in implementing  
22 the Governor's Executive Order B-37-16 which includes the  
23 specific directive to the Energy Commission to certify  
24 innovative water loss control and detection technologies,  
25 which is why we're all here today.

1           So I just want to talk briefly about sort of where  
2 this fits within the context, not only of our work on sort  
3 of the water side of the house, but broadly in terms of  
4 California's energy and climate priorities.

5           So as was mentioned, you know, the Energy  
6 Commission does R&D through the EPIC program. And I think  
7 one of the things that we're going to find from -- or I'm  
8 hoping we're going to find from this collaboration with  
9 American Water is which of these technologies is really cost  
10 effective and can be scaled up. Because for those who  
11 aren't familiar with the water sector, we have over 400  
12 large water agencies -- it's not like the energy sector  
13 where we just have a few utilities -- in the state, and they  
14 all have budgets for infrastructure, operations and  
15 maintenance. And we're sort of getting to the point where  
16 we are going to have a better understanding of what the loss  
17 rates are. But we know anecdotally from studies that have  
18 been done that there is probably a lot of water to be saved  
19 and gained through better application of water loss  
20 detection and control technologies.

21           So this is an issue that is not limited to  
22 California or even the U.S. It's one that gets a lot of  
23 international attention and has been a focus of efforts  
24 around the world in terms of fixing leaks and identifying  
25 them in distribution systems.

1 I just wanted to mention, you see three countries  
2 listed up there. We just met with a delegation from Denmark  
3 the other day that wants to do collaboration, particularly  
4 around water loss and technologies. And they actually have  
5 some people based in Palo Alto and Silicon Valley who want  
6 to work with us. So I'll be looping them into the CEC  
7 efforts here.

8 California, as part of our ongoing climate  
9 strategy, has MOUs with a number of countries, including  
10 Israel and Brazil. And those MOUs, in addition to the  
11 energy-focused aspects of the collaboration, include water.

12 So we're really working, not only, again, at the state  
13 level, but even at the international level here in terms of  
14 some of our collaboration. And I strongly encourage the  
15 Energy Commission to make use of our international  
16 partnerships as it develops this certification approach.

17 You also see there a hyperlink to an article that  
18 was written a couple of years ago in the New York Times that  
19 sort of does a high-level review of what's going on  
20 internationally in the space. I think it's quite well done  
21 for sort of an overview of what the efforts on water loss  
22 are.

23 And then in addition to the state agencies  
24 represented here today, the Public Utilities Commission,  
25 through its supervision of the investor-owned energy

1 utilities, has directed in a couple of different decisions  
2 that those energy utilities, PG&E, Sempra, SDG&E as part of  
3 Sempra, and Edison, invest in water loss control in  
4 partnership with water agencies. And there have been some  
5 pilots showing that there are real and measurable savings to  
6 be had, both in the water and energy side of things,  
7 although the water side savings are the larger in terms of  
8 the benefits.

9           So Todd Thompson from the Department of Water  
10 Resources is going to speak after me and talk about  
11 implementation of SB 555 which is a bill that was passed  
12 last year and has a number of components. The component  
13 that the Water Board is responsible for is setting by 2020  
14 enforceable statewide standards for water loss. So this is  
15 going to be something that actually ends up -- we're going  
16 to use the data that's being collected now, we're going to  
17 use the work that the Energy Commission does on the  
18 effectiveness of different technologies, as well as the  
19 economics involved, and come up with standards that, again,  
20 are going to apply to over 400 different public and private  
21 agencies that serve water to over 35 million Californians.

22           So in terms of what the CEC might be able to do  
23 here, I've listed some ideas. This is, I think, somewhat  
24 unique language in an executive order. It's not directing  
25 the CEC to specifically use Title 24 authority here. It's

1 directing the Commission to certify technologies. So there  
2 are a number of different ways that the Commission could go  
3 about that certification process or even define what that  
4 means. I've listed them sort of in order from highest level  
5 of work or intensity down to lower-level intensity in terms  
6 of what the Commission might do with the information that it  
7 receives.

8           But, you know, there's a certification approach  
9 that really gets in and sort of looks at and evaluates the  
10 effectiveness of every technology and ranks them

11           There's an approach that's more of a list of just  
12 what they are, how they work, what they do, how much they  
13 cost.

14           Then you've got, you know, parsing that down to  
15 like a cost effectiveness or a narrower approach that would  
16 look at just what the Energy Commission itself has funded  
17 and the effectiveness of those technologies. So these are  
18 just things for the staff and the assigned Commissioner's  
19 office to think about.

20           And then in terms of how will the rest of the  
21 state use the work that the CEC does. Here are some  
22 thoughts on that. We could tie these certified technologies  
23 to future financial assistance. We could rely on them and  
24 we will likely rely on the CEC work to inform the Water  
25 Board's ultimate standard-setting approach. And in

1 addition, the Utilities Commission and the Public Utilities  
2 Commission could base the CEC work in terms of future energy  
3 efficiency funding decisions for the investor-owned electric  
4 utilities. So again, just some ideas for the staff to think  
5 about.

6 With that, I'll take any questions.

7 Hearing none, I'll pass it off to Todd Thompson at  
8 the Department of Water Resources.

9 MR. THOMPSON: All right, thank you very much. My  
10 name is Todd Thompson. I am the lead for what was adopted  
11 as Senate Bill 555. It's related to the executive order,  
12 but not directly linked. So what I figure I'm going to talk  
13 about today is a little bit about water loss, what we're  
14 doing for SB 555, and some of the implications for some of  
15 the agencies that are involved, including urban retail water  
16 suppliers.

17 Yeah, okay, page up or page down? Let's see, I'll  
18 go down here. Oh, cool. Thank you.

19 So first of all, a little brief about water  
20 losses. Well, I mean, you know, water -- urban retail water  
21 supplier industry, water losses are inevitable. I mean,  
22 they've got miles of pressurized mains with laterals,  
23 thousands of connections, hundreds of valves and related  
24 pertinences, so water losses are going to happen. Basically  
25 what they want to see and what we want to see if that the

1 water losses are fixed where they make fiscal sense. And  
2 that's kind of the industry standard for us.

3 In terms of water losses, what are we talking  
4 about water losses? There's real water losses and apparent  
5 water losses. Apparent water losses are basically a lot of  
6 paper losses. It's where meters are inefficient, they're  
7 not registering properly, or where the water is being used,  
8 it's not being billed like theft, or water main flushing and  
9 things like that. Excuse me. (Clears throat.)

