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BEFORE THE

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

In the Matter of:)	Daalast Na	15 750 01
)	Docket No.	TO-AFC-UI
Application for Certification)		
For the PUENTE POWER PROJECT)		
	_)		

COMMITTEE CONFERENCE

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 9TH STREET

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2017 9:30 A.M.

Reported by: Gigi Lastra

APPEARANCES

COMMISSIONERS

Janea Scott, Presiding Member

Karen Douglas, Associate Member

ADVISORS

Rhetta DeMesa, Advisor to Commissioner Scott

Matthew Coldwell, Advisor to Commissioner Scott

Jennifer Nelson, Advisor to Commissioner Douglas

HEARING OFFICER

Paul Kramer

ENERGY COMMISSION STAFF

Kerry Willis, Assistant Chief Counsel

Michelle Chester, Staff Counsel

Leonidas Payne, Project Manager

APPLICANT:

Michael Carroll, Esq., Latham & Watkins LLP

George Piantka, PE, Director of Environmental Services, NRG Energy, Inc.

INTERVENORS:

Matthew Vespa, Senior Attorney, Sierra Club, also representing Environmental Defense Center and Environmental Coalition

Ellison Folk, Shute, Mihaly & Weinberg, LLP, City of Oxnard

Shana Lazerow, California Environmental Justice Alliance

Lisa T. Belenky, Center for Biological Diversity

Kevin P. Bundy, Center for Biological Diversity

APPEARANCES (CONT.)

INTERVENORS:

Dr. Grace Chang, Fighting for Informed Environmentally Responsible Clean Energy (FFIERCE)

CALIFORNIA INDEPENDENT SYSTEM OPERATOR (CAISO)

Jordan Pinjuv

EXHIBITS

	IDENTIFICATION	EVIDENCE
EXHIBIT NO.		
2031		21

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1 PROCEEDINGS

2 SEPTEMBER 12, 2017

- 9:30 A.M.
- 3 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: So, this is Paul
- 4 Kramer and I'm the Hearing Officer for the Puente
- 5 AFC Committee. And we're here today for a
- 6 Committee Conference prior to our hearings that
- 7 will be held down in Oxnard on this Thursday,
- 8 September 14th.
- 9 So, let me turn it over to our Presiding
- 10 Member, Commissioner Scott, for the
- 11 introductions.
- 12 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Hi. Good morning
- 13 everyone. This is Commissioner Janea Scott. As
- 14 our Hearing Officer Paul Kramer just mentioned,
- 15 I'm the Presiding Member for the Puente Power
- 16 Project.
- 17 And I am joined here, as you can see on
- 18 my right, by Paul Kramer, and to my left by my
- 19 Advisors Rhetta DeMesa and Matt Coldwell.
- 20 And for the moment, to my far right is
- 21 Jenn Nelson who is an Advisor to Commissioner
- 22 Karen Douglas.
- 23 Let us go and do introductions with the
- 24 parties, starting with the Applicant, please.
- MR. CARROLL: Good morning, Mike Carroll

- 1 with Latham & Watkins. We're outside counsel for
- 2 the Applicant.
- 3 And with me today is George Piantka,
- 4 Director of Environmental Services for NRG.
- 5 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Good morning. Do
- 6 you have anyone on the WebEx?
- 7 MR. CARROLL: I don't believe we do at
- 8 the moment. We may have people joining, but I
- 9 think primarily just to listen in. So, we don't
- 10 plan to have anyone speak via the WebEx.
- 11 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Okay, great. Good
- 12 morning, welcome.
- 13 How about the Energy Commission staff,
- 14 please?
- MS. WILLIS: Good morning, this is Kerry
- 16 Willis, Assistant Chief Counsel, with Michelle
- 17 Chester, Staff Counsel, and Lon Payne who is our
- 18 Project Manager.
- 19 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Good morning.
- 20 And now, let's turn to the Intervenors,
- 21 starting with the City of Oxnard.
- MS. FOLK: Good morning. This is Ellison
- 23 Folk with Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger, for the
- 24 City of Oxnard.
- 25 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Hi, good morning.

- 1 How about the Environmental Coalition,
- 2 Environmental Defense Center and Sierra Club?
- 3 MR. VESPA: Yeah, hi, good morning. This
- 4 is Matt Vespa on behalf of those parties.
- 5 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Good morning.
- 6 Do we have Intervenor Bob Sarvey? If so,
- 7 please go ahead and introduce yourself.
- 8 Okay, how about Intervenor California
- 9 Environmental Justice Alliance?
- MS. LAZEROW: Yes, hi, good morning.
- 11 This is Shana Lazerow on behalf of CEJA.
- 12 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Good morning.
- 13 Intervenor Center for Biological
- 14 Diversity?
- MS. BELENKY: Hi, this is Lisa Belenky.
- 16 And also with me is Kevin Bundy.
- MR. BUNDY: Good morning.
- 18 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Hi, good morning.
- 19 And how about Fighting for Informed
- 20 Environmentally Responsible Clean Energy? Do we
- 21 have Dr. Chang on the line? Okay, we'll check
- 22 back in a minute.
- 23 Let me see whether or not we have any
- 24 others. Do we have anyone from the California
- 25 ISO on the line?

- 1 MR. PINJUV: Yes, good morning, Jordan
- 2 Pinjuv from the California ISO.
- 3 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Good morning.
- 4 How about the California Coastal
- 5 Commission?
- 6 Okay. How about the United States
- 7 Geological Survey, USGS?
- 8 Okay. Do we have any other State or
- 9 Federal wildlife agencies who would like to
- 10 introduce themselves? If so, please go ahead.
- 11 And any other Federal, State or Local
- 12 agencies that I missed, who would like to say
- 13 hello? If so, please go ahead and introduce
- 14 yourself.
- Okay, I think we have heard from
- 16 everyone. Good morning all and welcome.
- So, we are now going to, I think, pause a
- 18 moment and wait until we are joined by
- 19 Commissioner Douglas and then we will get going
- 20 again.
- 21 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Let me say one
- 22 thing, though. Ms. Folk, when we were going and
- 23 entering the exhibit designations into the
- 24 system, your first proposed exhibit 3074 we
- 25 noticed was already in. At least under the TN

- 1 number that you gave was already in the system as
- 2 3036. So, I wonder if you can check on that and
- 3 see if there was some kind of --
- 4 MS. FOLK: Okay, I will check on that.
- 5 There could have been overlap there.
- 6 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay.
- 7 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Any other
- 8 housekeeping?
- 9 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: I'm just looking
- 10 to see if there are any other housekeeping type
- 11 items we could talk about. I don't see any.
- 12 Do any of the parties have any they want
- 13 to at least throw out on the table for people to
- 14 think about? Seeing none, okay, we'll --
- MS. LAZEROW: Actually, hi, this is Shana
- 16 Lazerow. Can you hear me?
- 17 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Yes.
- 18 MS. LAZEROW: Great. I don't know
- 19 whether it's appropriate to talk about timing for
- 20 briefing or whether we need the whole Committee
- 21 present for that. Is that an administrative type
- 22 matter?
- 23 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Well, why don't
- 24 you describe what you want to propose and then we
- 25 can at least be thinking about it, maybe to get

- 1 back to it after the short closed session we're
- 2 going to start with.
- 3 MS. LAZEROW: Sure. I was going to
- 4 propose, I was going to ask whether we could
- 5 reconsider the briefing schedule that's currently
- 6 out there, with the idea of having both the --
- 7 I'm sorry a BART train was going by. Can you
- 8 hear me?
- 9 The idea that we could have both the
- 10 reply briefs and the briefs concerning the issues
- 11 around the CAISO study due on September 29th?
- 12 From CEJA's perspective, we're having a
- 13 bit of a legal staffing issue at the moment that
- 14 was unexpected. And having the reply briefs due
- 15 on the 19th would cause a real hardship for CEJA.
- 16 And I think that given the nature of the evidence
- 17 that is coming in, certainly from our perspective
- 18 it would be more efficient if we had the option
- 19 of providing, you know, either a combined brief
- 20 or separate reply, and opening briefs regarding
- 21 the ISO, the new ISO information, and the reply.
- 22 So, that's what I was going to suggest.
- 23 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay. We'll
- 24 come back to that when everyone is here, after
- 25 the closed session.

- 1 MS. LAZEROW: Great, thanks.
- 2 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: This is Commissioner
- 3 Janea Scott. I was going to note -- I'm sorry,
- 4 was that Ms. Folk?
- 5 MS. FOLK: Yeah, this is Ellison Folk. I
- 6 was just going to say I checked the exhibits and
- 7 I think you're right that there was a
- 8 duplication, so --.
- 9 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay, so we'll
- 10 just leave that number blank then.
- 11 MS. FOLK: I notice on the exhibit list -
- 12 yeah, yeah.
- 13 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay.
- 14 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Okay, great.
- MR. VESPA: And this is Matt.
- 16 COMMISSIONER SCOTT: Go ahead.
- 17 MR. VESPA: This is Matt Vespa. I had a
- 18 minor item. In my prehearing conference
- 19 statement I had included some exhibits, one of
- 20 which ended up being a link to a GreenTech media
- 21 article. Because at the time I filed that I was
- 22 informed by the docket office that you need
- 23 permission -- copyright permission, which I've
- 24 since obtained. And that document is now refiled
- 25 as TN221103. So, we would propose to swap that

- 1 out.
- 2 As for exhibit numbers, I understand
- 3 there's also objections to these exhibits, but
- 4 assuming they go through I would just want to
- 5 switch out the web link for the actual document.
- 6 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay. And then
- 7 I think also Ms. Belenky had two links. What I
- 8 neglected to do over the weekend, but I'll do
- 9 this evening or later today, is I will create two
- 10 dummy, basically PDF files that just obtain the
- 11 link, and get those docketed, and then we'll put
- 12 the exhibit numbers on those.
- 13 And we'll do that regardless of whether,
- 14 you know, they're ultimately taken into evidence.
- 15 We just need them into the docket for historical
- 16 reasons.
- MR. VESPA: Yes. So, in this particular
- 18 case I did docket it. I docketed something with
- 19 the link, already.
- 20 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Right.
- MR. VESPA: And that's listed, right.
- 22 But now I do have the copyright permission so --
- 23 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Yes, and I'll
- 24 make sure.
- MR. VESPA: Okay.

- 1 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: I'll make sure
- 2 if we haven't already transferred the exhibit
- 3 number to the full document, we'll do that as
- 4 well.
- 5 MR. VESPA: Okay, thank you.
- 6 MS. BELENKY: Yes, and this is Lisa
- 7 Belenky. Yes, I think there were actually three
- 8 and we are working on getting those permissions.
- 9 You know, what might be helpful is if the
- 10 Commission has a -- collects some clarity on what
- 11 your new policy is, and that it could be --
- 12 actually we could all know what that policy now
- 13 is. Because you had encouraged me to file
- 14 excerpts, which I actually was very, quite
- 15 resistant after I thought about it because it
- 16 would be as though I were testifying as to the
- 17 document. And I don't think that's going to help
- 18 the situation. I think either the document, like
- 19 you said, there's a link and everyone can reach
- 20 it that way, or maybe you can file the document
- 21 but not put it up on the web, so that it is part
- 22 of the record.
- 23 We have used scientific articles and
- 24 other articles from various sources at least in
- 25 all of the years that I've been doing CEC work.

- 1 Which I realize is not as long as some people,
- 2 but it is probably eight years. I have never had
- 3 anything rejected on that basis before and I had
- 4 no idea that this was a new policy.
- 5 So, having the new policy stated
- 6 someplace on your website and so that we know
- 7 what it is, would be very, very helpful.
- 8 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Yeah, you're
- 9 caught right in the middle of the evolution of
- 10 this, so we're working on a policy. Actually,
- 11 it's one of the things I'm juggling, along with
- 12 this case.
- But just to let everyone know what's
- 14 going on, we are trying to be more sensitive --
- 15 well, A, we don't want to spend a lot of our time
- 16 defending copyright infringement suits. And so,
- 17 we don't want people using our website to violate
- 18 somebody's copyright.
- 19 So, when I speak about excerpting
- 20 portions of documents that are appropriate to
- 21 your point, we think that likely is a fair use of
- 22 a document.
- 23 But to take a whole journal article and
- 24 just put it into the docket, and have it then be
- 25 republished because everything in the docket goes

- 1 through our website is something we're trying --
- 2 well, we're trying to find the right balance
- 3 there. But, at present --
- 4 And occasionally you may find something
- 5 that slips through, frankly. It's our filters
- 6 are not necessarily perfect in this regard, but
- 7 we are trying to spot these kinds of documents
- 8 and just make sure that either there's -- in one
- 9 case, one of the documents that was filed
- 10 recently had -- I think it was in this case,
- 11 currently said on it that it was subject to the
- 12 Common Commons License or something. I may have
- 13 the term wrong. But, basically, it's like an
- 14 open source license that anybody can republish it
- 15 as long as they give credit to the originator.
- 16 And so, therefore, that was fine.
- 17 But when we have copyrighted documents,
- 18 articles from newspapers, you know, who are
- 19 trying to sell us subscriptions to get past their
- 20 paid firewalls, we just -- we have enough
- 21 litigation and we're not trying to encourage
- 22 more. So, that's where we are with that.
- 23 So, Lisa, I think in your case if -- your
- 24 other option would be to just excerpt the
- 25 portions of the particular document that are

