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BEFORE THE ARIZONA POWER PLANT  
AND TRANSMISSION LINE SITING COMMITTEE

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION	)	DOCKET NO.
OF DCR TRANSMISSION, L.L.C. OR	)	L-21088A-19-0309-00185
ITS ASSIGNEES, IN CONFORMANCE	)	
WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF A.R.S.	)	LS CASE NO. 185
§ 40-360 et. seq., FOR A	)	
CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL	)	
COMPATIBILITY AUTHORIZING THE	)	
500 KV TRANSMISSION LINE, WHICH	)	
INCLUDES THE CONSTRUCTION OF A	)	
NEW 125 MILE 500 KV TRANSMISSION	)	
LINE BETWEEN ARIZONA PUBLIC	)	
SERVICE COMPANY'S DELANEY	)	
SUBSTATION UNTIL SOUTHERN	)	
CALIFORNIA EDISON'S COLORADO	)	
RIVER SUBSTATION, TO BE REFERRED	)	
TO AS THE TEN WEST LINK PROJECT.	)	
_____	)	

At: Phoenix, Arizona

Date: November 20, 2019

Filed: December 19, 2019

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

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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 the OFFICES OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, 15  
5 South 15th Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona, commencing at  
6 1:39 p.m. on the 20th day of November, 2019.

7

8 BEFORE: THOMAS K. CHENAL, Chairman

9

10 APPEARANCES:

11 For the Applicant:

12 OSBORN MALEDON, P.A.  
13 Ms. Meghan H. Grabel  
14 Mr. Elias J. Ancharski  
15 2929 North Central Avenue  
Suite 2100  
Phoenix, Arizona 85012-2793

16 INTERESTED PARTIES:

17 Mr. Ali Amirali, Senior Vice President  
18 Mr. Jason Crew, Senior Vice President  
19 Ms. Lela Jgerenaia, Project Coordinator  
Starwood Energy Group

20 Mr. Lowell Rogers, Project Manager  
Oak Strategic, Inc.

21 Mr. Stan Barnes  
22 Copper State Consulting Group

23 Mr. Brian Lindenlaub  
Westland Resources

24 Ms. Patty Palmer  
25 Assistant to Meghan Grabel

1 INTERESTED PARTIES: (Cont.)

2 Mr. Robert Gray, Manager of Telecom and Energy  
3 Mr. Zachary Branum, Manager of Engineering  
4 Arizona Corporation Commission Staff

5 Mr. Gary Gold  
6 Office of Senator Kyrsten Sinema

7 Ms. Marie Elena Cobb  
8 Assistant to Chairman Chenal

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1 CHMN. CHENAL: This is the time set for the  
2 prefiling conference on what we call the Ten West Link  
3 Project.

4 My name is Tom Chenal. I chair the Power Plant  
5 and Transmission Line Siting Committee.

6 Marie Cobb is my very able assistant.

7 And may we have appearances, please.

8 MS. GRABEL: My name is Meghan Grabel from  
9 Osborn Maledon on behalf of the applicant, DCR  
10 Transmission, L.L.C.

11 MR. AMIRALI: Ali Amirali, senior vice  
12 president with Starwood Energy Group, representing DCR  
13 Transmission, L.L.C.

14 MR. ROGERS: I'm Lowell Rogers. I'm a  
15 consultant to DCRT with Oak Strategic, and I represent  
16 DCRT as project manager.

