

1 BEFORE THE ARIZONA POWER PLANT LSC-233

2 AND TRANSMISSION LINE SITING COMMITTEE

3

4 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION) DOCKET NO.
5 OF SALT RIVER PROJECT) L-00000B-22-0113-00204
6 AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENT AND)
7 POWER DISTRICT, IN CONFORMANCE) LS CASE NO. 204
8 WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF ARIZONA)
9 REVISED STATUTES, SECTIONS)
10 40-360, et seq., FOR A)
11 CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL)
12 COMPATIBILITY AUTHORIZING)
13 PROJECT HUCKLEBERRY, AN)
14 APPROXIMATELY HALF-MILE 230 KV)
15 DOUBLE CIRCUIT TRANSMISSION LINE)
16 AND ASSOCIATED INTERCONNECTION)
17 FACILITIES WITHIN THE CITY OF) EVIDENTIARY HEARING
18 MESA, MARICOPA COUNTY, ARIZONA.)
19 _____)

20

21 At: Mesa, Arizona

22 Date: June 27, 2022

23 Filed: July 1, 2022

24

25 REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

26 VOLUME I
27 (Pages 1 through 123)

28

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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 Delta Hotels by Marriott, 200 North
5 Centennial Way, Mesa, Arizona, commencing at 1:07 p.m. on
6 the 27th day of June, 2022.

7

8 BEFORE: PAUL A. KATZ, Chairman

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

15

16 APPEARANCES:

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20 and

21 SALT RIVER PROJECT
22 Ms. Alysha Gilbert
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24 Phoenix, Arizona 85072-2025

25

1 CHMN. KATZ: We can go on the record now.
2 Welcome, everyone. This is the time set for a hearing to
3 determine whether or not a Certificate of Environmental
4 Compatibility should be issued to our petitioner,
5 Huckleberry, SRP Huckleberry Project. And in a moment, I
6 will introduce counsel.

7 But before we do that, I would like to have,
8 starting at my far right with Mr. Haenichen, I have our
9 members who are here identify themselves for our hearing
10 record.

11 MEMBER HAENICHEN: I'm Jack Haenichen
12 representing the public.

13 MEMBER HAMWAY: Mary Hamway, cities and towns.

14 MEMBER FRENCH: David French, Arizona Department
15 of Water Resources.

16 MEMBER DRAGO: Len Drago, Arizona Department of
17 Environmental Quality.

18 MEMBER PALMER: Jim Palmer representing
19 agriculture.

20 CHMN. KATZ: And I see appearing virtually are
21 Rick Grinnell, Zach Branum, and Toby Little.

22 I understand you had a little mishap, Toby. I
23 hope you're doing much better, but I'm glad to see your
24 smiling face this afternoon. So if you need to take a
25 break early, let us know.

1 The other thing I asked at the last hearing,
2 because we had one member, someone who isn't present with
3 you people virtually, that never was on virtually and
4 continued to be on and off. I would ask you, whenever
5 possible, to please remain -- keep your video on, even if
6 you have to take a quick trip to the restroom or to grab
7 a bite to eat.

8 The reason for that is that in some of these
9 meetings, we're short of having a quorum or could be if
10 we lost a single person. So I need to make sure and the
11 rest of the Committee needs to make sure that whoever is
12 appearing virtually is present with us. Even if you're
13 off screen, it won't be troubling. But try to keep the
14 video going if at all possible.

15 And there are no motions to intervene.

16 I will introduce now Mr. Bert Acken, who is
17 representing the applicant. And I think he -- this
18 doesn't need to be your opening remarks, but you may have
19 a few things to share with us. And we're also going to
20 take a vote shortly as to whether we take a tour or not.

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

22 Good afternoon, Members of the Committee. Bert
23 Acken of Jennings Strouss & Salmon on behalf of the
24 applicant, Salt River Project Agricultural Improvement
25 and Power District.

1 With me at counsel table is my co-counsel,
2 Alysha Gilbert, in-house with SRP.

3 CHMN. KATZ: And also seated quietly in the back
4 of the room is Meghan Grabel, who represents Salt River
5 Project. She's just going to be observing these
6 proceedings to report to SRP. And she may have some
7 public comments to make, but she's not going to be
8 actively participating as an attorney at -- in these
9 particular proceedings.

10 Anything else that you wanted to say up front?

11 MR. ACKEN: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just
12 to clarify the record, Ms. Grabel represents Meta.

13 CHMN. KATZ: Okay, Meta. Yeah, she told me that
14 a minute ago. I'm getting senile.

15 MR. ACKEN: And so as you will hear shortly,
16 this project is being proposed to interconnect with a
17 data center being developed by Meta, formerly known as
18 Facebook.

19 I did want to bring up one preliminary matter,
20 and it relates to the public notice of the public comment
21 session. So the notice of publication that was published
22 in The Arizona Republic and the Mesa paper were correct
23 that said that the public comment session will be tonight
24 at 5:30.

25 One of the emails and one of the postcards were

1 sent out in June saying that there would be public
2 comment period on Tuesday, June 27th. Well, of course
3 today is June 27th, so it was a typographical error that
4 it referred to Tuesday.

5 So that was done in a postcard that was mailed
6 out June 13th. When the error was discovered, a
7 replacement postcard was mailed on June 15th.

8 Also, as I mentioned, there was an email that
9 went out on June 15th that had that Tuesday, June 27th,
10 public comment session noted. It's that same day.
11 That's when the -- that's when the typographical error
12 was discovered. A revised email went out to the customer
13 and stakeholder distribution list that same day
14 correcting the date.

15 We wanted to make the Committee aware -- see how
16 you wanted to handle that. We did receive one call or
17 perhaps an email that came in that just said, Hey, I
18 noticed that the date was wrong. It's actually -- you
19 know, it should say Monday and not Tuesday.

20 We don't know or expect or have any idea whether
21 anyone will show up tomorrow, but we did want the
22 Committee to know at a minimum, you know, we will have
23 staff -- SRP staff here to take public comment should
24 someone show up. We can have Carolyn stay to transcribe
25 any comments that may arise. And the third option would

1 be, you know, this is a relatively short direct case and
2 it's a short transmission line. And I anticipate that
3 our direct case will be finished this afternoon, and we
4 would move into deliberations in the normal course
5 tomorrow morning.

6 One idea would be that the Committee recesses
7 after deliberations but before a vote in order to allow
8 for the opportunity should someone show up at 5:30 to
9 provide public comment. And then at that time, the
10 Committee could take a vote based on any additional
11 public comment if any.

12 We realize it's, you know, an inconvenience. We
13 apologize. You know, there's just some options on how to
14 manage it. I'm sure there were others. You know, the
15 nice thing about having all this virtual technology is
16 not everyone would have to come back or stay depending on
17 how you wanted to do it whether if you decided that you
18 did want to wait for the public comment, you know, that
19 could be done -- the votes could be done virtually
20 Tuesday evening or Wednesday morning. But wanted to make
21 the Committee aware of that so that you could discuss
22 amongst yourselves how to -- how to handle it.

23 I think our recommendation to be to take the
24 vote after that public comment session and just in case
25 someone were to show up and make public comment. We want

1 to make sure that everybody feels they have a fair and
2 full opportunity to participate. And so that -- again,
3 that's the applicant's recommendation and -- and my
4 apologies.

5 CHMN. KATZ: Let me just ask you a question,
6 Mr. Acken. Was -- was the misstatement 6:00 tomorrow
7 rather than 5:30 today, or was it 6:00 today rather than
8 5:30?

9 MR. ACKEN: It said Tuesday, June 27th, at 5:30.
10 So it was the right date of June 27th and the right time
11 at 5:30, but it said Tuesday instead of Monday.

12 CHMN. KATZ: And the other notice was for 5:30
13 today, correct?

14 MR. ACKEN: Correct. The notice that was
15 published, which is the statutorily required notice, said
16 5:30 today.

17 CHMN. KATZ: Okay. I don't know if anybody from
18 the Committee wants to make any recommendation. We don't
19 need immediately a motion, but we can have a discussion.
20 We probably ought to -- even though we might be done -- I
21 mean, I don't know whether we want to take our vote
22 before, like, noon or 2:00 tomorrow and then just wait to
23 see if we have any additional comments. And then, if
24 necessary, we could always reconsider our position.

25 But so far, has there been any public opposition

1 by way of letter or phone call or email?

2 MR. ACKEN: Mr. Chairman, there has not. We --
3 as you see, we have no intervention. I don't believe
4 that there have been any letters docketed in the file.
5 And my co-counsel is confirming that that's correct.

6 At the open house, we did receive comments from
7 nearby residents regarding, you know, the potential for
8 undergrounding and things of that nature, the typical
9 comments that you would expect. And Ms. Horgen will be
10 prepared to present testimony on to that effect.

11 But in the -- I would characterize this as on
12 the far lower end of public comment. There's been many,
13 many opportunities for public engagement, and our sense
14 is that the public understands the project, understands
15 the need, and has been satisfied with the materials
16 presented to date.

17 I would not be surprised if we have no public
18 commenters tonight, for example, but that's yet to be
19 seen.

20 CHMN. KATZ: Don't -- we don't need to strictly
21 need follow Robert's Rules of Order or need to do that,
22 but do any members of the Committee have any suggestions
23 or comments? I don't know if we need to have a formal
24 vote as to whether, if we're done on time, we resolve the
25 CEC tomorrow or midday or whenever is appropriate and

1 then wait to see at 5:30 whether or not we have any
2 additional comments. Because I don't think we want to be
3 in a situation of having one or more people call us
4 tomorrow afternoon.

5 The other thing is to wait until after that and
6 not settle the CEC until 5:45 or 6:00. And I don't know
7 if we want to do that or not.

8 MEMBER LITTLE: Mr. Chairman.

9 CHMN. KATZ: Yes, Member Little.

10 MEMBER LITTLE: As a representative of the
11 public, I think it's important that we not actually take
12 a vote until after the public has had an opportunity to
13 comment just in case there's even one commenter. I think
14 what Mr. Katz has suggested, that we vote tomorrow
15 evening after the public comment period, even though
16 we're all appearing virtually, might be the best thing to
17 do.

18 I think it would be a shame if somebody showed
19 up and had a comment and then discovered that we had
20 already made a decision and they didn't have any say in
21 it. Just my opinion. Thank you.

22 CHMN. KATZ: Any other thoughts?

23 MEMBER GRINNELL: I think -- Mr. Chairman, this
24 is Rick Grinnell, sir. Can you hear me?

25 AUDIOVISUAL TECH: Yes, we can hear you.

1 MEMBER GRINNELL: Frankly, when you refer to
2 Robert's Rules of Order, statutorily, the correct
3 information is put out for a public hearing today. Am I
4 correct, Counsel?

5 CHMN. KATZ: Yes. There was one mailing, I
6 believe, that gave the right date and the right time but
7 the wrong day of the week. It said Tuesday instead of
8 Monday. And it was -- got corrected.

9 MEMBER GRINNELL: Right. That, under the law,
10 would satisfy a public hearing. Am I correct?

11 CHMN. KATZ: Well, unless we had somebody
12 saying, I got this postcard. I didn't venture any
13 further to investigate, and I'm now here at 5:30 on
14 Tuesday. Even though it's the 28th rather than the 27th
15 and we don't give that person the opportunity to give us
16 input.

17 MEMBER GRINNELL: Then I would -- I would
18 recommend we not even review the CEC application until
19 all public information is presented.

20 CHMN. KATZ: And we don't need to make a
21 decision right now, but I think that legally we would
22 probably have to do that but what we could do -- go
23 ahead, Mary, Ms. -- Member Hamway.

24 MEMBER HAMWAY: So are you saying that we're
25 going to do the CEC line by line by line starting

1 tomorrow night at 5:30?

2 CHMN. KATZ: Well --

3 MEMBER HAMWAY: I'm not available.

4 CHMN. KATZ: Well, what I'd recommend instead of
5 that, 5:30, we may have anybody here. I don't think we
6 want to stay here until 7:00 at night.

7 MEMBER HAMWAY: No, I don't --

8 CHMN. KATZ: So what we could do is come back on
9 Wednesday just for reviewing the CEC. I don't know if we
10 could review it and approve it before the public comment
11 was closed.

12 MEMBER HAMWAY: Well, we could review it but not
13 take the final vote.

14 CHMN. KATZ: I mean, I guess what we could do is
15 we could go line by line --

16 MEMBER HAMWAY: Line by line and get it done.

17 CHMN. KATZ: And approve -- and approve the
18 provisions but not vote as to whether or not to approve
19 it.

20 MEMBER HAMWAY: Correct.

21 CHMN. KATZ: And then if there's a public
22 comment that causes us to want to add any additional
23 conditions to it, we could always add that before we take
24 the final vote, which we could do I guess --

25 MEMBER HAMWAY: Virtually at 5:30 tomorrow

1 night.

2 CHMN. KATZ: -- 5:30 tomorrow.

3 I mean, I think we can review the CEC and
4 indicate the conditions we want in it and those that we
5 don't but not vote on whether to issue it or deny it and
6 then vote to issue it or deny it after the 5:30 public
7 comment period tomorrow.

8 Would there be any objection to doing it that
9 way?

10 (No response.)

11 CHMN. KATZ: I think that's what we'll plan on
12 doing, then.

13 The other matter that I wanted to take up with
14 you is I attended a prehearing conference with Mr. Acken
15 and Member Grabel and applicant representatives before I
16 left town with -- a week ago, I think, Thursday or Friday
17 before last week. And I was advised and confirmed that
18 we're dealing with a half-a-mile-long transmission line
19 that virtually -- or actually, not virtually, runs across
20 private property from the substation to the new Meta
21 facility. And I don't think we gain much by taking a
22 tour of that facility.

23 Well, one, it's my understanding, Mr. Acken, am
24 I correct, that we couldn't even access the Meta facility
25 because of ongoing construction?

1 MR. ACKEN: Mr. Chairman, that's correct. We
2 have put together a propose in-person tour if the
3 Committee likes to do so. It will be limited by the
4 ongoing construction that's occurring on the Meta
5 facility plus restrictions on accessing State land where
6 the transmission line will cross.

7 So it's not our recommendation to do an
8 in-person tour. We do have one of the best virtual tours
9 I've seen, I've had the pleasure of presenting, that we
10 will present to the Committee. And it will provide, we
11 hope and that you agree, a terrific representation of
12 what this facility as well as the surrounding development
13 with the data center will look like upon completion. So
14 it would be our recommendation to stick with the virtual
15 tour here.

16 CHMN. KATZ: And if you take a look at the map
17 that's on your place card and is also being presented on
18 the right screen in the hearing room, it's a short line,
19 half a mile approximately, from the substation to the new
20 facility. I don't think we gain much by touring.

21 And I have one other selfish thing. Next time I
22 see you, I want to still be licensed to practice law.
23 And I need one hour of continuing education, which has to
24 be done by this Friday in our office on Wednesday. It's
25 offering one-and-a-half-hour continuing legal education

1 program from 1:30 to 3. So I'd like to be able to attend
2 that. Otherwise, I can get into trouble with the State
3 Bar. But this hearing would take priority if need be.

4 MR. ACKEN: And, Mr. Chairman, I wish I only had
5 an hour and a half of CLE remaining before the end of the
6 month, but I share -- I share that perspective.

7 CHMN. KATZ: Okay. Do I have a motion one way
8 or the other as to whether or not we take a tour?

9 MEMBER PALMER: Mr. Chairman.

10 CHMN. KATZ: Yes.

11 MEMBER PALMER: Having read the prehearing
12 conference transcript and looking at the fact that very
13 little of this is accessible, it's very short in length,
14 it would seem not a good use of our time. And I'm
15 normally an advocate for taking these tours, but in this
16 instance, I think it would be just as well served to do
17 the virtual tour. So I make a motion that we dispense
18 with the on-site tour.

19 CHMN. KATZ: Is there a second?

20 MEMBER FRENCH: Second.

21 CHMN. KATZ: It's been seconded by David French.
22 Is there any discussion?

23 (No response.)