- 1 specific to the points you're trying to make, or
- 2 if you're offering them for impeachment or
- 3 something, then you could do it that way in the
- 4 future.
- 5 And at some point there will be a policy.
- 6 It's just not going to be -- it's probably not
- 7 going to be, certainly not next week, and maybe
- 8 not even next month.
- 9 So, with that I've spoken too much on
- 10 this record about the copyright and I'm going to
- 11 quit that.
- Okay, so we're going to adjourn into that
- 13 closed session that I mentioned. This will be a
- 14 brief closed session. Probably not the only one
- 15 today.
- 16 And it is for the purpose of deliberation
- 17 on matters submitted for decision by the
- 18 Committee, including but not limited to pending
- 19 motions and scheduling.
- 20 And it's in accordance with Government
- 21 Code Section 11126(c)(3), which allows a State
- 22 body, including a delegated committee to hold a
- 23 closed session to deliberate.
- So, we will be back here at no earlier
- 25 than 10:00 but, hopefully, not much later. So,

- 1 we'll see you then.
- 2 (Adjourned into Closed Session at
- 3 9:46 a.m.)
- 4 (Reconvened into Public Session at
- 5 10:09 a.m.)
- 6 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay, back on
- 7 the record.
- 8 Okay, this is Paul Kramer. The
- 9 Committee's back from closed session. It has no
- 10 actions to report at the moment.
- 11 The next item in order on our agenda was
- 12 to discuss the prehearing statements. But as
- 13 that involves, in essence, talking about the time
- 14 estimates and how much time we really need, which
- 15 I think you noticed I said we were going to
- 16 discuss in one of my memos in the last few days.
- 17 I think that will be better informed after we
- 18 discuss the prehearing evidentiary objections and
- 19 motions.
- So, we're going to move on to Item 2.c.
- 21 And the first question I had, this is a holdover
- 22 from the last hearing but we had Exhibit 2031,
- 23 which was TN215772 and that was a couple-page
- 24 document, I think, that just had an updated data
- 25 from EnviroScreen 3.0. And some of the parties

- 1 were not sure if they were going to object or
- 2 not, so we just put that over.
- 3 And since then CEJA initially filed
- 4 objections and then withdrew those objections.
- 5 So, I'm wondering if any other party has any
- 6 objections to the admission of Exhibit 2031 or if
- 7 they need more time?
- 8 But otherwise we'd like to just put a
- 9 period on that question and right now, if we can.
- 10 MS. FOLK: This is Ellison Folk. The
- 11 City does not have any objection.
- MR. CARROLL: The Applicant does not have
- 13 any objections.
- 14 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay. Does
- 15 anybody have any objection?
- 16 Okay, so then 2031 will be admitted.
- 17 Thank you, all.
- 18 Next is TN221104 and that's Applicant's
- 19 Motion to Strike the exhibits of Intervenors
- 20 Sierra Club, Environmental Coalition and the
- 21 Environmental Defense Center.
- 22 Mr. Carroll, do you want to briefly argue
- 23 your motion?
- MR. CARROLL: Yes, thank you. The
- 25 Committee has been very clear in its orders with

- 1 respect to the deadlines for filing documents in
- 2 these proceedings, including ensuring that those
- 3 documents are available to the other parties via
- 4 the CEC's docket. This particular deadline of
- 5 August 30th, for filing testimony and evidence in
- 6 connection with the upcoming evidentiary hearings
- 7 was established by order dated June 20th. So,
- 8 the deadline has been known to the parties for
- 9 several months at this point.
- 10 And we think that it's incumbent upon all
- 11 of the parties to adhere to the deadline so that
- 12 these proceedings can move forward in an orderly
- 13 fashion. It has been understood from the very
- 14 beginning of these proceedings, and all of the
- 15 parties have adhered to this understanding, that
- 16 the filing of testimony includes the filing of
- 17 any -- in all documents, including not just the
- 18 written testimony, but any written exhibits that
- 19 are sponsored by that testimony.
- I would also point out that the notice
- 21 for the evidentiary hearings, dated August 25th,
- 22 indicates that all evidence that the parties
- 23 intend to introduce at the upcoming evidentiary
- 24 hearings be docketed by the August 30th deadline.
- 25 So, we think it's been very clear since

- 1 June that all documents, either written testimony
- 2 or written exhibits of another nature, need to be
- 3 docketed and made available to the parties by
- 4 August 30th.
- 5 In this case a number of documents filed
- 6 by EDC, on behalf of the group of Intervenors,
- 7 were filed after the deadline and on that basis
- 8 we think should be excluded from the record.
- 9 Thank you.
- 10 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay.
- 11 MR. VESPA: This is Matt Vespa. May I
- 12 respond?
- 13 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Yes, go ahead
- 14 Matt.
- MR. VESPA: Yeah, I did file a brief
- 16 response yesterday afternoon. These documents
- 17 are not testimony. Our testimony was timely
- 18 filed. These documents are not sponsored by the
- 19 persons, the experts that we did sponsor
- 20 testimony for.
- 21 These are documents we would like to use
- 22 to cross-examine CAISO in the upcoming hearings.
- 23 And because of that we feel are timely filed and
- 24 are already identified in the prehearing
- 25 conference statement which gives everyone a week,

- 1 which is more than enough time to look at them.
- 2 We do have rights as Intervenors to
- 3 cross-examine witnesses and to reject these would
- 4 prejudice those rights of cross-examine.
- 5 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay, if their
- 6 use were limited to cross-examination would that
- 7 satisfy your need for them?
- 8 MR. VESPA: Yes.
- 9 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Any other party
- 10 wish to speak to this motion?
- 11 MR. CARROLL: May I ask --
- 12 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Final word, Mr.
- 13 Carroll?
- MR. CARROLL: With respect to the
- 15 question that you just asked of Mr. Vespa, I'm
- 16 not sure I understand exactly what it means to
- 17 say that they are limited to cross-examination.
- 18 Meaning that they can be used for context or for
- 19 purpose of reference during cross-examination,
- 20 but they would not be evidence to which a party
- 21 could cite to in support of a proposition in
- 22 their briefs. Would that be a correct
- 23 articulation of that limitation?
- 24 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Yeah, I think we
- 25 have to work on some language. But, you know,

- 1 what I was thinking was they could be used to
- 2 impeach a witness, but the contents of the
- 3 document, of course, would be hearsay because the
- 4 producer of the document's not available to us
- 5 for you to ask questions.
- So -- but, yeah, let's be more precise.
- 7 Hearsay, used for the purpose of impeachment,
- 8 only or, for instance, to illustrate. Sometimes
- 9 we have people asking questions and they're
- 10 saying, you know, I saw this in such and such a
- 11 document, so it's good to have the document
- 12 available in the record to understand the full
- 13 context of the question.
- MR. VESPA: I would just point out, you
- 15 know, a number of these documents are authored by
- 16 the CEC or CAISO, and a number of them were cited
- 17 by CAISO in CAISO's study. So, I just wouldn't
- 18 want to presume in advance that all these are
- 19 hearsay. You know, these are really getting at a
- 20 lot of what the study relies on.
- 21 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay. Well,
- 22 obviously, Mr. Carroll, we're going to take this
- 23 back to a closed session and make a decision.
- 24 But if we go down that path, it would
- 25 seem that it would be situational, so we would

- 1 have to see how they were actually used at the
- 2 hearing, and then, I suppose, when it comes to
- 3 the end of the hearing, to admit exhibits, then
- 4 we would have to describe the limitations at that
- 5 point.
- 6 MR. CARROLL: And let me just state that
- 7 Applicant would not object to the documents being
- $8\,$ used in the manner that you proposed, Mr. Kramer.
- 9 That being that they are hearsay statements used
- 10 exclusively for the purposes of impeachment.
- 11 To Mr. Vespa's point, I suppose if it
- 12 turned out that one of the CAISO witnesses was
- 13 also able to authenticate and lay a foundation
- 14 for one of the CAISO documents that that could be
- 15 an exception to that rule. But absent a live
- 16 witness that's in a position to do that, that
- 17 they would be treated as hearsay documents, or
- 18 hearsay statements used exclusively for the
- 19 purposes of impeachment. We would not have an
- 20 objection to proceeding on that basis.
- 21 Although, I will note that in the briefs
- 22 the parties have been somewhat hesitant to adhere
- 23 to some of the limitations that have been
- 24 imposed, previously, on the admission of
- 25 exhibits, but we'll address that in our reply

- 1 brief. So, I would hope that if we go down that
- 2 path all the parties would respect the
- 3 Committee's ruling in that regard.
- 4 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Yeah, that's a
- 5 general problem we seem to have in our cases is -
- 6 people want to -- and, of course, more with the
- 7 lay intervenors rather than the professional
- 8 intervenors. But they just want to dump a bunch
- 9 of documents into the record and without any
- 10 context, or any explanation as to what point
- 11 they're trying to make with the documents.
- 12 And I can't remember if the general
- 13 orders address this, but what we want to do with
- 14 them is say we're not going to figure out what
- 15 the document means. You have to spell it out
- 16 somewhere.
- 17 And so, I think if we apply the similar
- 18 themes to these documents, it sounds like that
- 19 may work. In other words, they're admitted only
- 20 for the propositions that they were actually used
- 21 and not for some miscellaneous proposition
- 22 that's, you know, on the other side of the
- 23 document from where we were pointed to during the
- 24 testimony.
- Does that make sense to you?

- 1 MR. VESPA: Yeah, this is Matt Vespa.
- 2 That does. I'm comfortable with that. I mean,
- 3 just assuming documents are hearsay because
- 4 they're not authenticated when most of these are
- 5 in fact CEC-authored documents or CAISO-authored
- 6 documents, you know, we would have a problem
- 7 with.
- 8 But certainly, you know, we would not be
- 9 citing to materials we don't talk about or
- 10 question during the hearing. So, I think that
- 11 concern is valid.
- 12 But just excluding these documents for
- 13 being cited simply because they can't be
- 14 authenticated by the specific CAISO witness when
- 15 they are in fact, for example, CAISO documents,
- 16 we would have an issue with.
- 17 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Well --
- 18 MR. CARROLL: I would just add that that
- 19 does not overcome the hearsay exception. I mean,
- 20 the regulations are very clear, for example with
- 21 respect to the FSA. That the FSA, itself, is
- 22 hearsay unless a witness is made available for
- 23 the staff.
- So, the fact that it was authored by
- 25 someone at an agency, who's appeared in some

- 1 capacity in these proceedings, doesn't mean that
- 2 that particular document is not hearsay.
- 3 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Yeah, okay,
- 4 we'll take this one under submission.
- 5 Next is TN221105, Applicant's motion to
- 6 strike the proposed exhibits of the Center for
- 7 Biological Diversity. And it includes a second
- 8 component which is an objection to the Center's
- 9 alleged attempting to go beyond the scope of the
- 10 upcoming hearing.
- Mr. Carroll.
- MR. CARROLL: Thank you. With respect to
- 13 the first portion of this motion it is
- 14 essentially the same reasoning as was applied to
- 15 the -- or, was conveyed in the motion with
- 16 respect to the EDC exhibits which is that, first
- 17 of all, the prehearing statement itself was filed
- 18 post-deadline. But then there were a number of
- 19 documents identified in the prehearing statement
- 20 that had not been docketed at all. And two
- 21 documents, one of which replaced the other, which
- 22 had been docketed late.
- 23 So, again it's a matter of not having
- 24 adhered to the orders of the Committee to ensure
- 25 that documents were made available to the parties

- 1 by the CEC's docket, by the August 30th deadline
- 2 which was, as I said, established back in June.
- 3 The second component of that motion is an
- 4 indication on the part of CBD that they intend to
- 5 get into the areas of Air Quality and Greenhouse
- 6 Gases. The motion may be somewhat premature
- 7 since they haven't yet done that.
- 8 But to the extent that they intend to
- 9 follow through with that stated intention, we
- 10 have an objection to that since the topics of Air
- 11 Quality and Greenhouse Gases are closed.
- 12 We will not have any witnesses available
- 13 to speak to those topics, since they're outside
- 14 the scope of the evidentiary hearing. And,
- 15 therefore, it would be inappropriate and
- 16 prejudicial to have other witnesses delve into
- 17 those topics when the record's been closed.
- 18 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay. No, I
- 19 think it is appropriate to -- well, what we're
- 20 going to get to a little later is defining the
- 21 scope of the hearing. So, catching that at this
- 22 point and being clear about the expectations is
- 23 useful.
- Ms. Belenky or --
- MS. BELENKY: Yes.

