

**E. Public Participation
Hearings Testimony**

1 SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA, APRIL 28, 2009 - 7:30 P.M.

2 * * * * *

3 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE SMITH: We'll be on
4 the record.

5 Good evening.

6 This is the time and place for a public
7 participation hearing in Sacramento.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Can't hear you.

9 ALJ SMITH: Good evening.

10 This is the time and place for a public
11 participation hearing in Sacramento Natural Gas Storage
12 LLC's request for a Certificate of Public Convenience
13 and Necessity to construct and operate a natural gas
14 storage facility. This request is Application
15 No. 07-04-013.

16 I'm Richard Smith, the administrative law
17 judge in this matter.

18 Joining me this evening is Commissioner
19 Timothy Alan Simon, the assigned commissioner for this
20 proceeding.

21 Welcome, Commissioner Simon. Would you like
22 to say a few words?

23 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Thank you.

24 Good evening.

25 Can everyone hear me?

26 AUDIENCE: Yes.

27 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Good. I am the assigned

28 commissioner to this proceeding. I'm working this

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1 evening with Administrative Law Judge Richard Smith who
2 you just heard from.

3 I want to thank all the party participants for
4 the presentations that they've given so far throughout
5 this proceeding.

6 This is our public participation hearing and I
7 consider this, as a California Public Utilities
8 commissioner, due process at its best because we go to
9 the community and we listen to the community.

10 And what is important to make these operations
11 effective is, one, as the Administrative Law Judge will
12 state, talk slower than I do so that our court reporter
13 is able to capture the very important essence of your
14 message. Try to avoid redundancy. We have a lot of
15 speakers this evening, and I know you want to make your
16 point. But if your point has been made 25 or 30 times,
17 you might want to consider that it's a working evening
18 and other things, that this the right time and place to
19 add the 36th same comment.

20 Because this is due process, because this is a
21 public proceeding, what is important to me is that every
22 speaker, regardless of their position, feels comfortable
23 in giving their position in this venue. I understand
24 that the issues involved in this proceeding are at times
25 emotional, they are at times pecuniary, but that should

26 not deny the right of every person here this evening to
27 express their views within the time limit that will be
28 granted by the administrative law judge.

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1 I want to commend the residents of
2 the Avondale and Glen Elder community for this level of
3 participation. This reflects a very active and caring
4 community, and it's an honor to be here before you.

5 (Applause)

6 COMMISSIONER SIMON: You can applaud me any time.

7 But again, I want to emphasize, let people
8 speak their mind. The process works better when that
9 occurs. Everyone is entitled to their opinion. And you
10 do not want your opinion to be treated in a manner that
11 could be intimidating. I would expect the same for
12 the contrary opinions as well.

13 So, I'll turn this back over to Administrative
14 Law Judge Richard Smith, and I look forward to hearing
15 from all of you.

16 Thank you.

17 (Applause)

18 ALJ SMITH: Thank you, Commissioner Simon.

19 Today's public participation hearing is to
20 provide the public an opportunity to tell the Commission
21 their views about the project. If you would like to
22 make a statement, please sign up with the assistant
23 public advisors near the entrance.

24 However, before I call on speakers, I'll take
25 a moment to provide some background on this proceeding.

26 Sacramento Natural Gas Storage filed this
27 application in April 2007 for authority to construct an
28 underground natural gas storage facility in portions of

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1 the City and County of Sacramento. Sacramento Natural
2 Gas Storage proposes to use the Florin Gas Field,
3 a nearby depleted gas reservoir to store natural gas
4 primarily for use by the Sacramento Metropolitan
5 Utilities District or SMUD. During the 1980s, natural
6 gas was extracted from this now depleted gas field.

7 The project would also include facilities to
8 inject, withdraw, and transport natural gas to and from
9 the storage reservoir including a wellhead site,
10 a control center and compressor station site, and buried
11 pipelines connecting the wellhead and compressor sites
12 and connecting the compressor site to SMUD Line 700, an
13 existing natural gas pipeline that runs nearby along
14 Fruitridge Road.

15 The picture to my left here is an aerial view
16 of the area where the project facilities are proposed to
17 be located.

18 In October 2008, we held two days of
19 evidentiary hearings on whether the Commission should
20 grant Sacramento Natural Gas Storage a Certificate of
21 Public Convenience and Necessity or CPCN for the
22 project. The hearings addressed nonenvironmental issues
23 related to the project, including whether the project is
24 necessary and whether the project is consistent with the
25 historical, aesthetic, and community values of the area.

26 Parties participating in the evidentiary hearings
27 included Sacramento Natural Gas Storage, the Avondale
28 Glen Elder Neighborhood Association, the City

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1 of Sacramento, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, and the
2 Commission's Division of Ratepayer Advocates.

3 A review of the project's potential
4 environmental impacts is being conducted pursuant to the
5 California Environmental Quality Act, or CEQA, and the
6 Public Resources Code. As lead agency for the project,
7 the Commission is required to assess the environmental
8 effects of the project and to use this assessment in
9 considering the request for a CPCN. The Commission's
10 Energy Division is coordinating the environmental review
11 for the project and has prepared an Environmental Impact
12 Report or EIR.

13 The public meeting that concluded just prior
14 to this hearing is a part of the environmental review
15 process.

16 The EIR will be submitted into the record for
17 certification by the Commission. And the Commission
18 will consider the EIR when it decides whether to grant
19 the application.

20 As the presiding officer, I will write
21 a proposed decision based on the evidentiary record in
22 the proceeding. The assigned commissioner may or may
23 not agree with my proposed decision. And if not, he may
24 prepare his own decision called an alternate decision.
25 In some cases, other commissioners may also offer

26 alternate decisions for Commission consideration. Only
27 a decision supported by a majority of the Commission at
28 a scheduled Commission meeting becomes the decision of

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1 the Commission.

2 As I stated earlier, today's public
3 participation hearing is to give members of the public
4 an opportunity to tell the Commission what they think
5 about the project. It's being held concurrently with
6 the public meeting on the Draft EIR to be convenient to
7 the public. However, this public participation hearing
8 serves a different purpose than the meeting that just
9 concluded on the Draft EIR.

10 The earlier CEQA meeting described
11 the environmental review of the project and answered
12 questions about the Draft EIR and how to file comments
13 on it. This public participation hearing will hear what
14 the public thinks about the project in general.
15 Speakers may comment on either environmental or
16 nonenvironmental issues. However, those who wish to
17 submit formal comments on the Draft EIR should follow
18 the instructions provided earlier by Mr. Rosauer from
19 the Commission's Energy Division.

20 If you wish to speak this evening, please
21 print your name on the sign-in sheets near the entrance.
22 In a few minutes, I will begin calling speakers to come
23 forward in the order that they signed up. When your
24 name is called, please come forward to one of the
25 microphones, and state and spell your name, and make

26 your statement.

27 This public participation hearing is being

28 transcribed by a court reporter, so please speak slowly

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1 and clearly. Also, only one person should speak at
2 a time.

3 If you have prepared a written statement,
4 please provide a copy of the statement to the court
5 reporter and to me. You do not need to read it.

6 Parties to the proceeding have already
7 formally submitted testimony and other evidence into the
8 record, and this public participation hearing is not an
9 opportunity for the parties to testify. Tonight, I only
10 want to hear from the members of the public who have not
11 testified in the evidentiary hearings or otherwise
12 participate in the formal hearings. However, I will
13 permit Sacramento Natural Gas Storage and the Avondale
14 Glen Elder Neighborhood Association to make short
15 presentations to share their perspectives with the
16 audience.

17 Also, the City of Sacramento has asked that
18 I inform all of you that the city will also review
19 the project for a special permit and franchise
20 agreement. The primary contact for city staff is Tom
21 Buford, senior planner in the Community Development
22 Department. Mr. Buford is here tonight and has brought
23 copies of the City's Frequently Asked Questions document
24 for this project.

25 Mr. Buford, please stand.

26 MR. BUFORD: Over here.

27 Thank you.

28 ALJ SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Buford.

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1 The City's Frequently Asked Questions document
2 is posted on the city's website at
3 www.cityofsacramento.org.

4 Also present tonight, we have Councilman Kevin
5 McCarty, and I wanted to welcome him. In the back
6 there.

7 (Applause)

8 ALJ SMITH: At this time, I will now grant
9 Sacramento Natural Gas Storage five minutes to make its
10 presentation.

11 Please introduce yourself.

12 STATEMENT OF MR. JAHNS

13 MR. JAHNS: Good evening, Commissioner Simon,
14 Administrative Law Judge Smith. My name is Al Jahns,
15 spelled J-a-h-n-s. I'm an attorney of record for
16 Sacramento Natural Gas Storage in this proceeding.
17 I want to thank you for the opportunity to address you
18 and members of the public here this evening at this
19 important juncture in the Commission's proceeding on the
20 SNGS application.


21 As the Commission staff has shown in its
22 previous presentation this evening, the Draft
23 Environmental Impact Statement is a result of a very
24 comprehensive and long review. With the further input
25 to be provided by comments on the Draft EIR, Applicant



E1-1

26 anticipates that the final environmental document
27 approved by the Commission will successfully serve the
28 function of informing the Commission and the public as

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**E1-1
(Cont.)**

1 to the potential environmental effects of the proposed
2 project.

3 I will now take a couple of minutes to preview
4 the comments that SNGS will be making on the Draft EIR,
5 and can begin happily by saying that Applicant thinks
6 that the Draft EIR got it right with respect to at least
7 76 of the 79 issues examined with respect to which the
8 conclusion is that the potential impacts will range from
9 nonexistent to insignificant.

10 In the remaining three issue areas with
11 respect to which the Draft EIR concludes that there may
12 be residual significant impacts, Applicant anticipates
13 that following due consideration of its written
14 comments, the Final EIR will properly support the
15 conclusion that the potential impacts in each of these
16 areas can be reduced to insignificance.

17 Those three areas as identified earlier
18 tonight are the nighttime noise from construction of
19 wells, potential for migration of gas through the
20 reservoir structure, and the release of gas from
21 pipeline or wellhead features.


22 With respect to the nighttime construction
23 noise concern, the Draft EIR unfortunately incorrectly
24 states that the Applicant did not propose any mitigation
25 measures. We believe that after due consideration of



**E1-1
(Cont.)**

26 the project design and our proposed mitigation measures
27 are accounted for, this issue can be resolved
28 satisfactorily.

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**E1-1
(Cont.)**

1 With respect to the concern as to potential
2 migration of gas from the reservoir to groundwater or
3 surface, the Draft EIR we think has given insufficient
4 consideration to the multiple expert views to the effect
5 that the likelihood of such migration in the context of
6 the proposed use of the Florin Gas Field is so remote as
7 to be insignificant.

8 In the extensive studies of natural gas
9 storage operations reported to the Commission, there is
10 no incident of gas migration through cap rock to the
11 surface or laterally around cap rock to the surface in
12 connection with a storage operation utilizing a depleted
13 gas reservoir.

14 We do agree, however, that Applicant should
15 conduct site-specific strength testing to confirm that
16 the cap rock formation parameters in fact exceed
17 the very conservative assumptions used for the
18 geomechanical analysis that has been submitted into this
19 record.


20 With respect to the concern as to potential
21 pipeline or wellhead releases, Sacramento Natural Gas
22 Storage has demonstrated to the Commission and to
23 the community its overarching commitment to safety.
24 Consistent with that commitment, SNGS employed
25 the services of a world-class risk analyst, Robert K.



**E1-1
(Cont.)**

26 Weatherwax to assist in the development of
27 the engineering design of the project to assure that the
28 proposed facility could be safely operated in this

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**E1-1
(Cont.)**

1 proposed environmental setting.

2 As an example of Bob Weatherwax's considerable
3 prior work in this field, I will note that he was
4 the lead author in the reliability assessment of
5 the shuttle which accurately forecasted the Challenger
6 Space Shuttle failure mode and the probability of
7 catastrophic failure some three years before
8 the occurrence of that terrible incident.


9 NASA should have listened to Bob Weatherwax.
10 Sacramento Natural Gas Storage has listened to him.
11 The engineering design of the proposed facility includes
12 safety enhancements identified through the rigorous
13 design review process in which Bob Weatherwax
14 participated.

15 The results of these enhancements are captured
16 in his probabilistic risk assessment submitted to the
17 Commission in July of last year.

18 That assessment supports the conclusion that
19 the individual and societal risks from potential
20 pipeline and wellhead releases of natural gas are
21 insignificant under all the recognized risk criteria.

22 Unfortunately the risk assessment in the Draft
23 EIR does not address the SNGS project as it's been
24 proposed.


25 That assessment includes a pipeline segment



**E1-1
(Cont.)**

26 located in Yolo County that is no longer part of the
27 proposal. It substantially overstates the proposed
28 pipeline operating pressures, it substantially

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**E1-1
(Cont.)**

1 overstates the wellhead casing size, and it overlooks
2 important features included in the project design to
3 enhance public safety.

4 Furthermore, the Draft EIR assessment
5 overlooks the consideration of seismic risk which
6 Weatherwax carefully took into account in his
7 quantitative assessment.

8 Seismic risk is a particularly important
9 distinguishing factor in the consideration of alterna-
10 tive reservoirs because the seismic-risk factor in this
11 area increases as one moves to the west of the proposed
12 project location.

13 In short, the Applicant believes that
14 important corrections are needed to the Draft EIR so
15 that the Commission and the public will be
16 comprehensively and accurately informed as to the
17 potential environmental impacts from the proposed
18 facility.


19 Applicant will submit written comments in
20 support of the needed corrections and believes that at
21 the end of the day the substantial evidence in the
22 record in this proceeding will support the Commission's
23 approval of a final environmental document in which,
24 after consideration of mitigation measures, no residual
25 significant environmental impacts will be identified.



**E1-1
(Cont.)**

26 Again, thank you for the opportunity to brief
27 you those comments.
28 We look forward to moving forward in the final

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**E1-1
(Cont.)**

1 review process.

2 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Thank you.

3 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

4 I will now grant the Avondale Glen-Elder
5 Neighborhood Association five minutes to make its
6 presentation.

7 STATEMENT OF MS. SLIDER

8 MS. SLIDER: Good evening, Commissioner Simon
9 nice to finally meet you -- and AL Judge Smith.

10 So I come here today not to repeat any of the
11 testimony that I have given on previous occasions but to
12 highlight some of the issues and particularly some of
13 the myths and -- that have been spread that need to be
14 put on the record, particularly some of the propaganda
15 that has been sent around by SNGS stating that 76 of the
16 79 impacts are stated to have no impacts at all or less-
17 than-significant impacts.

18 So let's do some do simple math. If 79 minus
19 76 -- what does is that leave?

20 VOICES: Three.

21 MS. SLIDER: Three. Right.

22 And the three that are left are the three that
23 seem to be very important.

24 It says that there is a risk of fire,
25 explosion, and water contamination. Those are the ones

E1-1
(Cont.)

E1-2

26 that concern us the most. Those are the ones that we
27 come here today, advocate for our community and the
28 larger Sacramento community about.

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**E1-2
(Cont.)**

1 We have some of the best experts in the world
2 as well, experts that have reviewed the Draft EIR, the
3 one that says that there is a risk of fire, explosion,
4 and leaking into our water; but our experts also say
5 that there has been a gross understatement in these
6 risks as well, and they will be prepared to provide
7 testimony to the Judge and to the Commission as well on
8 those facts.

9 There's some -- someone asked earlier about
10 whether or not this facility or a facility like this has
11 ever been built, and the answer is no; in fact, unmiti-
12 gatedly no.

13 Someone from the PUC said that there are
14 facilities like this in southern California.

15 Well, I visited a facility like this in
16 southern California; however, there's a difference.
17 That facility in southern California was built prior to
18 any housing being built.


19 And when that housing was proposed, the city
20 as well as the PUC came forth and said: We won't allow
21 you to build this housing unless you build impermeable
22 membranes underneath all the housing so that there won't
23 be leakage, unless you put in mitigation systems so that
24 if the gas leaks, that the systems will go off and let
25 you know.



**E1-2
(Cont.)**

26 And I will let you know, as you already do
27 know, Playa Vista and Playa Del Rey have a myriad of
28 issues and problems, and we don't want those problems.

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**E1-2
(Cont.)**

1 We don't have the benefit of putting down
2 membranes; we don't have the benefit of putting down --
3 putting in mitigation systems. In fact, we haven't even
4 been offered those types of -- types of.

5 What we have asked is if you want this
6 facility, do it somewhere where it is rural, where it
7 won't impact the community.

8 This is a redevelopment area, and what we want
9 to build in our community is parks, what we want to
10 build is good schools, what we want to have in our
11 community is safe streets and sidewalks.

12 We don't want a gas storage facility.

13 If there is some place else for this to go,
14 that is exactly where it should go.

15 So we ask that you look at these issues before
16 you today and that you take the community's large
17 concerns into account as you take this back to the
18 Commission.


19 And we thank you for coming here today.

20 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

21 (Applause)

22 ALJ SMITH: I will now begin calling on speakers
23 from the audience.

24 As I mentioned earlier, a number of members of
25 the community served as witnesses and have filed



**E1-2
(Cont.)**

26 testimony in the evidentiary hearings at the Commission.
27 I see that several of them have signed up to be speak-
28 ers, and I will not call on them tonight. I have their

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1 testimony in the record.

2 And I want to hear from the community in
3 general at this point.

4 So what I will do, I'll call three or four
5 names at a time.

6 When you hear your name called, please line up
7 in the order that you are called, and as the speakers
8 finish their statements, I will call several more names
9 so that we can keep things moving.

10 So we do have a large number of requests to
11 speak tonight, so I will impose a time limit on each
12 speaker of two minutes, and that way everyone will get a
13 chance to speak.

14 Please be brief and to the point.

15 And the Assistant Public Advisor will keep
16 track of the time and indicate when your time is up.

17 First we will hear from S. Gaines?

18 Is there an S. Gaines?

19 And also please get queued up to speak, Josh
20 P., and Verlyn, Stam.

21 Ms. Gaines?

22 STATEMENT OF MS. GAINES

23 MS. GAINES: Hello.


24 My name is Sheila Jasper, but I'm using Gaines
25 because my property is a -- down line from my deceased



E1-3

26 mother, and she was a Gaines, and she was in that
27 neighborhood for many years, and she was a military wife
28 for many years.

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**E1-3
(Cont.)**

1 Okay. My statement is -- well, I don't know.
2 This is what I've written down.

3 One thing concerns me is 30-year lease with
4 30- year option. I think that's like six generations.

5 Then I would want to know who's financing this
6 project.

7 Then I would like to know, are stocks going to
8 be sold eventually on this project?

9 Then will any jobs for our very oppressed
10 community be offered in the commercial?

11 We have roofers, we have cement workers.

12 And are there going to be any general labor
13 jobs for our communities out of this?

14 I am personally very sincere.

15 I'm a widow, a new one, second time, from a
16 Vietnam fellow that died of serious, agonizing Agent
17 Orange death, prostate from the -- then into the bones,
18 so I'm a very sincere person, too. And I'm aware of our
19 energy needs. However, big business could certainly
20 share more than cash stipets -- is that the right word?
21 Stipets? Stipends?

22 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Stipends.

23 MS. GAINES: Whatever.

24 You know, I only did 10th grade, but that's
25 when they were teaching people things.



**E1-3
(Cont.)**

26 (Laughter)

27 MS. GAINES: What about our neighborhood on 75th

28 Street?

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**E1-3
(Cont.)**

1 No jokes.

2 What about our neighbors on 75th Street?

3 If it's rolling down Bellini, do you think

4 it's going to stop at the end of the Bellini Way?

5 SNG says they have 2/3 of the 700 residents.

6 How many of those residents that are on their

7 side have absent owners?

8 How many of those properties are bank owned?

9 I don't know who's in it, but I've spoken with

10 Mr. Fossum with that organization, and he's -- the young

11 Mr. Fossum. I'm holding my breath for the big one. I

12 got to get ready in a nice outfit for him.

13 (Laughter)

14 MS. GAINES: But, you know, I'm not against it,

15 I'm just -- I'm just sick of usury.

16 And I even see that in the Bible: usury.

17 You know, and then somebody said eminent

18 domain is coming anyway.

19 Eminent to who?

20 The two minutes is up?


21 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Yeah. Yeah.