10 In the industry, generally water losses are  
11 addressed through audits, or in terms of where there are  
12 catastrophic emergencies, they're being addressed there,  
13 too. And urban retail water suppliers and wholesalers, for  
14 the first time we're required to submit audits as a part of  
15 their urban water management plans. So it's something that  
16 is coming forward. And Senate Bill 555 is -- oops, it went  
17 away -- is the next step for them.

18 It was chaptered in October 1st -- October 15th of  
19 2015. It added a section to the Water Code that requires  
20 urban retail water suppliers to submit annual water audits  
21 that are validated annually. And it requires us to do the  
22 rule making for that, and we are doing that. And it also  
23 requires State Water Resources Control Board to provide some  
24 assistance, and DWR to provide assistance.

25 Actually, since I can do this, let's see, I will

1 start with that one, I guess.

2           So as I stated, the bill requires the urban retail  
3 water suppliers, and that is water suppliers that have more  
4 than 3,000 connections or treat and process more than 3,000  
5 acre feet, so submit annual validated water loss audits.  
6 Those audits, they're specified to be the industry standard  
7 which is AWWA M36, which is entitled Water Audits and Loss  
8 Control Programs. And there's an associated software with  
9 it.

10           While a lot of urban retail water suppliers do  
11 have a good program, there are some that weren't doing it  
12 regularly. And so to some degree we're going to see urban  
13 retail water suppliers train some staff and do some  
14 certification.

15           For the State Water Resources Control Board, Max  
16 mentioned that there's performance standards that they're  
17 going to be working on. The bill requires performance  
18 standards no sooner than 1919 -- or 2019, excuse me. And so  
19 that's to get two full years of water audits so that they  
20 can base some data -- some -- the performance standards on  
21 data that has been submitted. They've also stepped up and  
22 they have what's called the Technical Assistance Program in  
23 cooperation with the California and Nevada section of AWWA.  
24 That program is where they are being, water agencies, and I  
25 think they've enrolled more than 300 water agencies, are

1 being trained on audits and validation of audits.

2           For the State Water Resources Control Board, we  
3 are writing regulations right now. We are establishing the  
4 standards for the audits themselves, which was specified in  
5 the regs but we're putting in regulations. We're  
6 establishing validation procedures for minimum standards.  
7 And a lot of that is coming our Georgia because they did a  
8 similar statute in 2010. And so they've got a little bit of  
9 lead on us in that way, so we're learning from them,  
10 although California is not Georgia, is what I'm being told.

11  
12           We're doing technical requirements for validators.  
13 And the California-Nevada section of AWWA is stepping up to  
14 that. They're going to set up a certification program.  
15 They're already working on it, and so that's coming forward.

16           And then what else we're doing is we're making  
17 sure that we're clear on what's required for the submission  
18 of the audits, the validated audits, and what our review  
19 process will be in terms of when we look at them to see what  
20 is a complete submission, what's not, pretty standard  
21 regulation stuff.

22           In terms of technical assistance, we are looking  
23 at continuing our program at the regions where we have some  
24 water loss audit detection systems that we can lend out.  
25 And we're hoping to get some Staff time to be able to

1 provide assistance, in addition to lending out the  
2 equipment. And the statute says that we have to keep the  
3 standard up. So if the AWWA changes the standard, we will  
4 have to go back and change it in our regulations. That's  
5 straightforward.

6           Where we are to date on the process, we've had  
7 three stakeholder meetings. They've provided us great  
8 input. It's been primarily people from the water agencies,  
9 both private and public, with water associations, and also  
10 with environmental groups have all been participating in the  
11 stakeholder groups.

12           We're preparing to take the draft public here  
13 shortly. I don't know if we'll get it out by October, but  
14 November, certainly. Our deadline is -- the statutory  
15 deadline is January 1. It's going to be really tight for us  
16 to get there.

17           In terms of ramifications for leak detection, I  
18 think there have been retail water suppliers. The ones that  
19 weren't doing it are going to be doing it. It's going to be  
20 a higher level of attention to leak detection, and that will  
21 probably drive some detection control technologies, some  
22 demand in control technologies.

23           And with that, I think I'll take any questions you  
24 have.

25           MS. MOHNEY: This is Leah Mohney from the Energy

1 Commission.

2 Can you give us a little more information on what  
3 you mean by fixing leaks when it makes fiscal sense?

4 MR. THOMPSON: Well, in terms of the standard and  
5 what the audit software does is it looks at what is the cost  
6 of the loss with the cost of the source water? And that  
7 needs to be balanced with the cost of fixing the leak. It  
8 costs a lot of money to dig up the road, divert traffic, and  
9 fix the leak with professionals, and then repave it. And so  
10 that's all got to be balanced with the cost of the water  
11 that's actually being lost. And so that's kind of what I  
12 meant by that.

13 Yes, sir? Sure.

14 MR. BIRNDORF: Hi there. Steve Birndorf with  
15 Valor Water Analytics.

16 With 555 and the Water Audits 5.0 that are  
17 required, it's a very mass balance or level 1 type of  
18 analysis. And often times from what we've determined there  
19 are nonsensical or some negative numbers that come up. And,  
20 you know, the TAP program is really helping with that.

21 My question is: Do you ever consider or think  
22 about requiring level 3 or a bottoms-up analysis?

23 MR. THOMPSON: We are not considering that. The  
24 minimum right now is a level 1 for validation in looking at  
25 the data in the audit. And we are not looking at going

1 beyond that in the initial phases here. And it hasn't been  
2 discussed in the future either, yet.

3 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: But we might?

4 MR. BIRNDORF: You might? Okay.

5 MR. THOMPSON: Thank you. Great. Thank you.

6 MR. STEFFENSEN: Hi, this is Sean Steffensen of  
7 the Energy Commission.

8 That concludes the formal presentations from the  
9 state agencies.

10 I would like to now open it up to public comments.

11 So I guess perhaps a show of hands of those in the room so  
12 we can see how many may plan to make a comment today, or  
13 presentation? And this doesn't -- you know, and later on if  
14 you want to make a comment, that's fine too. I'm just  
15 trying to see how many. So I'll -- yeah, we'll start with -  
16 - yeah.

17 And would you come up and we'll --

18 MR. KLICPERA: Hello. My name is Michael  
19 Klicpera. I'm a Patent Attorney and a California Attorney.

20

21 When I grew up in Northern California, we were  
22 required to put bricks in our toilet to reduce the volume.  
23 I don't know if some of you remember that or not. But we've  
24 advanced way beyond that.