17 MR. CREW: Jason Crew. I'm also with Starwood  
18 Energy. I represent DCR Transmission, the applicant.

19 MR. GRAY: Bob Gray with Arizona Corporation  
20 Commission Staff.

21 MR. BRANUM: Zach Branum, Arizona Corporation  
22 Commission Staff.

23 MR. LINDENLAUB: Brian Lindenlaub, Westland  
24 Resources, consultant to the applicant.

25 MS. PALMER: Patty Palmer, Osborn Maledon.

1 MS. JGERENAIA: Lela Jgerenaia, associate with  
2 Starwood Energy, also representing DCRT.

3 MR. BARNES: I'm Stan Barnes with Copper State  
4 Consulting Group, and I'm a consultant to the project.

5 MR. ANCHARSKI: Elias Ancharski, attorney at  
6 Osborn Maledon, representing applicant, DCRT.

7 MS. COBB: Marie Cobb, assistant to Chairman  
8 Chenal.

9 CHMN. CHENAL: All right. I know Ms. Grabel  
10 understands generally, we kind of have a standard  
11 procedure we follow at the prefiling conference. It's  
12 really an opportunity to get to know the project better  
13 and deal with the logistics of the hearing and the when,  
14 where, how, things like that.

15 And hopefully, at the end of this, we'll have a  
16 little better understanding of the project, where the  
17 hearings will be held, when they'll be held, what kind of  
18 interest there is in the project in terms of opposition  
19 or intervenors, and some other things, including our  
20 publishing and posting requirements and a procedural  
21 order that I'll be issuing after the application is  
22 filed.

23 The hearing has to occur between 30 and 60  
24 days, basically, when notice is given, which is  
25 essentially when the application is filed. So we'll --

1 we have to decide kind of when we want to -- and I think  
2 some of this is already discussed. So you kind of work  
3 backwards of when you want the hearing based on the  
4 availability of the Committee and the time range of when  
5 you file your application.

6 So I have a checklist that I kind of go  
7 through, and let's just do that. And we'll have plenty  
8 of opportunity for filling in the details and answer any  
9 questions you have.

10 So let's start with the full name of the  
11 applicant.

12 MS. GRABEL: The full name of the applicant,  
13 sir, is DCR Transmission, L.L.C.

14 CHMN. CHENAL: And are there going to be any  
15 intervenors in this action that you're aware of?

16 MS. GRABEL: We don't anticipate any  
17 intervenors, except for perhaps the Arizona Corporation  
18 Commission. I'll let them weigh in on that.

19 MR. GRAY: At this time, we think we'll  
20 probably intervene, yeah.

21 CHMN. CHENAL: And you'll have a copy of the  
22 procedural order that will be issued, and the statute is  
23 going to guide when things have to be filed for  
24 intervention.

25 All right. What's the public interest so far,

1 I should say opposition to the project?

2 MS. GRABEL: We have had very little  
3 opposition. I think I'll let Stan speak to minor  
4 opposing comments.

5 But to the extent there was opposition  
6 originally during the BLM NEPA process, the new route  
7 essentially addressed all of the issues; and now, there's  
8 nothing but support that we have seen. In fact, we sent  
9 our Notice of Prefiling Conference to a broad list of  
10 stakeholders, and no one came, except for, of course, our  
11 friends at the Commission.

12 Would you like to supplement that, Stan?

13 MR. BARNES: I would.

14 Mr. Chairman, as you know, I was fortunate  
15 enough to have worked on this project in another  
16 incarnation years and years ago -- not this project, but  
17 a similar project -- and there was a lot of opposition.

18 And so there was some hangover from those  
19 people that were aware of that a decade ago. And I'm  
20 happy to report there is none today in the way of  
21 opposition that we know of. And as Meghan said, we've  
22 communicated with about every single person there is  
23 between the Palo Verde hub and the Colorado River.

24 A lot of the credit goes to the people around  
25 this table and also to the process itself that did what

1 it's supposed to do. It took input from local citizens  
2 and from stakeholders and local officials and came up  
3 with a route that was a consensus-supported route. So  
4 that's a fun headline to be able to bring to this  
5 Committee today.

6 CHMN. CHENAL: Yes. I'm aware that there was  
7 opposition in the past. There was some opposition to  
8 cutting it through the Kofa wilderness area. And I see  
9 the proposed route, from what I've seen, would go around  
10 that. So I'm not surprised that that seriously cut down  
11 on opposition.

