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Public Meetings  
Draft Environmental Impact Statement  
for the Coordinated Long-Term Operation  
of the Central Valley Project  
and State Water Project

Thursday, September 10, 2015  
Red Bluff Community Center  
1500 S. Jackson St  
Red Bluff, CA 96080  
6:00 P.M.

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Reported By: Priscilla Steele, CSR No. 14052

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1 PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION

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3 JAMES BROBECK: I'm a water policy analyst for  
4 Aqualliance; one word with one A in the middle. It's an

5 organization.

6           My first comment is that the comment period needs  
7 to be extended. This is a voluminous document, and it was  
8 not distributed in a timely manner. I've been able to  
9 review some of it online, but online is very un-user-  
10 friendly as far as searching because it comes in so many  
11 segments. And it took over a week to receive one of these  
12 CDs in the mail for the entire project. I'm just getting  
13 one right now for the first time, leaving me two weeks to  
14 review this and compose legitimate comments. So I am  
15 asking the Bureau to extend the comment period another 30  
16 days and to ask the Court for flexibility in issuing the  
17 FEIS and the record of decision, that the artificial  
18 deadline for the ROD makes it impossible for the public to  
19 fully analyze the alternatives and to compose valid  
20 comments. Would like to see a 30-day, if not a 60-day  
21 extension.

22           I was very concerned that the presentation  
23 tonight gave the purpose of the action as what appeared to  
24 be maintaining the status quo on water deliveries, in  
25 contradiction to the hydrologic reality of the system.

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1 The presentation disfavored reasonable reductions that  
2 would have perhaps protected the fishery, in favor of  
3 meeting so-called obligations to deliver water. I say  
4 "so-called" because these are not obligations. The Bureau  
5 is required to balance the public trust with the desires  
6 of the contract of those receiving the water. And the  
7 operations of the water projects have been in favor of the  
8 contractors, to the disadvantage of the public trust as  
9 clearly evidenced by the destruction of the delta smelt,

10 the destruction of the salmon in the Sacramento River.

11 I'm outraged that last year's operations wiped  
12 out the winter and spring salmon before they spawned. And  
13 it appears that mismanagement is going to replicate the  
14 destruction of this year's salmon population, leading to a  
15 probable extinction of this species.

16 I'm amazed that Alternative 1 and 4 are being  
17 presented, the alternatives the contractors sent because  
18 they clearly violate the court orders to protect the  
19 public trust. I think that this process is invalidated by  
20 the failure of the Department of Water Resources to create  
21 a CEQA equivalent document. There is no CEQA equivalent  
22 document for this project. There needs to be because the  
23 State Water Project is integral. This is the coordinated  
24 SDWP, State Department of Water Resources. And the CVP is  
25 the federal part. So here we are having the feds come up

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1 with a draft document, but there is no document to cover  
2 the state side of it. There needs to be a sequel  
3 equivalent analysis.

4 I'm upset that the Bureau's presentation tonight  
5 obfuscated the fact that the lawsuits they cited were  
6 lawsuits that were being presented by state water  
7 contractors. That obfuscation is unnecessary. It's  
8 important to know who is pushing this process. And it's  
9 not the public. It's a very small portion of the  
10 California population. The state water contractors and  
11 settlement contractors were the ones pushing to eliminate  
12 the BO and the RPA. The Central Valley Hydrologic model  
13 ends in 2003, omitting the most current 12 years. The  
14 model is therefore completely inadequate, and any

15 conclusions from the model are as well.

16 NORA TODENHAGEN: My concern with the project and  
17 the alternatives is that they are based on what is,  
18 really, incomplete data. We don't have a true analysis of  
19 the water coming into the systems if we assume  
20 continuation of the streams and tributaries, which have  
21 been drained due to groundwater extraction.

22 Also, the model on which these decisions or  
23 alternatives are based dates only to 2003. So that all of  
24 the data information on groundwater and surface water  
25 interactions from 2003 to the present has not been used in

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1 creating these proposals.

2 JAMES BROBECK: Aqualliance is very concerned  
3 that the cumulative impacts to the aquifer system  
4 resulting from integrating the groundwater into the state  
5 water supply through groundwater substitution water  
6 transfers. And continued expansion of  
7 groundwater-dependent irrigated agriculture is not being  
8 revealed or analyzed. The inevitable de-watering of  
9 tributaries and extirpation of groundwater-dependent  
10 ecosystems, such as Valley Oak Groves, needs to be  
11 revealed and analyzed. For the Bureau to analyze only  
12 impacts associated with their demand on the groundwater to  
13 facilitate water deliveries throughout the state is  
14 unacceptable, if not illegal.

15 (Whereupon, the public comment session concluded  
16 at 7:45 p.m.)

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA )  
                                  )    ss  
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO )

I, PRISCILLA STEELE, a Certified Shorthand Reporter, licensed by the State of California and empowered to administer oaths and affirmations pursuant to Section 2093 (b) of the Code of Civil Procedure, do hereby certify:

The said proceedings were recorded stenographically by me and were thereafter transcribed into typewriting;

That the foregoing transcript is a true record of the proceedings which then and there took place;

That I am a disinterested person to said action.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have subscribed my name on September 16, 2015.

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRISCILLA STEELE  
Certified Shorthand Reporter No. 14052

091015 Hearing.txt

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Northern California Court Reporters  
Certified Deposition Reporters

Job date: 9/10/15 Expedite  Hold  Appearance  Job #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Reporter: Priscilla Steele  
Ordering counsel: Reclamation Bureau (Christine Kohn)  
Opposing counsel: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: 1500 S. Jackson St, Red Bluff, Ca 94580 Venue: Red Bluff Community Center  
Caption: Public Meetings Draft Environmental impact Statement Case #: Public Hearing

Witness	Pages	Witness	Pages
1. _____	<u>6</u>	4. _____	_____
2. _____	_____	5. _____	_____
3. _____	_____	6. _____	_____

Per diem billed to: Christine Kohn (hours) \_\_\_\_\_ e\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Copies Bill/send to \_\_\_\_\_  
Page rate \$ 6.50 ASOII \_\_\_\_\_

Exhibits \_\_\_\_\_

Special comments: \$300 per diem (not DAY), 277 miles @ \$0.55/mile, 6 pages @ \$6.50/page

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Public Meetings  
Draft Environmental Impact Statement  
for the Coordinated Long-Term Operation  
of the Central Valley Project  
and State Water Project

Tuesday, September 15, 2015  
Los Banos Community Center  
645 7th Street  
Los Banos, CA 93635  
6:00 P.M.

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Reported By: Priscilla Steele, CSR No. 14052

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PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION

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(No comments made.)

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COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO )

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091515 hearing.txt

The said proceedings were recorded  
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That the foregoing transcript is a true record of  
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That I am a disinterested person to said action.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have subscribed my name on  
September 16, 2015.

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PRISCILLA STEELE  
Certified Shorthand Reporter No. 14052

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Northern California Court Reporters

Job date: 9/15/15

Job#: \_\_\_\_\_

Reporter: Priscilla Steele

Ordering Counsel: Bureau of Reclamation (CHRISTINE KOHN)

Location: 645 7th St, Los Banos, Ca 93635

Venue: Los Banos Community Center

Caption: Public Meetings Draft Environmental Impact

Case# Public Meeting

Pages

3

Per diem billed to: Christine Kohn

Page rate  
\$6.50

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3 pages @ \$6.50/page