- 1 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Go ahead.
- MS. BELENKY: Yes. Well, there's several
- 3 things there. First of all, as we said in our
- 4 response to this, we did try to docket our
- 5 prehearing conference statement at 4:25 and for
- 6 some reason it didn't go through and we had to
- 7 re-docket it at 5:22. And we did that as quickly
- 8 as possible.
- 9 As far as the documents are concerned, we
- 10 did docket the one that was accepted very early
- 11 in the day, but they had a bad PDF and we had to
- 12 have a re-PDF done. That's why there's two
- 13 documents there.
- So, the other documents were tried to be
- 15 docketed earlier in the day and suddenly this new
- 16 issue arose as to the copyrights. So, as far as
- 17 whether they were docketed last week, they were.
- 18 We attempted to docket them. They were rejected.
- 19 Now, going back to the August 30th
- 20 deadline, these, these, each of these exhibits
- 21 are in the way of rebuttal. Now, on August 30th
- 22 everyone filed their witnesses' testimony at the
- 23 same time. It was a very truncated schedule and
- 24 there was no provision for rebuttal.
- Our witness has rebuttal to the witness

- 1 from the Applicant. And these documents go to
- 2 some of that rebuttal.
- For example, the Hitachi document, which
- 4 was not allowed to be docketed, talks about the
- 5 lifetime of these kinds of large batteries and
- 6 what is the reliability in a life, and what is
- 7 it? Is it 10 years? Is it 15 years? And that
- 8 came up in the Applicant's testimony from Mr.
- 9 Theaker. So, that is directly relevant to that
- 10 and will be utilized at the discussion.
- 11 We could have our witness simply discuss
- 12 it. But it is actually usually the practice of
- 13 this Commission and other commissions to prefer
- 14 that there's actual documentary evidence, rather
- 15 than just have someone saying what they read in a
- 16 document.
- 17 So, I feel like there's a gap here in
- 18 what people expect. But I do believe it's
- 19 because of this truncated schedule. We were not
- 20 allowed to have any rebuttal testimony. We are
- 21 being, you know, at a hearing in two days from
- 22 now and we still don't know if this evidence or
- 23 if our witness testimony will be accepted. So,
- 24 it's very, very truncated.
- 25 As to the second issue, which is the

- 1 Greenhouse Gas and Air Quality issues, these
- 2 again are in response to the CAISO study.
- 3 Because the CAISO study is about Alternatives and
- 4 some of the things that are affected by
- 5 Alternatives are Air Quality and Greenhouse -
- 6 Greenhouse Gas emissions, these are subjects that
- 7 may come up. And they were presented in
- 8 testimony today.
- 9 So, I think that this idea that you can
- 10 completely silo each issue area away from each
- 11 other is just -- truthfully, I don't think it
- 12 works. I think we did close Greenhouse Gases,
- 13 but we didn't close the Alternatives analysis,
- 14 which is what this is part of.
- So, you can't totally separate those out
- 16 and we do believe it's fair to have some
- 17 discussion on -- at the hearing on the 14th.
- 18 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: What point is it
- 19 you're trying to make with regard to Greenhouse
- 20 Gases?
- 21 MS. BELENKY: Well, I think the primary
- 22 issue is whether the Alternatives that are put
- 23 forward in the CAISO study and, potentially,
- 24 other aspects of those Alternatives that have
- 25 been discussed in other testimony could

- 1 potentially lower the greenhouse gas emissions.
- 2 It would be an Alternative.
- 3 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: So, in effect,
- 4 then you're wanting to propose additional
- 5 Alternatives for consideration?
- 6 MS. BELENKY: I'm not just talking about
- 7 additional Alternatives. I'm also talking about
- 8 the CAISO Alternative and whether it would
- 9 produce criteria pollutants and greenhouse gas
- 10 emissions.
- 11 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay. Anything
- 12 to --
- 13 MR. CARROLL: Just to respond. First of
- 14 all, I am sympathetic to what Ms. Belenky has
- 15 said in terms of filing something at the end of
- 16 the day on a day when a lot is getting filed, and
- 17 sometimes it doesn't quite get through the
- 18 dockets office.
- 19 And if these exhibits had been docketed
- 20 on August 31st, instead of August 30th, for that
- 21 reason we would not be objecting because that has
- 22 happened to us. I think it's happened to all of
- 23 the parties. So, I'm sympathetic to that.
- 24 That's not the basis of our objection.
- 25 Our objection is that they weren't docketed until

- 1 September 8th, when they should have been
- 2 docketed on August 30th.
- 3 So, it's not the fact that the prehearing
- 4 conference statement came in technically the next
- 5 day. It's that the documents should have been
- 6 docketed a week prior to that.
- 7 With respect to the Greenhouse Gas issue,
- 8 the record is open with respect to the CAISO
- 9 study, which is very clearly focused on whether
- 10 or not preferred resources can meet the LCR need
- 11 in the Moorpark subarea.
- 12 It is not open and the scope of the study
- 13 did not include analysis of air quality impacts
- 14 or GHG impacts associated with any of those
- 15 alternatives that the CAISO may have chosen to
- 16 analyze. It was exclusively based on reliability
- 17 and need considerations in the subarea.
- 18 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay, thank you.
- 19 We'll take this one under submission, as well.
- 20 MS. FOLK: Can I? This is Ellison Folk
- 21 and I just want to make one point.
- 22 If you look at the transcript of the July
- 23 27th hearing, at the end there's a lot of back
- 24 and forth about what briefing on the CAISO study
- 25 would look like and the fact that it would also

- 1 entail Alternatives and overrides.
- 2 And I realize I was more geared towards
- 3 the briefing issue, but it does indicate that
- 4 there was a sense on the part of the parties that
- 5 the CAISO study would implicate Alternatives and
- 6 the ability to make overrides.
- 7 So, evidence that goes to that I think is
- 8 relevant to the CAISO report.
- 9 And the other problem we're dealing with
- 10 is because, you know, we didn't -- there was no
- 11 opportunity for rebuttal testimony, you know, we
- 12 got the Applicant's testimony at the same time we
- 13 put ours in.
- 14 And so, I think the point of having the
- 15 evidentiary hearing is to be able to ask
- 16 questions to the Applicant and have some
- 17 documentary evidence to support those questions.
- 18 And so, in that context I think that this
- 19 is appropriate.
- 20 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay, but
- 21 there's a distinction between asking another
- 22 party questions and adding to the testimony that
- 23 your witness is proposing to give. Or, is there
- 24 not?
- 25 MS. FOLK: Well, I think -- right. Well,

- 1 I do believe -- I mean, I don't know that it's
- 2 that clear a distinction. But the point is, I
- 3 mean, because you could do it either way. But I
- 4 think the point is that, you know, when you see
- 5 the Applicant's testimony, I think what CBD is
- 6 trying to say is that they want to be able to
- 7 rebut that. And since there's no opportunity for
- 8 actual submittal of rebuttal testimony, they need
- 9 to do that at the hearing.
- 10 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay,
- 11 understood. So, we'll take that one under
- 12 submission.
- 13 The next one is 221 -- TN221106,
- 14 Applicant's motion to strike portions of the
- 15 James H. Caldwell testimony in response to the
- 16 California ISO report.
- Mr. Carroll.
- 18 MR. CARROLL: Thank you. And I'm
- 19 actually going to speak to the remaining two
- 20 motions together because they really present the
- 21 same issue, and the basis of our objections is
- 22 really the same. So, it's the one that you just
- 23 mentioned and then also the objection to the
- 24 admission of the Karpa testimony.
- 25 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay, and that's

- 1 221107.
- MR. CARROLL: Correct. So, again, I
- 3 think it's important to keep in mind the context
- 4 within which we are currently operating, which is
- 5 that the record is now closed with the narrow
- 6 exception of the CAISO study and responses
- 7 thereto. And so, we are not in the realm of the
- 8 typically liberal standard for admission of
- 9 relevant evidence.
- 10 And I think that that's important to keep
- 11 in mind that additional evidence is only
- 12 admissible to the extent that it comes within the
- 13 scope of the Committee's June 20th order, in
- 14 which it decided to move forward with the CAISO
- 15 study.
- 16 With respect to the Caldwell testimonies
- 17 certainly, and for all intents and purposes the
- 18 Karpa testimony, as well, after essentially three
- 19 months my view is that we find ourselves exactly
- 20 where we were at the June 5th Committee
- 21 Conference, in this room.
- 22 At that time we had supplemental
- 23 testimony from Mr. Caldwell, advancing a
- 24 preferred resources alternative. We had a motion
- 25 to strike from the Applicant on the basis that

- 1 that testimony was beyond the scope of the extent
- 2 to which the record was open at that time. And
- 3 at that time the record was open to the extent
- 4 established by the March 10th order, from the
- 5 Committee.
- 6 And then we had an offer from the CAISO
- 7 to undertake a study. The Committee ruled in
- 8 favor of the Applicant and deemed the Caldwell
- 9 supplemental testimony as outside the scope of
- 10 the extent to which the record was opened at that
- 11 time. And the Committee further ruled to accept
- 12 the offer of the CAISO to conduct the study.
- 13 That ruling was highly dependent on the
- 14 fact that the offer was coming from the CAISO.
- 15 Among others, counsel for both the City and CBD,
- 16 the two proponents of the testimony to which
- 17 we're objecting today, emphasized that point at
- 18 the June 5th Committee Conference.
- 19 Ms. Folk argued that the purpose of the
- 20 CAISO study was to provide independent
- 21 confirmation of the ability of preferred
- 22 resources to meet the LCR need. That's at page
- 23 71 of the transcript.
- 24 And you may recall that we offered to
- 25 withdraw our objection to the Caldwell testimony

- 1 in exchange for the City agreeing to forego the
- 2 CAISO study. But the City insisted that the
- 3 independent assessment of the CAISO was critical.
- 4 Similarly, Mr. Bundy on behalf of CBD
- 5 argued in favor of, and I'm quoting, "The benefit
- 6 of an independent review from an expert sister
- 7 agency." And that's from page 79 of the
- 8 transcript, from the June 5 Committee Conference.
- 9 We had State Legislators who weighed in,
- 10 suggesting that an offer from the CAISO was one
- 11 that really the CEC could not refuse.
- 12 So, the Committee's decision to move
- 13 forward with the CAISO study was highly dependent
- 14 on the fact that it was the CAISO who was
- 15 undertaking the independent evaluation. And all
- 16 the parties who advocated for moving forward and
- 17 accepting the CAISO study focused on that
- 18 component. And it was on that basis that the
- 19 Committee reopened the record for the limited
- 20 purpose of the CAISO study.
- 21 It was not an open-ended invitation to
- 22 the parties to conduct their own studies of
- 23 additional alternatives beyond those studied by
- 24 the CAISO. And it was not an invitation to the
- 25 City and Mr. Caldwell to repackage his just

- 1 stricken testimony and resubmit it at a later
- 2 date in a somewhat different format.
- 3 So, notwithstanding the basis upon which
- 4 the Committee decided to go forward with the
- 5 CAISO study and the extent to which it opened the
- 6 record, or reopened the record to accept the
- 7 CAISO study, here we are with two alternatives
- $8\,$ proposed and advanced by the City and CBD.
- 9 Neither of which was analyzed by the CAISO.
- 10 And I sincerely doubt that if back in
- 11 June, if the parties had requested of the
- 12 Committee that they have an additional three
- 13 months to conduct their own analysis of their own
- 14 alternatives that the Committee would have agreed
- 15 to that.
- 16 The Committee agreed to an additional
- 17 three months of time for the CAISO to analyze
- 18 alternatives to the project.
- 19 So, now the City and the CBD arque that
- 20 the CAISO didn't study the correct portfolios or
- 21 scenarios and, therefore, it's appropriate for
- 22 them to submit their own independent analysis
- 23 that hasn't been subject to review by the CAISO.
- 24 And, frankly, coming particularly from
- 25 the City we find that somewhat rich, given that

- 1 this entire process was initiated by Mr. Caldwell
- 2 at the May 1st CAISO Board Meeting, suggesting to
- 3 the CAISO that they had a specific portfolio that
- 4 they and the CEC were interested in having the
- 5 CAISO analyze.
- 6 By the time we got to the June 5th
- 7 conference it was clear that perhaps that wasn't
- 8 the case and that the parties that were
- 9 requesting the study were really looking to the
- $10\,$ CAISO to try to come up with the portfolio that
- 11 would be analyzed. And that caused the CAISO to
- 12 extend its proposed time period.
- The CAISO then engaged in a public
- 14 process in which they engaged SCE, the parties,
- 15 and the public for purposes of establishing what
- 16 the scenarios or portfolios would be in the
- 17 study.
- 18 So, we find it, again, you know, somewhat
- 19 rich that having initiated this process on the
- 20 basis that the City, itself, had a specific
- 21 portfolio, and then conceding that it didn't and
- 22 it was really looking to the CAISO to come up
- 23 with a portfolio, and then to say at the end of
- 24 the process that the portfolios that the CAISO
- 25 came up with are all wrong, and to attempt to

- 1 then substitute their own portfolio that hasn't
- 2 been analyzed by the CAISO, or to add to the
- 3 evidentiary record their own portfolio that
- 4 hasn't been analyzed by the CAISO we find
- 5 troubling.
- 6 So, the bottom line is that the entire
- 7 purpose of this exercise, as stated by all of
- 8 those who supported it, including the City and
- 9 CBD, was to get the independent expert assessment
- 10 of the CAISO on preferred resources alternatives
- 11 and their ability to meet the LCR need.
- 12 The alternatives proffered by the City
- 13 and CBD were not reviewed by the CAISO and,
- 14 therefore, they fall outside the scope of the
- 15 entire exercise and should be excluded from the
- 16 record.
- 17 Certainly, to the extent that they are
- 18 admitted they would have, you know, very limited
- 19 value in terms of feasible alternatives to the
- 20 Puente Project since they are essentially the
- 21 same as the supplemental Caldwell testimony that
- 22 we had in front of us at June 5th, and aren't any
- 23 further supported or any further reviewed by
- 24 independent expert authorities than that
- 25 supplemental testimony was.