22 ALJ SMITH: Oh, I am talking to you?

23 A VOICE: No. You're stopped.

24 MS. GAINES: Oh. Stopped?


25 ALJ SMITH: He indicated that your time is up.



E1-3
(Cont.)

26 MS. GAINES: Well, I'm legally -- I have issues,
27 so just say like that; I don't do signs.
28 But --

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**E1-3
(Cont.)**

1 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Thank you, Ms. Gaines.
 2 ALJ SMITH: Thank you, Ms. Gaines.
 3 MS. GAINES: Thank you for your time.
 4 And I'm not against the project all the way, I
 5 just want to see what's up with it.
 6 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Thank you.
 7 MS. GAINES: And share the money.
 8 (Laughter)
 9 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

E1-3
(Cont.)

10 Josh P.
 11 Please state your name.
 12 STATEMENT OF MR. PANE
 13 MR. PANE: I'm Josh Pane, P-a-n-e, for the
 14 Affinito Family, A-f-f-i-n-i-t-o.
 15 The Affinito Family own 27 acres in this
 16 neighborhood.
 17 They have attempted to create a town center
 18 and a retail village which the neighbors have been
 19 wanting for some time, and unfortunately this came
 20 along.
 21 There -- Mr. Commissioner, Mr. Administrative
 22 Law Judge, there -- there seems to be those three
 23 problems that still exist in the environmental document.
 24 Those are big problems, as the speaker from the Avondale
 25 neighborhood stated.

E1-4

26 If we are ever to develop in this into a town
27 center, the idea that this plume or this well below is
28 there has grave impacts on the development of that

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E1-4
(Cont.)

1 property. So we would like the Commission to look
2 closely at that.

3 We would like the Commission to take into
4 consideration that they're proposing that only one small
5 chunk of the underground storage would be under the
6 Affinito property.


7 But the fact is that property -- which is 27
8 acres now; the family had developed the 80 acres
9 there -- had gas wells pumping all over the property.
10 So the idea that it only goes, as the last speaker said,
11 to a certain point is ridiculous.

12 That we would urge you -- as you can see on
13 your map, the Affinito property is just in the northern
14 portion, that 27 brown spot there, that big spot where
15 the pipeline goes through -- the proposed pipeline -- we
16 would urge you to look at that and to say it covers the
17 whole thing. And then and only then I think we'll have
18 a shot at developing something that the community, the
19 neighborhood would really like to have there.

20 So -- and that could be housing as well as a
21 community center, parkways, a variety of things.


22 So thank you very much, Commission, and I
23 appreciate you taking these things back to the entire
24 Commission.

25 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Thank you.



**E1-4
(Cont.)**

26 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.
27 MR. PANE: Thank you.
28 ALJ SMITH: Verlyn Baker?

 E1-4
(Cont.)

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1 Please spell and state you name and address
2 for the record.

3 STATEMENT OF MS. BAKER

4 MS. BAKER: Verlyn, V-e-r-l-y-n, Baker, B-a-k-e-r.

5 Thank you, Commissioner Simon and Judge Smith.

6 I purchased a home on 53rd Avenue in 1967,
7 quite a long time ago, approximately one half block from
8 the site that we have been speaking about this
9 afternoon.

10 And I am personally against this project.

11 And I know that SNGS has accused opponents of
12 the project of using scare tactics.

13 The EIR shows that AGENA's claims were not
14 scare tactics but are based in reality.


15 The EIR also shows that SNGS understated the
16 risk to the community when it consistently said there is
17 absolutely no risk of leaking or explosion.

18 Whatever the opposite of scare tactics is,
19 that's what SNGS did. They tried to make it seem safe
20 without any evidence of that.

21 I spent 22 years in the Air Force fighting for
22 my country -- fighting for my country during the Vietnam
23 conflict. I did not know that I would be coming back
24 home fighting for a safe place for my family and I to
25 live.

E1-5

26 Thank, you, sir.
27 (Applause)
28 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

 E1-5
(Cont.)

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1 Larry Stam.

2 Is Larry Stam --

3 MR. STAM: Stam (pronounced Staum).

4 ALJ SMITH: Stam.

5 And then please queue up to follow him:

6 Armentha Carden, Effren Guttierrez, Sam Butler.

7 A VOICE: Last one.

8 ALJ SMITH: Is Mr. Stam here?

9 A VOICE: I believe he's gone home.

10 COMMISSIONER SIMON: I thought I saw him get up
11 and go.

12 Off the record.

13 ALJ SMITH: Okay. We'll be off the record.

14 (Off the record)

15 ALJ SMITH: Back on the record.

16 I'm calling now Armentha Carden.

17 STATEMENT OF MS. CARDEN

18 MS. CARDEN: I'm Armentha Carden, A-r-m-e-n-t-h-a.

19 Last name is C-a-r-d-e-n. And I'm actually the daughter
20 of an elderly individual who is living here in
21 Sacramento and whose house is a part of this project.

22 And I just have to say by sitting here,
23 listening to this for my mother on the telephone long
24 distance because I live up in Quincy, California, and I
25 represent seniors and the disabled and I'm in that



E1-6

26 profession where I became concerned and thought I'd
27 better come down here.

28 First of all, I'm really concerned that all of

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E1-6
(Cont.)

1 this has been going on for this time and, still, the
2 information is unclear to the public. It's just so
3 unclear. If information would have been more clear and
4 accurate, I don't think you would have such a problem.

5 But second of all, I really was concerned and
6 my brothers are concerned that there's been an
7 individual coming to my mother's house offering to take
8 her to lunch and things like that to talk about this.
9 And the problem I have is in my profession, that's undue
10 influence, and it's got to stop.

11 I have one minute.

12 But I'm telling you also there needs to be
13 some kind of kind of information put out to these
14 individuals that their property value is going to lower
15 after this is completed, because it seems like it's
16 already on the one-way track from what I've heard
17 tonight. And if the property values are lowered,
18 the state of California is going to lose money. Because
19 if there's low-income individuals here and people,
20 anybody on public assistance, everybody knows that the
21 state Department of Health Services will not regain
22 the California state recovery money from their property
23 should they die.

24 That's all I have to say.

25 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Thank you.

E1-6
(Cont.)

26 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

27 (Applause)

28 ALJ SMITH: Now we'll hear from Efren Guttierrez.

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1 Please state and spell your name and address for the
2 record.

3 STATEMENT OF MR. GUTTIERREZ

4 MR. GUTTIERREZ: Buenas noches. Good evening. My
5 name is Efrén Guttierrez, spelled E-f-r-e-n, Guttierrez,
6 G-u-t-t-i-e-r-r-e-z.

7 Two minutes is quick. So, quickly.

8 I represent a variety of organizations here in
9 town basically dealing with social justice advocacy.
10 And our main concern of course is the environment and
11 people's security. And what we're finding here is that
12 people are being put at risk unneedly.

13 I don't think the studies are clear. I think
14 there's a lot of -- while we think it might be, that's
15 not good, folks. I heard the man here earlier say
16 "insignificant" about ten times. People's lives are not
17 insignificant.

18 We are -- right now in the news, as you know,
19 we're dealing with a pandemic of flu that seems to be
20 worldwide. Okay. We don't need to put our people in
21 harm's way and endanger them unneedly.

22 You have three other sites. Please review
23 those sites.

24 I was told when I made my comment, well, we
25 don't really have the time and the money.



E1-7

26 No. You do have the time and you do have
27 the money.
28 And don't wait till somebody's lives are lost

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**E1-7
(Cont.)**

1 or children are sick or, as mentioned earlier, property
2 values go down.

3 One of my other hats is I'm a real estate
4 broker and I know the hurt. I see them coming in every
5 week to my office, losing their homes. And these --
6 majority of these people are people of color, people who
7 have struggled to be homeowners, and now that American
8 dream is gone.

9 Do not take the American dream away from these
10 folks who have worked so hard and they do not deserve
11 this. We should be able to find a better site and
12 a better way. This is not good for anybody.

13 Thank you.

14 (Applause)

15 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

16 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Thank you.

17 ALJ SMITH: Sam Butler.

18 And please line up to speak: Samus Roller,
19 M. Gaines, Detria Thompson.

20 Mr. Butler, please state and spell your name
21 and address for the record.

22 STATEMENT OF MR. BUTLER

23 MR. BUTLER: Okay. Judge and Commissioner: My
24 name is Samuel Butler, S-a-m-u-e-l B-u-t-l-e-r.

25 I moved out here into Glen Elder in 1956 after



**E1-7
(Cont.)**



E1-8

26 I got out of the service, which I couldn't find a place
27 at that particular time. When we moved out here, we
28 bought. After we got the house, gas started to smell

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**E1-8
(Cont.)**

1 around the gas meter. I had the gas company, PG&E, come
2 out at least three different times to come out and
3 change the meter because that's what I thought was
4 leaking. Later on, I found out that this was the place
5 where gas was stationed under the ground. And after
6 they some time later barred all of that gas, then I quit
7 smelling it.

8 But one of the things that I did notice where
9 we do have a park called Danny Nunn, there was an
10 explosion there some time later. They capped it, but
11 nobody has never said anything about what they did.
12 They did burn, but they did capped -- it hasn't been
13 mentioned, but I'm so glad. That I do know that it will
14 explode.

15 And that is all I will say. Thank you.

16 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Thank you very much.

17 (Applause)


18 ALJ SMITH: Shamus Roller. Please state and spell
19 your name and address for the record.

20 STATEMENT OF MR. ROLLER

21 MR. ROLLER: My name is Shamus Roller.

22 S-h-a-m-u-s R-o-l-l-e-r. I live at 412 23rd Street in
23 Sacramento.

24 I am the executive director of the Sacramento
25 Housing Alliance. I'm here today opposing the issuance



E1-8
(Cont.)



E1-9

26 of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity
27 that's been requested by SNGS.
28 We work on a number of different issues

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**E1-9
(Cont.)**

1 related to social equity and related to the health of
2 communities in Sacramento. We have real concerns over,
3 one, in particular about whether this is really safe for
4 the community; two, the equity issues about putting this
5 in the community that is low income, that is
6 a predominantly a community of color.

7 I certainly know that if it was in the
8 community that I live in, I don't think that they'd even
9 be considering this project.

10 (Laughter)

11 (Applause)

12 MR. ROLLER: And it certainly hurts me to see all
13 these folks who worked -- worked for longer than I've
14 been alive to keep their homes and to make their lives
15 decent, that they're seeing that stripped away.


16 And we look a lot at house affordability and
17 what it takes to get people into homes and seeing
18 the equity stripped out of the their houses recently
19 because of the economic recession and to see more of
20 that stripped away because they want to put this project
21 in.

22 And lastly, looking at this from a political
23 point of view, I see SNGS buying up every political
24 consultant, putting money in the pocket of every expert
25 that they can so that they can't be available to testify



**E1-9
(Cont.)**

26 on this. Makes me wonder what they are working so hard
27 at that they have put out that much money to make this
28 thing go through. Maybe they've got something to hide.

 **E1-9
(Cont.)**

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1 (Applause)

2 ALJ SMITH: M. Gaines.

3 (No response)

4 ALJ SMITH: Is there an M. Gaines?

5 (No response)

6 ALJ SMITH: Okay, I'll move on to Detria Thompson.

7 Please state and spell your name and address for the
8 record.

9 STATEMENT OF MS. THOMPSON

10 MS. THOMPSON: My name is Detria Thompson.

11 D-e-t-r-i-a. Last name is T-h-o-m-p-s-o-n. I live at
12 6331 Jansen Drive in Sacramento.


13 I have a written statement. Can I read that?

14 ALJ SMITH: How long is it? If it's more than two
15 minutes, why don't you give a copy to me or the
16 reporter. Otherwise, you have two minutes.

17 MS. THOMPSON: Okay, thank you.

18 My name is Detria Thompson. I live in
19 Fruitridge Manor. And I've lived in the Fruitridge area
20 since December of 2003. I'm a member of the Fruitridge
21 Manor Neighborhood Association, also the Stockton
22 Boulevard Redevelopment Advisory Committee. I'm here
23 voice advice my opposition to the SNGS proposal.

24 It just seems to me that constructing and
25 maintaining a large underground natural gas facility in



E1-10

- 26 a densely populated residential area isn't a good idea.
27 Any risk of groundwater contamination, gas leaks, gas
28 explosions, or other health or other potential health

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**E1-10
(Cont.)**

1 hazards is unacceptable when renters and homeowners,
2 individuals and families reside in the area immediately
3 above the proposed facility, in and around the proposed
4 facility.

5 I'm angry that SNGS' proposal has been
6 proposed and it's gotten this far, it still has life,
7 and that there are interested parties still pushing
8 forward and then considered to be a viable project.

9 This proposal would never have been
10 recommended for placement in Land Park or Curtis Park,
11 East Sacramento or midtown. And I know that the SNGS
12 group wouldn't attempt to bribe Land Park or East Sac
13 residents with paltry signing bonuses or annual
14 payments.

15 SMUD has a reputation for being a progressive
16 and eco-friendly utility department, big on solar, wind
17 and renewable energy. But apparently, they are willing
18 to quietly cosponsor a project that may pose health and
19 environmental risks to some of the poor and less
20 educated customers that it has for the greater good.

21 SMUD, throughout the life of this project has
22 opted to wait on the sidelines, mute and supposedly
23 neutral in the hopes that this project will be approved
24 rather than take an ethical stand maybe two or three
25 years ago against a proposal that put some of us in




**E1-10
(Cont.)**

26 harm's way.

27 Finally, I wanted to say that I accessed the

28 Environmental Impact Report on the Internet a couple of

 **E1-10
(Cont.)**

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1 weeks ago and I tried to read the Executive Summary.
 2 The Executive Summary is 72 pages long, and the report's
 3 conclusions are buried deep in the document. Some
 4 portion of the Executive Summary should have been
 5 provided -- should have provided a clear, comprehensible
 6 and concise overview of the EIR findings for the benefit
 7 of the lay public, and more particularly for the people
 8 who live in this community.

9 As a SMUD customer and a PUC ratepayer and
 10 a local homeowner, I'd like to say to the PUC and the
 11 Sacramento City Council, reject this bid to construct be
 12 an underground gas storage facility in my community.

13 Thank you.

14 (Applause)

15 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Thank you.

16 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

17 Vicki Rhodes.

18 And please line up: Jermaine Pierce, Kim
 19 Ho-Van, and Tamie Dramer.

20 And we'll hear from Vicki Rhodes.

21 STATEMENT OF MS. RHODES


22 MS. RHODES: My name Vicki Rhodes. V-i-c-k-i,
 23 R-h-o-d-e-s. And my address is 7323 Lindale Drive in
 24 Sacramento, California.

25 I am opposed to the SNGS underground storage.

E1-10
(Cont.)

E1-11

26 I live -- the only -- I live off of Florin Road. So
27 Florin Road is actually the street that separates me
28 from some of the homes that have been identified in this

 **E1-11
(Cont.)**

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1 area. My mother lives on 53rd Avenue.

2 Now, one of the things that I was interested
3 in is that earlier when one of the gentlemen was stating
4 that there were some urban areas that are in -- have
5 this project already, it was interesting that he was
6 able to remember a lot of the important information in
7 the EIR report, but he just couldn't remember exactly
8 where those urban areas were. So I found that kind of
9 interesting.

10 My other comment is who's going to be
11 responsible for providing the homeowners with homeowner
12 insurance once the insurance companies find out that
13 this gas will be stored under their homes. I'm sure
14 that they will be dropped, because you will be dropped
15 from your homeowners insurance if you own a pit bull.

16 (Laughter)

17 MS. RHODES: My next comment is if I were
18 a homeowner -- my mother is a homeowner, she wants to
19 sell her home, she has to divulge that there's gas under
20 her home. So, people who own homes and may want to sell
21 them in the future, they will probably have a very
22 difficult time with that.

23 And so those are my only comments. And
24 I thank you very much for hearing them.

25 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Thank you. Thank you very

E1-11
(Cont.)

26 much.

27 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

28 (Applause)

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1 ALJ SMITH: Jermaine Pierce, I believe.

2 STATEMENT OF MR. PIERRE

3 MR. PIERRE: I'm Jermaine Pierre.

4 J-e-r-m-a-i-n-e, P-i-e-r-r-e. Wilkinson Street, off of
5 Fruitridge.

6 I'd just like to say that I'm stating this on
7 behalf of my unborn daughter Marlo Pierre because I want
8 her to know that her dad stood up for this injustice.

9 One of the main issues I have with this
10 project is the misrepresentation from SNGS to
11 the community. An example of that is in February of
12 this year, they had handed out a flier that stated that
13 SMUD sponsored this project. And we know that SMUD is
14 not sponsoring this project but many in the community
15 may not know that.

16 Secondly, this past month in the April 14th
17 Sacramento Bee, Don Russell was quoted as saying that
18 there's really no risk to the community from gas
19 migration because natural gas only explodes in enclosed
20 areas. That is not a concern because no buildings are
21 above the pipe's wellheads.

22 We know that this is not the case.

23 For example, in Hutchinson, Kansas, natural
24 gas migrated over 9 miles from a natural gas storage
25 facility through the groundwater and exploded in

E1-12

26 a downtown area.

27 So I just wanted to make sure that that is in

28 the records, that we in the community cannot be swayed

↑
E1-12
|
(Cont.)
↓

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1 by this misrepresentation, and that we can stand up for
2 our rights.

3 Thanks.

4 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

5 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Thank you.

6 ALJ SMITH: Kim Ho-Van. Please state and spell
7 your name and address for the record, please.

8 STATEMENT OF MS. HO-VAN

9 MS. HO-VAN: Good evening. My name is Kin, that's
10 K-i-n as in Nancy, last name Ho, H-o, hyphen, Van. I'm
11 here to say that I completely oppose the project that
12 they're planning to put within our community.


13 I have lived in this community for 28 years.
14 Came to the United States in 1980. And my family
15 actually fled from the Vietnam War to come here to the
16 land of opportunity, and we've lived in that home for
17 probably 20 years now. And I'm guessing my children
18 will probably grow up there and stay within the same
19 community.

20 Most of my concerns have actually been
21 addressed, but I wanted to pose just a couple of
22 questions. And those are, where I grew up, we were
23 taught to lead by example. If SNGS is saying that this
24 is safe and there's not a lot of impact on the
25 environment and the community and our lives, why aren't

↑ E1-12
└─ (Cont.)

└─ E1-13
↓

26 they putting it in their communities first?
27 Lead by example. Put in their communities to
28 show us it's safe. I would be the first one to sign up.

 **E1-13
(Cont.)**

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1 And why are they putting a price tag on it,
2 \$500. Is our lives just worth only \$500 a year?
3 A thousand dollars? \$10,000. Is that what our life is
4 worth?

5 This is a community. I grew up here. Why are
6 we putting the stuff down there, in our homes when we
7 know that there could be potentially an impact. Like
8 a tick bomb, a time bomb waiting to explode. Why would
9 we want to put that in our community, to possibly harm
10 our children?

11 We have enough already going on. Wars are
12 taking a lot of the lives. Why add more to that?

13 Thank you.

14 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Thank you.

15 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.


16 (Applause)

17 ALJ SMITH: Tamie Dramer. And I'll call next
18 Connie Samla, Dominic Accettola, Ran Narayan. Please
19 come up and get ready to speak.


20 We'll now hear from Tamie Dramer. Please
21 state and spell your name and address for the record,
22 please.

23 STATEMENT OF MS. DRAMER

24 MS. DRAMER: My name is Tamie Dramer and I live
25 at -- I'm sorry. T-a-m-i-e, D-r-a-m-e-r. I live at 20



**E1-13
(Cont.)**



E1-14

26 Elton Court in Sacramento. That's in the the College
27 Greens neighborhood. It is actually less than four
28 miles from the proposed natural gas storage facility.

 **E1-14**
(Cont.)

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1 And as a resident of that neighborhood, I am concerned
2 because of what the other gentleman stated earlier,
3 the accident that happened in Hutchinson, Kansas, where
4 the gas travelled nine miles before it exploded. And so
5 that makes me a concerned resident that's directly tied
6 to this reservoir.

7 And so I attended a meeting yesterday at
8 a school in the Glen Elder neighborhood and listened to
9 the people speak there, and listened to some of their
10 concerns, and I too am concerned. And I actually have
11 decided I am opposed to this project. But I'm also
12 aware of and shocked by the tactics used by SNGS to try
13 to bribe the lease rights from these poor and elderly
14 people.