25 California has also advanced in population. In

1 1980 we had 20 million people living here. Now we have 40  
2 million. We're tripled -- or doubled the population in 35  
3 years. There's a lot of pressure on our water resources due  
4 to that.

5 About 2000, I started really thinking about this  
6 and started a company called Rein Tech. It's a water  
7 conservation company, and it's a legit company, it's got  
8 shares and everything. We currently have eight issued  
9 patents and numerous patent applications associated with  
10 water conservation and leak detection within houses and  
11 corporations. Our assets include also, not just the IP, but  
12 we have a number of prototypes we've been working on. We're  
13 on our second-generation shower device and our third-  
14 generation prototype for whole-house water monitoring and  
15 leak detection.

16 How do I move ahead?

17 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Page down.

18 MR. KLICPERA: So I'm going to kind of go through  
19 real quickly, because this will probably bore everybody, but  
20 this is kind of a description of all my patents I have.  
21 These are all issued patents.

22 This page basically starts out with shower  
23 patents, where I came in, in 2002 and stuff, started working  
24 on ideas for showers.

25 This other deal, I don't need to get into a

1 discussion on that.

2           My other issued patent is now called Water Use  
3 Monitoring Apparatus. These are devices that are  
4 specifically for use to monitor water within a house or a  
5 corporation and to watch for leak detection.

6           These are patent applications that are pending  
7 that are along the same lines.

8           We have an intelligent water meter that we are  
9 testing right now. It's basically located at the primary  
10 water supply with connection to either the water meter or  
11 near the pressure reduction valve. It communicates with a  
12 cell phone or similar apparatus for home or commercial  
13 review of total water use and leak detection. The system  
14 communicates with remote servers known as the Cloud. It can  
15 contact the homeowner or municipality of a leak condition by  
16 call, text or email. It can be programmed to automatically  
17 shut off the water supply upon detecting a leaking  
18 condition.

19           We are developing and have cell phone apps that we  
20 will display hourly, daily, weekly, monthly water use on a  
21 real-time basis. We have cell phone apps, that will be  
22 homeowner or corporate owner, that will turn the water  
23 supply on or off using a cell phone.

24           We have pressure sensor technology in our device  
25 that detects small leaks.

1           We also have patented optional water quality  
2 sensors, halogen, TDS, (indiscernible) solvents, hardness of  
3 pH, metallic ions, we know that's a problem in some of our  
4 cities, and (indiscernible) sensors for (indiscernible)  
5 bacteria, as well. That's all patented.

6           This is a drawing from one of my patents for  
7 whole-house water monitoring and leak detection. You can  
8 see that we have a municipality worker getting wireless  
9 information from the system. You can see also, number 44 is  
10 a cellular tower. Just important, line 52 is providing the  
11 homeowner or corporate owner with real-time knowledge of its  
12 water use or leak problems.

13           This is kind of another picture or diagram from my  
14 patent. You can see on the top of the cell phone, you can  
15 change the data from day, week, month or year. You have  
16 different wireless technologies on the side, which is  
17 Bluetooth, Wi-Fi or cellular. You can see the middle as  
18 like of a pie chart. That pie chart, we have found that  
19 with one or two sensors that we have in our system, we can  
20 identify what I call a water signature. We can tell when a  
21 washing machine goes on and off with our software. We can  
22 see when a shower goes on and off. We can see when the  
23 irrigation goes on and off. And our software will be able  
24 to give you data on that, that's on the Cloud that can be  
25 received by the municipality or the homeowner on a real-time

1 basis.

2           This is a leak detection. It kind of came up on  
3 my patent, as well. You can see that there's two little  
4 dots on the top that have to do with lights, if the valve is  
5 on or off. We have two soft buttons, on and off, to turn  
6 the water on or off. And we have a schedule. Some of us  
7 work 8:00 to 5:00. There's no reason to have the water on  
8 in the house. You can have that scheduled so that you leave  
9 for work, it automatically turns off. I've been doing this  
10 for years now. It does not cause a problem in my house.

11           We also have the system so that when you have a  
12 water leak and you have not turned your water off, it will  
13 send you a text message or email asking you if you'd like to  
14 turn your water off and stop that leak. Now anybody who has  
15 had a leak in their house knows it's not the water loss,  
16 it's the damage to the house that's significant, and the  
17 mold growth, as well.

18           This is a real app that we developed. It's not  
19 really significant, but it just shows you that we have real  
20 apps that we're working on. This is more for development of  
21 our system.

22           This is another picture, another drawing showing  
23 how we communicate from the remote control database --  
24 remote control base station to the router, to the internet,  
25 and to the remote computer known as the Cloud.

1           Our software also picks up leaks in a very  
2 interesting way, sophisticated software. This is a pressure  
3 curve when you have no leak. This is a pressure curve that  
4 we get when we have a leaky toilet. It's 60 mils per  
5 minute. We know within five minutes that you've got a leaky  
6 toilet.

7           Our software can also detect pressure curves at 20  
8 mils per minute, which is a dripping faucet, and we can pick  
9 that up, too, as well.

10           We are doing -- this is my contact information,  
11 but let me talk about a few things.

12           We are doing a home test site within a month where  
13 we're going to be doing a number of residences. And we'll  
14 be putting this intelligent water meter in those homes, and  
15 all the aspects I talked about will be implemented. So I  
16 will have data on that, probably in about, I'd say another  
17 three to six months, probably more than three months. And  
18 if somebody would like to see that data or talk to me about  
19 it, they can. Here's my contact information.

20           I have a website, by the way. It's on their too.  
21 And you can look at my website, as well.

22           Thank you very much. Any questions? Thank you.

23           MR. STEFFENSEN: Thank you, Michael.

24           I guess we do have blue cards at the front. If  
25 you could provide those cards to me, then we can take the

1 next person who would like to make a comment.

2 Is there anyone in the room that would like to  
3 make a public comment or ask a question?

4 (Colloquy)

5 MS. RODRIGUEZ: Hi. My name is Jenna Rodriguez.  
6 I'm Product Manager at Ceres Imaging. So I'll be focusing a  
7 little bit on agricultural water use efficiency. And just  
8 to give you a little bit of background about myself, I'm a  
9 recent PhD from Davis in hydrologic sciences where I was  
10 using remote sensing to make remote sensing actionable and  
11 applicable in ag water use. And I also worked at a GIS  
12 analyst at Gallo Winery on the side. So I also saw the  
13 industrial use or use of remote sensing in ag businesses.

