

INFORMATIONAL HEARING and SITE VISIT  
BEFORE THE  
CALIFORNIA ENERGY RESOURCES CONSERVATION  
AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

In the Matter of: )  
 )  
Application for Certification for) Docket No.  
the San Joaquin Solar 1 and 2 ) 08-AFC-12  
Hybrid Power Plant Project )  
-----) )

**DOCKET**  
**08-AFC-12**

DATE APR 22 2009

RECD. MAY 07 2009

CITY OF COALINGA COUNCIL CHAMBERS

155 WEST DURIAN

COALINGA, CALIFORNIA 93210

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2009

5:02 p.m.

**ORIGINAL**

Reported by:  
Troy Ray  
Contract No. 170-07-001

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Julia Levin, Presiding Member

James Boyd, Associate Member

HEARING OFFICER, ADVISORS PRESENT

Raoul Renaud, Hearing Officer

STAFF AND CONSULTANTS PRESENT

Joseph Douglas, Project Manager

PUBLIC ADVISER

Elena Miller

APPLICANT

Greggory L. Wheatland, Attorney  
Ellison, Schneider and Harris, LLP

Anne Runnalls  
URS Corporation

Kent A. Larsen, Vice President Project Finance  
Spinnaker Energy, Inc.  
Martifer Renewables Solar Thermal

Doug Wert  
Martifer Renewables Solar Thermal

Julie Mitchell  
URS Corporation

INTERVENOR

California Unions for Reliable Energy

ALSO PRESENT

Supervisor Case

Mayor

Bill Skinner, City Manager  
City of Coalinga

Willard Lewallen, President  
West Hills College

Tom Frantz  
Association of Irrigated Residents

Ingrid Brostrom  
Center on Race, Poverty and the Environment

Bobbie Eade  
B&B Realty and Property Management

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## 1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 5:02 p.m.

3 PRESIDING MEMBER LEVIN: Welcome,  
4 everyone, again. I am -- gentlemen, do you want  
5 to take a seat, please.

6 All right. Good afternoon and welcome  
7 to the first hearing on docket number 08-AFC-12,  
8 San Joaquin Solar 1 and 2. I am Commissioner  
9 Julia Levin, the Presiding Commissioner on this  
10 application for a combined solar/biomass facility.

11 I'm going to hand it over to Raoul  
12 Renaud who is our Hearing Officer, who is going to  
13 preside over this meeting for the rest of the  
14 meeting.

15 But before doing that I just want to say  
16 welcome to any of you that were not here earlier.  
17 And especially to Supervisor Case and to the  
18 Mayor. Thank you very much for allowing us to use  
19 City Hall. There you are. And thank you all for  
20 attending. It's great to see so much interest  
21 from the public. And happy earth day to everyone.

22 And here is Raoul Renaud, our Hearing  
23 Officer.

24 HEARING OFFICER RENAUD: Thank you,  
25 Commissioner Levin. I am Raoul Renaud; I've been

1       tasked by the Committee assigned to this matter to  
2       serve as its Hearing Adviser. So when public  
3       hearings take place you'll see me helping direct  
4       traffic.

5                To my left is Commissioner Boyd. And  
6       between Commissioners Levin and Boyd they are the  
7       Committee, two members of the five-member  
8       California Energy Commission, who will be  
9       overseeing the review of this project.

10               Now we've just come back from a site  
11       visit. And this combined informational hearing  
12       and site visit is typically the first of a series  
13       of public hearings that the Energy Commission  
14       holds on any application for certification of a  
15       power plant project.

16               The site visit is just designed to give  
17       members of the public and interested persons an  
18       opportunity to see where the proposed project  
19       would be built.

20               And then we come back here and begin  
21       this somewhat more formal informational hearing in  
22       which the parties will provide presentations and  
23       give you more detailed information about the  
24       project.

25               One major difference between the site

1 visit and this informational hearing is that  
2 during this hearing and during all public hearings  
3 conducted by the Energy Commission a record is  
4 being made.

5 There's a court reporter here who is  
6 recording everything that's said here. It will be  
7 put into the form of a transcript and then posted  
8 on the website for this case, so anybody can  
9 review it.

10 So, one thing to remember is it's  
11 important to have a clear and complete record. If  
12 you want to speak at anytime during this, we'll  
13 ask you to come to the podium over there and use  
14 that microphone so that the court reporter can  
15 pick up what you say, and so that everyone else in  
16 the room can hear you.

17 We will proceed through presentations by  
18 our Public Adviser, by the Commission Staff and by  
19 the applicant. And then we will have a period for  
20 public comment.

21 It would be best if you could hold any  
22 questions or comments you have until the end of  
23 those presentations. But if there's something,  
24 say you didn't hear, you didn't quite understand  
25 what someone said, feel free to raise your hand

1 and we'll try to clarify it for you. But let's  
2 save your main comments and questions for the  
3 public comment period.

4 Also, if you want to comment and make  
5 sure that your name is recorded in the record  
6 correctly, you can get one of these blue cards  
7 from Elena over there, the Public Adviser. Fill  
8 that out and she'll make sure it gets up to me.  
9 And then we'll call you in the order we receive  
10 the cards.

11 Having said all of that, I think we will  
12 go to the first presentation, which will be by our  
13 Public Adviser Elena Miller, who will describe the  
14 role of the Energy Commission Public Adviser, and  
15 how you can participate in the review of this  
16 case.

17 Elena.

18 PUBLIC ADVISER MILLER: Can you hear me,  
19 everybody? Technical always gets me.

20 ASSOCIATE MEMBER BOYD: Get close to it.

21 PUBLIC ADVISER MILLER: There we go.

22 How about now?

23 ASSOCIATE MEMBER BOYD: No. I think you  
24 were broadcasting, you just need to get closer to  
25 it.

1                   PRESIDING MEMBER LEVIN: You just need  
2 to get close.

3                   PUBLIC ADVISER MILLER: Can you hear me  
4 now?

5                   ASSOCIATE MEMBER BOYD: Yes.

6                   PRESIDING MEMBER LEVIN: Yes.

7                   PUBLIC ADVISER MILLER: Okay, fantastic.  
8 Hi, everybody. I'm Elena Miller; I'm the Public  
9 Adviser for the California Energy Commission.  
10 And, as you know, you're here for the site visit  
11 and informational hearing.

12                   My piece of the pie is a particular  
13 piece of the pie, and it has to do with public  
14 participation.

15                   What's a Public Adviser? Well, this  
16 Public Adviser is an attorney who works within the  
17 Energy Commission. I have a small office within  
18 the Energy Commission. I am there to assist  
19 people to understand how these proceedings take  
20 place.

21                   They are quasi-judicial proceedings, and  
22 so I always tell people this is like a court of  
23 law. And I can help you to understand that at  
24 whatever level you want to participate.

25                   I also am a good starting point in terms

1 of finding people, finding the right people. You  
2 can find me. I'm pretty easy. And then I can  
3 sort of do the footwork for you in terms of  
4 getting you to the right people if you've got  
5 questions or concerns, whatever it, trust me, I've  
6 heard a lot. And I like to help people.

7 So I am also interested in helping you  
8 participate effectively. I think that our  
9 decisions always at the Commission benefit from  
10 participation as long as it's effective  
11 participation. And so I can speak more to that if  
12 anybody has more concerns.

13 And brochures are available at the  
14 table. And it gives you a little bit further  
15 guidance on what my role is and how I can help.

16 Some important basic information for  
17 you. If you have access to the internet I  
18 strongly encourage you to go to the Energy  
19 Commission's website. The website that's listed  
20 there is the particular project page for this  
21 particular proceeding.

22 We have many many proceedings before the  
23 Energy Commission right now. I think last count  
24 was 26. If you're interested in the energy field,  
25 energy arena at all, in any way, or renewable

1 energy, in particular, there is a substantial  
2 amount of information on the Energy Commission's  
3 website. And so I encourage you to familiarize  
4 yourself with that website. And, of course, if  
5 you have questions let me know.

6 The docket department within the Energy  
7 Commission is where all of the legal documents are  
8 filed. If you wish to submit documents, comments,  
9 a letter, an email, you can submit it directly to  
10 our docket unit. I also get a lot of people  
11 submitting comments to me, directly, and that's  
12 fine. I can docket them, as well, as long as it's  
13 clear to me that that's, in fact, what people want  
14 to have happen.

15 The listserver. Every proceeding at the  
16 Energy Commission has what's called a listserver.  
17 It is essentially our electronic email mailing  
18 list. And so if you have email, I encourage you,  
19 if you haven't already done so, sign up for this  
20 listserver. There are many listservers at the  
21 Commission. Again, if you have multiple  
22 interests, there are subject areas that have their  
23 own listservers.

24 The Energy Commission library in  
25 Sacramento is also a great source of information.

1           The application for certification that  
2           was filed by this project developer is available  
3           in the community here at these three libraries  
4           listed. You can go there; you can read the  
5           application for certification.

6           If you've never seen one of these  
7           documents, they're large. They fill up a number  
8           of large three-ring binders, which is why we don't  
9           just mail them out to everybody. But we mail them  
10          to these libraries -- exactly, thanks, Anne.

11          If you have access to the internet and a  
12          good computer, a healthy computer, you can access  
13          it online at that project website.

14          Notice. There's a good amount of people  
15          here today, and that means that we've done a good  
16          job of getting the word out about this project.  
17          In particular, notice of the application for  
18          certification went out a number of months ago to  
19          the local residents, to the libraries, as I've  
20          stated, and to local, state and federal agencies.

21          This particular meeting was noticed in a  
22          number of ways. There's a project mailing list  
23          that is maintained by our siting office. It goes  
24          to residences and libraries and government.

25          There is also what is called a proof of

1 service list. That is retained by our Hearing  
2 Office, and it has all of the parties listed on  
3 it. Then, as I've already mentioned, the  
4 listserver list. And so there are a number of  
5 ways to get information.