24 CHMN. KATZ: All those, then, in favor of
25 dispensing with the tour on this particular project,

1 please say "aye."

2 (A chorus of "ayes.")

3 CHMN. KATZ: Anybody opposed?

4 (No response.)

5 CHMN. KATZ: We won't take the tour, which means
6 that we should be done with the evidence either today or
7 early tomorrow. And I won't burden us with any more
8 procedural impediments.

9 Is there an opening remark, Counsel, that you
10 would like to make?

11 MR. ACKEN: Thank you, Chairman, just very
12 briefly.

13 We appreciate the opportunity to present this
14 project to you, the Project Huckleberry.

15 As you'll see on the slide on the right that's
16 been marked R1, SRP is requesting approval for a new
17 substation and an approximately 0.5-mile double-circuit
18 230kV transmission line to serve Meta's new data center
19 under development in the City of Mesa.

20 The new substation will be located on Meta-owned
21 land in the area shown in the green rectangle on R1. And
22 if I could ask one of my panel members who has control of
23 the -- thank you -- to show -- highlight -- excuse me.
24 Go back to the slide before. If you could highlight the
25 substation location. Thank you.

1 The transmission line corridor is shown in the
2 green hatch that Mr. Woolfolk is highlighting right now.
3 It will be located on State land that you see shown in
4 that blue-purple color. And it will located between a
5 flood control channel shown in blue and a 69kV
6 transmission line under construction shown in yellow.

7 CHMN. KATZ: And I don't know if we -- was that
8 a cursor that we were using so that the virtual people
9 could follow you?

10 MR. ACKEN: That's correct.

11 CHMN. KATZ: Okay. Go ahead.

12 MR. ACKEN: Yes. And so Mr. Woolfolk is
13 patiently using the cursor, the green cursor, so that it
14 can be seen in the room and also virtually.

15 The transmission line is going to interconnect
16 with the Southeast Power Link transmission line that is
17 currently under construction shown in blue running north
18 to south on Slide R1.

19 We are requesting approval for a 100-foot
20 right-of-way within a 300-foot corridor on State land for
21 the transmission line and then the area shown in the
22 rectangle on private land for the substation.

23 We will have three witnesses. You see them
24 sitting over there anxiously, eagerly awaiting their
25 opportunity to present testimony this afternoon.

1 Kevin Woolfolk is the project manager for the
2 project. And he will provide testimony regarding SRP,
3 the project itself, and why it is needed. He will also
4 present a virtual tour that I referenced earlier.

5 Kenda Pollio, many of you, if not all of you,
6 have seen her testify before this Committee, will provide
7 testimony regarding the environmental compatibility of
8 the site and the project itself.

9 Sam Horgen, also an experienced witness that
10 many of you have seen, will provide testimony regarding
11 SRP's robust public notice and public outreach process
12 for this project.

13 I want to orient the Committee to a couple
14 documents. You should have -- some of you will have a
15 small binder. The rest of you will have it on your
16 tablets. But we have a handful of exhibits.

17 The application that's been marked for
18 identification as SRP No. 1.

19 Our slides are marked for identification as
20 SRP-2.

21 And as you can see, we have left and right
22 screens, and the slides are labeled L2, R2, so on and so
23 forth, in hopes to make it easy for the Committee, those
24 watching virtually, and those reading the transcript
25 later to follow along.

1 Exhibit 3 is a supplement to the public notice
2 exhibit materials that were included in Exhibit J to the
3 application. Pursuant to the Procedural Order, we
4 provide an update of public outreach material since the
5 application was filed. That's what's contained in
6 Exhibit 3.

7 SRP-4 is a letter from the Chairman -- excuse
8 me. This is a letter from Commission Staff to the
9 Chairman responding to a letter from the Chairman
10 requesting Commission Staff's input on the project --
11 project's effect on reliability of the regional
12 transmission system. So we will discuss that.

13 And then Exhibit 5 are two letters of support
14 that have been received, one from the City of Mesa and
15 the other from the Mesa Chamber of Commerce.

16 We also have project placemats. On one side
17 is -- is a base map entitled Project Huckleberry that
18 shows what I showed earlier on R2 superimposed on a
19 flyover aerial of the area that shows specifically the
20 project components we're requesting and gives you a sense
21 of the area. Again, this is a rapidly development --
22 developing area. And so where you see disturbed ground
23 in preparation for construction, infrastructure is being
24 developed as we speak.

25 The other side is entitled Project Components.

1 It labels the two project components that are subject of
2 this application, which is, again, the transmission line
3 corridor and the 230/69kV substation as well as some of
4 the other features that I mentioned, the flood control
5 channel, 69kV transmission line, and the Southeast Power
6 Link transmission line under development.

7 So with that, I don't have anything further as
8 far as introductory remarks. Happy to turn it over to
9 the Committee if there are specific things you want to
10 hear us address. But, otherwise, we are prepared to move
11 forward with our direct case.

12 CHMN. KATZ: And in a minute I'll have you do
13 that. I'm happy to do that. I just wanted to know, I'm
14 assuming that notices went to the State Land Department,
15 to Maricopa County agencies as might be appropriate, and
16 to the City of Mesa.

17 Are there any other governmental notices that
18 had to be issued?

19 MR. ACKEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, there
20 were not. Those were the three affected jurisdictions to
21 which notice was required to be provided, and that was
22 done so pursuant to statute, regulation, and the
23 Procedural Order.

24 CHMN. KATZ: Okay. And I'm assuming there are
25 no federal issues, NEPA or otherwise, because there's no

1 funding or federal land -- federal funding or federal
2 land involved?

3 MR. ACKEN: Mr. Chairman, that's correct.

4 Without federal funding, federal lands involved, there is
5 no NEPA connection to this project, so no NEPA evaluation
6 was done.

7 CHMN. KATZ: Thank you very much. So if you're
8 ready -- are you going to have one witness testify at a
9 time, or would you like them all be affirmed or sworn?

10 MR. ACKEN: I would ask that they all be sworn.
11 We will be kind of doing it in order rather than going
12 back and forth, but I think it'd be easier just to swear
13 them all in at once and treat them as a panel.

14 CHMN. KATZ: That's fine. What I will ask is I
15 can administer an oath or an affirmation. And you don't
16 all have to be in agreement. We can do one and then the
17 other.

18 But does -- are there any preference of our
19 Committee -- not the Committee but of our witness
20 members?

21 MR. WOOLFOLK: Affirmation.

22 MS. HORGAN: That's fine.

23 MS. POLLIO: Yes.

24 CHMN. KATZ: All three of our witnesses, and we
25 won't need to name them, they have all been introduced,

1 have said they prefer an affirmation. I don't need you
2 to stand up. We don't need to be that formal, but if you
3 would, please raise your hand.

4 (Kevin Woolfolk, Kenda Pollio, and Samantha
5 Horgen were duly affirmed, en masse, by the Chairman.)

6 CHMN. KATZ: Thank you very much.

7 And, Mr. Acken, the floor is yours.

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

9 We will start off with the project manager,
10 Mr. Woolfolk.

11

12 KEVIN WOOLFOLK, KENDA POLLIO, SAMANTHA HORGREN,
13 called as witnesses as a panel on behalf of Applicant,
14 having been previously affirmed by the Chairman to speak
15 the truth and nothing but the truth, were examined and
16 testified as follows:

17

18 DIRECT EXAMINATION

19 BY MR. ACKEN:

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

22 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Kevin Woolfolk. 1500 North Mill
23 Avenue, Tempe, Arizona 85281.

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

1 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Salt River Project, and I am a
2 senior engineer.

3 Q. And take a minute and provide the Committee with
4 some information regarding your educational background
5 and work experience.

6 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Sure.

7 So I have a Bachelor of Science in mechanical
8 engineering from New Mexico State University.

9 I've been with SRP a little over 18 years, and
10 I've had a -- kind of a variety of positions. So I had a
11 senior analyst role in the Resource Planning and
12 Development Group. Then I was a lead analyst in the
13 Resource Acquisition Group. And then, most recently, I'm
14 a system engineer in the Strategic Systems Projects
15 Group.

16 Q. And describe your role in Project Huckleberry.

17 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Yeah.

18 So I'm the project manager, and I've been
19 overseeing and directing all aspects of the permitting of
20 this project.

21 Q. Ms. Pollio, please state your name and business
22 address.

23 A. (MS. POLLIO) Kenda Pollio.

24 Q. By whom are you employed?

25 A. (MS. POLLIO) KP Environmental.

1 Q. And provide the Committee a summary of your
2 educational and work experience.

3 A. (MS. POLLIO) So I have a Bachelor of Science in
4 environmental studies and urban and regional planning
5 from Florida State University, master's of science
6 in international environment policy from the University
7 of South Florida.

8 I'm an AICP, which is an American Institute of
9 Certified Planners. I have 32 years of environmental
10 consulting experience, specializing in transmission
11 lines, generation, from right-of-way assessment, siting,
12 acquisition, permitting, and compliance.

13 I've worked on over 175 transmission lines and
14 power plants and testified before this Committee 18
15 times.

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

17 A. (MS. POLLIO) So I'm the project manager for
18 KP Environmental, and we are the environmental
19 consultant. We assisted in the environmental studies and
20 preparation of the Certificate of Environmental
21 Compatibility as well as assisted with the public
22 process.

23 Q. And last, but not least, Ms. Horgen. Please
24 state your name and business address.

25 A. (MS. HORGAN) Samantha Horgen. I work at 1500
GLENNIE REPORTING SERVICES, LLC 602.266.6535
www.glenne-reporting.com Phoenix, AZ

1 North Mill Avenue, Tempe, Arizona, 85281.

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

4 A. (MS. HORGAN) I work at SRP in the Public
5 Involvement Group as a siting representative. My
6 position pursues constructive interaction and engagement
7 with the public, usually on siting projects,
8 subtransmission 69kV projects, and also -- I've also
9 worked at a well site expansion project. And we follow
10 the project from construction through -- we follow the
11 project through siting, if there is siting, through
12 construction and in service.

13 Q. Please summarize your educational background and
14 work experience.

15 A. (MS. HORGAN) I have a business management
16 degree from Arizona State University. I also have a
17 master's in business administration from Western
18 International University.

19 I have been a public and private siting rep for
20 about 14 years. And then four of those other years were
21 through state and local government relations. So a total
22 of 18 years working at SRP.

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

24 A. (MS. HORGAN) I am the lead in facilitating the
25 public outreach for this project. I remain the point of

1 contact, again, from the beginning to the end, and I
2 provide critical feedback from the community to our
3 project team or management. And we try to always look at
4 the project from the public's point of view while still
5 managing to accomplish the project.

6 Q. Thank you all.

7 Mr. Woolfolk, let's start off by providing the
8 Committee with some background information regarding SRP.

9 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Sure.

10 So SRP's power district was formed in 1937. And
11 since the beginning, we've been, you know, engaged with
12 municipalities to support economic growth and projects
13 like this by serving the electrical load.

14 SRP is one of the largest power entities in the
15 U.S. with a service territory of roughly 2,900 square
16 miles and approximately a million customers. We have --
17 we're a vertically integrated utility, which means we've
18 got generation, transmission, and distribution. We have
19 a diverse resource portfolio as well that includes
20 natural gas, hydro, solar, wind, geothermal, nuclear, and
21 coal. And we use all these resources to help meet our
22 summer peaking load of over 7,500 megawatts.

23 Q. Describe SRP's service territory shown on the
24 slide I've marked as R7.

25 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Yeah. So on Slide R7, as you

1 can see, we -- our electric service territory is made up
2 of the retail service area. This serves the Metro
3 Phoenix area and supporting cities with SRP serving
4 mostly the East Valley and APS serving the northern area.

5 SRP also has the eastern mining area. This
6 region runs to Roosevelt Lake. And while SRP doesn't
7 have distribution system to serve customers, we do have
8 dedicated transmission to serve mining customers in that
9 area.

10 Q. Next, I'd like you to describe SRP's 230kV
11 transmission system in the general area of the project.

12 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Yeah.

13 So on Slide R8, you'll see that this is the SRP
14 230kV system in the east. This -- this map does a good
15 job at a couple things.

16 First, it shows the portion of our service
17 territory that is -- has had the most growth activity.
18 So you might be familiar with some of these -- these
19 projects like the Abel-Pfister-Ball, Scott, Southeast
20 Power Link, Project HIP. These are all recent projects
21 that have been constructed or sited in this area.

22 The other thing I want to point out on -- out on
23 this map is that it -- the 230kV system is a looped
24 architecture, meaning that it has diverse connections
25 that increases reliability. It's one of the reasons that

1 these high-tech customers such as data centers or
2 semi-conductor manufacturers like to site in this region
3 because of the increased reliability. The 230kV system
4 also has higher poles and higher and larger phase spacing
5 between the phases, which inherently increases its
6 reliability by making it less susceptible to wildlife and
7 weather events.

8 CHMN. KATZ: Just -- I have one question. What
9 is that -- there's in the key a double circuit, phase
10 tied line, and it's just a small portion up toward the
11 northwest by Corbell. What is that particular line as
12 distinct from future or existing 230kV lines?

13 MR. WOOLFOLK: I am not sure exactly what that
14 represents, double circuit, phase tied line.

15 CHMN. KATZ: Well, I don't think it's important.
16 It's not critical to this project. I just thought you
17 might be able to clarify that. But I think the key is
18 otherwise self-explanatory.

19 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: Next, describe the
20 non-jurisdictional 69kV distribution system located in
21 the vicinity of the Project.

22 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Yeah. Well, non-jurisdictional,
23 I thought it was important to show SRP's 69kV system in
24 the same vicinity as this Project Huckleberry. As you
25 can see, the 69kV system also has a looped architecture

1 that serves for reliability purposes in its own right.
2 We're actually planning to serve Meta initially from the
3 69kV system. However, the 69kV system does have
4 limitations. It isn't as reliable due to the shorter
5 spans of the phase facing. It is more susceptible to
6 wildlife and weather events. And so, for this reason,
7 high-tech customers such as Meta prefer to be connected
8 to the 230kV system.

9 Q. Next, describe specifically why this project
10 with the 230kV transmission line and substation is
11 needed.

12 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Sure.

13 So Meta did announce the plans to build their
14 new data center in August of 2021, located, as Bert said,
15 in Elliot -- on Elliot Road and Ellsworth in Mesa,
16 Arizona.

17 After SRP did analysis, it was determined that
18 really to adequately and reliably serve their load, 230kV
19 infrastructure would be needed. So we are proposing to
20 have that SRP-owned dedicated substation as well as the
21 230kV transmission line.

22 Q. So describe the specific infrastructure for
23 which you are seeking a CEC in this application.

24 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Yeah.

25 So on Slide R12, you'll see this map again.

1 This spells out the specific infrastructure needed, which
2 includes the proposed Prickly Pear 230kV Substation as
3 well as a 230kV double-circuit transmission line that
4 would run a half mile placed within that transmission
5 corridor shown on the map in the striped green.

6 Q. Next, describe the project schedule to serve
7 Meta.

8 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Yeah. So I will note on -- on
9 Slide L14 on your left, this is an overview of SRP's
10 proposed schedule outlining some of our key milestones
11 and plan dates.

12 And then on Slide R14, this is our corresponding
13 map that will showcase these specific milestones outlined
14 on the schedule.

15 So we'll take a little time and orient ourselves
16 with R14 on this map. This shows our project study area
17 outlined in blue. You'll notice that Loop 202 as well as
18 Elliot Road running west-east, and then north-south is
19 Ellsworth Road.

20 Also shown on this map is that existing flood
21 control channel that runs across the Arizona State land
22 highlighted in blue. That's undeveloped State land.

23 So our first milestone we show is that SRP is
24 planning to construct the Prickly Pear 69kV Switchyard
25 and then a 69kV loop-in and have this completed to serve

1 Meta's initial load by December of 2022.

2 And then the next set of milestones, we add some
3 additional lines to showcase. So in April of 2023, we
4 plan to place the Scott 69kV Substation in service as
5 well as the north section of the previously certificated
6 Southeast Power Link line shown in blue. Maybe I can get
7 the cursor right.