14 So let me talk a little bit about Ceres and how we  
15 use aerial, so airplane-based spectral imaging to optimize  
16 water and nitrogen use, so using imagery specifically  
17 focused on water use, water deficits in crops, and nutrient  
18 deficits in crops. There we go. Okay.

19 So Ceres provides imagery as a service. And so  
20 how we do that, we contract pilots throughout California and  
21 Australia, the Midwest, and we're also branching out into  
22 Hawaii as of next week where we outsource our pilots. We  
23 build our sensors in-house and we use two-band and five-band  
24 camera systems, and bands meaning specific areas along the  
25 electromagnetic spectrum, so specific regions along the

1 light spectrum. And typically there's only been two bands  
2 used in the industry, the red and near infrared, to detect  
3 just basically photosynthetic activity. And we've gone a  
4 step beyond that to be specific to water and nutrient  
5 content.

6           And so what we do is we contract with pilots local  
7 to the area, build our sensors in-house, mount them on the  
8 airplane, as you can see in that picture there. And after  
9 we designate certain flight lines that our pilots fly over,  
10 they return back to us, we get the data, and within 24 to 48  
11 hours we turn it back over to our growers as its gone  
12 through a rigorous analytics process. We have six PhDs in  
13 house from Stanford, Berkeley Astrophysics, David Hydrology,  
14 et cetera, that are processing this imagery. So it's an  
15 academically sound process that has also been validated with  
16 the UC Cooperative Extension.

17           So we're about a three-year-old company where we  
18 started out working with the cooperative extension to  
19 validate and use ground truthing to validate that imagery,  
20 ground truthing being pressure bombs for stem water  
21 potential and tissue samples for nutrient content.

22           And we have seen quite a bit of market success.  
23 We're actually over 250,000 acres now of flying. And we see  
24 anywhere from 30 to 3,000 percent return on investment with  
25 our growers. I left some of those slides out at the end,

1 but I'm happy to talk with you afterward if you want to go  
2 through that breakdown. That ROI completely depends on the  
3 year, the commodity, and the price for that commodity. So,  
4 of course, we were seeing a very high return on investments  
5 last year when almond prices were quite high, for example.  
6 So you might see a higher ROI on almonds or walnuts or  
7 grapes versus alfalfa or corn.

8           So we began as a drone-based company, and drones  
9 are very flashy right now and a very hot topic. Many  
10 growers have either experimented with it or know someone  
11 using drones. And with drones, one, it wasn't providing the  
12 price that we wanted to provide for our growers. We wanted  
13 to be in that \$2.00 to \$5.00 an acre price. And drones were  
14 \$10.00. Some were sometimes upward of \$20.00 an acre per  
15 flight, so very not cost effective for growers. Secondly,  
16 they were -- the platform is too small and didn't have  
17 enough payload to carry the larger sensors that we were  
18 building for more bands and thermal imagery.

19           On the flip side was micro satellites. Those are  
20 also popular. However, the further you get from the earth's  
21 surface the more opportunities you had for atmospheric  
22 contaminations, so aerosols, dust particles, things like  
23 that.

24           You also run into problems with your overpass  
25 repeat. For example, a landsat is a common platform that's

1 used, but you're stuck with a 8 to 16 day repeat. So if you  
2 miss that day, then you jump to 16 to 32 days overpass, and  
3 so on, whereas airplanes give us more flexibility on the  
4 timing, which is important for growers because we can time  
5 our flights with irrigation schedules or at specific times  
6 when they were intentionally stressing the plant that they  
7 wanted imagery for.

8           And lastly, it is very hard to get very tiny  
9 pixels when you're very far away from earth's surface. And  
10 so with airplanes, we do about 20 to 30 centimeter pixel  
11 resolution. And again, landsat is about 30 meters, and 100  
12 meters in the thermal, so again, very large pixels.

13           Oops, what did I do? Okay.

14           So we serve all crop clientele. Right now we  
15 started in almonds and walnuts and pistachios, and that's  
16 how we validated our imagery. But now we do all perennial  
17 and row crops, and even some livestock patterns, working  
18 with growers anywhere from some being 30 acres, and some of  
19 our partners and customers being over 30,000 to 40,000  
20 acres. So this imagery, there's no minimum acreage. We  
21 work with all growers.

22           I keep doing that.

23           So this is an important slide that I really want  
24 you to focus on. If there's anything that you walk away  
25 from today, it's from this slide.

1           So I mentioned those two bands as the industrial  
2 standard being the normalized difference vegetation index,  
3 the NDVI. And that's that center picture that we're looking  
4 at. So these three images are from the same flight over an  
5 almond orchard that we worked with, Blake Sanden at the UC  
6 Cooperative Extension, to validate our imagery. And this  
7 middle one is NDVI that shows canopy vigor. Sometimes it's  
8 called vigor. Sometimes it's called biomass. There's a lot  
9 of different names that you can call it. But NDVI is  
10 basically the photosynthetic activity and the vigor of the  
11 crop. And so what NDVI shows us is the status of the plant  
12 after recurring water stress, essentially.

13           And so on the left, it's going to be really hard  
14 for me to stay tied down to this microphone, but on the left  
15 we see the water stress where we have three irrigation sets  
16 going on. And you can see the blue-green areas being low  
17 unstressed, so no water deficits. You don't need to  
18 irrigate any more there. And so an irrigation cycle was  
19 occurring on that far left third on that water stress image.

20           And then there was a fertigation, so fertilizer  
21 and irrigation applications going on at all of these test  
22 blocks, these subblocks that you can see through the image.

23           And so the water stress imagery pulls all of those out, if  
24 you can see that. If you can see all the tiny green dots  
25 through those areas, that's a very irregular pattern in a

1 normal crop. But the Cooperative Extension was doing this  
2 experiment, and we were able to pull out all those tiny  
3 blocks that you just could not pull out with NDVI.

4           So this shows proof of concept and the utility of  
5 this imagery for ag water use. This imagery is specific to  
6 water on the far left.

7           And then you move over to the far right. The  
8 chlorophyll content shows a different story. It's the  
9 nutrient content, validated by tissue samples in the crop.  
10 So sometimes they're correlated. So if you look at that  
11 maybe top left or top right-ish area you can see that you  
12 have some water stress and some nutrient deficiencies both  
13 occurring simultaneously. But you also see some of those  
14 low nutrient content areas also occurring at some different  
15 areas throughout the image.

