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BEFORE THE ARIZONA POWER PLANT

AND TRANSMISSION LINE SITING COMMITTEE

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)	Docket No.
OF SALT RIVER PROJECT)	L-00000B-21-0393-00197
AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENT AND)	
POWER DISTRICT, IN CONFORMANCE)	LS CASE NO. 197
WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF ARIZONA)	
REVISED STATUTES, SECTIONS)	
40-360, et seq., FOR A)	
CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL)	
COMPATIBILITY AUTHORIZING THE)	
EXPANSION OF THE COOLIDGE)	
GENERATING STATION, ALL WITHIN)	
THE CITY OF COOLIDGE, PINAL)	
COUNTY, ARIZONA.)	
_____)	

At: Casa Grande, Arizona
Date: February 9, 2022
Filed: February 22, 2022

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
VOLUME III
(Pages 446 through 607)

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1 BE IT REMEMBERED that the above-entitled and
2 numbered matter came on regularly to be heard before the
3 Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting
4 Committee at Radisson Hotel Casa Grande, 777 North Pinal
5 Avenue, Casa Grande, Arizona, commencing at 9:15 a.m. on
6 the 9th day of February, 2022.

7

8 BEFORE: PAUL A. KATZ, Chairman

9 ZACHARY BRANUM, Arizona Corporation Commission
(via videoconference)
10 LEONARD DRAGO, Department of Environmental Quality
JOHN RIGGINS, Arizona Department of Water Resources
11 JAMES PALMER, Agriculture Interests
MARY HAMWAY, Incorporated Cities and Towns
12 RICK GRINNELL, Counties
KARL GENTLES, General Public
13 MARGARET "TOBY" LITTLE, PE, General Public
(via videoconference)
14

15

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25

1 (TIME NOTED: 9:15 a.m.)

2 (Beginning of route tour.)

3 CHMN. KATZ: It is approximately 9:15 on
4 Wednesday, February the 9th, and we are getting ready to
5 take our tour in CEC 197, the Coolidge Expansion Project.

6 On the bus are Mary Hamway, Leonard Drago, John
7 Riggins, Jim Palmer, and Carl Gentles. And we're going
8 to go off the record now, but we may take some notes at
9 various locations. But we'll try to keep the comments to
10 a minimum.

11 (Member Rick Grinnell joined the tour in his
12 personal vehicle at Stop No. 1.)

13

14 (TIME NOTED: 10:01 a.m.)

15 (Arrival at Stop No. 1.)

16 CHMN. KATZ: It's just a couple of minutes past
17 10 in the morning, and we're on our Coolidge Expansion
18 Project tour. And we're at the Stop 1, East Kleck Road
19 south of the Coolidge Generating Station. And I'm not
20 going to say anything more.

21 Perhaps somebody can give us a little
22 orientation or make a little statement. And if anybody
23 has any questions, we can deal with it, but I want to
24 keep things as short as possible because it's tough on
25 the court reporter, and we'll be able to make a record of

1 any questions when we're back in session.

2 MR. ACKEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

3 I'm just going to ask Mr. McClellan to take a
4 minute or two and describe for the Committee and the
5 public that are here what can be seen from this view at
6 Stop 1.

7 MR. MCCLELLAN: So, as noted, we're on Kleck
8 Road. And if you look to the north, you can see --
9 almost directly to the north, you can see the existing
10 Coolidge Generating Station. The taller brown structures
11 are where the combustion turbine generators are located.

12 To the east of that, that's where the water
13 treatment location is that we talked about yesterday.
14 And we'll get a better view of it at a later stop, but
15 then to the east of that water treatment area would be
16 where the two proposed evaporation ponds will be located.

17 And then in the foreground, just to the south of
18 those existing combustion turbine generators, would be
19 the approximate location for the proposed new generating
20 equipment. And we'll get a better view of that in some
21 later stops as well.

22 And then, of course, to the west of where the
23 proposed new generators are at would be where the
24 proposed new 500kV switchyard is located.

25 The land that's directly in front of us to the

1 north, as you can see, is in agriculture, that's what we
2 talked about yesterday, is property owned by Pinal Land
3 Holdings, LLC.

4 You can see to the west or I guess to the
5 northwest of where we're standing now, you can see some
6 of the equipment that's on the west side of the
7 transmission lines and the railroad corridor. That's
8 Stinger Bridge & Iron. And then just to the south of
9 Stinger would be the approximate location of the Randolph
10 community.

11 Also note, as we were driving in, right before
12 we made the turn east to come onto Kleck Road, to the
13 west side of the road was what we talked about, the
14 Arizona Training Program.

15 And then we'll get a little bit closer, but you
16 can see over to the kind of northeast of us is that
17 residence that we talked about yesterday. That location
18 was about 1,000 feet from the proposed new generating
19 equipment.

20 It's a little tough to see from here, but if we
21 look kind of directly to the west, those are some of the
22 residences that are on the west side of that transmission
23 and railroad corridor that we also talked about yesterday
24 during the virtual tour. And I think we stated those are
25 roughly about 3,000 feet from where the new generation

1 equipment would be located directly north of us.

2 CHMN. KATZ: And that's part of the Randolph
3 community?

4 MR. MCCLELLAN: Yes, it is. Kleck Road is kind
5 of what I would consider the southern boundary of the
6 Randolph community.

7 CHMN. KATZ: Yes, Ms. Post.

8 MS. POST: Would it be appropriate to point out
9 where the Jordans' homes are? We passed them.

10 MR. MCCLELLAN: I'm not sure I know which homes.

11 MS. POST: I do.

12 MR. MCCLELLAN: Just to the north -- right
13 before we got to the transmission and railroad corridor,
14 just to the north of Kleck Road is where those homes were
15 located.

16 MS. POST: The last two homes before the
17 railroad tracks. The one closest to the railroad tracks
18 is Ron, who's going to testify. And the one next to that
19 one is his brother Jeff, who did testify before the
20 hearing.

21 CHMN. KATZ: So they're south of the road?

22 MS. POST: No. They're north of the road.

23 MR. MCCLELLAN: They're north of the road, right
24 at the intersection of the transmission and railroad
25 corridor and Kleck Road.

1 MS. POST: Correct.

2 MR. MCCLELLAN: So I guess that would be the
3 northwest corner.

4 MEMBER GRINNELL: How many residents live in the
5 immediate railroad tracks to the other side of 87?

6 MS. POST: There are six homes. I don't know
7 how many people, but six homes.

8 MEMBER GRINNELL: Okay. There's also, it looked
9 like -- I don't know what it is, if you go Kleck Road to
10 the other side of 87, immediately on the other side of it
11 would be the southwest quad. What is that?

12 MS. POST: He just described that.

13 MR. MCCLELLAN: That's the Arizona Training
14 Program. That's a living facility for adults with
15 disabilities.

16 MEMBER GRINNELL: And then your new facility is
17 going to go where?

18 MR. MCCLELLAN: It's pretty much directly north.
19 And the new generating equipment would be a little bit to
20 the northeast. And we've actually got that staked out.
21 We'll be able to see that a little bit better on some of
22 the following stops. And then the switchyard would be a
23 little north and to the west a little bit.

24 MEMBER GRINNELL: And where are your natural gas
25 lines going to be coming in?

1 MR. MCCLELLAN: They will come in from the north
2 side of the existing facility. And we have a stop pretty
3 near that location that I can point that out as well.

4 MEMBER GRINNELL: Thank you.

5 MEMBER GENTLES: What's the population of
6 Randolph?

7 MS. POST: 2- to 300. Exactly is not known.

8 MEMBER HAMWAY: How many parcels?

9 MR. MCCLELLAN: I'm not sure.

10 MR. ACKEN: We may have that information.

11 CHMN. KATZ: Let's make sure we do one at a
12 time.

13 MR. ACKEN: We may be able to answer those
14 questions with the next panel, parcels and number of
15 folks that live there.

16 CHMN. KATZ: Any other questions?

17 (No response.)

18 CHMN. KATZ: I guess we can go to our next stop,
19 unless you just want to view the site for a few more
20 moments.

21 MR. MCCLELLAN: The one other thing I want to
22 point out from this vantage point, and we'll see it
23 better on the next stops, is you can see the tanks to the
24 north and a little bit to the northwest. That's the
25 Western Emulsions facility.

1 MEMBER GENTLES: Mr. Chairman, we also had a
2 question. Who owns the land right here?

3 CHMN. KATZ: He already told us, but go ahead.

4 MEMBER GENTLES: I didn't hear that.

5 MR. MCCLELLAN: Pinal Land Holdings. And then
6 also, Member Gentles, I found out yesterday that the
7 property you asked about yesterday that's just to the
8 north of the existing facility is the same. It's Pinal
9 Land Holdings as well.

10 MEMBER GENTLES: Okay. Thank you.

11 CHMN. KATZ: Are we set? Okay. We'll go off
12 the record.

13 (TIME NOTED: 10:08 a.m.)

14 (Conclusion of Stop No. 1.)

15

16 (TIME NOTED: 10:18 a.m.)

17 (Arrival at Stop No. 2.)

18 CHMN. KATZ: It is approximately 10:20. We're
19 at Stop 2 of the Coolidge Generating Station.

20 I'll have whoever's going to take the lead give
21 us a little orientation. If there are any questions, one
22 at a time, we'll take those.

23 MR. ACKEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

24 Mr. McClellan, we're now at Stop 2. Please
25 describe for the Committee and the public and the

1 intervenors what would be seen from this vantage point.

2 MR. MCCLELLAN: So at this stop, we're on the
3 north side of the Coolidge Generating Station, and we're
4 just north of the existing evaporation ponds.

5 So you can see to the south of where we're
6 standing, those are the two existing evaporation ponds,
7 and you can see the white material. That's the liner
8 that we talked about yesterday.

9 And I'll focus on the existing Coolidge station
10 for a second, and then I'll talk about some of the areas
11 kind of surrounding.

12 Just to the south of those existing evaporation
13 ponds, kind of to the southwest from us, you can see the
14 existing Randolph 230kV switchyard. And that's where the
15 existing plant ties into the existing 230kV transmission
16 lines that are on the west side of the site.

17 Moving back to the east now, to the east of the
18 existing evaporation ponds. Look to the east to the
19 equipment that's kind of to the north side of the
20 property. That is the fuel gas receiving area. I
21 believe someone asked a question about where we tie into
22 the natural gas pipelines, and that's this equipment just
23 to the east of the evaporation ponds on the north side by
24 the perimeter fence. We tie into both the TransWestern
25 natural gas pipeline and the El Paso natural gas pipeline

1 at that location.

2 Further to the east, past the fuel gas receiving
3 yard and past some of the auxiliary equipment, you can
4 see the existing combustion turbines equipment. Those
5 are the 12 combustion turbine generators for the existing
6 Coolidge Generating Station.

7 It's a little hard to see. Hopefully, from the
8 next stop, we can see the generator step-up transformers
9 that take us from 13.8 kilovolts for the existing station
10 to 230kV. So hopefully, I can point that out at the next
11 stop.

12 As we were driving in, heading to the west, just
13 to the south and further east from this point, you could
14 see the buildings. That was the admin and warehousing
15 building as well.

16 As we were heading north on Vail Road, which is
17 to the east side of the existing Coolidge Generating
18 Station, if you were to look to the west in that open
19 area, again, that's the location for the proposed two new
20 evaporation ponds.

21 MEMBER GRINNELL: Can you redefine or reexplain
22 the purpose of your ponds.

23 MR. MCCLELLAN: So the Coolidge facility is what
24 we call a zero liquid discharge facility. So any
25 processed wastewater that we have doesn't leave site.

1 It's all collected in these two ponds, and then it
2 eventually evaporates. So it's really just to receive
3 any plant wastewater.

4 MR. ACKEN: And describe the stream. How is
5 that wastewater created?

6 MR. MCCLELLAN: So the wastewater is really just
7 a byproduct of our water treatment process. So when we
8 bring the raw water in, we have to do some water
9 treatment processes on that to be able to use it for our
10 various systems in the plant. So we really don't add any
11 chemicals or anything to that water. But as part of the
12 water treatment process, it concentrates any constituents
13 that are already in the water coming in. Really what we
14 end up with is the wastewater. So there's really no
15 additional chemicals added throughout the process, any
16 processes, within the plant.

17 MEMBER GRINNELL: Do you use water for cooling
18 of the facility at someplace along the line?

19 MR. MCCLELLAN: We don't have a cooling system
20 like you might see at a combined cycle. The three
21 primary uses for water at the Coolidge site are for NOx
22 control. So we have what's called water injection on the
23 combustion turbines to reduce NOx emissions or nitrogen
24 oxides. There's also a SPRINT power augmentation system
25 that allows us to get a little bit more power out of the

1 combustion turbines. And then we also have what's called
2 an evaporative cooling system on the combustion turbines.
3 That allows us to regain a little bit of efficiency
4 that's lost when it's really hot out. And that's really
5 like a swamp cooler that you would actually just see on a
6 house that cools down the incoming combustion air.

7 MEMBER GRINNELL: So the power in El Paso has
8 recently had a rate increase, very significant, to
9 Arizona, which will impact the CAP and other users. Are
10 you going to be affected by that?

11 MR. MCCLELLAN: I'm not familiar with that. I
12 can't speak to that.

13 MEMBER GRINNELL: I'll send you the info.

14 MR. MCCLELLAN: Okay.

15 MEMBER GRINNELL: It's rather significant.

16 MR. MCCLELLAN: And then just to turn everyone's
17 attention to the north of where we're standing, I pointed
18 this out at the last stop. That's the Western Emulsions
19 facility.

20 And then closer to us in the foreground, the
21 land that's in agriculture, again, that's land owned by
22 Pinal Land Holdings.

23 The bus is kind of in the way, but to kind of
24 the northwest of us, that's Stinger Bridge & Iron. And
25 then that facility really extends almost to the southern

1 boundary of the plant. You can see all the way to the
2 southwest, that's really all Stinger Bridge & Iron over
3 there.

4 And then I think the last thing I want to point
5 out is we can see the transmission infrastructure that's
6 located to the west of us, and that is, again, the 500kV
7 transmission line. And then on the other side is the
8 230kV circuit. And then also located over there, of
9 course, is the railroad in that corridor.

10 MEMBER GENTLES: Could you just tell us when the
11 water evaporates, what gets emitted into the air as a
12 result of that?

13 MR. MCCLELLAN: There are no emissions into the
14 air.

15 MEMBER GENTLES: And then the white lining is to
16 prevent the water from seeping into the ground, right?

17 MR. MCCLELLAN: That's correct. And it's a
18 double-liner system. So if there were to be a breach in
19 the primary liner, which is the one you can see here, it
20 actually goes down to that secondary liner and then flows
21 into a leakage collection system.

22 I don't know if we can see it from here.
23 There's a well that that water flows into, and then our
24 operators can check on that on a daily basis. If they do
25 find water in it, we can take action to then fix that

1 leak in the line.

2 MEMBER GENTLES: So can this water be reused for
3 something else?

4 MR. MCCLELLAN: This water is not really of the
5 quality that can be used for something like, say,
6 agricultural use. It's a little bit too high in total
7 dissolved solids, so you really wouldn't want to use it
8 for something like that.

9 MEMBER PALMER: So would this be akin to -- I
10 have an RO system under my kitchen sink. When it's
11 running, a certain amount of that water runs down the
12 drain.

13 MR. MCCLELLAN: It's the exact same system, just
14 a larger scale. So most of the water that is collected
15 in these ponds is from what we call reverse osmosis or RO
16 reject water. And it's almost identical to the system
17 you're talking about in your home.

18 MS. POST: Question: Do we have any idea who
19 the principals are in this Pinal Land Holdings that owns
20 this property?

21 MR. MCCLELLAN: I believe Matthew McCormick is
22 one of the principals, but I don't know all of them.

23 MEMBER GRINNELL: Have they made any comments
24 regarding this?

25 MR. MCCLELLAN: Nothing on the record that I'm

1 aware of. We have talked with both -- or with Matt
2 McCormick.

3 MR. ACKEN: And we will be prepared to address
4 that on our next panel.

5 MEMBER GENTLES: So they own the land, this land
6 here, and the land just south?

7 MR. MCCLELLAN: Yes.

8 MEMBER GENTLES: So they're a pretty important
9 constituency.

10 MR. MCCLELLAN: They own the lands around the
11 facility, yes.

12 MR. STAFFORD: Did they sell SRP the land for
13 the new site?

14 MR. MCCLELLAN: No. The land for the new site
15 was actually owned by TransCanada. When we purchased the
16 facility in 2019, that came along with that purchase.
17 They're both roughly 100 acres. The parcel that the
18 existing Coolidge Generating Station is located on and
19 then the proposed site for the expansion, they're both
20 roughly 100 acres.

21 CHMN. KATZ: Any other concerns or questions
22 that you want to direct?

23 (No response.)

24 CHMN. KATZ: I think we're set, then, to go to
25 our next stop.

1 MR. MCCLELLAN: Thank you.

2 (TIME NOTED: 10:29 a.m.)

3 (Conclusion of Stop No. 2.)

4

5 (TIME NOTED: 10:40 a.m.)

6 (Arrival at Stop No. 3.)

7 CHMN. KATZ: We're now at Stop No. 3, south of
8 the Coolidge Generating Station. And we can now get
9 oriented. And if there are any questions after that,
10 feel free to ask.

11 MR. ACKEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

12 Mr. McClellan, we are at Stop 3, as the Chairman
13 indicated. Please describe for the Committee, the
14 intervenors, and the public what can be seen from this
15 vantage point.

16 MR. MCCLELLAN: So we're currently south of the
17 existing Coolidge Generating Station and, more
18 specifically, south of those combustion turbine
19 generators.

20 I'll just point out quickly, if we look to the
21 north, this is kind of an example of what I talked about
22 with the two-on-one configuration, so you can see the two
23 exhaust stacks. Those are connected to a single
24 generator step-up transformer which you can see that's
25 directly in the middle of those two combustion turbine

1 frames that are just to the north of us. And then those
2 are connected over to the existing Randolph Switchyard
3 that's on the west side of the facility.

4 To the east of the combustion turbine generating
5 equipment is the water treatment building.

6 And then, in addition, if we look further to the
7 east, kind of from where we're standing to the northeast,
8 again, that's the location for the two new proposed
9 evaporation ponds.

10 Now I would like to turn everybody's attention
11 now to the south of where we're standing.

12 So looking to the south, we have staked out the
13 corners of the proposed new 16 combustion turbine
14 generators. Looking to the southeast, you can see this
15 white PVC stake. That would be the northwest corner of
16 the proposed new 16 combustion turbine generators.

17 And if you look to the west, kind of directly to
18 the west, you can see the white -- I'm sorry, to the
19 east. To the east, you can kind of see the orange flags
20 on that too.

21 And then looking further to the south, and it's
22 really hard to see, you can see another stake directly to
23 the south that marks the corners.

24 MEMBER GRINNELL: Areawise, in comparison to
25 what you have here, how much bigger is this facility

1 going to be, these towers?

2 MR. MCCLELLAN: So it would be four additional
3 combustion turbines, so you could kind of take these two
4 and then --

5 MEMBER GRINNELL: So that's the equivalent area
6 that you would be consuming with these?

7 MR. MCCLELLAN: Roughly.

8 Now, I will say that the transmission
9 infrastructure is a little bit larger because it's 500kV,
10 so there are some additional spacing requirements there
11 that will cause it to be a little bit bigger.

12 MS. POLLIO: Can you explain again where the
13 generators are versus the substation.

14 MR. MCCLELLAN: Yes. So I pointed out to the
15 east or to the southeast from where we're standing is
16 where the generators are located.

17 MEMBER PALMER: Is that the northwest corner of
18 generators?

19 MR. MCCLELLAN: That post that's closest to us,
20 yes.

21 We talked about yesterday the distance from the
22 community of Randolph. On the east side of the community
23 of Randolph, I pointed out a street called Fifth Avenue.
24 The distance from that location to the new generating
25 equipment was roughly 2,800 feet. To the existing

1 generating equipment, it was about I think I said 2,200
2 feet or 2,300 feet, somewhere in that ballpark.

3 Looking back to the west, you can also see the
4 stakes for the corners of the proposed new 500kV
5 switchyard. You may have to move around a little bit.
6 Some of the vehicles are in the way, so I hope you can
7 see those. Again, those are the four corners of where
8 that proposed 500kV switchyard would be.

9 Looking back to the west, to orient everybody
10 again, you can see the transmission infrastructure.
11 That's the 500 and 230kV transmission lines. Also
12 located near that transmission infrastructure is the
13 railroad.

14 CHMN. KATZ: Does anybody have any comments or
15 questions you would like to ask, express?

16 (No response.)

17 CHMN. KATZ: Hearing silence, we can go in a
18 minute. I might just want to take a picture.

19 (TIME NOTED: 10:45 a.m.)

20 (Conclusion of Stop No. 3.)