6 My office, the Public Adviser's Office,  
7 sent a notice out. I hope that some of you are  
8 here tonight as a result of that notice. That  
9 paragraph there lists the multitude of areas and  
10 places and people that I noticed.

11 And in this instance I've added the  
12 prisons. We've noticed the local prisons that are  
13 close to this project.

14 But if anybody in the community knows of  
15 an organization or a person or a place that may  
16 not have received a notice from me, I always  
17 welcome people to let me know. I encourage the  
18 locals to let me know if I've missed anybody. And  
19 I can get them on the list and contact them  
20 directly and let them know where we are in the  
21 process.

22 I've also put a number of ads in English  
23 and Spanish in these publications.

24 How to participate. I'm going to speak  
25 briefly, and if you need more assistance, let me

1 know, as the process goes forward. You can sign  
2 up. You're not required to sign up to enter any  
3 publicly noticed event, but we put that disclaimer  
4 there because some people are uncomfortable with  
5 giving their personal contact information.

6 If there's anybody here that is not an  
7 English speaker, we have an interpreter.

8 (Announcement in Spanish.)

9 PUBLIC ADVISER MILLER: If anybody needs  
10 special accommodations for persons with  
11 disabilities we have a person at the Energy  
12 Commission, Lourdes Quiroz. She can help with  
13 those accommodations. And this is through the  
14 course of this proceeding, this is not just for  
15 today.

16 And, finally, the public is encouraged  
17 to comment on all agenda topics as this proceeding  
18 goes forward. There will be a number of  
19 workshops. The project manager will speak more to  
20 that. But if you need assistance six months from  
21 now, let me know.

22 Informal participation. I'm going to  
23 just give you a primer on how things work with the  
24 Energy Commission proceedings. There are two  
25 types of participation. There's informal

1 participation and formal.

2 Informal participation means filling in  
3 a blue card at any publicly noticed event. If you  
4 want to comment today, fill in the blue card;  
5 bring it to me. And that's my avenue to let the  
6 Hearing Officer know that during the public  
7 comment period that you'd like to speak. And you  
8 will be called up by your name.

9 However, let me caution you. Filling in  
10 a blue card doesn't mean that we know how to find  
11 you. So if you haven't given us your address or  
12 your email, this doesn't help us to find you. So,  
13 please do both.

14 Written comments. If, after today, or  
15 any other public event you would like to submit  
16 comments, questions, concerns, you can do so  
17 directly to our dockets unit. And I provided that  
18 email earlier.

19 Comments are also informal and  
20 encouraged. They are considered by the  
21 Commissioners. They will become part of the  
22 record. They are not, however, evidence.

23 I mentioned earlier that this is a  
24 quasi-judicial proceeding. And we do have  
25 evidence in this proceeding. And the final

1 decision is based on evidence like it would be in  
2 a court of law.

3 If you want to be a party to this  
4 proceeding, you must do what is termed formal  
5 participation and intervening. You would become  
6 an intervenor.

7 How to formally participate. Well, you  
8 contact me. That's a large part of why I am where  
9 I am within the Energy Commission, is to help  
10 people become a party, if they desire. I can walk  
11 people through the pros and the cons of becoming a  
12 party.

13 And always the decision is a personal  
14 decision; I can't represent anybody. I can't tell  
15 you whether it's in your best interest to  
16 participate formally or not. But I can certainly  
17 highlight some important points.

18 But if you do think about petitioning,  
19 your first step is file a petition to intervene.  
20 I encourage you to do so early in the proceeding  
21 to reap the benefits of being a formal  
22 participant.

23 But I also encourage people to think  
24 about whether there is, in fact, a need to  
25 intervene. And we can talk more about that if

1 you've got further questions.

2 Who can become an intervenor.

3 Absolutely anybody can become an intervenor in  
4 this proceeding. You do not have to be an  
5 attorney or have an attorney. Again, let me say,  
6 I can't represent you, I can help you, I can guide  
7 you.

8 The petition is considered, if you file  
9 a petition to intervene, it would be considered by  
10 the assigned Committee of these two Commissioners,  
11 Levin and Boyd. And, if approved, you would then  
12 become a party to the proceeding.

13 The benefits and responsibilities,  
14 briefly, of becoming an intervenor. You have the  
15 same rights and responsibilities as all other  
16 parties. That means that you receive all filings  
17 in a case, including a copy of the full  
18 application for certification, the AFC.

19 You will receive notice of all hearings  
20 and workshops through the proof of service list.  
21 You become a party listed on that proof of service  
22 list.

23 You are allowed to fully participate in  
24 the process of obtaining information. You may  
25 also file documents and serve them on all parties.

1 That would include motions, petitions, objections  
2 and briefs.

3 You may present evidence and witnesses.  
4 And you may also cross-examine witnesses provided  
5 by all the other parties.

6 And that's my contact information. I'll  
7 be here for the duration of this evening. If  
8 you've got any further questions, please let me  
9 know. Thank you.

10 HEARING OFFICER RENAUD: Okay, thank  
11 you, Elena. Let's now go to presentation by the  
12 applicant, San Joaquin Solar 1 and 2, LLC.

13 MR. WHEATLAND: We previously introduced  
14 Mr. Kent Larsen. And Mr. Larsen will present an  
15 overview of the project.

16 MR. LARSEN: Good afternoon. My name is  
17 Kent Larsen. I'm with Martifer Solar.

18 PRESIDING MEMBER LEVIN: Excuse me, Mr.  
19 Larsen. I'm sorry to interrupt. Is it possible  
20 to dim the lights a little bit near the screen?

21 (Pause.)

22 ASSOCIATE MEMBER BOYD: There you go.

23 PRESIDING MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you very  
24 much.

25 MR. LARSEN: Good afternoon,

1 Commissioners; good afternoon, fellow citizens.  
2 And we're very pleased to have this opportunity to  
3 introduce in a much broader sense to the community  
4 the project that we call San Joaquin Solar 1 and  
5 San Joaquin Solar 2.

6 You've had the opportunity of a brief  
7 introduction through at least seeing the site and  
8 the depiction of the project that will be on the  
9 site in the not-too-distant future.

10 Today I'd like to explain a few more of  
11 the details of the participants and maybe even  
12 some more of the specifics as to the aspects of  
13 the project.

14 As they say, you let people know what  
15 you're going to tell them, then you tell them what  
16 you told them, and then you tell them again what  
17 you just told them. So this is what I want to  
18 cover to give you an outline of the project and  
19 its participants.

20 Martifer Group, founded in 1990, 18  
21 years ago, roughly is active in various of these  
22 four components of its business sector in at least  
23 19 countries today.

24 Its 2008 revenues was nominally slightly  
25 over a billion, billion and a quarter dollars,

1 depending on the exchange rate, which is, as you  
2 can see, a dramatic increase from year to year,  
3 based upon its continued growth in these four  
4 business sectors.

5           It is very much involved in the  
6 construction area in both physical plants, as well  
7 as in the erections of services of biomass and  
8 other renewable, including wind facilities. It  
9 manufacturers the towers, as you can see from the  
10 perspective on the second column there, of that  
11 particular wind turbine facility.

12           The electrical generation is the group  
13 which we belong to called renewable energy. And  
14 Prio is their biofuels production primarily  
15 focusing on conversion of materials into biodiesel  
16 and bio-related fuels.

17           As I indicated, 19 countries, plus  
18 pretty much scattered around the globe.  
19 Following, certainly in Europe, the business  
20 sector from a renewables focus. And, again, this  
21 is the whole group. In some places there are  
22 manufacturing capabilities, primarily in Portugal,  
23 but exporting throughout the world.

24           The renewables, which I indicated in the  
25 one column, was called electric generation -- so

1 we'll now begin to focus more on their activities  
2 around the world -- have been principally in the  
3 wind and in the solar sectors.

4 And in the solar, with the exception of  
5 here in the United States, it's been primarily in  
6 photovoltaics.

7 So you can see their capacity is spread  
8 among a series of projects in a number of  
9 countries, and in generation today.

10 Here, by comparison, are projects under  
11 development at various stages. In the two  
12 projects you see identified here in the U.S. I'll  
13 augment in a second. Both of those are wind  
14 projects located in Texas. But the combination of  
15 all of the activities is nominally 750 megawatts,  
16 in late stage, which we call nearly to go to  
17 construction in the next nine to ten months.

18 Here the solar project, the 106 for San  
19 Joaquin 1 and 2, and the Texas wind projects make  
20 up the bulk of the activities of renewables as of  
21 now in the United States.

22 The target for undertaking, developing,  
23 bringing new construction, and into operation is  
24 to have an ongoing backlog of 500-plus megawatts  
25 on an annual basis.

1           Specific to San Joaquin Solar. I know  
2           you were introduced on the brief bus tours to some  
3           of the dynamics of the project. But I think what  
4           we would really like to express is that this is at  
5           least the first that we're aware of, the  
6           combination of the solar/thermal, and in our  
7           particular instance, using trough technology and a  
8           biomass plant.

9           And the uniqueness of that is, in  
10          effect, the capability of marrying 24 hours of  
11          power production, such that in the peak periods of  
12          the day when the sun is shining, we're taking full  
13          advantage of, frankly, free fuel in order to  
14          generate sufficient amount of energy to deliver  
15          under terms of our contracts with the utility.

16          When the evening begins, the night is in  
17          full, and the morning, early before sun-up, we're  
18          in operation of the biomass facilities. Or, on  
19          those occasions where there would be inclement  
20          weather, for whatever the circumstances, time of  
21          day or year, we can continue to be delivering  
22          energy to the grid.

23          You obviously know where the site is  
24          relevant to the city. Our online date of first  
25          deliveries under the power purchase, is mid-2012.

1 Power production, we deal in net terms versus  
2 gross, how big the plant is, because of the  
3 necessary parasitic loads to operate the balance  
4 of the plant. So when we say net that's what  
5 we're contracted to sell to the utility under  
6 terms of our agreements with them.