16           So this imagery is the only imagery specific to  
17 water and nutrient stress on the market. Everything else,  
18 as I mentioned, has been NDVI or a variation of that index,  
19 using the near infrared and red bands.

20           So this is just a quick graph to show you the  
21 results of the ground samples on the Y axis, the measured  
22 stem water potential from pressure bombs with our model  
23 conductance. And those samples were being taken from April  
24 to August in 2014. So just showing the validation of our  
25 imagery.

1           And so this is what I really want to hone in on,  
2 is the applications of our customers in California, of the  
3 agri businesses in California, using this imagery specific  
4 to improved distribution uniformity. You want uniform  
5 irrigation going on through your field to minimize over-  
6 irrigation, and also maximize your yields.

7           And so this is one such example where you see some  
8 different patterns going on in this image. These very  
9 linear patterns that you see, the very cut and dry lines,  
10 that's attributed to breakdowns in irrigation  
11 infrastructure. So for drip irrigation, for example, here  
12 you have some -- you're not getting pressure delivered to a  
13 system. And you can see those very linear patterns  
14 attributed to that irrigation breakdown. So that's one  
15 example.

16           A second one is down in the southern block at the  
17 far left you see the same kind of linearity, except it's  
18 isolated more towards the outer area. And that's due to a  
19 lack of flushing the lines. You get a buildup of salts and  
20 sediments in your drip lines. And so often times growers  
21 might need to flush that to improve their distribution  
22 uniformity. And this is an aggravated example of that.  
23 Usually it starts out just one or two rows, and this has  
24 encroached into about five to ten rows on that almond  
25 orchard.

1           Lastly, you have a couple of amorphous patterns.  
2 For example, the very bottom block to the far right you kind  
3 of have this, again, amorphous. It's not really -- it's not  
4 linear at all, and that's attributed to soil heterogeneity.

5       And I'll show you how we identify those soil issues, as  
6 well, in this data. But again, there's a lot of different  
7 factors that can cause this lack of distribution uniformity,  
8 and using this imagery to optimize water use, water  
9 applications for our growers.

10           So with that soils issue, as I mentioned earlier,  
11 we pull in the NRCS soil layers. And there is a little bit  
12 of a margin of error; right? You're not just stepping over  
13 the line and you see a change in your soil type. But those  
14 layers help us to identify problems in soil heterogeneity  
15 that can cause issues in irrigation.

16           And so we offer our imagery as a service, again,  
17 where when you log in this imagery is delivered via an app  
18 on your Android or iPhone, or you can log in online and look  
19 at this. And you'll get little pop-up bubbles where our  
20 agronomists in-house have identified these problems, and  
21 usually, typically, provide some sort of irrigation  
22 suggestion or soil amendment or something like that to  
23 improve your distribution uniformity and optimize your  
24 irrigation scheduling.

25           Lastly, another important use of this imagery

1 associated with ag water use and improving water use  
2 efficiency is strategizing where to put your ground  
3 measurement tools. So many growers that we're working with  
4 are using some sort of ground validations to help guide them  
5 with their irrigation scheduling and providing the right  
6 amount of water to their crops. But often times, soil  
7 moisture probes being the classic example, these probes  
8 might not be placed in an area that's representative of  
9 their soil type and crop water demands.

10           So, for example, that red dot, that soil moisture  
11 probe right there, if it were to be placed in an area that  
12 might be just be bright red that's maybe, what, two percent  
13 of the orchard, you would be overwatering the rest of your  
14 field or the rest of your orchard.

15           So we also use the imagery and growers use our  
16 imagery to help better strategize where they're putting  
17 their probes to optimize and get the right amount of water  
18 that they need to putting on, based on the crop that they're  
19 growing.

20           And also, with targeted sampling. So many growers  
21 also have a PCA or they're taking their own ground samples,  
22 like tissue samples or pressure bombs. And that helps them  
23 with strategizing where -- what locations they want to be  
24 grabbing these samples from, as well.

25           And so as we're completing our Series A funding

1 this month, we have a couple of next-generation products  
2 that we'll be launching, specifically geared towards water  
3 and nutrient use, one of them being our evapotranspiration  
4 mapping. So that will help tremendously with irrigation  
5 recommendations, especially using that high spatial  
6 resolution, 20 to 30 centimeters.

7           We've also been working with variable rate  
8 applications and smart tractors to help with linking our  
9 nutrient mapping, our canopy nutrient mapping, with  
10 applications, with fertilizer applications via tractor.

11           And, of course, mapping macro and micro nutrients  
12 is one of those Holy Grail items in remote sensing in  
13 general. And so we are, of course, working on that, as  
14 well. It hasn't been done yet in remote sensing  
15 confidently, but that's something on our roadmap.

16           And lastly, we're working with Patrick Brown and  
17 the University of California Cooperative Extension in yield  
18 modeling. And so that will be coming up in 2017, as well.

19           So if anyone has any questions, I might have gone  
20 a little bit over, on remote sensing and agriculture in  
21 general?

22           MR. STEFFENSEN: I had one question. Cost  
23 effectiveness is something that we look to, and need to  
24 speak something to the return on investment.

25           MS. RODRIGUEZ: Uh-huh.

1 MR. STEFFENSEN: Is the return on investment based  
2 upon a greater crop yield, water savings, or how does that -  
3 -

4 MS. RODRIGUEZ: That's a great question.

5 MR. STEFFENSEN: -- how does that break down?

6 MS. RODRIGUEZ: That's a great question. So we  
7 incorporate all of those factors. So, of course, your price  
8 per acre foot of water is going to vary throughout wherever  
9 you're located. And so that will be one of those factors  
10 attributing to that large range on ROI, 30 to 3,000 percent.

11 So it depends on your commodity price, almonds being much.

12 So someone with almonds in the Southern San Joaquin Valley  
13 would have a much higher return on investment than someone  
14 maybe with alfalfa with the San Joaquin County, just  
15 depending on the price per acre foot of water and the  
16 commodity.