21

22 (TIME NOTED: 10:51 a.m.)

23 (Arrival at Stop No. 4.)

24 CHMN. KATZ: We are at Stop No. 4 on our tour.

25 This is the North Vail Road southeast of the Coolidge

1 Generating Station. And we'll be looking both south and
2 to the west.

3 MR. ACKEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

4 Mr. McClellan, please describe what we can see
5 from this vantage point.

6 MR. MCCLELLAN: So just to orient everybody
7 again, we're at the northeast corner of the site for the
8 proposed Coolidge Expansion Project.

9 And before I point out some of the elements, I
10 did want to highlight from our last stop that there are
11 no units running this morning, so just so everybody knows
12 that.

13 From this location, looking to the west and then
14 really to the -- I guess it would be to the north and
15 then to the west, again, I just wanted to point out
16 that's the proposed location for the new evaporation
17 ponds.

18 Turning your attention back looking to the west
19 again, we can see a little bit better the marker for the
20 corner of the proposed new 16 combustion turbines. That
21 would be the northeast corner of that proposed equipment.

22 And then if you look to the south, you can see
23 the other marker that would mark the southeast corner of
24 that proposed generating equipment.

25 MEMBER GRINNELL: Do you have to put another

1 water treatment facility in as well?

2 MR. MCCLELLAN: We will have to provide some
3 upgrades or do some upgrades to the existing water
4 treatment. So we don't anticipate a whole new water
5 treatment area. I would anticipate a few additional
6 tanks, maybe an expansion of the existing water treatment
7 building.

8 MEMBER GRINNELL: So your lines would run from
9 this side underground to that?

10 MR. MCCLELLAN: Yeah. We would run the water
11 lines underground to get back to the water treatment
12 plant.

13 MEMBER GRINNELL: And then from there, they go
14 to the ponds?

15 MR. MCCLELLAN: Yes.

16 I guess the last thing I'll point out here is if
17 I look to the south from our location, you can see that's
18 a storage yard for some farm implements.

19 To the south of that is the residence that we
20 pointed out yesterday on the virtual tour. And, again,
21 that was roughly 1,000 feet over to the actual generating
22 equipment, the 16 new combustion turbines.

23 MEMBER GENTLES: That pole out there, is that
24 the southern border of the generating station?

25 MR. MCCLELLAN: That would be the southeastern

1 border of the new generating equipment. Or corner, not
2 border, sorry.

3 And then, of course, if we look further to the
4 west of the site, it's a little tough to see now, but
5 those are where the markers are for the proposed new
6 500kV switchyard.

7 MEMBER RIGGINS: Are these the two -- these two
8 wells here north of where we're standing, are these the
9 wells that supply groundwater to the plant currently?

10 MR. MCCLELLAN: Yes.

11 MEMBER RIGGINS: Are these going to be -- you
12 said it was going to switch probably?

13 MR. MCCLELLAN: We'll continue to physically get
14 the groundwater from these wells. Of course, we'll be
15 offsetting that with long-term storage credits.

16 MR. JORDAN: I'm Ron Jordan.

17 Basically, the property lines that you have is
18 the brown area that's been cultivated. That's the end of
19 Salt River Project's property?

20 MR. MCCLELLAN: It's a little beyond that. If I
21 can see -- it's actually pretty hard to see. There's
22 actually a notice sign that's on the far west side. It's
23 the southern property boundary. And if we can step this
24 way, you can see a flag down there that's the southern
25 property boundary that is just against or right up by

1 Vail Road. So it's a little beyond that southern border
2 for the combustion turbine equipment.

3 MR. ACKEN: Can you give a rough estimate as to
4 the distance?

5 MR. MCCLELLAN: Maybe a couple hundred feet to
6 the south would be where the property line is.

7 MEMBER GENTLES: Is that one of the notice signs
8 there along the roadway? It looks like the east. What
9 road is this?

10 MR. MCCLELLAN: This is Vail Road to the east.
11 And I believe, Member Gentles, the notice sign is down on
12 the east side of that fence down there. There's one kind
13 of close to that marker with the orange flag that you can
14 see.

15 MEMBER GENTLES: Okay. Thank you.

16 CHMN. KATZ: Anything further?

17 (No response.)

18 CHMN. KATZ: Okay. I guess we're ready to move
19 on to our last stop.

20 (TIME NOTED: 10:56 a.m.)

21 (Conclusion of Stop No. 4.)

22

23 (TIME NOTED: 11:07 a.m.)

24 (Arrival at Stop No. 5.)

25 CHMN. KATZ: This is the final stop on our tour.

1 We're at the Randolph community west of the Coolidge
2 Generating Station.

3 MR. ACKEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

4 Mr. McClellan, this is Stop 5 on the tour
5 protocol. Please describe for the Committee, the
6 intervenors, and the assembled public what can be seen
7 from this vantage point.

8 MR. MCCLELLAN: So right now we're at the
9 intersection of Malcolm X Street and Kennedy Street. As
10 we drove in along Randolph Road, you can see to the south
11 of Randolph at the intersections of Randolph Road and
12 Arizona Boulevard. In the northwest corner was Stinger
13 Bridge & iron. And then as we headed south on Arizona
14 Boulevard, of course south of Stinger is where the
15 Randolph community is located.

16 Turning your attention back to the east, pretty
17 much directly to the east is where the proposed Coolidge
18 Expansion Project would be located. So you would have
19 the 500kV switchyard and then, of course, to the east of
20 that, you would have the generating area, so the proposed
21 location for the 16 new combustion turbine generators.

22 We talked about yesterday that from Fifth
23 Avenue, which I believe is the next street to the east
24 from where we're standing, it's about 2,800 feet to that
25 new generating equipment. Also from Fifth Avenue, around

1 2,000 feet to the existing generating equipment.

2 And then the other thing I will note is to the
3 west of the Coolidge Generating Station, to the east of
4 us, you can see the existing transmission infrastructure,
5 which has the 500kV and the 230kV transmission lines.
6 And in that same corridor is the railroad.

7 MEMBER GRINNELL: So everything's east of the
8 railroad; is that correct?

9 MR. MCCLELLAN: Yes, sir.

10 MEMBER GRINNELL: Is that another 2,000 feet
11 east, roughly, from the railroad?

12 MR. MCCLELLAN: Yeah. So I would estimate that
13 the corridor, the transmission and railroad corridor, is
14 approximately 3- to 400 feet wide. So that you have -- I
15 don't know, how does that work out, another 2,000-plus
16 feet over to the generating equipment from the property
17 line, something like that.

18 CHMN. KATZ: And you have 500kV lines, but
19 they're not currently servicing this plant, correct?

20 MR. MCCLELLAN: That's correct.

21 Also, I can point out I mentioned yesterday that
22 the 230kV transmission lines are on the west side of the
23 pole, and then the 500kV transmission lines are on the
24 east side of the pole. So you can see where we've tied
25 into the existing Randolph Switchyard. We have a shorter

1 pole that goes underneath. It will be a little easier
2 tie-in because the 500kV transmission lines are on the
3 east side. We'll set the two new poles, the proposed two
4 new poles, to the east, and then you can turn the
5 circuits into the 500kV switchyard to the east.

6 CHMN. KATZ: Any questions from our attorneys or
7 our Committee Members?

8 MR. JORDAN: I have a question. In the meeting
9 the other day, it was mentioned that -- someone asked the
10 question: Are there any other facilities similar to this
11 that use natural gas to generate power in the area? And
12 I think somebody said Gilbert. And then it's natural
13 gas-fed to generate; is that correct?

14 MR. MCCLELLAN: If you're referring to the
15 Santan Generating Station, that is located in Gilbert,
16 Arizona, and that is natural gas.

17 I believe one of the things we mentioned about
18 the Santan Generating Station in Gilbert was that the
19 nearest residence to the generating equipment was about
20 500 feet.

21 MR. JORDAN: So 500 feet. That's a lot closer
22 than where we are right now.

23 MR. MCCLELLAN: That is correct, yes.

24 MR. JORDAN: I just wanted to clear that up.

25 CHMN. KATZ: Anybody else have any comments

1 you'd like to make?

2 MR. BAUER: I have a comment.

3 CHMN. KATZ: You've just got to let us know your
4 name.

5 MR. BAUER: My name is Nicholas Bauer. I'm a
6 resident on Kleck Road over here in Randolph. I moved
7 here less than a year ago.

8 And just in terms of total output from this
9 power station, I believe during its construction, it may
10 be the fifth largest in the state. I believe at the time
11 of its commissioning, it's the third largest in terms of
12 fossil fuel generation station in the state of Arizona.
13 And at the decommission timing of Springerville, I think
14 around 2027, this will be the second largest fossil fuel
15 power station in Arizona. Is that true in terms of
16 capacity total megawatt output?

17 MR. MCCLELLAN: I don't know the answer to that.
18 I can say that the Springerville Generating Station is
19 still operating.

20 MR. BAUER: Thank you.

21 I just have concern of the large size of this
22 generation station close to this community.

23 CHMN. KATZ: Thank you very much.

24 MR. ACKEN: And we were just talking about
25 Santan. What is the output of Santan by comparison?

1 MR. MCCLELLAN: I believe it's around 1,500
2 megawatts.

3 CHMN. KATZ: And this facility currently is
4 putting out how much?

5 MR. MCCLELLAN: Currently, about 620, the
6 existing; and then we would add about 820 nameplate
7 capacity. So roughly the same size.

8 CHMN. KATZ: Yes, sir.

9 MR. JORDAN: I have one other question.

10 Mr. Miller, he's the Coolidge City manager. And
11 when they built this transmission line in, he stated
12 there wasn't very much opposition from the communities
13 and what have you. I was going to testify to part of
14 that tomorrow.

15 But when this line was built in, I don't
16 understand why you have 500kV capacity on the east side,
17 230 on the west. The 500kV is not in use. The old
18 saying here is that when this was allowed to come in for
19 SRP to the Canadian facility, it was kind of a prejudged
20 thing that there's something else coming later.

21 When this facility was built, just in our
22 conversations here, we had anticipated something was
23 going to transpire, something was going to happen, to
24 expand, and we were correct. Because I couldn't ever
25 figure out, why would you have a 500kV up there and it's

1 not in operation. You just have the 230.

2 And then not only that. We just kind of
3 wondered -- we know there's growth and what have you.
4 But the lines, when they are in here, on a moist day or
5 whatever, you get a lot of that static noise. It's
6 pretty loud. It's like a clacking, da, da, da, da, da,
7 da, da, da. I'm sure you know that I'm speaking about.

8 But according to Mr. Miller, the people didn't
9 object to this, but we did. It may not be on record the
10 way the things were handled. It's kind of like those
11 little flyers that was sent out for the meeting at Eleven
12 Mile Corner and what have you. Well, these people didn't
13 get those flyers. And besides that, they wasn't going
14 over to Eleven Mile Corner for the meeting anyway.

15 MR. ACKEN: Mr. Jordan, I don't want to -- I
16 guess I am interrupting. You'll be a witness, and so
17 you'll have the opportunity to present this testimony
18 under oath.

19 Mr. Chairman, if you want to take public comment
20 in addition to testimony, that's fine, but I would prefer
21 that to be under oath.

22 CHMN. KATZ: Anybody that's going to be giving
23 testimony, we would prefer that it be under oath.

24 MR. ACKEN: And you will have that opportunity.
25 I'm not trying to suggest that you don't have the

1 opportunity to speak. I just think since you are a
2 witness, I just want to make sure that it's done with you
3 under oath and with an opportunity before the Committee.

4 I did want Mr. McClellan to address one comment
5 you made regarding the current use of the 500kV. If I
6 understood correctly, it's your understanding that it's
7 not currently in use. And, Mr. McClellan, if you could
8 speak to that.

9 MR. MCCLELLAN: It is currently in use.

10 MR. JORDAN: Oh, it is.

11 MR. MCCLELLAN: It connects the Pinal Central
12 Station to the south to the Browning Station to the
13 north.

14 MR. JORDAN: Okay. I have nothing else.

15 CHMN. KATZ: Anything further?

16 MR. MCCLELLAN: Nothing further for me, Chairman
17 Katz. Thank you.

18 CHMN. KATZ: Thank you all for being here. We
19 look forward to any that might be testifying as well.

20 I believe that everybody's in agreement, because
21 that's what we announced, that we'll get started today at
22 1:30. And I don't have anything else on the record.

23 Thank you all.

24 (TIME NOTED: 11:18 a.m.)

25 (Conclusion of Stop No. 5.)

1 (The tour concluded at 11:55 a.m.)

2 (The hearing resumed at 1:31 p.m.)

3 CHMN. KATZ: Let's go on the record. Rick
4 Grinnell took the tour with us today and should be in
5 this room shortly. I think we are ready to go. We have
6 Zach Branum and Toby Little appearing virtually.

7 I think the best thing to do would be to just
8 introduce the four or five folks that might be
9 testifying, and then we can administer an oath or
10 affirmation or both, depending on their personal choice.

11 MR. ACKEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For our
12 third panel, SRP calls five witnesses.

13 Christina Hallows, you see her on the screen, is
14 appearing remotely. Anne Rickard, Kristin Watt, Kenda
15 Pollio, and Devin Petry.

16 MR. PETRY: Mr. Chairman, we had discussed that
17 an affirmation would be appropriate.

18 CHMN. KATZ: I'll ask the five witnesses to
19 stand.

20 (Christina Hallows, Anne Rickard, Kristin Watt,
21 Kenda Pollio, and Devin Petry were affirmed, en masse, by
22 the Chairman.)

23 MR. ACKEN: Mr. Chairman, there will be a little
24 hopping, but I hope it's manageable. This is a panel
25 that is going to cover public outreach, environmental

1 compatibility, and SRP's commitment. So there is a lot
2 of overlap between the witnesses.

3 I'm going to start off setting foundation for
4 each of them, starting with Ms. Hallows.

5
6 CHRISTINA HALLOWS, ANNE RICKARD, KRISTIN WATT, KENDA
7 POLLIO, AND DEVIN PETRY,
8 called as witnesses as a panel on behalf of Applicant,
9 having been previously affirmed by the Chairman to speak
10 the truth and nothing but the truth, were examined and
11 testified as follows:

12

13 DIRECT EXAMINATION

14 BY MR. ACKEN:

15 Q. State your name and business address for the
16 record.

17 A. (Ms. Hallows) Christina Hallows. 1500 North
18 Mill Avenue, Tempe, Arizona 85281.

19 Q. And by whom are you employed and in what
20 capacity?

21 A. (Ms. Hallows) The Salt River Project. And I am
22 the manager of public involvement.

23 Q. And please provide a summary of your educational
24 background and work experience.

25 A. (Ms. Hallows) Sure. I have a bachelor's degree

1 in business. I've been with SRP for 17 years, and six of
2 those have been in public involvement working on a
3 variety of distribution, transmission, and siting jobs.
4 I work closely with Samantha Horgan, who the Committee
5 might remember from our last CEC hearing, the High-Tech
6 Interconnect Project.

7 Q. And describe your role in this project.

8 A. (Ms. Hallows) Sure. I work with our
9 consultant, SWCA, to conduct the public outreach, which
10 was to inform the public about the project, field
11 questions, and make sure that the public knew how to
12 participate in the process.

13 Q. And what topics will you cover in your testimony
14 today?

15 A. (Ms. Hallows) I'm going to discuss the public
16 outreach that was done for the CEC process and also how
17 we met the statutory requirements.

18 Q. Thank you.

19 Turning to Ms. Rickard.

20 Please state your name and business address for
21 the record.

22 A. (Ms. Rickard) Anne Rickard. 1500 North Mill
23 Avenue, Tempe, 85281.

24 Q. And by whom are you employed and in what
25 capacity?

1 A. (Ms. Rickard) I'm employed by the Salt River
2 Project as director of community partnerships.

3 Q. And please summarize your educational and work
4 experience.

5 A. (Ms. Rickard) I have a Bachelor of Science from
6 Northern Arizona University in journalism, and I've been
7 at SRP for 20- -- almost 24 years. The first half of
8 that was in advertising and brand management; the second
9 half in event marketing, corporate sponsorships, and most
10 recently as director of community partnerships.

11 Q. And describe your role in this project.

12 A. (Ms. Rickard) So my role was to provide an
13 overview of SRP's commitment to stewardship in all of
14 Arizona, both in our service territory and in areas where
15 we have presence.

16 Q. And what topics will you cover in your
17 testimony?

18 A. (Ms. Rickard) So I'll be talking about insights
19 that we've learned of how that impact and that support
20 can be extended to the residents of Randolph.

21 MEMBER GENTLES: Can she repeat that last --

22 CHMN. KATZ: Would you repeat your last answer,
23 please.

24 MS. RICKARD: Yes. I'll be providing insights
25 to how our support can be extended to the residents of

1 Randolph to further our commitment to those residents.

2 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: And, Ms. Rickard, you may want to
3 move the microphone to the other side so that when you
4 speak to the Committee -- maybe that will help.

5 A. (Ms. Rickard) Does that sound better?

6 Q. Next turning to Mr. Petry. Please state your
7 name and business address.

8 A. (Mr. Petry) My time is Devin Petry, and my
9 business address is 20 East Thomas Road, Suite 1700.
10 That's Phoenix, Arizona 85012.

11 Q. And by whom are you employed and in what
12 capacity?

13 A. (Mr. Petry) I'm employed by SWCA Environmental
14 Consultants as a senior project manager. SWCA is an
15 environmental consulting firm based here in Phoenix,
16 Arizona, which provides environmental planning,
17 permitting, regulatory compliance, natural and cultural
18 resources management, and other environmental services
19 here in Arizona and across the United States.

20 Q. Please summarize your educational background and
21 work experience.

22 A. (Mr. Petry) Sure. I earned a Bachelor of Arts
23 degree in geography from the University of Arizona.
24 Again, I'm a senior project manager at SWCA and have 14
25 years of experience in environmental planning, facility

1 siting studies, and permitting. I have previously
2 testified before this Committee on five occasions.

3 Q. And what has been your role in the Coolidge
4 Expansion Project?

5 A. (Mr. Petry) Well, as the SWCA project manager,
6 I oversaw the development of the CEC application
7 submitted on behalf of this project and assisted with the
8 public involvement efforts completed for the project as
9 well.

10 Q. And what topics will you cover in your
11 testimony?

12 A. (Mr. Petry) The purpose of my testimony is to
13 provide the Siting Committee with information on the
14 environmental studies completed for the project, which
15 include existing and planned land uses; environmental
16 studies, including water resources, biological resources;
17 scenic areas; historic sites and structures and
18 archeological sites; recreation purposes and aspects; the
19 anticipated noise and interference. And I will also
20 provide my opinion, based on these findings, regarding
21 the overall environmental compatibility of the site.

22 Q. Next, Ms. Watt.

23 Please state your name and business address for
24 the record.

25 A. (Ms. Watt) My name is Kristin Watt. My

COASH & COASH, INC.
www.coashandcoash.com

602-258-1440
Phoenix, AZ

1 business address is 1500 North Mill, Tempe, Arizona
2 85281.

3 Q. And by whom are you employed and in what
4 capacity?

5 A. (Ms. Watt) I'm employed by Salt River Project,
6 and I'm currently the manager of air quality services.

7 Q. Please summarize your educational background and
8 work experience.

9 A. (Ms. Watt) I have a Bachelor of Science degree
10 in meteorology and a Master of Science degree in
11 environmental management, both from Arizona State
12 University. I have 18 years of experience, air quality
13 experience. 13 of those have been at SRP.

14 Q. And what has been your role in this project?

15 A. (Ms. Watt) I'm responsible for obtaining the
16 air permit for construction and operation of the units of
17 the Coolidge Expansion Project.

18 Q. And will you cover that -- discuss that in your
19 testimony today?

20 A. (Ms. Watt) Yes, I will.

21 CHMN. KATZ: And what's your title again, if I
22 might ask. I'm a slow writer.

23 MS. WATT: I'm the manager of air quality
24 services.

25 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: And the last member of our panel.

1 Ms. Pollio, please state your name and address
2 for the record.

3 A. (Ms. Pollio) Yes. My name is Kenda Pollio.
4 I'm a principal at KP Environmental with a business
5 address of 280 Melba, Encinitis, California 92024.

6 Q. And please provide a summary of your educational
7 background and work experience.

8 A. (Ms. Pollio) So I have a Bachelor of Science in
9 urban and regional planning from Florida State
10 University. I have a Master of Science in international
11 environmental policy from the University of South
12 Florida. I am an AICP, which is the American Institute
13 of Certified Planners.

14 I have 32 years of consulting experience. I
15 specialize in transmission lines, power plants, and
16 right-of-ways. I've worked on over 175 transmission line
17 and power plant projects. I've testified before this
18 Committee 18 times, and I've testified before other state
19 siting committees over 30 times.