7 We have filed and received considerable,  
8 if not extreme, positive support from the county  
9 of Fresno. We have been designated as an  
10 enterprise zone, which brings a number of  
11 incentives for locating the facility here.

12 I have to tell you we had made the  
13 determination to pursue the enterprise zone  
14 approach after we had already identified, based  
15 upon solar analysis and biomass availability. But  
16 it is an extreme positive attribute of the project  
17 to gain that designation.

18 The other aspect of this project, which  
19 is I wouldn't say necessarily unique, but is one  
20 which does a -- accomplishes a number of feats. I  
21 don't want to take a lot of time about it, but it  
22 is extremely important.

23 We all are very much aware of the  
24 necessity of minimizing the use of fresh water.  
25 There exists on this particular property the

1 availability of well water that has been used for  
2 a number of years for agricultural purposes.

3 We still recognized that it was  
4 important to find other water resources available  
5 within the community, or within reasonable  
6 proximity of the facility that we could take  
7 advantage of.

8 It is fortunate to the project, and we  
9 believe equally, to some extent, fortunate to the  
10 city that you are embarking on here in the City of  
11 Coalinga with a new water treatment recycle  
12 facility.

13 Such that greater than half from the  
14 outset of our water requirements, extending over  
15 time to even more of our water requirements will  
16 come from the wastewater treatment facility on a  
17 recycle basis.

18 And if you remember when you were  
19 driving, I'll just give you an idea where the  
20 water treatment plant is going to be, just barely  
21 on the outskirts of the city, there will be a pipe  
22 that follows behind the prison and behind the  
23 hospital, and intersects, if you look at the  
24 right-hand corner of our diagram up there of our  
25 facility, and it will just be a direct delivery

1 from them to us. And it's about as best a  
2 relationship that we could find for dealing with a  
3 very important issue.

4 The participants in the transaction,  
5 certainly from a sponsor standpoint, are Martifer  
6 Renewables, the owner of the project and sponsor.

7 Spinnaker Energy, some of us like  
8 myself, have given you our cards. We're  
9 basically, for lack of better defining it, on  
10 behalf of Martifer Renewables, they are boots on  
11 the ground in North America. From a development  
12 and execution standpoint.

13 The Bethel Solar Partners folks, some of  
14 you may recall, or have seen the name Bethel 7 and  
15 Bethel 8. That was the distinction of these  
16 particular two projects when originally the idea  
17 arose and were identified; and this site was  
18 selected by Bethel.

19 Len Daniel, who's represented here today  
20 on behalf of the Bethel Group, who are continuing  
21 to participate, has had a substantial amount of  
22 experience beginning with the earliest SEGS  
23 projects. Solar energy generation systems that  
24 are located -- many of you who have driven 395  
25 north or south in the Kramer Junction area, could

1 not have missed this. It is there.

2 And what you see is quite similar to  
3 what the end facility will look like when ours is  
4 constructed here near Coalinga.

5 Len was very much involved in the  
6 project management and execution of those  
7 projects. Has been very much involved in the  
8 further development of improvements from a  
9 technical standpoint of the operation of the  
10 mirrors and the mirror facilities. So we're very  
11 pleased that he's a part of our group.

12 Ford, Bacon and Davis is an engineering  
13 project management firm who are well experienced  
14 in biomass boiler design, installation and project  
15 management. Augment the work that Len does and  
16 focuses on our solar field with all things called  
17 biomass, biomass feed aspects of the selection of  
18 the technologies. And the design and engineering  
19 of those once we proceed beyond our permitting  
20 phase.

21 URS have introduced themselves, and have  
22 been focusing entirely in support of all of our  
23 permitting, CEC, and some additional activities  
24 that we've asked them to support us on.

25 EPC contractor we haven't selected.

1 That is yet to be determined. I would suspect no  
2 later than the end of this year, early next year  
3 we'll be at that particular stage.

4 We rode by the site. That gives you an  
5 aerial of its location relevant to the Gates  
6 Substation. It's a little bit difficult, if not  
7 almost impossible, to see. And on our bus I  
8 punted to describing where our transmission was  
9 going to go.

10 Everyone recognized the current  
11 transmission that parallels Jayne, that goes from  
12 the city basically through to the Gates  
13 Substation, over interstate 5, connecting over  
14 there on the box to the right.

15 Our transmission will come off the  
16 southern corner to the right. The southeast  
17 corner. And go directly towards that, follow the  
18 line of the section lines towards where you see  
19 that number 5. We'll cross the freeway there, and  
20 then we'll connect at the Gates.

21 Following existing, and you can see them  
22 barely, the lines that are going sort of  
23 diagonally through that Gates Substation. Those  
24 are the major high tension lines. We'll follow  
25 those into the Gates.

1                   So we're taking the least path, if you  
2 will, of any interruption of the location, the  
3 various areas around us, and the shortest  
4 distance.

5                   Solar/thermal. From a energy production  
6 standpoint, is zero emissions. There have been,  
7 through the SEGS projects built, now over 20 years  
8 ago, more than 20 years of operation. In their  
9 entirety in excess of 350 megawatts operationally  
10 in and around the SEGS area.

11                   I mentioned Len's experience. The  
12 resource in this area was studied considerably and  
13 in comparison to that particular area, Kramer  
14 Junction, and modeled and selected here in San  
15 Joaquin for the purpose of similarity. Not  
16 identical, but similarity in solar intensity,  
17 annual availability and convertability to energy  
18 production.

19                   Biomass we say is a natural fit for the  
20 San Joaquin Valley. There is not a particular  
21 reference here, but we all recognize that in 2010  
22 the legislation that currently is in place is  
23 going to pose even more restrictions on the  
24 burning atmospherically of agri waste.

25                   Primarily our fuel base is going to be

1 the prunings, clippings and agri materials that  
2 are collected within 50 to 70 miles of the site of  
3 the plant.

4           Early studies have told us in detail  
5 that there are more than sufficiently available,  
6 on an annual basis, -- it's generally seasonal,  
7 but to some extent common, given the way the  
8 growers, as most of you know from experience, will  
9 replace fields not only just prunings and  
10 clippings. And some urban waste will be added to  
11 this. But there's in excess of two million tons  
12 today. And this is prior to the complete  
13 prohibition of 2010 for atmospheric burning.

14           So, I think it may have been described,  
15 I know on our bus it was, and the other, I'm sure,  
16 that our requirement on an annual basis is roughly  
17 450,000 bone dry tons a year. So within the  
18 vicinity of our facility nominally a number of  
19 times what's required for our plant to operate.

20           The RPS is a requirement of the  
21 utilities to, by a date certain, to have a  
22 component of their generation as being renewables.  
23 What we provide to the utility we are selling our  
24 power to is the solution to both renewables in a  
25 generic sense, but most specifically because

1       there's an additional requirement that they have  
2       biomass within that mix of their renewables in  
3       their percentage of total renewables. So we're  
4       assisting in solving both those aspects of the  
5       utilities' requirements under the RPS in  
6       California.

7                 Two identical facilities, complete one  
8       section of property. Nominally 640 acres. Total  
9       net output 106.8 megawatts. You saw the ground.  
10      It was elevated higher on the northeast corner,  
11      declining to the southwest corner. Through  
12      excavation there will be some, what we refer to  
13      from an engineering standpoint, as terracing.

14                It will not be all levelized because  
15      it'll provide too much difficult from a control  
16      standpoint. So it'll be terraced sufficiently to  
17      install the solar troughs to maintain the same  
18      sort of design in the collection of them.

19                So there'll be, if you think of it,  
20      it'll be slightly elevated down, and then it will  
21      drift into the southwest corner.

22                We spoke about -- I already mentioned  
23      access to water, access to transmission.  
24      Infrastructure is available. There are a  
25      sufficient amount of aspects of the project that

1 will enhance its construction at this particular  
2 location.

3 The site's currently under option  
4 agreement to be exercised when we have completed  
5 our permitting process, which would be  
6 coincidental within, as you'll see shortly, with  
7 the commencement of construction of the facility.

8 The interconnect is at PG&E, as I  
9 mentioned, at the Gates Substation. We have  
10 ongoing conversations certainly with them and with  
11 the California Independent System Operator system  
12 on those interconnection requirements. Literally  
13 ongoing, and this morning included.

14 Project utilities. There is a natural  
15 gas -- now you wonder why we want gas. With  
16 biomass boilers there are certain circumstances  
17 that if they're not operating 24/7 that may  
18 require, not necessarily always require, but may  
19 require what we call an ignition. With a flash of  
20 natural gas that burns to ignite the material  
21 that's in the bottom of these particular boilers,  
22 to then commence the operation of steam  
23 production.

24 So we will interconnect with PG&E's gas  
25 line that runs right across the northern part of

1 the property line. It's adjacent to Jayne Avenue.  
2 It already exists and serves actually the prison  
3 and the hospital next door.

4 There is a well onsite. The volume of  
5 our use of the water from the well will be less  
6 than half of what we will require, as I mentioned  
7 earlier, for operation of the facility. Because  
8 the other component of water supply will come from  
9 the recycle plant that the city is constructing.  
10 And as their volume increases, our use of the well  
11 will decrease.

12 One of the interesting things that we  
13 have been able to identify and document is that  
14 beginning at the volume of water we anticipate  
15 using from the well, which, as I say, will decline  
16 over time, will be less than, by at least 20 to 30  
17 percent, the current use for agricultural purposes  
18 on the same property, year in and year out.

19 So we think the combination of our  
20 supplementing the city, and that declining over  
21 time, is a good fit and use for their excess water  
22 and for us to reduce our water requirement.

23 I-5, some of you almost made it there  
24 and turned around, so you got a firsthand  
25 experience of how far that was from the site.