15 I read yesterday -- an elderly woman handed me
16 this green notice that she received in the mail and
17 asked me what does it mean that we have to have this
18 letter with us to get into this meeting today?

19 It actually stated in there, to get past
20 the security guard at the gate, that they had to produce
21 a letter to get in.

22 And to me that sounded like they were trying
23 to disenfranchise people by telling them that there was
24 some sort of requirement to get into this public meeting
25 today. And it is a public meeting and everybody's




**E1-14
(Cont.)**

26 welcome here.

27 So anyway, I formally oppose this project.

28 And if I need to, I will bring the other residents of

 **E1-14
(Cont.)**

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1 College Greens with me to the city council.

2 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Excuse me. Do you have
3 a copy of that flyer?

4 MS. DRAMER: I don't, but I'm sure somebody else
5 does.

6 COMMISSIONER SIMON: If somebody has a copy of
7 that, I'd like to see it. Thank you.

8 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

9 (Applause)

10 ALJ SMITH: Connie Samla. Please state and spell
11 your name and address for the record, please.

12 STATEMENT OF MS. SAMLA

13 MS. SAMLA: My name is Connie Samla. C-o-n-n-i-e,
14 S-a-m-l-a. And my family lives on Tierra Glen Way,
15 right in the heart of this project. And this projects
16 scares me. And we are totally against this project.

17 And one thing I want to say is that Sacramento
18 Natural Gas is giving partial truths on the flyers that
19 we have. I actually have the green flyer that you may
20 have. But one letter this they sent on April 14 says:
21 The city study confirms SNCS lease rates are generous.

22 While that study basically is for the City
23 of Sacramento and the intended use is for the assessing
24 of fair market rent for municipality -- municipally
25 owned property, this market rental study is not intended


E1-14
(Cont.)

E1-15

26 for any other use or user.

27 And in my little letter here, it says: For

28 those of you who have already signed leases, this

 **E1-15
(Cont.)**

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1 independent study affirms that you have made a great
2 financial decision. And for those who are waiting
3 patiently, then you can go ahead and sign.

4 This has nothing do with residential property,
5 so that is not the truth.

6 The second thing I would like to say is,
7 partial truth again, on this green flyer that I have, it
8 says -- Constance actually said 76 of the 79 points have
9 no impact. Well, three have significant and unavoidable
10 impact.

11 I am scared for fire, explosions, and
12 contamination of ground water. It's like this gas is
13 not going to be odor -- it is not going to have an odor,
14 so how are we going to even know if in this gas is
15 building up underneath our homes?

16 We are not going to know this, so I am very
17 concerned about that.


18 And then also on the Sacramento Bee on
19 Tuesday, April 14, the very first sentence says:
20 Advocates say the chance of an accident is slim. It
21 doesn't say it's nonexistent.

22 Slim are these lives. It's my life. And I'm
23 not willing to give up any one of these lives in this
24 room. Slim means lives. Nonexistent does not mean
25 lives.



**E1-15
(Cont.)**

26 Thank you.
27 (Applause)
28 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Thank you.

 E1-15
(Cont.)

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1 ALJ SMITH: Thank you. Dominic Accettola.

2 STATEMENT OF MR. ACCETTOLA

3 MR. ACCETTOLA: D-o-m-i-n-i-c, A-c-c-e-t-t-o-l-a.

4 I live at 6970 Chris Avenue. I'm the president of
5 the Tokay Park Water Company which represents
6 approximately 300 people. We have met with Sacramento
7 Natural Gas, and for the most part they answered our
8 questions.

9 The one that concerns me the most is who takes
10 responsibility in the event we do get groundwater
11 contamination. They had no good answer. This is
12 something is that I think affects our board a lot.

13 Yeah, they have relatively good plans and they
14 have people to try to reassure us. But when we asked
15 the question, the bottom line is when something happens,
16 who's going to take care of it. That was not addressed
17 and I'd like to see that addressed.

18 Thank you.

19 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

20 (Applause)

21 ALJ SMITH: Raj Narayan.

22 And let me call up the next speakers: Rony
23 Kunlan, Vincent Le, Connie Samla -- I think I have
24 called Connie Samla already -- and Matt Kelly. Please
25 come up to the front and get ready to speak.

E1-16

26

You may proceed.


27

STATEMENT OF MR. RAJ NARAYAN

28

MR. NARAYAN: Okay. Commissioner: My name is Raj

E1-17



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1 Narayan, and I've been an area businessman for last 30
2 years, and I'm a neighborhood -- I've been in
3 the neighborhood for the last 30 years too, the same
4 time.

5 And I hate that you guys put on the spot to
6 decide if it's wrong or right.


7 And Kevin McCarty back there has been our man
8 for the neighborhood associations.

9 And I hope to not to create any enemies by
10 opposing this project.

11 And this meeting has been going on maybe for
12 the last two-plus years. So a lot of people have given
13 up, thinking that they have no say in this issue because
14 they've been spending lot of years and lot of time
15 opposing it or denying it. So this has been going for
16 a long time. And I hope this is not our last effort to
17 stop this from going on.


18 And environmentally speaking, this is just not
19 right to put -- to re-put the gas in the earth without
20 any knowledge of what we're doing, because it's just
21 like polluting our motherland back to before the World
22 War I or II before we put in gas, and we're just
23 polluting our own good old grounds.

24 And I know you guys don't live in our
25 neighborhood. And if you can move this to a rural area



**E1-17
(Cont.)**

26 which is further away from our city boundaries and
27 further east, no problem with us.
28 And this issue has not been proven that

 **E1-17
(Cont.)**

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1 putting natural gas into natural good old Mother Earth
2 is proven.

3 And personally, I feel that you guys are put
4 on the spot to make up your mind.

5 And this is not a -- this is not a poor part
6 of the city like Greenhaven or Pocket. This is a poor
7 part of the city. And without taking any further time,
8 without taking any further time, gas traveling
9 underneath, you guys better look into that.

10 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Thank you.

11 ALJ SMITH: All right, thank you.

12 (Applause)

13 MR. LE: Good evening, sir. Good evening,
14 everybody.

15 ALJ SMITH: Please.

16 STATEMENT OF MR. LE

17 MR. LE: My name is Vincent Le. V-i-n-c-e-n-t,
18 L-e. One E. That's a Vietnamese Le. I hope you
19 understand my English.

20 (Laughter)


21 MR. LE: Thank you.

22 I have performed extensive Vietnamese and
23 Chinese translation service for SNGS. The people at
24 SNGS have always been willing to meet with property
25 owners, answering all their questions. And they have

E1-17
(Cont.)

E1-18

26 been open on Saturdays now for the homeowners or
27 residents threatened with condemnation.
28 SNCS has been involved in the community;

 **E1-18**
(Cont.)

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1 hosted event, picnic and party. This company has added
2 a lot of community value, created and funded the
3 community foundation. We provide new landscaping and
4 sidewalk. We create new job and provide property for
5 the compensation.

6 Don and Jim have asserted a lot of integrity
7 and they trust most of that. Thank you.

8 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Thank you.

9 ALJ SMITH: Is there a Rony Kunlan?

10 MR. KELLY: Matt Kelly.

11 ALJ SMITH: Is there a Mr. Kunlan here?

12 (No response)

13 ALJ SMITH: Okay. Then Mr. Kelly. Please state
14 and spell your name.

15 STATEMENT OF MR. KELLY


16 MR. KELLY: My name is Matthew Kelly.

17 M-a-t-t-h-e-w, middle initial L, last name is K-e-l-l-y.


18 I'm the executive director of the Sacramento Sierra
19 Building and Construction Trades Council. We're a labor
20 organization representing over 25,000 union construction
21 workers in the Sacramento and surrounding region.

22 We look at this project in terms of jobs.

23 I do not live in this area, so I can't say that
24 I understand what you're going through or what your
25 concerns are, but we do know about jobs.



E1-18
(Cont.)



E1-19

26 This project will provide both construction
27 jobs, which are in short supply in these trying economic
28 times, not to mention jobs for the continuous operation

↑
E1-19
—
(Cont.)
↓

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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1 of this project.

2 These jobs are in a time of need.

3 As I said, we are in deep economic struggles
4 in this community and communities all over the
5 Sacramento area, the state, and the country.

6 This project will be an economic engine that
7 will provide benefit to the area. And the importance of
8 the project cannot be understated: a steady and
9 reliable supply of natural gas for the Municipal Utility
10 District, SMUD.

11 We ask for your consideration of these aspects
12 of the project when you make your decision.


13 We look forward to seeing the complete -- the
14 completed Environmental Impact Report once the concerns
15 of the citizens have been met and the inaccuracies that
16 may exist in the Draft EIR have been corrected.

17 And as far as why does it have to be in this
18 neighborhood? It is where the geology exists that this
19 project is located. They didn't target the neighborhood
20 of Glen-Elder and Avondale to specifically put the peo-
21 ple that live in that area in an inconvenient position.
22 It's where the geology exists.

23 Thank you.

24 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

25 (Applause)



**E1-19
(Cont.)**

26 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Thank you.

27 ALJ SMITH: Pedro Botello.

28 (Applause)

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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1 ALJ SMITH: Is Pedro Botello here?

2 (No response)

3 ALJ SMITH: I'll also call to come up Chad Adair,
4 Elaine Konkin, and Burnie Lenan.

5 Is Pedro Botello here?

6 A VOICE: I don't know. I'll go and look for him.

7 ALJ SMITH: Okay. We'll move on to Chad Adair.

8 STATEMENT OF MR. ADAIR

9 MR. ADAIR: Administrative Law Judge Smith,
10 Commissioner Simon, thank you for this opportunity.

11 My name is Chad Adair, C-h-a-d A-d-a-i-r.


12 I work for SMUD in the gas area, and I am
13 directly involved in the storage contract between the
14 Sacramento Natural Gas Storage Project and SMUD.

15 Given that SMUD is a customer of this project,
16 I'm here to briefly explain the rationale behind our
17 involvement in this project.

18 At SMUD one of our core values is providing
19 reliable electric service to our customer owners; and
20 approximately 1/3 of our electricity comes from natural
21 gas power plants.


22 Essentially all of the gas that's used in
23 those power plants comes from well over 1,000 miles
24 away.

25 The Sacramento Natural Gas Project provides



E1-20

26 increased reliability to the District. That increased
27 reliability comes from the fact that this project is
28 directly connected to our local pipeline, and this

 **E1-20
(Cont.)**

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

1 direct connection allows -- or provides an increased
2 prevention against supply disruptions -- natural gas
3 supply disruptions to SMUD and our customer owners.

4 Thank you.

5 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

6 (Applause)

7 ALJ SMITH: Elaine Konkin?

8 STATEMENT OF MS. KONKIN

9 MS. KONKIN: Hi.

10 My name is Elaine Konkin. That's E-l-a-i-n-e
11 K-o-n-k-i-n.

12 Thank you for the opportunity to speak.

13 My mother, my sister, and my brother live in
14 the neighborhood, and I find that even considering a
15 project like this is abhorrent.

16 There is no amount of convenience or financial
17 reward that could possibly justify the kind of risk that
18 you're putting an enormous amount of people under.

19 And that's all I have to say.

20 Thank you.

21 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

22 (Applause)

23 ALJ SMITH: Burnie Lenan?

24 And please come up and be prepared to speak --
25 I'll call some more names -- Ellen Nitschke, Brian Laws,

E1-20
(Cont.)

E1-21

26 Luis Wu.

27 Mr. Lenan, please state and spell your name

28 and address for record..

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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1 STATEMENT OF MR. LENAU

2 MR. LENAU: Good evening.

3 My name is Burnie Lenau. B-u-r-n-i-e, Lenau,
4 L-e-n-a-u.

5 I am a local businessman here, President and
6 owner of Lawnman, Inc., a full-service landscape company
7 at 4300 82nd Street.

8 I wish to express my personal support for the
9 proposed Sacramento Natural Gas Storage Project to be
10 located in Depot Park at the juncture of Junipero and
11 Power Inn Road.

12 The Planning and Zoning Advisory Committee of
13 the Power Inn Alliance has extensively reviewed and
14 monitored the project over the past year-and-a-half.

15 As Chairman of the Planning and Zoning
16 Advisory Committee I have had the opportunity to become
17 very familiar with this project.

18 The project is good for business, the
19 construction and operation will create jobs in the
20 community, and the foundation will bring other moneys
21 into the area.


22 Sacramento Natural Gas Storage is a good
23 corporate citizen and has already invested into this
24 community.

25 They have worked in earnest to provide



E1-22

26 regional opportunity for reliable energy resources.
27 The business owners in the area have
28 endeavored to upgrade the Power Inn Corridor.

 **E1-22**
(Cont.)

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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1 Accordingly, this project will provide curbs,
2 gutters, sidewalks, and landscaping at the corner of
3 Power Inn and Junipero.

4 This is in keeping with the long-range goals
5 of the local business community and will be a demonstra-
6 tion to other property owners of how the area can be
7 beautified.

8 In addition, this is a green project that has
9 been registered with the United States Green Building
10 Council and is aiming to receive Gold Leadership in
11 Energy Environmental Design, a LEED certification.

12 The City Council has unanimously designated
13 this Enterprise Zone within which the project will be
14 constructed as an area for development of environmen-
15 tally sensitive and green business.

16 This project meets or exceeds these standards
17 and will be a sense of pride for both the area and the
18 City.

19 For these and other reasons I support this
20 worthwhile project.

21 Thank you very much.

22 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Thank you.

23 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

24 (Applause)

25 ALJ SMITH: Ellen Nitschke?

**E1-22
(Cont.)**

26

STATEMENT OF MS. NITSHKE

27

MS. NITSHKE: E-i-l-e-n N-i-t-s-h-k-e.

28

7506 Florin Road.

E1-23



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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1 In 1946 my husband built the first home on
2 Florin Road after the War.

3 We had propane. Propane was very expensive.
4 All the homes that were there were on propane.

5 It took a month's salary to practically pay
6 for a month's, or -- so, anyway, in the '50s my husband
7 built his sister's home on Betty Lou, which is a block
8 north of Florin Road: Seventy-eight thirty --
9 forty-one.

10 In 1959 we purchased the home next-door to it
11 for a rental.

12 In 2003 my sister-in-law -- put her in a care
13 home. Her son did not pay the electric bill, the gas
14 bill, he didn't pay for anything.

15 He moved a propane tank into the garage.

16 The neighbors complained; it went outside.
17 Neighbors complained.

18 My husband built homes on gas lines in Tokay
19 Park.

20 He has built homes in Elk Grove, Florin,
21 Wilton, all over, on electric.

22 And electric is a lot more expensive.

23 Propane is very expensive.

24 We need natural gas lines, wherever it comes
25 from, and I am in support of this.

E1-23
(Cont.)

26 (Applause)
27 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.
28 Brian Laws?

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

1 STATEMENT OF MR. LAWS

2 MR. LAWS: My name is Brian Laws, B-r-i-a-n
3 L-a-w-s.

4 I live at 7820 Verna Mae Avenue.

5 I just want to say --

6 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Speak into the mike a little
7 bit.

8 MR. LAWS: I just want to say I do support this
9 project. I think it's doing a lot for the community.

10 And we sat in a meeting with SNGS, and they
11 told us about the safety specifications that they were
12 required; they went above and beyond every safety
13 specification, and that really gave me peace of mind.

14 We have gas lines all up and down around this
15 whole neighborhood anyway. And the gas -- there's still
16 gas there now.


17 And I know that, um -- and pollutants in
18 the -- the EIR summary here, its fluid constants --
19 concentrations are less than significant.

20 I understand that to mean that the project
21 will not produce -- create any substance that pollutes
22 the area.

23 And regardless of what the decision that the
24 CPUC comes up with, I hope that everyone will respect
25 that decision. I know I will regardless of what the

E1-24

26 decision is. We're entrusting it to you.
27 And I'm -- I'm glad that you guys are taking
28 the time to do this for us, and -- and this is everyone.

 **E1-24**
(Cont.)

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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1 And I hope that you do make the right
2 decision. I know you will.

3 And again I hope everybody will respect that
4 decision whatever it is.

5 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Thank you very much.

6 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

7 (Applause)

8 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Thank you.

9 MR. LAWS: Thank you.

10 ALJ SMITH: I'll call next Luis Wu.

11 And please line up to speak next, Jerome
12 Kahle, Aaron Trac, Patrick Kennedy.

13 Mr. Wu, Please state and spell your name and
14 address for the record.

15 STATEMENT OF MR. WU

16 MR. WU: Good evening, everyone.

17 My name is Luis Wu, L-u-i-s, last name W-u.

18 I live in 7890 Tierra Glen Way.

19 I am a property owner, and I live over the
20 hill above the Sacramento Natural Gas Storage Project.

21 This is a low-/middle-income community.


22 Furnace is important to me.

23 The EIR says that the project will generate
24 less than significant and betterment, just this impact
25 to our neighborhood and community.

E1-24
(Cont.)

E1-25

26 I am pleased to note this company has been
27 involving all our residents and property owners in
28 process, in communication, in development of this

 **E1-25
(Cont.)**

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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1 project in such a respectful manner.

2 I hope these hire locally.

3 I support this project.

4 What I like best about Sacramento Natural Gas
5 Storage Project is I will improve -- it -- it will
6 improve the neighborhood by bringing business and
7 better -- to -- and better the community.

8 Thank you.

9 (Applause)

10 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

11 Jerome Kahle?

12 STATEMENT OF MR. KAHLE

13 MR. KAHLE: Thank you.

14 My name is Jerome Kahle, J-e-r-o-m-e
15 K-a-h-l-e.


16 I understand and I recognize that we need a
17 place to store natural gas, and I also understand that
18 not just anyplace will do, so unfortunately or fortu-
19 nately, as the case may be, we live on top of that field
20 where natural gas can be stored.

21 I also understand that this project will bring
22 additional security to our neighborhood as well as jobs
23 and other issues, so I believe that once all the
24 questions have been answered that this will be a very
25 good project to support.

E1-25
(Cont.)

E1-26

26 Thank you.
27 (Applause)
28 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

 **E1-26
(Cont.)**

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

1 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Thank you.

2 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

3 Aaron Trac?

4 Is Aaron Trac here?

5 A VOICE: No. He's gone.

6 ALJ SMITH: Okay. I'm moving on to Patrick
7 Kennedy.


8 And let me call Michael Peters, Russell T.
9 Williams, and Brian Settnert to get ready to speak after
10 Mr. Kennedy.

11 STATEMENT OF MR. KENNEDY

12 MR. KENNEDY: Commissioner Simon, Judge Smith, my
13 name is Patrick Kennedy. P-a-t-r-i-c-k K-e-n-n-e-d-y.


14 I'm here tonight representing the National
15 Electrical Contractors Association as well as the
16 International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and
17 Plumbers and Pipefitters in support of this project due
18 to the creation of local jobs and economic-development
19 opportunities during this time of economic depression
20 which is gripping all of our communities and the
21 long-term impacts it will have on energy reliability for
22 this region.

23 We qualify this support, however, at this time
24 with one caveat: it is my understanding in reading the
25 DEIR, that the meeting -- that -- and meeting with the



E1-27

26 project Applicants and opponents that there are
27 significant discrepancies in the data evaluated and the
28 methodology of the analysis.



E1-27
(Cont.)

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

1 If this project is, in fact, found to pose a
2 significant danger to our communities, then we do not
3 support it; however, we hope that this determination
4 will be based on accurate data and science rather than
5 fear and politics.

6 We look forward to the Final EIR and support
7 the project at this time.

8 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Thank you.

9 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

10 (Applause)

11 STATEMENT OF MS. NITSHKE

12 MS. NITSHKE: Just a P.S.

13 ALJ SMITH: Excuse me.

14 MS. NITSHKE: My son-in-law will inherit that
15 house. I will not see sell it.

16 I had to quit and go to the bathroom.

17 (Laughter)

18 ALJ SMITH: That was Ms. Nitshke.

19 (Laughter)

20 ALJ SMITH: Michael Peters.

21 STATEMENT OF MR. PETERS

22 MR. PETERS: My name is Michael Peters,

23 M-i-c-h-a-e-l P-e-t-e-r-s.

24 And thank you, Commissioner, thank you,


25 Administrative Law Judge.

E1-27
(Cont.)