- 1 So, we think that this was not the intent and
- 2 scope of the CAISO study. It was not an open
- 3 invitation for any party to develop their own
- 4 alternatives and conduct their own independent
- 5 analysis. And that anything along those lines,
- 6 including portions of the Caldwell testimony and
- 7 the entirety of the Karpa testimony should be
- 8 excluded. Thank you.
- 9 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Thank you.
- 10 First, Ms. Folk. And then, Ms. Belenky, Mr.
- 11 Karpa was your witness, correct?
- MR. BUNDY: This is Kevin Bundy at CBD.
- 13 I'll speak to the motion after Ms. Folk.
- 14 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay. Thank
- 15 you, Kevin.
- MS. FOLK: Sure. This is Ellison Folk.
- 17 And I'd first -- I'd just start by saying we are
- 18 not in the same position as we were on June 5th.
- 19 Because at that point the Committee had opened --
- 20 reopened the testimony on Alternatives as to the
- 21 feasibility -- the ability to reduce the impacts
- 22 on aviation through the use of a smaller turbine
- 23 at an inland location.
- 24 And, you know, even though we believe an
- 25 argument could be made that Mr. Caldwell's

- 1 testimony went to that, the Committee found that
- 2 given the scope of the proceeding at that point,
- 3 and the reopening, that his testimony was outside
- 4 that scope.
- 5 But at the same time the Committee then
- 6 asked for the CAISO study. And the lineup of the
- 7 order that the Committee issued at the time was
- 8 quite broad. It specifically said that the
- 9 parties are permitted to file testimony
- 10 responding to the study. And that's the scope of
- 11 the order on that issue.
- 12 And this clearly, the testimony of Jim
- 13 Caldwell, and particularly his Alternative
- 14 Scenario 4, responds to the CAISO study. And it
- 15 falls within the scope of what we had asked for
- 16 at the time, which was, in part, an analysis of
- 17 the ability of preferred resources to meet the
- 18 LCR need.
- 19 And a determination of how much of that
- 20 need was related to voltage support, and how much
- 21 of it is related to actual power generation.
- 22 Because the need has two aspects, and the
- 23 allocation of those needs will affect the kind of
- 24 preferred resources that you can procure.
- 25 And what the CAISO report does --

- 1 indicate those by breakdown, and looks at a
- 2 scenario, too, which largely involves the use of
- 3 reactive voltage support, which is the
- 4 synchronous condenser idea, plus some additional
- 5 battery support.
- 6 And all we did with Scenario 4 was take
- 7 that and instead of just having all batteries as
- $8\,$ part of the alternative looked at other preferred
- 9 resources that are available in the area,
- 10 including demand response, and energy efficiency.
- 11 Things that were identified in the Committee's
- 12 direction to CAISO as things that could be
- 13 considered as part of its preferred resources
- 14 alternative.
- 15 And we took those and explained how they
- 16 would meet the need here without having to do an
- 17 all battery solution, which is what CAISO had
- 18 looked at, and which is much more expensive.
- 19 And so, our testimony responds to CAISO's
- 20 initial determination about the need and explains
- 21 how that need could be met in -- with the use of
- 22 other preferred resources that the Committee
- 23 specifically contemplated could be included.
- 24 And to say that the parties are not able
- 25 to effectively provide testimony on the

- 1 assumptions that CAISO used in its study would
- 2 really be prejudicial to the parties, and would
- 3 really undermine the purpose of even having an
- 4 evidentiary hearing on the CAISO report. If all
- 5 we were to do is just accept the report at face
- 6 value, then there would be no point in having
- 7 hearings and allowing the parties to submit
- 8 testimony that responds to the issues raised by
- 9 the report.
- 10 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Mr. Bundy?
- 11 MR. BUNDY: Thank you. This is Kevin
- 12 Bundy with the Center for Biological Diversity.
- 13 I think Ms. Folk stated it very well and I agree
- 14 with her arguments.
- I'll just add, although we did present an
- 16 argument in our written response, in summary
- 17 again just echoing that the Committee's June 20th
- 18 order stated only that the parties should file
- 19 testimony "responding to" the CAISO study.
- It didn't limit the scope of that
- 21 responsive testimony in any of the specific ways
- 22 that the Applicant seems to believe it did.
- The June 20th order did not say that any
- 24 testimony that the parties might submit in
- 25 response to the CAISO study somehow had to be

- 1 reviewed by the CAISO, itself. That's just not
- 2 in the order.
- 3 And I think that Dr. Karpa's testimony
- 4 complies with the June 20th order. By any
- 5 reasonable measure the testimony responds to the
- 6 CAISO study. It identifies specific errors in
- 7 the CAISO study's estimation of capital costs of
- 8 the three alternative scenarios that were
- 9 studied.
- 10 And then it runs a cost model in order to
- 11 illustrate the effect of these errors. That
- 12 according to the testimony itself "replicated
- 13 scenarios 1 and 3 by using the lower cost
- 14 configuration of resources and more accurate cost
- 15 assumptions."
- 16
 I think this is really important because
- 17 the scope of the CAISO study itself was amended
- 18 midstream to include a cost comparison that I
- 19 don't believe anybody thought was a focus of the
- 20 study on June 5th.
- 21 And precluding the parties from
- 22 submitting testimony regarding the assumptions
- 23 that went into that cost comparison would be
- 24 unfair and would actually undermine the adequacy
- 25 of the record.

- 1 I mean, again, what the Applicant
- 2 characterizes as a brand-new alternative in the
- 3 Karpa testimony is, itself, a response to CAISO's
- 4 cost conclusions. Not being able to introduce
- 5 that evidence would be highly prejudicial. But,
- 6 you know, if the Committee were to take the CAISO
- 7 study and conclude that there are no reasonable
- 8 or prudent alternatives based on the cost
- 9 estimates in the CAISO study, without actually
- 10 having any testimony in front of it as to whether
- 11 those cost estimates were correct, or whether
- 12 there might actually be cheaper ways of running
- 13 the same scenarios in a manner that would be
- 14 favorable, you know, related to the Puente --
- 15 related to the Puente Project. And, you know,
- 16 the Committee would have no evidence in front of
- 17 it. It would be highly prejudicial to the other
- 18 parties and it would result in an inadequate
- 19 record. A record that could really only be used
- 20 to support an arbitrary decision.
- 21 So, the last point I'd make is that even
- 22 if the Applicant were correct that the Karpa
- 23 testimony somehow tries to introduce a brand-new
- 24 alternative, there would be no basis for striking
- 25 the Karpa testimony in its entirety.

- 1 The testimony contains several specific
- 2 critiques of the cost assumptions used in the
- 3 CAISO study. The Applicant has not provide any
- 4 argument or basis in its written motion or in its
- 5 oral argument this morning for excluding those
- 6 aspects of Dr. Karpa's testimony.
- 7 Those objections were due, as you know,
- $8\,$ as Applicant might itself point out, you know,
- 9 last week. And so, any objection to any other
- 10 aspects of the Karpa testimony should be deemed
- 11 waived.
- 12 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Any other party?
- 13 MS. LAZEROW: This is Shana Lazerow. I'd
- 14 like to speak to this just briefly, if I may.
- 15 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Go ahead.
- MS. LAZEROW: It's extremely important to
- 17 the environmental justice communities that more
- 18 accurate cost assumptions be used and that the
- 19 testimony really examining the CAISO cost
- 20 methodology and cost assumptions be part of this
- 21 record.
- 22 As you have seen, many times the
- 23 community -- the environmental justice community
- 24 in Oxnard feels really strongly that we need to
- 25 explore non-combustion alternatives for this

- 1 local need. And while, of course, I agree with
- 2 Ms. Folk's and Mr. Bundy's arguments, I also want
- 3 to point out that just in the service of
- 4 conducting a complete CEQA analysis, looking at
- 5 feasible alternatives, the sort of arbitrary
- 6 cutoff when, in fact, CEJA is going to be
- 7 discussing alternatives in our briefing. And we
- 8 intend to rely on the evidence that non-
- 9 combustion alternatives are feasible, and
- 10 superior.
- 11 And, you know, from the perspective of
- 12 the CEC's commitment to doing a thorough
- 13 environmental analysis excluding this evidence
- 14 would be prejudicial.
- 15 MR. VESPA: And this is Matt Vespa from
- 16 Sierra Club. You know, I just wanted to echo
- 17 some of the comments and reemphasize that, you
- 18 know, CAISO did say in a stakeholder call on June
- 19 30th that it would not address costs. And then
- 20 its report comes out with cost numbers. And
- 21 those cost numbers were driven up by, you know, a
- 22 highly energy storage-centric solution with 9-
- 23 hour batteries.
- 24 And so it is completely reasonable in
- 25 response to the study to look at tweaks to some

- 1 of those solutions to lower cost. And that's
- 2 what Mr. Caldwell's and Mr. Karpa's testimony
- 3 does. And it is an appropriate response to
- 4 CAISO's study that should be included.
- 5 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay, thank you.
- 6 Mr. Carroll, wrap up?
- 7 MR. CARROLL: Very briefly. We are not
- 8 suggesting in any way that the parties should be
- 9 precluded from critiquing any aspect of the CAISO
- 10 study, including the costs. And there were a
- 11 number of other pieces of testimony and other
- 12 exhibits that were submitted that go to the cost
- 13 estimates and we have not objected to those.
- Our objection is to the creation and
- 15 analysis of alternatives different than those
- 16 that were included in the CAISO study. The
- 17 entire purpose of this exercise, and it was
- 18 advocated by these very parties, and it was
- 19 promoted by these very parties for the purpose of
- 20 obtaining the independent expert assessment of
- 21 the CAISO on preferred resources alternatives.
- 22 And, therefore, to now admit evidence
- 23 that pertains to alternatives that were developed
- 24 by the parties and not reviewed by the CAISO is
- 25 outside the scope.

- 1 If the parties had alternatives that they
- 2 wanted reviewed, they could have advocated them
- 3 in the public process when the CAISO was deciding
- 4 which alternatives to evaluate. Or, they could
- 5 have evaluated these alternatives themselves a
- 6 very long time ago.
- 7 And so, for them to now be coming forward
- 8 within this limited scope and trying to advance
- 9 their own alternatives that haven't been reviewed
- 10 by the CAISO, we think is inappropriate.
- 11 But again, we have no objection to their
- 12 objections or their critique of the CAISO study
- 13 itself, including the cost information. And we
- 14 haven't objected to evidence that goes to that.
- 15 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: So, the --
- MS. FOLK: Can I just respond to that?
- 17 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Go ahead.
- 18 MS. FOLK: Sure. The only point I want
- 19 to make in response is these so-called
- 20 alternatives are really just a variation on what
- 21 CAISO has in its study.
- 22 And the parties, other than -- you know,
- 23 the parties were not involved in the actual
- 24 formation of the scenarios. It was just CAISO
- 25 and Edison.

- 1 And CAISO will be at the hearing so the
- 2 Applicant's free to ask some questions about the
- 3 scenarios that -- you know, Mr. Caldwell's
- 4 scenario 4. And if they want to, it's not as if
- 5 the Applicant's not going to have an opportunity
- 6 to respond to this.
- 7 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay, the last
- 8 word, Mr. Carroll.
- 9 MR. CARROLL: Just briefly in response to
- 10 the last statement from Ms. Folk. The point -- I
- 11 don't know that the CAISO is going to have
- 12 anything to say about the alternatives that were
- 13 developed and analyzed by the City and CBD. So,
- 14 I'm not sure what -- how our ability to question
- 15 the CAISO about the alternatives advanced by the
- 16 other parties addresses any of the issues that
- 17 we've raised here.
- 18 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay, thank you.
- 19 We'll take that under submission. Hold on a
- 20 second.
- 21 (Pause)
- 22 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay, those were
- 23 all the motions. So, let's then go back to the
- 24 question of timing, the review that falls under
- 25 the category of reviewing your prehearing

- 1 statements.
- 2 You've seen the -- I think it was
- 3 Friday's tabulation of all your estimates. And
- 4 then I put one out yesterday where I drew
- 5 subtotals for each of the parties.
- 6 And does anybody really think it's going
- 7 to take 18 hours? Or, is this one of those
- 8 things where it'll -- if we allow the time, you
- 9 guys will come up with stuff?
- 10 MS. WILLIS: This is Kerry Willis from
- 11 staff. I just wanted to clarify that David
- 12 Vidaver is not being -- is not representing staff
- 13 at this hearing. It will be Mark Hesters. And
- 14 there has been no testimony filed by staff.
- Therefore, we're somewhat confused as to
- 16 some of the questioning of Mr. Vidaver that's
- 17 been included.
- 18 MS. FOLK: So, I can respond to that.
- 19 This is Ellison Folk. We're willing to drop
- 20 that. David Vidaver had done the initial so-
- 21 called review of Preferred Resources for the
- 22 Energy Commission. I mean he admitted at the
- 23 time they have not done an independent review.
- 24 But we don't need to question him.
- MS. LAZEROW: This is Shana Lazerow. I

- 1 also reserved about 10 minutes of Mr. Vidaver for
- 2 that reason that he's the sponsor of the
- 3 analysis. And so, I'm not actually sure what the
- 4 process is for going back. I mean, given that we
- 5 do have an admission that it wasn't considered
- 6 before, I was just going to ask him a little bit
- 7 about, you know, his analysis.
- 8 But the substance of what we want to talk
- 9 about is the CAISO study, not the CEC staff's
- 10 analysis prior to the CAISO study. So, I'm fine
- 11 with not having him appear, as well.
- 12 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Does anybody
- 13 else need Mr. Vidaver there or feel they do and
- 14 want to make a case for that?
- MS. WILLIS: He's not available. I don't
- 16 believe he's in -- I think he's not in the
- 17 country.
- 18 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay. Well, I'm
- 19 just asking if anybody else is going to express
- 20 horrible disappointment that they can't speak to
- 21 him and then --
- MS. WILLIS: And my understanding is I
- 23 believe the Applicant has stated that this
- 24 portion of the hearings was focusing only on the
- 25 ISO study and Mr. Vidaver did not provide any

- 1 comments on that.
- 2 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay, I
- 3 understand that. I'm trying to get everyone to
- 4 commit to letting me draw a line through that row
- 5 on their spreadsheet.
- 6 CEJA, do you have a burning need to speak
- 7 to Mr. Vidaver, who sounds like is going to be
- 8 unavailable.
- 9 MS. LAZEROW: So, this is Shana Lazerow.
- 10 As I said, I don't have a burning need.
- 11 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Oh, that's
- 12 right. Sorry, I crossed out Dr. Chang's, instead
- 13 of yours. Okay, thank you.
- Dr. Chang isn't here so far. Did you
- 15 join us, Dr. Chang?
- 16 And for that matter --
- 17 DR. CHANG: I did. Can you hear me?
- 18 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Yes.
- 19 DR. CHANG: I have no need to speak with
- 20 him, thank you.
- 21 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay.
- DR. CHANG: I won't be disappointed.
- 23 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay. And then,
- 24 also, Robert Sarvey, did you by chance join us?
- Okay. On the basis of Mr. Sarvey not

- 1 having filed a prehearing statement, we're not
- 2 really expecting to hear anything from him. And
- 3 conversely, he should not expect to have us hear
- 4 much from him at the hearing, either, because he
- 5 hasn't followed that requirement.
- 6 Okay, so 50 minutes saved. And what --
- 7 MS. FOLK: One other comment? Oh, I'm
- 8 sorry.
- 9 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Go ahead.
- 10 MS. FOLK: So, I was just going to say,
- 11 this is Ellison Folk again, on the issue of time
- 12 generally, I do believe that there will be some
- 13 overlap in the questioning. That's my sense.
- 14 And so, I don't believe that 18 hours is actually
- 15 -- you know, that we're going to take 18 hours to
- 16 do this, or 19, whatever.
- 17 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Yeah, it's
- 18 almost as if everyone assumed they were going to
- 19 be the only person asking questions and so -- and
- 20 then, as you say, you overlapped.
- 21 Let's see, aside from Mr. Vidaver and we
- 22 already know about the substitution of Andrew
- 23 Schwartz for Damon Franz, do we have any witness
- 24 availability problems we should highlight at this
- 25 point? Anybody?