1       It's roughly four miles. And I can put back up,  
2       but if you -- from the depiction that we shared  
3       with you, I think it was mentioned to everyone,  
4       but the main entrance where trucks will be coming  
5       and delivering the biomass materials on a daily  
6       basis, through at least five days of the week, and  
7       as necessary on rare occasions over the weekend,  
8       will be exited off of Jayne Avenue on the  
9       northeast corner with the main entrance into the  
10      project on the east side. Directly away from, if  
11      you will, completely across the entire property  
12      from the hospital, and certainly that much further  
13      away from the prison.

14               And all of those issues dealing with on  
15      and off of Jayne we're treating, both on a  
16      volumetric of number of trucks, how many workers  
17      will be there during construction and during  
18      operation in our filings with the Commission.

19               Waste heat and steam sales. Those are  
20      possibilities. Discussions are ongoing with the  
21      hospital about the potential of our sharing with  
22      them waste heat in the form of actually hot water.

23               I think the better way to look at that,  
24      because you're going to ask when versus how long,  
25      the way we view a schedule, and I'll have one I'll

1 share with you near the end of the slides, is  
2 roughly early, so fourth quarter of 2010.

3 We anticipate to be in construction at  
4 the site. The workforce will peak over roughly an  
5 18-month period, and that's what this is to refer  
6 to, from commencement of construction to startup  
7 when we begin fully delivering to the utility, is  
8 800, approximately, people.

9 Now there's not going to be 800 out  
10 there from day one, but it ramps up and generally  
11 there's an average of between 250 to 300 ramping  
12 at 800 when we're in full construction with all  
13 aspects of the solar and the biomass. Then  
14 ramping back down.

15 I'm sure we have here somewhere, but in  
16 the operational force there'll be at least 100  
17 permanent personnel, I think are mentioned at the  
18 bottom. And that's just not 100 people working  
19 onsite. You have to remember that, and there are  
20 -- and I won't quote them, but statistics that  
21 demonstrate with this sort of a impact on any  
22 community, the relevant supporting businesses and  
23 activities, and not to say this in any demeaning  
24 way, I don't mean MacDonalds. I mean light  
25 industry, fabrication, skill labor requirements

1 are going to be significant to support a project  
2 like ours.

3 We have tens of thousands of moving  
4 parts. And they're not all going to break on the  
5 same day. But they're going to need to be  
6 replaced over time. That's going to create  
7 opportunities for shops of all types to be built  
8 here in Coalinga as part of the community that  
9 will create jobs.

10 Our investment in building the plant  
11 doesn't stop with roughly \$500 million. Every  
12 year we're going to pay taxes. Every year we're  
13 going to have people working here who will spend  
14 and live here. It's going to be a change from the  
15 experience today. And we will do our best to  
16 insure it's a positive one.

17 This is a cluttered slide but it's a  
18 very important one. Not because it happens to be  
19 on everyone's mind today, but the intent of the  
20 projects, and I'm just not going to wave our flag  
21 or their flag -- by the way, I didn't mention  
22 this. Martifer is headquartered in Portugal, but  
23 has a lot of ongoing business here in the United  
24 States, in addition to what we're doing with them.

25 Is that there is no emissions from solar

1 field power generation. The project will, when it  
2 goes into operation from the specific biomass  
3 emission controls that we will be putting in place  
4 to address air quality and other emissions issues,  
5 will satisfy best available control technology.  
6 Which we have been advised by the air quality  
7 district that the next people to come along,  
8 certainly in the area, air quality district here  
9 in San Joaquin, to build a biomass plant, they're  
10 going to have to do as good as or better than what  
11 we're doing in mitigating emissions from the  
12 plant. And we're doing much better than the last  
13 guys who built one.

14 Things like strict dust control. The  
15 solar mirrors, interestingly enough you'd think,  
16 well, you can run out there with a hose on the  
17 back of a truck. Don't work that way to keep the  
18 dust off.

19 The quality of water that will be  
20 necessary, we have two water treatment facilities  
21 onsite. Quality of water is similar to, if not  
22 equal to, the quality of the water that will go  
23 into the boilers to create steam, which has to be  
24 very -- I wouldn't call it absolute and  
25 unequivocally pure, I don't know what that means,

1 but it has to be of a nature greater than potable  
2 water. So that it doesn't leave any residue on  
3 the glass, which will interfere with the ability  
4 of reflectability of the glass to the heat  
5 collector, which is the medium by which we run our  
6 -- eventually runs to produce steam and run our  
7 steam generators. So that water will be  
8 processed, as well, onsite.

9 The water we received from the  
10 wastewater treatment plant will be further treated  
11 onsite to a next level of quality for other  
12 purposes in the operation of the plant, including  
13 our -- we will have cooling towers, which many of  
14 you, I'm sure, are aware of. This will be water  
15 that's used for that cycling purposes. It will be  
16 used for other dust control and abatement  
17 purposes.

18 The biomass resource, as I indicated  
19 earlier, we've gone through a study. We've  
20 identified at least two million tons, bone dry  
21 tons, a year is currently available within a 50-  
22 to 60- to 70-mile range. Well within competitive  
23 hauling distance.

24 And as we like to refer to it, don't  
25 take the idea this being a biomass dump as being a

1 biomass dump. It's an option to other means that  
2 have been deployed for either hauling biomass over  
3 100 to 150 miles to dispose of it, or grinding it  
4 up into something else in order to just get rid of  
5 it. We will be a market buying it. That's our  
6 business.

7 So we will not, as a result of the types  
8 of emissions control, and in particular by the  
9 type of facility that we're running from power  
10 production standpoint, being solar based first,  
11 augmented by the biomass, we're reducing CO2  
12 emissions by 185,000 tons annually.

13 I mentioned we had a schedule.  
14 Obviously things are subject to change. But this  
15 is, we're very consistent with these particular  
16 dates. And if we don't, you know, we're always  
17 trying to improve upon them.

18 But these are our milestones that we  
19 have established for the project. And, as I  
20 indicated fourth quarter a year from now we will  
21 be in construction, with nominally 18 months  
22 thereafter in full operation.

23 Thank you.

24 HEARING OFFICER RENAUD: All right,  
25 thank you, Mr. Larsen.

1                   ASSOCIATE MEMBER BOYD: Question, Mr.  
2                   Larsen, before you get too far away.

3                   MR. LARSEN: Yes.

4                   ASSOCIATE MEMBER BOYD: First, do you  
5                   have an estimate of your annual natural gas use?

6                   MR. LARSEN: Yes. The annual natural  
7                   gas use, the way we have determined it in our  
8                   discussions, and I'll just tell you how it  
9                   evolved, is in order to arrive at -- the folks at  
10                  PG&E asked us the same question, so they can  
11                  determine the size of line, the interconnect and  
12                  the impact on their system that already exists in  
13                  the pipeline.

14                  We gave them the equivalent of roughly  
15                  13 megawatts or 300 hours of the year. And they  
16                  made a calculation relevant to pressure system and  
17                  pipeline that is available to us to tap into was  
18                  nominally, at best, at about a \$75- to \$100,000  
19                  cost. And it was all construction related. There  
20                  was no impact on their system, pressure or  
21                  otherwise.

22                  That's upper limit estimate that we  
23                  used, only for purposes of having a lot more cold  
24                  winters than I expect we're ever going to have.  
25                  So we'll have a lot more cold starts.

1                   Currently the types of technologies that  
2                   we've been looking at for the biomass are fluid  
3                   bed technologies including what's referred to as  
4                   bubbling bed, which I'm sure you know these.

5                   And the nature of the operation of the  
6                   facility of being first solar, augmented shoulder-  
7                   hours with biomass, and evenings biomass, and then  
8                   early mornings until sunrise more biomass, which  
9                   will continue until solar is up to capacity.

10                  Leaves not that many hours. Now, are  
11                  you going to ask me is it 10 or 12 that the  
12                  biomass is down. But it may not be down entirely  
13                  from the standpoint of what you might refer to as  
14                  a complete dead start. Because of the nature of  
15                  the design of these facilities, they hold a  
16                  substantial amount of the heat in the bed of the  
17                  biomass boiler, itself.

18                  So the only -- in many instances we  
19                  won't need natural gas to re-fire them. It'll be  
20                  on December 22nd, those sort of days of the year.  
21                  The shorter days of the year, the colder days of  
22                  the year, that if it's down, we may need it to  
23                  augment it.

24                  In the middle of summer you would think,  
25                  well, that's probably a more practical time

1 because you're going to be running less hours of  
2 biomass. We have enough heat sink because it  
3 doesn't cool down at nights here in the summer  
4 like it does in the winter. It's sort of inverse  
5 thinking. Well, if you're not going to run, why  
6 would you not have to start it up the next  
7 morning. Well, it stays warmer longer.

8 So, that's a measurement. That's how  
9 many megawatts, and we gave that to PG&E. So,  
10 it's pretty small.

11 ASSOCIATE MEMBER BOYD: Is this an  
12 interruptible gas supply?

13 MR. LARSEN: Yes.

14 ASSOCIATE MEMBER BOYD: Okay, thank you.  
15 Question on water. You stated a declining use of  
16 groundwater. And in one of your slides stated a  
17 majority of the water would come from the water  
18 treatment plant, the wastewater treatment plant.

19 And the only document I've had to refer  
20 to tonight is our staff's issues memo. And it  
21 makes a statement that, well, it has a minimum and  
22 a maximum requirement of water of the project.  
23 And then how much you'll be getting from the  
24 wastewater treatment plant.

25 And barely half of your water supply,

1       they indicate to me, is from the wastewater  
2       treatment plant. So I'd like to just get updated.

3                You talked about a declining use of  
4       groundwater, and a majority of water. So do I  
5       infer from all of this that over time the  
6       wastewater treatment plant will be able to supply  
7       more and more of the water need? And is there a  
8       point in time where it's truly the majority or the  
9       maximum, or all the water need?

10               MR. LARSEN: As I -- maybe we can ask  
11       the city to answer what their design of their  
12       facility is. And I'll just tell you, as I  
13       understand.