E1-28

E1-29

26 To reiterate, I'm in support of the project.
27 I am President of the Neighborhood Partnership
28 Foundation. We're all in support of this, and hope --

 **E1-29**
(Cont.)

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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1 hopefully that this will develop jobs for our community.

2 And hopefully you will rule in our favor.

3 And thank you so much for coming.

4 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Thank you.

5 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

6 (Applause)

7 ALJ SMITH: I'll next call Brian Settnert.

8 And I'll also ask Virgil Hooper, Elizabeth

9 Laws, and Norma Clark to come up and get ready to speak.

10 Mr. Settnert?

11 STATEMENT OF MR. SEHNERT

12 MR. SEHNERT: It's Brian Sehnert, B-x-i-a-n

13 S-e-h-n-e-r-t.

14 I live at 2611 V Street, Sacramento, midtown.

15 I am an architect and a green building

16 consultant.

17 The firm I work with, Green Building Services,

18 is excited to be working with SNGS to design facilities

19 that are being proposed to reduce and conserve

20 resources.

21 For instance, besides improving the energy

22 performance of the buildings, we've got strategies

23 including collection of rainwater for landscaping,


24 reduction of water usage throughout the project; we're

25 researching the collection and treatment of storm water

E1-29
(Cont.)

E1-30

26 prior to releasing from the site to the community water
27 treatment plant; and the Applicant is considering the
28 inclusion of renewable energy to utilize solar energy to

 **E1-30
(Cont.)**

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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1 offset energy uses on the site.

2 So a thorough initial analysis of the project
3 has been completed (indicating) within -- with the
4 building designers and constructors.


5 This project will be certified, as mentioned
6 earlier, with the U.S. Green Building Council, and we're
7 going to be involved in confirming compliance with
8 what's called the LEED Rating System, Leadership in
9 Energy and Environmental Design.

10 Industrial buildings generally do not consider
11 these environmental issues during construction, but this
12 project gives us an opportunity to affect this industry.

13 I previously served with SMUD for 16 years as
14 a Senior Architect, and I was very involved in the
15 integration of electric vehicles and renewable energy
16 into building projects in our community, so I'm very
17 concerned about this issue.


18 On a personal note, I want to emphasize the
19 importance of moving forward with alternative reliable
20 energy sources. They can be a continued prosperity for
21 our community, and particularly as we transfer into the
22 future and our need for renewable and alternative energy
23 sources.

24 So I appreciate the Commission taking into
25 account the -- this discussion today and -- and the



**E1-30
(Cont.)**

26 intent of the -- I hope you will take into consideration
27 the intent of the development that I just discussed.
28 Thank you.

 **E1-30
(Cont.)**

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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1 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Thank you.

2 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

3 (Applause)

4 ALJ SMITH: Virgil Hooper?

5 STATEMENT OF MR. HOOPER

6 MR. HOOPER: My name is Virgil Hooper. That's

7 V-i-r-g-i-l H-o-o-p-e-r.

8 And I live at 7642 53rd Avenue, right above
9 the proposed site for the natural gas storage.

10 I think the fact that I'm right above that
11 site, my word should count for something; and my word is
12 that -- well, actually, it's not -- it's -- it's a word,
13 but it's my answer. My answer is no.

14 I don't want that natural gas there.

15 I do want everyone in this room to know a
16 little bit of something about me.

17 I'm 33 years old, getting ready to be 34, and
18 I took a huge step at 21 to actually invest in my future
19 by buying a home.

20 If at that time that I bought that home this
21 natural gas would have been stored there, I wouldn't
22 have put the money down for it; I would have looked
23 somewhere else.


24 Okay. I'm there now.

25 The tank underneath our homes is empty, has



E1-31

26 been empty since the '80s, since Reagan was President.
27 A lot of things in the land has shifted, has
28 moved around.



E1-31
(Cont.)

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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1 I heard earlier that there is no guarantee
2 that the caprock would not seep gas.

3 If there is no guarantee, I don't want it
4 there.

5 I don't want it there.

6 I had the opportunity to sit on a trial for
7 three months as a juror, and during that trial -- it was
8 against an aerospace company -- I had an opportunity to
9 learn a lot about groundwater movement.

10 I asked a question earlier of the gentlemen
11 who was part of the research: Can you contain the
12 groundwater that's contaminated?

13 He said a lot of things but all I heard was
14 "No." It didn't add up to "Yes."

15 He said that it will take a period of time to
16 clean that up.

17 How long is that period of time?

18 And in the meantime where will that water come
19 out?

20 Will it be my faucet?

21 Will it be the elementary school down the
22 street from my house?

23 And who will be harmed?

24 I don't think it's worth it, and the answer's
25 no.

E1-31
(Cont.)

26 (Applause)
27 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.
28 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Thank you.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

1 ALJ SMITH: Elizabeth Laws.

2 STATEMENT OF MS. LAWS

3 MS. LAWS: Hello.

4 My name is Elizabeth Laws, E-l-i-z-a-b-e-t-h,
5 last name is L-a-w-s, and I live on Verna Mae Avenue.

6 I also work for Tokay Park Water Company.

7 And there was just a couple of things that --
8 I understand everyone's concerns because they were also
9 my concerns.

10 And one of the things that we did is instead
11 of going to the people of SNGS and asking to speak to
12 their professionals, because there was people here
13 speaking earlier that you can't get a hold of their
14 professionals, they paid them and all this stuff, and
15 they probably paid those who support this project, and I
16 take offense to that because I live in this community, I
17 work in this community, and I work for Tokay Park Water
18 Company whose water is a natural resource. Okay.


19 So just to let you guys know, we did our
20 homework. We went to SNGS and asked them: We want to
21 have a meeting with you guys, and we did.

22 And they brought in their professionals and we
23 said: No. We don't want that.

24 We want to speak to someone who works for the
25 State of California that oversees this project and


E1-32

26 oversees that if something happened, they are going to
27 hold who you guys accountable.
28 The name of the organization that we contacted

 **E1-32
(Cont.)**

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

26 project.
27 Thank you.
28 (Applause)

 E1-32
(Cont.)

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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1 is DOGGR. It is called the Department of Oil, Gas, and
2 Geothermal Resources.

3 They are not paid by SNGS; they are paid by
4 taxpayers who work for the State of California. All of
5 you guys. Okay?

6 So we went to them and asked them: What's
7 going on here?

8 What are the precautions that they have to
9 take?


10 What do they have to do to ensure that this
11 project is safe?

12 And they showed us pictures and they drew
13 stuff, and we asked a lot of questions. Some we under-
14 stood and some we had to make sure that we reiterated it
15 until we got it in our brains because we're laymen.

16 In short, we were satisfied with what DOGGR
17 had to present to us.

18 Again, I think that it's great that both
19 sides -- and that's the awesome country that we live in,
20 that regardless of what side you are going to be on, you
21 vote on, and that's what happens.

22 So I'm hoping that the Commission of course is
23 going to take into account everybody's comments and
24 stuff that they have to say, but I appreciate it, and I
25 just want to let you know that I am in support of this



**E1-32
(Cont.)**

1 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Thank you.

2 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

3 The next speaker is Norma Clark.

4 And I will ask Emil Nitshke, Joy Raj

5 Narayan -- I think either the same person we had earlier
6 or his spouse, perhaps.

7 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Her spouse.

8 ALJ SMITH: Or someone related.

9 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Yes.

10 ALJ SMITH: And Sandra -- I am sorry -- Hcm- --
11 Hammonoh? please get prepared to speak.

12 And right now we'll hear from Norma Clark.

13 STATEMENT OF MS. CLARK

14 MS. CLARK: Yes.

15 Norma Clark, N-o-r-m-a C-l-a-r-k.

16 I live at 7920 Lorin Avenue.

17 Gee. The crowd certainly has diminished.

18 (Laughter)

19 MS. CLARK: Who is here in support of this natural
20 gas storage?


21 (Indicating)

22 MS. CLARK: Not too many.

23 (Clapping)


24 MS. CLARK: Aah. Good.

25 Is Kevin McCarty here -- still here?



E1-33

26 There he is.
27 I wrote him a letter back in August of 2008
28 saying that I had lived in my house for 47 years and

 **E1-33
(Cont.)**

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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1 have experienced no ill effects from living above the
2 natural gas fields.

3 To my knowledge none of my neighbors experi-
4 enced any ill effects from living above the natural gas
5 field.

6 The Sacramento region needs the storage
7 facility for natural gas so the region has backup
8 supply.

9 I really like the idea that Sacramento
10 National Gas Storage is giving back to the neighborhood
11 with a foundation that will have board members from the
12 neighborhood.

13 Please approve this project.


14 With respect to the foundation that I
15 mentioned in my letter, we are to be known as Our
16 Neighborhood Partnership. And we have elected a board
17 of directors consisting of nine property owners.

18 Officers of the board have also been elected.

19 We have opened a bank account for the
20 foundation and will be ready for action as soon as the
21 project is approved.


22 Please approve the project.

23 Safety of natural gas lines has improved
24 considerably since 1970, and the SNGS pipelines will be
25 made of extremely heavy gauge steel, the thickest and



**E1-33
(Cont.)**

26 strongest type recognized by the federal government.
27 And all joints will be welded, making it stronger than
28 the thousands of miles of major natural gas pipelines

 **E1-33**
(Cont.)

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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1 that crisscross our country today.

2 The SNGS pipelines will be 6 feet underground,
3 since -- which is deeper than typical residential
4 distribution lines of 1 to 2 feet below the ground.

5 The SNGS storage area is 3800 feet below
6 ground, unlike PG&E's surface-level distribution system
7 to private residents and businesses.

8 I support the SNGS project.

9 The subject of drinking water: safe drinking
10 water is essential, and as a past board member of the
11 Tokay Park Water Company -- I was with them eight
12 years -- the impact to groundwater is very important to
13 me and our water company.

14 The EIR says there is less-than-significant
15 concern of potential construction impacts to ground-
16 water.


17 I am satisfied with this finding and support
18 the project.

19 The wellhead and compressor site offer less-
20 than-significant impacts to surface water and water
21 quality.

22 Please approve this project.


23 With respect to foundation damage, and that is
24 foundation of home --

25 Stop? Well --



**E1-33
(Cont.)**

26 COMMISSIONER SIMON: You can finish your
27 statement.
28 MS. CLARK: I'm almost through.

 **E1-33
(Cont.)**

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

1 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Finish your statement.

2 MS. CLARK: Foundation damage to your homes: I
3 take pride in my 50-year-old home.

4 I am glad to know there is a less-than-
5 significant risk of the foundation being damaged.

6 I hope the project can be approved.

7 And I support the Sacramento National Gas
8 Company for this project.

9 Please don't let this project any- -- put this
10 project anywhere else.

11 We need it here, we need the jobs, we need the
12 community foundation, and we need the economic benefits
13 and taxes for the City and County.

14 Please approve this project.

15 And thank you for your time.

16 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

17 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Thank you.

18 (Applause)

19 ALJ SMITH: Is Emil Nitshke here?

20 Okay. We'll go on to the next speaker.

21 Jay Raj Nara- -- Narayan?

22 MR. NARAYAN: Narayan.

23 ALJ SMITH: Narayan.


24 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Was that your dad here?

25 MR. NARAYAN: That was my father.

E1-33
(Cont.)

E1-34

26 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Your father.
27 STATEMENT OF MR. JAY NARAYAN
28 MR. NARAYAN: Good evening, gentlemen.

 **E1-34
(Cont.)**

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

1 ALJ SMITH: Please state and spell your name.

2 MR. NARAYAN: My name is Jay Raj Narayan, spelled
3 J-a-y, middle name is Raj, R-a-j, last name is Narayan,
4 N-a-r-a-y-a-n.

5 Okay. I firmly oppose this project. One
6 being that there's too many variances, too many dangers
7 that are out there lurking. There's people's lives --
8 there's lives that are at stake, and it's underneath
9 people's homes.

10 I understand that there are a lot of stake-
11 holders in the SNCS, but to put one community over an-
12 other person's well-being is not fair.


13 It's not fair to put one group of lives in
14 danger and have another benefit over that.

15 And another thing is the peace of mind. You
16 know, if it is approved, you'll have a lot of people
17 worried about it.

18 You had backyards sinking from people I had
19 spoke about.


20 I was born and raised in this neighborhood.

21 I also helped establish the Southeast Village
22 Neighborhood Association which is adjacent to these two
23 neighborhoods, and even though the boundary line is
24 separated between these projects, there's no safety or
25 guarantee that -- it can travel over to any -- any part



**E1-34
(Cont.)**

26 of the City. If there's an earthquake or some kind of
27 fault structure to take place that moves the plates, who
28 says that this gas can't leak up, the -- the permeable

 **E1-34
(Cont.)**

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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1 rock cannot disintegrate or fall apart?

2 I've had the opportunity to have my education
3 in the New York and different parts of the nation, but I
4 sacrificed my education to help out with my family
5 business and be a part of my community which I felt was
6 in great need of repair.

7 And I feel that, you know, even though we live
8 in an impoverished part of the city, it's not fair that
9 certain people are treated a certain way. And it's not
10 fair that a certain group of people are put at a level
11 of income and given a certain amount of money that is
12 really not much these days.

13 So, I -- once again, I oppose this project.

14 And please, to the SNCS, it might not be as
15 profitable for you guys to go somewhere else, but it
16 will be a lot more safe for you guys to do it where it's
17 not going to impact such a large community.

18 Thank you.

19 (Applause)

20 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Thank you very much.

21 ALJ SMITH: Is Sandra Hamaanoeh here?

22 (No response)


23 ALJ SMITH: How about Gregg Benkes, B-e-n-k-e-s,
24 Department of Parks rep?

25 Is that you?

E1-34
(Cont.)

E1-35

26 MR. RENKES: Yeah.
27 STATEMENT OF MR. RENKES
28 MR. RENKES: Hello, Commissioner, Judge. I'm

 **E1-35
(Cont.)**

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

1 Gregg Renkes, and I'm with U.S. National Leasing,
2 the operating company for Depot Park.

3 And welcome to Depot Park, the former
4 Sacramento Army Depot. Welcome to everybody who is
5 still here.

6 I don't know if I'm last, but I thought
7 I signed up to be almost dead last.


8 COMMISSIONER SIMON: You're close.

9 MR. RENKES: But I did that so I could listen to
10 what people had to say.

11 We're a part of this community. Depot Park
12 really is a business anchor to this community. It's the
13 original redevelopment area and we have been part of
14 that plan.


15 Depot Park looks forward to some of the SNGS
16 facilities being located here. The SNGS industrial
17 development is compatible with the ongoing and, to date,
18 successful redevelopment of the former Army facility.

19 You know, today we have about 120 businesses
20 here and about 2500 people working, coming and going
21 every day. We've almost achieved actually a replacement
22 of the employment that was here when the Army ran the
23 facility. But that success has resulted from a very
24 close and productive public-private partnership with the
25 City of Sacramento, and that partnership will continue.



**E1-35
(Cont.)**

26 And we believe that ultimately this project will be part
27 of that partnership.
28 Beyond the economic benefits this project will

 **E1-35
(Cont.)**

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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1 bring to Depot Park and the Power Inn area, we
2 appreciate the fact that the gas storage project will
3 have important energy security and pricing benefits to
4 the Northern California region, which I think all of us
5 in the SMUD territory can benefit from.

6 We've reviewed the environmental and risk
7 assessment documents that have been prepared for this
8 project, and as a result feel confident that the
9 pipeline and compressor stations to be located within
10 the Depot Park do not present an unreasonable risk of
11 harm to other Depot Park tenants.

12 In short, we look forward to the completion of
13 the SNGS gas storage project and providing a home for
14 some of the project's facilities well into the future.

15 Thank you.

16 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Thank you.


17 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

18 (Applause)


19 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Thank you for hosting us this
20 evening.

21 MR. KELLY: Oh. If I could add one more thing.

22 Earlier there was a mention about having
23 a flyer to get into the park. And that may have been
24 a result of instructions that came from us, because this
25 is a completely fenced in and 24-hour security facility




**E1-35
(Cont.)**



E1-36

26 and so we do require day passes or parking passes to
27 enter the facility. So accommodating a public meeting
28 isn't something we do often. We wanted to do it here

 **E1-36**
(Cont.)

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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1 and so it may have been our requirement to have people
2 identify themselves to get into the park.

3 Thanks.

4 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Let me just put on the record
5 that that is a concern. Because as a public meeting,
6 and we are a public agency, and under our Open Meeting
7 Act requirements, meetings are open to the entire
8 public. So my staff will be looking into this. And
9 it's clear that it wasn't intentional or volitional.

10 MR. KELLY: Yeah, we didn't plan the meeting.

11 COMMISSIONER SIMON: But it does have an impact on
12 the notion of an open meeting, so we will be looking
13 into it. I'll have our legal department look into it.

14 MR. KELLY: I believe the security people were
15 instructed that really anybody who came here and
16 identified themselves that they were attending
17 the meeting was directed to come here.

18 COMMISSIONER SIMON: I understand.

19 MR. KELLY: In fact, I was in our administrative
20 office at about a quarter to six and we had some people
21 come to that public entrance, which is on the other side
22 of the fence, and we actually gave them -- a couple more
23 speakers earlier -- gave them directions to come around
24 here.

25 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Okay.

E1-36
(Cont.)

26 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

27 I have called all the speakers, I believe, on

28 my list. Is there anyone else --

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

1 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes.

2 ALJ SMITH: -- that wishes to speak?

3 I have one here.

4 Anyone else who wishes to speak come up and
5 line up for your turn.

6 Please state your name spell your name.

7 STATEMENT OF MR. WILLIAMS

8 MR. WILLIAMS: Russell T. Williams.

9 R-u-s-s-e-l-l, T for Tom, Williams W-i-l-l-i-a-m-s.

10 I live at 7680 Tierra Arbor Way, which is right close to
11 the park in question here.

12 I just wanted to say that with SNGS, we just
13 had a neighborhood foundation association, and I happen
14 to be the secretary. This book that I have in front of
15 me (indicating) plans all our meetings, and everything
16 in here that we have up to this date supports our cause.
17 And I also want to mention that some of the things that
18 we've discussed are better lighting in the park, setting
19 up security cameras within the park so that we can
20 monitor the, you know, the evening or daytime which will
21 cut back the crime, and would also create more jobs in
22 the area that I believe would be beneficial for
23 the community. And I support the SNGS, what we're here
24 for.


25 And I appreciate your time on this Judge,

E1-37

26 Mr. Commissioner. Thank you.

27 COMMISSIONER SIMON: I appreciate your coming as

28 well. Thank you.

 E1-37
(Cont.)

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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1 (Applause)

2 ALJ SMITH: Please state and spell your name and
3 address for the record.

4 STATEMENT OF MS. HEARD

5 MS. HEARD: My name is Evergene Heard. That's
6 E-v-e-r-g-e-n-e. Heard, H-e-a-r-d.

7 ALJ SMITH: Excuse me. Let me interrupt for just
8 a moment.

9 I did instruct that witnesses who submitted
10 testimony in the proceeding were not to speak tonight.

11 MS. HEARD: I submitted one?

12 ALJ SMITH: I do have testimony from Evergene
13 Heard.

14 MS. HEARD: Oh, that must have come through the
15 lawyer.

16 ALJ SMITH: Yes. Is there an AGENA representative
17 here?

18 MR. BAILEY: I'm from AGENA.

19 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Is the AGENA attorney here?

20 ALJ SMITH: Mr. Bailey.

21 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Couldn't resist.

22 ALJ SMITH: Off the record.

23 (Off the record)

24 COMMISSIONER SIMON: We'll go back on the record.

25 ALJ SMITH: Next speaker. Please state and spell

E1-38

26 your name for the record.

27 STATEMENT OF MR. KUSTIC

28 MR. KUSTIC: My name is Tim Kustic, K-u-s-t-i-c,

E1-39

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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1 and I'm here representing the Division of Oil Gas and
2 Geothermal Resources. I want to thank you, Judge,
3 Commissioner for coming to Sacramento.

4 I really didn't come here to speak much today.
5 I just wanted to make an offer to the public, although I
6 know a lot of folks have left. But the Division of Oil
7 Gas and Geothermal Resources will be one of the agencies
8 regulating this natural gas project if it goes forward.