8 So this is the north section. And then to
9 the -- just to the south, that's Scott Substation. Those
10 will be completed by April of 2023.

11 And then also completed in 2023, we plan to have
12 the 69kV double-circuit line running from the Scott
13 Substation north and across the State land -- State land
14 to connect into the Prickly Pear 69kV Switchyard.

15 And then lastly, by April 2024, we will plan to
16 have the proposed Prickly Pear Substation if the CEC is
17 granted completed. This will be the 230kV infrastructure
18 as well as the 230 double-circuit line that runs a half
19 mile and follows that 69kV structure as well as the
20 existing flood control channel across State land.

21 MEMBER HAMWAY: Mr. Chairman.

22 CHMN. KATZ: Yes, Member Hamway.

23 MEMBER HAMWAY: Yes. Where is the Meta Data
24 Center physically located?

25 MR. WOOLFOLK: Oh, yeah, it's just -- that is

1 just to the north of that Prickly Pear Substation, the
2 proposed Prickly Pear Substation. That will be Meta's
3 campus, the actual data center itself. And we will see
4 that in some later renderings and the virtual tour as
5 well.

6 MEMBER HAMWAY: Thank you.

7 MR. ACKEN: And for the record, the cursor was
8 showing the general area of the Meta facility.

9 CHMN. KATZ: Go ahead.

10 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: Next, I want to talk about the
11 project components. Again, the jurisdictional
12 components.

13 What will the substation look like?

14 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Yeah.

15 So on Slide L19, we'll start there, this is a
16 rendering looking kind of a bird's-eye view off of
17 Ellsworth Road looking east into the substation. So I'll
18 try to get my cursor real quick if I can go to the left.

19 Oh, maybe it's just on the right. I apologize.

20 So looking, like I said, bird's-eye east into
21 the substation, you'll notice the 230kV drop pole, the
22 structure in the middle. This will tie into the 230kV
23 infrastructure into the forefront. You'll note also
24 running north and south on the boundary of the substation
25 property are the 69kV circuits that will be built

1 initially to serve Meta's load.

2 To the left is the control house.

3 To the right, you see some retention basins.

4 If I move further to the east, you can see SRP's
5 230kV transformers that step it down to the 69kV
6 infrastructure.

7 So now in the background, we can see some of the
8 69kV breakers and switches that now connect into the
9 furthest piece of equipment you see, which is -- that
10 will be Meta's substation. And that has their
11 transformation equipment as well as their switch gear.

12 So then if I look over to Slide R19, this takes
13 us into an isometric view of the same substation. And
14 what we can see here is we can see kind of a better look
15 at Meta's owned electrical infrastructure, as I said,
16 like the switch gear over here, their transformation
17 equipment and 69kV infrastructure.

18 And then notably highlighted in green is the
19 actual 230kV infrastructure that we're applying for the
20 CEC, which includes the transformers, breakers,
21 disconnect switches, and ultimately the start of the
22 230kV double-circuit transmission line that runs over.

23 Q. Next, describe the requested corridor and
24 right-of-way for the transmission line.

25 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Yes.

1 So SRP is seeking a 300-foot-wide corridor on
2 State land for the 230kV double-circuit line and the
3 facilities needed in the substation. SRP will then, of
4 course, select the final alignment in a 100-foot
5 right-of-way within that transmission line corridor.

6 On the right on Slide R20, we see a map
7 showcasing that 300-foot-wide corridor on the State land
8 hashtags in green, hash-lined connecting to, of course,
9 the Southeast Power Link as well as the -- the green box
10 which is the proposed Prickly Pear Substation that would
11 contain the 230kV facilities.

12 I will note that SRP did secure a 69kV
13 right-of-way, and that does have room for the 230kV
14 transmission line if the CEC was granted, and we applied
15 it and was granted that in December of 2021 for that 69kV
16 line.

17 Q. And who granted that right-of-way for the 69kV
18 line?

19 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Arizona State Department of
20 Land -- or Land Department, excuse me.

21 Q. And so that right-of-way is where the portion --
22 that would also include the portion of the project here
23 that is on State land?

24 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) That is correct.

25 Q. What are the typical power structures that you

1 anticipate using?

2 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Yeah.

3 So let's -- if we look at R21, but I'll first
4 kind of note that typical 230kV poles in this project
5 will be the two -- the double-circuit structures. On
6 average, they'll be 150 feet tall. In our project, it
7 will not exceed 199 feet. These poles are placed every
8 600 to 900 feet.

9 And then on Slide R21, this is a rendering of
10 the exact 230kV double-circuit transmission structure
11 that will be utilized in this project.

12 Q. Next, I'd like you to explain why this route was
13 selected. And could you take a few minutes and describe
14 that for the Committee.

15 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Definitely.

16 So on Slide R23, again, we see the similar map
17 that we've been showing.

18 So when SRP looked at the proposed Prickly Pear
19 Substation when we'd be converting it from the switchyard
20 and we looked at the closest interconnection point --
21 point of interconnection, which is the previously
22 certificated Southeast Power Link line, the north portion
23 of that SPL line, shown in blue -- I guess I could --
24 there we go. Shown in blue.

25 We looked at this, and the shortest route really

1 was to run across that undeveloped State land. So it
2 provided the shortest distance. It would also follow
3 that existing flood control channel, so existing
4 features. It would also, of course, follow that existing
5 69kV line.

6 SRP did look at alternate route alternatives,
7 including the north route and the south route shown in
8 red. But both of these routes, you know, they did
9 take -- they were a further distance of run, and it would
10 expose commercial, residential, and industrial customers
11 to more visible 230kV lines if we -- if we were to select
12 those routes.

13 So, in conclusion, it really made sense to
14 just -- the half mile following those existing features
15 and connect to SPL for the shortest distance.

16 MR. ACKEN: The next portion of Mr. Woolfolk's
17 testimony will be the virtual tour, so we'll take a
18 moment here in order to have that uploaded.

19 Okay. That was very fast. Faster than I
20 expected. Thank you.

21 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) yeah.

22 So we're going to start this virtual tour
23 looking northeast onto the property. So you can see that
24 Meta's campus sits on 389 acres. And this campus is
25 really boundaried by Elliot Road and Ellsworth. Also

1 visible in this map in the forefront is Loop 202. So
2 just to orient ourselves there, we're looking northeast
3 on this property.

4 Also visible on this map -- I'm going to
5 highlight -- there's the existing flood control channel.
6 These green boxes represent that 300-foot-wide
7 transmission corridor that we're seeking CEC as well as
8 connecting into the proposed Prickly Pear Substation
9 located just adjacent to Meta's campus.

10 So we'll start to move towards the substation
11 itself. And as we move, we can see the certificated
12 230kV Southeast Power Link. This is the northern portion
13 line that will be completed in April of 2023. Just to
14 the -- adjacent to that are smaller 69kv circuits coming
15 out of Scott Substation.

16 As we make our way flying east, we can see the
17 start of the structures that will be the proposed 230kV
18 double-circuit line that follow that existing flood
19 control channel. These are the five structures that are
20 being proposed going in and tying into the 230kV/69kV
21 substation.

22 So now we move to the south, we can see those
23 existing 230kV lines to the north and south of the
24 boundary of the substation property.

25 We can see this 230kV pole that drops into the

1 substation, followed by 230kV infrastructure which
2 includes 230 disconnect switches, breakers, and more
3 disconnect switches.

4 Now as we're looking north, we can see the 230kV
5 transformers that are included in the CEC, followed by
6 the 69kV infrastructure to initially serve Meta.

7 Now as we're looking northwest into the
8 substation, we get a view -- a better view of Meta's own
9 customer substation that can show their transformation
10 equipment as well as their switchgear that will be
11 ultimately fed into the data center.

12 Now looking directly west into the substation,
13 we can see SRP's routes for maintenance, the control
14 house, and some indicative landscaping that will be used
15 to screen the fencing around the -- the property
16 boundary.

17 As we move now, we're looking south into it.
18 The control house is much more visible as well as all the
19 230kV infrastructure that we had highlighted in green
20 previously.

21 And then now, as we rotate around, looking back
22 into east, we see that 230kV pole again, the last drop
23 pole, as well as the 69kV circuits to the north and south
24 of the property.

25 MEMBER GRINNELL: Mr. Chairman. Hello?

1 CHMN. KATZ: Hello.

2 MEMBER GRINNELL: Yes. I have just a quick
3 question.

4 Can you go back to your map real quick where you
5 were on the -- this area immediately -- I guess it would
6 be north. Is that I-60 right there on the bottom of the
7 edge --

8 MR. WOOLFOLK: On the bottom, that's Ellsworth
9 Road.

10 MEMBER GRINNELL: That's Ellsworth Road.

11 MR. WOOLFOLK: Yep.

12 MEMBER GRINNELL: Where is Ellsworth Road in
13 Apache Junction? Is that to the east of this; is that
14 correct?

15 MR. WOOLFOLK: That would be correct.

16 MEMBER GRINNELL: All right. I'm trying to get
17 my bearings here. Thank you.

18 MR. WOOLFOLK: Yeah, yep. So we're basically --
19 it's Ellsworth in the forefront. And then to the left of
20 the screen would be Warner Road. Would be Warner. And
21 then to the -- or, I'm sorry, Elliot. And then to the
22 south would be Warner. Apologies.

23 So looking at this to the left would be Warner
24 and then, to the south, Elliot.

25 CHMN. KATZ: Okay. That question was asked by

1 Member Grinnell.

2 Go ahead, Counsel.

3 MEMBER GRINNELL: Thank you.

4 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: Just to clarify that record for
5 the third time, Elliot is to the north and Warner is to
6 the south; is that correct?

7 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) That's right. That's correct.

8 I have to get my -- I have to get my bearings straight.

9 Apologies.

10 CHMN. KATZ: We can take, I guess, judicial
11 notice of that.

12 MEMBER PALMER: Mr. Chairman, if I might too.

13 CHMN. KATZ: Yes, Mr. Palmer.

14 MEMBER PALMER: I wish to correct. Ellsworth
15 Road is east of Power Road.

16 MR. WOOLFOLK: Oh, it's east of Power. Okay.
17 Thank you.

18 MR. ACKEN: Thank you.

19 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: Please continue.

20 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) So I think that brings us to the
21 conclusion of the virtual tour.

22 MR. ACKEN: Before we move forward, is there
23 anything that the Committee would like to see from that
24 virtual tour again before we ...

25 Seeing heads shaking no, I think we can move

1 forward.

2 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: Mr. Woolfolk, the next question I
3 have for you regards reliability studies conducted and
4 provided to Commission Staff in support of this Project.
5 Can you describe those, please.

6 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Yes.

7 So SRP, in late January of 2022, submitted a
8 Ten-Year Plan that included a power flow and stability
9 analysis report.

10 And then, most recently, as part of a data
11 request from the ACC Staff, we supplied a Load Impact
12 Study that provided also power flow stability as well as
13 short circuit analysis.

14 Q. And, next, could you describe the Staff letter.
15 As I mentioned earlier, it has -- it is shown on R25 but
16 has also been included and marked for identification as
17 SRP No. 4.

18 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Yep.

19 So on R25 is that letter showing you the
20 response to the Chairman's request for information.

21 Staff reviewed the project application and SRP's
22 response, the data request, including the Load Impact
23 Study. And ACC Staff concluded that the proposed project
24 could improve reliability, safety of the grid, and the
25 delivery of power in the state of Arizona.

1 Q. Thank you, Mr. Woolfolk.

2 We are actually going to shift now to --

3 MEMBER LITTLE: Mr. Chairman.

4 CHMN. KATZ: Yes, Member Little.

5 MEMBER LITTLE: Is this perhaps a time that I
6 could ask a question about the Staff letter?

7 CHMN. KATZ: You may ask that question now or
8 whenever you think appropriate.

9 MEMBER LITTLE: The Staff indicated in that
10 letter that -- that interconnection of the project would
11 lead to power flow overloads and short circuit issues
12 with the SRP transmission system.

13 That -- that SRP stated that it is currently
14 evaluating options and cost responsibilities for
15 mitigating these issues and has indicated they will
16 mitigate the power flow overloads prior to project being
17 constructed.

18 And I understand that it's certainly in the best
19 interest of SRP as well as everybody else to make sure
20 that they do that before the project is constructed.

21 Is there any indication of when that will happen
22 or when it's expected to happen?

23 MR. WOOLFOLK: I would have to defer to our
24 Transmission Analysis and Planning Group. I don't have
25 those specifics.

1 MEMBER LITTLE: Okay. Thank you.

2 MR. ACKEN: Okay. Thank you.

3 For the next portion of our testimony, we're
4 going to switch over to environmental capability and the
5 environmental analyses. And for that, my co-counsel,
6 Ms. Gilbert, will provide the direct examination of
7 Ms. Pollio.

8 MS. GILBERT: Thank you, Mr. Acken.

9

10 DIRECT EXAMINATION

11 MS. GILBERT:

12 Q. Ms. Pollio, can you tell the Committee what
13 environmental studies were performed for this project.

14 A. (MS. POLLIO) Yes.

15 So on R27, you can see a list of those studies
16 as well as where they are located in the CEC application.

17 We completed a land use analysis, which is
18 included in Exhibit A.

19 Biological resources in Exhibits C and D.

20 We studied and analyzed as well as conducted
21 simulations for visual resources, which are included in
22 Exhibit E.

23 We studied cultural resources, which are also
24 part of Exhibit E.

25 Recreational resources in Exhibit F.

1 We looked at planned area developments and
2 existing plans in Exhibit H.

3 As well as noise in Exhibit I.

4 Q. Great. Let's start with Exhibit A. Can you
5 summarize the relevant information, including the
6 transmission line route, land ownership, jurisdiction,
7 and land uses.

8 A. (MS. POLLIO) Yes. Thank you.

9 I also will note -- I know we were also just
10 talking about maps. This does kind of give a zoom-out of
11 more of the area of where we are. Probably a much larger
12 scale than we need, but we will have a number of maps in
13 this land use area so you can get a sense of some of the
14 additional detail.

15 But as Mr. Woolfolk has mentioned and as we've
16 been talking about, we'll start with ownership. The land
17 that the project is located on specifically, the Prickly
18 Pear Substation, is on private land. That land is also
19 being be used for the Meta Data Center.

20 The transmission line corridor we are requesting
21 is on State land. So right there, that is the land
22 jurisdiction.

23 As Mr. Woolfolk mentioned, in December 2021, SRP
24 secured a right-of-way for the 69kV line on State land.
25 That also provides space for a 230kV transmission line.

1 Accordingly, SRP is requesting a 300-foot-wide corridor.

2 I'll also note on -- for jurisdiction, you can
3 see on Exhibit -- or Slide R29, which is also Exhibit A-1
4 in your CEC application, this also includes information
5 about jurisdictions in the area. So this is a 20-mile
6 radius buffer that you can see around the project. You
7 can see predominantly, it is private land in Mesa,
8 Arizona, and Maricopa County.

9 You can see State land in blue. And regionally,
10 you can see where there is tribal land in that brownish
11 color, and green is forest service land. But, again,
12 that is on the outskirts of that 20-mile radius.

13 Q. Could you also provide some information about
14 the existing land uses.

15 A. (MS. POLLIO) Yes.

16 So I'll start with Exhibit R30. And this just
17 talks about where -- you know, who has jurisdiction over
18 those land uses. And so this denotes in the light blue
19 what is City of Mesa jurisdiction. You can also see the
20 towns in the area, Gilbert, Queen Creek, and relative to
21 the City of Mesa jurisdiction.

22 You can also see State land in that more
23 purplish-blue color as well as you can see some white
24 parcels. Those are Maricopa County-owned parcels. So
25 those are Maricopa or county islands that we will call

1 those.

2 So that basically gives you a sense of what
3 the -- the jurisdiction and who controls the land use in
4 the area.

5 Q. Great. And what about the existing land uses
6 for the project area?

7 A. (MS. POLLIO) Yes.

8 So R31 identifies the existing land use for the
9 City of Mesa. This is also depicted on Figure A-4 in
10 your application.