20 Q. And what is your role in this project?

21 A. (Ms. Pollio) So I previously worked on the
22 original siting and public process for the Coolidge
23 Generating Station. I'm also a land use planner and
24 socioeconomist, so I was asked to do a community analysis
25 on the community of Randolph and discuss environmental

1 justice.

2 Q. And those are the topics you will cover here
3 today?

4 A. (Ms. Pollio) Yes.

5 Q. Thank you all.

6 We're going to start with Ms. Hallows in our
7 discussion of public outreach.

8 Ms. Hallows, let's start off by just providing
9 an overview of the public outreach process that you
10 conducted.

11 A. (Ms. Hallows) Sure. Is the audio good?

12 Q. Yes, it is.

13 A. (Ms. Hallows) So the work that we did for the
14 CEP included a project website, a project hotline number,
15 five mailings, nine weeks of social media ads, eight
16 printed newspaper ads, four online open houses, two
17 in-person open houses, door-to-door outreach in Randolph,
18 two Randolph community events, and other stakeholder
19 outreach.

20 I did want to draw your attention to the map on
21 the right-hand side. The circled area shown on that map
22 is what I will refer to as our notification area. And I
23 also wanted to point out that the different jurisdictions
24 that were included are shown on that map and color-coded.
25 So, for example, the green that you see is showing the

1 city of Coolidge.

2 Q. So on the list of project outreach efforts that
3 you had on Slide 137, I believe it was, let's start with
4 the mailers. Describe how you first informed the public
5 of the project.

6 A. (Ms. Hallows) Sure. So since this was an
7 existing site, what we did is we mirrored the
8 notification area of the original siting, which was a
9 7-mile radius. Again, on that map, that area shows that
10 7-mile notification area.

11 And our mailing list was made up of landowner
12 information and then also supplemented with marketing
13 data to help capture nonlandowners such as renters. So
14 this created approximately 7,400 addresses. And also on
15 the right-hand side, you can see an example of what one
16 of those mailers looked like.

17 Q. Thank you.

18 And next describe the project website and
19 hotline.

20 A. (Ms. Hallows) Sure. So the website and the
21 information line both became available as of August 24th.
22 So the hotline was a way that people could call in and
23 give --

24 Q. Hold on, Ms. Hallows. We're off on our slide
25 deck here. Give us a minute. This is the challenge of a

1 remote presentation. We should have Slides 141 and 142.

2 Thank you.

3 MS. RICKARD: I'm going to need some help.

4 MS. HALLOWS: Sorry. Let me remember what I
5 said. The hotline and the website were both available as
6 of August 24th.

7 The hot line was a way for people to call in
8 with comments and questions, and then the website was the
9 central hub for the most up-to-date information. So it
10 covered things like the need and benefit, elements of the
11 public process, such as the open house details. There
12 were FAQs. And then there was also a comment form. So
13 that was another way that the public could submit
14 comments or questions.

15 And I just wanted to point out that as of the
16 7th of February, we had over 2,700 unique visitors to
17 that website. And it was updated when new information
18 was available.

19 You can see a visual of what the website looked
20 like on the right-hand side.

21 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: In your initial summary, you
22 mentioned open houses. Let's start with the virtual open
23 house.

24 A. (Ms. Hallows) Sure. So the virtual open house
25 was really just comprised of two videos. And those

1 videos were available on demand as of September 30th.

2 And this included a need and benefit video and a

3 regulatory process video.

4 The Committee might remember similar videos that

5 we used for the High-Tech Interconnect Project.

6 Q. Next describe the in-person and live online open

7 houses.

8 A. (Ms. Hallows) So since we were working in the
9 middle of the pandemic, we started off by offering four
10 online options. So this was webinar format. We gave a
11 project presentation and then had time for Q and A at the
12 end.

13 But we really thought that it was important to
14 come up with a way to have a traditional open house while
15 still being able to keep COVID protocols in place. So we
16 were able to do that. We were able to offer two open
17 houses in outdoor locations with distancing and masks.
18 And that took place -- we had one in November and one in
19 December. And this was traditional format where you had
20 the different stations that the public could move through
21 and ask questions and also provide written comments.

22 Q. How did you use social media to inform the
23 public?

24 A. (Ms. Hallows) This was an exciting part. We
25 used social media to promote all of the open house

1 offerings and also the hearing details.

2 So each of these ads ran for approximately a
3 week each time with the exception of the hearing details.
4 We ran that for two weeks prior to this hearing. We were
5 able to use Facebook and Instagram, which offered English
6 and Spanish ads. And then we were also able to add in
7 the Nextdoor app in October.

8 On the right-hand side, you can see a visual of
9 what some of those ads looked like.

10 Q. I'm sorry, Ms. Hallows, did you already describe
11 the number of people that you were able to reach through
12 that outreach through the social media?

13 A. (Ms. Hallows) Oh, yes. Thank you so much.

14 Through that social media, we could identify
15 that we had over 1,100 clicks that drew people to our
16 project website via social media. It was actually
17 displayed over 187,000 times. And on average, a typical
18 user would have seen an ad 12 times.

19 Q. So as a result of the public outreach efforts
20 that you made, you received public comment. How would
21 you characterize those comments?

22 A. (Ms. Hallows) So we received project-related
23 questions, such as the current Coolidge Generating
24 Station, the location of the proposed expansion, whether
25 or not we needed to purchase existing land for that

1 expansion. We also received process-related questions,
2 such as who approves the project and how. There were
3 questions on the benefits and impacts to Randolph and
4 also questions and comments about air quality and
5 comments about having renewables instead of natural gas.

6 I also wanted to point out that a complete list
7 of comments was included in Exhibit J of our application
8 as well as in a supplemental filing.

9 Q. And the supplemental filing that you're
10 referring to has been marked for identification as SRP
11 No. 3; is that correct?

12 A. (Ms. Hallows) Yes.

13 Q. Actually, pardon me. SRP No. 3 is your open
14 house comment forms.

15 A. (Ms. Hallows) Yes.

16 Q. And then SRP-4 I believe is the summary you're
17 referring to.

18 CHMN. KATZ: Are you referring to your exhibit
19 numbers?

20 MR. ACKEN: Yes.

21 MEMBER GENTLES: Where do I find those?

22 MR. ACKEN: They should have been loaded onto
23 the tablets. We have a couple hard copies, but
24 primarily, we loaded them on the tablets.

25 MEMBER GENTLES: Okay. I'll look for them. We

1 have the experts coming over to assist.

2 While she's doing it, can I ask a quick
3 question?

4 MR. ACKEN: Sure.

5 MEMBER GENTLES: You said the public comments
6 and a summary of those public comments are in J-7?

7 MS. HALLOWS: Yes.

8 MEMBER GENTLES: So I see some entries that give
9 the detail of the comments. Most of it says "initial
10 project briefing." Do you have anything that shows the
11 response to these comments?

12 MR. ACKEN: Member Gentles, you are one question
13 ahead of me.

14 MEMBER GENTLES: Okay. I'll be quiet.

15 MR. ACKEN: If you do look at that exhibit, you
16 will see the comments that were not provided really
17 relate to briefings with local representatives and
18 landowners.

19 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: So, Ms. Hallows, I'd like you to
20 describe that next.

21 A. (Ms. Hallows) So the other briefings that we
22 provided were to City of Coolidge leadership, including
23 the mayor and the manager and the chamber, as well as
24 Pinal County leadership, including the manager and
25 supervisor.

1 And then we also provided briefings and kept in
2 regular contact with businesses and other large
3 landowners on the site, which is listed on the side on
4 the left.

5 MEMBER LITTLE: Mr. Chairman.

6 CHMN. KATZ: Yes.

7 MEMBER LITTLE: This is Ms. Little.

8 Maybe I missed it. Could you please summarize
9 how many people you had attend the open houses, both the
10 virtual and in-person ones.

11 MS. HALLOWS: Yes. The online open houses, we
12 had 18 attendees. The first in-person open house, which
13 was in November, we had nine. And the second in-person
14 open house in December, we had 24.

15 MEMBER LITTLE: Thank you.

16 MS. HALLOWS: Yes.

17 MEMBER GENTLES: Mr. Chair, where were those
18 open houses held?

19 MS. HALLOWS: The first one in November was at
20 the Pinal County Fairground s. And then the second one
21 in December was held in Coolidge at the Artisan Village.

22 MEMBER GENTLES: Those are each open houses in
23 person?

24 MS. HALLOWS: Correct.

25 Q. MR. ACKEN: Ms. Hallows, I'd like you to

1 describe next the feedback you received from your
2 outreach with the local representatives. And this is
3 also what's been marked for identification as SRP-3. It
4 includes public comments from the open house as well as
5 some is letters that were received and docketed before
6 the hearing.

7 A. (Ms. Hallows) Yes. We really heard overall
8 support. There was a lot of excitement over the tax
9 revenues. And just to remind you, those revenues would
10 benefit the city and county as well as Coolidge Unified
11 Schools and Central Arizona College.

12 I wanted to also point out on the right-hand
13 side two examples of letters of support. The letter from
14 the Coolidge Chamber of Commerce mentioned that the CEP
15 is a large and welcomed investment in the community.

16 And these letters that are shown on the
17 right-hand side and others were also filed in the docket.

18 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: So, Ms. Hallows, you have been
19 able to follow the hearing online; is that correct?

20 A. (Ms. Hallows) Yes.

21 Q. And so you would have heard public comment from
22 residents of Randolph and some of the discussion
23 regarding the community of Randolph; is that correct?

24 A. (Ms. Hallows) Yes.

25 Q. So did you conduct any specific outreach

1 specifically for the community of Randolph?

2 A. (Ms. Hallows) We did. And, really, our
3 approach was somewhat unique. This community doesn't
4 have formal leadership, so that would be the first person
5 that you would reach out to typically. So what happened
6 in this case was we were able to get a list of names from
7 the Pinal County Manager's Office people who were
8 described as the unofficial leaders of Randolph.

9 So what we did was we began reaching out in
10 August, introducing ourselves, giving a project overview,
11 and really learning about the best ways to engage with
12 the Randolph community.

13 So what we did next was we went door to door in
14 Randolph. And we did that to invite them to a community
15 event that we held. We held that community event on
16 Saturday, October 16th. And that was really a way to
17 introduce SRP to the community as well as the CEP
18 project. Being out in the community was also another
19 great way to have even more community contacts.

20 And I wanted to point out on the right-hand
21 side, you'll see the invitation that we provided. And
22 then to the right of that is a project snapshot that we
23 handed out. So it was just a quick view of the project
24 as well as the open house schedule so that the community
25 could participate if they wished.

1 MEMBER GENTLES: Mr. Chair.

2 CHMN. KATZ: Yes, please.

3 MEMBER GENTLES: This October 16th community
4 event, was that an official open house for the project?

5 MS. HALLOWS: It wasn't. It was really just a
6 community event for Randolph.

7 MEMBER GENTLES: Okay. So let me just stop you
8 there. So you held an unofficial community event in
9 Randolph to talk to them about the impact of the project
10 next door. But you didn't hold an official meeting to
11 get their input?

12 MS. HALLOWS: So the community event was an
13 introductory --

14 MEMBER GENTLES: I understand the community
15 event. I was talking about an official open house for
16 the citizens of Randolph. Was there one held?

17 MS. HALLOWS: I see. I understand your question
18 now. I apologize. There was not a Randolph-specific
19 open house. You are correct.

20 MEMBER GENTLES: And what was the rationale
21 behind that?

22 MS. HALLOWS: Randolph was also invited to the
23 two in-person open houses.

24 MEMBER GENTLES: No, I understand that. But
25 what was the rational behind not having an official

1 community open house in Randolph, seeing that they're the
2 most directly impacted community there.

3 MS. HALLOWS: I think that's why we decided to
4 have the community event, to have an open house just for
5 them as well.

6 MEMBER GENTLES: Okay. So they're the most
7 directly impacted community, but no official open house
8 was held to get their official input?

9 MS. HALLOWS: I guess I'm struggling with
10 "official input." Written comment? Is that what you're
11 asking?

12 MEMBER GENTLES: What happens at official open
13 houses?

14 MS. HALLOWS: There's the project manager.
15 There might be visuals.

16 MEMBER GENTLES: Do you get official input?

17 MS. HALLOWS: Communities can give input,
18 written comment, yeah.

19 MEMBER GENTLES: So you got official input at
20 the two other open houses, correct?

21 MS. HALLOWS: Written comments, yes, uh-huh.

22 MEMBER GENTLES: And so no official open house
23 for the community of Randolph?

24 MS. HALLOWS: That was all we did in Randolph,
25 you're right, as far as open houses.

1 MEMBER GENTLES: All right. Thank you.

2 CHMN. KATZ: And let me just ask you, how did
3 you give notice, and how many days' notice was that for
4 the residents?

5 MS. HALLOWS: Are you asking about for the
6 community event?

7 CHMN. KATZ: Yes, the community event.

8 MS. HALLOWS: The invitations were delivered
9 door to door on October 1st.

10 CHMN. KATZ: Thank you.

11 MS. HALLOWS: Uh-huh.

12 MEMBER GENTLES: So I'm just struggling to
13 understand the -- how the event in Randolph was handled
14 as an official -- or it sounds like to you, that was an
15 official action for the community for this project.

16 MS. HALLOWS: I think it was a supplemental
17 event, really, to the --

18 MEMBER GENTLES: So did you just forgot to
19 schedule that one, or you just didn't think it was
20 necessary to have an open house to directly impact the
21 community of Randolph?

22 MS. HALLOWS: Can you ask me that again.

23 MEMBER GENTLES: So the community of Randolph is
24 a directly impacted community. Would you agree?

25 MS. HALLOWS: Yes.

1 MEMBER GENTLES: Coolidge is directed impacted.

2 Would you agree?

3 MS. HALLOWS: Yes.

4 MEMBER GENTLES: Casa Grande is directly
5 impacted. Would you agree?

6 MS. HALLOWS: Yes.

7 MEMBER GENTLES: Two out of three had an open
8 house officially?

9 MS. HALLOWS: Yes.

10 MEMBER GENTLES: Thank you.

11 CHMN. KATZ: Go ahead, Counsel.

12 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: Let's take a step back. Where
13 was the first open house held?

14 A. (Ms. Hallows) The Pinal County Fairgrounds.

15 Q. And how far is that from the proposed site?

16 A. (Ms. Hallows) I do not know how far it was.
17 I've been to both, but I can't tell you what the distance
18 was.

19 Q. I may ask another member of the panel to provide
20 that information if they have it.

21 Why was that location selected?

22 A. (Ms. Hallows) We were looking for outdoor
23 locations that could allow for distancing to try to keep
24 COVID protocols in place. And that was a location that
25 had been used prior for other open houses. I believe

1 SWCA may have conducted open houses there. And it was a
2 good location for those reasons.

3 A. (Mr. Petry) If I may add, I think one of the
4 reasons for selecting the Pinal County Fairgrounds as the
5 location for the first open house was, again, because we
6 were in the middle of the pandemic, and we wanted enough
7 available space to provide for opportunity for
8 attendance, potentially great attendance, but still
9 allowing for that separation to be safe.

10 Once we realized that that had occurred and we
11 had completed that first step, that first outreach, and
12 provided that opportunity for community and public input,
13 we held another open house at a location in Coolidge,
14 again identifying a space that was adequate enough of a
15 size to allow for us in a secured fashion to provide
16 information to the public, seek that meaningful feedback,
17 and still do it in a safe way, understanding we were in
18 the midst of COVID.

19 In addition to those two opportunities for
20 input, as members of the Randolph community, as
21 Ms. Hallows indicated, SRP held additional opportunities
22 within the Randolph community specifically to better
23 understand any potential concerns or questions around the
24 project. And in those in-person opportunities within the
25 community of Randolph, any comments received would have

1 been part of the record just as any comments received
2 during those first two public open houses were added to
3 the record.

4 There was no official or unofficial recording of
5 comments, Member Gentles. It was really trying to get
6 into those communities and trying to understand what the
7 concerns and interests were and answering those questions
8 and recording it. Making sure that we took account of
9 that.

10 I think really within the community of Randolph
11 specifically, there wasn't a place for us to hold an
12 in-person open house as there was in Coolidge or Casa
13 Grande that would allow for that safe separation and
14 still allow for robust attendance, which was why it was a
15 more focused outreach in Randolph and didn't invite the
16 larger community at large or in that 7-mile radius for
17 that event. It was specifically for that community to
18 understand that community's needs and interests and
19 answering questions.

20 And with regard to the distance between the
21 Pinal County Fairgrounds and Randolph community, the site
22 itself, it's about 6 1/2 miles.

23 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: And so I'll pose this question to
24 both of you. And, Mr. Petry, you may have answered it,
25 but did the Randolph community event provide an

1 opportunity to solicit input from the community in the
2 same sense as an open house?

3 A. (Mr. Petry) Absolutely.

4 Q. And did you treat the comments received during
5 the Randolph community event in the same fashion as you
6 did the comments from the open house?

7 A. (Mr. Petry) Absolutely.

8 Q. And do you know whether members of the Randolph
9 community attended either of the open houses in addition
10 to the Randolph community event?

11 A. (Mr. Petry) I don't specifically.

12 A. (Ms. Hallows) I do. They did. Some did.

13 Q. Thank you.

14 So that's the open house.

15 Next I'd like you to talk about the tour.

16 A. (Ms. Hallows) So there was a second
17 opportunity, which was a tour of the existing Coolidge
18 site. It took place in January.

19 And then I also just wanted to point out that we
20 also kept in touch with some of those members of Randolph
21 that we were able to reach out to in the beginning to
22 make sure that they were aware of how to be involved in
23 the public process with each open house event and as well
24 as the hearing.

25 Q. So what is SRP doing now as a result of your

1 outreach with the Randolph community?

2 A. (Ms. Hallows) SRP is committed on working to
3 give back to the Randolph community just like SRP is
4 known for in other communities.

5 So throughout those discussions with community
6 members, we asked what they thought the community needed.
7 And this was really important. We wanted to engage and
8 listen before taking any action. We did quickly learn
9 that being able to contribute to an unincorporated
10 community with no formal leadership is a little bit of a
11 challenge, so that stuff might take a little bit of time.
12 However, we are committed to maintaining a long-term
13 partnership with Randolph.

14 I wanted to point out something that worked well
15 for us in the past is creating a community working group.
16 And we really think that that could work well here too.

17 You will hear from Ms. Rickard soon about SRP's
18 legacy of giving back and how that really does fit nicely
19 with our relationship with the Randolph community.

20 MEMBER GRINNELL: Mr. Chairman.

21 CHMN. KATZ: Yes.

22 MEMBER GRINNELL: How many people attended the
23 specific Randolph community events? I guess there's two
24 of them.

25 MS. HALLOWS: 36 attended the October 16th

1 community event.

2 MEMBER GRINNELL: And then there's the January
3 15th Coolidge plant tour and lunch. How many attendees
4 for that.

5 MS. HALLOWS: We only had two attendees for the
6 January offering.

7 MEMBER GRINNELL: How many residents of Randolph
8 are there?

9 MS. HALLOWS: I believe -- and Devin or anybody
10 else jump in. I think it is roughly a little over 100.

11 MR. PETRY: Yeah, our understanding is maybe
12 over 100, maybe approximately 150. We don't know with
13 certainty.

14 MEMBER GRINNELL: Thank you.

15 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: Thank you, Ms. Hallows.

16 Next I'm going to turn to Ms. Rickard, and I'd
17 like you to describe SRP's partners and your role in
18 that.

19 A. (Ms. Rickard) So, as I mentioned, SRP is a
20 long-time steward of corporate contribution giving to all
21 of Arizona. We provide crucial funding to vital
22 organizations across Arizona. And the reason we use
23 that, it's over 300 nonprofits. We need that accredited
24 recipient to be able to distribute funds correctly. So,
25 again, 300 nonprofits receive funding from us every year.

1 Doing that gives us the ability to contribute to
2 SRP's role to make Arizona a better place to live and
3 work. We have a proven and rich history in doing so in
4 both our service territories and in areas where we have
5 presence. Randolph would be such an area.

6 Through those contributions, through our
7 strategic partnerships and our in-depth engagement with
8 residents, we know we have impact to the residents,
9 businesses, community organizations. Like we talked
10 about at that Randolph community, I was there personally,
11 my team was there. This is where we get the active
12 engagement with the residents and meet them where their
13 needs are.

14 We also are very transparent with our giving,
15 with our presence, our impact, and our support. We
16 provide that budget to our board every year through a
17 strategic plan. We also give quarterly updates. In
18 tandem with that, we are constantly receiving feedback
19 from all of those nonprofits that I mentioned earlier.
20 It's a lot. We have a robust team that maintains that
21 relationship so that we can always pivot where necessary.
22 Again, they have their boots on the ground. They are the
23 ones knowing what the recipients of those funds need. We
24 can pivot where necessary.