12 And that translates into how long the hearing  
13 is going to be, so that's the reason we ask these  
14 questions.

15 Well, we'll get into what the role of the ACC  
16 will be if they intervene.

17 You've indicated that you've notified  
18 stakeholders. Have you notified stakeholders of the  
19 hearing today?

20 MS. GRABEL: Yes, we have.

21 CHMN. CHENAL: And is there anyone here that's  
22 outside of the Commission?

23 MS. GRABEL: No, there isn't.

24 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay.

25 MS. GRABEL: We understood that an individual

1 from Kyrsten Sinema's office may come, but that would  
2 have been in support of the project, not in opposition,  
3 and he, apparently, didn't show up.

4 CHMN. CHENAL: All right. Very good.

5 Well, let's talk about the project, then.

6 Let's talk about a description of the project and if you  
7 have any exhibits that we can --

8 MS. GRABEL: Certainly.

9 CHMN. CHENAL: -- enter into the record.

10 (Exhibit 1 was marked.)

11 CHMN. CHENAL: This will be Exhibit 1.

12 MS. GRABEL: We brought maps of the line, the  
13 proposed route.

14 I'll go ahead and circulate that. I hope I  
15 have enough copies. I may not.

16 I'll give to you a very high level. The line  
17 is a 125-mile route that connects the Colorado River  
18 Substation owned by SCE in California to APS's Delaney  
19 Substation. And of that line, 103.5 miles is in Arizona,  
20 so the rest is in California.

21 Do you need further detail? If you want to  
22 walk through it, I'll ask Ali to give some points.

23 CHMN. CHENAL: What kind of line is it, what's  
24 the voltage, things like that.

25 MS. GRABEL: Certainly.

1 MR. AMIRALI: Mr. Chairman, this is a 500kV AC,  
2 alternating current, transmission line between Delaney  
3 Substation owned by APS and the Colorado River Substation  
4 owned by SCE located in Riverside County near the Town of  
5 Blythe in California.

6 The line is -- right now, the total capability  
7 of the line is approximately 3200 megawatts of the  
8 conductor capacity. And it is -- the way the route has  
9 been established, or the BLM preferred route for the  
10 project, it maximizes the utilization of the BLM utility  
11 corridor. It also parallels the DOE energy corridor and  
12 avoids all of the major population centers as well as  
13 most of the cultural and biological sites, sensitive  
14 sites.

15 CHMN. CHENAL: So what was it about the route  
16 that's being proposed -- it seems an obvious choice to  
17 avoid the Kofa Wildlife Refuge. Why wasn't the route  
18 that's proposed the route that was proposed the last time  
19 around?

20 MR. AMIRALI: Mr. Chairman, I can actually  
21 elaborate on that.

22 The reason the route -- the existing route or  
23 the route was chosen that was selected the last time  
24 around was because it paralleled entirely an existing  
25 transmission line, the Devers-Palo Verde line.

1           From a construction point of view, that's an  
2 efficient way of doing things because you can maximize  
3 the utilization of the existing utility corridor, but it  
4 also reduces land impacts by the two lines using the same  
5 roads, access roads, as well as minimizes ground  
6 disturbance. So that was the original motivation for  
7 choosing the line that paralleled the existing  
8 Devers-Palo Verde line.

9           CHMN. CHENAL: So we've marked as Exhibit 1 the  
10 map that's been offered. And I'm just looking at the  
11 legend here.

12           The red line that goes through the Kofa area is  
13 referred to as the proposed action. So I'm a little  
14 confused now on the terminology. I just want to make  
15 sure the record is clear.

16           And then the agency preferred alternative seems  
17 to be the one that -- the project that the applicant will  
18 be proposing.