11 You can see the land uses in the City of Mesa.
12 These were actually field-verified, so these are the
13 actual on-the-ground land uses here today.

14 You can see on the area around the proposed
15 Prickly Pear Substation is data center because that is
16 the ongoing or active land use that is being -- that is
17 occurring on that land. You can also see where the State
18 land is along the transmission line corridor. And you
19 can also see the difference between the City of Mesa and
20 the Maricopa County parcels.

21 I'll note that the existing land use for the
22 transmission line on that State land is vacant.

23 Q. And just to clarify, there are existing land
24 uses or linear features in this area, correct?

25 A. (MS. POLLIO) There are. As we saw in the

1 aerial virtual tour and looking at the maps that you've
2 seen, the proposed transmission line corridor is bounded
3 by the existing flood control channel on State land.
4 There is also the 69kv line that would be to the south of
5 that corridor.

6 We also have a number of different transmission
7 lines in the area. The 230kV Southeast Power Link that
8 is going to be under construction is in the area as well
9 as multiple other high-voltage lines that are running
10 east-west in the area.

11 Q. All right. Let's spend some time with
12 discussing the planned future land uses in the project
13 area.

14 A. (MS. POLLIO) Yes.

15 So as you can see on R33, and this is also A-5,
16 this is the future land use for the City of Mesa.

17 And City of Mesa is regulated by their 2040
18 general plan. So that is the future land use guide for
19 the City of Mesa.

20 You can see also here, which I think is
21 important to note, the Elliot Road Technology Corridor.
22 That is a corridor that was developed in the City of
23 Mesa. It was created in 2014 to expedite entitlement
24 process and attract high-technology industries to Mesa.
25 It established site planning guidelines to ensure

1 compliance with the City of Mesa's general plan.

2 The Elliot Road Tech Corridor is about 1,000
3 acres. You can see it outlined here in that green and
4 white stripe. So this really dictates a lot of the
5 future land use in the area, being that data center and
6 high-tech corridor.

7 And this corridor was a draw and was very
8 desirable, as Mr. Woolfolk mentioned, for data centers
9 and these tech type of technologies to come into the City
10 of Mesa and in this location.

11 So this denotes that corridor as well as you can
12 see the future land use designated by the City of Mesa in
13 the area as employment, mixed-use community, mixed-use
14 employment.

15 So you can see the typical land uses that are
16 being developed and characterized by the City of Mesa.

17 Q. And is the Meta Data Center included in the City
18 of Mesa's future plans?

19 A. (MS. POLLIO) Yes, it is.

20 MEMBER HAMWAY: I have a quick question.

21 CHMN. KATZ: Yes.

22 MEMBER HAMWAY: Yes. Ms. Pollio, when you're
23 talking about a data center as a land use, so it's got a
24 specific criteria of height and that sort of thing?

25 MS. POLLIO: So the data -- the data center was

1 approved by the City of Mesa. They went through a site
2 approval process as part of their -- or the data center's
3 approval process. They did provide us a site plan, and
4 that's how we developed those simulations and the
5 renderings that you saw in the virtual tour and you'll
6 see.

7 And so I do not know all the criteria that they
8 had to meet in order to get that data center approved,
9 but I do know that there are criteria as part of the
10 Elliot Road Tech Corridor as well as those -- the land
11 uses mandated by the 2040 general plan that do dictate
12 setbacks, heights, and those type of things for those
13 land uses.

14 MEMBER HAMWAY: Okay. Thank you.

15 Q. BY MS. GILBERT: Can you review the existing
16 zoning within the project area.

17 A. (MS. POLLIO) Yes.

18 So R34 is the existing zoning.

19 And you can also see R34 is reflective of A-6 in
20 your CEC application. These are the zoning designations,
21 and these are through the City of Mesa's zoning
22 ordinance.

23 I'll note that planned community is the zoning
24 designation for the data center and where the Prickly
25 Pear Substation is.

1 You can see that light industrial is on the
2 State land, and that is what is -- or where the
3 transmission line corridor is located. And there is also
4 a number of different land use designations in the area,
5 a lot of planned community and a lot of different, again,
6 mixed use, industrial, and employment categories.

7 Q. And is the data center consistent with the
8 planned community designation?

9 A. (MS. POLLIO) Yes, it is.

10 Q. Thank you.

11 Were there any federal lands associated with
12 this project that required a NEPA analysis?

13 A. (MS. POLLIO) No, there was not. There was no
14 federal funding and no federal land that would have
15 triggered NEPA and, therefore, there are no documents
16 associated with NEPA or NEPA studies included in the CEC
17 application.

18 Q. Thank you.

19 And can you summarize your land use conclusions.

20 A. (MS. POLLIO) Yes.

21 So, as we stated, the Prickly Pear Substation is
22 located on private land in the City of Mesa. It's
23 currently under construction. It has an existing land
24 use designation as data center. It has a future
25 designation as planned community. I'm sorry, planned

1 community zoning.

2 The City of Mesa approved the data center in
3 March 24, 2021. It allows the development of this
4 commercial and industrial campus.

5 The proposed Prickly Pear Substation will not
6 conflict with any existing land use or zoning
7 designations based on those Mesa approvals.

8 The proposed transmission line will be located
9 on State land. It's currently vacant. Has a vacant land
10 use designation, light industrial designation.

11 It is bordered by a flood control channel to the
12 north, the 69kV transmission line to the south. And,
13 therefore, the transmission line corridor is consistent
14 with the future land use and zoning designations.

15 Q. Great. Let's turn to biological wealth and
16 natural resources.

17 Ms. Pollio, is this information included in
18 Exhibit C to the application?

19 A. (MS. POLLIO) Yes, it is. Exhibit C and
20 Exhibit D actually both have biological information.

21 Q. Great. Can you take us through the information
22 presented in Exhibit C and D.

23 A. (MS. POLLIO) Yes.

24 So in order to assess biological resources, we
25 consulted with many different online tools and many

1 different analysis or field investigations to complete
2 the study.

3 First, we coordinated with Arizona Game and Fish
4 Department as well as U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
5 through their online portals. We also looked at
6 topographical, aerial, land use, land cover data and
7 elevation data.

8 Included in Exhibit C-1 is the U.S. Fish and
9 Wildlife Service. That's their online list of species.
10 It's called Information for Planning and Consultation or
11 their IPaC system.

12 Arizona Game and Fish Department also has an
13 online tool. We reviewed that and obtained data and
14 coordinated with that agency. That is included in
15 Exhibit C-2 and is also included in Table C-2 of your
16 application.

17 All of this analysis gave us the potential
18 habitat and potential species that could occur within the
19 project study area.

20 So in addition to the desktop analysis and
21 looking at this information, we also did on-the-ground
22 field surveys. So in June and July of 2021,
23 on-the-ground field reconnaissance surveys were completed
24 of the substation and the project area. This was all
25 done in conjunction with biological assessments that were

1 conducted on the Meta Data Center property.

2 The conclusions of this study were that there --
3 or there was a preconstruction migratory bird nesting
4 survey, western burrowing owl survey, all of which were
5 negative, and there were no nests found on the site.

6 In January and March of 2022, a preconstruction
7 burrowing owl and migratory nest bird survey as well as
8 rare plant survey was conducted by SRP for the proposed
9 transmission line right-of-way. This was also conducted
10 in consultation with Arizona State Land Department for
11 their application process.

12 Q. And what were the results of that survey
13 conducted by SRP in 2022?

14 A. (MS. POLLIO) So the results of the survey were
15 that there were no -- first no nests found. There was no
16 sensitive species or sensitive habitats found. There are
17 no designated or critical habitats associated with any of
18 the project components.

19 The substation location has historically been
20 disturbed and devoid of most vegetation based on the
21 long-term land uses in the area. There is minimal
22 vegetation along the proposed transmission line
23 right-of-way. It's also disturbed in nature. It's been
24 vacant and has had activity on it.

25 In general, in the area, as well as specific to

1 the project components, there are no wildlife corridors,
2 there are no wetlands, no riparian areas, or important
3 bird areas located within the project or within the
4 project area.

5 There is also no suitable habitats for plants
6 that are protected by the Arizona Native Plant Law.

7 So based on the limited habitat and disturbed
8 nature of the area and the habitat on the ground for the
9 project components, there would be negligible impacts to
10 biological resources.

11 Q. Thank you, Ms. Pollio.

12 MEMBER HAMWAY: I just have one quick question.

13 CHMN. KATZ: Yes.

14 MEMBER HAMWAY: So how large was your study
15 area? So when you're talking about the study area,
16 you're talking about the 20 miles, right? But when
17 you're talking about specific studies done, you're just
18 talking about the acreage for the Meta site and for the
19 area use for the transmission line?

20 MS. POLLIO: That is an excellent question.

21 When we look at -- the statutory requirement and
22 land use does ask us to look at that 20-mile radius. So
23 there is a statutory requirement for land use to go out
24 and to note that land use.

25 And then we also look at specifically 1,000 feet

1 for all the project components that we go through with
2 the CEC application, a minimum of 1,000 feet around, but
3 in general, so we will look at the project area.

4 But when we do on-the-ground field surveys,
5 specifically for biology or cultural, we are focused on
6 the actual disturbance footprint. So that's when we boil
7 down to the project substation site itself and the
8 transmission line corridor. And that, you know, in
9 general, is because of access issues.

10 So when you're doing on the ground, you have to
11 have access, you know, to the on-the-ground area. So
12 you're looking more at the disturbance footprint. When
13 you're looking more at the overall studies, you're going
14 to go out to look at potential impacts. Again, that's
15 more from land use, visual, recreation-type impacts.

16 MEMBER HAMWAY: Thank you.

17 Q. BY MS. GILBERT: And just to clarify one thing,
18 Ms. Pollio, the historical uses, what were those, and can
19 you give a time frame of when this property would have
20 been first been disturbed.

21 A. (MS. POLLIO) So it has been disturbed. The
22 proving grounds are in the area, so, historically, this
23 has been an area where there have been a lot of -- a lot
24 of activity, a lot of disturbance.

25 So there's not -- you know, the native

1 habitat and parts of -- obviously, Arizona there's a lot
2 of native habitat, but this was disturbed by those
3 proving grounds.

4 And I do not know the exact date, but it was
5 years and years ago that this -- and historically and
6 through the years, this has had more intensive active
7 uses in this area based on those, you know, proving
8 grounds.

9 Q. Let's turn to the visual resources.

10 Ms. Pollio, in Exhibit E, SRP describes existing
11 scenic areas in the vicinity of the project. How are
12 scenic areas defined?

13 A. (MS. POLLIO) So scenic areas are defined as any
14 area of particular scenic beauty or historic significance
15 as determined by federal, state, or local officials
16 having jurisdiction in the area. It includes real
17 property interests that have been acquired for the
18 restoration, preservation, or enhancement of scenic
19 beauty.

20 Q. And are there any designated scenic areas near
21 the project?

22 A. (MS. POLLIO) There are no designated scenic
23 areas.

24 Q. So while there aren't any scenic areas, did SRP
25 consider any sensitive viewpoints?

1 A. (MS. POLLIO) Yes, we did.

2 So as part of the visual analysis included in
3 Exhibit E of the application, we do identify scenic
4 viewpoints. And these consist of locations where a
5 significant number or a number of people can see the
6 project. It's that simple.

7 But we look at it from specific locations. So
8 we try to look at it from the closest sensitive
9 receptors, which would be a residence or any type of
10 sensitive -- other type of facility. Generally, that
11 would be a medical facility, a church, a school,
12 recreational uses, those type of things, as well as
13 transportation corridor. So if you are driving by and
14 you would see the project.

15 So we try to capture and simulate the project
16 from those key locations.

17 Q. Can you summarize the potential sensitive
18 viewpoints analyzed for this Project.

19 A. (MS. POLLIO) Yes.

20 As you can see from L38 and R38, we have
21 identified where we identify what we call key observation
22 points. So these are these sensitive viewpoints that we
23 will then take a photo of and simulate the project.

24 So I'll start with No. 1. So No. 1 is located
25 on Elliot Road and Ellsworth Road. And you can see that

1 by the red point and the arrow that points to the south,
2 so that's the view of the project. And that is from the
3 Dignity Health Mesa Hospital medical facility. So that
4 is what you see right that under that No. 1. So that's
5 the closest sensitive receptor that's not a residence in
6 the area. So we wanted to take one from that location.

7 No. 2 is actually the closest residence to the
8 project. That is part of the Eastmark community. So you
9 can see that up where No. 2 is kind of looking towards
10 the west. And that is up -- again, that is the farthest
11 or the closest residence in that Eastmark residential
12 community.

13 And you can see from the aerial photograph all
14 of those houses looking -- what is that -- to the
15 southeast of the map. Those are all part of Eastmark.
16 So I just want to make sure everyone is kind of aware of
17 what that area is called.

18 No. 3 is from the closest recreational facility
19 and school. So that is a recreation -- you can see some
20 ball fields underneath there. So that is the closest
21 recreation facility to the project. So we wanted to take
22 one from that location.

23 I can tell you that there have been some interim
24 development from the time the aerial was taken where you
25 see some of these roads that have been identified or

1 platted. That is being filled in right now. So you will
2 see that here in a minute.

3 And then No. 4 is taken from Loop 202. So,
4 obviously, that's a highly traveled corridor. So we
5 wanted to take it from that location just because of how
6 many people would potentially see the site from that
7 highway.

8 Q. Great. Let's look through the simulations now.

9 A. (MS. POLLIO) Okay. KOP No. 1. So, again, L39
10 shows where the point is. R39 shows the existing photo
11 and the proposed.

12 So this is East Elliot Road and South Ellsworth
13 looking south. You can see the existing road. You can
14 see the Elliot Road sign in the foreground. You can see
15 the construction fencing around Meta's data facility in
16 the middle and background. And you can see kind of the
17 vacant nature of the parcel right now. As we talked, it
18 is under construction.

19 The proposed view simulates the proposed data
20 center and the substation and transmission line. You can
21 see the Meta Data Center buildings. You can see the
22 substation in the background that's being pointed to by
23 the green arrow as well as the transmission line that's
24 crossing over Ellsworth east to west into that simulated
25 transmission line pole.

1 KOP No. 2 is what we talked about previously,
2 the closest residence in Eastmark community. This is at
3 the north end of South Eastmark Parkway looking
4 northwest. So the existing view, you can see the
5 construction, red and white fencing around the perimeter
6 of the site.

7 In the proposed view, you can see that as
8 down -- that is no longer there. We have simulated from
9 the approved Mesa -- the Meta Data Center's Mesa site
10 plan or the site plan that was approved by the City of
11 Mesa. I apologize. That's a lot of words, but I'll get
12 it right. So it is from the approved site plan.

13 And you can see the fencing in the middle
14 ground, the data center in the background. You can see
15 the substation structures. And then the transmission
16 line would be off in the distant background.

17 MEMBER HAMWAY: So, real quick, my crude use of
18 the key puts the closest resident at about 2,000 feet.

19 MS. POLLIO: You're --

20 MEMBER HAMWAY: Is that what you determined?

21 MS. POLLIO: You're about 50 feet off, but, yes,
22 that's very good.

23 MEMBER HAMWAY: Okay.

24 MS. POLLIO: It's about 1950 feet, so that's
25 very good.

1 A. (MS. POLLIO) Okay. KOP No. 3, Inspirian
2 Parkway and East Point Twenty-Two Boulevard, and this is
3 looking northwest. This is the one from the closest
4 recreational facility. There's also a school in this
5 location. So, again, we also want to show where that is.

6 You can see the development that is kind of
7 filled in in that area that -- on the aerial photo that
8 is vacant. And you can see the transmission structures
9 and substation in the way background, but it's very hard
10 to see in this -- in this photo.

11 But, again, we did want to simulate what it
12 would look like from that closest school and recreational
13 facility.

14 The last KOP is No. 4, and this is Highway 24 to
15 the Loop 202 ramp. It's looking northeast.

16 So here, in the existing photo, you can see,
17 again, vacant State land. You can see off in the
18 distance the data center parcel. So, again, it looks --
19 it's very vacant except you can see -- if you remember in
20 the last -- I'm going to go two back -- there is a
21 temporary facility in the existing view here.