9 We regulate five others. I'm the district
10 deputy for the Sacramento district and we have five
11 other natural gas projects within our district.


12 I just want to make the offer to the public,
13 if you want to know more information about natural gas
14 storage, I'm a public servant, I work for the taxpayers,
15 give us a call and ask us.

16 I've made this offer before at other public
17 meetings.

18 And what was alluded to earlier by Mrs. Laws,
19 I did come out and talk to the water district and gave
20 them some good information.


21 Of course I'm not taking any position on what
22 you folks should do with this project, but I just want
23 to make the offer to disseminate information to the
24 public if they are interested.

25 So, we are in the phone book, and I have my



**E1-39
(Cont.)**

26 card and I can leave it here, but contact us if you have
27 questions about natural gas storage and our regulatory
28 role.



E1-39
(Cont.)

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E1-39
(Cont.)

1 Thank you.

2 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

3 COMMISSIONER SIMON: Thank you. Thank you very
4 much.

5 (Applause)

6 ALJ SMITH: Is there anyone else who wishes to
7 speak tonight?

8 (No response)

9 ALJ SMITH: I don't see any indication.

10 Well, I want to thank all you for attending
11 this hearing today. And I wanted especially thank those
12 of you who made comments. This is clearly an issue
13 that's important to this community and the Commission
14 will find your commentary valuable.

15 Well, hearing that there are no further
16 speakers, this hearing is adjourned.

17 (Whereupon, at the hour of 9:15 p.m.,
18 this Public Participation Hearing was concluded.)

19

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PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

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PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

1 SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA, OCTOBER 27, 2009 - 6:00 PM

2 * * * * *

3 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE SMITH: We'll be on
4 the record.

5 Good evening. This is the time and place for
6 a public participation hearing in Application 07-04-013,
7 Sacramento Natural Gas Storage's request for
8 a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to
9 construct and operate a natural gas storage facility.

10 I'm Richard Smith, the administrative law
11 judge in this matter.

12 Commissioner Timothy Alan Simon, the assigned
13 commissioner for this proceeding, is not able to be here
14 tonight; however, Paul Phillips, Commissioner Simon's
15 very able technical advisor is present.

16 Also here tonight are members of
17 the Commission's Public Advisor's Office to facilitate
18 this hearing and to answer questions you may have on how
19 to participate in Commission proceedings.

20 We also have translators for Mandarin,
21 Spanish, Cantonese, Vietnamese, Hmong, and we have sign
22 language interpreters.

23 We also have present tonight California
24 Highway Patrol at the Commission's request.

25 Today's public participation hearing, or PPH,
26 is held to provide members of the public an opportunity
27 to tell the Commission their views about the proposed
28 project. If you would like to make a statement, please

1 sign up with the assistant public advisors, and we will
2 hear from you in a few minutes.

3 Before we hear from those who wish to speak,
4 I'll take a moment to provide some background on this
5 proceeding.

6 Sacramento Natural Gas Storage or SNGS filed
7 this application in April 2007 for authority to
8 construct an underground natural gas storage facility in
9 southeastern Sacramento. The proposed project will use
10 the Florin Gas Field, a depleted underground natural gas
11 field, to store natural gas primarily to be used by
12 the Sacramento Municipal Utilities District or SMUD.

13 SNGS also proposes to construct and operate
14 facilities to inject, withdraw, and transport natural
15 gas to and from the storage reservoir, including a
16 wellhead site, a control center and compressor station
17 site, and buried pipelines connecting the wellhead and
18 compressor sites, and connecting the compressor site to
19 SMUD Line 700, an existing natural gas pipeline that
20 runs along Fruitridge Road.

21 Two different sets of regulations govern the
22 Commission's responsibility for reviewing this
23 application; as a result, the Commission is conducting
24 two concurrent and parallel processes to fulfill its
25 separate responsibilities while considering the SNGS
26 application.

27 First, the Public Utilities Code requires that
28 before SNGS can construct this project, the Commission

1 must grant a Certificate of Public Convenience and
2 Necessity, or CPCN, on the grounds that the present or
3 future public convenience and necessity require or will
4 require construction of the proposed project. This
5 review considers nonenvironmental issues such as project
6 need and compatibility with community values and is
7 administered by the ALJ, and in this case included
8 evidentiary hearings.

9 In October 2008, we held two days of
10 evidentiary hearings on nonenvironmental issues related
11 to the project. The Avondale Glen Elder Neighborhood
12 Association or AGENA, the City of Sacramento, Pacific
13 Gas and Electric Company, and the Commission's Division
14 of Ratepayer Advocates and SNGS participated in those
15 hearings.

16 We also held a PPH on April 28, 2009 at the
17 Depot Park Conference Center to provide members of
18 the public an opportunity to comment on the proposed
19 project. However, an announcement that was distributed
20 in advance of that PPH may have caused confusion about
21 access to the hearing, and some members of the public
22 attending the PPH may have not had an opportunity to
23 speak. Therefore, this second PPH is held to ensure
24 that all members of the public have an opportunity to
25 comment on the proposed project.

26 A review of the proposed project's impacts on
27 the environment is conducted pursuant to the California
28 Environmental Quality Act, or CEQA, and the Public

1 Resources Code. As lead agency for the proposed
2 project, the Commission is required to assess
3 the environmental effects of the proposed project and to
4 use this assessment in considering the request for
5 a CPCN.

6 The Commission's Energy Division conducts
7 the environmental review and in this case has prepared
8 an Environmental Impact Report or EIR for the proposed
9 project.

10 The Draft EIR was released on April 8, 2009
11 for public comment and the Final EIR is pending and will
12 likely be issued within the next few weeks.

13 The nonenvironmental and the environmental
14 review processes converge at the conclusion of
15 the environmental review when the Commission Energy
16 Division submits the EIR into the record for
17 certification by the Commission.

18 As the presiding officer, I will write
19 a proposed decision based on the evidentiary record in
20 this proceeding. The assigned commissioner may or may
21 not agree with my proposed decision and, if not, may
22 prepare his own decision called an alternate decision.
23 In some cases, other commissioners may also offer
24 alternate decisions for Commission consideration. Only
25 a decision that is supported by a majority of
26 the commissioners voting at a scheduled Commission
27 meeting becomes the decision of the Commission.

28 In a few minutes, I will begin taking comments

1 from the audience. If you wish to speak this evening,
2 please print your name on the sign-in sheets near
3 the entrance.

4 In a few minutes, I will begin calling
5 speakers to come forward in the order that they signed
6 up. When your name is called, please come forward to
7 the microphone, state and spell your name, and make your
8 statement. If another speaker says the same thing that
9 you want to say, you do not need to repeat
10 the statement. Instead, please identify yourself and
11 indicate that you agree with what the other speaker
12 said.

13 If you have prepared a written statement,
14 please provide a copy of the statement to the reporter
15 and to me. You do not need to read it.

16 Parties to the proceeding, including witnesses
17 that may also be residents of the area, have already
18 formally submitted testimony and other evidence into
19 the record. And this PPH is not an opportunity for
20 the parties to restate their testimony or to introduce
21 new testimony; however, I will allow anyone that wishes
22 to speak to do so, including members of the public here
23 tonight who have testified in the formal hearings.

24 Before taking comments from the audience,
25 I will allow SNGS and AGENA to make short presentations
26 to give the audience some background on the proposed
27 project.

28 The City of Sacramento has asked that I inform

1 you that the city will also review the project for
2 special permit and franchise agreement. The primary
3 contact for the city staff is Tom Buford, senior planner
4 in the Community Development Department. Mr. Buford is
5 here tonight. And his telephone number is area code
6 (916) 808-7931.

7 This public participation hearing is being
8 transcribed by a court reporter, so please speak slowly
9 and clearly. Also, only one person should speak at
10 a time.

11 I will now grant SNGS five minutes to make its
12 presentation.

13 STATEMENT OF MR. BURRIS

14 MR. BURRIS: Good evening, Judge Smith.

15 Is this on?

16 Good evening, Judge Smith. My name is Thomas
17 Burris and I'm the community development specialist
18 consulting with the Sacramento Natural Gas Storage
19 project team and I was a witness for the applicant
20 during the evidentiary proceedings and did attend those
21 hearings.

22 Tonight, I'm here to present opening comments
23 on behalf the applicant.

24 I would like to begin by first thanking
25 the members of the public who are in attendance who have
26 taken time away from busy schedules to be here this
27 evening so that they -- you may hear a chorus of their
28 voices.



E2-1

1 Thank you all.


2 As former chair of the Avondale Action
3 Committee and a former member of the Avondale Glen Elder
4 Weed and Seed Project founding president of the South
5 Sacramento Greenhaven Chamber of Commerce, founding
6 board member of the Florin Road Partnership, and most
7 importantly my seven-plus years of experience working in
8 the Avondale Glen Elder neighborhood, I made
9 the decision to work closely with this project.

10 Since 2007, the dynamics of my role have
11 changed. These changes were driven in large part by
12 the principles of this project and their willingness,
13 flexibility, and desire to make a good project even
14 better, to encourage residents' participation in
15 the process, and out of my own desire to ensure that the
16 final project is one that is reflective of their values.
17 To this end, SNGS recognizes the importance of this
18 proceeding of the Commission's assessment of
19 the consistency of the proposed project with community
20 values.

21 SNGS is committed to bring into this community
22 a very safe project and to being a good neighbor and
23 partner. We anticipate that you will see that
24 commitment reflected in broad community support for
25 the proposed project at this hearing tonight.

26 At this time, I would like to ask all of those
27 who live within the project field to please stand.

28 (Audience members stand.)



**E2-1
(Cont.)**

1 MR. BURRIS: Thank you.

2 As you can see, there is a great deal of
3 support for this project. And that of course is --

4 (Audience murmurs)

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We do not support
6 the project.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No support.

8 MR. BUFORD: As you can see, there is a great deal
9 of support for this project. And that support is
10 further indicated by the fact that of 717 private
11 privately owned residential properties above
12 the proposed storage reservoir, 529 have signed storage
13 lease agreements and 74 percent rate of support for the
14 area residents who are the preeminent stakeholders in
15 this project.

16 Thank you. And that concludes my remarks.

17 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

18 (Applause)

19 ALJ SMITH: I will now grant AGENA five minutes to
20 make its presentation.

21 STATEMENT OF MS. SLIDER

22 MS. SLIDER: Good evening. And thank you,
23 ALJ Smith, for having us here once again tonight.

24 I'm going to correct a misnomer before
25 I begin. And that is if you are here opposing
26 the Sacramento Natural Gas Storage project, which would
27 put a billion cubic feet of natural gas underneath your
28 homes and the homes of our friends and family in this

E2-1
(Cont.)

E2-2

1 community, please stand.

2 (Audience members stand.)


3 MS. SLIDER: Thank you.

4 Today, I come to talk to you about community
5 values on behalf of the Avondale Glen Elder Neighborhood
6 Association and Sacramentans opposed to the Sacramento
7 Natural Gas Storage Project. But first, I would like to
8 clarify and rectify a portion of the testimony placed on
9 the record by SNGS in which they referred to those
10 opposing this project as the Slider Faction.

11 A faction is often thought to be a group
12 within a group banded together to achieve a goal or
13 advance an agenda. And while I have become accustomed
14 to the personal attacks and accusations leveled against
15 me personally by SNGS and their representative, I think
16 it is time to set the record straight about exactly who
17 it is that opposes this project. It is a community of
18 people that oppose this project.

19 While it could be flattering to me to think
20 that I have the capability to stir up on my own one of
21 my factions, it is indeed an insult to a community whose
22 activism and commitment predates my entire existence by
23 about 25 years or so. This community has fought,
24 rallied, and lobbied long before Tom Burris was
25 president of AGENA; for over five decades, to secure
26 sidewalks, crosswalks, streetlights, access to
27 transportation and park services.

28 The rich history of this community is woven



**E2-2
(Cont.)**

1 with many tales of triumph and struggle and pride in
2 ownership. So today I address you, Judge Smith, to
3 inform you of what this community stands for: Our
4 collective values, for we will not be reduced to
5 a faction.

6 We stand together and united to give our
7 children schools that provide quality education, to
8 secure our homes and our property value, and leave
9 a legacy for our next generation; to be a gateway for
10 immigrants, that they might come and find safe refuge
11 here, clean fresh air and drinking water.

12 We value knowing who and what is around the
13 corner and not having to live in fear for the safety of
14 our children, parents, grandparents or friends. We
15 value doing our fair share but not bearing the burden of
16 unnecessary health and safety risks if there are other
17 viable alternatives.

18 In the past year or so, SNGS has attempted to
19 sponsor a new neighborhood association I hear that is
20 positioned to receive funds from the development of
21 the facilities and they have reportedly took a position
22 before the draft environmental impact report was brought
23 to the public to support this project. In doing so, it
24 is clear that the values of SNGS cannot be less aligned
25 with the values of this community. Because you see,
26 regardless of what may be offered and how many
27 neighborhood associations exist, we are one community.
28 And we all are united in our desire to live in



**E2-2
(Cont.)**

1 a neighborhood that is safe from harm, from explosions
2 or the leakage of toxic fumes or toxic drinking water.

3 No matter how many times this corporation
4 stands before you, Judge Smith, before the community or
5 before any other elected body and continues to espouse
6 the safety of this project or minimize the risk to life
7 and property, the experts, your experts have documented
8 that it is not safe for our community and that it can
9 and should not be placed here but should be placed in
10 a rural area.

11 Today I urge you, Judge Smith, to listen to
12 the voices of a community. It's not easy to stand up
13 sometimes and express dissent. It is not easy to go
14 against big business. And it's not easy to resist
15 the lure of financial bribery particularly in these
16 challenging economic times. But tonight, you will hear
17 their dissent as you have never heard before.

18 Please do not approve this project. Give
19 voice to this community and affirm our right to choose
20 what belongs within it for good reason. Applaud our
21 efforts to maintain our values and secure our community
22 for our future generations.

23 Thank you.

24 (Applause)

25 ALJ SMITH: The Commission also considers
26 the views of elected representatives of the area because
27 we believe they are speaking on behalf of their
28 constituents. Joining us here today is Larry Carr with



**E2-2
(Cont.)**

1 SMUD. And I will hear from Mr. Carr before calling
2 those who signed up to speak.

3 Mr. Carr.

4 STATEMENT OF MR. CARR

5 MR. CARR: Judge Smith, representatives of
6 the community: Tom who spoke first and Constance who
7 just spoke, I call them both my friends and I hope at
8 the end of this action they will still be my friends.

9 I've been on the SMUD board since 1999
10 representing Ward 6. This proposal was brought to the
11 SMUD board and the SMUD board saw benefit in gas
12 underground storage facility close to our existing
13 pipeline in case something would happen to the pipeline
14 that brings gas into the area.

15 We have most of our generation from natural
16 gas.

17 We also are aware that this facility is under
18 existing homes. We have expertise on the SMUD staff for
19 electricity for sure, but there is no expertise to
20 adjudicate whether or not this project is safe. So
21 the SMUD board decided that we would let this process go
22 forward to the Public Utilities Commission so
23 the Commission could determine in its environmental
24 assessment whether or not the project is safe. We have
25 confidence that you will do that.

26 I have personally sent a letter to the Public
27 Utilities Commission asking that you take a close look
28 at that because there's a lot of community interest. So

E2-2
(Cont.)

E2-3

1 the position of the board is the Utilities Commission
 2 will decide. And my personal position is that we'll let
 3 the science decide this one.

4 And thank you for your attention. Thank you
 5 for listening to the community. And I'm sure that you
 6 will do the right thing.

7 Thank you very much.

8 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

9 (Applause)

10 ALJ SMITH: I will now begin calling on speakers
 11 from the audience.

12 Again, speak clearly and slowly for the court
 13 reporter, and only one person should speak at a time.

14 Please step forward when I call your name.
 15 State and spell your name and state your address for
 16 the record.

17 I will begin with David DeLuz.

18 STATEMENT OF MR. DE LUZ

19 MR. DE LUZ: Yes, Judge Smith. David DeLuz
 20 president/CEO of the Greater Sacramento Urban League,
 21 our headquarters is 3725 Marysville Boulevard,
 22 Sacramento, California 95838.

23 I come to you tonight as a 17-year resident of
 24 Sacramento, as a former president of the Sacramento
 25 NAACP, and currently as president and CEO of the Greater
 26 Sacramento Urban League. I have spent the better part
 27 of my adult life fighting for civil rights and economic
 28 justice and opportunity for not only speak of color, but

**E2-3
(Cont.)**

E2-4

1 for all Sacramentans.


2 I was approached by this particular project on
3 a number of occasions. And what I wanted to come tell
4 you today was my original concept of the project was
5 that there was going to be a two-foot pipe running right
6 behind people's homes that would be susceptible to some
7 sort of surface damage that could destroy the community.

8 I went and met with SNGS staff and they
9 presented the project to me. Based on my layman's
10 understanding of the science and of the safety reports,
11 my communication to them was on its face, I had no
12 personal issue with the project.

13 There are economic benefits to the community.
14 But as is obvious tonight, there are also concerns about
15 the property rights of individual landowners that need
16 to be taken into consideration.

17 I agree with Mr. Carr's assessment: That one
18 of the things we haven't been able to determine is the
19 safety and the health risk of the potential project. We
20 can only look at the performance of similar facilities,
21 similarly situated facilities in which the safety record
22 is pretty impressive.

23 So with that, the Urban League has no formal
24 position on this particular project other than to say we
25 want to see what the science decides because it does
26 present an economic benefit to the community, but we
27 have to make sure that it's safe and secure. And
28 the CPUC is the only organization that's capable of



**E2-4
(Cont.)**

1 actually making that determination. So we await
2 the decision by your panel.

3 Thank you.

4 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

5 (Applause)

6 ALJ SMITH: We have a large number of requests to
7 speak tonight, so I will limit the time for each speaker
8 to two minutes so that everyone has a chance to speak.
9 Please be brief and to the point. The Public Advisor
10 will keep track of time and will indicate when your time
11 is up.

12 Now, I will call the first speaker. And I'll
13 actually call the first three speakers; the first
14 speaker come up and the other two, start getting ready
15 to come up. And that way we can keep things moving
16 along.

17 First I will call Harriet Miller. And after
18 that, Vincent Redmond and Verlyn Baker.

19 STATEMENT OF MS. MILLER

20 MS. MILLER: Hello. My name is Harriet Miller.
21 I own the property at 7641 53rd Avenue, Sacramento,
22 California 95628.

23 I'm here today to talk about a claim that SNGS
24 has said several times in my hearing that people who
25 have signed their papers and signed their property
26 rights over support the project. That's not true. I'm
27 one such person. I signed their papers, but I do not
28 support the project. I regret signing. I wish I could

E2-4
(Cont.)

E2-5

1 undo it now.

2 (Applause)

3 MS. MILLER: There's a lot of reasons that people
4 might sign. People have, as has been said, financial
5 crises. There's a lot of uncertainty and anguish going
6 on.

7 I had a financial crisis last spring that
8 caused me to look around and say, Where can I get some
9 money right now? This was one of the places.

10 I'm on my feet financially. I'd like to
11 officially ask that Sacramento Natural Gas take my
12 money. I will give it back if they give me my rights
13 back.


14 I think this will not be an economic benefit
15 to the neighborhood. I think property values will
16 decline because nobody will want to buy in this
17 neighborhood with gas underneath it.

18 The compensation is not fair. It nowhere near
19 offsets the lowered property values that will come with
20 this project. The only people that will buy in this
21 neighborhood will be investors. It will change from an
22 owner-occupied community to a rental community.

23 That's already happened.

24 My financial crisis came about because I was
25 moving out in large part due to Sacramento Natural Gas.
26 I don't want to live there anymore. Therefore, I don't
27 anymore. I live in a different neighborhood.

28 I thank the people that have held out that



**E2-5
(Cont.)**

1 have not had such crises that they have not signed up.
2 I really do. Please hold out. Please keep it up.

3 Thank you.

4 (Applause)

5 ALJ SMITH: Vincent Redmond.

6 STATEMENT OF MR. REDMOND

7 MR. REDMOND: My name is Vincent Redmond. That's
8 Redmond R-e-d-m-o-n-d. I live at 7540 51st Avenue,
9 which is actually on the edge of the red line up there.