19           MR. AMIRALI: Yes.

20           CHMN. CHENAL: Help me with the terminology.  
21 It almost seems like it would be the reverse.

22           MS. GRABEL: This is the map that was the NEPA  
23 process. So when the applicant first proposed this  
24 route, it proposed the initial DCR line. And the  
25 agency's preferred alternative was to avoid the Kofa and

1 parallel the I-10 and take the utility corridors. In our  
2 applicant, we will define our proposed route as identical  
3 to the BLM's preferred alternative.

4 CHMN. CHENAL: And the reason the applicant  
5 proposed going through the Kofa area was for reasons that  
6 were just explained, that there's an existing power line  
7 there, access roads, things like that?

8 MR. AMIRALI: Yes. And also, if I may add,  
9 that route was already approved by BLM. In 2011, there  
10 was also an EIS issued for that particular route.

11 So at the time of -- when we were looking at  
12 the project, that was the most likely route that appeared  
13 to us. And then, as we got into the detailed analysis  
14 and very early on in the process -- Lowell, was it  
15 Department of Fish and Wildlife?

16 MR. ROGERS: U.S. Department of Fish and  
17 Wildlife.

18 MR. AMIRALI: Fish and Wildlife came in and  
19 indicated a strong preference for not going through Kofa.  
20 And that input was immediately incorporated into the  
21 line.

22 CHMN. CHENAL: So my summary of what you said  
23 is, initially, you chose that because -- it was going to  
24 choose the Kofa route because there's a preexisting line  
25 there and also had been the preferred BLM route based on

1 the EIS in 2011?

2 MR. AMIRALI: That is correct.

3 CHMN. CHENAL: But then, when you went through  
4 the EIS process now, this time, Fish and Wildlife  
5 objected to it. And through that process, the preferred  
6 route has now become the route that is depicted in  
7 turquoise, I guess, the map, Exhibit 1?

8 MR. ROGERS: That's right. As Meghan said,  
9 when we file, it will be our proposed route.

10 CHMN. CHENAL: Very good.

11 All right. We'll talk about where we'll have  
12 the hearings. But generally, I'd be looking under the  
13 procedural order, we'll need to have a Notice of Hearing.  
14 And I know, Ms. Grabel, you know the process. You  
15 actually have a Notice of Hearing prepared?

16 MS. GRABEL: I do.

17 CHMN. CHENAL: Let's mark this as Exhibit 2.

18 (Exhibit 2 was marked.)

19 CHMN. CHENAL: All right. Do you want to just  
20 summarize this, Ms. Grabel, and we'll fill in the blanks  
21 later. Just generally, what are you proposing in this  
22 Notice of Hearing?

23 MS. GRABEL: Certainly.

24 So the Notice of Hearing shows the dates on  
25 which it will commence. I did speak to Marie as to when

1 the Committee would be available. Our proposal would be  
2 to do the first week in -- somewhere in Phoenix because a  
3 big portion of the line is in Maricopa County, so either  
4 Phoenix or perhaps Buckeye, which is a little bit closer.

5           Unfortunately, the Town of Quartzsite, that  
6 first week, has their big gem show. And so we thought  
7 we'd take the first leg, the 22nd, the 23rd, and the  
8 24th, in Phoenix, and then follow it with the 27th and  
9 28th in the Town of Quartzsite, where we were able to  
10 secure a conference center and accommodations for the  
11 Committee. And we thought we'd take a virtual tour  
12 probably the -- or not a virtual tour -- an actual tour  
13 on the 24th, starting that afternoon, and finishing up  
14 with the CEC deliberations on the 25th.

15           CHMN. CHENAL: All right. So would you give me  
16 those dates again, what you're proposing.

17           MS. GRABEL: Certainly.

18           January 22nd with a noon start time for people  
19 to get to Phoenix.

20           CHMN. CHENAL: Noon or 1.

21           MS. GRABEL: January 23rd and January 24th  
22 would be the Phoenix dates, whether it be in Buckeye or  
23 Phoenix. It's at your discretion.

24           And then the Town of Quartzsite, January 27.  
25 We could arrive, start the tour at 12:30 or 1, and then

1 take public comment that evening.