22 MS. POLLIO: Courtney, can you show that? Yeah,
23 that right there.

24 A. (MS. POLLIO) That -- you can see this kind of
25 gives you a good angle on the next one, so you can see

1 that also in the existing view. So that kind of gives
2 you a perspective of where we are.

3 And then the proposed view shows the simulated
4 Southeast Power Link, so we wanted to show that Southeast
5 Power Link. It's not there, but it will be there, as
6 well as the 69kV power line, as well as the simulated
7 data center, the simulated substation, and the 230kV
8 transmission line that is going to be running east to
9 west.

10 Q. And are there any --

11 MS. GILBERT: If you go back one slide.

12 Q. BY MS. GILBERT: Are there any future planned
13 land uses for this vacant State land?

14 A. (MS. POLLIO) There is. This is part of a
15 planned area development. And, again, the zoning
16 designation underneath where the transmission corridor is
17 is light industrial. And there are some planned land
18 uses for the PADs, which we will cover in Exhibit H as
19 well.

20 Q. Okay. Thank you.

21 Can you summarize your conclusions for this
22 section on the visual impacts.

23 A. (MS. POLLIO) Yes.

24 So as you could see by all of the photos, the
25 area does have a lot of development going on. We

1 obviously -- we have a lot of planned uses, the Elliot
2 Road Tech Corridor. The data center is being built. We
3 have a number of different transmission lines being
4 built, the Southeast Power Link, the 69kV line. You've
5 got the flood control channel. So you have a lot going
6 on.

7 And this is serving the data center and is
8 consistent with the land use and zoning. So from a
9 visual perspective, you will see more structures in the
10 area, but they are consistent with the structures and the
11 nature of development that is occurring.

12 Q. Great. Let's turn to cultural resources.

13 So Exhibit E to the application requires SRP to
14 give us information on historic and archeological sites.
15 Can we go through that analysis, Ms. Pollio.

16 A. (MS. POLLIO) Yes.

17 So most of the project has been previously
18 subject to a Class III cultural survey. And the
19 Class III is a pedestrian survey.

20 So as part of the Arizona State land
21 right-of-way application process, a Class III pedestrian
22 survey did have to occur and was part of that approval
23 process. That is included in Exhibit E-1.

24 For the substation site, there was a Class I
25 records review of the entire substation site as well as

1 the overall data center parcel. That has been previously
2 surveyed by Class III surveys in the area. So both
3 the -- and that is cumulatively considered a Class I
4 because it takes all of the desktop review and puts them
5 into one study.

6 So based on both that Class I and the Class III,
7 it was determined that there are no archeological sites
8 or historic building or structures that are along the
9 transmission line corridor or the substation property.

10 We also sent both the Class I and Class III to
11 the affiliated tribes in the area. Those tribal letters
12 and the responses that we have received to date are
13 included in Exhibit E-2.

14 Q. And can you just briefly summarize the nature of
15 those responses.

16 A. (MS. POLLIO) Yes.

17 So those responses that have been received
18 basically just identified that they would like to be
19 continually informed about the project, but they had no
20 concern because there were no cultural sites or resources
21 on either -- on any of the project components.

22 Q. Thank you.

23 And can you summarize your conclusions.

24 A. (MS. POLLIO) Yes.

25 Based on the Class I and Class III, as well as

1 input received from the tribes, there is a finding of no
2 historic properties affected or no historical resources
3 or -- known cultural resources that would be affected by
4 the project.

5 Q. Okay. Moving forward with recreational areas.

6 So Exhibit F requires SRP to state whether the
7 proposed site or route will be available to the public
8 for recreational purposes. Is that correct, Ms. Pollio?

9 A. (MS. POLLIO) That is correct.

10 Q. And so can you please cover that information for
11 the Committee.

12 A. (MS. POLLIO) Yes. Recreational uses in the
13 area are mixed uses, open space active. And the majority
14 of the recreational areas in close proximity to the
15 project are passive open spaces or neighborhood parks
16 associated with the subdivision. That would include
17 catchment basins and common areas.

18 You can see on R47 we have both a 1-mile buffer
19 as well as in a 1,000-foot buffer. No recreational
20 facilities at all within that 1,000 feet. And, again,
21 within the 1-mile buffer, you can see the green open
22 space. And again, those are generally catchment basins
23 or open green space associated with subdivisions.

24 Q. Let's take a look at Figure F-1. Is that on
25 R47?

1 A. (MS. POLLIO) Correct, yes.

2 Q. So your -- those open spaces, the green spaces,
3 those are available to the Eastmark community and other
4 residents?

5 A. (MS. POLLIO) Correct.

6 Q. Great.

7 So can you summarize your conclusions.

8 A. (MS. POLLIO) Yes.

9 Based on the limited recreation in the 1-mile
10 buffer and no recreation within the 1,000-foot buffer of
11 the project, there would be no impacts to existing
12 recreational facilities.

13 The site is not available for public
14 recreational use, but it would -- would not preclude
15 recreational uses within the project. And, therefore,
16 there are no impacts to recreation.

17 Q. Thank you.

18 So, next, we'll look at the existing plans of
19 state, local government, and private entities.

20 Ms. Pollio, the last -- this is our last
21 environmental topic. Can you summarize the existing
22 plans for the Committee.

23 A. (MS. POLLIO) Yes.

24 So you can see on Figure H-1, which is also R49,
25 there are a lot of planned area developments. The orange

1 represents planned area developments in the area. So you
2 can see -- I'll just summarize. In the 1-mile buffer,
3 there are 21 planned area developments.

4 We'll start with the most obvious. The planned
5 area development that is where the substation is located
6 is obvious. That is the approved Meta Mesa data center.
7 So that is No. 15. Obviously, the substation is
8 providing power to that planned area development and that
9 data center, and so the land use is compatible and is
10 consistent with the plan and the future plans of that
11 project.

12 There are also, as I mentioned, the 21 other
13 PADs in the area, and they are a mix of being planned,
14 they're being planned, they're being permitted, or in
15 construction. So they are all over the place in terms of
16 where they are.

17 We do have a table, Table H-1, in your
18 application that gives more information about each one of
19 those planned area developments within the 1-mile buffer.

20 But I'll note where the transmission line is we
21 were talking about that earlier, and that's No. 2. That
22 is called Hawes Crossing. That is also a planned area
23 development. It's very large.

24 As you can see, Courtney is identifying that
25 boundary of No. 2. It is a very, very large PAD. I'll

1 focus on, though, the portion of the PAD that is on State
2 land. So the State land is also part of the PAD, and the
3 transmission line corridor is part of that as well.

4 However, as you -- we talked about, we've gone
5 through a process with the State Land Department for
6 location of the 69 line and the corridor for the 230kV
7 line and how that is compatible with that Hawes Crossing.
8 And as I mentioned earlier, Hawes Crossing, the zoning
9 for the transmission line corridor is industrial, and it
10 is a mixed use. And so this area is compatible and mixed
11 use is compatible with the planned area development of
12 Hawes Crossing.

13 Q. Are there any other planned developments in the
14 area you'd like to note?

15 A. (MS. POLLIO) Yeah. The only one I would like
16 to mention again because I do think it's important, even
17 though we did talk about it in land use, is the Elliot
18 Road Tech Corridor. Again, I won't go into details
19 again, but it is outlined in the green and the white. It
20 is an important corridor, and it really has been integral
21 in the planning aspects of the project.

22 Lastly, I will talk about road improvements.
23 There are a couple different road improvements that are
24 going on in the area, and so we want to note that, and
25 those have been described in Exhibit H. One is the

1 Phase 2 section of State Route 24 that is under
2 construction as well as the City of Mesa is currently
3 working on Signal Butte Road to Williams Field Road to
4 Germann Road improvement project. So those are a couple
5 of road improvement projects in the area, none of which
6 are in conflict and, therefore, are compatible with our
7 project.

8 Q. All right. So can you summarize your
9 conclusions regarding the existing plans in this area.

10 A. (MS. POLLIO) Yes.

11 So, as we've mentioned, Prickly Pear Substation
12 is on the data center planned area development. It's
13 serving the data center and, therefore, is consistent
14 with that area plan.

15 The transmission line runs through Hawes
16 Crossing PAD. That portion is a combination of mixed use
17 and light industrial uses. It has also been coordinated
18 with State Land Department.

19 So based on the coordination with those planned
20 area developments and the underlying landowner, those
21 area plans would be considered compatible and, therefore,
22 not in conflict with any planned area developments.

23 Q. Great.

24 Let's turn to noise and communications. This is
25 covered by Exhibit I, correct?

1 A. (MS. POLLIO) Correct.

2 Q. Can you summarize the findings.

3 A. (MS. POLLIO) Yes.

4 So very similar to a lot of other projects that
5 you've seen for transmission lines and substation
6 facility, there are different types of potential noise
7 that are emitted by these facilities. One,
8 construction-related noise, which is temporary and short
9 term. There is also operational noise associated with
10 substation and transmission lines generally characterized
11 as a low hum. However, with the closest residents being
12 about 2,000 feet away from the substation, and the
13 transmission line is even further, as well as no
14 additional sensitive noise receptors being very close.

15 In addition, there is a lot of active -- a lot
16 of activity going on on the data center. So the noise
17 from the transmission line or the substation would be
18 barely noticeable from any type of residence or any type
19 of -- anyone that would be close by.

20 Q. And do you anticipate any radio interference
21 from this project?

22 A. (MS. POLLIO) No. With all the activity in the
23 area, there would be no anticipated interference with
24 communication facilities.

25 Q. Great.

1 I believe you can go through your environmental
2 conclusions now.

3 A. (MS. POLLIO) So as I've stated -- I'll just go
4 through this quickly, but there are no significant or
5 detrimental effects to land uses or jurisdictions.

6 There are no detrimental effects to fish,
7 wildlife, plant life, or associated forms.

8 There's no significant effects to existing
9 scenic areas, historic sites, or archeological resources.

10 Neither SRP nor jurisdictional agencies have
11 plans or future developments for recreation facilities.

12 There are no significant or detrimental effects
13 to planned area developments or area plans.

14 No detrimental effects from noise or
15 communication signals.

16 The project implementation would be consistent
17 and safely -- we considered regulations in the area. And
18 the project is environmentally compatible with the total
19 environment of the area.

20 Q. So in addition to environmental compatibility,
21 you also covered statutory notice requirements?

22 A. (MS. POLLIO) That is correct.

23 CHMN. KATZ: Before we do that, I think that
24 we've been going a little bit more than an hour and a
25 half or just about that long. I want to take a 15-minute

1 break.

2 It's about 20 minutes to 3, a couple minutes
3 past that. I'd like to get started between five to 3 and
4 3:00. So we'll take a short recess, and then we'll
5 continue.

6 (A recess was taken from 2:41 p.m. to
7 3:06 p.m.)

8 CHMN. KATZ: Whenever you're ready, Mr. Acken,
9 you may continue with I believe our current witness,
10 Ms. Pollio, or whomever.

11 Q. BY MS. GILBERT: Ms. Pollio, let's --

12 CHMN. KATZ: Oh, I'm sorry. It was Ms. Gilbert.
13 Go ahead.

14 MS. GILBERT: No worries.

15 Q. BY MS. GILBERT: Can you continue with the
16 statutory notice requirements.

17 A. (MS. POLLIO) Yes. So as we entered into
18 recess, we were talking about statutory notice. And the
19 first one is the Notice of Hearing. So on R55, you can
20 see a copy of the Notice of Hearing.

21 R56 identifies the two publications that we
22 advertise with the Notice of Hearing. That was the Mesa
23 Tribune and The Arizona Republic. So these represent the
24 affidavits of publications for both of those papers.

25 Finally, we sent mailings to the affected

1 jurisdictions. And as we discussed earlier on the record
2 this morning, it was to Maricopa County, City of Mesa,
3 and the State Land Department.

4 Q. Thank you.

5 And there are a few Procedural Order
6 requirements. Can you detail those for the Committee.

7 A. (MS. POLLIO) Yes.

8 So the first ones are signs. So we did post the
9 large signs around the perimeter of the project area.
10 You can see on R58, there are five locations where we
11 posted those signs.

12 In addition, we delivered copies of the CEC
13 application to libraries within the City of Mesa. Those
14 included the Southeast Regional Library and the Red
15 Mountain Branch Library.

16 Q. I think that concludes your testimony on the
17 environmental, statutory, Procedural Order notice
18 requirements, noise, and communications; is that correct?

19 A. (MS. POLLIO) That is correct. Thank you.

20 MS. GILBERT: So, next, Mr. Acken and Ms. Horgen
21 will review direct testimony on public outreach.

22 MR. ACKEN: Thank you, Ms. Gilbert.

23

24

25

1 DIRECT EXAMINATION (Cont.)

2 BY MR. ACKEN:

3 Q. And hello again, Ms. Horgen. Thank you for your
4 patience.

5 Let's start off by having you describe for the
6 Committee how you determined the notification area for
7 public outreach.

8 A. (MS. HORGAN) Sure.

9 So the right screen, R61, is identifying the
10 notification area that we determined for public outreach
11 for Project Huckleberry. And the notification is our --
12 an important step in our public process. It's our first
13 step in our public process.

14 And in determining that notification area, we
15 carefully considered who may have an interest in the
16 project and based it based on the project routes or
17 components of the project.

18 So, generally, we start with a 1-mile
19 notification, and then we look at the HOAs in the area,
20 making sure that we don't cut or bisect a community. We
21 also look at linear features such as major streets to
22 find a natural boundary cutoff.

23 And so in this approach, we don't want to
24 inundate folks who would not be interested or be close
25 enough to the impact of the project to receive mailers

1 that, you know, could potentially not be of interest to
2 them.

3 So based on that approach, we did choose a
4 notification area that was approximately 1.4 miles from
5 the substation and the transmission line. And in some
6 cases, the notification area, which I will -- if I can --
7 I don't know if I can --

8 MS. HORGREN: Or, Courtney, can you do that for
9 me.

10 A. (MS. HORGREN) She will identify what the
11 notification boundary is. It is teal. And so you can
12 see this is the current notification area. It does
13 expand up to 2.5 miles to the bottom. And that was in
14 order to avoid cutting or bisecting the Eastmark HOA
15 community.

16 So we went as far east to Signal Butte, and we
17 went as far west to Sossaman Road, as far north to
18 Guadalupe, and as far south to Williams Field Road. And
19 this is the notification area that we did use for all of
20 our public outreach.

21 As you can see on the left side, this is a
22 summary of our outreach campaign.

23 CHMN. KATZ: Let me ask, Mr. Acken, throughout
24 this, we've been looking at slides in Exhibit 2, but some
25 of these slides are labeled L61, for example here, or

1 R61. What does the L stand for and what does the R stand
2 for?

3 MR. ACKEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I should
4 have explained that from the outset.

5 CHMN. KATZ: I'm not confused. I just think we
6 need a good record.

7 MR. ACKEN: Yeah, exactly.

8 So this is -- the slide deck is marked for
9 identification as SRP No. 2. These are the hearing
10 slides that we're using for all of our witnesses.

11 L refers to left-hand screen. R refers to the
12 right-hand screen. So for those in the room, those
13 watching virtually, and those reading the transcript
14 later, I'm hopeful that will make it easier to follow
15 that the L61 corresponds to R61 and so on and so forth.

16 CHMN. KATZ: And, generally, I've seen on the
17 left screen a summary, for example, of outreach campaign
18 and then an actual map that shows the area that was
19 considered appropriate to notify.

20 MR. ACKEN: Yes, Mr. Chairman. With limited
21 exceptions, most of the text slides are on the left-hand
22 side and the visuals and the maps and other things are on
23 the right-hand side.

24 CHMN. KATZ: That's fine. Feel free to proceed.

25 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: Ms. Horgen, next I'd like you to

1 provide a summary of your outreach campaign that is shown
2 on L61.