25 We also are very active as the conduit to and

1 from our community with direct engagement with our
2 customers. It's a little face-to-virtual screen right
3 now because of the pandemic, but usually we are out at
4 about 700 events a year. We were on track for over that
5 right before the pandemic hit.

6 But what didn't stop during that time was our
7 giving. We were able to maintain that. We were able to
8 still maintain virtual presence where we could. You're
9 seeing that today. We were able to have more people
10 engage in this event and this hearing by way of virtual
11 means.

12 It doesn't stop with what our contributions look
13 like either. We have a robust employee base that is
14 actively involved in supporting all of these communities
15 we serve and where we have presence. That's evident in
16 our SRP volunteer base. Typically, we have over 50,000
17 hours of employee volunteer time to agencies across
18 Arizona.

19 Again, before the pandemic, we were probably
20 going to exceed that. We were over 27,000 hours just
21 between January and March, to give you a concept of how
22 much that is.

23 Our employee boosters campaign is another way to
24 see support for our communities. We reached over \$1.6
25 million of employees' own dollars that again go to

1 nonprofits across Arizona.

2 And our board service. We have 95 executives
3 who serve on various nonprofit boards that again gives
4 that real-time feedback of what those nonprofits are
5 needing and how can we help further.

6 Q. Given all the measures that SRP is engaged in,
7 how do you prioritize your efforts?

8 A. (Ms. Rickard) So those shift often, depending
9 on what the landscape is looking like. I'll get into
10 trends in a little bit. But, basically, what we are
11 doing is building on that solid foundation of SRP
12 community first legacy.

13 We also want to make sure we're continuing and
14 improving all ways in our engagement plans with our
15 service territory and where we have presence. Again,
16 we're always learning. As our territory continues to
17 expand, our areas of impact and presence continue to
18 expand. We move fluidly with that. That's always a
19 priority.

20 Measuring corporate giving impact is another
21 priority of ours. And it's not just ours. Our
22 nonprofits of seeing that too. They know with the
23 continuous spread, there's less dollars to go around.
24 They've got to provide that measure also. So we are
25 actively engaged in ensuring that the dollars we give are

1 being put to use in a meaningful way.

2 Also providing a methodical, customized, and
3 segmented approach to our giving is a major priority.
4 And what that means is not just providing a generic
5 approach to the different areas of need. It's constantly
6 looking at and listening, like I mentioned earlier, by
7 being engaged to understand what truly our customers, our
8 areas of impact, our areas are needing so that we can
9 provide a customized approach to them.

10 An example would be how we pivoted our support
11 to St. Mary's Food Bank over the pandemic. Typically,
12 our dollars would go toward actual food donations in the
13 food bank. We found, based on the conversations with
14 them, they actually needed basic operating costs. Their
15 need was larger. They needed basic trucks, gasoline to
16 bring food to their constituents. Because of the
17 pandemic, they couldn't come to the area. So we were
18 able to pivot and switch that giving. Again, that's a
19 customized approach based on what was needed at the time.

20 Also, keeping a constant pulse on those
21 community needs, supported by our focused priorities.
22 You can see on the right on the chart, this is a snapshot
23 of our giving dollars. You can see the bulk of it is in
24 the basic needs area. That's basic food, shelter,
25 domestic abuse organizations. That's where the bulk of

1 our funds are going right now. We see that staying.
2 I'll get into trends in a minute. They're not out of it
3 yet. That's where the bulk of our concentration needs to
4 be.

5 Education is also a -- the second largest
6 recipient of our funds. So that is STEM-focused
7 education K through 12 and also the universities and
8 community colleges throughout the state and then teacher
9 grants for individuals.

10 Q. You've discussed the pandemic as part of what
11 you're dealing with. I'd like you next to talk about the
12 trends that you're seeing particularly in light of the
13 challenges associated with that.

14 A. (Ms. Rickard) Sure.

15 So, as I mentioned, we all are still in the
16 pandemic. So are the nonprofits. Even though we're
17 seeing some trends coming out of it, they're going to be
18 in it for quite some time, likely, we're hearing, up to
19 another two years. They're faced with hiring challenges.
20 The market value is higher for employees. They struggle
21 to meet that.

22 So what we're seeing is how can we help fill
23 that. And that's where we have that constantly evolving
24 customer needs. Like I mentioned, pivoting dollars with
25 the St. Mary's Food Bank example.

1 And that's a volunteer effort where we have
2 employees willing who might be specialized in web
3 development, warehouse management, accounting. They're
4 giving their time for chunks of three months to
5 five-month projects to help fill the gaps of these
6 employment needs with these nonprofits.

7 We're also seeing some different kinds of needs
8 from the nonprofits that our grants go to. One that we
9 just engaged in with United Way is providing free and
10 professional tax preparation help to underserved
11 communities. So, again, our funds will pay for the
12 professional accountants so that the recipients can
13 receive that program for free.

14 We're also providing educational workshops to
15 teachers across the state, and that happens every
16 Saturday throughout the year. And we've been able to do
17 those virtually and will continue to do so. Those
18 teachers can learn science STEM-focused programs that
19 then they, in turn, bring to their classrooms. So
20 there's another example of meeting our customers where
21 they are. They know this is a better way to participate
22 and that we'll continue that in the future.

23 We're also here today talking about explosive
24 growth. And that is a benefit to Arizona, but we know it
25 brings challenges to underserved communities. So we will

1 continue -- referencing that chart from the previous
2 slide, that's a big reason that 40 percent to basic needs
3 will remain for quite some time.

4 And so basic needs and safety initiatives will
5 remain a corporate focus for SRP in the near future.

6 Q. Next I'd like you to share with the Committee
7 what SRP is doing in this arena in Pinal County.

8 A. (Ms. Rickard) Sure. So our support to the area
9 isn't new. We've actually been supporting Pinal County
10 in a variety of nonprofit support for nearly a decade.
11 So that does include the Pinal County United Way,
12 Coolidge Unified School District, Coolidge Parks and
13 Recreation, and a myriad of others.

14 We know that -- we've also been working with
15 Desert Basin when we acquired that plant in Pinal County,
16 and this will mirror that same type of support.

17 We know Randolph residents are entitled to those
18 same programs by working with Pinal County nonprofits,
19 United Way, again, Coolidge School District. But we're
20 here to bridge that gap if there's a way we can help fill
21 it.

22 I'd also like to talk about the focus on basic
23 needs, education, and civic support.

24 We can bring again that bridge, bring in the
25 Randolph residents to the funds they're entitled to. And

1 we know a community working group can help do that.
2 Christina mentioned that. That is one of the best ways
3 to bring an unincorporated group of residents together,
4 linking them to what we know and the resources we have to
5 bring solutions to them effectively.

6 But, again, we're not taking a generic approach.
7 We are here to listen, talk about the engagement that we
8 had mentioned and Christina had mentioned as my team was
9 out at that Randolph event. This is where we really get
10 this deep understanding. And part of the reason why that
11 was in addition to the formal official open houses, it's
12 where we have the chance to really talk to them one on
13 one. It isn't an official public comment. It is truly a
14 20-minute conversation where we learn what are they
15 needing from us. How can we help. How can we support
16 them. This is what the community working group continues
17 to do. You'll have the commitment of SRP. That's the
18 legacy of who we are. We always have been. And we will
19 continue to be there for Randolph regardless of the
20 outcome of this hearing.

21 MEMBER GENTLES: Mr. Chair.

22 CHMN. KATZ: Please.

23 MEMBER GENTLES: So the community working group,
24 that's been formed?

25 MS. RICKARD: It has not been formed.

1 MEMBER GENTLES: Oh, it has not been formed.

2 So the bridge to support has not been formed?

3 MS. RICKARD: So those exist already with people
4 in my group who manage the funding. Those relationships
5 exist with the nonprofits. That bridge is those people.
6 It's my team who would help facilitate that.

7 MEMBER GENTLES: And then you said -- we know
8 SRP has been in Pinal County for many years. And so do
9 you have a list of nonprofit organizations and support
10 that you've done in Pinal?

11 MS. RICKARD: I do.

12 MEMBER GENTLES: That would be great to see.

13 MS. RICKARD: I don't have it on the slide. I
14 can read some of them to you.

15 MEMBER GENTLES: Sure.

16 MS. RICKARD: We've got Friends of Casa Grande
17 Ruins. We've got Friends Against Domestic Abuse. Boys
18 and Girls Club. The Sun Corridor. Casa Grande Regional
19 Medical Center. Community Action Human Resource Agency.
20 Pinal-Gila Council for Senior Citizens. United Way of
21 Pinal County. Central Arizona College.

22 Keep going?

23 MEMBER GENTLES: Any of those specifically
24 economic development-related?

25 MS. RICKARD: Primarily, these are in basic

1 needs and -- we categorize arts and cultural as part of
2 economic development, so yes.

3 MEMBER GENTLES: Would you agree that the
4 community of Randolph needs quite a bit of economic
5 development?

6 MS. RICKARD: I do.

7 MEMBER GENTLES: One other question. So the
8 church that we were standing in front of right there on
9 Kennedy and -- I don't know the streets, but there was a
10 church right there. Are they involved in your outreach?
11 Were you able to talk to the pastors of that church?

12 MS. RICKARD: I did. I talked to Pastor Joel.
13 I don't know if that's the church that he's directly
14 affiliated with.

15 MEMBER GENTLES: Because it seems like that
16 would be just mechanisms of leadership for that
17 community.

18 MS. RICKARD: Yes.

19 MEMBER GRINNELL: Mr. Chair.

20 CHMN. KATZ: Yes.

21 MEMBER GRINNELL: When speaking with the
22 residents of Randolph, what did they identify as their
23 basic needs?

24 MS. RICKARD: They gave us a lot of input. And,
25 again, this is -- what's -- well, sorry, go ahead,

1 Christina. I'm interrupting her.

2 MS. HALLOWS: No, not at all. I can touch on
3 that a little bit.

4 Some of the items that were suggested were
5 community common area cleanup help. Alleyway cleanup.
6 Street sweeping. Road repairs. Lighting. Food pantry
7 assistance.

8 Anne, go ahead and jump in.

9 MS. RICKARD: Yep, she's listing all the things
10 I would have listed too. We had a request for "no
11 dumping" signs in common areas. We had potential help
12 identifying scholarships. Some of the things that
13 Christina mentioned. Food pantry was one that was a
14 pretty important one.

15 MEMBER GENTLES: And all of that will inform
16 your first community work groups, I imagine?

17 MS. RICKARD: Yes.

18 MEMBER GRINNELL: And to finish my thought real
19 quick, how soon do you believe you're going to be able to
20 help these folks --

21 MS. RICKARD: Yesterday.

22 MEMBER GRINNELL: -- address these concerns?

23 MS. RICKARD: Immediately.

24 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: As a follow-up to both Member
25 Gentles' and Member Grinnell's question, has SRP already

1 offered to start a community working group with this
2 community?

3 A. (Ms. Rickard) We have, yes.

4 Q. And has SRP already offered assistance with
5 respect to a number of the measures that you both
6 identified?

7 A. (Ms. Rickard) Yes. We've offered, in addition
8 to the community working group, which we want to stress
9 as foundational in the success of a long-term
10 relationship with the residents of Randolph.

11 We've also committed to the visual screening
12 options. Christina, if you want to jump in with some of
13 the other ones.

14 Sorry, I'll go ahead. Are you there?

15 Assisting with the survey, the research, other
16 documentation that's required to establish Randolph as an
17 Arizona State historic neighborhood. We've also talked
18 about that. We've offered that.

19 Periodic tree trim service. We're already had
20 estimates. We've had landscapers down there and
21 estimating and ready to go when the residents say that
22 they're ready.

23 Q. Thank you.

24 We're going to turn to the next component of
25 public outreach, which is really the required notices for

1 this hearing, both the statutory notices and the notices
2 required by Procedural Order.

3 Ms. Hallows, describe the newspaper publishing
4 advertisements for this hearing.

5 A. (Ms. Hallows) So we ran a total of six
6 newspaper ads.

7 Are the slides coming up? I'm sorry.

8 Q. Hold for a moment.

9 A. (Ms. Hallows) Okay.

10 Q. Now they are.

11 A. (Ms. Hallows) Thank you so much. So you can
12 see the six newspaper ads that were in the Casa Grande
13 Dispatch/Coolidge Examiner. The first four were ran in
14 December, and that was with the originally scheduled
15 details. A copy of that is shown on the right. And then
16 we ran an additional two ads last week on February 3rd
17 and 5th with the new hearing scheduling details.

18 Q. And Mr. McClellan testified yesterday that the
19 affected jurisdictions were the Pinal County and
20 Coolidge. Did you provide notice to those two
21 jurisdictions?

22 A. (Ms. Hallows) We did. To the City of Coolidge
23 city manager and the Pinal County manager. We mailed
24 those on December 17th via certified mail, and they were
25 marked as received on December 29th.

1 Q. And did you use social media to inform the
2 public of this hearing?

3 A. (Ms. Hallows) We did. Again, we used Facebook,
4 Instagram, and Nextdoor. So, originally, we ran ads from
5 January 4th to January 12th with the original hearing
6 details. Then when that changed, we ran ads from the
7 14th to the 21st notifying that there was a change. And
8 then ran it again with the change details the 24th
9 through the 7th.

10 And on the right-hand side, you can see an
11 example of those ads.

12 Q. And describe your additional efforts to provide
13 notice of the continuance of this hearing to this time.

14 A. (Ms. Hallows) So we submitted a press release on
15 January 14th, updated our project website also on the
16 14th. As I mentioned, the social media ads ran from the
17 14th to the 21st.

18 And then also on January 18th, which was the
19 original public comment night, I actually went to the
20 Radisson and waited to see if any members of the public
21 did not receive notice or did not hear about the
22 scheduling change. Fortunately, nobody did. But we did
23 post the flyer that you see on the right-hand side in the
24 lobby of the Radisson just in case.

25 Also, the project signs were changed with the

1 scheduling changes on January 18th.

2 Q. Thank you, Ms. Hallows.

3 And speaking of project signs, Mr. Petry, did
4 you post signs in the vicinity of this project?

5 A. (Mr. Petry) Yes, we did. We posted seven
6 public notice signs around the perimeter of the site.
7 Those are seen on the right screen here along with a map
8 that indicates the location of those signs around the
9 perimeter of the project site.

10 As Ms. Hallows noted, those signs were updated
11 once this hearing was continued to provide notice of the
12 public comment period, I was told earlier this week, as
13 well as the hearing itself.

14 Q. And describe how you made the application itself
15 available for public review.

16 A. (Mr. Petry) Sure.

17 We posted it on the SRP project website, first
18 of all, but also provided copies to two public libraries.
19 That includes the Coolidge Public Library and the Casa
20 Grande Public Library.

21 And the responses on the right screen are emails
22 from librarians or representative from both of those
23 libraries indicating that those applications were made
24 available for public review.

25 Q. Thank you, Mr. Petry.

1 MR. ACKEN: We are going to shift now to another
2 topic for this panel, the environmental analysis. But
3 before we do that, I see that Member Gentles has another
4 question.

5 MEMBER GENTLES: Thank you. One more question.

6 Ms. Rickard, you listed off about a dozen
7 nonprofits and community organizations that you've
8 supported over the years. What's the dollar value of how
9 much you've contributed through those nonprofits into
10 Pinal County?

11 MS. RICKARD: Into Pinal County is about 10
12 percent of our total budget, which is congruent to the
13 rest of our giving for the rest of the population.

14 MEMBER GENTLES: Do you have a dollar value?

15 MS. RICKARD: I would have to get the total for
16 this year, but it was over 100,000.

17 MEMBER GENTLES: 100,000 to Pinal County total?

18 MS. RICKARD: Uh-huh.

19 CHMN. KATZ: That was yes?

20 MS. RICKARD: Yes, excuse me.

21 MEMBER GENTLES: And would you think as counties
22 go, that's about the amount -- I know Maricopa County is
23 different, obviously. What about in other counties, Pima
24 and others?

25 MS. RICKARD: I don't have those numbers off the

1 top of my head, but I can get them for you.

2 MEMBER GENTLES: And what's the total SRP
3 community budget?

4 MS. RICKARD: For our nonprofit giving, it is
5 1.8 for the basic needs area.

6 MEMBER GENTLES: So in economic development, you
7 probably invest money into that sector outside of just
8 what you're doing through nonprofits?

9 MS. RICKARD: Yes.

10 MEMBER GENTLES: So you would go into an
11 organization or a community and invest a certain amount
12 of money to help in economic development efforts?

13 MS. RICKARD: So that would not come out of the
14 nonprofit giving if it's an entity that's --

15 MEMBER GENTLES: I'm talking about SRP as the
16 corporate.

17 MS. RICKARD: Yes.

18 MEMBER GENTLES: Thank you. That's it.

19 MR. ACKEN: Thank you.

20 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: Mr. Petry, did SWCA conduct an
21 environmental analysis to support the CEC application for
22 this project?

23 A. (Mr. Petry) Yes, we did. These analyses
24 included the existing and planned land use inventory, an
25 air quality assessment, the water availability

1 assessment, a biological resources survey, a visual
2 resources analysis, a cultural and archeological survey,
3 and a noise analysis. And this information is contained
4 within the CEC application.

5 Q. Let's start with land use and existing plans.
6 Describe the area you studied in preparing the
7 evaluation.

8 A. (Mr. Petry) Yes. That area can be seen on the
9 right screen. It is a 2-mile study area, radius of 2
10 miles from the project facility.

11 Again, that -- as Mr. McClellan indicated under
12 previous testimony, that area is indicated in the black
13 dashed line in the perimeter of the area shown on the
14 right screen.

15 Q. What existing land uses did you identify on the
16 study area?

17 A. (Mr. Petry) Well, numerous existing land uses
18 were found within close proximity of the project itself
19 and within the overall study area.

20 In terms of those land uses closest to the
21 project, those, of course, include the existing Coolidge
22 Generating Station, its affiliated infrastructure, which
23 includes the switchyard and high voltage transmission
24 lines, as well as the existing natural gas transmission
25 lines.

1 We also identified other industrial and
2 manufacturing facilities nearby. You saw some of those
3 today during our site tour. Those include the Western
4 Emulsions facility to the north, Stinger Bridge & Iron
5 here to the northwest. And then, of course, we saw the
6 community of Randolph located primarily in this area
7 right here.

8 Other existing land uses in proximity to the
9 project and throughout that study area include the
10 railroad, highways. We saw State Route 287 and 87.

11 As well as scattered residences, those inside
12 Randolph and outside Randolph as well, and some scattered
13 mixed-use development within the region.

14 I should note all those land uses are all mapped
15 in the CEC and included as part of Exhibit A-3.

16 Q. How did you evaluate future land uses?

17 A. (Mr. Petry) Those future land uses were
18 identified through our review of planning documents, both
19 from the City of Coolidge and Pinal County. That
20 includes the City of Coolidge 2025 General Plan and the
21 Pinal County Comprehensive Plan.

22 We also coordinated directly with
23 representatives from both Coolidge and Pinal County and
24 some of the identified land developers in the region,
25 landowners, etc., to understand what the future

1 development plans are within the area.

2 What we found is that this is an area planned by
3 the City of Coolidge as part of the General Plan as an
4 industrial and manufacturing land use, which supports a
5 wide range of manufacturing, industrial and production
6 uses.

7 Other planned land uses or future land uses
8 include industrial and employment land uses, varying
9 densities of residential development, and planned freeway
10 corridor further to the east of the project.

11 And I might take a moment to point out some of
12 these land uses to you on the right. First I'll orient
13 you with the location of the project. And, again, that's
14 going to be right in the center of the map here. This
15 area here indicated in the yellow rectangle is the
16 Coolidge Expansion Project area.

17 CHMN. KATZ: Let me just interrupt. Do we have
18 a mouse so people appearing remotely can see that?

19 MR. PETRY: Okay. I did something here. If I
20 could get some technical support to get back a few slides
21 on the right screen.

22 There we are. Perfect.

23 And for some reason, the mouse cursor is not
24 showing up here for me.

25 MR. ACKEN: Mr. Chairman, let's take five

1 minutes or less and go off the record. It's well worth
2 the time to be able to show this. These are detailed
3 maps. A lot of Mr. Petry's presentation involves
4 visuals.

5 CHMN. KATZ: Let's go off the record for a few
6 minutes. I'd ask people not to drift far away.

7 (A recess was taken from 2:37 p.m. to 2:42 p.m.)

8 CHMN. KATZ: You may proceed with your
9 questioning.

10 MR. ACKEN: Thank you, Chairman, and thank you
11 for that brief break to get our technology set here.

12 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: Mr. Petry, I'm going to ask you,
13 I think where we were is discussing planned future land
14 uses in the vicinity of the project.

15 A. (Mr. Petry) Indeed. Thank you for the
16 technical assistance, by the way.

17 What I wanted to do is orient you with the
18 planned land use or future land use map that's on the
19 screen. And in order to do that, I'll point out the
20 project location right here in the center of that
21 location identified in that yellow rectangle right here.
22 And around there, you can see the different colors
23 representing the different planned land uses within our
24 2-mile study area.