17 So, yeah, great question. And we do incorporate  
18 that.

19 MR. STEFFENSEN: Okay. Thank you.

20 Then we look around the room to see if there are  
21 additional public comments and questions on this topic?

22 Okay.

23 So why don't we go to the comment on WebEx. Okay.

24 Bob Hitchner, we're going to unmute you. Would  
25 you --

1 MR. HITCHNER: Yes. Hi.

2 MR. STEFFENSEN: Hi.

3 MR. HITCHNER: Thank you. Yeah, I see that you  
4 unmuted me. This is Bob Hitchner with Nexus eWater. And  
5 we're an onsite water reuse company. And I wanted to ask a  
6 question, and I may have missed it, I think it was in Colin  
7 Corby's presentation.

8 I think there's a real need in all of this work  
9 that we do that we have better data on the energy intensity  
10 of water throughout the whole chain of events from, you  
11 know, pumping it out of the ground, transporting it long  
12 distances over mountains, treating it, and then sending it  
13 down to wastewater treatment, retreating it, and possibly  
14 then pumping it back upstream to be reused.

15 And I believe, and I may have missed this and  
16 that's why I'd like some confirmation from Colin, if he's  
17 able to give it, the only detailed work I've seen on this  
18 whole subject is about 12 years old when the Energy  
19 Commission did a really interesting and, I think, path-  
20 breaking study on the energy embedded in water. And it did  
21 look at the whole chain of events. But are we getting  
22 beyond that? Are we getting to the point where we can map  
23 the energy intensity in different parts of the state, based  
24 on where we are in the chain and how that water is being  
25 used? And would that capability be available for

1 understanding better how energy is embedded in water in  
2 different applications in California?

3 MR. CORBY: Okay. What we're looking at, the  
4 information regarding embedded energy and the water-energy  
5 nexus, a lot of that is coming out in our -- the second EPIC  
6 Investment Plan, which is running from 2015 to 2017. We  
7 state,

8 "The amount of energy used to collect, convey,  
9 treat and distribute water to end-users, and the amount of  
10 energy that is used to collect and transport wastewater for  
11 treatment prior to safe discharge," this captures the entire  
12 energy picture, both upstream and downstream at an end-use  
13 customer, and a lot of times this is not associated with a  
14 particular facility but with the water itself.

15 MS. MOHNEY: Previously, research and development  
16 was not -- I don't want to say not allowed, but it was not  
17 in our strategic plan to be able to allow the embedded  
18 energy in water to be counted for anything.

19 The second investment plan, which is what we're  
20 starting to roll out now, allows for research in using the  
21 calculations for embedded energy and water to be counted for  
22 something. So this is something new for us. There has been  
23 a lot of disagreement about how to measure the embedded  
24 energy in water because it depends on where the water comes  
25 from, whether you have to pump it up and over a hill, down

1 to the place it's going to be used. There are a lot of  
2 different issues with using the embedded energy in water.  
3 But it is something that we are beginning to look at in our  
4 research.

5           The third investment plan will be coming out  
6 probably later this year. And I'm not sure what's going to  
7 be in there, but water is something that we're beginning to  
8 be allowed to do research on. So we are looking at it but  
9 it's very complicated.

10           That was Leah Mohny, by the way.

11           MS. LEW: I'd like to make some comments. My name  
12 is Virginia Lew, and I'm with the Energy Efficiency Research  
13 Office.

14           And the first solicitation that Colin Corby  
15 mentioned where we did look at the embedded energy in water,  
16 we relied on the CPUC water-energy nexus calculator. And so  
17 they have a proceeding continuing on that. And so probably  
18 in the future, if we do want to quantify the embedded energy  
19 in water and take that into account we would probably look  
20 to the CPUC and their calculator.

21           Thank you.

22           MR. BIRNDORF: Hi there.

23           COURT REPORTER: Can you stand next to the  
24 microphone?

25           MR. BIRNDORF: Oh, sure. I'm Steve Birndorf with

1 Valor Water Analytics. And I had just a few short comments  
2 prepared. But as long as I have a few minutes, I thought  
3 I'd give a slightly more in-depth presentation.

4           But we do meter-level analytics for water  
5 utilities. We've been around since 2007. Our founder, Dr.  
6 Christine Boyle is a water economist, so our work is very  
7 rooted in economic analysis. Our primary goal is to  
8 quantify apparent water losses, and we do this from a  
9 bottoms-up perspective. We've won numerous awards, most  
10 notably recently the Imagine H2O Infrastructure Challenge,  
11 that was last year. And we are a certified woman-owned  
12 business.

13           We have a number of customers, primarily in  
14 California and the Southeast where water regulation is the  
15 most stringent. And we're looking at improving ways to  
16 satisfy the requirements of this regulation, and we believe  
17 we can help. We also are working with a number of large  
18 IOUs on both water loss, but we also do water-energy nexus  
19 work, so I just wanted to point that out.

20           I'm just going to speak very quickly about -- we  
21 have four products. I'm going to speak very quickly about  
22 Hidden Revenue Locator which is our apparent loss locator.

23           So as you may or may not know, apparent losses are  
24 a very significant problem for water utilities. It's very  
25 difficult to quantify and it makes up a significant portion

1 of retail water behind the meter. We found that  
2 (indiscernible) AWWA M36, it's typically a half percent to  
3 five percent of top line revenue, so it is significant. And  
4 again, it's retail water. So from a revenue perspective and  
5 a water conservation perspective it's critical, it's very  
6 important.

7           And what we do effectively is provide real-time  
8 analytics looking only at the data, so no physical  
9 measurements, other than what we get from the data from both  
10 CIS, the billing systems, and the meter data.

11           And I should also point out that we work very  
12 closely with AMI providers, advanced metering  
13 infrastructure, because the granular data down to a 15-  
14 minute interval becomes very important in making our  
15 algorithms better, more precise, and able to quantify both  
16 volumetric water loss, but also the revenue impact to a  
17 utility.

18           And I just want to quickly point this out, that  
19 this is one of our sample algorithms. For confidentiality  
20 purposes, I won't mention too much about it. But  
21 effectively what we do is we look at historical data and  
22 provide predictive analytics to determine what type of  
23 apparent loss is happening and what the magnitude volumetric  
24 and revenue impact is occurring.

25           We've seen some great results. This is one of our

1 customers from the Southeast. It's about 76,000 meters.  
2 And the punch line here is that we've identified about \$1  
3 million in apparent loss revenue, and that's on an annual  
4 basis. So this is revenue that was otherwise going  
5 uncollected. And again, these are apparent losses, water  
6 that is consumed but not billed for, paper losses in many  
7 respects. And you can see on a per-meter basis the value  
8 per meter per year is quite high, anywhere from about \$10.00  
9 on the residential side to almost \$60.00 in commercial and  
10 industrial.