14               As I understand, the design of their  
15       facility from its first construction is to have  
16       the capacity of processing 2.5 million gallons a  
17       day. Something in that order of magnitude.

18               It's our understanding, based upon their  
19       earliest estimates for us, that they'll provide  
20       between 1 million and 1.2 million gallons a day to  
21       use. Which means that there's slightly more than  
22       half of our requirement.

23               So our expectation is, as their demand  
24       continues to grow on process of water on behalf of  
25       the city, as the city grows, it will reduce our

1 particular requirement that we'll have to take  
2 from the groundwater.

3 ASSOCIATE MEMBER BOYD: Are you  
4 committed to take more and more wastewater as it  
5 becomes available over time?

6 MR. LARSEN: Yes. We're sizing the pipe  
7 that's going to be laid between their facility to  
8 ours to accommodate 2.5 million gallons a day.

9 ASSOCIATE MEMBER BOYD: The reason for  
10 my asking is we, as an agency, have a policy  
11 against using potable water at all, except for  
12 those tiny legitimate needs for potable water in a  
13 power plant.

14 I recognize you say the groundwater here  
15 has lots of total dissolved solids, et cetera, so  
16 maybe it isn't necessarily potable, but water is  
17 gold in California. And it's getting more  
18 valuable by the minute. And even water,  
19 groundwater with lots of stuff in it, some day is  
20 probably going to get cleaned up and used for  
21 potable and/or more irrigation water over time.

22 So I just want to make sure that the  
23 thrust of this project, over time, is to try to  
24 maximize its take of let's call it recycled water.

25 MR. LARSEN: Yes, absolutely committed

1 to it. In fact, to that extent, Commissioner,  
2 we've had a conversation with the prison, with  
3 their recycled water. Because it doesn't go to  
4 the city today.

5 So, I mean we're looking for all those  
6 avenues to do exactly what you're expecting us to  
7 do.

8 ASSOCIATE MEMBER BOYD: Okay, good. And  
9 I'll expect the staff to keep your feet to the  
10 fire on that.

11 MR. LARSEN: Okay.

12 ASSOCIATE MEMBER BOYD: Thank you.

13 PRESIDING MEMBER LEVIN: Mr. Larsen,  
14 I've got a couple of questions. Just to follow up  
15 on the water question, in our staff issue --  
16 identification of issues, it says that the water  
17 will be used primarily for cooling purposes. But  
18 what about the water for keeping the solar panels  
19 clean?

20 MR. LARSEN: As I indicated, we're going  
21 to take water from the well or from the city and  
22 put it through our treatment plant, which improves  
23 the quality of the water to that quality that's  
24 necessary both for the boilers, as well as for  
25 cleaning the mirrors.

1                   PRESIDING MEMBER LEVIN: So, but the  
2 estimate of water that you provided, that includes  
3 the water to clean the panels --

4                   MR. LARSEN: Yeah, everything is in the  
5 total consumption of water, yeah. Mirrors and  
6 operation.

7                   PRESIDING MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you. And  
8 then one of your slides said no significant  
9 impacts on air quality. And I'm curious what  
10 assumptions you're making about -- you said that  
11 the biomass could come from as far away as 50 to  
12 70 miles. What assumptions you're making about  
13 the mobile source emissions, as well as the  
14 emissions from the biomass facility, itself.

15                   MR. LARSEN: Would you like to answer  
16 that, URS?

17                   ASSOCIATE MEMBER BOYD: You're going to  
18 have to come to a mic.

19                   PRESIDING MEMBER LEVIN: Would you come  
20 to the microphone, please. And if you could also  
21 identify yourself for the record.

22                   MS. MITCHELL: My name is Julie  
23 Mitchell; I'm with URS Corporation. And I was  
24 working on the air quality aspects of this  
25 project.

1                   With regards to the mobile emission  
2 sources from the delivery of the biomass to the  
3 site, in the AFC it has outlined the actual  
4 emissions that are estimated from the vehicles  
5 traveling to the site.

6                   So we've already outlined that  
7 particular emission source.

8                   PRESIDING MEMBER LEVIN: Is it possible  
9 to give, I think, the public here, who presumably  
10 has not read that, a brief summary of what those  
11 are, or what the assumptions were?

12                  MS. MITCHELL: Well, we know that the --

13                  PRESIDING MEMBER LEVIN: How many truck  
14 trips per day, things like that. How much of it  
15 do you expect to be local versus at the outer  
16 limits of 70 miles away. Those are big  
17 differences, I would think the public would want  
18 to know.

19                  MS. MITCHELL: Right. I agree they are  
20 big differences. And there is a lot of detailed  
21 information given in doing the estimations of all  
22 the different emission sources that go into an AFC  
23 such as this.

24                  And without all of my AFC in front of  
25 me, that's a little hard to outline every single

1 spot. The trucks were assumed that we know that  
2 the trucks will be coming from within a 60-mile  
3 area, but not every truck is coming from 60 miles  
4 away.

5 So a portion of that was taken into  
6 consideration so that it wasn't considered all  
7 trucks came from three miles down the road, or all  
8 came from 60. And so it's apportionment of what  
9 we actually anticipate where we anticipate these  
10 vehicles to come from.

11 PRESIDING MEMBER LEVIN: Okay, thank  
12 you.

13 HEARING OFFICER RENAUD: Any other  
14 questions before we move to the next presentation.  
15 And then we will, of course, have the public  
16 comment and question period at the end, as well.

17 So, Joe Douglas is the Energy Commission  
18 Staff member who's been asked to be the project  
19 manager on behalf of the staff. And he's going to  
20 tell you about how the Energy Commission Staff  
21 reviews these projects. And after that we'll talk  
22 about the issues identification that the staff has  
23 presented. Thank you.

24 MR. DOUGLAS: My name's Joe Douglas,  
25 project manager for the Energy Commission on this

1 project, the San Joaquin Solar Hybrid project.

2 The Energy Commission's role. Basically  
3 the Energy Commission is the permitting agency  
4 over --

5 PRESIDING MEMBER LEVIN: I'm sorry, Mr.  
6 Douglas. Can everyone hear? It seems that the  
7 mic is very faint.

8 ASSOCIATE MEMBER BOYD: You just have to  
9 get right up to it.

10 PRESIDING MEMBER LEVIN: And be loud.

11 MR. DOUGLAS: All right, okay.

12 HEARING OFFICER RENAUD: That's better.

13 MR. DOUGLAS: Once again, my name's  
14 Joseph Douglas, project manager for the Energy  
15 Commission on this project.

16 The Energy Commission is the permitting  
17 authority for thermal power plants 50 megawatts or  
18 greater. And also related facilities such as  
19 linear transmission lines to the first point of  
20 interconnection, water supply lines, as well as  
21 gas pipelines and access roads. We are also the  
22 state lead agency for the California Environmental  
23 Quality Act.

24 This is an overview of the licensing  
25 process, three major areas. The first is data

1       adequacy; the second staff discovery analysis;  
2       three is convening evidentiary hearing and  
3       decision.

4               We have met data adequacy last month, so  
5       we're now in number two, staff discovery and  
6       analysis. This includes issues identification,  
7       data requests, public workshops, and preliminary  
8       and final staff assessment documents.

9               And finally, we will be convening  
10       evidentiary hearing and decision. Evidentiary  
11       hearings on the final staff assessment and other  
12       information. Presiding Member's Proposed  
13       Decision, as well as the hearing and Commission  
14       decisions.

15               This slide, discovery analysis processes  
16       will give you a good overview of how different  
17       functions interconnect. And one thing, remember  
18       the Public Adviser provides assistance in how to  
19       participate in the CEC's public process. They're  
20       really good people to help, you know, -- let them  
21       help you.

22               During the discovery and analysis  
23       process, some of the issues and some of the things  
24       we're looking for and working through. First, we  
25       determine if the proposed applies to laws,

1 ordinances, regulations and standards, or LORS.

2 Then we conduct engineering and  
3 environmental analysis, including, once again,  
4 identify issues, evaluate alternatives, identify  
5 mitigation measures, recommend conditions of  
6 certification.

7 And then we facilitate public and agency  
8 participation. Staff products will include  
9 preliminary staff assessment and final staff  
10 assessment. And finally, we'll make  
11 recommendations to the Committee.

12 And I think Raoul wants to talk a little  
13 bit?

14 HEARING OFFICER RENAUD: Yes. Joe and I  
15 talked about this, and thought, since the  
16 evidentiary hearing process is the area that I  
17 specialize in, I would explain this slide and the  
18 next one to you.

19 When the evidentiary hearings come  
20 along, that would be the time that the scientists  
21 who have been reviewing the project go to court.

22 Who's the judge? It's the Committee  
23 members, Commissioners Levin and Boyd. And I  
24 serve as their legal adviser in connection with  
25 that, and also work to insure that the evidentiary

1 record is legally sufficient to support the  
2 decision.

3 The blue box in the center represents  
4 both the Committee and their proposed decision,  
5 which they then recommend to the full Commission,  
6 which would then ultimately approve the final  
7 decision.

8 Going into the proposed and final  
9 decisions you have testimony from parties. And by  
10 parties, I mean those who are qualified to or  
11 permitted to introduce evidence, call witnesses  
12 and cross-examine witnesses. And that would be  
13 the applicant, of course, the Energy Commission  
14 Staff, and any formal intervenors.

15 And, in fact, we have an intervenor in  
16 this case. I don't know if they're represented  
17 here today, California Unions for Reliable Energy.  
18 Here today? Yes. Good. So, we have one  
19 intervenor so far. We may have more.

20 Those parties can provide testimony,  
21 formal documentary evidence. And testimony is  
22 submitted both in writing and orally.

23 Testimony, of course, means it's under  
24 oath. That's how much like court this can be.

25 The witnesses are sworn; testimony is given under

1 oath.

2 We have exhibits, voluminous ones  
3 sometimes into the hundreds. We have a court  
4 reporter making a record of the entire proceeding.