25 The first thing I'll point out is the Coolidge

1 Generating Station to the north. You can see the
2 hatching and the vertical striping in that location.
3 North of that is some additional vertical striping that
4 is indicative of a planned solar development that would
5 be contained within this area here. This is an area all
6 planned for future solar development.

7 Along with that, I'll orient you with this
8 location here. This is again the location of the
9 existing railroad and transmission line infrastructure.
10 And along that transmission line and railroad
11 infrastructure, we see this light purple area. It
12 extends down and also south of the Coolidge Expansion
13 Project area and further south here. That's planned
14 industrial areas within the study area, areas planned for
15 future industrial uses.

16 I'll also point out another area down here in
17 the south. This is a planned solar development. This is
18 a solar development that I think the Committee heard
19 about in recent history where there was a gen-tie project
20 proposed that the Committee had approved.

21 In addition to that, I'll point out a few of the
22 planned residential developments that are located within
23 our 2-mile study area. All of these residential
24 developments were proposed within the last maybe 10 to 15
25 years. And these are planned area developments. None of

1 them have moved forward since their initial proposals and
2 are not, as far as we understand it in our outreach with
3 those developers and communications with Pinal County and
4 the City of Coolidge, in any active place of development
5 right now.

6 But pointing those out, there's one planned
7 development, the Brighton Village, located here in the
8 northwest portion of our study area. There's another
9 planned area development, the Sonesta development,
10 proposed over here in the eastern portion of our study
11 area. Another located here in the southeastern portion
12 of our study area.

13 And in addition to that -- these are specific
14 planned developments. We also see areas where just
15 through again the City of Coolidge General Plan or Pinal
16 County's Comprehensive Plan, there are plans for future
17 commercial, residential, and other types of development.

18 Q. In your professional opinion, is the Coolidge
19 Expansion Project compatible with current and future land
20 uses in the area?

21 A. (Mr. Petry) Yes. The project is designated in
22 the City of Coolidge in their zoning as general
23 industrial or I-2 zoning, within which essentially public
24 service or utility are permitted. It is adjacent to
25 existing utility and industrial developments all under

1 that same zoning prescription.

2 The project is proposed in an area designated by
3 the City of Coolidge General Plan as industrial and
4 manufacturing and, again, adjacent to similar
5 infrastructure.

6 The proposed land use associated with the
7 project would be compatible with that industrial and
8 manufacturing land use as prescribed by the City of
9 Coolidge as well as the other planned future industrial,
10 commercial, and utility development at and around the
11 project area.

12 Q. Thank you, Mr. Petry.

13 Ms. Pollio, thank you for patiently waiting.

14 I believe you testified that you worked on the
15 original siting of the original Coolidge Generating
16 Station; is that correct?

17 A. (Ms. Pollio) That's correct.

18 Q. And can you describe your role in that process.

19 A. (Ms. Pollio) Yes. So in late 2007 and through
20 2008, I worked with TransCanada on siting the project and
21 the public process. I also testified before the
22 Committee on the public process in the original project
23 that the Committee and the ACC voted unanimous to
24 approve.

25 The project team worked extensively with Pinal

1 County and the City of Coolidge as well as the community
2 of Randolph. The Randolph public forums that we held,
3 I'll just kind of touch on those as well. We did go door
4 to door and talk to the community members of Randolph.
5 We did this over multiple days, so it wasn't just knock
6 on the door and leave. We tried multiple times on a
7 number of occasions to meet with those community members,
8 knock on the door. We did have packets of information
9 prior to any type of open house or CEC event where we
10 were able to leave the packet on a gate and there was a
11 "no trespassing" sign or they weren't home. So we did do
12 our best to make sure that we encouraged participation
13 throughout the life of that public participation process.

14 Q. And describe the meetings and open houses that
15 you did for that project.

16 A. (Ms. Pollio) So similar open house kind of
17 structures. One of our open houses was a barbecue event.
18 We were trying to get as much attendance as we could. So
19 we were able to have multiple open houses. And, again,
20 prior to those, we went door to door to make sure people
21 knew that we were having those, provide fact sheets, and
22 engage participation.

23 Q. Describe the land use considerations that you
24 evaluated as far as the original siting for the plant?

25 A. (Ms. Pollio) So the project was originally

1 sited -- you've heard a lot about the siting here. It
2 was originally sited for a number of the same reasons.

3 First, it was designated in an industrial park.
4 The availability of infrastructure and the adjacent
5 industrial land uses. As we've heard or you've heard,
6 the infrastructure having the multiple natural gas
7 pipelines, extra-high-voltage transmission lines, the
8 Union Pacific Railroad, which I'll talk about in a minute
9 a little more in depth, and other transportation
10 corridors that are around the site.

11 The City of Coolidge completed rezoning of these
12 parcels where the project is on in 2008. So they went
13 from agricultural to industrial in 2008. The reason they
14 were rezoned in 2008 is because TransCanada purchased the
15 original parcels from the City of Mesa. They were City
16 of Mesa out parcels. So when they purchased those pieces
17 of land, they had to rezone those to be compatible. The
18 City wanted us to do that, obviously, because the entire
19 area, that railroad corridor, had been identified for
20 future land use planning as an industrial area. So,
21 again, those were City of Mesa parcels.

22 So I mentioned that I'd talk a little bit about
23 the Union Pacific Railroad. And when Rick Miller gave
24 public comment on Monday evening, he also talked about
25 the railroad corridor and the industrial corridor that we

1 mentioned in a previous slide. But it's important to
2 note that rail corridor does form an industrial spine.
3 This is similar to a lot of places throughout Arizona,
4 throughout the United States, and throughout the world.
5 Railroad corridor has become important for industrial
6 land use, for obvious reasons, for bringing goods and
7 services in. And there is a history with the railroad
8 and Randolph, and I do want to touch on that briefly
9 because I think it's important.

10 And I'll mention before I get into that history,
11 as Mr. Miller spoke about -- the railroad corridor, that
12 industrial -- again, I'm going to call it a spine or
13 corridor -- runs about 6 1/2 miles. So it is not just
14 here in the Randolph area. It is a very linear feature
15 where the industry has been planned in the city of
16 Coolidge and Pinal County kind of up and down that rail
17 corridor. And there are a number of other industrial
18 facilities in the area, not just here, but throughout
19 Pinal County and again up and down that 6 1/2-mile
20 corridor.

21 So to talk about the history briefly, it's
22 interesting that the community of Randolph was named
23 after Epes Randolph. He was the vice president and
24 general manager of the Southern Pacific Railroad. So in
25 the 1920s, he wanted to establish a community near the

1 city of Casa Grande, and he wanted to develop a railroad
2 spur for the Southern Pacific Railroad. So that Southern
3 Pacific Railroad was built in 1926.

4 Subsequent to that, there was a post office that
5 was formed, and, obviously, it kind of created that
6 industrial manufacturing area back in the early -- or in
7 1926.

8 Later, in the '30s, so 1930s, there were a
9 number of different communities or actually people from
10 Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Kansas. So there were a number
11 of African Americans that came out west in order to find
12 business opportunities. And specifically, there was
13 abundance of cotton. So there were opportunities to come
14 out, pick cotton, and be able to buy land and live and
15 settle in Randolph.

16 So there are a number of communities like this
17 in Arizona, not just Randolph, but Randolph does have a
18 very rich history starting in the early 1920s. But then,
19 obviously, the historic African American community
20 started as early as 1930s.

21 So I wanted to bring that up because, again,
22 that railroad has become an important industrial feature
23 in Pinal County and the city of Coolidge and has a rich
24 history. So I wanted to mention that.

25 But to finalize why the original site was

1 selected, again, it goes back to most of what you've just
2 heard about, is the industrial nature of the area and
3 that land use, the existing infrastructure, and the
4 future land use that had been designated by the City of
5 Coolidge and Pinal County.

6 So, ultimately, this Committee and the ACC and,
7 as I provided testimony originally, that the land use was
8 compatible for the original facility as well as the
9 overall compatibility of the project.

10 Q. Thank you, Ms. Pollio.

11 I'm going to turn back to Mr. Petry. I'd like
12 you to describe your evaluation of the next resource in
13 our list of resources evaluated, biological.

14 A. (Mr. Petry) Okay. I think our slides are off a
15 bit here, but no problem.

16 In order to identify the plant and wildlife
17 species or habitat that may occur within the vicinity of
18 the project area or within the project area, SWCA
19 biologists consulted the publicly available datasets,
20 which includes topographic and aerial maps, the Arizona
21 Game and Fish online environmental review tool, and
22 research and reports and publications.

23 In addition, an SWCA biologist with expertise in
24 the flora and fauna of the region surveyed the project
25 area, and all plants and wildlife observed during that

1 survey were recorded.

2 Q. Are there any protected species that might be
3 affected by this project?

4 A. No Endangered Species Act listed species are
5 present, and none would be affected by the project. No
6 protected areas, areas of biological wealth, or
7 designated or proposed critical habitat are within the
8 subject area.

9 One ESA candidate species, the monarch
10 butterfly, may forage within the project area. And as a
11 result of the project, a very small portion of suitable
12 dispersal or foraging habitat, essentially, the area we
13 saw today in those agricultural fields, would be lost.
14 And as a result, minor impacts to individual monarchs may
15 occur. Again, I want to stress that these are candidate
16 species. These are not listed Endangered Species Act
17 species. And impacts we have perceived to those monarchs
18 would be to individual monarchs.

19 In addition, burrowing owls, which we see on
20 many projects here in Arizona, particularly agricultural
21 fields, are expected on the site. And preconstruction
22 surveys to identify the presence of those owls and remove
23 those owls, relocate them, would minimize, mitigate any
24 impacts to potential species.

25 Q. What are your conclusions with respect to the

1 project's effect on biological resources?

2 A. (Mr. Petry) The project is not likely to
3 significantly affect any endangered, rare, or special
4 status species, no Endangered Species Act species are
5 present, and none would be affected by the project.

6 No protected areas or any areas of biological
7 wealth are within the study area.

8 And while the project may impact individuals,
9 both wildlife and plant, it would not be likely to have
10 impacts at the population level for any species.

11 Q. Thank you, Mr. Petry.

12 We're going to shift to visual resources, but I
13 want to make note we're still having some technical
14 difficulties. The numbering that you're seeing does not
15 match the numbering in the printed version. So, for
16 example, on the slide that showed Biological Resources
17 Summary in the printed version, it's Slide 195. For some
18 reason it's on the screen as 197. So we'll just -- until
19 we have an opportunity to get that squared away, we'll be
20 careful to use the printed version reference when we're
21 referring to slides.

22 So, Mr. Petry, now let's talk about visual
23 resources. And start it off, how did you evaluate them
24 for this project?

25 A. (Mr. Petry) Certainly.

1 SWCA completed a visual resource study to
2 identify and characterize the existing scenery, scenic
3 quality, and the sensitive viewers within the study area
4 in order to identify the level of visual modification in
5 the landscape that would result from this project.

6 The existing scenery, again, that first item we
7 look at, the first of three items we look at with visual
8 resources, the existing scenery in the study area is
9 consistent with the rural and agricultural dominated
10 landscape in Pinal County.

11 There are flat open fields that are used
12 year-round within the study area. And, again, the
13 project is located next to the existing generation
14 facility and other industrial infrastructure. And the
15 scenery in the area is dominated by this infrastructure.

16 The scenic quality within the study area is
17 considered relatively low based on the lack of generally
18 interesting visual landforms and vegetation and the
19 prominence of the existing built features and the
20 development that contrasts with the appearance of the
21 natural landscape.

22 Several sensitive viewer types are located
23 within the study area, and those include residential,
24 recreational, and travel route viewers.

25 The residences located within the study area

1 primarily include those residences that we saw today
2 within the community of Randolph. There are some
3 dispersed farm-based housing. We saw that on the eastern
4 area of the project site as well. And then other
5 residential developments located further to the northwest
6 of the project area as well.

7 There are recreation areas within the study
8 area. Again, that second sensitive viewer type would be
9 recreation viewers. And the primary recreation areas
10 within the project study area include planned multi-use
11 trail corridors that run adjacent to the existing
12 high-voltage transmission infrastructure along the project.
13 Transmission lines often provide great recreational
14 opportunities for trails, pathways, etc. And so there's
15 a planned trail adjacent to that existing high-voltage
16 infrastructure. There is also a small park within the
17 community of Randolph not far from where we were today.
18 So those are the recreation viewers within the project
19 area.

20 That third type of sensitive viewer would be the
21 travel route viewers. And as we drove on today, the
22 primary travel routes in proximity to the project include
23 State Route 287, which runs north and south and is
24 located west of the project; Randolph Road, which runs
25 east to west and is located north of the project; also

1 Kleck Road runs east to west, and we talked about that
2 quite a bit, south of the project; and then Vail Road,
3 which is east of the project area as well.

4 Q. And you prepared visual simulations for this
5 project?

6 A. (Mr. Petry) We did.

7 Q. Can you briefly describe how those were
8 developed.

9 A. (Mr. Petry) In order to illustrate the
10 project's visual characteristics, we developed six visual
11 simulations from KOPs or key observation points around
12 the study area. The locations of the viewpoints or KOPs
13 for the sensitive -- for the visual simulations were
14 meant to demonstrate or illustrate sensitive viewers
15 either closest to the project or areas where the views
16 for the greatest potential impacts what would occur.

17 These simulations are based upon the project and
18 existing site data and were developed using 3D modeling
19 software and can be found in Exhibit G of the CEC
20 application.

21 Right here, you can see the simulation completed
22 from Key Observation Point 1. I want to jump forward for
23 just a moment and jump back.

24 So this is a simulation completed from KOP 1 or
25 Key Observation Point 1. And this represents a view

1 looking southeast from the intersection of Randolph Road
2 and Fifth Avenue.

3 And just to quickly orient you with what the
4 simulation shows, there's a map in the upper right-hand
5 corner. In that map, you see a blue triangle shape.
6 That triangle shape represents the extent of your view in
7 the image to the left.

8 That image to the left is the existing condition
9 image. That's a view from -- what the view from that
10 location looks like today.

11 The simulated condition below is again showing
12 that same view. It includes, of course, the Union
13 Pacific Railroad, the existing high-voltage
14 infrastructure. You can see Western Emulsions further to
15 the left and then a portion of Stinger Bridge & Iron in
16 the immediate foreground to the right.

17 You can also see some of the existing Coolidge
18 Generating Station both in the existing condition
19 photograph here as well as the simulated condition
20 photograph below. And in that simulated condition
21 photograph, you can also see the Coolidge Expansion
22 Project infrastructure.

23 From this location at Key Observation Point 1,
24 the project would be subordinate to the other built
25 features. We would consider that to result in a weak

1 degree of contrast and low visual impacts on this
2 location KOP 1.

3 Now we'll jump to Key Observation Point 2. This
4 is a view looking from southwest from the intersection of
5 Randolph Road and North Vail Road approximately a half
6 mile from the project. This KOP was identified as a
7 representative travel route view looking from the
8 northeast. Again, we drove past this area today.

9 Within the existing condition photograph, you
10 can see Randolph Road right here as well as some of the
11 agricultural fields in the foreground. Also, you can see
12 the existing Coolidge Generating Station at this location
13 with our view down to the southwest.

14 When you look at the simulated condition
15 photograph, you see that same infrastructure, but with
16 the addition of the Coolidge Expansion Project in this
17 area here. You can see some of that existing -- pardon
18 me. You can see some of the proposed generators and
19 stacks as well as the switchyard infrastructure in this
20 location.

21 Viewers from KOP 2 would have unobstructed views
22 of the project. It would be skyline appearing dominant
23 and of greater density along the horizon as compared with
24 the existing facility. Although the project would be
25 seen in the context of that existing facility

1 infrastructure, the project's dominance and its
2 prominence due to the lack of intervening infrastructure
3 and natural screening would result in what we would
4 consider a high degree of contrast and high visual
5 impacts at Key Observation Point 2.

6 It is worth noting that this key observation
7 point, KOP 2, was identified as a representative travel
8 route view for travelers running east to west along this
9 roadway. And with that in mind, the duration of view for
10 a travel route viewer is much shorter than it would be
11 for other uses as you're driving past the project.

12 Q. And did you prepare simulations from the
13 community of Randolph?

14 A. (Mr. Petry) We did, yes.

15 Simulations were prepared from locations right
16 near where we were today, in fact. I'd like to show you
17 those.

18 So here's a simulation completed from near a
19 residence at East Malcolm X Street and North Kennedy
20 Street within the community of Randolph. This is
21 identified as KOP 5A or Key Observation Point 5A. And
22 this, again, was identified as a representative
23 residential view from the west within the community of
24 Randolph.

25 Within the existing condition photograph, you

1 can see Kennedy Street in the foreground along with the
2 existing residential structures and residential
3 distribution lines with the existing high-voltage
4 transmission lines and Coolidge Generating Station in the
5 background, generally in this location here.

6 Within the simulated condition photograph,
7 again, you can see those same components, but with the
8 addition of the proposed project facilities in this
9 location here.

10 Views from KOP 5A include numerous intervening
11 structures and similar infrastructure. And despite the
12 relatively close proximity of these residences and the
13 anticipated longer duration of view, the project could be
14 seen, but would be seen in the context of other similar
15 existing utility infrastructure and would not attract
16 attention from KOP 5A.

17 Project components when viewed from KOP 5A would
18 be subordinate to other built features within the
19 landscape, such as the existing electrical transmission
20 and distribution lines, which would result in a weak
21 degree of contrast and low visual impacts from this
22 location at KOP 5A.

23 Q. Before you move forward to the next simulation,
24 is this the approximate location of the tour stop today?

25 A. (Mr. Petry) Actually, the tour stop was a

1 little further to the east, and we'll see that location
2 here in just a moment.

3 Q. Okay.

4 A. (Mr. Petry) So we're a little further to the
5 east. We're actually, from this location, further to the
6 east than where we were on the tour stop today. The tour
7 stop today was sort of in the midst of KOP 5A and KOP 5C.
8 KOP 5C is, again, a little bit further to the east,
9 closer to the project.

10 And the simulation, again, identified from KOP
11 5C represents those residential views from within the
12 community of Randolph specifically at the intersection of
13 East Malcolm X Street and North Hughes Street, about a
14 tenth of a mile west of the project area.

15 This KOP again was identified as a residential
16 view in the community of Randolph at a location where we
17 thought the greatest opportunity for impacts would occur.

18 Again, within the existing conditions photograph
19 in the top, you can see in the foreground some of the
20 existing vacant land between the community of Randolph
21 and the Union Pacific Railroad along with the existing
22 electrical infrastructure, which includes the
23 high-voltage transmission lines here and the existing
24 Coolidge Generating Station here.

25 Again in the simulated photograph below, you can

1 see that same infrastructure but with the project
2 components added in. You can see those in this here.

3 Views from this location, KOP 5C, would have
4 partially obstructed views of the project with less
5 screening and more direct views as compared with KOP 5A,
6 which was further to the west.

7 Project components, when viewed from KOP 5C,
8 would appear co-dominant with that existing substation
9 infrastructure, which would result in what we would
10 consider a moderate degree of contrast and moderate
11 impacts from this KOP.

12 Now I'll show KOP 6. This is Key Observation
13 Point 6. And it's a view from the Arizona Training
14 Program. We drove past that today on our site tour
15 today. Arizona Training Program is a little less than
16 half a mile to the southwest of the project area there.

17 Within this image, the existing image in the
18 foreground, you can see some of this vacated land along
19 with some existing residential development and including
20 a fair amount of visual screening. We can also see some
21 of the existing transmission and distribution in that
22 existing condition photograph.

23 Within the proposed condition photograph, you
24 see the same infrastructure, but with project facilities
25 added in. Very difficult to see from this location.

1 Views from Arizona Training Program represented
2 by KOP 6 would have partially obstructed -- excuse me,
3 partially screened views of the project. However, the
4 project would be seen in the context of the existing
5 infrastructure, and the form, line, color, texture, and
6 scale of the project features would be similar to those
7 of that existing infrastructure and the adjacent
8 facilities and would not attract attention, which results
9 in what we would consider weak contrast and low impacts
10 already from this location.

11 We'll now show Key Observation Point 7. This is
12 KOP located to the southeast of the project. It's at the
13 intersection of Vail Road and Kleck Road and, again, an
14 area where we drove past today. You can see in the upper
15 image the existing photograph, the agricultural fields
16 located in that area.

17 You can also see the agricultural-affiliated
18 residences right here where some of those trees are. We
19 drove past that area today as well.

20 In the lower image, you can see those same
21 facilities, same infrastructure, but with the Coolidge
22 Expansion Project added in.