- 1 MR. CARROLL: My understanding --
- 2 MR. PINJUV: Mr. Kramer, this is Jordan
- 3 Pinjuv from the ISO. Our witnesses are planning
- 4 on being there the full day on Thursday. They
- 5 were not planning to stay in Oxnard over the
- 6 night, into Friday.
- 7 So, I mean, our only request is that they
- $8\,$ get up on the stand and finish in the course of
- 9 the single day, on Thursday.
- 10 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay, that's
- 11 certainly fair. And our initial thought was that
- 12 they would start the ball rolling by presenting
- 13 their report. And so, we should certainly be
- 14 able to get them out.
- The one thing I'm still waiting to hear
- 16 about, and I'll check my e-mail again, is whether
- 17 the Edison folks were able to come on -- oh, I do
- 18 have an e-mail from her. Just stand by a minute.
- 19 Excellent. Ms. Reyes-Close, are you by
- 20 chance on the telephone? No, she's not on the
- 21 telephone. But she did tell me that they could
- 22 be available on Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00
- 23 p.m.
- MS. FOLK: So, I actually do -- this is
- 25 Ellison Folk and we do have some concerns about

- 1 the request to have Edison participate, for a
- 2 couple of reasons. One is we have not seen any
- 3 testimony from Edison and so haven't had any
- 4 opportunity to respond to whatever -- have any
- 5 sense of what they might be asked about or what
- 6 they might say. And I think that makes it very
- $7\,$ hard for us to prepare. And we went through this
- 8 in the last hearings with USGS, where we really
- 9 didn't have much opportunity to prepare at all
- 10 before we were able to ask some questions.
- 11 And the other thing is if Edison is -- if
- 12 the purpose is to have them talk about the
- 13 technical aspects, Edison was -- participated
- 14 with CAISO in developing the study and the
- 15 scenarios. They were the only entity that was
- 16 allowed to do that. And so, their views have
- 17 already been represented in the CAISO report.
- 18 And so, as to the technical aspects I
- 19 think that CAISO will be there and able to
- 20 respond.
- 21 But if Edison is going to testify about
- 22 other things, like procurement, or its view of
- 23 feasibility, then we really should have an
- 24 opportunity to know what their testimony is, in
- 25 the same way that all the other parties had to

- 1 submit testimony.
- 2 MR. VESPA: And this is Matt Vespa, from
- 3 Sierra Club. I'd also add that SCE is in a
- 4 contractual relationship with NRG with the Puente
- 5 contract. And, you know, they are not a
- 6 disinterested neutral party. And, you know,
- 7 there may be contractual issues around what
- 8 they're able to say about the project, given that
- 9 they do have a contract with them.
- 10 So, I am just a bit concerned about their
- 11 ability to speak freely, in addition to the
- 12 concerns Ms. Folk raised.
- MS. FOLK: Yeah, if I could just
- 14 elaborate on that for a second. They do have an
- 15 obligation of good faith and fair dealing and so
- 16 they cannot -- I don't think they would be
- 17 allowed to say things, even if they believed them
- 18 to be true, that would undermine the contract.
- 19 MR. BUNDY: This is Kevin Bundy at the
- 20 Center for Biological Diversity. We share the
- 21 concerns specified by Ms. Folk and Mr. Vespa.
- MR. CARROLL: And if I may, on behalf of
- 23 Applicant, we think it's very important that SCE
- 24 be provided an opportunity to participate in
- 25 these proceedings.

- 1 We have brought the CAISO into these
- 2 proceedings, which is highly unusual,
- 3 unprecedented in my view, and in doing so have
- 4 opened areas of inquiry to which SCE may be able
- 5 to provide some useful information. And I think
- 6 they're a sophisticated party. They know what
- 7 they can speak to and what they can't speak to.
- 8 In terms of their neutrality, I'm not
- 9 sure that there are any parties here who are I
- 10 think fair and unbiased was the characterization
- 11 was used earlier. I'm not sure that SCE is any
- 12 more tainted than any of the other parties in
- 13 that respect.
- So, I think they're perfectly capable of
- 15 providing helpful information where they can, and
- 16 knowing the areas that they're not permitted to
- 17 go into and staying away from those.
- 18 And, obviously, they participated with
- 19 the CAISO in the development of the portfolios
- 20 for the study and that is at the heart of much of
- 21 the testimony that's been filed by the parties is
- 22 whether or not those were the appropriate
- 23 portfolios.
- So, to exclude one of the two parties who
- 25 participated in, amongst other things, the

- 1 development of those portfolios I think would be
- 2 not -- not wise, and possibly precluding some
- 3 valuable information and insights with respect to
- 4 that issue, amongst others.
- 5 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay. Well,
- 6 we're not going to rule today about whether they
- 7 can come or not. It sounds like we may have
- $8\,$ some, hopefully, concise and short back and forth
- 9 discussions regarding particular questions that
- 10 may be posed to them. But we'll have to wait
- 11 until the questions are posed.
- 12 At least they can be here on Thursday.
- 13 So, that will help.
- 14 And I'll I'll docket that. You know,
- 15 in the interest of transparency I'll get that e-
- 16 mail filed in the docket later today, when we're
- 17 done.
- MR. BUNDY: Mr. Kramer, I'm sorry, this
- 19 is Kevin Bundy again. I'm sorry to interrupt,
- 20 but I just have a clarifying question. I just
- 21 want to understand exactly what you're saying.
- I mean, as everyone's aware, I think by
- 23 my read of the public docket the invitation to
- 24 Edison to come participate in the hearing went
- 25 out after the deadline for parties to submit

- 1 objections to testimony, which I believe was last
- 2 Thursday. I believe that the e-mail chain
- 3 inviting them to the hearing was dated either
- 4 late last Thursday, or Friday. So, nobody had
- 5 any opportunity -- not only did nobody have any
- 6 opportunity to review their testimony, but nobody
- 7 had any opportunity to object.
- 8 And I just want to make sure that none of
- 9 the parties are waiving their right to object to
- 10 any testimony at the hearing that Southern
- 11 California Edison or their witnesses might
- 12 present.
- I certainly wouldn't want to waive that
- 14 objection. And I want it to be clear on the
- 15 record that those objections will be considered
- 16 timely and won't be ruled out of order if they're
- 17 raised at the hearing.
- 18 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Well, that's
- 19 certainly fair. And, yes, I would agree.
- Okay, so I think the scope of the hearing
- 21 which, of course, scope equals time, more scope
- 22 is more time, is what we need to get down to
- 23 here.
- On the one hand if it is just as one of
- 25 you said, accepting the ISO study and closing the

- 1 record, we should be able to do that in three
- 2 hours, the way we do things, but less.
- 3 But, of course, that's not it. Mr.
- 4 Carroll has said that questioning the ISO's cost
- 5 assumptions is perfectly appropriate and we agree
- 6 with that.
- 7 And then, I think there's a third aspect
- 8 of the ISO study. Number one being is it
- 9 technically possible for renewables, some
- 10 combination of preferred resources, to use the
- 11 correct term, to satisfy the LCR requirement. It
- 12 has attempted to answer that.
- Of the criticisms of the study, I think
- 14 there's been very little of that. That seems to
- 15 be taken almost as a given by the parties, but
- 16 that's one aspect.
- 17 Number two is cost. Is there a package
- 18 of -- or, does the particular package that the
- 19 ISO identified, what are its costs relative to
- 20 the proposed Puente Project?
- 21 And then number three, which the ISO
- 22 didn't even tackle is whether preferred resources
- 23 can be made operational in time to meet the
- 24 objectives of the Puente Project, which are to be
- 25 there to replace the units that are going to have

- 1 to shut down because of the once-through cooling
- 2 phase out of those coastal power plants.
- 3 So, we have to talk about all three of
- 4 those.
- 5 The additional time comes from -- or the
- 6 possible additional time would be if we start
- 7 talking about other combinations of preferred
- 8 resources, which is part of some of the proposed
- 9 testimony. Specifically, the two subjects that
- 10 Mr. Carroll spoke about most recently, regarding
- 11 his objections.
- 12 So, I guess one way to ask this question
- 13 is to ask the parties to make the case that we
- 14 should be considering additional alternatives
- 15 beyond that described in the ISO study. In other
- 16 words, we should look -- I think the different
- 17 combinations of resources, for instance part
- 18 solar, part storage that we're hearing about was
- 19 an attempt to address the cost aspect. To say
- 20 that there's a lower cost way to do that than
- 21 what the ISO studied.
- 22 But why at this point do we need to do
- 23 that? We want to hear an argument that the scope
- 24 of the hearing should include those
- 25 considerations, alternative configurations.

- 1 So, Mr. Carroll, we'll let you go last
- 2 because I think you're going to be -- or, I
- 3 suspect you'll be arguing against that.
- 4 So, let's begin, staff, do you have any
- 5 position on that? And then, we'll go to the
- 6 other parties.
- 7 MS. WILLIS: This is Kerry Willis for
- 8 staff. As noted, we did not provide testimony on
- 9 this because we do believe there's another
- 10 process that handles these types of alternatives.
- 11 At this point, we don't have an opinion on moving
- 12 forward.
- 13 But we would like to not extend the scope
- 14 so broadly that we are spending more time arguing
- 15 on other alternatives where it could be an
- 16 unlimited number of combinations that could be
- 17 considered.
- 18 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Ms. Folk, for
- 19 the City?
- 20 MS. FOLK: Yeah, so I want to make a
- 21 couple of points. And one is the issue of the
- 22 alternatives. It really is more of a response to
- 23 the assumptions that CAISO made about what types
- 24 of preferred resources could meet the LCR need.
- 25 And we intend in our questioning to ask

- 1 questions about some of those assumptions. And I
- 2 know that the Committee's order specifically
- 3 indicated that the study could include presently
- 4 existing generation, contracted generation, and
- 5 preferred resources and storage that could be
- 6 online in the Moorpark subarea by 2021.
- 7 And so, the resources that we are looking
- 8 at are things like demand response, or energy
- 9 efficiency, or solar, photovoltaic.
- 10 And so, we would be asking questions
- 11 about those resources as part of our questioning
- 12 of CAISO, anyway. And then, the real issue is
- 13 because we believe those are feasible and are
- 14 cheaper than what CAISO specifically looked at,
- 15 they go directly to the ability to meet the LCR
- 16 need with a different -- a slightly different
- 17 package. It's not -- we're not opening up an
- 18 entirely new scenario here. It builds off the
- 19 scenario that CAISO, itself, looked at.
- 20 And so, I actually don't think that
- 21 adding this in is going to take that much more
- 22 time because it goes to, fundamentally, what
- 23 we're trying to do here which is assess the
- 24 ability to meet the need with preferred
- 25 resources, and then to assess its feasibility.

- 1 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Environmental
- 2 Coalition, Sierra Club.
- 3 MR. VESPA: Yeah, Matt Vespa speaking.
- 4 Yeah, I think on the cost issue, you really can't
- 5 take out this tweaking of the scenarios from it.
- 6 I mean, it really is about cost.
- 7 There's two aspects where, for example,
- 8 the energy storage price is accurate, I mean
- 9 that's something we all could talk about.
- 10 But also, just a -- a very quick overview
- 11 of the study you realize that the costs are
- 12 driven by 9-hour storage. And so, it does beg
- 13 the question could you tweak this suite of
- 14 resources? By example, by putting more
- 15 efficiency on or a little bit more solar to avoid
- $16\,$ such a large storage buy to meet the LCR need.
- 17 And so, that is what the responsive
- 18 testimony gets to and it really is an outgrowth
- 19 of the overall cost estimate. So, I don't think
- 20 you could really break it up into a fourth
- 21 category. It's very much about cost.
- 22 So, you know, I do think it needs to be
- 23 included and I don't think it will take much
- 24 time, and it's just a natural outgrowth of some
- 25 of the assumptions in the study that will be

- 1 asked about.
- 2 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay, CEJA?
- 3 MS. LAZEROW: This is Shana Lazerow. We
- 4 agree with that.
- 5 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Center for
- 6 Biological Diversity?
- 7 MR. BUNDY: Thank you. This is Kevin
- 8 Bundy and I agree with what's been said before.
- 9 I mean, I kind of want to point out this idea
- 10 that there are these wholly, fully formed, new
- 11 alternatives being presented is really just the
- 12 Applicant's characterization. And from my
- 13 perspective it's not an accurate
- 14 characterization. These really are responses to
- 15 the assumptions that were made in the CAISO study
- 16 that led to a certain conclusion about costs in
- 17 the CAISO study.
- 18 As Mr. Vespa said, I mean it really does
- 19 beg the question that -- that I think should be
- 20 central to the Commission's inquiry. Which is
- 21 whether, you know, given that everybody seems to
- 22 agree, even given my recent testimony, is that if
- 23 preferred resources can meet the local capacity
- 24 requirement is there a way to do it in a cost
- 25 effective manner?