5 And something Elena touched on and I'll  
6 elaborate on is the ex parte rule. And this is a  
7 provision of state law designed to insure that  
8 there is no appearance of improper influence of  
9 bias.

10 The members of the Committee are not  
11 permitted to discuss the facts of the case with  
12 anyone except in a public setting. The idea is to  
13 insure that any exchange of information,  
14 discussion, opinion, that sort of thing, is all  
15 done in a public setting.

16 The extent to which that goes is that,  
17 for example, say, someone, one of you out there  
18 decided to send Commissioner Levin an email saying  
19 I'm opposed to this project, or I think this is a  
20 great project.

21 Commissioner Levin would then send that  
22 email into the public record of this case, so that  
23 it would be there on the website and in the docket  
24 for all the world to see, thereby disclosed to the  
25 public.

1           But the idea is to make sure that any  
2           discussion or exchange takes place in a public and  
3           open setting. There are no back room meetings at  
4           the Energy Commission. We want everything out in  
5           the open.

6           Let's see, let's go to the next slide,  
7           please. The Committee conducts the evidentiary  
8           hearings. Sometimes those are very short. If the  
9           parties have agreed on all the issues, an  
10          evidentiary hearing can be an hour or less.

11          In most cases there are issues which are  
12          in dispute, and an evidentiary hearing can last  
13          many hours, or even extend into days.

14          Eventually a Presiding Member's Proposed  
15          Decision, a PMPD, is issued. Typically 300, 400,  
16          500 pages long. Discusses all of the  
17          environmental impacts of the project. And makes  
18          recommendations whether or not to approve the  
19          project. And if it is approved, what conditions  
20          should be imposed on it.

21          There is a further hearing to discuss  
22          the PMPD. Eventually a revised PMPD may be  
23          issued, and it will then go to the full Commission  
24          for further hearing, and a Commission decision.

25          After that the Energy Commission Staff

1 monitors compliance with all the conditions for  
2 the life of the project.

3 Thank you, Joe.

4 MR. DOUGLAS: Okay. Along with our own  
5 procedures, we also work closely with local, state  
6 and federal agencies. For example, the local  
7 regional, the City of Coalinga, Fresno County, San  
8 Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, as  
9 well.

10 On the state side, the California  
11 Department of Fish and Game as well as the Central  
12 Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board.

13 On the federal side it will be the U.S.  
14 Fish and Wildlife Service, as well as the U.S.  
15 Army Corps of Engineers.

16 I'm going to touch on this a little bit.  
17 You know, you can look at the slide and you can  
18 see public participation and information. Open  
19 public process, workshops and hearings noticed at  
20 least ten days in advance.

21 There's the mailing list, Energy  
22 Commission and the address there, and the  
23 listserver. As well as the website, please go to  
24 it. There's lots of information there.

25 Documents also available at Coalinga

1 Library, as well as San Joaquin branch. Continue  
2 on public participation. The library in  
3 Sacramento include many universities, as well.  
4 And at the dockets unit. Remember to submit your  
5 things at the docket unit so we can put it into  
6 the record.

7 Some additional project contacts. Of  
8 course, I'm down there; my phone number as well as  
9 email. Please feel free to contact me at anytime.  
10 And I'll just go ahead and put Anne Runnalls into  
11 the mix. She's the project manager at URS. I'm  
12 sure she appreciates that, but we're here to help  
13 you, as well as everybody else on this page. As  
14 well as Elena Miller, the Public Adviser. Once  
15 again, please contact them, they'll help you.

16 Do you want me to continue? Okay, I'll  
17 continue with the issues identification report.  
18 One thing, remember this document is a snapshot in  
19 time, so while this document was completed a week  
20 ago or so, since then, you know, things -- we're  
21 on the discovery phase, so we're continually  
22 working on these issues.

23 So basically the purpose of this report  
24 is to inform participants of potential issues. We  
25 want to focus early on these important topics so

1 that they will not delay the schedule and  
2 analysis, as well.

3 So, under significant impacts that may  
4 be difficult to mitigate, or potential  
5 noncompliance with LORS, and, once again,  
6 potential conflicts between parties that could  
7 delay the schedule.

8 ASSOCIATE MEMBER BOYD: Do you want to  
9 define the term LORS, which may be Greek to some  
10 of these people?

11 MR. DOUGLAS: Oh, laws, ordinances, --  
12 (Parties speaking simultaneously.)

13 MR. DOUGLAS: -- regulations and  
14 standards.

15 (Laughter.)

16 MR. DOUGLAS: The potential issues that  
17 we identified at the time were air quality, land  
18 use, reliability, transmission system engineering,  
19 waste management, and water resources.

20 I'll go through each one of these real  
21 quick. Potential issues involving air quality  
22 includes emission reduction credits, and just the  
23 coordination with the San Joaquin Valley Air  
24 Pollution Control District. As well as mobile  
25 source emissions that were discussed here a little

1 bit earlier. Emissions from project construction  
2 equipment and delivery vehicles, as well as the  
3 mobile emissions from the biofuel deliveries  
4 during operation of the life of the project.

5 The land use issue involves part of the  
6 project site has a Williamson Act agricultural  
7 contract. And although I know that coordination  
8 with the county is being done at this time, it can  
9 take a little bit of time to go through this. So  
10 we want to identify this so we can, you know, get  
11 going with this issue as soon as possible.

12 Under reliability issue. More  
13 information is needed concerning the reliability  
14 and availability of anticipated fuel supply for  
15 the biomass unit. It adds to the life of the  
16 project, and just to make sure that throughout the  
17 life we have a consistent and reliable source of  
18 fuel for the plant.

19 Potential issue for transmission system  
20 engineering and design. California Independent  
21 System Operator, ISO, system impact study,  
22 facility study is not expected until July of 09.  
23 Any delay in the release of this study could  
24 impact the schedule and completion of staff's  
25 transmission systems analysis.

1                   Next issue is waste management.  
2           Additional information is needed concerning the  
3           purchasers or recyclers of the fly ash generated  
4           by the biomass units. If such entities are not  
5           identified, the ash may be required to be disposed  
6           in a landfill, which results in waste impacts  
7           needing further analysis.

8                   And finally, on water resources, the  
9           project does propose to use both recycled and  
10          groundwater for cooling purposes. The recycled  
11          water, and it was discussed, once again, earlier,  
12          the City of Coalinga's wastewater treatment plant  
13          is not yet built, and it will be completed in  
14          2011. It would only, as far as this report goes,  
15          only be able to supply about 50 percent of needed  
16          water.

17                   And on the groundwater issue, staff  
18          feels it still needs to evaluate potential impacts  
19          of the project on the groundwater basin, and its  
20          impact to other users in additional use of this  
21          resource.

22                   Okay, I will go to the proposed staff  
23          schedule, which, you know, obviously is in flux,  
24          or you know, is the best that we can do right now.  
25          Obviously things will change. Hopefully we can

1 meet all those, as well as maybe better them.

2 But it does depend on the applicant's  
3 timely response to staff's data requests.  
4 Required action by other state, local and federal  
5 agencies. The resolution of identified issues.

6 And the last one is on the siting  
7 transmission environmental protection division has  
8 currently 25 projects. About four times the  
9 historical workload. And it's making achieving  
10 the 12-month schedule difficult. The Energy  
11 Commission will do, obviously, everything that's  
12 in our power to review the project in as timely a  
13 manner as possible.

14 Okay, here's the current schedule. I  
15 don't think we need to go through all of these,  
16 but you can look through it. I'll give you a  
17 second, and then we can go to the next one.

18 The major thing is application was  
19 submitted November 26th. We identified AFC as  
20 complete, that's line two, March 11th. And that  
21 issues identification report was issued March  
22 25th.

23 HEARING OFFICER RENAUD: So, Joe, if I  
24 may, --

25 MR. DOUGLAS: Sure.

1                   HEARING OFFICER RENAUD:  -- just what  
2                   you've got there really is showing what the Energy  
3                   Commission strives for, which is to complete these  
4                   in 12 months --

5                   MR. DOUGLAS:  Yes, correct.

6                   HEARING OFFICER RENAUD:  -- from the  
7                   tine the application is deemed data adequate, --

8                   MR. DOUGLAS:  Right.

9                   HEARING OFFICER RENAUD:  -- which was  
10                  March 11th in this case.  And if we can stay on  
11                  that 12-month schedule --

12                  MR. DOUGLAS:  Beat that by one day.

13                  HEARING OFFICER RENAUD:  -- we'll be  
14                  done by March 10th.

15                  MR. DOUGLAS:  Yes.  But remember, you  
16                  know, the schedule is, once again, dependent on  
17                  some factors I think we're going to work through.  
18                  This is the best we can have right now.

19                  Okay, that's obviously a duplicate  
20                  slide, but once again, it's very important project  
21                  contacts, including the Presiding Member Levin, as  
22                  well as Associate Member Boyd.  And the rest of  
23                  everybody you can contact to get information and  
24                  voice your opinion.

25                  After the project is approved, this is a

1 post-licensing project compliance oversight. The  
2 compliance phase would apply during construction,  
3 operation and decommissioning of the project after  
4 the life span.

5 Purpose is to assure compliance with all  
6 conditions of certification and applicable LORS.  
7 The compliance project manager provides oversight  
8 of construction and operations during this phase.

9 And, are there any questions?

10 HEARING OFFICER RENAUD: All right,  
11 thank you, Joe.

12 We'll move now to the -- well, let me  
13 mention first on the schedule, Mr. Wheatland, not  
14 having received anything from the applicant  
15 indicating the schedule was unworkable, I'm  
16 assuming applicant is viewing that as a schedule  
17 that would be satisfactory if we can all stick to  
18 it.

19 MR. WHEATLAND: That would be a  
20 satisfactory schedule if we could all stick to it.  
21 We have some concerns about slippage in the  
22 schedule, but if we can meet the schedule, it  
23 would be satisfactory.