23 Travel viewers from North Vail Road and East
24 Kleck Road, again, east of the project site, as
25 represented by this KOP, would have unobstructed views of

1 the project. And portions of the project would be
2 skylined at this location, while the addition of those
3 components, when viewed from this KOP, would appear
4 dominant and of greater density along the horizon as
5 compared with that infrastructure. And although the
6 project would be seen in the context of that existing
7 infrastructure, the dominance and prominence would result
8 in a high degree of contrast and high impacts from this
9 location.

10 Again, as with Key Observation Point 2, which is
11 located essentially north on the north side of the
12 project. This is the travel route viewer. This
13 represents views for those traveling along the project
14 area there and would be, again, a short duration of view
15 from this area.

16 MEMBER LITTLE: I have a question.

17 CHMN. KATZ: Is that Ms. Little?

18 MEMBER LITTLE: Ms. Little.

19 On the simulated condition, it looks like
20 there's some structures to the left of the Coolidge Power
21 Plant there that are shown.

22 MR. PETRY: Yes. In this area here and here.

23 MEMBER LITTLE: No, first there. Right there.

24 MR. PETRY: So that area is the area where the
25 project switchyard would be located.

1 MEMBER LITTLE: I see. Thank you.

2 CHMN. KATZ: Thank you.

3 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: Mr. Petry, to sum it up for us,
4 what are your conclusions with respect to the project's
5 effects on visual resources?

6 A. (Mr. Petry) Certainly.

7 Overall, the project would be similar in form,
8 line, color, texture, and scale as compared with the
9 other existing transmission line and generating facility
10 infrastructure.

11 Though the cumulative increase of the
12 infrastructure and facilities with the addition of the
13 project would result in moderate impacts to the scene
14 within the area; similarly, impacts to sensitive viewers
15 in the area would range from high to low as a result of
16 their perspective, their perceived contrast, screening
17 elements such as the existing infrastructure and/or
18 vegetation as well as again the duration of that view.

19 Of the six KOPs that we analyzed, key
20 observation points that we analyzed, high impacts are
21 anticipated from KOPs 2 and 7. Again, those travel route
22 locations and KOP 5C is expected to have moderate impact.
23 That's the KOP within the community of Randolph, further
24 to the east in the community of Randolph, a little closer
25 to the project.

1 KOPs 1, 5A, and 6 are expected to have low
2 impacts.

3 The project is compatible with the visual
4 setting and would not be contrary to any applicable
5 quality objectives.

6 CHMN. KATZ: If you're done with this subject
7 matter -- we did have a short four- or five-minute break
8 earlier. But it is now about 3:20. We started just past
9 1:30. So it's 20 after. Make sure that we're in the
10 room and ready to go by 3:35.

11 (A recess was taken from 3:17 p.m. to 3:36 p.m.)

12 CHMN. KATZ: I just was going to indicate we're
13 back on the record.

14 Mr. Gentles had a family issue, I don't know if
15 it was an emergency or not, that he had to attend to. He
16 said he was going to hook up and listen on his cellphone.

17 And, similarly, Mr. Grinnell has a friend that
18 recently passed away, and I guess they were giving him
19 his late rites. So he also got the Zoom link and will
20 hopefully be listening on his phone. And I expect that
21 they'll both be back here virtually.

22 But we do have a quorum, and we can continue.

23 MR. ACKEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

24 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: Next we're going to discuss
25 cultural resources.

1 Mr. Petry, first start by describing your
2 evaluation.

3 A. (Mr. Petry) Certainly.

4 SWCA archeologists reviewed the archival sites
5 to identify previously documented historic sites and
6 structures as well as known archeological sites within 1
7 mile of the project facilities.

8 Data sources searched include the AZSITE
9 database, the Arizona State Museum Archeological Records
10 Office, the National Register of Historic Places, the
11 General Land Office plat maps, and historic era
12 topographic maps. This effort was supplemented by an
13 in-field or in-person pedestrian Class III Cultural
14 Resources Survey of the project site in order to identify
15 any potential cultural or archeological sites, features,
16 or artifacts within the project area itself.

17 Q. And did SRP engage in consultation with the
18 tribes?

19 A. (Mr. Petry) Yes. SRP, as is typical for a
20 project such as this, sent tribal consultation letters to
21 the official contacts, including tribal historic
22 preservation officers or otherwise within 11 tribes with
23 identified affiliation in the projects region. Responses
24 were received from three of those tribes.

25 First one was received from the Hopi Tribe,

1 indicating no cultural resources significant to the Hopi
2 Tribe would be impacted.

3 A response was received from the White Mountain
4 Apache Tribe, indicating that the project would have no
5 adverse effect to the Tribe's cultural heritage,
6 resources, and/or traditional cultural properties.

7 The Pascua Yaqui Tribe responded, indicating no
8 knowledge of Tribal heritage resources located within the
9 immediate project area and noting the presence of Tribal
10 members in the communities of Coolidge and Eloy as well
11 as a history of Tribal affiliation within the region.
12 The response also noted the desire for the project to not
13 decrease air quality within the Eloy and Coolidge
14 communities.

15 SRP responded, providing information on the air
16 permitting process with Pinal County and offering to meet
17 further to discuss continuing methods of consultation
18 with the Pascua Yaqui Tribe.

19 Q. So as a result of the studies you conducted and
20 tribal consultations, what are your findings?

21 A. (Mr. Petry) The cultural resources review
22 provided for the project and survey completed for the
23 project identified no archeological sites, features, or
24 artifacts within the project area.

25 Within the area studied for cultural resources

1 outside of the project area, an archival records search
2 identified seven known and documented historic era
3 structures. And those included four in-use roads; one
4 railroad, which is also still in use; an overhead utility
5 line affiliated with that railroad; and a series of
6 irrigation canals in the region, all considered historic.

7 There were four documented prehistoric
8 archeological sites found in the survey area, study area,
9 within that 1-mile area. Those included Hohokam artifact
10 scatters, which were evaluated for eligibility for
11 listing in the Arizona Register of Historic Places.

12 There were no Register-eligible properties found
13 during survey of the property site and no
14 Register-eligible properties would be directly affected
15 by the project.

16 There were two documented Register-eligible
17 properties identified outside of the area of direct
18 effects. These properties included State Route 87 and
19 the Union Pacific Railroad.

20 Construction of the project would introduce a
21 visual element to the area, but it is not expected to
22 diminish the integrity of the characteristics of these
23 properties for which they would be eligible for listing
24 on the Register of Historic Places.

25 Q. In your opinion, is this project compatible with

1 respect to cultural resources?

2 A. (Mr. Petry) Yes. No archeological sites,
3 features, or artifacts were identified within the survey
4 area, and the project is not expected to directly or
5 indirectly result in negative impacts to historic sites,
6 structures, or archeological sites.

7 Q. Thanks.

8 Let's next move to your analysis of noise and
9 communication interference.

10 Please describe your evaluation which is found
11 in Exhibit I to the CEC application.

12 A. (Mr. Petry) Certainly.

13 SWCA conducted a study to determine the
14 potential noise impacts that would result from the
15 construction and operation of the project. As part of
16 the study, SWCA conducted a noise survey to determine the
17 current ambient noise levels and then modeled the
18 anticipated noise resulting from the project.

19 The findings indicate that the ambient noise in
20 the vicinity of the project site is dominated by trains
21 between the west edge of the project and the community of
22 Randolph, traffic noise from State Route 87, existing
23 industrial uses in the immediate vicinity, and the large
24 amount of cultural activities at and around the project
25 site.

1 To determine the potential noise impact from the
2 operation of the project, SWCA conducted detailed noise
3 modeling based on the equipment list and associated sound
4 levels of that equipment.

5 The results of this analysis showed a change in
6 noise levels that result from the operation of the
7 project that range from about a half a decibel to 2.6
8 decibels at the evaluated receptors. In general, an
9 increase of 3 decibels or below is perceived by the human
10 ear as barely noticeable. And as a point of comparison,
11 human conversation is approximately 60 decibels.

12 CHMN. KATZ: Let me just ask, when you talk
13 about increase in noise, are you talking from the
14 existing 12 units?

15 MR. PETRY: It's an increase in noise from all
16 of the existing environment in the area. So it accounts
17 for any of the potential noise sources in that area.
18 There were actually noise monitors placed around the
19 perimeter of the project area that accounted for both
20 short-term and long-term noise and recorded that. So
21 it's inclusive of all of the activities in the area.

22 CHMN. KATZ: Was there anything done to
23 distinguish the ambient noise levels when the plant is
24 shut down as it is today versus when it was operating all
25 12 units?

1 MR. PETRY: So as part of the long-term
2 monitoring, we were able to capture the operational and
3 nonoperational points in time.

4 Does that answer your question?

5 CHMN. KATZ: Yes.

6 MR. PETRY: Again, the expected increase from
7 the project is identified at about .5 to 2.6 decibels.
8 Barely noticeable. Perceived as barely noticeable.

9 The project operation would not result in a
10 significant permanent increase in ambient noise levels in
11 the vicinity of the project and would be in a range
12 considered barely noticeable.

13 The project would be compliant with all
14 applicable noise standards and during construction and
15 operation would not result in a substantial permanent
16 increase in ambient noise levels or communication
17 interference in the vicinity of the project.

18 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: Thank you, Mr. Petry.

19 We're going to turn now to the area of air
20 quality, and Ms. Watt --

21 MEMBER HAMWAY: I just wanted to ask a question
22 too.

23 They have asked for historical designation,
24 Randolph has. So my question is, if they already had
25 historical designation, would any of your analysis be

1 different?

2 MR. PETRY: No. The answer is no. As part of
3 our inventory, we identified previously surveyed sites,
4 and that included the previous historic sites. An
5 example of that would be the existing Union Pacific
6 Railroad and the affiliated distribution lines with that
7 are both considered historic as well as State Route 87.
8 And in our analysis, there's absolutely no direct impact
9 to those facilities just as there would be no tremendous
10 impact to the community of Randolph.

11 And in terms of an indirect impact to those
12 facilities, we don't expect that that would reduce the
13 ability for Randolph or those other already registered --
14 identified National Register of Historic Places-eligible
15 sites to get that designation of a historic community,
16 etc.

17 MEMBER HAMWAY: Okay. Thank you.

18 MR. ACKEN: I believe be there may have been
19 another question.

20 CHMN. KATZ: I thought a heard a male voice.

21 MEMBER BRANUM: Mr. Chairman, this is Member
22 Branum.

23 So just going back to the noise levels and
24 interference discussion. So I wanted to make sure I
25 understood this correctly.

1 With all of the existing and planned units
2 operating and all background noise from trains and
3 traffic and whatever it may be, what is the decibel
4 change?

5 MR. PETRY: It changes based on the location of
6 the sensitive receptors, and that range is from .5
7 decibels to 2.6 decibels. And, again, as a point of
8 comparison, human conversation is at approximately 60
9 decibels.

10 MEMBER BRANUM: And where was this measured at?
11 So say I had a home -- I was one of these residents who
12 had a home. What would that level be like at my home?

13 MR. PETRY: Specifically, are you referring to
14 the community of Randolph?

15 MEMBER BRANUM: Yes, sir.

16 MR. PETRY: So the increase in the community of
17 Randolph would still be in that range, the .5 decibel to
18 2.6 decibels. And, in fact, I think within the Randolph
19 community specifically, the range of noise increase is
20 slightly less than 2.6. A lot of that has to do with I
21 think the infrastructure and vegetative screening, etc.,
22 that exists between the project and that area. But still
23 within that range of what's considered barely noticeable.

24 MEMBER BRANUM: Thank you.

25 And you said 60 decibels is equivalent to the

1 standard human conversation; is that correct?

2 MR. PETRY: Yes.

3 MEMBER BRANUM: Thank you, sir.

4 MR. PETRY: Certainly.

5 MR. ACKEN: Okay. Thank you.

6 Now we will turn to air quality. I want to
7 first set the stage. There's a statutory reference in
8 40-360.06 that has a limitation on the Committee's
9 ability to impose air quality standards beyond that
10 imposed by the local air quality jurisdiction. However,
11 we recognize air quality is a consideration of interest
12 to the community, and so we are presenting Ms. Watt's
13 testimony on that.

14 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: So, first off, Ms. Watt, please
15 describe the air quality permit for the existing Coolidge
16 Generating Station.

17 A. (Ms. Watt) Sure.

18 The existing Coolidge Generating Station
19 operates under a Title V Operating Permit issued by the
20 Pinal County Air Quality Control District. The current
21 permit was issued on October 1st of 2019 and is good for
22 a five-year term.

23 Q. And is there an air permit necessary for the
24 expansion project?

25 A. (Ms. Watt) Yes. Title V Operating Permit is

1 required. SRP retained RTP Environmental to prepare and
2 submit this permit application to the Pinal County Air
3 Quality Control District in 2021 to allow construction
4 and operation of these units.

5 Q. And is air quality modeling required as part of
6 this permit revision?

7 A. (Ms. Watt) A significant revision to a minor
8 new source review modification for this project requires
9 either an ambient air quality assessment or modeling or
10 the installation of reasonably available control
11 technology.

12 And SRP is meeting both of these requirements.
13 SRP retained RTP Environmental to conduct an ambient air
14 quality assessment or modeling. This modeling report was
15 submitted as an attachment to the air quality permit
16 application.

17 Reasonably available control technology for
18 these combustion turbines includes the installation of
19 selective catalytic reduction for nitrogen oxide
20 emissions reduction and the installation of an oxidation
21 catalyst for control of carbon monoxide and volatile
22 organic compound emissions. In its permit application,
23 SRP is proposing to install these emission controls as
24 well.

25 Q. Has the Pinal County Air Quality Control

1 District issued the permit revision for this project?

2 A. (Ms. Watt) No. The Pinal County Air Quality
3 Control District is in the process of preparing the draft
4 permit as well as the technical support document. The
5 Pinal County Air Quality Control District did deem the
6 permit application modeling assessment as technically and
7 administratively complete.

8 When the draft air permit is issued, the project
9 will comply with federal, state, and local air quality
10 regulations, and the ambient air quality assessment
11 demonstrated that the project will not cause or
12 contribute to a violation of the National Ambient Air
13 Quality Standards, which are set to be protective of
14 public health and the environment, including protecting
15 the public health of sensitive populations such as
16 asthmatics, children, and the elderly.

17 Q. And who sets those National Ambient Air Quality
18 Standards?

19 A. The Environmental Protection Agency sets those
20 standards. The Environmental Protection Agency sets
21 National Ambient Air Quality Standards primary and
22 secondary for six criteria of pollutants. They have
23 established those for sulfur dioxide, for ozone, lead,
24 particulate matter less than 2.5 microns and 10 microns,
25 and carbon monoxide and sulfur dioxide. I think I listed

1 all six. They have established primary and secondary
2 standards. And, again, those primary standards are
3 standards that protect public health, including the
4 health of sensitive populations with a reasonable margin
5 of safety. Secondary standards are those that protect
6 public welfare and the environment.

7 The EPA is responsible for reviewing those
8 National Ambient Air Quality Standards every five years
9 to ensure that those standards are still adequate to
10 protect public health and the environment. The Clean
11 Air Scientific Advisory Committee, also known as CASAC,
12 is a committee or panel that reviews science assessments,
13 risk and exposure assessment. They review scientific
14 studies all related to maintaining and protecting the
15 National Ambient Air Quality Standards. And this Clean
16 Air Scientific Advisory Committee provides an independent
17 advice to the EPA administer on the technical basis for
18 the National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

19 MEMBER GRINNELL: Mr. Chairman.

20 CHMN. KATZ: Is that Rick Grinnell?

21 MEMBER GRINNELL: It is, sir.

22 CHMN. KATZ: Go ahead.

23 MEMBER GRINNELL: Would this be considered a
24 major or minor source? Am I saying that right?

25 MS. WATT: The existing Coolidge Generating

1 Station is a minor source, and this modification is also
2 a minor source.

3 MEMBER GRINNELL: Thank you.

4 MEMBER DRAGO: Mr. Chair.

5 CHMN. KATZ: Yes.

6 MEMBER DRAGO: Ms. Watt, I just wanted to put on
7 the record, you're not allowed to operate those units
8 until you get the operating permit, correct?

9 MS. WATT: That's correct.

10 CHMN. KATZ: Go ahead.

11 MEMBER RIGGINS: I'm just curious, what would be
12 considered a major source?

13 MS. WATT: It has to do with the -- to be
14 considered a major source, it would be a source that
15 emits over a certain level of pollutants, and we'll get
16 to that in just a moment if you'll allow me.

17 MEMBER RIGGINS: Sure.

18 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: Yes. That's a perfect segue.

19 Did SRP request emission limits in this
20 application?

21 A. (Ms. Watt) Yes. SRP is requesting enforceable
22 emission limits for this project that are below the major
23 source thresholds defined in Pinal County regulations.
24 So those thresholds are 250 tons per year for nitrogen
25 oxides, sulfur dioxide, carbon monoxide, and volatile

1 organic compounds, and less than 70 tons per year of
2 particulate matter.

3 To put these emission limits in context, the
4 existing units at Coolidge Generating Station have a
5 similar emission limit. But actual emissions are much,
6 much lower. For example, in 2020, the existing units at
7 Coolidge Generating Station emitted 6.9 tons of
8 particulate matter, 19.8 tons of nitrogen oxide, 38.4
9 tons of carbon monoxide, and less than 2 tons each of
10 volatile organic compounds and sulfur dioxide.

11 Requesting emission limits such as these is a
12 common permitting strategy for sources. However, the
13 example I illustrated for the existing Coolidge
14 Generating Station illustrates a snapshot in time of
15 actual emissions. Requesting an emission limit such as
16 these in the permit application allows SRP to use these
17 units to meet its reliability needs, all while
18 maintaining operational flexibility.

19 I would also add that these units will be
20 equipped with continuous emission monitors and a data
21 acquisition and handling system that is capable of
22 measuring and monitoring the emissions from the units at
23 any moment in time to demonstrate compliance with these
24 emission limits.

25 Q. You mentioned the need to maintain operational

1 flexibility, and that is something the earlier panel,
2 Panel 2, discussed as well. Is SRP requesting a capacity
3 factor limitation in the air quality permit application
4 for this project?

5 A. (Ms. Watt) SRP is not requesting a specific
6 capacity factor limit in the permit application. The
7 limits being requested in the permit effectively limit
8 the operation of the units.

9 For example, one scenario that was illustrated
10 in the permit application indicates the unit's potential
11 to emit. It identifies a scenario in which the units
12 start up twice a day and operate approximately 1,000
13 hours, which translates to a capacity factor of
14 approximately 11 percent.

15 However, this is just one of many potential
16 operating scenarios in which these units could operate.
17 But the emission limits that are being requested
18 effectively limit the operation of these units.

19 Q. In addition to the emission limits, what other
20 provisions is SRP proposing to include in the air quality
21 permit?

22 A. (Ms. Watt) So this permit will include
23 requirements to conduct performance testing on a periodic
24 basis for particulate matter and volatile organic
25 compounds. The permit will require annual relative

1 accuracy test audits to ensure that the continuous
2 emissions monitoring systems are accurately reading
3 emissions in the stack. And the permit will contain
4 provisions for recordkeeping, reporting, and monitoring,
5 which helps to establish these emission limits as
6 federally enforceable.

7 Q. Will there be a public comment opportunity
8 associated with the air permit application?

9 A. (Ms. Watt) Yes, there will be. When the
10 Pinal County Air Quality Control District issues the
11 permit, there will be a 30-day public comment period and
12 public hearing, followed by an EPA 45-day review period.
13 During that 30-day public comment period and public
14 hearing, members of the public may provide comments on
15 the information contained in the air permit application
16 and in the draft permit.

17 Q. Next I'd like you to describe how you evaluated
18 the project's potential effects on air quality.

19 A. (Ms. Watt) As mentioned, SRP retained RTP
20 Environmental to conduct an air quality assessment. This
21 assessment establishes or assesses the impact of the
22 project and the ability of the project to affect ambient
23 air quality.

24 Q. What is included in that ambient air quality
25 assessment?

1 A. So this ambient air quality assessment or
2 modeling was conducted in accordance with EPA model
3 guidelines and the Arizona Department of Environmental
4 Quality dispersion guidelines for Arizona air quality
5 permits.

6 Prior to RTP conducting this modeling, RTP
7 conducted a modeling protocol which was submitted to the
8 Pinal County Air Quality Control District and approved
9 prior to the model commencing. This modeling protocol
10 identifies the model selection, it identifies the
11 criteria pollutants that are to be evaluated, it
12 identifies the ambient background monitors whose data
13 would be included and assessed as background
14 concentrations, it identifies the meteorological
15 conditions surrounding the area, and it identifies the
16 load or operating conditions that are to be modeled.

17 Rather than conduct or model all potential
18 operating scenarios, the modeling was conducted using a
19 worst-case load or operating scenario. And the modeling
20 concentrations that are included in this model assessment
21 include the concentrations from the project plus the
22 concentrations from the existing Coolidge Generating
23 Station plus the concentrations of the background
24 monitors, and it includes the concentrations from nearby
25 sources.