- 1 Costs are very important considerations
- 2 in the determination of feasibility, both under
- 3 CEQA and in terms of whether the Commission needs
- 4 to override a LORS conflict. And we should have
- 5 a very full record on that feasibility
- 6 determination to support that feasibility
- 7 determination.
- 8 The Commission hasn't decided, yet,
- 9 whether there are significant environmental
- 10 impacts or whether there are LORS conflicts in
- 11 this proceeding. At least I would hope the
- 12 Commission hasn't decided that, yet.
- 13 And this really goes to the heart of the
- 14 findings that would need to be made in those --
- 15 those circumstances. And again, I mean I know we
- 16 all want to have a quick hearing and we want to
- 17 get it done in one day. I really believe we can
- 18 if we adopt kind of a panel approach, and maybe
- 19 we'll talk about that.
- 20 But we can't let the desire for a short
- 21 hearing trump the need for an adequate record to
- 22 support findings this Commission has to make.
- 23 So, I think it's inaccurate to even be
- 24 thinking of these things as fully formed separate
- 25 alternatives. They really are responsive to and,

- 1 you know, very tight variations on the scenarios
- 2 studied in the CAISO report. And I think the
- 3 Committee should have that -- or, the Commission
- 4 should have that evidence in front of it.
- 5 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay. Just to
- 6 be clear, we're not trying to hit a one-day mark
- 7 here, but we are trying to be as efficient as we
- 8 can for the sake of everyone.
- 9 Dr. Chang?
- 10 DR. CHANG: Yes, I want to say that I
- 11 agree with my fellow intervenors. And I also
- 12 just wanted to say that from the perspective of
- 13 really trying to ensure public participation and
- 14 public process I think it's important to be able
- 15 to explore the cost efficiency issue fully. So,
- 16 that seems to be, honestly, such a driving factor
- 17 in these conversations. And I think it's
- 18 important that -- that conversation or that
- 19 discussion is allowed to be fully explored.
- 20 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay, thank you.
- 21 You're not a party, but Mr. Pinjuv you're
- 22 an important participant here. Any thoughts?
- 23 MR. PINJUV: Yes. You know, I think in
- 24 general, I mean, honestly, the main purpose of
- 25 our testimony or our study was to identify

- 1 whether there were technically possible solutions
- 2 that involved preferred resources to meet local
- 3 capacity needs. And I think that's where the
- 4 bulk of the testimony should be.
- 5 We can't look at other alternatives,
- 6 necessarily, on the stand. But to if there are
- 7 questions about, you know, the assumptions we
- $8\,$ made in our study we are open to answering those.
- 9 We don't have any problems doing that.
- 10 With respect to the cost, specifically,
- 11 you know, I think we said in our study that this
- 12 is just a starting point in the conversation. We
- 13 fully expect those costs be refined by the
- 14 parties and the Commission in this case because
- 15 they don't incorporate certain aspects of, you
- 16 know, ongoing lifecycle costs and things along
- 17 that line.
- 18 So, we don't have much more to offer as
- 19 far as costs go. It's just a starting point and
- 20 that's all it's going to be.
- 21 But I think to the extent there are
- 22 questions about the assumptions in our study we
- 23 can discuss those, and we anticipate any
- 24 questions that the parties have.
- 25 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay, thank you.

- 1 Mr. Carroll?
- 2 MR. CARROLL: Thank you. I think we've
- 3 largely made our case on this point in our
- 4 viewing the motions to strike the Caldwell and
- 5 Karpa testimony. I would just point out that if
- 6 those motions are granted, that will cut about
- 7 five or six hours out of the proposed testimony,
- 8 as we think they should be. And it would
- 9 certainly help in terms of the amount of time
- 10 that's spent.
- 11 The only thing that I would add is that
- 12 to the extent that the Intervenors want to
- 13 advance an alternative to the project, the burden
- 14 is on them to do that. And they have had two and
- 15 a half years to do that, including providing cost
- 16 information.
- 17 We saw very little in the way of
- 18 affirmative cost information in the testimony
- 19 that was filed. It was mostly a critique of the
- 20 cost information that the CAISO provided. It's
- 21 not encumbent upon the CAISO to come up with the
- 22 feasible alternatives for this project. And so,
- 23 I fail to see the value in beating the CAISO
- 24 staff up for multiple hours, on Thursday, about
- 25 their cost assumptions.

- 1 The burden is on the Intervenors to
- 2 advance a feasible alternative, including cost
- 3 effectiveness, if they have one. As I said,
- 4 they've had two and a half years to do that. And
- 5 I'm just not really clear what value is to come
- 6 out of grilling the CAISO on their assumptions.
- 7 The CAISO being high on their costs is not
- 8 synonymous with the alternatives being cost
- 9 effective. And so, even if everyone agrees that
- 10 the CAISO is high on their costs, the Intervenors
- 11 haven't made their case as to the cost
- 12 effectiveness or feasibility of any of the
- 13 alternatives that they've advanced.
- 14 So, I'm not sure what the value is in
- 15 spending a lot of time grilling the CAISO staff
- 16 over the costs. The CAISO staff stepped in and
- 17 did what they were asked to do. And, you know,
- 18 this is certainly an example of, you know, no
- 19 good deed going unpunished here and I just don't
- 20 see any value to it.
- 21 MS. FOLK: Can I respond to that? First
- 22 of all, we don't have any intention of grilling
- 23 CAISO staff, but we certainly do want to ask some
- 24 questions about their study. And particularly
- 25 because the study initially indicated -- the

- 1 CAISO initially indicated they would not include
- 2 cost at all and then they ended up doing it in
- 3 the end. So, I do think we should have an
- 4 opportunity to ask some questions.
- 5 And also, I don't think it's appropriate
- 6 for Mr. Carroll to, you know, prejudge the
- 7 testimony and the evidence that has been
- 8 submitted and will be the basis of the hearings
- 9 this week. Because we can have our questioning
- 10 and evaluate the evidence at that point. But
- 11 it's our view that we have put in information
- 12 about costs that's relevant. And the tweaking of
- 13 the Alternative Scenario 2 that we did goes
- 14 directly to the issue of the feasibility to cost.
- 15 And finally, like in terms of the format
- 16 of the hearing, I think we can talk about this,
- 17 but I do think there are ways to structure it
- 18 that would allow for much of this time to be
- 19 condensed. Because I think, as the Hearing
- 20 Officer recognized, there's going to be overlap
- 21 between the parties in terms of the questioning.
- 22 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay. On that
- 23 point, does anybody want to make an argument for
- 24 I've forgotten what we called it, but the
- 25 traditional format, direct and cross-examination,

- 1 over the panel format?
- I think we have a lot of names, but I
- 3 think we'll have enough space to seat all these
- 4 people as a panel.
- 5 Mr. Carroll, your site planning people
- 6 will assure that, right?
- 7 MR. CARROLL: Yes.
- 8 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Does anybody
- 9 want to argue in favor, and I'm not encouraging
- 10 it, I'm just asking because it's one of our
- 11 obligations to solicit input on the choice of the
- 12 hearing format. So, does anyone want to argue
- 13 for what we've called the formal format in the --
- 14 I think it was in this notice, again.
- MS. WILLIS: Mr. Kramer, this is Kerry
- 16 Willis from staff. I'm not arguing in favor of
- 17 the formal proceeding, but I would like to
- 18 request from the parties that when there's
- 19 objections made -- because it became kind of a
- 20 half and half. It was half informal and half
- 21 formal where there were numerous objections made.
- Normally, at least in my 19 years, we
- 23 make them to the dais and then the Committee
- 24 directs the rest of that part of it. So, they
- 25 will ask the other party to comment as opposed to

- 1 the parties just arguing back and forth.
- 2 Having done these recent briefs,
- 3 reviewing the last hearing and transcripts, it
- 4 was very difficult to keep up with it. There was
- 5 actually testimony going on between a lot of back
- 6 and forth argument before a ruling and after a
- 7 ruling.
- 8 So, I would just request that the parties
- 9 would be respectful, follow a protocol, and ask
- 10 that the dais control that part of the hearing.
- 11 And that probably would move it along quite
- 12 nicely.
- 13 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Yeah, I would
- 14 say painful is probably a good word to describe
- 15 reading some of the transcripts. I agree there.
- Okay, well hearing -- did someone else
- 17 want to speak?
- MR. VESPA: Yeah, this is Matt Vespa.
- 19 Were you envisioning a single panel with CAISO
- 20 and the other witnesses or some hybrid? I was
- 21 thinking it might make sense to have CAISO go
- 22 first just to have questioning to sort of set a
- 23 baseline for the study, and the assumptions, and
- 24 then bring in the other panelists to have maybe
- 25 more back and forth from there.

- 1 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Yeah, I think
- 2 that -- I think we're leaning in that direction
- 3 as well.
- 4 MR. VESPA: Okay.
- 5 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: We might have
- 6 everyone seated right away, though, just so we
- 7 can keep going.
- 8 You know, and what do people think about
- 9 trying to break the discussion into, say, the
- $10\,$ three topics, the broad topic areas that I
- 11 identified? One being technical feasibility, the
- 12 second being cost, and the third being able to
- 13 being implemented, in effect implementation
- 14 feasibility.
- Does that -- again, to help the
- 16 transcript, there will be some crossover, of
- 17 course, and depending on what we let in maybe it
- 18 makes sense to -- for instance, if we were to
- 19 allow testimony about some of these other
- 20 alternatives, scenarios 4, 5 and 6, for instance,
- 21 it might be good to describe those up front just
- 22 to have a common understanding.
- 23 And I don't know, does anybody want to
- 24 spend a lot of time again going over what project
- 25 site means? Are we done with that? Okay, good,

- 1 we're done.
- Does that idea work?
- 3 MR. VESPA: Well, how would that work if
- 4 CAISO's seated? I guess I would rather just have
- 5 the questions come to CAISO, first, and then
- 6 finish whatever people have and then -- okay.
- 7 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: No, no, I'm
- 8 speaking more -- but as far as the broader
- 9 discussions go talk about technical feasibility
- 10 and that's CAISO's wheelhouse in this one.
- MR. VESPA: Okay.
- 12 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: CAISO, you know,
- 13 has a little bit to say about cost and they've
- 14 stuck to their disclaimers. They have nothing to
- 15 say about implementation feasibility, at least in
- 16 their study. That's going to be something that
- 17 the Applicant, and Edison, and the other parties
- 18 are going to have more to say about.
- 19 I'm just trying to throw out an
- 20 organizational framework here to see if anybody
- 21 thinks that would help us focus and move along.
- MR. CARROLL: This is Mike Carroll for
- 23 the Applicant. I think, with two caveats, that
- 24 that makes sense. First of all, I believe I
- 25 understand what you mean when you described the

- 1 first category. We would not attach technical
- 2 feasibility to that. We would attach theoretical
- 3 possibility to that.
- 4 So, with that caveat, our view is that
- 5 CAISO found that these alternatives were
- 6 theoretically possible, not technically feasible.
- 7 But I think that's a matter of semantics.
- 8 So, with that caveat, we would agree that
- 9 that structure of those three categories makes
- 10 sense. And then as we said earlier, you know, we
- 11 would be opposed to attaching a fourth category
- 12 which is getting into alternative scenarios
- 13 beyond those studied by the CAISO.
- 14 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Anyone?
- MS. FOLK: I think it's going to be very
- 16 difficult to try and break these down into these
- 17 three separate pieces. You know, because some of
- 18 these things are going to be bound to each other.
- 19 And, you know, the issue of alternatives --
- 20 alternative ways to meet the need actually goes
- 21 to cost, technical feasibility and
- 22 implementation. I mean, it's not a fourth
- 23 category.
- Just in terms of people's testimony, I
- 25 think it might be easier to just let them do

- 1 their testimony and then ask them questions.
- 2 MR. VESPA: Yeah, I agree. I think it's
- 3 going to be hard to keep these lines.
- 4 The other concern I have is I'm concerned
- 5 about being a little bit too boxed in. Just as
- 6 one example, I have some questions I'd like to
- 7 ask CAISO about the reliability implications of
- 8 Scenario 2. You know, I don't know what category
- 9 that falls in, but I do think it's worth probing
- 10 more. So, I just think we might end up in
- 11 trouble if we're trying to sort of draw these
- 12 lines where you might not really be able to.
- 13 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay, thank you
- 14 for your feedback on that.
- MR. BUNDY: Mr. Kramer, I'm sorry, this
- 16 is Kevin Bundy. Before we move on from that, I
- 17 agree with Ms. Folk and Mr. Vespa that maybe just
- 18 having the panelists there to answer questions
- 19 might make sense trying to break it up. It might
- 20 be a little difficult now because I also just
- 21 have some real concerns about the way that this
- 22 third category is being described. This idea of
- 23 feasibility of implementing alternatives in time.
- 24 That's something that the CAISO study did
- 25 not actually address. I mean, if anything it's

- 1 actually outside the scope of the CAISO study.
- 2 It's probably that -- that the parties did not
- 3 have an opportunity to submit testimony on that
- 4 issue. And I think it would be highly
- 5 prejudicial to try to take testimony on the fly,
- 6 at a hearing, on something that complicated.
- 7 Particularly, when -- if I heard you correctly,
- 8 you're envisioning that that testimony would come
- 9 from the Applicant, CAISO, and Southern
- 10 California Edison.
- I think if that's something that the
- 12 Committee decides that it needs evidence on and
- 13 needs to consider, the parties should have an
- 14 opportunity to submit testimony. I have a real
- 15 concern about the span of throwing that open at
- 16 the hearing when nobody's had an opportunity to
- 17 address it and it's not really part of the study
- 18 that we're responding to.
- 19 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Correct me if
- 20 I'm wrong, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Theaker discussed
- 21 this, correct?
- MR. CARROLL: Yes, to some extent he did,
- 23 in his prepared testimony.
- 24 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Well, we started
- 25 with the issue of need. Do we need the project,