24 One of the things the Committee may wish  
25 to consider is having the status reports more

1 often in order to maintain an active management of  
2 the schedule. And we'd also suggest that the  
3 Committee may wish to consider asking parties to  
4 advise the Committee in advance if parties  
5 anticipate delays in the schedule dates, so that  
6 we can try to find remedies to any delays.

7 PRESIDING MEMBER LEVIN: Mr. Wheatland,  
8 have you considered the applicability of federal  
9 stimulus funds, and whether the current schedule  
10 would enable you to apply for federal stimulus  
11 funds?

12 MR. WHEATLAND: I have not. Kent, have  
13 we?

14 MR. LARSEN: Yes, we have.

15 PRESIDING MEMBER LEVIN: Can you come to  
16 the microphone, please? I'm sorry.

17 MR. LARSEN: We've looked at the  
18 opportunity because of the qualification of using  
19 -- grant instead of tax ITC for purposes of  
20 investment. And that would require us to be in  
21 construction before the end of 2010.

22 So, the way we typically finance  
23 projects, wind, solar, whatever they may be, is to  
24 have substantially the financing in place absent  
25 the final long-lead items, and that this is it.

1 Which typically the final permits are.

2 We would then have a financial close  
3 upon receipt of the permits and start  
4 construction. We'd issue a notice to proceed. It  
5 would be within the same day.

6 So, keeping to a schedule that would be  
7 mid-late, at the latest, 2010, will meet that  
8 criteria.

9 PRESIDING MEMBER LEVIN: The Governor  
10 has said very publicly that he would like  
11 California to be the most competitive state for  
12 federal stimulus funds. That this is a healthy  
13 area of competition.

14 And so I think it is incumbent on all of  
15 us to do everything we can to stick to that  
16 schedule. We will do everything we can on the  
17 Commission's end, and the applicant can provide  
18 timely responses, this is a real priority for us  
19 to tap into as many of those stimulus dollars,  
20 create as many new jobs in California as possible.

21 I realize there are other parties, the  
22 Air District and others that are not here tonight,  
23 but this is a real priority for us to look for  
24 projects that could tap into more stimulus  
25 dollars.

1 MR. LARSEN: We agree.

2 HEARING OFFICER RENAUD: Okay. Mr.  
3 Wheatland, the Committee is going to issue a  
4 scheduling order in the next few days. And in  
5 crafting that, I'd like to incorporate your idea  
6 of having more frequent status reports so we can  
7 more tightly monitor progress.

8 How often do you think that ought to be?  
9 Sixty days, 30 days?

10 MR. WHEATLAND: I'd say every 30 days,  
11 perhaps on the first of the month or at the end of  
12 the month.

13 HEARING OFFICER RENAUD: All right.

14 MR. WHEATLAND: And the reports, of  
15 course, don't have to be long if there's nothing  
16 to report, but it does provide an opportunity to  
17 keep the Committee fully up to date.

18 HEARING OFFICER RENAUD: Yeah, I think  
19 that's a good idea. We'll discuss including  
20 something along those lines. Thank you.

21 Okay. I think now we can move into the  
22 public comment period. As I indicated earlier, if  
23 you want to fill out a blue card, get that up to  
24 me and then we'll call you. And then if you  
25 haven't filled out a blue card, you can also --

1 we'll give you a chance to come speak.

2 First card I have is from Willard  
3 Lewallen, President of West Hills College. Come  
4 to the mic, please.

5 DR. LEWALLEN: Willard Lewallen,  
6 President of West Hills College, Coalinga.

7 Commissioners, project developers,  
8 agency representatives and community members, on  
9 behalf of West Hills College I'm pleased to speak  
10 in support of San Joaquin Solar 1 and 2.

11 There are three reasons why we  
12 enthusiastically support the project. First, the  
13 project will provide a tremendous economic  
14 stimulus to the Coalinga community. Many jobs  
15 will be created during the construction of the  
16 facility. Although many of the jobs created  
17 during construction will be temporary, we know  
18 that individuals employed during construction and  
19 installation will spend money in the Coalinga  
20 area.

21 And, of course, once the facility is  
22 operational there will be an estimated minimum of  
23 100 permanent jobs.

24 Second, many of our vocational programs  
25 at the college are ideally suited for this

1 project. Students trained through our outstanding  
2 programs in heavy equipment operation, welding and  
3 maintenance mechanic, to name a few, will be well  
4 positioned to take advantage of the employment  
5 opportunities during installation, and once the  
6 facility is operational.

7 Additionally we are already in  
8 discussions with Spinnaker Energy about potential  
9 partnerships between West Hills College that will  
10 provide education and career-related experiences  
11 for our students.

12 We are already exploring the development  
13 of a certificate program that will provide  
14 training for employment in solar and alternative  
15 energy-related occupations.

16 Third, we know that a continued reliance  
17 on existing forms of energy is not a viable option  
18 for economic and/or environmental sustainability.  
19 Development of alternative and renewable forms of  
20 energy such as solar and wind are necessary to  
21 secure reliable and clean forms of energy for now  
22 and into the future.

23 We fully support San Joaquin Solar 1 and  
24 2 and look forward to the opportunities that these  
25 projects will provide for the community and the

1 college.

2 Thank you.

3 PRESIDING MEMBER LEVIN: Mr. Lewallen,  
4 thank you very much for the important work that  
5 the college does, and for participating tonight.

6 DR. LEWALLEN: Thank you.

7 HEARING OFFICER RENAUD: Thank you. I'd  
8 like to call Tom Frantz next.

9 MR. FRANTZ: Hello. I'm Tom Frantz from  
10 Kern County. I'm head of the Association of  
11 Irrigated Residents, an air quality advocacy group  
12 here in the San Joaquin Valley. I'm also a school  
13 teacher and an almond farmer.

14 And I'm all for solar power like what's  
15 proposed here, but, you know, there's questions  
16 about the water use, the current ag use. This  
17 project will use more water than the current ag  
18 use, that's for sure, if you include the  
19 wastewater. And wastewater is only wastewater in  
20 name. Water is valuable, as was mentioned by  
21 Chairman Boyd, as well. That water is gold and  
22 water can be cleaned up. And a lot of wastewater  
23 can be used for other ag purposes, as well.

24 And there is a farmland issue, as well,  
25 when you take 450 acres, if it is viable farmland,

1 out of production. There's lots of farmland  
2 there. And we're asking developers all over the  
3 valley to mitigate that farmland loss.

4 I don't know if the Energy Commission  
5 can do anything about that, but developers are  
6 putting land into land trusts and so on to  
7 mitigate farmland loss. And that's a potential  
8 option here, as well.

9 We're looking at carbon reduction  
10 everywhere we can go with renewable energy. And  
11 when you lose farmland you're releasing a lot of  
12 extra CO2 into the air. And that should be  
13 accounted for, just like land use issues, indirect  
14 land use issues with ethanol that everyone's  
15 looking at right now.

16 And the trucking of the biomass is a big  
17 problem. Biomass, this is considered waste by  
18 these proponents, but the biomass is not really  
19 waste if the price of carbon is being paid at what  
20 it's worth.

21 Because when you remove biomass and it's  
22 not returned to the soil, you just got to pay more  
23 for more imported fertilizer and other nutrients  
24 to replace that biomass. That's what we're doing  
25 with cheap fossil fuel for the last 50 years. We

1 can't continue to do that. So the value of the  
2 biomass has to be accounted for if it had been  
3 returned to the soil.

4 In our almond orchards we're chipping  
5 all our prunings now, totally, and returning them  
6 to the soil directly. And we're saving on  
7 fertilizer costs, fossil fuel fertilizer costs.  
8 We're saving on water with more, you know, humus  
9 and stuff in the soil. We're saving on pesticides  
10 because the trees are healthier. And that needs  
11 to be accounted for when you consider the value of  
12 biomass. It's not just waste.

13 It's not -- and incinerating waste  
14 instead of returning it to the soil, this is --  
15 we're in a terribly polluted valley here, and  
16 incineration of biomass is going to add to our  
17 pollution.

18 And then you have the trucks. They said  
19 450,000 dry tons per year. You know, the prunings  
20 are going to have moisture in it, so if you  
21 consider the wet tons that are going to be  
22 delivered, this easily comes to 60, 70, 80 trucks  
23 per day delivering biomass to this site.

24 And that's going to contribute  
25 significantly to our air pollution problem. It

1 needs to be mitigated. Not only do they need the  
2 latest diesel trucks hauling all this waste, there  
3 needs to be offsets for that added pollution  
4 because we can;t afford to have any added  
5 pollution in this valley.

6 So if they're going to burn biomass,  
7 that has to be fully mitigated. You have to look  
8 at the loss of returning that biomass to the soil  
9 instead.

10 A lot of things to look at that haven't  
11 been discussed yet. Where the ash goes is a big  
12 question. I'm glad the Commission, of course,  
13 will be looking at that.

14 For them to say there's no significant  
15 cumulative impacts to air quality, that hasn't  
16 been proven at all. And that really needs to be  
17 looked at, as well.

18 So, thank you.

19 HEARING OFFICER RENAUD: Thank you very  
20 much. All right, let's call Bill Skinner, please.  
21 Bill Skinner.

22 MR. SKINNER: Thank you, Commissioners.  
23 Bill Skinner, Coalinga City Manager. I'd like to  
24 say that the city and the council's in full  
25 support of this project.

1           This project represents a symbiotic  
2 relationship for a public/private partnership  
3 between the applicant and the City of Coalinga  
4 with the use of our recycled wastewater.

5           As indicated during the presentation the  
6 groundwater here in Coalinga, in the Coalinga  
7 area, is very poor. That is why Coalinga, back in  
8 the late 60s, early 70s, takes all of their water  
9 out of the aqueduct. Previously water was trucked  
10 into this area.

11           Now what we do with our wastewater out  
12 of our current plant is service disposal, which  
13 returns to the groundwater aquifer, which becomes  
14 unusable. This represents a full recycling type  
15 of activity.