10 But my main comment I want to make is that
11 I sometimes get a little tired of people looking at our
12 neighborhood as a bunch of dumb yokels that don't know;
13 poor people. We have a diverse neighborhood of all
14 kinds of people. I myself am a retired firefighter from
15 the Air Force base.

16 I support this project mainly from the
17 standpoint of the gas being stored. I should say that I
18 worked for the fire department over 30-year period.
19 I don't see it unsafe as far as leaks and explosions.

20 As far as the other concerns of the residents,
21 they should not be minimized. That is exactly what
22 people have said. They have scientists to look at this.
23 And hopefully the Commission will look at it also and
24 look at the other aspects other than the leakage and
25 explosions.

26 Thank you very much.

27 (Applause)

28 ALJ SMITH: Next, I'll hear from Verlyn Baker and

E2-5
(Cont.)

E2-6

1 following her Ellen Nitshke, and Barbara Currie.

2 STATEMENT OF MS. BAKER

3 MS. BAKER: Good evening, Judge Smith.

4 ALJ SMITH: Good evening.

5 MS. BAKER: I'm Verlyn Baker, V-e-r-l-y-n. Baker,
6 B-a-k-e-r.

7 I bought my home in Glen Elder in 1968.

8 I don't know exactly why we are here today because
9 I thought back in April we spelled out emphatically that
10 we did not want this project in our area. We said that
11 then and we are saying it now: No. We do not want it.

12 Your own staff has said that the proposed gas
13 storage can cause fires, explosions, and may cause
14 drinking water contamination. The CPUC staff said for
15 the safest thing for us would be not to store gas under
16 homes at all. Instead, it should be stored in a rural
17 area. And Sacramento County has many rural areas.

18 We don't need this project. It isn't safe for
19 our families.

20 We are saying it again: No. No. No.

21 Thank you.

22 (Applause)

23 ALJ SMITH: Thank you. Our next speaker.

24 STATEMENT OF MS. NITSHKE

25 MS. NITSHKE: Hello again. N-i-t-s-h-k-e.
26 7506 Florin Road, 95828.

27 In 1946, my husband bought 40 acres on Florin
28 Road. In the '50s, oil companies came in and we even

E2-6

E2-7

E2-8

1 signed a contract if they found any oil, gas or
2 minerals. They did the entire area of Sacramento
3 County, county. It wasn't till years later we found out
4 there was gas in Tokay Park. We owned a house in Tokay
5 park.

6 I grew up in Detroit, Michigan. We had coal.
7 It's, you know coal. You know, coal chutes. That way.

8 In the Florin area, people had their houses
9 with butane, those big butane tanks. Big trucks had to
10 come with the butane and fill you up every month with
11 your butane. So we were very fortunate when natural gas
12 came through.


13 I am definitely for this project.

14 I sold houses in all these different areas.
15 My husband has built houses in all these different areas
16 in the -- further, going south towards Elk Grove. A lot
17 of people built their homes with electricity. Natural
18 gas is a lot cheaper than butane or electricity. So
19 I think we're very fortunate now.

20 We know all of us public are heating their
21 homes and we cook our homes with natural gas. Natural
22 gas has to come from someplace.

23 At the last meeting, some people got up and
24 stated, well, their houses would going to sink if all
25 the gas was taken out.

26 Well, Tokay Park built about 60 years ago and
27 people have been using that water all these years and
28 the properties have not sunk.



**E2-8
(Cont.)**

1 And I do not understand how gas can push
2 water, water can push gas, but I know there's different
3 tanks. And if you don't have natural gas in tanks
4 you're going to go to butane. It's more expensive.

5 (Applause)

6 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

7 Barbara Currie. And she will be followed by
8 Jermain Gill, and Tamie Dramer.

9 STATEMENT OF MS. CURRIE

10 MS. CURRIE: My name is Barbara Currie C-u-r-r-i-e
11 I live at 7709 37th Avenue which is just north of
12 the proposed site.

13 I'm objecting to the site. I don't think its
14 safety can be guaranteed.

15 I agree with Constance Slider. I was a member
16 of the Avondale Action Committee for many areas and I'm
17 a current member of AGENA.

18 Thank you.

19 (Applause)

20 ALJ SMITH: Jermain Gill.

21 STATEMENT OF MR. GILL

22 MR. GILL: My name is Jermain Gill. Spelled
23 J-e-r-m-a-i-n. Last name is Gill, G-i-l-l. I live at
24 7805 Vallecitos Way. I'm a longtime resident of
25 the Glen Elder neighborhood. I'm also the chair of
26 the Avondale Glen Elder Neighborhood Association. And
27 I'm going to say it again, over and over: I do not
28 support this. My answer to this is no. It will always

E2-8
(Cont.)

E2-9

E2-10

1 be no.

2 Thank you.

3 (Applause)

4 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

5 Tamie Dramer, followed by Roberta Espinoza and
6 Marsetta Forcum.

7 STATEMENT OF MS. DRAMER

8 MS. DRAMER: Hi, Judge. My name is Tamie Dramer.
9 That's T-a-m-i-e D-r-a-m-e-r. I live at 20 Elton Court,
10 E-l-t-o-n, Sacramento. I'm a resident of the College
11 Greens neighborhood, which is less than five miles from
12 the proposed natural gas storage site.

13 And as I stated at the last hearing, I've
14 uncomfortable and opposed to this project being
15 developed in a residential area.

16 And I'm aware of other situations such as in
17 Hutchinson, Kansas, where gas migrated seven miles
18 underground and caused a chain of deadly explosions.

19 I object that the community so close to this
20 project has not received information or public notice of
21 it.

22 And this concern of the safety of the project
23 has been exasperated by my attempt to do research on
24 the safety record of SNGS on their website. There's
25 basically no information about SNGS. And I couldn't
26 learn about their experience building, maintaining or
27 monitoring such a facility. And I believe this
28 information is not available because they have not done

**E2-10
(Cont.)**

E2-11

1 this before. They have no experience with a project of
2 this type, underground storage of this capacity.

3 And I have no confidence based on the way that
4 they have conducted themselves with public outreach and
5 in the licensing process that they would look out for
6 the safety of our community over their own profits.

7 Thank you.

8 (Applause)

9 ALJ SMITH: Roberta Espinoza.

10 STATEMENT OF MS. ESPINOZA

11 MS. ESPINOZA: Hi. I'm Roberta R-o-b-e-r-t-a --

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Can't hear you.

13 MS. ESPINOZA: E-s-p-i-n-o-z-a.

14 I'm just here to support Constance and our
15 neighborhood that's against this SNG.

16 I'm sorry that this gentleman is representing
17 SNG in the manner he was. I am not for this project at
18 all. And I'm sorry that you misinformed all these
19 people.

20 I don't want to end up like this neighborhood
21 (holding up newspaper) in Rancho Cordova with bodies.
22 I don't want to end up on the front of the paper like
23 this. That's not the way I want people to remember me.

24 A lot of these people here that they targeted
25 with these gas cards, these picnics at these parks,
26 where are they going to be when something like this
27 happens? They're not going to be there to support you.
28 You won't even be able to find them. They're there now

**E2-11
(Cont.)**

E2-12

1 because they want you to sign.

2 When we bought our house in 1991, we had no
3 idea that this was going to come our way. And like it's
4 been said before, we do not want our neighborhood to go
5 downhill.

6 We fight and fight and fight to keep our
7 neighborhood safe from criminals, from the bad-doing in
8 this world, and we don't want to have to fight against
9 natural gas companies that are going to come in to our
10 lives and affect it, possibly like this (holding up
11 newspaper.)

12 So I want it to stand on the record that
13 Roberta Espinoza says no to SNG.

14 Thank you.

15 (Applause)

16 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

17 Marcella Forcum, I believe. I apologize.

18 STATEMENT OF MS. FORCUM

19 MS. FORCUM: Marsha Forcum. M-a-r-s-h-a
20 F-o-r-c-u-m. 7801 Lorin Avenue, Sacramento, California
21 95828.

22 I said this at the last meeting, I'll say it
23 again: I serve the God who created the heavens and
24 the earth and everything in it. And if he saw fit to
25 put natural gas and oil in the earth like this, I don't
26 see any reason why you cannot put it back there.

27 And as for the explosion that happened in
28 December of last year, that was Pacific Gas and

**E2-12
(Cont.)**

E2-13

1 Electric.

2 Thank you.

3 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

4 (Applause)

5 ALJ SMITH: The next speaker will be Eric
6 Sunderland, followed by Burnie Lenau and Jamie Jackson.

7 STATEMENT OF MR. SUNDERLAND

8 MR. SUNDERLAND: Hello. I'm Eric Sunderland.
9 E-r-r-i-c S-u-n-d-e-r-l-a-n-d, and I live in College
10 Greens about four or five miles in that direction.

11 I'm not an expert but I do have six years
12 working with pressurized natural gas and geologic
13 formations while employed with the Paul Graham Drilling
14 and Service Company back in 1990s.

15 I have personally witnessed both blowouts and
16 ground fissuring. I've had both Boots & Coats and
17 Red Adair on locations where incidents occurred. When
18 speaking with geologists and engineers and experts after
19 the incidents, none of them ever said "I knew that would
20 happen."

21 If you ask me if I wanted 7 billion cubic feet
22 of pressurized natural gas in my neighborhood under my
23 house near my children, I'd say never.

24 (Applause)

25 ALJ SMITH: Burnie Lenau.

26 STATEMENT OF MR. LENAU

27 MR. LENAU: Good evening. My name is Burnie
28 Lenau. B-u-r-n-i-e. Lenau, L-e-n-a-u. I'm

E2-13
(Cont.)

E2-14

E2-15

1 the president of Lawnman Inc., a small business here in
2 the Power Inn area.

3 I wish to express my personal support for this
4 proposed natural gas project to be located in
5 Depot Park at the juncture of Junipero and Power Inn
6 Road.


7 The planning and zoning advisory committee of
8 the Power Inn Alliance has extensively reviewed and
9 monitored the project over the past year and a half,
10 almost two years now. As the chairman of the planning
11 and zoning advisory committee, I've had the opportunity
12 to become very familiar with this project.

13 I do want to reiterate though that I'm
14 speaking personally and not on behalf of the Power Inn
15 Alliance tonight.

16 This project is good for business.
17 The construction and operation will create jobs in
18 the community, and the foundation will bring other
19 moneys into the area.

20 Sacramento Natural Gas Storage is a good
21 corporate citizen and has already invested in this
22 community. They have worked in earnest to provide
23 regional opportunity for reliable energy resources.

24 The business owners in the area have
25 endeavored to upgrade the Power Inn corridor.
26 Accordingly, this project will provide curbs, gutters,
27 sidewalks and landscaping at the corner of Power Inn and
28 Junipero. This is in keeping with the long-range goal



**E2-15
(Cont.)**

1 of the local business community and would be
 2 a demonstration to other property owners of how the area
 3 can be beautified.

4 In addition, this is a green project that is
 5 registered with the U.S. Building General council and is
 6 aiming to receive gold leadership in energy and
 7 environmental design for LEED certification.

8 The city council has unanimously designated
 9 this an enterprise zone within which this project will
 10 be constructed as an area for development of
 11 environmental sensitive and green business. This
 12 project meets or exceeds these standards and will be
 13 a sense of pride for both the area and the city.

14 For these reasons and others, I support this
 15 worthwhile project.

16 Thank you again.

17 (Applause)

18 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

19 The next speaker will be Michael Keeley,
 20 followed by Larry or Marcie Stamm, and Carl Pinkston.

21 STATEMENT OF MR. KEELEY

22 MR. KEELEY: My name is Michael Keeley. I own
 23 a small business MGK Risk and Insurance Services. I'm
 24 also the president of the board of directors of the
 25 Sacramento Black Chamber of Commerce.

26 When I went and sat down with the folks at
 27 Sacramento Natural Gas and Storage, they presented me
 28 with a pamphlet of facts and information regarding

**E2-15
(Cont.)**

E2-16

1 the economic impact of the project on the community,
2 which sounded fine and good. And certainly, it seemed
3 an economic benefit to all of the chambers and
4 the businesses that we represent.

5 But my business, my main business that I make
6 a living at is insurance. So in my capacity as
7 a insurance broker, what I do is I gather information to
8 make decisions. That should be the first step in any
9 decision making process is information gathering. So
10 I talked to underwriters today on this information as
11 well, but I wanted to get their impression as well about
12 what rates would be impacted, insurance rates based on
13 the building of this facility and what has happened
14 around the country and other places. And there was no
15 appreciable increase, nothing above what was the norm in
16 terms of insurance rates being impacted by virtue of
17 projects similar in the country.

18 So my decision and my conclusion is that
19 absent any type of safety risk -- and there's always
20 a risk in everything do you. The question is how much.
21 The people who make a living at doing that have
22 concluded that across the country that it's not an
23 unreasonable risk and it does not increase rates. So
24 therefore I'm in support of the project.

25 Thank you very much.

26 (Applause)

27 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

28 I believe I may have skipped Jamie Jackson.

**E2-16
(Cont.)**

1 Is Jamie Jackson here?

2 She'll be next followed by Larry or Marcie
3 Stamm.

4 STATEMENT OF MS. JACKSON

5 MS. JACKSON: Hi. Jamie Jackson. J-a-m-i-e
6 J-a-c-k-s-o-n. I'm just a private citizen that's
7 concerned. And it seems fairly simple to me. You need
8 to listen to the community. If the community says no,
9 then it's no.

10 And that's pretty much what I wanted to say.

11 Thank you.

12 (Applause)

13 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

14 STATEMENT OF MS. STAMM

15 MS. STAMM: Yes. Marcie Stamm. M-a-r-c-i-e.
16 Stamm, S-t-a-m-m. I live at 7110 Nicolas Street,
17 Sacramento 95828.

18 I would kind of like to take a different
19 approach right up front. I'm against it. My husband is
20 against it.

21 At the prior meeting, we came at 6:00. And
22 there was just a group of people on this right side of
23 the hallway. And I went in and I stated who I was, what
24 I was there for, and he said sign in. I signed in.
25 About two minutes later, I realized I was at the wrong
26 meeting. The other meeting against this pipeline was on
27 the other side of the hallway, but it had not begun.

28 I tried to get my name off the list. She said

E2-17

E2-18

1 twice oh, that's okay; it doesn't matter. I said yes;
2 it does matter. She picked up her paper, started
3 running down the hall. I followed her. I said please,
4 I want to take my name off the list; I'm not for this
5 project. And she scooted out of the door.

6 I then started receiving phone calls saying oh
7 Marcie, Larry; you support this project. I didn't know
8 that. Oh, that's wonderful. You support this project.
9 We've lived in the neighborhood since 1960.

10 I said no, we do not.


11 I don't appreciate being misled. I don't
12 appreciate the tactics that were taken that night.

13 And then, maybe in the Sacramento Bee on
14 September 18, there was this article or column. I'm
15 sure most of you have read. It states the judge said it
16 didn't mislead on the storage issue.

17 I felt I was misled that night. I don't like
18 the tactics that were used this night. And I don't like
19 the tactics that when the orange shirts or red shirts,
20 yellow shirts or whatever came through the door to try
21 to get us to sign up. They were being paid to come door
22 to door. And they would say oh, yeah; we have this
23 environmental impact report. We'll get that to you. Go
24 ahead and sign. We'll get that to you.

25 Well, months and months and months; no impact
26 report. They were using that as a carrot to sign.

27 I was not -- okay. I was not for this in
28 1980. And if anyone wants to know what happened in



**E2-18
(Cont.)**

1 1980, they can come and ask me following the end. I was
2 against it then. I'm against it now.

3 Thank you.

4 (Applause).

5 ALJ SMITH: Next speaker is Carl Pinkston followed
6 by Linda Hardoin, and Levia Nelson.

7 Mr. Pinkston.

8 STATEMENT OF MR. PINKSTON

9 MR. PINKSTON: Thank you very much.

10 My name is Carl, C-a-r-l, Pinkston, P like in
11 Paul, i-n-k-s-t-o-n.

12 Today I'm representing the Sacramento Area
13 Black Caucus.

14 First of all, I want to make perfectly clear
15 that we are opposed to this particular project,
16 Sacramento Natural Gas Project. There's three reasons
17 why we oppose this project.

18 Number one, we do not believe that
19 the economic benefits will be used in the best interests
20 of the community of Elder Creek and Avondale. They will
21 not hire, they will not employ, they will not utilize
22 the resources and services within the Avondale Glen
23 Elder area.

24 Two, I live on 6 Rancho Torre Court which is
25 right outside the area. And we believe that it -- that
26 gas will migrate. That once you pump in and pump it
27 out, it never really -- that gas will break and have
28 problems.

**E2-18
(Cont.)**

E2-19

1 Last but not least, we are opposed to it
 2 because we believe this project environmental racism.
 3 And what I mean specifically about that is this project
 4 would never have moved forward if this was located in
 5 Green Haven, Land Park, Natomas, El Dorado Hills.

6 Thank you.

7 (Applause)

8 ALJ SMITH: Linda Hardoin.

9 STATEMENT OF MS. HARDOIN

10 MS. HARDOIN: My name is Linda Hardoin.
 11 H-a-r-d-o-i-n. I live at 7828 Lorin Avenue. I am in
 12 the group that was a part of the original -- where they
 13 took the natural gas out.

14 I did not originally sign up. I bought
 15 the house that way. Prices went up when they took it
 16 out. I don't believe they will be depressed when they
 17 put it back in.

18 As far as any -- well, one of the questions
 19 I have to ask these people that are against it is how is
 20 it we've managed to get this far into looking into this
 21 project and no one has approached the Sacramento Parks
 22 and Recreation? They are the ones that brought you into
 23 this.

24 By the way, you received an e-mail -- your
 25 group received an e-mail from me. I brought a variety
 26 of these points up at the time.

27 The Parks and Recreation wanted to be included
 28 into this gas. And now you're complaining about it.

**E2-19
(Cont.)**

E2-20

1 Why are you not complaining to them? Why did you not
 2 start complaining to them a long time ago? Why are we
 3 suddenly at this point where everybody's complaining
 4 about this?

5 I am vehemently agreeing with this item.
 6 I like the project. I don't know why the other lady did
 7 not get any paperwork environmental. I got the whole
 8 packet. All I did was ask for it. They have an office
 9 on Power Inn Road; went and picked one up. No big deal.

10 I say I am totally in favor of it.

11 Thank you.

12 (Applause)

13 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

14 Our next speaker I'm having trouble reading
 15 this. I believe it's Livia Nevin.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Nelson.

17 ALJ SMITH: Could be Nelson. And followed by Sam
 18 Butler and Bill Elko.

19 STATEMENT OF MR. NELSON

20 MR. NELSON: Good evening. Name is Levia Nelson.
 21 L-e-v-i-a N-e-l-s-o-n. I live at 7820 48th Avenue,
 22 Sacramento. And I've been living there 49 years.

23 And I was in the last oil deal. I think it
 24 was in the 1950s when Union Oil came in. And I would
 25 like to say that I oppose this project in my area. And
 26 I oppose this contract in any area in Sacramento because
 27 I think it could be a hazard.

28 And I have been approached many years with

**E2-20
(Cont.)**

E2-21

1 yellow shirts and stuff, by signing leases and stuff.
 2 But not one time, nobody come up with anything in case
 3 something is going to happen to my property.

4 I checked with my insurance company and they
 5 told me anything that blows from this natural gas on my
 6 property, they don't cover that.

7 It's just like an automobile. If somebody run
 8 into your car and got insurance, they car gonna pay for
 9 it. Your's not. That's why I oppose this project.

10 And I don't know if any of you guys watched
 11 the news, but just last week in Stockton, California,
 12 there was some natural gas leak. There was a lot of
 13 people out of their homes. And this natural gas
 14 facility was owned and operated by PG&E. But the cause
 15 they say it wasn't maintained and the sticky valves
 16 wasn't operating, and it forced gas and stuff up in
 17 people's homes in Stockton. That was last week.

18 And that's why I oppose this project, for
 19 safety reasons. You know. And I think it's not good
 20 for a resident area. It should be put out in an
 21 unpopulated area, not in the residential area.

22 Thank you very much.

23 (Applause)

24 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

25 STATEMENT OF MR. BUTLER

26 MR. BUTLER: My name is Samuel Butler.

27 S-a-m-u-e-l B-u-t-l-e-r. I live at 6408 Aliso Way.

28 A-l-i-s-o Way. Sacramento 95828-1521. I've been over

**E2-21
(Cont.)**

E2-22

1 there over 50 years.