11 I should point out very clearly that these numbers  
12 will vary based on utilities which have very different cost  
13 structures, retail rates for water, et cetera. But these  
14 preliminary results give us a lot of confidence that there  
15 is value in the systems in apparent water losses.

16 And just quickly, to show you some of our  
17 dashboards, this is the output of our tool. So we look at  
18 all nine indicators. If we have AMI data, we can look at  
19 all nine indicators as identified by AWWA M36, this is a  
20 historical perspective of the different issues and  
21 indicators.

22 We also provide an executive dashboard. So we can  
23 actually, in this instance, this is a January 2016, and we  
24 can quantify at the indicator level volume discrepancy and  
25 revenue discrepancy. And this here, you can see that the

1 utility has undercharged about \$83,000. There's some  
2 potential overcharges. But really what this is doing, it's  
3 not saying that these numbers are definitive, per se. It's  
4 saying that these are areas that you can look for and there  
5 are likely potential areas for revenue and water recovery.

6           And again, then we go down to the individual  
7 indicator level. And so this is leaks. We might look at  
8 meter under-registration, et cetera. And we can see that  
9 the information is prioritized in terms of volume and  
10 revenue impacts. The utilities can then streamline their  
11 operations to recover these revenues, and also satisfy the  
12 requirements of 555 or help with those requirements, per my  
13 previous question about a level 3 bottoms-up, and also help  
14 with to satisfy the requirements of Governor Brown's  
15 Executive Order.

16           What do we do? Revenue recover stability,  
17 regulatory status, satisfy regulatory requirements, and much  
18 more. But I will also point out the value of AMI and  
19 advanced metering infrastructure to helping these types of  
20 analytics. And we work very closely, as I said, as a  
21 package with AMI and data analytics.

22           So with that, I will say thank you very much for  
23 your time. We're very supportive of the work going on here.

24           And we appreciate the opportunity to spend a few minutes to  
25 present.

1 Thank you.

2 MR. STEFFENSEN: Okay. I would like again to  
3 invite anyone in the room to make a public comment.

4 The gentleman in the back, please.

5 MR. KELLY: Hello. Good morning. Thank you for  
6 having me. My name is Tanner Kelly and I'm here today  
7 representing Aclara Technologies.

8 I wanted to take a moment to thank the Commission  
9 for considering some innovative water conservation and water  
10 loss detection technologies, and to express our appreciation  
11 for your leadership in employing some cutting-edge  
12 technologies to promote water conservation in the state, and  
13 the opportunity to speak here today.

14 Aclara Technology is an industry-leading company  
15 that works with more than 700 utilities worldwide,  
16 partnering with California communities to help them conserve  
17 water. We believe it's important to weigh in on the  
18 Commission's proceedings today because water leaks represent  
19 one of the most intractable challenges California faces  
20 during this historic drought.

21 Water leaks costs many cities as much as 10 to 30  
22 percent of their water, while also wasting large amounts of  
23 energy. The EPA estimates that drinking and wastewater  
24 systems account for approximately three to four percent of  
25 energy use in the United States, adding over 45 million tons

1 of greenhouse gases annually, and account for 30 to 40  
2 percent of total energy consumed by municipalities. Various  
3 studies show that approximately 56 billion kilowatts or \$4  
4 billion is used in providing drinking water and wastewater  
5 services each year, with the majority of the power used in  
6 potable water production being used for pumping.

7           Aclara AMI provides benefits beyond those  
8 available from older, automatic, drive-by meter-reading  
9 technologies that read meters, typically only monthly, just  
10 to support customer billing. The much more detailed  
11 consumption data provided by AMI can help reduce water use  
12 in many ways. A continuous flow of information from  
13 advanced meters, when combined with advanced data analytics,  
14 enables urban water suppliers to rapidly and precisely  
15 identify water losses and conservation opportunities.

16           Aclara ZoneScan technology allows water suppliers  
17 to rapidly pinpoint distribution system losses to within  
18 three feet of a water main leak, so that they can be fixed  
19 more quickly and at lower cost. This not only allows  
20 utilities to repair and maintain their systems, but can also  
21 be used to track trends and determine the size of leaks.

22           Aclara's STAR network has been deployed in  
23 California cities, including San Francisco and Huntington  
24 Beach. For example, in Leesburg, Virginia they used Aclara  
25 to reduce water loss there from 15 percent to 7 percent,

1 quickly identifying everything from service line breaks that  
2 were hemorrhaging water, to usage spikes that indicated  
3 problems like leaking toilets. The system paid for itself  
4 in less than five years.

5           Aclara AMI also encourages and enables customer  
6 conservation. Utilities using AMI can present regular usage  
7 information to users online. San Francisco consumers used  
8 to only see their water usage in a bill every two months.  
9 San Francisco's Public Utilities Commission now allows  
10 consumers to log onto their account and see their detailed  
11 usage for the prior day, and sends them individual  
12 communications if data indicates possible leaks.

13           AMI enables improved water pressure management of  
14 utility systems which consist of automatically modulating  
15 flow and pressure according to water demand, keeping  
16 pressure constant at service points.

17           Besides reducing leakage and bursts, smart  
18 pressure management lowers operating costs by reducing site  
19 visits and energy costs from maintaining unnecessary high  
20 pressure. Smart pressure management requires wireless  
21 communications, including sensors that measure pressure at  
22 critical points, software that analyzes the pressure at such  
23 points and calculates responses to achieve a desired  
24 pressure, and a controller device to prompt smart pumps or  
25 valves whose use can also save energy.

1           Aclara's technologies can also leverage existing  
2 gas metering infrastructure, eliminating some infrastructure  
3 and deployment costs. California's major gas utilities have  
4 already deployed Aclara, providing the umbrella  
5 infrastructure for a hybrid communication system that water  
6 utilities can use.

7           Harnessing existing networks can significantly  
8 reduce deployment time and allow rapid realization of  
9 conservation benefits. In these shared networks, Aclara  
10 technology is used to split meter reads for different  
11 utilities, lowering the cost of data collection. Aclara  
12 offers the technology needed to separate the collected data  
13 for each utility and provide the security to prevent  
14 comingling of each utility's data.

15           With these points in mind, Aclara Technologies  
16 looks forward to continue working with the California Energy  
17 Commission and municipalities to weather the state's water  
18 crisis and promote conservation today and into the future.  
19 We strongly believe that through powerful new tools made  
20 available through technology, together we can successfully  
21 make conservation a California way of life.