- 1 or would the need for Puente justify any
- 2 overrides, if overrides are found to be
- 3 necessary?
- Whether -- and, that, you know, one of
- 5 the functions or the aspects of that equation is
- 6 whether there are feasible alternatives to the
- 7 project. And that's the override calculation
- 8 I'm speaking of.
- 9 And feasibility, an element of that is
- 10 can it actually be made to work?
- 11 So, this surprise that that was going to
- 12 be an element is surprising to me because that's
- 13 clearly a part of this equation.
- We are not here to just engage in an
- 15 academic exercise. We're here to decide whether
- 16 or not to approve a power plant.
- 17 We're also not here to re-litigate the
- 18 system design decisions that are made in the
- 19 context of the PUC long-term procurement process,
- 20 or the procurement decisions that Edison made.
- 21 We're just here to decide if the Puente Project
- 22 should be approved.
- 23 So, I don't know what more I can say
- 24 about that.
- MR. BUNDY: Well, Mr. Kramer, this is

- 1 Kevin Bundy, again. Let me clarify. I mean, I
- 2 take your point and I certainly didn't mean to
- 3 suggest that these aren't important
- 4 considerations or considerations that the
- 5 Commission really does -- must have in front of
- 6 it.
- 7 My point is that because these
- 8 considerations were not actually addressed in the
- 9 CAISO study, within the scope of the Committee's
- 10 June 20th order, we really -- you know, throwing
- 11 out opinions about this, I mean I wonder whether
- 12 we would have faced a motion to strike from the
- 13 Applicant based on that being outside the scope.
- 14 And I know the Applicant's expert has gone ahead
- 15 and opined about this.
- 16 But I don't think that everyone was on
- 17 notice that this specific topic would be a
- 18 subheading at the evidentiary hearing. My point
- 19 is only that if the Commission wants to have
- 20 evidence on this and if the Committee decides
- 21 that evidence is necessary, all the parties
- 22 should be able to submit it. Not simply have to
- 23 respond to one expert's, you know, opinion on
- 24 this in the context of an evidentiary hearing.
- So, I mean I agree it's important, but I

- 1 think that the process should accommodate an
- 2 adequate record on this and not be rushed.
- 3 MS. FOLK: Just to follow up on Mr.
- 4 Bundy's point. I mean, you can see how there's a
- 5 bit of a catch-22 here where we have the
- 6 Applicant arguing, and we can't put in
- 7 information about alternatives because it's
- 8 outside the scope of the CAISO study. And yet,
- 9 feasibility, which is outside of the scope of the
- 10 CAISO study, is supposed to be considered. And
- 11 it does put the parties in a difficult position.
- MR. CARROLL: May I respond to that?
- 13 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay, and then I
- 14 think we're going to start our closed session.
- MR. CARROLL: Yeah, these are completely
- 16 different issues. This particular evidentiary
- 17 hearing is focused on the CAISO study. But these
- 18 entire proceedings are focused on, amongst other
- 19 things, whether there are other feasible and
- 20 prudent alternatives to the project. That's the
- 21 whole purpose of this exercise that we went
- 22 through. At least that's what I had understood
- 23 the advocates of this exercise to believe was
- 24 that the purpose of the CAISO study was to get
- 25 the CAISO's expert analysis as to whether or not

- 1 there were other feasible and prudent
- 2 alternatives to the proposed project.
- 3 So, for the other parties, including
- 4 those who advocated for the study, to now be
- 5 saying that they're shocked and dismayed that the
- 6 notion of whether or not these alternatives are
- 7 feasible and prudent would be a subject of
- 8 discussion is sort of baffling to me. And
- 9 whether it's not the same argument -- that the
- 10 number of alternatives that have been analyzed
- 11 are, in my view, dictated by the scope of the
- 12 CAISO study. But that doesn't mean that the
- 13 broader inquiry, whether or not there are other,
- 14 reasonable alternatives to the project is taken
- 15 off the table that's been part of the process
- 16 from the very beginning. And the CAISO study is
- 17 merely one subpart of that process.
- 18 You know, to the extent that the
- 19 Applicant submitted evidence on this issue is
- 20 largely defensive. You know, if there is no
- 21 evidence in the record to support an assertion
- 22 that any of these alternatives are feasible, then
- 23 the Intervenors have failed to carry their burden
- 24 on the alternatives and that would be fine with
- 25 us.

- 1 So, frankly, I would have thought that
- 2 this was the area that the Intervenors would have
- 3 been most focused on and prepared for at the
- 4 hearings later this week.
- 5 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay. Well, I
- 6 think we've heard enough on that.
- 7 Okay, before we go into closed session,
- $8\,$ we're going to see if we have any public comments
- 9 for the convenience of any people who might be
- 10 attempting or are here to make a public comment.
- In the room we just have CEC staff, the
- 12 Applicant, and the Committee.
- 13 So, do we have anybody on the telephone
- 14 that wishes to make a public comment?
- MS. LAZEROW: I'm sorry, Mr. Kramer, this
- 16 is Shana Lazerow. I'm not sure when you wanted
- 17 to take up the question that I raised earlier
- 18 about the briefing deadlines, but I wanted to
- 19 make sure to jam that in there before you guys
- 20 went into closed session.
- 21 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay, good
- 22 point. Thanks for reminding me. Let me see if
- 23 we have any public comments, first.
- One more time, does anyone on the phone
- 25 wish to make a public comment? Speak up.

- Okay, nobody appears to want to make a
- 2 public comment.
- 3 Okay, so Ms. Lazerow had asked that the
- 4 reply briefs on all of the topics, except the ISO
- 5 study, that were due on I believe the 19th,
- 6 anyway early next week, that the deadline for
- 7 that be changed to coincide with the deadline for
- $8\,$ a single round of briefs on the ISO study, which
- 9 is September 29th.
- 10 Does any party have any comment on that
- 11 request?
- MR. CARROLL: Mike Carroll on behalf of
- 13 Applicant. If we can get some assurance from the
- 14 Committee that that change would not affect the
- 15 overall schedule, then we would not be opposed to
- 16 that request. It doesn't seem as though it
- 17 would. But if there are some implications that
- 18 are not occurring to me, then we might have some
- 19 concerns. But if there aren't any implications
- 20 for the broader schedule, then we would not
- 21 object to setting a single deadline.
- 22 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: I'll come back
- 23 to you in a minute.
- 24 Anyone else? Staff?
- MS. WILLIS: Yeah, this is Kerry Willis

- 1 from staff. We would not oppose that change.
- 2 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Would not
- 3 oppose?
- 4 MS. WILLIS: Would not oppose.
- 5 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay.
- 6 MS. WILLIS: We would support the change,
- 7 actually.
- 8 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Anyone else?
- 9 Any other parties?
- 10 MS. FOLK: So, this is Ellison Folk with
- 11 the City of Oxnard. We also would support the
- 12 request. And the only other comment I'd make is
- 13 that if there is a concern about extending the
- 14 schedule, you know, even a one week extension on
- 15 the reply brief would be very helpful given that
- 16 we're all going down to Oxnard this week and it's
- 17 very hard to write a brief and do testimony at
- 18 the same time.
- 19 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay,
- 20 understood. Anyone else want to speak?
- 21 MR. VESPA: This is Matt Vespa for Sierra
- 22 Club. We support the proposal.
- 23 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay.
- 24 MR. BUNDY: And this is Kevin Bundy at
- 25 CBD. We also support the proposal.

- 1 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay, we'll take
- 2 that under submission.
- 3 Mr. Carroll, what are the Applicant's
- 4 hopes lately, as far as the schedule goes? Let
- 5 me revisit that with you.
- 6 MR. CARROLL: We abandoned our hopes a
- 7 long time ago. But our expectations are that the
- 8 Committee intends to adhere to the schedule as
- 9 currently established. We are on it at this
- 10 point and haven't received any indications that
- 11 I'm aware of, that there's an intention to move
- 12 away from it.
- Our hope would be, in all seriousness, to
- 14 get to a decision by the end of this year. A
- 15 final decision from the Commission by the end of
- 16 this year. And we think that that is doable
- 17 given the schedule that's been established, and
- 18 then filling in reasonable dates for the to-be-
- 19 determineds.
- 20 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay, yeah,
- 21 because I was going to point out that there's an
- 22 awful lot of to-be-determineds on the schedule.
- 23 MR. CARROLL: Sure. I'm sorry, I didn't
- 24 understand the question. So that would be our
- 25 expectation would be that we would maintain the

- 1 schedule for those dates that have been
- 2 specifically set, and that the TBDs would be
- 3 established in a manner that get us to a final
- 4 decision by the Commission by the end of the
- 5 year.
- 6 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay, TBDs, the
- 7 best I think I can say at this point is there's
- 8 an awful lot of information to be processed.
- 9 Including the volume of comments.
- 10 MR. CARROLL: Well, and that was really
- 11 my point. I don't -- you know, if the Committee
- 12 intended to get started on portions of the PMPD,
- 13 other than the CAISO study, once it had the reply
- 14 briefs on all other topics, and now we're going
- 15 to be losing a couple of weeks because you would
- 16 be changing that plan, that would be problematic
- 17 for us.
- 18 If the Committee's intention all along
- 19 was we're not going to get started on the PMPD in
- 20 earnest until we've got all of the briefing in,
- 21 then moving everything to the single date doesn't
- 22 really affect anything.
- 23 So, I would just ask that the Committee
- 24 keep that in consideration in evaluating the
- 25 request.

- 1 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay, thank you.
- 2 We can do that.
- 3 Okay, time for a closed session. And
- 4 that, again, will be for deliberation pursuant to
- 5 Government Code Section 11126(c)(3).
- 6 Let me see if we can give you a time that
- 7 we'll be back.
- 8 (Pause)
- 9 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: We'll be back no
- 10 sooner than a quarter to 1:00, about an hour from
- 11 now. It will give you time to get lunch and --
- 12 see you then. Thank you.
- 13 (Adjourned into Closed Session at
- 14 11:42 a.m.)
- 15 (Reconvened into Public Session at
- 16 12:45 p.m.)
- 17 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay, this is
- 18 Paul Kramer reporting out of closed session.
- 19 There are some reportable decisions.
- 20 As to the motions, the documents that
- 21 were filed last week, and that's the subjects of
- 22 the Applicant's motions TN221104, that's the
- 23 exhibits of the Sierra Club, and the
- 24 Environmental Coalition, and Environmental
- 25 Defense Center. The document TN numbers are

- 1 listed on the agenda. Oh, no, I'm sorry they're
- 2 not. They're in the motion.
- 3 And then, also, 221105, which is the
- 4 Applicant's similar motion regarding the exhibits
- 5 proposed by the Center for Biological Diversity.
- Those will be admitted for the purpose we
- 7 discussed earlier of -- they'll come in to the
- 8 extent and only to the extent that they are used
- 9 to impeach testimony of another party's witness.
- 10 But to be clear, not as a backdoor entrance for
- 11 testimony from that party. So, for impeachment,
- 12 to the extent that they're used the portions that
- 13 are used for impeachment will come in. And they
- 14 would be hearsay. Unless some foundation is laid
- 15 to authenticate them.
- 16 And as far as the next two motions,
- 17 221106, and that's to strike portions of James
- 18 Caldwell's testimony, and also 221107 to strike
- 19 the testimony of Dr. Doug Karpa, those will come
- 20 in to the extent that they are connected -- they
- 21 are relevant and connected to the ISO study. So,
- 22 a word of advice. They're more likely to be
- 23 admitted if the party draws a connection to the
- 24 ISO study's analysis and conclusions.
- 25 And then, the briefs, we will move the

- 1 briefing deadline that was next week for other
- 2 than the ISO topics to coincide with the single
- 3 brief that's going to come in on the ISO topics.
- 4 And that's September 29, I believe is the due
- 5 date.
- 6 And then, finally, we note that the City,
- 7 in its opening brief, questions staff's use of an
- 8 11 percent capacity factor in evaluating the
- 9 adequacy of CEQA mitigation. This is in the Air
- 10 Quality section. The final determination of
- 11 compliance analysis of the project, and the
- 12 limitation on annual operations in the condition
- 13 is based on a 24 percent capacity factor.
- 14 So, we wanted to make sure that the
- 15 City's question about why the difference and the
- 16 justification for the difference is addressed in
- 17 your reply briefs. We think, particularly, that
- 18 that applies to staff and the Applicant. But, of
- 19 course, everyone else's will offer -- or, can
- 20 weigh in on that topic.
- 21 With that, any questions?
- MS. BELENKY: Yes, Mr. Carroll (sic),
- 23 this is Lisa Belenky. I'm not sure I understood
- 24 the ruling on the testimony. You said -- first
- 25 you said it comes in and then you said to the

- 1 extent it is relevant and connected to the ISO
- 2 study. But it's already been submitted and it is
- 3 relevant. And so, what is it -- I'm not sure I
- 4 understood the ruling.
- 5 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Well, you're
- 6 going to need to explain the relevance. For
- 7 instance, I think that applies especially, but
- 8 not exclusive --
- 9 (Telephone Operator interruption)
- 10 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: I forgot where I
- 11 was in that sentence. Let me start over. So,
- 12 you need to draw a connection to the ISO study.
- 13 Specifically, an example would be alternative
- 14 scenarios or additional scenarios or variations
- 15 on the ISO study. What is it -- you need to
- 16 explain how it's relevant to our consideration of
- 17 the study, whether it's -- you know, one obvious
- 18 possibility is cost. You know, if it highlights
- 19 your apparent concerns that the ISO's cost
- 20 estimates are too high. But there could be other
- 21 ways.
- In other words, we're not planning on
- 23 revisiting, as I said earlier, the global plan
- 24 for the electricity system in the area. We are
- 25 trying to determine if Puente is needed in the

- 1 current context, you know, that's before us.
- 2 And those comments apply also to the --
- 3 well, in my notes they were relating to the
- 4 scope, as well as to the documentary evidence.
- 5 MR. VESPA: And this is Matt Vespa, just
- 6 regarding the ruling on the exhibits. You know,
- 7 I have submitted -- you know, some of these are
- 8 CEC-authored documents, demand forecasts, and
- 9 things like that that are really -- there may be
- 10 questioning I want to ask CAISO just to kind of
- 11 add more color and context for the assumptions
- 12 that they make and where they're derived from.
- 13 Some of them are things that they actually cited
- 14 to.
- So, they may not be impeached, you know,
- 16 for impeachment, but they may be to provide some
- 17 additional context to the assumptions that are
- 18 relied on.
- 19 You know, is that going to be an issue in
- 20 terms of their admission?
- 21 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: We won't be able
- 22 to say for sure right today. But, you know, feel
- 23 free to -- oh, I don't want it to come out that
- 24 way. I was going to say feel free to explore the
- 25 limits of admissibility.