3 A. (MS. HORGAN) Sure.

4 So the Slide L61 shows the variety of methods we
5 used to publicize this project. So the goal here is to
6 make sure that we provide information about the project,
7 assisting in the understanding of the project,
8 encouraging engagement, and also just to promote our
9 website that we're continuing regularly to update with
10 the latest developments.

11 And so you can see here we started -- or similar
12 methods of outreach or stakeholder outreach in general.

13 And I'll go through that in -- more specifically.

14 Jurisdictional briefings; postcards; project website;
15 social media campaign; multiple news releases; open
16 house, both in person and virtual; a telephone
17 information line; public comments; and customer and
18 stakeholder emails.

19 Q. Let's start with stakeholder outreach and
20 jurisdictional briefings. Describe those for the
21 Committee.

22 A. (MS. HORGAN) Sure.

23 So just to start the -- our initial outreach
24 began reaching out to HOAs, schools, churches, and other
25 stakeholders within the notification area. We called

1 them actually prior to our public launch in February just
2 to verify that we had correct information because we
3 wanted to use that information, emails and phone numbers,
4 to eventually send out an eblast with each corresponding
5 public outreach event. And so we did gather in February
6 emails, phone numbers, property managers, or any
7 appropriate contact for those stakeholders.

8 So you can see here we have HOAs, daycares,
9 schools, churches, and also the hospital, which was
10 located -- which is considered the medical facility.

11 And then we have Arizona State Land Department,
12 Arizona Corporation Commission, City of Mesa, Maricopa
13 County supervisor, Mesa Chamber of Commerce. And then
14 Apache Junction Chamber of Commerce, we did notify them
15 as a courtesy.

16 And to the right on R62, this is a stakeholder
17 map. And to the right of the legend, you can see that
18 those -- that actually identifies all of the different
19 stakeholders in the area. So we had approximately 27
20 briefings on this project.

21 Q. Next, describe the postcard mailings that were
22 used to announce the project and publicize open houses
23 and this hearing.

24 A. (MS. HORGAN) Sure.

25 So we had four postcard mailings. March 4th was

1 for the -- to notify the announcement of the project and
2 also the live virtual open house. On April 14th, there
3 was an in-person open house. And on June 3rd, we had the
4 Notice of Hearing, which noticed for here today.

5 And then, as Mr. Acken referenced earlier in his
6 opening, the next notice was sent out to reference the
7 public comment typo. And so on the R63 is a sample of
8 Postcard No. 1.

9 And then Postcard No. 2 is R64.

10 R65 is Postcard No. 3.

11 And R66 is the fourth postcard.

12 We also used this postcard information to share
13 via email as well as our social media campaign. And the
14 average number of mailings we had on our postcards was
15 13,000.

16 Q. What information was available on the project's
17 website?

18 A. (MS. HORGAN) So here on L67 shows a number of
19 items that we posted to our website. We had project
20 information, benefit and need, the public process for
21 each of them that we were holding. A map, a number of
22 maps, videos, scope of the project, infrastructure
23 depictions, a comment form, a telephone information line,
24 and we also posted the filed documents and transcripts
25 from the CEC.

1 So R67 is identifying what a sample of the
2 website would look like. And I would like to point out I
3 did add a couple stats here. Just thought that would be
4 interesting for you.

5 So from March 4th is the public launch, and we
6 pulled these stats June 9th. So unique visitors to the
7 website was 2,579. Unique visitors is the number of
8 people that actually went to our page. So, for example,
9 if you went on your computer and you went on your phone,
10 that would be considered two unique visits.

11 And then page views was 6,238. And page views
12 is the number of hits to the page. And so that could be
13 multiple hits if you went to public outreach. If you
14 went to the project need and benefit or contacts page,
15 that would be multiple hits.

16 MEMBER HAMWAY: I just have a quick question.

17 CHMN. KATZ: Yes.

18 MEMBER HAMWAY: What happens at the virtual open
19 house and the live, in-person open house?

20 MS. HORGAN: So the live, in-person open house,
21 we had presenters -- we hosted two live virtual open
22 houses here March 22nd and 23rd.

23 For the virtual open house, we had the project
24 manager, Kevin, and Kenda and myself on so that we could
25 talk to people and also present some information and also

1 answer questions from the public.

2 On March 22nd, we had 14 attendees and 17
3 questions. And then we also had topics that surrounded
4 undergrounding and visual impacts.

5 On March 23rd, we had five attendees and four
6 questions, and the substation and linear residential
7 was -- or the substation and the transmission line in
8 particular were discussed as far as how close they are to
9 residential areas as well as visual impacts.

10 And the in-person open house was May 3rd. That
11 one we hosted in particular at Eastmark. We thought that
12 they were the closest to the project, so it was
13 appropriate to try to capture as many as those folks as
14 we could too. And so we did have that at the Eastmark
15 Visitor and Community Center.

16 There were 11 attendees, and there were no
17 written comments to SRP. We did have some comment forms
18 there and offered to give to them if they wanted to mail
19 them or give them to us, but we have not received those
20 written comments.

21 The topics that came up at that open house were
22 EMF, reliability, visual impacts, undergrounding. And we
23 also did have a representative from the Mesa Independent
24 who attended our open house and, in fact, wrote this
25 article to the right on our project, and it was posted on

1 May 5th.

2 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: Describe your email outreach to
3 customers and other stakeholders.

4 A. (MS. HORGAN) So we did both customer and
5 stakeholder emails.

6 We had -- all the customer and stakeholder
7 emails did correspond with when the postcard went out.
8 So on March 7th, we had 7,995 emails that were delivered.
9 And on April 18th, we had 10,089 emails delivered;
10 June 13th, 9,885 emails are delivered. And on June 13th,
11 we had 9,886 emails delivered on the correction.

12 And so for emails, we did pull those emails
13 using -- for customers, we pulled them using the emails
14 in the notification area. So any emails that we pulled
15 from our customer list, we tried to use those for email
16 outreach.

17 Stakeholders, I mentioned this earlier, we did
18 pull stakeholder emails and contact information early on
19 prior to our public launch, and that was with proactive
20 calls by myself.

21 And so on the right side you can see a sample.
22 R69 is customer and stakeholder email sample.

23 MEMBER HAMWAY: So the emails, those were within
24 the 1-mile or the 20-mile?

25 MS. HORGAN: No, they were -- the emails were

1 pulled -- we pulled them using the identification area.

2 So anything within that notification area based on --

3 MEMBER HAMWAY: How big was the notification
4 area?

5 MS. HORGAN: 1.4 to 2.5.

6 MEMBER HAMWAY: All right.

7 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: And that is shown on R61,
8 correct?

9 A. (MS. HORGAN) Correct.

10 Q. How did you use social media to inform the
11 public of the project and opportunities to participate?

12 A. (MS. HORGAN) So L70 is identifying our social
13 media campaign. So our social media campaign started two
14 weeks prior to any outreach event with the exception of
15 this hearing today. We did notify for three weeks.

16 And so each media campaign, again, corresponded
17 with our postcard release. And we did target both
18 Facebook and Instagram, both Spanish and English. And
19 Nextdoor, we could only use English, so that was only
20 English there.

21 But for the Nextdoor campaign, unfortunately,
22 they don't have the option of pulling for the
23 notification area. So what we did is we pulled -- using
24 ZIP codes, pulled them all -- all the ZIP codes off of
25 our mailing list. So we actually a little bit farther

1 reach, but that was okay. We felt it was fine to just
2 extend beyond the notification in this case. So that was
3 using ZIP codes for Nextdoor.

4 On the R70, you can see a sample of our social
5 media ads.

6 Q. How many people actually clicked on the social
7 media ads to learn more about the project?

8 A. (MS. HORGAN) So as far as clicks -- so we call
9 it -- there's a CTA. So on the very bottom of the screen
10 on the social media ads, you see a "learn more." So CTA
11 means call to action, what we wanted the community to do.
12 So in this case, we called it the "learn more" button.

13 So in March, the total number for clicks for
14 Nextdoor, Facebook, and Instagram was 978. For the May
15 open house social media ad campaign, there was 258. And
16 for the June hearing, we did pull it a little bit early,
17 so we pulled it on June 22nd.

18 So the campaign, it was still ongoing until
19 today. So it didn't fully capture everybody, but it
20 was -- at the time we pulled it on 6/22, it was 382.

21 Q. And did you also prepare news releases to inform
22 the public?

23 A. (MS. HORGAN) We did. We did prepare four news
24 releases.

25 And you can see on L71, we had them again

1 correspond with the postcard release, so we had one for
2 the project announcement and notifying of the online open
3 house. We had one prior to the in-person open house,
4 prior to the line siting here today, and then again the
5 hearing public comment news release was re-sent on the
6 same exact day for the correction.

7 And to the right, I think -- I believe Kenda
8 spoke to this earlier in her testimony, but those are the
9 dates of when the ads were placed in the newspaper.

10 Q. And examples of the news releases are shown on
11 R71?

12 A. (MS. HORGAN) Yes. On the right side, R71, are
13 examples of the news releases.

14 Q. What letters of support have you received for
15 the project?

16 A. (MS. HORGAN) So we received letter support from
17 the City of Mesa as well as the Mesa Chamber of Commerce.

18 As far as City of Mesa, they're stating that:
19 "It will benefit Mesa greatly by bringing in strong
20 revenue, quality jobs, and attract future economic
21 development in a location that is ideal for high-tech
22 manufacturers and data centers."

23 According to the Mesa Chamber of Commerce
24 letter: "The development represents a continuation of
25 technology sector growth in Arizona, especially data

1 center growth for which the Phoenix area recently ranked
2 second nationally."

3 And note -- I'm just going to note too that the
4 development in this -- since you guys don't have the full
5 option of -- well, maybe you do since you can see, but
6 it's referencing the data center. "Development" is
7 referencing the data center.

8 Q. And, Ms. Horgen, both of those support letters
9 have been marked for identification as SRP Exhibit 5 if
10 the Committee would like to look at the full letters; is
11 that correct?

12 A. (MS. HORGAN) Yes.

13 Q. And then --

14 MEMBER GRINNELL: Mr. Chairman.

15 CHMN. KATZ: Yes, Mr. Grinnell, go ahead.

16 MEMBER GRINNELL: Outreach. Has there been any
17 comments about the amount of water use being utilized by
18 the data centers, whatever you want to call them, these
19 computer places?

20 MS. HORGAN: Yes. I think I'll let Kevin answer
21 that.

22 MR. WOOLFOLK: Yeah, so I -- so I can answer
23 that.

24 So Meta or Facebook has worked out with the City
25 of Mesa, but they have employed technologies at their

1 data center that would make their center use 60 percent
2 less water than typical data centers with their hybrid
3 cooling technologies.

4 They also have a number of water restoration
5 efforts to supply more water back into the Colorado River
6 than they would consume at their data center.

7 MEMBER GRINNELL: Forgive me. They would what
8 now? Put more water back into the CAP?

9 MR. WOOLFOLK: Yeah. They have a number of
10 water restoration projects that would actually restore
11 more water into the Colorado River than they consume.
12 And it's roughly 200 million gallons per year that they
13 will be restoring in these efforts.

14 MEMBER HAMWAY: Is this a transfer of water?
15 How are they returning more water than they use?

16 MR. WOOLFOLK: I'm not sure I'm that familiar
17 with the specifics of their water restoration efforts. I
18 would have to defer to someone with that knowledge.

19 MEMBER FRENCH: Mr. Chairman.

20 CHMN. KATZ: Yes, Mr. French.

21 MEMBER FRENCH: Could you just give us the total
22 consumption of water that this facility would be using
23 annually? I understand that it's not within the
24 jurisdiction, but just for our informational purposes.

25 MR. WOOLFOLK: Unfortunately, I don't have that

1 figure either.

2 MEMBER GRINNELL: Has there been any --
3 Mr. Chairman.

4 CHMN. KATZ: Yes.

5 MEMBER GRINNELL: Has there been any questions
6 by DWR or the CAP or -- regarding this facility?

7 MS. HORGAN: Is that a question for me? Sorry.
8 I have not received any comments.

9 MEMBER GRINNELL: Whoever can answer it or if
10 you can find any. I'm just trying to -- I'm just trying
11 to get a -- wrap my head around some of this because,
12 obviously, water is a big issue, and these centers are
13 important, and they need a lot of cooling. So I am just
14 curious, has there been any outreach or inquiries by DWR
15 or the CAP board regarding this project?

16 MS. HORGAN: Like I say, I have not received any
17 inquiries from either of those.

18 MEMBER GRINNELL: Thank you. Thank you.

19 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: While we're on the topic of
20 water, I'm going to go back to you, Mr. Woolfolk.

21 Are you familiar with I'll refer to it as a fact
22 sheet that Meta developed discussing their water use and
23 how they're going to conserve water?

24 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Yes.

25 Q. And so there have been questions about how

1 exactly are they going to conserve water. Is it true
2 that one way that they do so is to recycle the water
3 several times before discharge?

4 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) That is correct.

5 Q. And is it true that they're using kind of a
6 hybrid cooling system?

7 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Yes.

8 Q. And then with respect to the water restoration
9 projects that will more than offset their water usage,
10 are you familiar with -- one project is with the Colorado
11 River Indian Tribes and the Arizona Department of Water
12 Resources?

13 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Yes. That was listed on the
14 fact sheet.

15 Q. And the volume restored per year is estimated to
16 be 25.5 million gallons per year starting in 2021?

17 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Yep, that's correct.

18 Q. And the other project, they're partnering with
19 the Nature Conservancy and the Mason Lane Ditch
20 Association; is that correct?

21 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Yes.

22 Q. And do you know what the volume of water
23 restored per year they anticipate for that project?

24 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Yes. For the Mason Lane, they
25 roughly estimate 180 million gallons per year starting in

1 2022.

2 Q. That was 180 million gallons annually?

3 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Yes. Correct.

4 Q. And a third project is the Navajo Nation Water
5 Supply partnering with the Navajo community partners?

6 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Correct.

7 Q. And what is the volume restored per year under
8 that project?

9 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) 302,400 gallons per year.

10 Q. Okay. Thank you.

11 MEMBER HAMWAY: Is that fact sheet in evidence?

12 MR. ACKEN: It will be.

13 MEMBER HAMWAY: Okay.

14 MR. ACKEN: We will mark that for identification
15 as SRP No. 6.

16 CHMN. KATZ: Thank you.

17 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: Ms. Horgen, another question for
18 you on exhibits. SRP No. 3 is an updated summary of
19 public outreach efforts prepared pursuant to the
20 Procedural Order; is that correct?

21 A. (MS. HORGAN) Yes.

22 Q. And it's consistent with your testimony here
23 today; is that correct?

24 A. (MS. HORGAN) Yes.

25 Q. I want to close out your testimony, Ms. Horgen.

1 You've talked about the different types of outreach that
2 SRP performed for Project Huckleberry. What are your
3 overall conclusions regarding the public outreach
4 campaign?

5 A. (MS. HORGREN) So SRP takes great pride, I can
6 say this personally, what I've seen -- what I do and what
7 I've seen in SRP general, we take great pride in our
8 outreach making sure that we're reaching out to our
9 customers and stakeholders because we don't want to catch
10 them off guard. We want to make sure they're getting
11 information about the projects that are in their
12 community.

13 And so I'm confident that SRP can -- conducted a
14 robust public outreach campaign for this project using
15 the variety of campaign methods listed above. So we did
16 all these stakeholder outreach, the jurisdictional
17 briefings, the postcards, the project website, the social
18 media, and I think you guys can read the rest.

19 But we've also worked with Eastmark, and they
20 were close in proximity -- closest in proximity to the
21 project to have the open house at their facility. So I
22 do feel confident that our outreach campaign was
23 effective and it provided project information and ways
24 for the public to engage in our project. And it resulted
25 in minimal concern and minimal opposition for the

1 project.

2 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: Thank you, Ms. Horgen.

3 Mr. Woolfolk, I want to come back to you to kind
4 of close the panel.

5 First, there is a couple items that we wanted to
6 close the loop on.

7 MR. ACKEN: If we could pull up Slide R8,
8 please, Courtney. Thank you.

9 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: I believe Chairman Katz asked you
10 this question about the double-circuit phase tied line
11 represented on this figure from the Santan Generating
12 Station to the Corbell Substation. Do you recall that
13 question?