1 Q. So what were the conclusions of this ambient air
2 quality assessment?

3 A. (Ms. Watt) So, again, the total concentrations
4 in this ambient air quality assessment modeling, which
5 again, includes the project itself, the concentrations
6 from the existing Coolidge Generating Station, background
7 concentrations, plus the concentrations from nearby
8 sources, were compared to the National Ambient Air
9 Quality Standards.

10 And all of the concentrations were below the
11 National Ambient Air Quality Standards, which, again, are
12 protective of the public health and the environment.

13 Q. And will the public have an opportunity to
14 comment on that ambient air quality assessment as well?

15 A. (Ms. Watt) Yes, they will. Again, during this
16 30-day public comment period and hearing, the public will
17 have an opportunity to comment on the ambient air quality
18 assessment and modeling as well.

19 Q. Earlier you discussed and explained what the
20 National Ambient Air Quality Standards are.

21 Next I'd like you to address a question that
22 Member Riggins posed based on a public commenter's
23 comment regarding the American Lung Association's report.

24 Can you tell us more about that report?

25 A. (Ms. Watt) Sure.

1 So the American Lung Association produces a
2 State of the Air Report. And that report is the American
3 Lung Association's national air quality report card.
4 It uses the most recent EPA air quality data, and it's
5 compiled for what the American Lung Association has
6 deemed to be the most widespread types of pollution.
7 That would include ozone and particulate matter less than
8 2.5 microns.

9 The report grades counties and ranks cities and
10 counties based on their letter grade and scores for ozone
11 and short-term and long-term particulate matter less than
12 2.5 microns.

13 The 2020 report gives Pinal County an F grade
14 for high ozone days or 24-hour particulate matter
15 pollution and assigns a failing grade for annual PM
16 pollution.

17 I would point out that the American Lung
18 Association's report uses a more stringent ranking system
19 for short-term effects that don't equate to the National
20 Ambient Air Quality Standards compliance.

21 The F grade for ozone and 24-hour particulate
22 matter standard was set to generally coincide with the
23 number of unhealthy days that would place the county in
24 nonattainment for the ozone and particulate matter 2.5
25 short-term standard.

1 However, the American Lung Association system
2 differs significantly from the methodology the EPA uses
3 to establish compliance with the National Ambient Air
4 Quality Standards. So, for example, the 24-hour PM2.5
5 National Ambient Air Quality Standard under the ALA
6 report, fewer unhealthy days are reported for an F grade
7 rather than what would be reported under the -- rather
8 than for nonattainment under the EPA National Ambient Air
9 Quality Standards.

10 The EPA National Ambient Air Quality Standard
11 allows 2 percent of the days in which -- during a
12 three-year period in which the National Ambient Air
13 Quality Standard is allowed to exceed the 35 micrograms
14 per meter cubed 24-hour standard, which represents the 98
15 percentile. Under the ALA report, they establish would
16 only allow for 1 percent of the days to exceed the 35
17 micrograms per cubic meter standard to be considered or
18 to get an F grade.

19 For air permitting purposes, the permits are
20 required to meet the National Ambient Air Quality
21 Standards, and EPA National Ambient Air Quality Standards
22 were demonstrated to be met with this ambient air quality
23 assessment.

24 Q. Let's talk about EPA standards and NAAQS and how
25 EPA sets nonattainment designations. Isn't that project

1 in a nonattainment area for PM10 established by EPA?

2 A. (Ms. Watt) It is. The Coolidge Expansion
3 Project is located within the West Pinal County PM10
4 Serious Nonattainment Area.

5 Q. And do federal, state, and air quality
6 regulations allow a project to expand in a nonattainment
7 area?

8 A. (Ms. Watt) They do. Even if a specific area is
9 designated nonattainment for a specific pollutant, the
10 air quality regulations do allow for sources to expand or
11 new sources to be built.

12 However, the emissions threshold in which those
13 sources are allowed to emit is reduced. For example, I
14 mentioned that SRP is requesting emission limits below
15 major source thresholds. And for nitrogen oxide, that
16 emissions threshold is 250 tons per year. For
17 particulate matter, that emissions threshold is lowered
18 to 70 tons per year because the area is in nonattainment.

19 The modeling assessment, the ambient air quality
20 assessment or modeling demonstration, was done in
21 accordance with the Arizona Department of Environmental
22 Quality regulations for modeling demonstrations for both
23 attainment and nonattainment pollutants, and the ambient
24 air quality assessment determined this project would not
25 interfere with Pinal County's ability to come into

1 attainment with the PM10 National Ambient Air Quality
2 Standards.

3 Q. Next I'd like you to describe the graphic that's
4 shown on the right screen, and it is correctly identified
5 as No. 230 in what's been marked for identification as
6 SRP Exhibit No. 2.

7 A. (Ms. Watt) Yes. So this graphic here
8 represents the most recent PM10 emissions inventory that
9 was developed for the area.

10 As I mentioned, the area is designated as
11 serious nonattainment for PM10. The State of Arizona and
12 the Maricopa Association of Governments and Pinal County
13 has to prepare a plan for how it plans to demonstrate
14 attainment with the PM10 National Ambient Air Quality
15 Standard. And in order to do that, they have to
16 understand what sources of particulate matter are in the
17 area and define those control measures.

18 So this graphic here illustrates the PM10
19 emissions from the latest PM10 emissions inventory done
20 for the area. As you can see here in gray, the largest
21 slice of the pie accounts for almost 75 percent of the
22 PM10 emissions in the area, and those come from unpaved
23 roads and unpaved parking lots.

24 The next biggest slice of the pie, this light
25 green slice here, that's wind-blown dust that accounts

1 for 9 percent of the particulate matter emissions in the
2 area.

3 And the third largest piece of the pie here is
4 this blue slice that's from agricultural activities,
5 including tilling, harvesting, feedlots, and dairies, and
6 this accounts for approximately 8 percent of the PM10
7 emissions in the PM10 nonattainment area.

8 So those three slices of the pie alone make up
9 almost 95 percent of the particulate matter in this West
10 Pinal County PM10 Serious Nonattainment Area.

11 And if I can call your attention to the green
12 slice here. This represents emissions from permitted
13 sources in the PM10 nonattainment area. So permitted
14 sources would include all sources that have an air
15 quality permit issued by the Pinal County Air Quality
16 Control District to emit air pollution. This includes
17 the existing Coolidge Generating Station.

18 So this slice of the pie here -- and I should
19 have mentioned at the beginning, this total slice of the
20 pie represents approximately 38,000 tons of PM10
21 emissions from this 2017 inventory.

22 The slice of the pie here represented in dark
23 green for permitted sources accounts for 557 tons of
24 particulate matter. And if you recall, I mentioned that
25 the PM10 emissions from the existing Coolidge Generating

1 Station in 2020 were 6.9 tons. So even the emissions
2 from the existing Coolidge Generating Station make up a
3 very small piece of the permitted sources slice of this
4 pie as well.

5 Q. So summarize your conclusions with respect to
6 the project's effect on air quality.

7 A. (Ms. Watt) So this project will not, again,
8 impact Pinal County's ability to attain the PM10 standard
9 nor will this project cause or contribute to a violation
10 of a National Ambient Air Quality Standard for any of the
11 criteria pollutants mentioned, which, again, are
12 protective of public health and welfare.

13 And this project will comply with all federal,
14 state, and local air quality regulations.

15 Q. Thank you, Ms. Watt.

16 Turning back to Mr. Petry -- oh, there's a
17 question.

18 MEMBER DRAGO: Mr. Chairman.

19 CHMN. KATZ: Yes.

20 MEMBER DRAGO: Ms. Watt, on the dispersion
21 modeling, how far off site did that go?

22 MS. WATT: So the dispersion modeling went out
23 25 kilometers. So the receptor grid is set from the
24 project site.

25 The first receptor locations go out

1 approximately 3 kilometers with receptors every 100
2 meters. Then the next set of receptors goes from 3
3 kilometers to 10 kilometers, set at 250 meters apart.
4 The fourth grid goes out -- and I'm probably going to get
5 this wrong and we'll have to refer to my report, but it
6 goes out to the 25-kilometer range with receptors at a
7 larger space, 1,000 meters apart.

8 MEMBER DRAGO: Thank you.

9 CHMN. KATZ: Go ahead, Mr. Palmer.

10 MEMBER PALMER: One other question that dawned
11 on me as I was coming in on Monday and drove through the
12 site.

13 This part of the world, the prevailing winds are
14 west to east. Does that serve to lessen the effect on
15 anything that's west of the project as far as the impact
16 it will have? We heard a lot Monday night about air
17 quality and the effect on the people that live in the
18 area.

19 MS. WATT: Yeah, it would affect. The
20 dispersion, depending on the predominant wind direction,
21 certainly has an impact on how air pollutants disperse
22 from these stacks. So depending upon the predominant
23 wind direction would have an effect on where those
24 pollutants disperse to.

25 MEMBER PALMER: One other question you probably

1 can't answer. It's kind of an ambiguous question. I
2 remember a few years ago, we had a major forest fire, the
3 Mount Graham. There was a lot of smoke in the air, and a
4 lot of citizens were really worried about the air they
5 were breathing. And they had the State come in and run
6 tests to make sure there wasn't anything that was going
7 to harm anybody.

8 And the report came back that even with that,
9 our air quality was still better than what people were
10 breathing living in Phoenix every day. Would you expect
11 that probably is the case in this area as well?

12 MS. WATT: That the air quality surrounding the
13 project is better than what you're breathing in Maricopa
14 County? Potentially. Maricopa County is also in
15 nonattainment for particulate matter and in nonattainment
16 for ozone, so I would say yes.

17 MEMBER PALMER: I know that's a --

18 MS. WATT: Yes.

19 MEMBER PALMER: Thank you.

20 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: Okay. Thank you, Ms. Watt.

21 Mr. Petry, did you evaluate the project's effect
22 on water resources?

23 A. (Mr. Petry) Yes, we did.

24 The project is located obviously in Pinal County
25 within an area designated under Arizona's groundwater

1 regulatory framework as part of the Pinal Active
2 Management Area or the Pinal AMA.

3 And the project itself is anticipated to use
4 approximately 233 acre-feet of stored surface water
5 annually, equivalent to the water use of approximately
6 600 homes.

7 The water supply for the project will be
8 100 percent derived from the recovery of long-term
9 storage credits that SRP has acquired within the Pinal
10 AMA. The stored surface water associated with those
11 long-term storage credits will be recovered from onsite
12 wells that are permitted by the Arizona Department of
13 Water Resources as recovery wells.

14 During the route tour today, Member Riggins
15 pointed out and asked the question of Mr. McClellan
16 around one of those wells. You see those wells are
17 located on the map on the right. And I think, in
18 particular, we were near the area right here. We saw
19 that well.

20 Through the use of those long-term storage
21 credits, the project results in an addition to the water
22 in the aquifer as a portion of that recharged water is
23 required to be left within the aquifer. Those are known
24 as cuts to the aquifer.

25 In addition, the project itself will remove

1 approximately 100 acres of existing irrigated
2 agricultural lands. And at this location, the water duty
3 allotted for agricultural use was actually 4 acre-feet
4 per acre, resulting in -- approximately over 100 acres,
5 resulting in approximately 400 acre-feet of water use
6 annually traditionally on this site. And the project
7 itself would result in water consumption of a little more
8 than half of that amount.

9 Q. So what are your conclusions with respect to the
10 project's effect on water resources?

11 A. (Mr. Petry) The project would be compliant with
12 water requirements. It would reduce water consumption on
13 the site as compared to those past agricultural uses --

14 CHMN. KATZ: Could you pull the microphone a
15 little closer.

16 MR. PETRY: Certainly.

17 -- and through the use of those long-term
18 storage credits, results in an addition to the aquifer.

19 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: Thank you.

20 Next I'd like you to summarize your conclusions
21 with respect to the environmental compatibility of this
22 project. First summarize the results of your analyses.

23 A. (Mr. Petry) Certainly.

24 The project is consistent with the existing
25 zoning and land use prescriptions at the site. It would

1 reduce water use. It would be compliant with the air
2 quality and noise requirements. It would have no impacts
3 to endangered species. It would be consistent with the
4 existing visual setting. And it is not expected to
5 affect historic or archeological sites.

6 Q. In your professional opinion, having presented
7 testimony to this Committee, conducting analyses for
8 other projects, is this project environmentally
9 compatible?

10 A. Yes. When looking at the total environment, the
11 project would be compliant with the relevant requirements
12 associated with existing and planned land uses,
13 recreation, air, noise, water, visual resources, cultural
14 and biological resources.

15 The project conforms with the City of Coolidge
16 Central Plan and zoning ordinance and is in a location
17 that minimizes those environmental impacts. It is
18 located adjacent to an existing electrical generating
19 facility, electrical and natural gas transmission
20 infrastructure, a railroad, and multiple industrial
21 facilities in an area planned for this type of
22 development.

23 In my professional opinion, based on the
24 analyses we completed, the project is environmentally
25 compatible with the factors set forth in A.R.S. 40-360.06

1 and consistent with the previous projects approved by
2 this Committee.

3 Q. Thank you, Mr. Petry.

4 Ms. Pollio, describe the supplemental analyses
5 that you were retained to do in addition to the
6 environmental compatibility analysis that Mr. Petry just
7 summarized.

8 A. (Ms. Pollio) Yes.

9 So, as I mentioned earlier, I have been working
10 in Pinal County and in this area for over 20 years. I
11 was on the team that originally sited the Coolidge
12 Generating Station, conducted the land use analysis, and
13 conducted the public process. So based on that history,
14 I was asked to review the potential environmental impacts
15 associated with a community analysis, particularly
16 environmental justice and the city of Randolph.

17 So first, let's just go ahead and take one step
18 back and talk about the definition of environmental
19 justice. So I want to read EPA's definition. So EPA
20 defines environmental justice as: The fair treatment and
21 meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race,
22 color, national origin, or income with respect to the
23 development, implementation, and enforcement of
24 environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

25 So that's the definition. And then Executive

1 Order 12898 was issued in 1994. And this established the
2 responsibility of federal agencies to make environmental
3 justice part of its mission.

4 Later, there was a guidance document issued by
5 the EPA in 1997. And this basically discussed guidance
6 in addressing environmental justice associated with
7 federal NEPA projects.

8 So that's the establishment.

9 Because the State of Arizona does not have
10 environmental justice regulations, we also don't have
11 socioeconomic guidance documents, we looked to the
12 federal guidance. These are used traditionally on
13 federal projects and in the industry if it's not a
14 federal project. So these are the guidance documents
15 that we used.

16 Q. So what analytics did you perform?

17 A. (Mr. Pollio) So the first analysis that we did
18 was looking at the Environmental Protection Agency's
19 environmental justice mapping and screening tool. And
20 this is called EJSCREEN. This is a readily available
21 tool online. It's easy to use, and you put in
22 information. You put in the exact location of a project.
23 You can buffer it to the area that you're looking at.

24 And EJSCREEN uses 11 environmental indicators.
25 It uses publicly available data to identify or calculate

1 those indicators. Again, they're demographic and
2 environmentally oriented. And it provides a way to
3 display the information and includes methods for
4 combining those environmental and demographic data, and
5 it produces information that they call EJ or
6 environmental justice indexes.

7 The next tool we looked at was EPA's Power Plant
8 and Neighboring Mapping Tool. This is another one that's
9 online. If you Google it, it comes right up. And this
10 is a tool that produces information for every fossil fuel
11 power plant in the United States. So, of course, it
12 provides all power plants in the state of Arizona as well
13 as Coolidge.

14 So what this tool does is look at key
15 demographics as well as these indexes or environmental
16 indexes. So it basically calculates and compares these
17 indexes to your reference community. In this case,
18 Randolph. And it compares it to the state of Arizona and
19 national averages. So these are two outputs that are
20 traditionally used by the EPA.

21 Q. So what were the results of those analyses?

22 A. (Mr. Pollio) So EJSCREEN, we looked at EJSCREEN
23 and identified the Coolidge Expansion Project site, and
24 then we buffered the site by a half a mile. When you
25 buffer it by a half a mile , it encompasses the community

1 of Randolph. So, specifically, it is Kleck Road to the
2 south, Arizona Avenue to the west, the railroad to the
3 east, and Randolph to the north. You can change the
4 buffering, but in this case, that's what we did in order
5 to capture the community boundaries.

6 The tool then provides output of tables and
7 combines the results of these demographic and
8 environmental indicators, and it basically concludes
9 what's called environmental justice index results.

10 So the index results for Randolph. So, again,
11 there's 11 indexes combining the demographics in the
12 area, and the environmental indices basically creates
13 these EJ indexes. All of the indexes for this area, so
14 comparing Randolph to the state and national, were all
15 below both state and national for all 11 indexes.

16 The results of the EPA Power Plant and
17 Neighboring Mapping Tool uses similar data. And so the
18 key indicators were very similar, where they were at or
19 below state and/or national averages.

20 So those were the results of those two analyses.

21 MEMBER HAMWAY: Just in layman's term, is it
22 environmentally -- is justice -- I don't even know the
23 right term. Is it environmentally bad? I mean, I don't
24 know what your analysis said.

25 MS. POLLIO: So you do very well at segueing us,

1 because, again, that is exactly where we're going. I
2 will let Bert tee it up.

3 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: So you mentioned the analysis you
4 did. So once you got those results -- and Member
5 Hamway's question -- what do you do with that evaluation?

6 A. (Ms. Pollio) So I do want to address your
7 question. The results of those do indicate that
8 everything was below state and national. And really,
9 that's what the guidance is. If everything is below
10 those averages, it is not considered a community that you
11 would study further for environmental justice. So that
12 was basically what would be a positive result from our
13 analysis perspective.

14 However, when we looked at the demographics that
15 were outputs of these models, they did identify a lower
16 minority population than we would have expected based on
17 what we heard from the public process. So when we were
18 talking to the community, we heard there was a lot more
19 minority population.

20 Also, from literature, there's a number of books
21 about Randolph and news articles. And we looked at that
22 as well, and that indicates a higher minority population.
23 Based on that, we did not want to stop with those two
24 tools because they do use regional data, and they do use
25 demographics. Although it was demographics from census

1 data, they still seem to represent a lower minority
2 population than we've heard about. So we did want to go
3 one step further.

4 So I did want to answer your question, but I
5 also wanted to continue with what Bert was saying.

6 MEMBER HAMWAY: I don't even know what I was
7 asking.

8 MS. POLLIO: I wanted to circle back.

9 But let's talk about that next tool because,
10 again, those are online tools.

11 So what we wanted to do is use -- there's a
12 toolkit. So I'm going to talk about that a little bit.
13 So EPA's Office of Environmental Justice Toolkit for
14 Assessing Potential Allegations of Environmental
15 Injustice. I'm going to call it Toolkit because it's a
16 very long title. But, again, what it is, is a method for
17 addressing or analyzing community impacts and
18 environmental justice. So we wanted to use that.

19 So the first thing in the Toolkit, the first
20 thing you do is establish if the community is 50 percent
21 or more minority or low income population. In this case,
22 we identified that based on what I just said, that the
23 demographics vary, but we recognize that there is -- in
24 literature and public process, we recognize that the
25 minority population was higher and, therefore, we would

1 move on to the next step.

2 So the next step is an analysis on -- is looking
3 at the environment and doing an environmental analysis.
4 And so that's one of the aspects that I was hired to do,
5 is do an independent environmental analysis of the CEC
6 application, the air permit application, and the Aquifer
7 Protection Permit application.

8 MEMBER HAMWAY: So, real quick, are you looking
9 at conditions today or how they will be with the
10 expansion?

11 MS. POLLIO: We would be looking at what they
12 will be with the expansion. And that's what the
13 applications in front of you do. So I was hired to look
14 at those and conduct an environmental analysis.

15 And, again, I relied on the data that you have
16 in front of you. But looking at that and, again, kind of
17 mirroring it to this Toolkit. So what the Toolkit asks
18 you to do is analyze the environment and identify if it
19 is adverse, if there are adverse effects that rise to
20 that NEPA level. So NEPA talks about adverse effects.
21 And if they rise to that level for a certain
22 environmental aspect, that's what I was looking at.

23 So the next step is -- let me follow up. Based
24 on the analysis that I reviewed -- so the CEC application
25 that Devin explained, each one of those environmental

1 aspects, the air permit application, the aquifer
2 protection, the water, all resulted in less than adverse
3 effects. So I don't have to go through them because we
4 just spent a couple hours reviewing those environmental
5 analysis. But I did conclude that there was nothing that
6 would rise to adverse levels based on NEPA.

7 In addition, which is part of an environmental
8 justice definition, the project conforms and meets all
9 local, state, and federal requirements and regulatory
10 compliance. So that's another important aspect. So that
11 was the third step in the process.