2 When I bought my home, I could smell gas.
3 I smelled gas for a long time until it was pumped out.
4 After it was pumped out, I was smelling more gas. But
5 since they want to put it back in, they haven't come
6 around and checked for any kind of leaks or any leaks
7 out there.

8 At one time we did have a little fire out
9 there from gas.

10 But at the present time we have people that
11 want \$500 and those are not renters -- I take it back.
12 Not homeowners but they are renters. They are renters.
13 If you find out who lives out there, those people do not
14 want that gas storage back under there. They should
15 take some kind of valuation around and check and see if
16 they smell gas. But it could be a different odor now.
17 They'll probably now make it smell real good.

18 Anyway, I'm against it, and I hope they
19 would take a look at what happened in Stockton.

20 Thank you.

21 (Applause)

22 ALJ SMITH: The next speaker is Bill Elko,
23 followed by Raul -- I'm having trouble with this last
24 name as well. Raul. And followed by Fatima Chey,
25 I believe.

26 So Mr. Elko, Bill Elko?

27 (No response).

28 ALJ SMITH: Okay, we'll move to the next speaker.

**E2-22
(Cont.)**

1 Raul, I think it's Chamoia. Anyone named Raul wants to
2 speak?

3 And he will be followed by Fatima Chey and
4 Amanda Lee.

5 STATEMENT OF MR. CHAMORRO

6 MR. CHAMORRO: Good evening, Judge. My name is
7 Paul Chamorro. P-a-u-l. Last name is C-h-a-m-o-r-r-o.
8 Say hi to the entire community. I live at 7721
9 Robinette Road, 95828.

10 Became informed about this particular project
11 that this group wants to bring forth before
12 the community about putting natural gas underneath their
13 homes. Pretty serious stuff.

14 I don't believe that; all this stuff with
15 their kind of corrupt methods of trying to influence
16 the community, as you kind of seen that already happen
17 here by the original speaker that first spoke when he
18 had us stand up and all of a sudden try to push it like
19 you guys are in support of the project when in fact you
20 are not. There's no way that stuff like that, human
21 life or even the chance of loss of human life or great
22 human life should even be proposed for the profits of
23 the certain small group of individuals that are in it
24 for money. That's basically it.

25 You need to understand that there's good and
26 bad. These individuals are only interested in sticking
27 the stuff underneath your neighborhood because of the
28 mass profits that they see. Their intention and stuff



E2-23

1 is to specifically stick it into this their neighborhood
 2 underneath it probably because it lowers their bottom
 3 line.

4 There's no way as a man or a family member or
 5 a woman that you should ever consider for profit whether
 6 it be \$500 or \$50 that for any amount, that we're going
 7 to put our children's life at risk, our own individual
 8 health or anyone in the family or community. It will
 9 take your -- you folks caring a lot about your family
 10 and folks. There's no amount of money that these folks
 11 are going to bring forth to corrupt or even bring
 12 anything that can be negative to the community.

13 I choose to live here, but I also choose to
 14 defend a neighborhood and feel hopefully that you'll
 15 feel the same way, Judge.

16 We appreciate your efforts in being here and
 17 listening to our, you know, what's important to us and
 18 what's right.

19 Thank you very much. And that's it.

20 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

21 (Applause)

22 ALJ SMITH: Fatima Chey?

23 Amanda Lee, followed by Cassie Evans and Steve
 24 Tang.

25 STATEMENT OF MS. LEE

26 MS. LEE: Hi. My name is Amanda Lee. I'm
 27 representing my mother who is not able to be here but
 28 lives in the community at 5450 Jansen Drive Sacramento

**E2-23
(Cont.)**

E2-24


1 95824. She is opposed to the project.

2 I represent myself Amanda, A-m-a-n-d-a. Lee,
3 L-e-e. I live at 9932 Zion Way, Sacramento 95827. I am
4 also opposed to the project.

5 I think as a community we take great pains to
6 make sure we separate things like bars from private
7 neighborhoods, make sure businesses, clubs are not next
8 to residents. We have people whole live downtown. They
9 create roadblocks so you can't drive through their
10 street community because traffic is too much, and yet
11 you are going to consider a potential health hazard
12 underneath the homes where people are actually living.
13 I don't even understand why we are even weighing this as
14 an option.

15 I think no amount of money can ever take
16 the place of any health risks. And you've already been
17 shown as has all the other communities and the people
18 involved that there have been risks. And if you place
19 any dollar amount on people's lives to say that they're
20 friends of the community and they are going to help
21 build curbs, make your community look nicer. Who cares
22 about that if you're going to develop cancer and
23 essentially have leaks and health issues down the road.

24 They also said you can live near power lines,
25 but they have shown that 25 years later, all these
26 children are developing asthma and cancer in all these
27 areas. How many years later are you going to find out
28 that there have been health risks that they have been



**E2-24
(Cont.)**

1 soaking up gas and our children are having further
2 issues.

3 I think you need to should show a
4 responsibility to the community and the people that you
5 serve and vote this project down.

6 Thank you.

7 (Applause)

8 ALJ SMITH: Cassie Evans?

9 Cassie Evans, followed by Steve Tang and
10 Lesli Lewis.

11 Mr. Tang, Steve Tang?

12 (No response)

13 ALJ SMITH: Okay. Lesli Lewis.

14 STATEMENT OF MS. LEWIS

15 MS. LEWIS: Hello. My name is Lesli Lewis,
16 L-e-s-l-i L-e-w-i-s. I live in the neighboring
17 residential area.

18 When I was told of the project that was going
19 on, I was outraged. My first thought was if they were
20 to just suggest that this happen in this community
21 neighboring my community, my community would be next.

22 I asked a friend to help me do some research
23 to find out why this was even suggested to happen. And
24 in the research, some articles I'd like to pass on to
25 you, things that I found suggested there was no need.
26 There is no demand. Natural gas is low. The supplies
27 are high. Why are we doing this?

28 Further research states that this has

**E2-24
(Cont.)**

E2-25

1 happened: McDonald Island underground, gas storage
 2 facility. This has happened. Why are we risking
 3 the lives, the health of our families, of our community,
 4 of our babies. It is not necessary.

5 I thought maybe it's going to save us, our
 6 community some money. Maybe this is why this is
 7 presented. And reading an article, SMUD rep says there
 8 would be no impact on consumer rates; it would save us
 9 no money at all to do this.

10 So I'm a bit outraged, surprised to see some
 11 representatives here who would push this type of project
 12 in a community that is growing, that is filled with
 13 children. We're trying to stay active and healthy so
 14 that we can improve upon our neighborhood, not destroy
 15 it.

16 I'm against this project. And I would urge
 17 everyone to sign any petitions, to get out and speak
 18 loud, and protect your community. This is our
 19 community.

20 Thank you.

21 (Applause)

22 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

23 Keith Watkins. Keith Watkins, to be followed
 24 by Helen Tate, and Dortha Oberlies.

25 STATEMENT OF MR. WATKINS

26 MR. WATKINS: Thank you, your Honor. My name is
 27 Keith Watkins, K-e-i-t-h W-a-t-k-i-n-s. Property
 28 address 851 Maple Grove Way, Sacramento 95834.

**E2-25
(Cont.)**

E2-26

1 I'm a private citizen. My Bachelor's degree
 2 is in soil and water science from the University of
 3 California, Davis; Masters in public policy with
 4 environmental emphasis. I oppose the project.

5 (Applause)

6 ALJ SMITH: Helen Tate.

7 STATEMENT OF MS. TATE

8 MS. TATE: Hello. My name is Helen Tate. Last
 9 name T-a-t-e. I bought my home in Broadnex,
 10 B-r-o-a-d-n-e-x.

11 I bought my house in 1994. I bought it as
 12 a single parent. My kids have grown up in that home.
 13 And the information that I'm reading or that I'm seeing
 14 in this is if this is a natural storage facility, that
 15 tells me that there had to have been something there
 16 before. It had to have been gas there before. They
 17 want to put gas back there; I don't have a problem with
 18 it. I'm for it.

19 And as far as when you got up to speak,
 20 I understood exactly what you said. I understand that
 21 you're for the project. I stood up too. I'm for
 22 the project, too.

23 Little nervous.

24 Thank you.

25 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

26 Dortha Oberlies to be followed by Odell
 27 Rhodes, and Vicki Rhodes and Nate Marke.
 28

E2-26
(Cont.)

E2-27


1 conscience. I had two of their representatives, a woman
2 and her husband, trying to form a personal relationship
3 with me that was for the benefit of SNaGS. They visited
4 my home. They called me on the phone. They made offers
5 to take me to lunch. They sent me postcards from
6 vacation. When I told my daughter about this, she
7 became alarmed and appeared with me at the last hearing.
8 She advised this Commission that I had been the target
9 of undue influence by these SNaGS employees, and she
10 told me not to ever let these people in my house again.
11 However, they must have got the message because they
12 went out after that.

13 A year ago, SNaGS distributed flyers to
14 a neighborhood implying Congressman Doris Matsui,
15 Congressman Doris Matsui supported what -- their gas
16 well project. I called Congresswoman Matsui's office
17 and they told me that she was not in favor of SNaGS at
18 all. In fact, I left the paper up there today for you
19 from Doris Matsui and she will tell you.

20 In fact, she said she had written a letter on
21 September 8 in 2008 advising the CPUC of her objections
22 because of the risk of the population now living there.
23 I want to read that letter out loud to you but I don't
24 think I have the time.

25 ALJ SMITH: Actually, if you don't leaving a copy
26 for us.

27 MS. OBERLIES: I did. I did. I will give a copy
28 of the letter to the CPUC along with a copy of SNaGS.



**E2-28
(Cont.)**

1 And by the way, I called SNaGS the other day.
2 PG&E told me to call CPUC, and I did. And they told me
3 they knew nothing about it. Then I get their mail in
4 here now today.


5 And I am not alone in feeling that SNaGS is so
6 conniving. You can't believe anything they say,
7 including their claims about the safety of this project.
8 The depleted well under these homes was a naturally
9 occurring natural gas well. But it was not without
10 hazard either. There was an explosion and fire
11 associated with that well that happened in an empty
12 field where part of my neighborhood is now.

13 What SNaGS proposes will be manmade. Their
14 experts claim their well will be safe. They don't know.
15 How many experts gave the same opinion about safety at
16 Hutchinson, Kansas, only to have a series of explosions
17 that is narrowly blew up the town.

18 If this is so safe, let SNaGS be responsible
19 to take the risk to life, limb and property.

20 And to me, whenever I sell my house, this will
21 also be a -- it will lessen the people that's looking at
22 your house and buy your house. You can't sell it.
23 I know that. I already talked to the real estate man.

24 So whenever I sell my house, I want you to
25 tell them they're going to have to buy it. Buy mine and
26 everyone else's so we can move where we will not be at
27 risk. And we will make darn sure that it isn't a place
28 with a depleted well sitting underneath it.



**E2-28
(Cont.)**

1 And that is -- this is -- I gave you -- I gave
2 them one of these from Doris Matsui.

3 Thank you very much.

4 (Applause)

5 ALJ SMITH: Odell or Vicki Rhodes, followed by
6 Nate Marke and Janet Kellam.

7 STATEMENT OF MR. RHODES

8 MR. RHODES: Good evening. My name is Odell
9 Rhodes. O-d-e-l-l. Rhodes, R-h-o-d-e-s. We live at
10 7323 Lindale Drive, Sacramento 95828.

11 First of all, I'd like to state that I am
12 opposed to this project. When Constance and some of the
13 people working with her at first approached us with
14 this, you know, and told us about some of the stuff that
15 had gone on with the people trying to push this project,
16 it was hard for me to believe that people, that they
17 were being underhanded. Tonight confirmed that, when
18 someone would ask how many people live in the community
19 and then try to pass that off as people who approve of
20 this project. That's not the case.

21 Remember that.

22 You know, people talk about the financial
23 benefits to the owners. But to members of
24 the community, there's no financial benefit that is
25 worth one life. And these people cannot promise that
26 this project is safe.

27 Some people talk about science, and I'm
28 talking about good common sense. There are gas leaks

**E2-28
(Cont.)**

E2-29

1 when gas is stored in storage tanks. There's no tanks
 2 under this ground. Now I live on the edge of this
 3 project and the last I knew, there was no walls to stop
 4 gas from seeping either way, anyway it goes. Just like
 5 water, it goes where it goes.

6 So I'm against this.

7 My wife had something she wanted to say.

8 STATEMENT OF MS. RHODES

9 MS. RHODES: Good evening, Judge. We thank you
 10 for taking the time to hear us again. I spoke at the
 11 last hearing. And a lot of my comments have been
 12 addressed --

13 I'm sorry. My name is Vicki Rhodes.

14 V-i-c-k-i R-h-o-d-e-s. And I spoke at the last hearing.

15 And the only comment that I had this evening
 16 again is to those people who are for the project, just
 17 for them to think about when their insurance companies
 18 find out that their homes are sitting on top of natural
 19 gas, how long do they think that they will be insured?

20 And maybe there's some people who don't have
 21 homeowners insurance, but I'm pretty sure they will not
 22 be able to get insurance, as well as sell their homes as
 23 well.

24 Thank you very much for your time.

25 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

26 (Applause)

27 ALJ SMITH: Nate Marke.

28

**E2-29
(Cont.)**

E2-30

1 STATEMENT OF MR. MARKE

2 MR. MARKE: Yes. Last name is Marke, M-a-r-k-e.

3 My name is Nate Marke. I live in this area
4 for the last 15 years plus. I raised two boys.

5 And I object very strongly to this project for
6 environmental reasons and for the fact that people in
7 this -- look at the population. These are not kids
8 anymore. There is not much alternative but to stay in
9 their homes, assuming this project goes through. And
10 they can't leave. You can't sell at this age. You got
11 to stick with it.

12 Secondly, the environmental factors, like
13 the soil, most of these people, especially the Asians,
14 use the soil to produce food that -- to substitute their
15 incomes and that will be income lost. Apart from that,
16 the water problem. We don't know how safe the water
17 will be.

18 Traffic, bringing the gas to the project site.
19 There will be a lot of trucks around here.

20 A final problem I have with this is calling
21 this project the same as any other project. This is
22 unique and different. The chemistry of the land,
23 the soil, the makeup is completely different.
24 The population is different. The traffic, the flow,
25 everything is different about it. And more so,
26 the management.

27 I'm a banker by profession, retired many years
28 now. The first thing you know about giving somebody or

E2-31

1 trusting somebody with money, giving them or trusting
 2 them with the project is how they're built. And based
 3 on my experience with this management, they've been
 4 woefully aggressive, rude. These are my experiences,
 5 I'm sure the experiences ever others. They have not
 6 been up to par. Sorry.

7 So I'm very worried that these people are
 8 given the opportunity, they will not look for our
 9 interest. They will be just for their own interest.

10 Thank you very much.

11 (Applause)

12 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

13 The next speaker is Janet Kellam followed
 14 by --

15 STATEMENT OF MS. KELLAM

16 MS. KELLAM: Janet Kellam. I live on top of this
 17 proposed project. At first I was going to give up my
 18 turn to speak because we probably all heard these
 19 arguments already. But I wanted to say again to
 20 reiterate that I'm opposed to the project. I think that
 21 it is not safe.

22 I believe the PUC is headquartered in
 23 San Francisco; right?

24 ALJ SMITH: Yes.

25 MS. KELLAM: Correct. Thank you.

26 Quake city. You're right on the San Andreas
 27 Fault. And you are aware that rock, even thick rock can
 28 break. And that's what they are proposing to do is

**E2-31
(Cont.)**

E2-32

1 store millions of gallons of gas under my home under
2 a piece of breakable rock. And I'm opposed to that.

3 Further, I'm sure you must be aware that our
4 drinking water in our neighborhood here is located in
5 a reservoir within this project area. And so it's very
6 susceptible to the contamination. It's not just
7 a little narrow straw water line being brought into the
8 neighborhood. It's a reservoir under Florin Reservoir
9 Park where all of our drinking water comes from. And
10 I think that's a huge danger to all of us in
11 the community, aside from the explosion danger and all.

12 Again, thank you for coming and hearing us
13 this evening. I think that's probably --

14 Oh, I had one more thing.

15 I wrote you a letter and you have my name now.
16 If you did not get my letter, please let me know,
17 someone, and I will e-mail it to you right away.

18 Thank you.

19 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

20 MS. KELLAM: Thank you very much.

21 (Applause)

22 ALJ SMITH: I'm having trouble reading the next
23 speaker's name. The address is 6409, and I can't read
24 the street name on it either.

25 Anybody live at 6409 who wants to speak?

26 Could be Ethel or --

27 MS. GILLIAM: That's me.

28 ALJ SMITH: Followed by Pat Fong Kushida and



E2-32

1 Ruth Kahle.

2 STATEMENT OF MS. GILLIAM

3 MS. GILLIAM: Good afternoon, Judge. My name is
4 Ethel, E-t-h-e-l, G-i-l-l-i-a-m. Ethel Gilliam. I live
5 at 6409 Somis Way in Sacramento. And I'm here to say
6 that I've been against it from the first time and I'm
7 still against it.

8 So, the family that live in that area, Glen
9 Elder area, they oppose it. I've talked to them. I've
10 gone door to door. And I'm kind of like an advocate in
11 that area. And we are very much oppose this gas in our
12 neighborhood.

13 And I'm not going to take up your time but
14 I wanted really to impress on you how important this is
15 to the Glen Elder, Elder Creek neighbors in my area.
16 It's very important that you take this under
17 consideration and think about the health of the
18 old people, the young ones, the children, and the
19 elderly.

20 So I really appreciate this time to address
21 you.

22 Thank you for hearing me. And you have
23 a great day.

24 Thank you.

25 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

26 (Applause)

27 ALJ SMITH: Pat Fong Kushida followed by Ruth
28 Kahle.

E2-33

1 STATEMENT OF MS. FONG KUSHIDA

2 MS. FONG KUSHIDA: It's Pat Fong, F-o-n-g.
3 Kushida, K-u-s-h-i-d-a. And I'm the president and CEO
4 of the Sacramento Asian Pacific Chamber of Commerce
5 located at 2012 H Street in Sacramento 95811.

6 I've also for the past five years served on
7 the California Public Utility Commission Diversity
8 Council, which looks at areas of diverse community
9 issues with respect to consumer rights, workforce
10 development, supplier diversity, philanthropy and
11 governance.

12 I appreciate the time to be able to speak with
13 you this evening.

14 The chamber is in support of the application
15 and urges approval absent any undue safety risk. We
16 believe that this project will provide significant
17 economic benefit to the city. Specifically, we believe
18 that it will generate nearly 25 million in business
19 revenue annually within the city, provide 89 new jobs
20 with 5.8 million in employee compensation annually,
21 create 213 jobs during construction, and generate
22 1.59 million in state and local tax revenues annually.

23 Our mission is to build sustainable
24 communities through economic development. Our work
25 advocating for local small business utilization in
26 the professional services and construction categories as
27 well as local hires as part of the project's full-time
28 personnel is a commitment that I know we share with

E2-34

1 California Public Utilities Commission.

2 Sacramento Natural Gas Storage also shares
3 this commitment to local participation.

4 Thank you for the opportunity to speak in
5 support of this project.

6 (Applause)

7 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

8 Our next speaker is Ruth Kahle followed by
9 Doug West.

10 STATEMENT OF MS. KAHLE

11 MS. KAHLE: My name is Ruth Kahle, K-a-h-l-e. My
12 house is located at 7750 Leaverite Way, right behind
13 Florin Park where most of this is going to put.

14 I'm a hundred percent for it.

15 I did some -- got some information from
16 information from some professors from Harvard. I sent
17 them the information they had and they laughed when
18 I said that the people around, that they were scared to
19 death. They said there's nothing to be scared of. You
20 cannot blow up natural gas without oxygen and a force of
21 fire.

22 So I let it go at that. My husband and
23 I signed the papers.

24 I have more reason than a lot to not want this
25 here. I'm on oxygen 24 hours a day. And this could be
26 a big danger. But I'm not letting it bother me because
27 I know this is important for the entire community.
28 There will be jobs. There will be safety in the park.