14 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Yes, I do.

15 Q. And have you had a chance to run that to ground?

16 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) I have. So a double-circuit
17 phase tied line is literally where you take a
18 double-circuit 230kV line and add a physical jumper to
19 each phase. So if you have the 230kV structure, as you
20 can imagine, you have the Phase A, B, and C going
21 downward. You put a jumper across that, and it serves as
22 kind of a temporary fix to provide more capacity and
23 provide a single circuit to a facility. Eventually, SRP
24 would untie that jumper and break the circuit apart to
25 serve different loads. But it's just kind of -- it's

1 really employed as a temporary fix.

2 Q. And another question came from Member Little
3 regarding Slide R25, which is the Staff letter to
4 Chairman Katz, also in your exhibit book as SRP No. 4.

5 If I am paraphrasing this correctly,
6 Member Little was asking about the necessary improvements
7 that would be required as a result of this project. Do
8 you recall that question?

9 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Yes, I do.

10 Q. And do you have a response to her inquiry?

11 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Yes. I know she had asked about
12 mitigation or overflow -- or overloading of transformers
13 and what SRP would do.

14 So SRP is planning to add two 500/230kV
15 transformers at the Browning Substation. The first one
16 would occur in 2024, and then the second one will be in
17 the 2027 to 2028 time frame. Previous power flow studies
18 have shown the need for these transformers.

19 So as far as cost goes, we can't attribute this
20 to one customer such as Meta. It's actually being used
21 to serve multiple customers and import power from the
22 500kV system and serve our 230 ring. So, therefore, SRP
23 will be paying for these additional transformer upgrades.

24 I know her question also included a mention
25 about fault current and what SRP's mitigation strategies

1 would be for that and cost associated. And so by adding
2 transformers you do create a fault current on the system.
3 From our power flow analysis, we have determined that the
4 second transformer addition is where we would have the
5 over-our-fault-current situation and need a mitigation
6 for that.

7 So SRP is currently evaluating the mitigation
8 strategies needed for this fault current for the
9 2027-2028 time frame. SRP can do a number of things to
10 kind of mitigate that fault current, including breaking
11 up or separating the 69kV system. So we'll look further
12 into what is needed for that later in that time frame.

13 So, again, these mitigation strategies, since
14 they are being beneficial to multiple customers and this
15 isn't attributed to just Meta or just one customer, SRP
16 will be doing that cost as well.

17 CHMN. KATZ: Let me just ask you, Counsel,
18 whether you think we need a condition in the CEC that
19 somehow states that SRP will continue to evaluate options
20 and cost responsibilities for mitigating power flow
21 overloads. Do you think that's needed or do you think
22 it's understood based upon ...

23 MR. ACKEN: Yeah, that's a great question. What
24 I'd like to do is take a look the existing CEC conditions
25 to see if it's already covered in there. And if not,

1 perhaps we can propose a condition to address that. I
2 anticipate we would be having those discussions sometime
3 tomorrow. And so that would give us the evening to chew
4 on that question.

5 CHMN. KATZ: Right. And even though we might
6 finish our evidentiary presentation in the not-too-
7 distant future, very shortly, I don't think we ought to
8 be looking at the CEC until it's in its final draft form
9 tomorrow.

10 So if you could think on that overnight and if
11 you think there's the need to add that, we can do that
12 when we edit the document on the right screen tomorrow.

13 MR. ACKEN: We will do so. Thank you.

14 CHMN. KATZ: Please feel free --

15 MEMBER LITTLE: Mr. Chairman.

16 CHMN. KATZ: Yes, Member Little.

17 MEMBER LITTLE: Great minds think alike. I put
18 together some proposed language for a condition,
19 basically, that condition. Should we just wait and see
20 what the applicant proposes here or would you like me to
21 send it to Tod so he can send it to the other members or
22 should we just wait and see?

23 CHMN. KATZ: I mean, we could have her send it
24 to Tod, and Tod could then send it --

25 MEMBER HAMWAY: Yes, Member Little, I would

1 appreciate you sending it on. And we're all pretty
2 familiar with the CEC, so I think we could quickly figure
3 out if it's already covered somewhere.

4 MEMBER LITTLE: And that way the applicant could
5 look at it also. And if they would like to propose some
6 language changes or something different, then we can
7 discuss that.

8 CHMN. KATZ: That's fine.

9 MEMBER LITTLE: Okay.

10 CHMN. KATZ: I think it would be appreciated for
11 us to get a preview of what your thoughts might be on
12 this matter, and it would be helpful for Mr. Acken to
13 have that available tonight so that when he's in deep
14 thought, he can decide whether or not to use that
15 language in consultation with SRP and the project
16 personnel.

17 MEMBER LITTLE: Okay. Thank you.

18 MR. ACKEN: Thank you, Member Little.

19 MEMBER HAENICHEN: Chairman.

20 CHMN. KATZ: Yes, Member Haenichen.

21 MEMBER HAENICHEN: I have some questions for SRP
22 representative Mr. Woolfolk.

23 Help me understand this. I'm looking at the
24 back of this --

25 MEMBER HAMWAY: Placemat.

1 MEMBER HAENICHEN: Do you have one of these?

2 MR. WOOLFOLK: I do not, but I can find a map
3 on ...

4 CHMN. KATZ: It's the project map that we've
5 been using. I forgot the exhibit number offhand.

6 MEMBER HAENICHEN: Turn it to the side that has
7 "project compounds." I'm going to tell you what my
8 understanding of this is, and then you can tell me if I'm
9 correct.

10 There's a transmission line at 230kV coming from
11 the top of that page parallel to the 202. Do you see
12 that? It's called proposed double-circuit 230kV
13 transmission line or certificated Southeast Power Link.

14 MR. WOOLFOLK: Yes, certificated Southeast Power
15 Link, 230kV. Yes.

16 MEMBER HAENICHEN: So it comes from the top of
17 the page. Where does it come from?

18 MR. WOOLFOLK: Yes. So that's connecting to an
19 existing Browning-Santan circuit.

20 MEMBER HAENICHEN: Okay. And then it comes down
21 vertically to the Scott Substation.

22 MR. WOOLFOLK: Yes.

23 MEMBER HAENICHEN: Is that the terminus of it,
24 the end of it?

25 MR. WOOLFOLK: It does terminate into the Scott

1 Substation.

2 MEMBER HAENICHEN: Okay.

3 MR. WOOLFOLK: Unless there is a south line out
4 of Scott for the Southeast Power Link as well.

5 MEMBER HAENICHEN: Okay. Here's my question:
6 To the right of this is where the project is going to be
7 that does the data for Facebook or whatever you want to
8 call it, right?

9 MR. WOOLFOLK: Yes.

10 MEMBER HAENICHEN: My understanding of the
11 reason -- and their operating voltage is 69kV; is that
12 right?

13 MR. WOOLFOLK: Ultimately, they are taking it
14 down to 34.5kV.

15 MEMBER HAENICHEN: All right. But it's a much
16 lower voltage than 230.

17 MR. WOOLFOLK: Yes.

18 MEMBER HAENICHEN: My understanding of the two
19 lines coming in, at utility feet, which is 230, are for
20 redundancy. In case one of them goes out, at least they
21 can still operate the data center; is that right?

22 MR. WOOLFOLK: That's correct.

23 MEMBER HAENICHEN: But both of those lines come
24 from the same source, do they not? Down at the top of
25 the page, the 230 lines.

1 MR. WOOLFOLK: Yes. So the double-circuit 230kV
2 line would be tying into the 230kV SPL line.

3 MEMBER HAENICHEN: Okay. Well, I don't see how
4 the redundancy works because if there is only one source
5 for that energy coming down, if it goes out, it goes out,
6 and you can't switch to another one. I thought the
7 purpose of having two feeds -- like, for example, Intel
8 plants have two feeds come from different sources
9 altogether geographically speaking. And that's for the
10 same reason, except it's even more important on a
11 semiconductor plant.

12 So how does that give the redundancy on this
13 particular case if the 230 fails?

14 MR. WOOLFOLK: Yeah, so we're actually leaving
15 the 69kV circuits that are feeding into the substation as
16 redundancy. So, say, the 230 were to be taken out, the
17 69kV would serve as the backup and provide the necessary
18 capacity for the campus.

19 MEMBER HAENICHEN: But where does the 69 come
20 from? Does it come from the 230?

21 MR. WOOLFOLK: One will be coming from the Scott
22 Substation and first one will actually be coming from a
23 69kV Perales-Howard loop-in.

24 MEMBER HAENICHEN: So that line coming out of
25 the top of the Scott Substation and going into the new

1 proposed substation, the energy is going to flow from
2 Scott up that line; is that right?

3 MR. WOOLFOLK: Yes.

4 MEMBER HAENICHEN: But where did the Scott
5 Substation get its energy that it can transform down to
6 69?

7 MR. WOOLFOLK: Oh, from a -- Scott will be being
8 served from a series of substations and the 230kV network
9 in that area. So there's constantly power flow amongst
10 the circuits being fed to the substations in this area.

11 MEMBER HAENICHEN: Okay. But the only live feed
12 from generation that I can see is the 230 coming down
13 from the top of this picture.

14 MR. WOOLFOLK: Oh, if you can see just below the
15 Scott Substation, that represents the south portion of
16 the SPL line.

17 MEMBER HAENICHEN: Okay.

18 MR. WOOLFOLK: And there's an additional even
19 circuit that runs, of course, along Warner Road that you
20 can -- it's kind of hard to see. So this is to represent
21 the existing infrastructure that will be constructed, SPL
22 line, in that area to serve this kind of looped
23 architecture I mentioned in the 230kV system.

24 MEMBER HAENICHEN: So the flaw in this is that
25 this doesn't go far enough to show you the feeds?

1 MR. WOOLFOLK: Exactly. If you were to zoom
2 out, you would see more and more substations in this area
3 and our --

4 MEMBER HAENICHEN: See, we need that kind of
5 information at these hearings. It'd be good in the
6 future -- I know it's too late now for this, but we need
7 to know, is there true redundancy here, or is it just
8 imaginary? That's my problem.

9 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: Mr. Woolfolk, can you turn to R8,
10 which I think will address Member Haenichen's request for
11 that zoom-out view to see the more regional 230
12 transmission system and the loop infrastructure to show
13 that the data center will be served from multiple 230
14 substations.

15 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Yes, I agree. This R8 does
16 showcase a number of our future substations and existing
17 substation and the network that will be served. You can
18 see just in the area Browning, Sidewinder, Scott,
19 Dinosaur. All of these kind of play into the power flow
20 into the specific substation we're referring to.

21 MEMBER HAENICHEN: Okay. Just a suggestion,
22 then, for the future. When you make one of these
23 presentations for a center like this, if you're going to
24 say it's vital, then you need to show the Committee
25 exactly how that is achieved.

1 MR. WOOLFOLK: Okay. Thank you.

2 MEMBER HAMWAY: I had a quick question.

3 MEMBER GRINNELL: Well -- oh. Okay.

4 MEMBER HAMWAY: Is this the right time?

5 CHMN. KATZ: Member Hamway, go ahead first, and
6 then we'll hear from Member Grinnell.

7 MEMBER HAMWAY: So who's going to own the
8 substation?

9 MR. WOOLFOLK: So SRP will own everything, the
10 230 and the 69. And there's a clear demarcation if we
11 want to go to -- Meta does have their own customer-owned
12 substation within that area. And there's a demarcation
13 right there at basically the 69. I can try to go to the
14 map.

15 MEMBER HAMWAY: Well, I guess what I'm more
16 concerned is about extra capacity at that substation. I
17 mean, does SRP own the extra capacity? Does SRP -- so
18 I'm looking at all those PADs around, and would they be
19 able to tap into that substation if they needed to? They
20 may not need to.

21 MR. WOOLFOLK: We're just supplying, you know,
22 to just serve their load. They wouldn't be -- they'd
23 have to --

24 MEMBER HAMWAY: So there's no extra capacity?

25 MR. WOOLFOLK: There might be extra capacity on

1 the system, but they would provide a load ramp.

2 MEMBER HAMWAY: Right. Well, I know they don't
3 exist.

4 MR. WOOLFOLK: Yeah. Yeah.

5 MEMBER HAMWAY: But, yeah, we were just confused
6 on who owned the substation.

7 MR. WOOLFOLK: So if you see on R19, that might
8 be the best view, just -- yeah. You can see there's
9 switch gear and their transformers. That kind of
10 boundary, that's the customer-owned substation. And then
11 everything to the left of that is an SRP -- it's a
12 dedicated substation, but it's SRP-owned and maintained.

13 CHMN. KATZ: And, again, what is the green
14 outline to the left?

15 MR. WOOLFOLK: The green outline just shows the
16 230kV infrastructure needed that's included in the CEC.

17 CHMN. KATZ: Got it.

18 MEMBER GRINNELL: Mr. Chairman.

19 CHMN. KATZ: Yes, Member Grinnell.

20 MEMBER GRINNELL: Maybe I missed something here,
21 but Mr. Haenichen was talking about in the event
22 something goes down. Is there a transformer needed to
23 pick that 69kV up to the 230kV? Is there some kind of --
24 is there -- does it need a 230? Would 69 be adequate as
25 a backup?

1 MR. WOOLFOLK: Yes. The 69Kv system, the four
2 circuits we're planning to bring into the substation will
3 be served as backup, and it is adequate to meet their
4 reliability standards if -- such if the two -- it
5 actually is planned such that if you lose both 230kV
6 circuits, the 69 can supply the needed capacity.

7 MEMBER GRINNELL: And I apologize. I notice
8 that I digressed from the previous presenter's comments.
9 But I guess if I was the public, maybe these would be
10 some of the questions I might ask.

11 Thank you.

12 MR. WOOLFOLK: Thank you.

13 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: And would you remind the
14 Committee, because that's a great question, if the data
15 center could be served by the 69kV line, why is the 230
16 needed?

17 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) It does provide a higher level
18 of reliability. As we talked about, the 230kV system is
19 less susceptible to those weather or wildlife events.
20 So, ultimately, Meta, you know, requested the 230kV.

21 Q. And so this is a customer request as well to
22 ensure highest reliability?

23 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) That is correct.

24 Q. And that customer will be paying for this
25 project?

1 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) That is correct.

2 CHMN. KATZ: And what is the transformation of
3 the voltage from the substation to the data center?
4 Because I know they're going to step it down to 34, but
5 explain that a little bit to us.

6 MR. WOOLFOLK: Yeah.

7 So shown in that same substation, as you can
8 see, they've got 120 MVA transformers that are
9 essentially 69 to 34 1/2kV shown. And then the
10 switchgear takes it at 34 1/2kV. And then further down,
11 within Meta's data center campus, there would be some
12 other pad-mounted transformers to even transform that
13 lower to the 34 1/2 to --

14 CHMN. KATZ: But what is the voltage that is
15 going from the substation to the Meta facility? Is it
16 stepped down from 230 before it enters --

17 MR. WOOLFOLK: Yes. Yes. So right there within
18 the green outline --

19 CHMN. KATZ: Yes.

20 MR. WOOLFOLK: -- those are 230/69kV
21 transformers. So it's taking it down from 230 to 69.

22 CHMN. KATZ: Got it.

23 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: And then Meta is taking it
24 further from 69 to I think you said 34.5, is that
25 correct, on its side of the substation?

1 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Yes. That is correct.

2 Q. Mr. Woolfolk, I think we're ready for some
3 conclusion remarks for you.

4 Was the CEC application prepared under your
5 direction and supervision?

6 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Yes, it was.

7 Q. And do you have any changes or corrections at
8 this time?

9 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Not at this time.

10 Q. Is the CEC application true and accurate to the
11 best of your knowledge?

12 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Yes.

13 Q. And do you have any final comments for the
14 Committee?

15 A. (MR. WOOLFOLK) Yes. I just want to thank the
16 Committee for your time and attention to this project.
17 As you can see, the 230kV infrastructure needed for Meta
18 to reliably serve them is very important.