12 Then the fourth step in the process, if there
13 are adverse effects, then you determine if it's
14 disproportionate impacting the reference community. And
15 in this case, that would be Randolph. So, obviously,
16 there were no impacts that rose to that adverse level,
17 and, therefore, there are no disproportionate impacts.

18 As a result, I can conclude that this project
19 does not rise to the level of environmental justice that
20 is identified by EPA's definition. I will say, however,
21 there are impacts to the community of Randolph. I mean,
22 we all have identified they're not rising to the adverse
23 level, but there are impacts.

24 And I think that's very important that we talk
25 about the fact that mitigation would be appropriate to

1 mitigate the impacts to Randolph. And that is what I
2 know SRP, we talked about earlier, working with the
3 community and talking to the community about what they
4 see as proper mitigation and what they see would be
5 important. That stakeholder working group definitely
6 would be a guiding -- really would be important to help
7 guide mitigation.

8 MEMBER GENTLES: Mr. Chairman.

9 CHMN. KATZ: Yes, Member Gentles.

10 MEMBER GENTLES: This is Member Gentles. Can
11 you hear me?

12 CHMN. KATZ: Yes, we can hear you very well.

13 MEMBER GENTLES: Thank you.

14 Ms. Pollio, have you presented these findings to
15 the Randolph community directly?

16 MS. POLLIO: I have not.

17 MEMBER GENTLES: So would you know whether or
18 not they agree with your analysis?

19 MS. POLLIO: I do not.

20 MEMBER GENTLES: So have you actually gone out
21 and spoken to members of the Randolph community that you
22 studied?

23 MS. POLLIO: Not as part of this project. I
24 went out to the Randolph community, as I testified
25 previously. I did go out in previous cases door to door

1 and talk to members of the Randolph community.

2 MEMBER GENTLES: But you're talking about the
3 project you oversaw ten years ago?

4 MS. POLLIO: That is when I did speak to the
5 Randolph community, yes.

6 MEMBER GENTLES: So your analysis is there is no
7 environmental justice impact on the Randolph community,
8 but you have not -- based on what you said, you have not
9 spoken to the Randolph community nor have you presented
10 your findings to the Randolph community.

11 Have you presented your findings to any
12 oversight groups, the EPA or otherwise?

13 MS. POLLIO: No, I did not.

14 MEMBER GENTLES: Did you get any information
15 from any advocacy group outside of SRP and your firm to
16 validate your environmental justice study?

17 MS. POLLIO: What I did was use the EPA tools
18 that are available online and tried to ensure that an
19 independent analysis was done that met the definition of
20 environmental justice. I did not go out and solicit
21 additional input from third parties.

22 MEMBER GENTLES: Did SRP go out and solicit
23 additional third parties?

24 MS. POLLIO: Not that I'm aware, no.

25 MEMBER GENTLES: All right. Thank you,

1 Mr. Chairman.

2 CHMN. KATZ: Thank you.

3 We can go ahead now if you're ready.

4 MR. ACKEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: And thank you, Ms. Pollio.

6 We're going to wrap up this panel with some
7 concluding thoughts from Ms. Hallows first and then
8 Ms. Rickard.

9 Both of you had testified about your outreach to
10 the community of Randolph and the public engagement
11 process generally. You have heard the testimony from
12 Ms. Watt, Ms. Pollio, and Mr. Petry regarding the minimal
13 environmental effects of the project from their
14 perspective and based on their analysis.

15 Notwithstanding the conclusions of your experts
16 that the environmental impacts are minimal, what is SRP's
17 next steps with the community of Randolph? Starting with
18 Ms. Hallows.

19 A. (Ms. Hallows) I just wanted to point out real
20 quick in summary that when I started out reaching out to
21 Randolph, it was, of course, to engage with them as part
22 of the CEC process. But, really, as a result of that, I
23 got to have a lot of really great conversations with a
24 lot of really great people.

25 And what I learned is Randolph is a community

1 full of pride. And they're worried about preservation.
2 They're concerned about not having any direct benefits
3 from this project.

4 So that really further emphasizes the strong
5 importance of SRP being a good neighbor and solidifying a
6 long-term partnership, and that's regardless of the
7 outcome of this expansion.

8 Q. Thank you, Ms. Hallows.

9 Ms. Rickard.

10 A. (Ms. Rickard) To follow up what Ms. Hallows
11 expressed, SRP has a legacy over 100 years of supporting
12 communities where we are in the service territory and
13 areas of impact. Randolph is exactly what we're talking
14 about here. Our commitment is real. We've outlined and
15 identified several conditions we'd be ready to start
16 today.

17 And these didn't come from us assuming that this
18 is what the neighborhood needed. This is direct from
19 responses from the conversations Ms. Hallows has had,
20 that I have had, from other team members that have been
21 down there talking directly to those residents. We don't
22 do that from afar. Yes, up in the Valley is where our
23 office is, but that is not where we get this input. It
24 is there from the residents.

25 We are there to support them again through this

1 community working group. That's the best way we know.
2 It's worked before in other areas of our company. I
3 personally can speak to it. I've been part of one in the
4 neighborhood I live in that does not have a formal HOA
5 organization. The neighbors themselves come together.

6 A sense of pride. We know that's what's
7 existing here in Randolph. We are here to help,
8 regardless of the outcome of this hearing.

9 MEMBER HAMWAY: Could I just ask a quick
10 question. One of the things you said they wanted was
11 having their trees trimmed.

12 MS. RICKARD: Uh-huh. We did hear that.

13 MEMBER HAMWAY: So if I'm a resident of
14 Randolph, how do I contact you to come trim my trees?

15 MS. RICKARD: So we're working with the plant
16 manager there. They would be the initial liaison. But
17 as we go further along in this process, this community
18 working group would be the individuals that we would be
19 working directly with to schedule that and make sure it's
20 something that works for them.

21 CHMN. KATZ: Have any thoughts been given to
22 planting a significant number of trees or other
23 vegetation to enhance the view that Randolph has of the
24 existing plant and possibly -- even though it might be a
25 small amount of carbon capture, because trees and

1 vegetation do suck up the carbon from the air.

2 MS. RICKARD: Yes, that is something on our
3 list.

4 MEMBER GENTLES: Mr. Chairman.

5 CHMN. KATZ: Is that Member Gentles?

6 MEMBER GENTLES: It is.

7 CHMN. KATZ: Go ahead.

8 MEMBER GENTLES: Thank you.

9 We've heard thus far throughout the three days
10 of testimony that this investment in the plant is going
11 to be transformational; is that correct?

12 CHMN. KATZ: Anybody feel comfortable in
13 answering that question?

14 MS. RICKARD: I'm not sure I understand the
15 question.

16 MEMBER GENTLES: Okay. Let me ask it again, and
17 maybe Mr. Acken can answer the question.

18 There was testimony from a number of the SRP
19 witnesses that the investment in this plant will be
20 transformational in a variety of ways, including
21 transformational in terms of moving the SRP power
22 generation effort forward. Did you hear that?

23 MR. ACKEN: Yes, Member Gentles.

24 The testimony was SRP and the electric utility
25 industry is in a time of transformational change, a

1 transformational change due to both significant,
2 unprecedented load growth as well as the rapid transition
3 to a renewable future. So that's the transformational
4 change.

5 This project, the testimony from the prior panel
6 is that it helps meet the needs presented by that
7 transformational change by providing a reliable source of
8 power and the reliability backbone, if you will, to
9 enable the integration of additional solar and other
10 renewable resources.

11 MEMBER GENTLES: Okay. What I heard over the
12 last three days is that the investment in this plant will
13 be transformational and it will be state of the art.
14 I've heard that multiple times. Transformational and
15 state of the art. I think just about everybody that
16 testified used those words one way or the other.

17 My question to the panel today is: Will your
18 investment in the Randolph community be equally
19 transformational?

20 MR. ACKEN: And I'd like to have --

21 MEMBER GENTLES: Or will it be transformational
22 in Pinal County, in Coolidge, or Casa Grande, or overall
23 in that community? Will it be equally -- I'm not
24 suggesting that it's an equal transformation, but when
25 you talk about transformational change, it means that

1 that's a declarative difference in terms of the
2 investment.

3 So I'm just wondering if the thinking along the
4 SRP line is similarly transformational in this commitment
5 in the community that surrounds the plant.

6 MR. ACKEN: And if I could, I'd like to set that
7 question up for our witnesses. There's a couple
8 components to it, Member Gentles, and so I'd like
9 Mr. Petry to speak to transformation as it relates to
10 historic preservation, and then I would ask Ms. Rickard
11 and Ms. Hallows to address again what SRP is committed to
12 doing and has already offered to do at this time.

13 MR. PETRY: Thank you, Mr. Acken.

14 I can start, and it kind of brings us back to
15 the question that Member Hamway had as well with regard
16 to would the project impact the potential for the
17 community of Randolph to be recognized as an historic
18 townsite or an historic district.

19 And we understand from some of the comments
20 received that there's an interest in that occurring in
21 the community of Randolph. It's an important part of
22 Arizona's history. And SRP has offered to assist with
23 pursuing that historic townsite or historic district
24 designation and would be very supportive of that
25 specifically in terms of a transformational change. But

1 more specifically, preservation of the important history
2 within the community of Randolph.

3 MS. RICKARD: So I can reiterate some of the
4 support that we have outlined today, and that is the
5 community working group. And that is a formal process
6 that we would be hiring an independent facilitator so
7 that it is truly a group effort, impartial party running
8 those meetings.

9 Assisting the community of Randolph in that
10 process to establish them as a historic neighborhood.

11 Installing some visual screening. Member Katz,
12 you mentioned that.

13 Providing tree-trimming and cleanup service on a
14 regular basis. Installing the "no dumping" signs,
15 providing cleanup days.

16 These are permanent solutions that we would be
17 embedding into our every year plan, every year budget.
18 And that's just where we're starting. We know that
19 community working group is going to evolve, and
20 continuing ideas will come out of that, likely will.
21 That's that transformation that we're looking for.

22 MEMBER HAMWAY: So does this community working
23 group, does it contain members from Randolph?

24 MS. RICKARD: Yes.

25 MEMBER HAMWAY: So have you had good reception

1 from the community of Randolph? Do they welcome your
2 presence? Have they been open to talking with you about
3 what SRP could do to improve their community?

4 MS. RICKARD: The conversations I had, yes, they
5 were. Christina has extensive -- probably longer
6 conversations and relationships than I do, and I would
7 defer to her.

8 MEMBER HAMWAY: She's there.

9 MS. HALLOWS: Yes, I think many of the people
10 that I spoke with were very receptive. And, again, the
11 things that were outlined were things that were suggested
12 to us by members of the community. So I think it would
13 be a great thing to put together, and I hope that we
14 would get good participation.

15 MEMBER HAMWAY: Thank you.

16 MEMBER DRAGO: Mr. Chair.

17 CHMN. KATZ: Thank you.

18 Mr. Drago.

19 MEMBER DRAGO: So I'd like to ask the Chairman
20 first, are we authorized to talk about what we heard at
21 the public meeting? I want to validate something.

22 CHMN. KATZ: If you want to validate
23 something --

24 MEMBER DRAGO: I don't know, so that's why I'm
25 asking.

1 CHMN. KATZ: Go ahead.

2 MEMBER DRAGO: We heard from one member that all
3 SRP's done thus far was put in some sidewalks and a fire
4 hydrant. Is that true?

5 MS. RICKARD: SRP has not done that. I
6 believe that was a discussion with the City of Coolidge.

7 MEMBER DRAGO: I just wanted to get that on the
8 record.

9 CHMN. KATZ: Anything further?

10 MR. ACKEN: No, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

11 CHMN. KATZ: Before we recess, I'm going to do
12 something -- with almost 22 years on the bench, I always
13 admonished jurors never to read the newspaper or watch TV
14 if it had anything to do with this.

15 But there was a factually inaccurate column in
16 today's Republic. And I'm not going to go through the
17 whole article. It is not evidence and there's not
18 anything in the article that should be considered
19 evidence of anything.

20 But it was written by a Ryan Bentz, opinion
21 contributor, and I think he sat through the public
22 comment sessions of these proceedings and maybe certain
23 other evidentiary presentations. But this might be
24 something that Mr. McClellan can answer so that it is
25 clear to us the nature of the generators.

1 So I don't know if he's still here.

2 MR. MCCLELLAN: Mr. Chairman.

3 CHMN. KATZ: There you go. We won't call you
4 Ms. Pollio. We know who you are.

5 MR. ACKEN: And I would just note, Mr. Bentz did
6 provide public comment in the public comment session.

7 CHMN. KATZ: He did.

8 MR. ACKEN: And he was -- Mr. McClellan can
9 testify to this -- was a participant in the tour that SRP
10 provided.

11 CHMN. KATZ: And I'm not going to go into the
12 whole thing because I don't know what's accurate or
13 inaccurate, and he has a very strong opinion. And
14 opinion isn't fact, whether it's my opinion or the
15 opinion of any of the Members of the Committee. But,
16 anyway, I'll just read this one paragraph.

17 It says: SRP proposes to install 16 more
18 single-cycle gas turbines at its Coolidge Generating
19 Station, which are generally -- and this is bolded now --
20 least efficient and most costly to operate.

21 It goes on: SRP installations in places like
22 Tempe and Gilbert use highly efficient combined-cycle
23 turbines with pollution-reducing and wastewater reuse
24 technologies. The turbines proposed for Coolidge will
25 pump large amounts of -- and it's emphasized -- harmful

1 emissions into an area that already suffers from
2 unhealthy small particulate levels, and they'll let
3 precious water simply evaporate instead of being reused.
4 And it will happen for decades to come.

5 And the main comment that I was concerned with
6 is that he's making a claim, despite the testimony, that
7 you're using high-tech turbines, you're not using
8 state-of-the-art equipment for this project. So I'd just
9 like you to address that concern.

10 MR. MCCLELLAN: Sure, Mr. Chairman.

11 When we think about combined-cycle versus
12 simple-cycle, I would think back to the testimony that we
13 gave with Panel 2. And it's really using the right tool
14 for the right job.

15 So one of the key reasons that we are using
16 these single-cycle aeroderivative turbines is they're
17 quick-starting and fast-ramping. They can start in less
18 than ten minutes. And as I mentioned, they're
19 fast-ramping. So in using those as a peaking resource,
20 that's really the right tool for the immediate role of
21 the Coolidge Expansion Project in our system.

22 If you think about a combined-cycle resource,
23 those are very good for more of a baseloaded resource.
24 So they would run more hours for the year to provide more
25 energy instead of being used to come online to react

1 to -- for example, to react to variations of renewable
2 resources.

3 So I would just sum it up by saying we're using
4 the right tool for the right job. And it is true that
5 combined cycles are more efficient. But for what we
6 intend to use the CEP units for, they don't really
7 fulfill that need for SRP.

8 CHMN. KATZ: What I'll do is I'll invite, if you
9 have, Mr. Acken to ask a follow-up question. And then
10 tomorrow, when we go through cross-examination, we can
11 recall Mr. McClellan, if necessary, for our intervenors
12 to question briefly. And then we can get into
13 cross-examination of this panel here today.

14 MR. ACKEN: Thank you, Chairman Katz.

15

16 WILLIAM MCCLELLAN,
17 recalled as a witness on behalf of Applicant, having been
18 previously affirmed by the Chairman to speak the truth
19 and nothing but the truth, was examined and testified as
20 follows:

21

22 DIRECT EXAMINATION

23 BY MR. ACKEN:

24 Q. You talked earlier on the tour about the Santan
25 plant. Is that a combined-cycle plant?

1 A. Yes, that's correct. The Santan Generating
2 Station in Gilbert, Arizona, is a combined-cycle
3 facility.

4 Q. And do you know approximately -- let me
5 rephrase.

6 Are you able to compare the usage of that plant
7 versus, for example, the existing Coolidge Generating
8 Station?

9 A. I do not know the capacity factor, the exact
10 number off the top of my head, but I can confirm that it
11 would be used more than what we anticipate using the
12 Coolidge Expansion Project as far as operational hours
13 per year.

14 MR. ACKEN: Thank you.

15 MEMBER PALMER: Chairman.

16 CHMN. KATZ: Yes, go ahead, Mr. Palmer.

17 MEMBER PALMER: Another question that came to my
18 mind in reading this and hearing this, do not
19 combined-cycle plants use more water than the
20 single-cycle plants?

21 MR. MCCLELLAN: That's absolutely correct.
22 Combined cycles, just by their nature, since they have a
23 steam cycle, have to have a circulating water system to
24 cool down that steam. And that uses a significantly
25 larger amount of water than a simple-cycle technology

1 would use.

2 As an example, our Santan Generating Station
3 probably uses several thousand acre-feet of water per
4 year as compared to the anticipation for the Coolidge
5 Expansion Project to use about 450 acre-feet per year.

6 CHMN. KATZ: And even if the water were -- some
7 of it were recyclable, it's generating steam, and that's
8 going to go up generally into the atmosphere; is that
9 correct?

10 MR. MCCLELLAN: That's correct.

11 Mr. Chairman, if I may, I'd also like to correct
12 a statement I made on the tour. We were talking about
13 the generating capacity of the Santan Generating Station.
14 I believe I misstated that to be around 1,500 megawatts.
15 It's actually a little less than 1,200 megawatts.

16 MR. RICH: Mr. Chair, could I ask a quick
17 question?

18 CHMN. KATZ: Yes.

19 MR. RICH: I didn't attend the tour. Was there
20 a transcript taken of the tour?

21 CHMN. KATZ: Transcript will be available. A
22 lot wasn't said. Just this is where we're at and this is
23 what we're looking at. But there will be a transcript
24 available of what was said by various people during the
25 tour.

1 MR. ACKEN: Mr. Chairman, if there is to be any
2 follow-up questions from the intervenors for
3 Mr. McClellan based on this discussion, can we just do
4 that now so that he's done? I'm sure he would very much
5 like to be done.

6 CHMN. KATZ: If the parties -- I pulled a
7 surprise on everybody by doing this, but I was just
8 concerned about the nature of the equipment. And I don't
9 read much into what is printed, especially in an op-ed,
10 because we have all different points of view.

11 But are there any questions that any of our
12 intervenors would feel comfortable in asking on this
13 subject matter? Otherwise, we can wait and do it quickly
14 in the morning.

15 MR. RICH: Mr. Chairman, I guess I'd like to
16 review the op-ed before answering that question -- or
17 asking questions.

18 CHMN. KATZ: We could do that. I just don't
19 want to get heavily -- I just don't want to get us
20 heavily in the op-ed. I just wanted to make the inquiry
21 about whether these generators use more or less water and
22 are more efficient or less efficient and why we would see
23 one type of generator at one facility and another at a
24 different facility.

25 But I have no problem -- I just don't want to

1 take a lot of time doing this. And if you have any cross
2 on this, we can do it in the morning and get
3 Mr. McClellan, if he wasn't planning to be here, out of
4 here quickly, unless you feel comfortable going forward.

5 MR. RICH: Mr. Chairman, without -- I don't have
6 a copy of it in front of me. I did see it, I will admit,
7 but I didn't think about the fact that this would come
8 up, so I would appreciate the opportunity to look at it.
9 I, frankly, don't think I'll have any questions, but
10 without it in front of me, I don't know.

11 CHMN. KATZ: Mr. Stafford, any thought one way
12 or the other?

13 MR. STAFFORD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

14 I don't have any questions.

15 MS. POST: No questions.

16 CHMN. KATZ: Anything from the Corporation
17 Commission?

18 MS. UST: Nothing from Staff.

19 CHMN. KATZ: Let me know in the morning if you
20 have any questions. And if you know sooner than that,
21 maybe you can let Mr. Acken know because I don't know
22 whether we were planning to have Mr. McClellan here
23 tomorrow.

24 MR. ACKEN: Mr. McClellan has to stay here as
25 the project manager whether he wants to or not.

1 CHMN. KATZ: Then we won't worry about
2 inconveniencing him.

3 We're going to recess for the evening, start at
4 9:00 tomorrow.

5 I believe because of COVID, there's still that
6 supervisor from Pinal County that let us know on Monday
7 and again on Tuesday that he was unable to participate.
8 If he calls us in the morning, we will take care of his
9 comments briefly. And if he doesn't call in, we'll just
10 get right started with your cross-examination.

11 Okay. Everybody clear your heads and relax and
12 have a good dinner. We do stand in recess.

13 (The hearing recessed at 4:58 p.m.)

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1 STATE OF ARIZONA)
)
 2 COUNTY OF MARICOPA)

3 BE IT KNOWN that the foregoing proceedings were
 taken before me; that the foregoing pages are a full,
 4 true, and accurate record of the proceedings, all done to
 the best of my skill and ability; that the proceedings
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 7 I CERTIFY that I am in no way related to any of the
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 9 I CERTIFY that I have complied with the ethical
 obligations set forth in ACJA 7-206(F)(3) and
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 10 Arizona, this 18th day of February, 2022.

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