2 And then day 5 is January 28th in the Town of  
3 Quartzsite.

4 If we need to move those dates the second week,  
5 we'd certainly be flexible.

6 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay. I was actually thinking  
7 of a different -- I'm open to what you propose. I was  
8 kind of looking at it the other way, starting on the west  
9 side. And I was thinking Yuma, but Quartzsite -- I  
10 didn't know there were facilities in Quartzsite. But if  
11 there are facilities there, that's fine. And then  
12 finishing up here because we never know how long the  
13 hearing is going to last. And if it takes longer than  
14 the days that you're recommending, we're going to have to  
15 finish it in Quartzsite.

16 So we could be here three days in Phoenix,  
17 let's say, and then we finish it up in Quartzsite. You  
18 say it's two days, but it could be three days. It could  
19 be four days. We just don't know. And in my way of  
20 thinking, I'd rather be here than in Quartzsite if it  
21 goes longer than we anticipate. So I'm just throwing  
22 that out as my logic.

23 Every hearing that we've had that I've been  
24 involved doing this has gone longer than the applicant  
25 has suggested. Every single one, and by a long shot.

1 I'm batting a thousand. I'm going to start betting  
2 money, real money, when I ask the attorneys how long  
3 these hearings take. The last one was two days, and it  
4 turned out to be four days. And that was just a few days  
5 ago.

6 MS. GRABEL: You're forgetting our little Town  
7 of Bagdad case. That was exactly on.

8 CHMN. CHENAL: Yes, you're right about that.  
9 That was the Bagdad case where -- yeah. No one was  
10 there, and that was a one-mile line, if I remember, or  
11 something.

12 MS. GRABEL: Inside the mine.

13 CHMN. CHENAL: In a company town where no one's  
14 going to object to it for obvious reasons; right?

15 So I know you've set it up that way, but I'd  
16 like to at least discuss the possibility of flipping  
17 that, starting in Quartzsite for maybe two days or three  
18 days and coming back to Phoenix and then --

19 MR. BARNES: What about the rock show?

20 MS. GRABEL: So we can't start in Quartzsite  
21 the week of the 22nd, which means we'd have to have the  
22 entire hearing that second week.

23 CHMN. CHENAL: And how close does the line --  
24 the proposed line come to Quartzsite?

25 MS. GRABEL: It's right through Quartzsite.

1 CHMN. CHENAL: How many miles -- so it's within  
2 15 miles of Quartzsite?

3 MR. AMIRALI: Yeah.

4 CHMN. CHENAL: And Yuma's way down.

5 MR. AMIRALI: Oh, yeah.

6 CHMN. CHENAL: Well, we could start it in  
7 Phoenix, go to Quartzsite, and then reserve time in  
8 Phoenix if we have to finish it up back here. Maybe  
9 that's the compromise. Because if it takes longer, do  
10 you want to be four days in Quartzsite?

11 MS. GRABEL: No. I agree with you. Let's come  
12 back to Phoenix.

13 MR. BARNES: It's kind of an Arizona joke,  
14 actually, Quartzsite.

15 CHMN. CHENAL: I'm not saying more than that  
16 because it's on the record, but I just -- in terms of --  
17 I think it would be easier on everybody, applicant,  
18 attorneys, Committee, to spend more time here.

19 So I would suggest a 1 p.m. start time, then.  
20 I'm not going to fill this in.

21 On the 22nd, 23rd, 24th, we could do it in  
22 Phoenix. On the first day would be -- on the 22nd would  
23 be a 1 p.m. start time. The other days would be 9 a.m.

24 I think we should have a public comment session  
25 in the evening of the first day in both venues. We could

1 do it at -- I get into a debate whether it would be 5:30  
2 or 6. In the small towns, I like to say 5:30 and in the  
3 larger cities, 6, because people work and they may want  
4 to attend. I know that's an inconvenience because  
5 sometimes you finish at 5 or 5:30, and we just sit  
6 around. I guess if we're starting in Phoenix, I think we  
7 should have a 6 p.m. start time for the public comment  
8 session.