**E2-34
(Cont.)**

E2-35

1 They're going to put up cameras and lights to save
2 the park.

3 I've been up there. And I've said to the
4 employees many times it would close out drug operations.
5 It would close down chop-shop operations, all in this
6 area and -- because there's not enough lighting. Nobody
7 could see what was going on.

8 And I'm angry at Constance that she scared
9 some of our neighbors. She actually had some of my
10 neighbors petrified of this project, and she doesn't
11 even live in our neighborhood. She is not over the gas
12 project. And there were quite a few people, probably
13 90 percent of them are not over the project.

14 And last statement. There was gas, natural
15 gas storage there for five million years. Nothing
16 happened. It can't happen now. If it was there that
17 long, something would have happened, because they didn't
18 have the knowledge we have now.

19 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

20 (Applause)

21 ALJ SMITH: Doug West followed by Lesli Lenard and
22 Christine Roybal.

23 STATEMENT OF MR. WEST

24 MR. WEST: Doug West. D-o-u-g W-e-s-t. Live at
25 7517 50th Avenue.

26 I'm opposed to this program and basically from
27 personal experience.

28 In 2001, I lived in Wichita, Kansas, 60 miles

**E2-35
(Cont.)**

E2-36

1 south of Hutchinson, Kansas. And on January 18th,
2 a natural gas cavern that was being used for storage
3 leaked. It blew up two buildings downtown, damaged 26
4 others, and left a four-block radius of business and
5 the Reno County Enforcement Center and the courthouse
6 without power one -- on that day. That gas actually
7 followed the lines, water lines in the city to a trailer
8 park, caused a trailer to blow up and two people died.

9 So for about five days, every time I got home
10 I went to the news and all I will saw was fire, death,
11 and destruction. There was so much evacuations from
12 other neighborhoods that the Red Cross had to be called
13 in to house these people; in January in Kansas with the
14 cold and the rain and snow, a lot of people without
15 homes, they couldn't go back to the neighborhoods. They
16 had to evacuate buildings. They had to evacuate
17 businesses.

18 So that's really all I have to say.

19 Please don't put a price on my son's life.
20 I live in this neighborhood. I care about living here.
21 And I can't support something like this, not after
22 seeing fire and death and destruction for a week. It's
23 not something I want in my house.

24 Thank you.

25 (Applause)

26 ALJ SMITH: Our next speaker is Lesli Lenard. No
27 address. Is there a Lesli who wants to speak?

28 (No response)

**E2-36
(Cont.)**

1 ALJ SMITH: Christine Roybal and Alona Jennings?

2 MS. JENNINGS: I'm Alona Jennings, and I'm here to
3 represent the youth of this community. They're actually
4 going to speak.

5 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

6 STATEMENT OF MS. CHAOCHANG

7 MS. CHAOCHANG: Hi. My name is Anne. I am 15.
8 And this is my neighborhood as well as our neighborhood.

9 I am with the Youth Leadership Council and
10 I live with the passion to make this community a better
11 place. And knowing that there is a risk of this
12 neighborhood being destroyed because of this project,
13 what better future is there to look forward to? It's
14 like predicting my own death. I don't want to perish.

15 So on behalf of myself and the youth, I say no
16 because I want to see a better future not to see
17 a perished one because of a foolish decision that was
18 already known to be a risk in the first place.

19 So I say on the behalf of the youth, myself,
20 and the residents, I say let us live.

21 Thank you.

22 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

23 Anne? Anne, what's your last name?

24 MS. CHAOCHANG: Chaochang.

25 ALJ SMITH: Would you spell that?

26 MS. CHAOCHANG: C-h-a-o-c-h-a-n-g.

27 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

28 (Applause).

**E2-36
(Cont.)**

E2-37

1 ALJ SMITH: Our next speaker is, I believe it's
2 Jermaine Perry and Jay Narayan.

3 STATEMENT OF MR. PIERRE

4 MR. PIERRE: Hello. My name is Jermaine Pierre
5 J-e-r-m-a-i-n-e. Last name P-i-e-r-r-e. And I just
6 wanted to say that just for the record that I am opposed
7 for the project.

8 It's unfortunate that we are here again to
9 show our displeasure for this potential project. At
10 that time, I was a potential father. And now as
11 a concerned father, it just freaks me out to death that
12 this possibility could actually come into
13 the neighborhood. I'm already nervous enough when she
14 takes a two-minute nap. So to have that fear that
15 potential gas could come into our area and affect her is
16 just nerve wracking.

17 So it will be great if I can stay in this
18 great community. We've already dealt with the parks and
19 enjoy them. But if this project goes through, there's
20 no way I can face her and put her in that danger.

21 So thank you.

22 (Applause)

23 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

24 STATEMENT OF MR. NARAYAN

25 MR. NARAYAN: Hello, Mr. Smith. My name is Jay
26 Narayan. J-a-y. Middle name is R-a-j. Last name
27 N-a-r-a-y-a-n.

28 I am opposed to the SNGS project. I am

E2-38

E2-39

1 a member of Southeast Village Neighborhood Association.
2 I also represent a small business, which is Elder Creek
3 Market which is very close to the proximity of this
4 project.

5 First of all, I think it's an insult that this
6 company will make millions of dollars in profit and
7 revenue and is only offering \$500 in compensation for
8 the amount of risk that is involved. You have, you
9 know, people's houses and backyards that could be
10 sinking into the ground. You have children that are
11 playing that could have deformities as they grow up.
12 You have the possibility of fire and risk. It's just
13 uncountable to see the amount of potential dangers this
14 project could bring in a community like this.

15 And once again, I reiterate that it's not fair
16 that you have a lot of key players that will make a lot
17 of money off of this venture.

18 And the community won't profit from it. You
19 talk about offering jobs to the community but I don't
20 think any of the jobs will go to any of the people that
21 live in the neighborhood.

22 And it's just not a good plan. They should
23 take it to a area that is not heavily populated so there
24 is less of a life-risk issue.

25 Thank you.

26 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

27 (Applause)

28 ALJ SMITH: Now, there are a few people that



E2-39

1 I called that didn't come up.

2 Is there anyone else who wishes to make
3 a statement? If so, step forward.

4 Please state and spell your name.

5 STATEMENT OF MS. JOHNSON

6 MS. JOHNSON: Karen Johnson. K-a-r-e-n
7 J-o-h-n-s-o-n. I'm here to speak on support of
8 the project.

9 My father owned the gas station that is now
10 currently the Jack in the Box. My father now lives in
11 Oklahoma, and I have called him about this project to
12 ask him, you know, what he felt about it. He said that
13 his gas station actually posed more of a problem than
14 the natural gas that sits in the ground.

15 He currently is being paid. He has gas under
16 his property in Oklahoma, and he leased out that land
17 here in Elder Creek.

18 I just feel like everybody keeps saying not in
19 my backyard, not in my neighborhood. But we all use
20 PG&E. We all use gas. It's cheaper. I'm a single
21 parent. It's just -- it's got to go somewhere. We as
22 consumers demand it, but just nobody wants it near them.

23 We've got gas lines going into our house,
24 pumping gas into our homes right now. There's a risk,
25 that you can go turn on your pilot and it can blow up.

26 It's just the risks are small that the need
27 for it outweighs the risk.

28 We carry risk every day.

E2-40

1 So thank you.

2 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

3 (Applause)

4 STATEMENT OF MS. CHAMORRO

5 MS. CHAMORRO: Good evening, Judge. My name is
6 Lucy L-u-c-y, C-h-a-m-o-r-r-o. I live at 7721 Robinette
7 Road. I live in the area not this close to where this
8 project is being proposed. I live off of Power Inn Road
9 which is up the street.

10 And I'm appalled myself that I didn't get
11 a notification in regards to this project.

12 I feel badly that this is being put in this
13 residential area and that we're here this evening
14 fighting it.

15 I want to make sure that you guys know that
16 I'm opposed to this project. And I'm also concerned in
17 the fact that this is my first meeting that I attended
18 in regards to this project. And the only reason why
19 myself and my husband knew about this project was
20 because we are constant readers of the Sacramento News
21 and Review and there was an article there in regards to
22 this project. And I believe as a community member, that
23 if the other neighborhoods weren't informed in regards
24 to this project all the way from countryside which is
25 off of Power Inn and even in Elk Grove, that there would
26 be more people here this evening for the fact that Power
27 Inn Road, nobody has brought that up this evening, that
28 hundreds of people travel Power Inn Road every day. And



E2-41

1 if there was a sign out there that said that traveling
 2 this road could be hazardous to your health, and if you
 3 contact this number and get more information, you'd have
 4 more people. And it would probably -- you might even
 5 need a bigger facility to hold this meeting. It's only
 6 in this amount that we have right now because
 7 the neighbors here are concerned about this project.

8 I don't live in the neighborhood. I'm
 9 concerned and speaking on behalf of the people that
 10 travel up and down Power Inn Road that don't even live
 11 in this area.

12 The people who have accepted those gift cards
 13 and any type of bribery, if anything was to happen in
 14 your neighborhood, would that gift card actually cover
 15 your funeral costs if anything was to happen?

16 I don't think so.

17 Five hundred for a funeral these days, it's
 18 not going to get you anywhere.

19 So on behalf of the people, please, I oppose
 20 this project.

21 (Applause).

22 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

23 STATEMENT OF MR. WU

24 MR. WU: Good evening, Mr. Judge Smith. My name
 25 is Luis Wu. I live in 7890 --

26 ALJ SMITH: Excuse me. Would you spell your name,
 27 please.

28 MR. WU: L-u-i-s. Last name W-u.

**E2-41
(Cont.)**

E2-42

1 I live in 7890 Tierra Glen Way, Sacramento,
2 California 95828.

3 I've been living in that house since 1981 and
4 all my kids, they grew up. And I think this project is
5 safe for me and I think as well for everybody. And I go
6 with the project. And I think it will be well for
7 everybody.

8 My daughters all grow up. They're healthy.
9 They never get sick. They got no problems. They don't
10 have no cancer. No disease. I'm 62 years old and very
11 healthy person.

12 Thank you.

13 (Applause)

14 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

15 STATEMENT OF MR. TAMAYO

16 MR. TAMAYO: Good evening, Judge. My name is Dave
17 Tamayo. D-a-v-e T-a-m-a-y-o. I live at 5918 38th
18 Avenue. It's not in the project area. I am a couple of
19 miles of there. I've been a longstanding activist in my
20 community, trying to make my community, actually this
21 whole southeastern part of Sacramento better.

22 One of the main impacts of this is the
23 uncertainty of the uncertainty of this project.

24 It's very clear to me that this project has
25 been presented to people as if you're taking some
26 vessel, taking gas out -- that gas was taken out of that
27 that had been for millions of years, and now we're going
28 to put it back in.

**E2-42
(Cont.)**

E2-43

1 Well, obviously there's been
2 a misrepresentation. Because gas had accumulated over
3 hundreds of thousands or millions of years. It was
4 going under there under pretty low pressure and it was
5 extracted under negative pressure. That's not the same
6 thing as putting -- injecting gas in at high pressure
7 and loading it up over a period of just a few years.

8 The levels of pressure that are going in
9 there, they're going to find different places to go, and
10 the gas is then able to migrate under the low pressure
11 that it was under for millions of years.

12 The other thing is that once you take the gas
13 out of that pressurized vessel, it was under pressure
14 there, there's a relaxation of some brittle rock.
15 There's no guarantee that that rock hasn't fractured or
16 is no longer capable of holding the gas that it held for
17 millions of years because it now is under a different
18 condition. You're going to start putting that gas back
19 in.

20 Finally, I want to point out that maybe it
21 looks like this project is economically viable, but it's
22 because of where it is, because the price that
23 the community as a whole and SNGS has to pay to get
24 people to give up their mineral rights here is a lot
25 less than they'd have to pay in my neighborhood.
26 I wouldn't accept it. My neighborhood wouldn't accept
27 it. They certainly wouldn't accept \$500 a year to put
28 this in Land Park or Curtis Park or the vast majority of



**E2-43
(Cont.)**

1 the community around here. Just because it's happens to
2 be under there it's viewed as economically viable just
3 because of the demographics of its location.

4 Thank you.

5 (Applause).

6 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

7 STATEMENT OF MR. ROJAS

8 MR. ROJAS: Thank you for this opportunity. My
9 name is Peter Rojas R-o-j-a-s. I live at 7931 Lorin
10 Avenue.

11 ALJ SMITH: I'm sorry. What was your first name?

12 MR. ROJAS: Peter, P-e-t-e-r. And I support this
13 project. I've lived in that neighborhood for the last
14 30 years. And we have our own water district there. We
15 never had contamination in there. I'm more concerned
16 about my daughter walking in the neighborhood than this
17 project. So I hope we can get this project going as
18 soon as possible.

19 Thank you for your time.

20 (Applause)

21 STATEMENT OF MR. STAMM

22 MR. STAMM: My name is Larry Stamm. Last name is
23 S-t-a-m-m. I live at 7110 Nickles Street, 95828, right
24 on the southern edge of this project. Lived there since
25 1961.

26 I'm opposed. My wife spoke earlier.

27 One of the things I've been told, and I'm not
28 a geologist, but we have a tremendous amount of natural

E2-43
(Cont.)

E2-44

E2-45

1 gas already in the south-central part of the United
2 States. This project is talking about buying natural
3 gas out of Canada and bringing it down here. And
4 I wondered why we have to go out of our country to get
5 natural gas.


6 And at the last meeting that we attended, I'm
7 fairly certain that the guy from the Sacramento utility
8 company offered an alternative to this project and would
9 be gotten out of the residential area a little further
10 from the city but would not pose the dangers that have
11 been expressed here for the safety of the community,
12 the children, and the possibility of leakage of gas.

13 And we do have two gas wells in our
14 neighborhood, nothing to do with this project, but one
15 of those wells been shut down for about a year because
16 of contamination that comes somewhere from
17 the groundwater. And I believe we're operating on one
18 well hopefully every day and not having to go out and
19 buy water.

20 Been wondering about what we're going to do
21 about our lawns in the summer.

22 They say there's no real danger of that
23 seepage, but I hear that natural pressure goes up a bit.

24 They broke the cavity when we drilled in.
25 They were going to drill back near Kennedy School back
26 when they took the gas out. And that was fought by
27 the community. So they want across Power Inn Road and
28 slant-drilled in there which was supposed to be safer.



**E2-45
(Cont.)**

1 My point here is they're breaking inside that cavity to
 2 get that gas out. Will they, can they seal that where
 3 we won't have seepage into our home?

4 I think we've got a lot of danger here. I am
 5 opposed and I join those others that are opposed.

6 Thank you.

7 (Applause)

8 MS. FORCUM: Can I speak again?

9 ALJ SMITH: I believe you spoke earlier.

10 MS. FORCUM: But when you started this meeting
 11 out --

12 ALJ SMITH: I'm sorry. What was your name again?

13 STATEMENT OF MS. FORCUM

14 MS. FORCUM: Marsha Forcum.

15 ALJ SMITH: Okay.

16 MS. FORCUM: When you started the meeting out, you
 17 said you only wanted people to come up to speak who live
 18 in the area. And 90 percent of the people don't live in
 19 the area. And I don't think that's fair either.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Who said?

21 (Applause)

22 ALJ SMITH: All right. Are there any others who
 23 wish to speak for the first time?

24 STATEMENT OF MS. GILLIAM

25 MS. GILLIAM: Oh. This my second.

26 I'm sorry. I just couldn't help but to get
 27 up.

28 Ethel Gilliam. E-t-h-e-l. Gilliam,

E2-45
(Cont.)

E2-46

E2-47

1 G-i-l-l-i-a-m.

2 And I have to disagree with the things that's
3 going on here that's for this thing that we got going
4 on. I live in that neighborhood. Most of the people
5 has talked tonight live in that neighborhood. Most of
6 the people have talked to me on the phone but they don't
7 know me. They probably know me now. But she said 99
8 percent of the people don't live in the area.
9 I disagree. They live in that area. And I'm very
10 concerned about that area.

11 And I'm not only concerned about the area.
12 I'm concerned about the area around us. There's places
13 around us where this stuff could affect lots of places
14 other than Glen Elder. So I'm feeling very much against
15 it.

16 And I disagree with whatever they are saying.
17 They probably don't agree with me, but I disagree.

18 Please, we don't want the gas in our area. We
19 don't want the gas in our community. So I ask you to
20 have mercy upon us and the people there to stop it
21 however you see fit to do it, but we asking you no, no.
22 No. Okay?

23 Thank you.

24 (Applause)

25 ALJ SMITH: All right. Is there anyone else who
26 wishes to speak?

27 I think we got one more speaker.
28

**E2-47
(Cont.)**

1 STATEMENT OF MR. NGUYEN

2 MR. NGUYEN: Hi. My name is An Nguyen. I live
3 at --

4 ALJ SMITH: I'm sorry. What is your name?

5 MR. NGUYEN: An Nguyen.

6 ALJ SMITH: Would you spell that.

7 MR. NGUYEN: A-n. N-g-u-y-e-n is the last name.

8 I think I live about half a mile from
9 the pipe, the release pipe. And anyway, I think I want
10 to say to you that I'm opposed to the project. And for
11 that part, there's a lot of uncertainties in here. You
12 heard a lot on both sides. And just like the -- just
13 more -- just stuff to throw at you, asbestos when they
14 first started with the insulation of the pipes back in
15 the 1950s, nobody knows that it causes cancer of the
16 lung until about 20 years later. Nobody really actually
17 made any effort to actually go through and research that
18 until it started popping up because it creates a hook
19 inside the lungs.

20 My other point for you is that I'm
21 the property owner of my house. And so from what I know
22 is that I own the land down to the court center, and so
23 I choose not to sell that part. And I'm hoping that
24 the government doesn't take -- or doesn't overpower my
25 right as a homeowner to take away that choice, that
26 right and that choice.

27 And so I know that the government will have
28 the power to do whatever it is to stomp on top of me,

E2-48

1 but I'm hoping that part of American dream and the
 2 freedom is to choose and the property is to own. And so
 3 hopefully the government won't do that.

4 The second is just for you, Judge, is that if
 5 someone were to propose to do the same thing to your
 6 house and your grandkids' house, would your son approve
 7 of having his grandkids having the gas underneath his
 8 house? And will you approve of having this stuff
 9 underneath your house?

10 So if you can think of from your perspective,
 11 switch to us living in this area and see through our
 12 eyes and try to imagine if it happened to you, would you
 13 choose it.

14 That's it. Thank you.

15 (Applause).

16 ALJ SMITH: I believe we have another person that
 17 wishes to speak.

18 Please state and spell your name.

19 STATEMENT OF MR. HUDLER

20 MR. HUDLER: My name is Rob Hudler, H-u-d-l-e-r.

21 And I have to in general be in support of this
 22 project. I've lived in this neighborhood since
 23 the 1980s when these very same gas fields were being
 24 pumped because the gas was there. At that point there
 25 was no environmental concerns that were mentioned such
 26 as sites or things like that which can occur.

27 I understand from the last public meeting that
 28 I attended that there's a lot of fear speaking here and

E2-48
(Cont.)

E2-49

1 there's a lot of greed. I happen to have a degree in
 2 geology. I've read the environmental impact reports.
 3 I've read all the Division of Oil and Gas reports. And
 4 yes, there are hazards involved. But looking at what
 5 the fear has said here, which is basically that there's
 6 a catastrophic possibility, and looking at the greed
 7 which is let's get as money out as possible, I think
 8 that where we should be is looking at the scientific
 9 facts.

10 We also have to look at the fact that we are
 11 consumers. I don't think there's too many people in
 12 this neighborhood that would decide to turn off their
 13 air conditioners in the middle of the summer because of
 14 the lack of natural gas to fuel power plants. And
 15 that's exactly what this project is going to provide for
 16 us is the space conditioning we need during those peak
 17 critical periods.

18 Thank you.

19 ALJ SMITH: Thank you.

20 (Applause)

21 ALJ SMITH: All right. I believe everyone who
 22 wishes to speak has done so.

23 Is there anyone else?

24 (No response)

25 ALJ SMITH: Hearing none, this public
 26 participation here is adjourned. Thank you.

27 (Whereupon, at the hour of 8:00 p.m.,
 28 this Public Participation Hearing was concluded.)

* * * * *

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(Cont.)**

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