19 You can also see from Ms. Pollio's testimony
20 that it's environmentally compatible, and it had no major
21 impacts to the area.

22 As you can also see from Ms. Horgen's testimony,
23 SRP had a robust public outreach process that included
24 newspapers, mailers, social media.

25 And so I just really want to thank you again for

1 your time and ask you for approval of the project.

2 MR. ACKEN: Thank you, Panel, and thank you
3 Committee.

4 That includes our direct case.

5 CHMN. KATZ: Do any of the Committee members
6 have any further questions for our three panelists at
7 this time?

8 MEMBER LITTLE: Mr. Chairman.

9 CHMN. KATZ: Yes, Member Little.

10 MEMBER LITTLE: I just have one last question.

11 I noticed in the list of comments from people,
12 I'm not quite sure where the comments came from, but the
13 question was asked several times about undergrounding.
14 And I was just wondering what kind of a response those --
15 the questioners were given. You know, I ...

16 MR. WOOLFOLK: Yes. So SRP does have an
17 obligation to serve its customers with the lowest cost
18 reliable power. Our standard is overhead construction.
19 Undergrounding, you know, it can be roughly 10 times more
20 expensive. In this case, our planning estimate of 29
21 million per mile, for a half mile it would be \$14 1/2
22 million. So overhead is 3 million. So it's our standard
23 to do overhead destruction, and it provides as high
24 reliability if not higher than underground.

25 MEMBER LITTLE: I understand that. I was just

1 curious. I know that Intel did underground some of
2 their -- or paid to have SRP underground some of the line
3 that fed their new facility. But that was more in an
4 area that really was much busier than this. I was just
5 curious what response was given to the public.

6 MR. WOOLFOLK: That's correct. You're right.
7 In this area, being an undeveloped State land with
8 overhead transmission lines in the near area, it seemed
9 to make sense that it would be overhead and no major
10 obstacles and, you know ...

11 MEMBER LITTLE: Thank you.

12 MR. WOOLFOLK: Thank you.

13 CHMN. KATZ: Was any verbal or written response
14 given to those expressing that concern or question?

15 MR. WOOLFOLK: No.

16 MS. HORGAN: No. We did not receive anything in
17 writing on underground. Everything was verbal.

18 MR. WOOLFOLK: Just verbal during open houses.

19 CHMN. KATZ: But did you explain to them why it
20 wouldn't be underground at those open houses?

21 MR. WOOLFOLK: Yes.

22 Q. BY MR. ACKEN: And if I could follow up on that,
23 Ms. Horgen, did you also have a frequently asked question
24 on the website regarding underground?

25 A. (MS. HORGAN) Yes. We had frequently asked

1 questions.

2 Q. And did it provide the same response that
3 Mr. Woolfolk just provided?

4 A. (MS. HORGAN) Yes.

5 MR. ACKEN: Thank you.

6 CHMN. KATZ: And, again, I don't know,
7 Mr. Acken, if you're done, if you and Ms. Gilbert are
8 done with questioning these witnesses. It didn't appear
9 that the Committee had any further questions of them.

10 I think, though, it might make sense for you to
11 wait and see whether we have any public comments this
12 afternoon and then maybe begin tomorrow's session with a
13 brief closing argument.

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

15 One procedural issue is the Commission
16 rescheduled the open meeting after this hearing was set.
17 I have two items on consent. And that starts at 9 a.m.
18 I hope they both stay on consent. We'll see. But
19 perhaps we could start at 9:30 just in case.

20 CHMN. KATZ: I don't have a problem with
21 starting at 9:30.

22 What I would little ask, though, has Tod sent
23 you the PDF and Word versions of the proposed CEC with
24 our edits in it so that you already have that?

25 MR. ACKEN: I have not seen that, but that

1 doesn't mean he hasn't sent it, but I'll double-check on
2 my end.

3 CHMN. KATZ: And I'll call him shortly that that
4 gets sent to you because it's primarily what you proposed
5 with grammatical or typographical corrections as well as
6 an elimination of the references to former CEC language.

7 MR. ACKEN: And one other procedural item before
8 I forget -- my co-counsel reminds me because I'm terrible
9 at remembering this -- I'd like to move the admission of
10 SRP Exhibits 1 through 6. You haven't seen 6, but we'll
11 make that available. And that's the exhibit we talked
12 about Meta's water use, but the other five we discussed
13 earlier today.

14 CHMN. KATZ: Since I have both you and
15 Ms. Grabel here, I'll end up lecturing you like I got
16 yelled at by a judge years ago. We don't move exhibits,
17 we offer them, and the judge accepts them or receives
18 them. But I don't really care. I know where exactly
19 you're coming from. It might have been when I was at the
20 Attorney General's Advocacy Institute in Washington,
21 D.C., when I was an assistant U.S. attorney. But we got
22 lectured that it's motions that change things and offers
23 of things such as evidence. But you'll never make that
24 mistake again.

25 MR. ACKEN: Can I get some CLE credit for that?

1 CHMN. KATZ: Yeah, at least 15 minutes' worth.

2 But on a serious note, I think we need to take a
3 look unless there's something more we need to do, and see
4 what's happening.

5 My son came in last night from L.A., so I'm not
6 going to stay for the generous feast this evening, but I
7 do understand for the members of the Committee -- and we
8 can go off the record on this.

9 (A recess was taken from 3:59 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.)

10 CHMN. KATZ: It was my intent to not have the
11 announcement because it's not substantively related to
12 the matter regarding dinner this evening.

13 MR. ACKEN: I have nothing further.

14 Ms. Grabel has offered to provide her public
15 comments now if you want to hear from her now. We still
16 are going to have to wait until 5:30 for the general
17 public, but if you want to use this time and have her
18 present her --

19 CHMN. KATZ: I see no reason why she can't
20 provide those comments to us now and be out of here,
21 unless she's just having such a good time she wants to
22 hang out.

23 MS. GRABEL: I love your company.

24 Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Member Haenichen,
25 Committee members.

1 For the record, my name is Meghan Grabel from
2 the law firm of Osborn Maledon. I represent Meta, the
3 customer who will benefit from the Project Huckleberry
4 transmission facilities that you've been hearing about
5 today.

6 As the Committee has heard today, Project
7 Huckleberry will provide the necessary transmission
8 infrastructure to serve the Mesa data center being
9 developed by Meta in Mesa, Arizona.

10 On August 12th, 2021, Meta announced a
11 development plan for that data center, which is located
12 on a 389-acre private parcel of land at the southeast
13 corner of Elliot Road and Ellsworth Road. The data
14 center is expected to create approximately 200
15 operational jobs and approximately 2,000 jobs at peak
16 construction.

17 The development represents a continuation of the
18 technology sector growth in Arizona, especially data
19 center growth for which the Phoenix area has recently
20 been ranked second nationally.

21 As the primary beneficiary of Project
22 Huckleberry, Meta is funding the cost of SRP's electrical
23 infrastructure that's required to serve it.

24 Meta appreciates SRP's broad public outreach and
25 engagement efforts for this project as well as the

1 technical work that SRP undertook to evaluate the project
2 area.

3 As the CEC application shows, the project is
4 environmentally compatible with the development of
5 cultural resources and the total environment of the area.

6 So, again, Meta wants to thank very much SRP,
7 the City of Mesa, Maricopa County, and this Committee for
8 their work on this matter and supports a yes vote on this
9 application.

10 Thank you.

11 MEMBER HAMWAY: Can we ask a question or no?
12 No.

13 CHMN. KATZ: We can't normally engage in
14 conversation in public comment.

15 MS. GRABEL: Sorry.

16 MEMBER HAMWAY: I'd like to know how many
17 full-time employees, once the center is up and going,
18 will this data center employ?

19 MR. ACKEN: We will have that answer for you
20 tomorrow morning.

21 MS. GRABEL: I actually think I addressed that
22 in the comments.

23 MEMBER HAMWAY: I think you did. I missed it.
24 She did say it.

25 CHMN. KATZ: 200 jobs.

1 MEMBER HAMWAY: 200 full time. 2,000
2 construction.

3 CHMN. KATZ: That's what was in the comment.

4 MEMBER HAMWAY: Thank you.

5 MS. GRABEL: Thank you.

6 CHMN. KATZ: We won't require Mark Zuckerberg to
7 swear that everything you said is supported by the
8 company.

9 Thank you.

10 MR. ACKEN: Mr. Woolfolk is still under oath,
11 and he can confirm that understanding as well.

12 MR. WOOLFOLK: I can confirm those figures,
13 2,000 construction jobs and 200 permanent jobs.

14 CHMN. KATZ: And the way that we're going to --
15 we'll take a break now. It gives us about an hour and a
16 half, unfortunately or fortunately. But I'm not
17 expecting we'll have a large number of comments, if any.
18 And what we'll then do is take a break for the evening
19 and come back at 9:30 tomorrow morning.

20 And hopefully you'll be available to us,
21 Mr. Acken, for purposes of closing argument and
22 presentation of the CEC to us for review. We will go
23 through that, all of the conditions and Findings of Fact
24 and Conclusions of Law, but we will hold off on a final
25 vote.

1 MEMBER GRINNELL: Did you say 9:30? Are we
2 meeting at 9:00 or 9:30?

3 CHMN. KATZ: 9:30 because it's possible that
4 Mr. Acken has a matter on the consent agenda before the
5 Corporation Commission tomorrow. If they don't turn it
6 into a discussion matter, most of the consent agenda
7 items are voted on.

8 They'll say, Nos. 1 through 6, all in favor say
9 "aye." "Aye."

10 So he wanted to make sure he was available to
11 address the Corporation Commission if they don't approve
12 his two matters on the consent agenda as proposed.

13 MEMBER GRINNELL: And I will call you offline.
14 Thank you.

15 CHMN. KATZ: Okay. We stand in recess and off
16 the record.

17 MR. ACKEN: Thank you.

18 (A recess was taken from 4:04 p.m. to 4:06 p.m.)

19 CHMN. KATZ: After I gave my law school lecture
20 to Mr. Acken regarding offering rather than moving
21 exhibits -- and it's even better for Ms. Gilbert because
22 she never has to do that wrongfully in the courtroom when
23 she first gets started.

24 On a serious note, Exhibits 1 through 6, which
25 have been offered, are admitted into evidence and will

1 become part of the record.

2 (Exhibits SRP-1 through SRP-6 were admitted into
3 evidence.)

4 CHMN. KATZ: We need to make sure to get copies,
5 I think two copies, of those exhibits to the court
6 reporter.

7 MR. ACKEN: Yes, we will.

8 CHMN. KATZ: And I'll confirm that with Tod, but
9 I believe there was a request for two hard copies of the
10 exhibits. But if I'm wrong, you can check with Marta and
11 find that out and let us know, and I'll check with Tod.
12 I just want to make sure we get the reporter everything
13 that is needed.

14 Again, we're in recess.

15 (A recess was taken from 4:07 p.m. to
16 5:42 p.m.)

17 CHMN. KATZ: We're back on the record. There
18 was some confusion. A couple of our Committee members
19 went on the public comment link rather than on the
20 Committee link.

21 But we now have Mary Hamway, we have Toby
22 Little, and Rick Grinnell all on the proper link.

23 And we have at least one person who is signed
24 in, a Mark Freeman, who is signed in for public comment,
25 and I believe he wishes to address the Committee.

1 And if he is ready to do so, he may approach
2 that podium. There are some microphones. And you'll let
3 us know what your sentiments and feelings are regarding
4 this project.

5 And then we'll make sure if there's anybody else
6 present, we'll confirm that. And I believe there is one
7 person that is going to appear virtually to make some
8 comments.

9 And I apologize to everybody for any delay that
10 we have had.

11 And did Rick disappear again? What is he doing?
12 We'll be just a minute, Mr. Freeman. I
13 apologize to you. We just lost one of our Committee
14 members.

15 MR. FREEMAN: No problem.

16 CHMN. KATZ: He's back.

17 Thanks, Rick. You're with us on the right link
18 at this point in time.

19 So we have a Mr. Mark Freeman, who wishes to
20 address the Committee, and we have all of our members who
21 are physically present except Member Hamway is now with
22 us virtually. Toby Little and Rick Grinnell are also
23 with us.

24 And, Mr. Freeman, just -- even though I know who
25 you are, at least by the slip you filled out, just let us

1 know what your name is, and then feel free to offer any
2 comments. Unfortunately, we can't get into a discussion
3 with you or answer questions. But anything you might say
4 will be listened to and, if necessary, we will discuss it
5 during our deliberations tomorrow.

6 MR. FREEMAN: Thank you, sir. I suppose you're
7 the Chairman.

8 CHMN. KATZ: That's what they tell me.

9 MR. FREEMAN: So my name is Mark Freeman. I
10 live in Mesa, Arizona, 1118 East Lockwood in Mesa.

11 I'm very familiar with this area, and I'm very
12 familiar with SRP and how they deliver their power. So
13 I'm in support of the line siting. I know that SRP has
14 taken environmentally and the most direct route to
15 provide power to this substation.

16 This substation, as you know, will provide power
17 to Meta, which is extremely important to the City of
18 Mesa, and also it will provide a renewable energy power
19 source for the area and Meta as well. And that's why I
20 support it, not only for the renewable portion, but also
21 the conventional power that will be serviced out of
22 there.

23 So with that, thank you for your time, and let
24 you know that I'm in support of this project.

25 CHMN. KATZ: And I thank you for your patience

1 with us for any delays we put you through today. And
2 you're welcome on the link to join us virtually tomorrow
3 if you want to sit through our deliberations at 9:30
4 tomorrow.

5 MR. FREEMAN: Well, thank you. I just came from
6 the farm, so this is really nice to get into some air
7 conditioning. So I appreciate the power.

8 CHMN. KATZ: Be safe and have a great afternoon.

9 We have a couple of folks online. Is there
10 anybody else in the audience that wants to address the
11 Committee before virtual participants?

12 (No response.)

13 CHMN. KATZ: Hearing silence, we will wait to
14 see if the two or three people who are online virtually
15 want to address the Committee.

16 For those two or three folks who are on
17 virtually, I believe that the technical people asked you
18 if you wished to address the Committee, and no one raised
19 their hands.

20 I'll give you one more shot to let us know if
21 you wish to make any comments. If not, you're more than
22 welcome to join us at 9:30 tomorrow on the virtual link
23 and listen to the closing argument of counsel and our
24 deliberations.

25 It appears that nobody wishes to make comment.

1 So I thank those of you who have participated virtually
2 or at least listened in.

3 I welcome you back tomorrow and thank you for
4 your patience in waiting for us this evening.

5 And we are going to stand in recess until 9:30
6 tomorrow morning. I'll probably be here about an hour
7 early before then to enjoy a good breakfast. And I
8 remind the Committee members that there are some
9 festivities available to you shortly.

10 We do stand in recess. Thank you.

11 (The hearing recessed at 5:48 p.m.)

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1 STATE OF ARIZONA)
2 COUNTY OF MARICOPA)

3 BE IT KNOWN that the foregoing proceedings were
4 taken before me; that the foregoing pages are a full,
5 true, and accurate record of the proceedings, all done to
the best of my skill and ability; that the proceedings
were taken down by me in shorthand and thereafter reduced
to print under my direction.

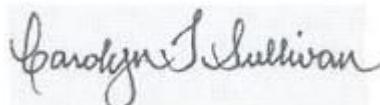
6
7 I CERTIFY that I am in no way related to any of the
parties hereto nor am I in any way interested in the
outcome hereof.

8
9 I CERTIFY that I have complied with the ethical
obligations set forth in ACJA 7-206(F)(3) and
ACJA 7-206(J)(1)(g)(1) and (2). Dated at Phoenix,
10 Arizona, this 30th day of June, 2022.

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14 CAROLYN T. SULLIVAN
15 Arizona Certified Reporter
No. 50528

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18 I CERTIFY that GLENNIE REPORTING SERVICES, LLC, has
complied with the ethical obligations set forth in
ACJA 7-206(J)(1)(g)(1) through (6).

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24 GLENNIE REPORTING SERVICES, LLC
Arizona Registered Firm
No. R1035

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