9 And then that's the 22nd, 23rd, and 24th. And  
10 that's a Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday; is that right?

11 MS. GRABEL: Yes, it is.

12 CHMN. CHENAL: And then the following Monday,  
13 the 27th, and 28th in Quartzsite.

14 MS. GRABEL: Correct.

15 CHMN. CHENAL: How many days do you think this  
16 hearing is going to take? Let's talk about that.

17 MS. GRABEL: My anticipation was five days.  
18 The witnesses that we have on, we will put on in three  
19 panels. Each of the panels will take one of the first  
20 three days. And then my thought was in Quartzsite, the  
21 first day we would do the tour and public comment and the  
22 second day the CEC deliberations.

23 CHMN. CHENAL: How much time are you able to  
24 reserve the facilities in Quartzsite for?

25 MS. GRABEL: We've only reserved the facilities

1 for two days.

2 Patty, do you know?

3 MS. PALMER: I told them the whole week. It's  
4 not set in stone.

5 CHMN. CHENAL: Well, I say this in every case.  
6 Here's what I want to avoid. I want to avoid  
7 deliberating and starting in an afternoon on a CEC. It  
8 just doesn't work that well. People feel rushed to  
9 finish, you know, and get out of there, and I don't like  
10 that. I like to start the deliberations fresh in the  
11 morning.

12 If we finish at 10:00 in the morning, yeah,  
13 we're not going to wait till the next day. But so far  
14 we've been lucky and most of the time, the hearing  
15 doesn't end up -- it doesn't finish until, say, sometime  
16 in the afternoon, maybe 3:00. We've had one 3, 4,  
17 something like that. It's just very easy to start the  
18 next day.

19 So I'm thinking out loud here a little. If  
20 we -- I don't think anyone's going to want to finish in  
21 Quartzsite and drive all the way to Phoenix the next day  
22 just to do deliberations. So I think maybe -- maybe  
23 we've got to consider a little more time in Quartzsite.

24 If the gem show interferes with our ability to  
25 start the hearing the previous week, the 22nd, 23rd, and

1 24th, then we should do that in Phoenix and finish up.  
2 And if it's going to take more than two days, maybe it  
3 will take three days. We'll have to ask what role the  
4 Corporation Commission may have in the intervention and  
5 if they believe they're going to have testimony and  
6 exhibits.

7 And not to hold you to it, just trying to plan  
8 the length of the hearing, but if the Corporation  
9 Commission has an active role in the evidentiary phase,  
10 then, you know, that's going to take it out past five  
11 days as well.

12 Do you gentlemen have any -- just broad  
13 thoughts on that?

14 MR. BRANUM: I haven't heard anything at this  
15 time.

16 MS. GRABEL: If I can weigh in. And,  
17 obviously, disagree with me if you do.

18 We spoke with the director, Mr. Abinah, last  
19 week or the week before, and he said that he wanted the  
20 Commission Staff to weigh in but didn't anticipate them  
21 being active. He just wanted to be there monitoring the  
22 proceedings so if the commissioners had questions, they  
23 could speak intelligently about it.

24 Does that seem consistent?

25 MR. BRANUM: That's helpful. I wasn't there

1 last week. I was aware of the meeting. I don't think  
2 Bob was either.

3 MS. GRABEL: That's what Eli said.

4 MR. BRANUM: Sounds great. Thank you.

5 CHMN. CHENAL: Let's just reserve more time in  
6 Quartzsite, then, because if you're correct and it's  
7 close, people won't be happy to come back to Phoenix to  
8 deliberate. I think we'd just rather finish up there.

9 MS. GRABEL: And we'll know at the end of  
10 Phoenix whether I'm worried or not before we even get to  
11 Quartzsite. So we can talk about it then how to best  
12 proceed.