22           Thank you for your time.

23           MR. STEFFENSEN: Hi. I would like to invite  
24 anyone else in the room to make a public comment at this  
25 time.

1           If not, we can turn over to the WebEx.

2           If there is someone on the WebEx that would like  
3 to make a comment, would you raise your hand? Okay.

4           I would like to invite Sofia Marcus to make a  
5 comment.

6           MS. MARCUS: Hi. My name is Sofia Marcus from the  
7 Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. I just had a  
8 couple of clarifying questions. I notice on the executive  
9 order, it says for the California Energy Commission to  
10 certify innovative technologies, and I'm wondering what  
11 exactly that certification process will be. Is that  
12 something that you are planning to do prior to the January  
13 2017 deadline or are you developing a framework right now  
14 that would go into the total framework in that January 2017  
15 deadline? So maybe a little bit more clarification on that.

16           And then, also, I just wanted to put it out there  
17 that our utility has convened a Water Loss Task Force of  
18 around 100 of our own staff who work in several different  
19 sections, either with the Water Operations Division or Water  
20 Distribution Division, Customer Services. So they have come  
21 together and developed a list of actions based on what is  
22 cost effective for our utility to pursue. Some of these  
23 things will be smaller items that could be done within a  
24 couple of months to improve our data quality and improve our  
25 water audit. Some of the things will be pilot projects that

1 might be a multi-year process, for example, with pressure  
2 management starting to place pressure loggers, do pressure  
3 monitoring, do some modeling, and then determine what types  
4 of measures we could use from there.

5           So I wanted to put that out there as something  
6 that we're doing and that might be useful for this process.

7       But also, I just wanted a little clarification on what  
8 exactly the certification process will be.

9           MR. STEFFENSEN: Hi. This is Sean Steffensen.

10           As part of the process that we're undertaking, we  
11 are part of an order instituting informational proceedings.

12       The information that we gather today and through public  
13 comment through October 28th will be reviewed by Commission  
14 Staff, by myself, and will be useful in developing the  
15 approach to certifying those technologies for water loss and  
16 water conservation. So I think we need to review all the  
17 information. And then from there we can begin to develop  
18 what approach we will take.

19           I would like to invite Bernard from the WebEx to  
20 talk now, provide comment.

21           Hi, Bernard. We're unmuting you, if you would  
22 like to make a comment at this time.

23           I guess could we unmute everyone, in case there's  
24 someone who wants to make a comment, and just see if there's  
25 anyone else that wants to make a -- I think we're

1 approaching the end of the public comments here. So I want  
2 to, again, extend an invitation for anyone to make a comment  
3 at this time. So --

4 MS. MOSBURG: Hi. I have a question.

5 MR. STEFFENSEN: Okay. Would you identify  
6 yourself?

7 MS. MOSBURG: Sure. This is Sue Mosburg with  
8 Sweetwater Authority.

9 And first, thank you for putting the workshop  
10 agenda together. I guess I wasn't specifically clear on  
11 what the expected outcome of today was, so I do appreciate  
12 the information that's been presented.

13 I had a very quick question, which is there are  
14 several technologies out there. And is the result of the  
15 work that CEC is doing going to afford all of those  
16 different technologies an opportunity to have their value or  
17 information tested? And then what might be the timeline for  
18 the activities and the work associated with water loss  
19 control that are being undertaken?

20 MR. STEFFENSEN: Yeah, I think what I heard the  
21 question was, is what actions would the Energy Commission do  
22 to test various technologies?

23 We are at the very preliminary stages of this  
24 proceeding to gather information. I think we do need to  
25 weigh what comments we receive and what research we can

1 cover on this topic before we can begin to then describe to  
2 the public what our approach will be. I think that was the  
3 first question.

4 And then, I'm sorry, the second part of the  
5 question was?

6 MS. MOSBURG: The timeline for activity?

7 MR. STEFFENSEN: The timeline for activity, I'll  
8 just briefly show the implementation timeline on my package  
9 on the WebEx.

10 (Background WebEx conversations.)

11 MR. STEFFENSEN: I'm sorry, we're -- yeah, we'll  
12 take your comment in just a second.

13 I'm showing the slide four on the WebEx. It shows  
14 an implementation timeline where we are working with the  
15 Interagency Team to draft a portion of the Executive Order  
16 Report. That will be made public, and there will be a  
17 workshop on November 7th, followed by a final workshop on  
18 January 10th where the final report will be shown. So  
19 that's the timeline upcoming in the near term.

20 MS. MOSBURG: Thank you.

21 MR. STEFFENSEN: Okay. Thank you.

22 Is there another comment online? I believe there  
23 was a gentleman trying to comment earlier. Okay.

24 I guess we're reaching the end of the public  
25 comment here. Again, anyone in the room or online? If not,

1 I would like to thank everyone for coming today. This has  
2 been a very informational workshop. I'd like to thank the  
3 participation from the other state agencies, and from the  
4 Research Division. We will be gathering this information  
5 and reviewing it. It will become part of our report, as  
6 part of the Interagency Drought Report.

7 I would like to remind the participants today that  
8 comments are due by October 28th at 5:00 p.m. And that are  
9 three ways to comment, either at the link shown on slide  
10 eight to the Energy Commission docket, they can also be  
11 mailed or emailed. Only one item is -- or one way is  
12 needed. There's no need to do all three.

13 And I'll just end by showing my contact  
14 information. So I am Sean Steffensen with the Appliances  
15 Outreach and Education Office. And I can be reached at  
16 Sean.Steffensen@energy.ca.gov, or my phone number, (916)  
17 651-2908.

18 Again, we look forward to any and all comments.  
19 Thank you. Okay. And this meeting is now ended.

20 (Whereupon at 11:32 a.m., the meeting was adjourned.)

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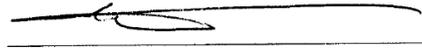
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I do hereby certify that the testimony in the foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place therein stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were reported by me, a certified electronic court reporter and a disinterested person, and was under my supervision thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

And I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for either or any of the parties to said hearing nor in any way interested in the outcome of the cause named in said caption.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 26th day of October, 2016.



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PETER PETTY  
CER\*\*D-493  
Notary Public

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I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript, to the best of my ability, from the electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the above-entitled matter.



MARTHA L. NELSON, CERT\*\*367

October 26, 2016