- 1 But we will have to address any specific
- 2 objections that come in as you ask the questions.
- 3 You know, without hearing the exact question it's
- 4 very difficult to predict how we'll rule. But as
- 5 you can imagine, any time you write a rule or try
- 6 to describe a rule, a specific application,
- 7 you're never going to exactly hit every possible
- 8 situation.
- 9 But the message is to focus on the ISO
- 10 study and those three aspects of it that we
- 11 described earlier.
- MR. VESPA: Okay.
- 13 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay. And then,
- 14 finally, as a matter of -- unless there are other
- 15 questions. Just as a matter of practical aspects
- 16 of the hearing, Ms. Chester is going to bring, in
- 17 case the internet is wonky in the auditorium
- 18 again, she and I are both going to have hot
- 19 spots. So, I think the people that were sitting
- 20 on her side of the table can share that hot spot
- 21 and I'll have one that the Committee can use.
- 22 So, we should have better internet coverage, even
- 23 if the facility isn't helping us out in that
- 24 regard.
- MR. CARROLL: So, Mr. Kramer, Latham will

- 1 also be bringing two hot spots, so we should be
- 2 pretty well covered.
- 3 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay, good.
- 4 MS. FOLK: And this is Ellison Folk.
- 5 This isn't Wi-Fi related, but I do have one
- 6 question about the format. And maybe I'm getting
- 7 ahead of you, but it sounds like we are going to
- $8\,$ do a panel format, similar to what we did last
- 9 time.
- 10 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Yes.
- 11 MS. FOLK: And I guess my question would
- 12 be we just want to confirm we'll be able to ask
- 13 questions of the panelists and that our witnesses
- 14 will be able to make their -- like a brief
- 15 presentation, sort of similar to the prior
- 16 format.
- 17 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Yeah, a brief
- 18 summary of their testimony helps put everything
- 19 in context and helps us remember what we've read.
- MS. FOLK: Yeah, okay.
- 21 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: And then, we
- 22 also have to remember that we'll have some
- 23 members of the public there, so helping them to
- 24 follow it is a nice thing to do.
- MS. FOLK: Okay.

- 1 MR. PINJUV: This is Jordan Pinjuv. Oh,
- 2 I'm sorry I have one additional question on the
- 3 paneling topic. And that was whether you had
- 4 given any more thought to the structure of how
- 5 the panels would operate? Whether the ISO would
- 6 be going first, on its own panel, or whether one
- 7 will be together?
- 8 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Well, I think
- 9 we'll probably seat everyone, but then the ISO is
- 10 definitely going to go first. Their report is
- 11 the star of the show, so we want them to explain
- 12 that, first, before the others.
- MR. PINJUV: Okay, thanks.
- MR. VESPA: So, just clarify, it's Matt
- 15 Vespa, CAISO will go first and present. Would
- 16 CAISO then be subject to specific questioning
- 17 before we introduce the remainder of the
- 18 panelists or would we then do openings for each
- 19 panelist, and then go back to specifics?
- It would be helpful on my end to just
- 21 kind of go through CAISO first and just get some
- 22 established parameters for the study because that
- 23 may inform how our witnesses talk about their
- 24 testimony.
- 25 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay, the other

- 1 parties, how do you feel about that? I don't
- 2 know that we have a particular preference.
- 3 MR. PINJUV: Yeah, this is Jordan Pinjuv
- 4 here, again, from the ISO. I think that we would
- 5 agree with that, having our witnesses kind of up
- 6 first. Having our questioning to follow directly
- 7 after just kind of makes the most sense from our
- 8 perspective, as we kind of are setting the stage
- 9 there. And that will facilitate getting our
- 10 witnesses up and down the first day.
- 11 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay. Yeah,
- 12 that's a good consideration.
- Does anybody have a different approach
- 14 they'd like to advocate?
- Okay, so that's what we'll do, then. ISO
- 16 summarize and then we'll have questions directed
- 17 at them, and then we'll go beyond that. But the
- 18 ISO folks will stick around for a while, right?
- 19 Because inevitably there will be some follow ups
- 20 that are engendered by what the others say.
- 21 MR. PINJUV: Yes, they will be around all
- 22 day. I believe their flight leaves at 7:30, so
- 23 they'll be around until they leave for there.
- 24 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay, excellent.
- 25 Any other questions or --

- 1 MR. VESPA: I would just state -- I don't
- 2 want to beat a dead horse here, but just to re-
- 3 summarize just the way this is going to happen,
- 4 you know, CAISO introduces, CAISO gets
- 5 questioned, CAISO remains there. Each of the
- 6 other panelists then are able to introduce with a
- 7 couple of just introductory questions, and then
- 8 everything gets opened up. Is that about right?
- 9 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Yes.
- MR. VESPA: Okay, thank you.
- MS. LAZEROW: Hi, sorry, this is Shana
- 12 Lazerow. I am afraid I missed what the ruling
- 13 was on the briefing schedule.
- 14 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Oh, we're going
- 15 to combine them both. Refresh my memory. The
- 16 29th was the deadline for the ISO one, right?
- MS. LAZEROW: That's right.
- 18 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay, yeah,
- 19 they're both going to move to the 29th then. I
- 20 suppose you could put them all in one brief.
- 21 MS. LAZEROW: That's great, thanks.
- 22 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay.
- 23 MS. BELENKY: I'm sorry, this is Lisa
- 24 Belenky. I just wanted to clarify, so this sheet
- 25 that you sent out with all the times on it, last

- 1 night, we're not going to use this because we're
- 2 probably using a panel. And is the expectation
- 3 that we're going to finish on Thursday?
- 4 I'm asking that because some of the
- 5 parties have many, many, many, many minutes for
- 6 each of these people to give their opening. You
- 7 know, 20 minutes for an opening, et cetera, or an
- 8 hour. I'm just trying to understand what we're
- 9 doing, now. Could you clarify a bit more?
- 10 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Sure. The
- 11 Committee is going to take the time that's
- 12 necessary. We want to be efficient, of course.
- 13 So, we are fully expecting and available, if we
- 14 don't finish on the first day, to go over to
- 15 Friday.
- Now, what we'll want to keep an eye on is
- 17 if we have some witnesses, and the two I've heard
- 18 about thus far are the ISO, and then also the
- 19 Edison folks will not be staying over until
- 20 Friday. So, we'll want to be mindful of their --
- 21 you know, well, when they turn into pumpkins so
- 22 to speak.
- MR. PINJUV: Yeah.
- 24 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: And make sure
- 25 that we call that out and we have an opportunity

- 1 for any last-minute questions of them.
- 2 But otherwise, everyone who can stay, to
- 3 the extent we need to stay over on Friday to
- 4 complete things, we will.
- 5 MR. VESPA: And this is Matt Vespa for
- 6 Sierra Club. My witnesses, Mr. Schwartz and Mr.
- 7 Owens are only prepared to be there on Thursday.
- 8 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay. Please
- 9 remind us as we get towards the middle of the
- 10 afternoon on Thursday.
- MR. VESPA: Okay, thanks.
- MS. BELENKY: And again, could you
- 13 clarify the purpose of the Edison -- I don't
- 14 understand. They're not on the witness list, so
- 15 where do they fit in this?
- 16 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Well, they have
- 17 information, presumably, about how quickly some
- 18 of these other suggested alternatives to the
- 19 Puente Project could be implemented and
- 20 operational. And, as we've said, that's an
- 21 important consideration, potentially.
- MS. BELENKY: But it wasn't submitted as
- 23 testimony and none of us have seen it, and we
- 24 have no idea what they're going to say or how we
- 25 would be able to either cross-examine them or ask

- 1 them questions. I don't understand how this is
- 2 coming in at the very end of the day here.
- 3 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Well, as I said
- 4 earlier, from the Committee's stand point this
- 5 was clearly a part of the package, you know, of
- 6 information that relates to the ISO study.
- 7 If it turns out that there's some
- 8 remarkable piece of information that's supplied
- 9 by Edison, and it's reasonable to allow either
- 10 later submission of responses, you know, you can
- 11 always ask the Committee to -- for additional
- 12 time to be able to respond. But you're going to
- 13 have to convince us that this is not foreseeable
- 14 evidence. And that may be -- will probably not
- 15 be -- well, I can't say for sure. But as I said,
- 16 the Committee, you know, believes that this is
- 17 part of the equation, it's part of the override
- 18 equation.
- 19 The feasibility, as Mr. Carroll pointed
- 20 out, I believe, of alternatives was -- is and was
- 21 on the table from day one, from the hearings in
- 22 February. You know, the parties were asked to
- 23 bring their evidence about overrides in February.
- 24 You know, it crosses over many -- many topics.
- The Committee has twice now reopened the

- 1 hearings to take additional evidence, but that,
- 2 you know, has added significant time to this
- 3 process, and at some point it does have to come
- 4 to an end.
- 5 MS. BELENKY: I'm actually objecting to a
- 6 witness who does not -- there was never any
- 7 discussion of a witness who you've now put on the
- 8 witness list. They didn't submit testimony.
- 9 They didn't write the Cal-ISO study, and we have
- 10 no idea what they're saying. I'm not trying to
- 11 reopen something from February.
- 12 You have added a witness who is not on
- 13 the list and we have not discussed in the
- 14 prehearing conference statements. It did not
- 15 submit any testimony. I just don't understand
- 16 where it's coming from.
- 17 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay. Well,
- 18 you're free to raise an objection when we have
- 19 specific questions, but we are not going to make
- 20 any general ruling today.
- MS. BELENKY: Thank you.
- 22 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay, thank you.
- 23 Anything else from anyone?
- 24 MR. CARROLL: Nothing from Applicant,
- 25 thank you.

- 1 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: Okay, thank you.
- 2 We'll see everyone in Oxnard at --
- 3 MS. FOLK: Wait, I actually did want to
- 4 respond on the issue of Edison. And not -- all I
- 5 wanted to say is that, you know, we're not afraid
- 6 of the feasibility issue, but I do think there is
- 7 a fairness issue in terms of inviting someone to
- 8 testify that -- where we haven't had an
- 9 opportunity to see what they might say and have,
- 10 you know, a fair opportunity to prepare to ask
- 11 questions about it. You know, especially if the
- 12 issue is procurement, you know, Edison hasn't put
- 13 in anything on that so far.
- 14 And so, then, you know, depending on what
- 15 they say we may want to be able to ask them some
- 16 questions about other proceedings and other
- 17 procurement opportunities.
- 18 MR. CARROLL: I would just interject that
- 19 the Committee has, on a fairly regular basis,
- 20 invited parties that it believed might have
- 21 relevant information, to participate in these
- 22 proceedings. They're not parties to the
- 23 proceedings and, therefore, they're not under the
- 24 same obligations that the parties are to file in
- 25 advance.

- 1 But the two that come to mind from the
- 2 previous round of hearings are the Coastal
- 3 Conservancy, and the Coastal Commission, and the
- 4 USGS. As I recall, all of those were entities
- 5 that the Committee essentially invited to
- 6 participate because of their view that they might
- 7 have relevant information. And they showed up on
- 8 largely the same basis that Edison would, without
- 9 having filed any testimony in advance or anything
- 10 along those lines. So, this is not out of line
- 11 with the way the Committee has proceeded in the
- 12 past.
- MS. FOLK: That actually is not true.
- 14 The Coastal Commission filed testimony, as did
- 15 the Coastal Conservancy. So, there was an
- 16 opportunity for the parties to prepare and ask
- 17 questions.
- 18 HEARING OFFICER KRAMER: All right. I'll
- 19 just note that most of you are -- were
- 20 participants in the LTPP process and so you're
- 21 not unfamiliar with it.
- 22 Anyway, it will serve no purpose to
- 23 discuss theoretical objections to hypothesized
- 24 questions for a witness who's not in front of us,
- 25 without the context of all of the other questions

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1 that will have been asked before those are asked.
2 So, I anticipate this discussion will
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- 3 continue on Thursday. But there's no purpose
- 4 served to continue it today.
- 5 So, anything else about -- for Thursday?
- Just note that we've also, I'm sure
- 7 you're aware of it, we scheduled a Committee
- 8 conference for Monday, I think it is, the 18th,
- 9 yes. That is going to be pretty much, you know,
- 10 dedicated to Committee deliberation in closed
- 11 session. We don't expect -- you know, we will of
- 12 course have public comment, as -- as we are
- 13 required to do. But it will be, more than today,
- 14 truly deliberative.
- So, with that one last time, anything
- 16 else?
- 17 If not, then we are adjourned.
- 18 (Thereupon, the Hearing was adjourned at
- 1:09 p.m.)
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- 25

REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

I do hereby certify that the testimony in the foregoing hearing was taken at the time and

place therein stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were reported by me, a certified electronic court reporter and a disinterested person, and was under my supervision thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 21st day of September, 2017.

Eduwiges Lastra CER-915

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I do hereby certify that the testimony in the foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place therein stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were transcribed by me, a certified transcriber.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 21st day of September, 2017.

Barbara Little Certified Transcriber AAERT No. CET**D-520

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