16           Not to reiterate my esteemed colleague,  
17 Dr. Lewallen's comments, but this is job creation  
18 for the city. And that's essential. What we're  
19 looking for here is a diversification of our  
20 economy.

21           Just this morning in "The Fresno Bee"  
22 there was an article that said, Westlands Water  
23 District still at zero or a little bit above zero  
24 in their federal and state contracts for  
25 irrigation.

1           Well, what we need to do is find jobs  
2           for the people in this area. And not just  
3           Coalinga, but Huron, Avenal, the west side of the  
4           San Joaquin Valley is fully impacted by this  
5           drought and by this economy.

6           A little bit of history. At one time in  
7           the early 20th century to post World War II, the  
8           Coalinga oilfields in this area provided over one-  
9           quarter of the revenue of Fresno County in  
10          nonrenewable resources. We here in Coalinga and  
11          the greater west side look to the future of  
12          renewable energy. We want to be on the cusp, be  
13          progressive, to show what we can do. And again be  
14          a leader in energy production.

15          With that, again the city, and the  
16          council, as well, has authorized me to be in full  
17          support of this project.

18          Thank you for your time.

19          HEARING OFFICER RENAUD: Okay, thank  
20          you. Next I'll call Ingrid Brostrom.

21          MS. BROSTROM: My name is Ingrid  
22          Brostrom; I'm with the Center on Race, Poverty and  
23          the Environment. And I actually just had some  
24          questions.

25          I'm not sure that I have a stance on

1 this project. Of course, we do support solar  
2 projects, however there's some pretty big concerns  
3 that my organization would have with water usage  
4 and also the air quality impacts.

5 So I had some questions. I don't know  
6 if there's a question-and-answer period or whether  
7 I'll just put these on the record and perhaps they  
8 can be answered at some point.

9 HEARING OFFICER RENAUD: Let's hear what  
10 your questions are and maybe if someone's here who  
11 feels they have an answer, they're welcome to  
12 answer. Otherwise they will just be on the record  
13 for the proceeding.

14 MS. BROSTROM: All right. First, in  
15 looking at some of the information that was put  
16 out about this project about a year ago there were  
17 statements that the project would also be using  
18 cow manure as part of the biomass project. And I  
19 wanted to make sure that is no longer the case.

20 MS. RUNNALLS: That is no longer  
21 anticipated to be part of the fuel mix.

22 MS. BROSTROM: Secondly, there was some  
23 talk about employment at the site. And there's a  
24 quotation of 100 workers. However, I was  
25 wondering if we could get a further breakdown of

1       how many workers would actually be permanent at  
2       that site, and also how many workers would be  
3       local.

4                   HEARING OFFICER RENAUD:  Anybody have  
5       information on the breakdown of employment?

6                   MR. LARSEN:  (inaudible) we're not  
7       anticipating anybody to live at the site, if  
8       that's what you were interpreting.

9                   MS. BROSTROM:  I mean workers around the  
10      area from the valley.

11                  MR. LARSEN:  Okay, yeah.

12                  MS. RUNNALLS:  (inaudible).

13                  MR. LARSEN:  Great, okay.

14                  MS. BROSTROM:  Also, I'm not sure how  
15      many solar plants are already located in the  
16      valley, but I was wondering the impact of the poor  
17      air quality, the smog and the fog would have here  
18      on solar production.

19                  MS. RUNNALLS:  I know -- I can just  
20      speak generally that they have looked at the solar  
21      intensity in this area, and they have found it to  
22      be good, you know, -- it produces enough energy to  
23      go forward with the project.

24                  MS. BROSTROM:  And another issue that I  
25      would like to talk about is the fact that the

1 central valley now, in my knowledge, is facing  
2 three different proposals for power plants.

3 One is just a few miles away from here  
4 in Avenal. And in the Avenal reports the report  
5 found that solar would be infeasible. And I was  
6 wondering how the CEC can justify this conclusion  
7 when a permit for a solar power plant is, in fact,  
8 just a few miles away.

9 Also, in the same reasoning, the  
10 Commission, I think, should look at these three  
11 plants, the one in Avenal, the one in Parlier, and  
12 this one in conjunction with each other in looking  
13 at cumulative impacts. Because I think that was a  
14 problem with the Avenal plant, that a lot of the  
15 similar projects and emitting air emission  
16 projects were not looked.

17 So, moving forward with this project I  
18 would urge the Commission to look at all three of  
19 those, looking specifically at air impacts,  
20 traffic impacts and water impacts.

21 HEARING OFFICER RENAUD: I could  
22 probably help you out just a little bit in general  
23 terms. First of all, alternatives analysis is  
24 part of every review. And so issues of whether or  
25 not other types of generation are feasible at the

1 site are always included.

2 And secondly, on the cumulative impact,  
3 again that's always a part of every review. And  
4 any projects in the vicinity would be included in  
5 that review.

6 MS. BROSTROM: And also related to that  
7 I would be interested in knowing about the demand  
8 for the energy coming out. Because we do have  
9 three projects that are proposed for the central  
10 valley. Is there a demand for all this energy?  
11 What is the energy going to be used for? And can  
12 we look at those in conjunction with one another  
13 to make sure that all of the three projects  
14 actually make sense for the central valley?

15 Finally, my last point, and again I  
16 talked about this in the Avenal proceedings, and  
17 that's about public notice. It said, I think,  
18 early on that notification is only given to people  
19 that live within 1000 feet of the project.

20 In rural areas this doesn't make a lot  
21 of sense where you have small communities, usually  
22 there's not people living right next door to these  
23 projects. And so I think there needs to be some  
24 modifications for notification in the rural area  
25 such as this. And that all residents of Coalinga

1 probably should be notified in the future.

2 And that's all I have, thank you.

3 HEARING OFFICER RENAUD: Elena, did you  
4 want to address the notice question?

5 PUBLIC ADVISER MILLER: I just wanted to  
6 reiterate that the siting office does notice the  
7 property owners and the residents within an area  
8 around each project.

9 But because we know that many of these  
10 projects, the renewable projects, are in remote  
11 areas, as is this one, we do notice -- my office  
12 notices in a number of ways. And so I welcome  
13 you, as a potential partner, to help me get more  
14 word out.

15 And that includes coming into the  
16 community and speaking to local organizations. I  
17 am happy to be available to talk about our  
18 process. I will not talk about the substance of a  
19 project. I'm not an engineer or a scientist, I am  
20 just a measly lawyer.

21 But I know that getting people to be  
22 aware of a project is an integral part of every  
23 project. And so I welcome anybody who can help me  
24 to help me. Like most people in government right  
25 now, I simply do not have enough people or dollars

1 to be here on a daily basis, to canvass every  
2 street, and to knock on every door.

3 And so I really need help from local  
4 organizations. But toward that effort I can say  
5 wholeheartedly that I am sending notices out. I  
6 have sent a large net of information out to people  
7 in English and Spanish. And that includes  
8 advertising in local newspapers in English and  
9 Spanish.

10 And so if I have missed anybody, or  
11 anyplace, please let me know. Thank you.

12 MR. WERT: I'm Doug Wert and I'm with  
13 Martifer Renewables. And I'd like to address your  
14 question on the solar adequacy of the site.

15 And I'd like to indicate, first of all,  
16 that this site has been heavily studied, and it's  
17 been determined to have an effective and adequate  
18 resource for development. And that's extremely  
19 local.

20 We can move five miles away and have a  
21 completely different result depending upon the  
22 relationship of the site to the mountains, to  
23 other criteria that will have an impact on the  
24 total solar radiation.

25 And if you have some more questions on

1       that area, I'd like to address your attention to  
2       the gentleman right here. Len, would you please  
3       stand up. This is one of the most foremost  
4       experts in the world on solar energy. He's  
5       developed more solar energy, put it in the ground,  
6       than anybody else in the world.

7                So if you have some additional questions  
8       in this area, feel free to talk to him, and he'll  
9       be able to help you.

10               HEARING OFFICER RENAUD: Okay, thank  
11       you. And I have a card from Bobbie -- having a  
12       hard time reading this, I believe it's Eade.  
13       Good, okay.

14               MS. EADE: I'm Bobbie Eade, and I am a  
15       real estate broker here in Coalinga. And since  
16       there's been a lot of other issues addressed, I'll  
17       make this one short and sweet.

18               I'm for this project. I've been  
19       watching this project. One of the big reasons is  
20       to bring in additional industry to Coalinga. We  
21       have had our fair share of foreclosures and people  
22       moved out of their homes in Coalinga due to some  
23       of our large employers laying off employees.

24               This project would go a long way in  
25       providing jobs, and we need them quickly to stem

1 the loss in housing and homes for people.

2 So, I'm recommending that we -- or  
3 urging you in hopes that you would move this along  
4 quickly so we can help and stimulate the community  
5 here in Coalinga.

6 Thank you.

7 HEARING OFFICER RENAUD: All right,  
8 thank you. Does anyone else wish to comment or  
9 ask a question? All right.

10 Before we close, just one thing I'll  
11 point out. You may have noticed there's some  
12 refreshments and snacks over there. We try to  
13 hold these meetings at times when people can come,  
14 like after work. And sometimes that involves  
15 extending into a mealtime. So we don't want  
16 people to be fainting from hunger. So we have the  
17 applicant graciously put out these refreshments  
18 for you. Please feel free to help yourselves.

19 But before we adjourn let me ask the  
20 Committee if they have any closing remarks.

21 ASSOCIATE MEMBER BOYD: Quick comment.  
22 Everything that I heard people raise questions  
23 about I think Mr. Renaud made pretty much  
24 reference to that, but rest assured I've listed  
25 all the things.



## CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I, TROY A. RAY, an Electronic Reporter, do hereby certify that I am a disinterested person herein; that I recorded the foregoing California Energy Commission Informational Hearing; that it was thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

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

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 4th day of May, 2009.



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TROY A. RAY