13 CHMN. CHENAL: Sure.

14 So I'd suggest we reserve facilities and the  
15 rooms for -- I hate to say the whole week, but certainly  
16 I would say more than two days.

17 MS. GRABEL: Okay.

18 MS. PALMER: I don't think that will be a  
19 problem. According to the one hotel that is there,  
20 everyone was leaving that Sunday. And so if people came  
21 in on the 27th, that would work. And the last I spoke to  
22 him, he had 50-some rooms available at that point. And I  
23 put a hold on I don't know how many. Both here and  
24 there, I don't know the amount of rooms we'll need.

25 CHMN. CHENAL: Having never been to Quartzsite,

1 just out of curiosity, are there restaurants?

2 MR. AMIRALI: Yes.

3 MR. ROGERS: There are. There's a very good  
4 pizza place.

5 CHMN. CHENAL: We intend to support local  
6 businesses.

7 MS. PALMER: Primarily, you're going to be up  
8 against the many, many winter visitors they have in  
9 January. They said that in January, they get over  
10 100,000 visitors through there with their RVs and  
11 whatnot.

12 MS. GRABEL: And the hearing will be at an RV  
13 conference center.

14 CHMN. CHENAL: I'll take the chance that if the  
15 hearing is over by 5:30 and we take a little time that by  
16 6:30 or 7, when some of us go out to start the evening,  
17 there won't be so much competition at that hour. Is that  
18 diplomatic?

19 So the 22nd, 23rd, 24th in Phoenix. We'll  
20 start at 1 p.m. on the 22nd. The other days, the typical  
21 9 a.m. Have a public comment session at 6 p.m. that  
22 evening.

23 Quartzsite would be the 27th and 28th and just  
24 however long it takes. Let's start again at 1 p.m. on  
25 the 27th. And the first evening, at maybe 5:30 at

1 Quartzsite, we can have the public comment session. And  
2 sometimes those -- you know, no one shows up. The last  
3 one we had, there were quite a few people that showed up  
4 and spoke, and we were there for about an hour and a half  
5 or so. But it sounds like this is not controversial and  
6 there won't be many people who comment, and maybe they'll  
7 be supportive.

8 MR. ROGERS: I attended the BLM's public  
9 meetings in Quartzsite, and there were about 15 to 20  
10 people that came and went through over the course of the  
11 day. I think a lot of them were there already at the VFW  
12 hall because they were there for something else. That's  
13 how many we got last time and kind of an indication of  
14 interest.

15 CHMN. CHENAL: And did they speak at that --

16 MR. ROGERS: Some did. Some didn't. Some  
17 spoke on -- a lot of them had questions just about  
18 general energy policy, not really about the project.

19 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay. I'm going to expect  
20 there's not going to be much public comment, then. We  
21 try to limit comments to three minutes or so, so it  
22 probably won't take that much time.

23 MS. GRABEL: We'll revise this and get it back  
24 to you.

25 CHMN. CHENAL: Sure.

1           Some of the stuff in here I'll take up in order  
2 down here.

3           MS. GRABEL: Okay.

4           CHMN. CHENAL: So this is a merchant project,  
5 right, a merchant line?

6           MR. AMIRALI: No.

7           MS. GRABEL: No.

8           CHMN. CHENAL: Oh, it isn't.

9           MS. GRABEL: It is a line that was actually --  
10 the California ISO, the independent systems operator,  
11 actually issued an RFP for the line, to which the  
12 applicant responded, because California actually wants  
13 this line to be built. And so this is a state-sponsored  
14 line.

15           Do you want to elaborate on that?

16           MR. AMIRALI: Yes.

17           Mr. Chairman, as a part of the FERC 1000  
18 process, which was an open solicitation for transmission,  
19 California ISO conducted an RFP for a regulated asset to  
20 be built by -- you know, by open competition.

21           We proposed a project, a joint venture between  
22 Starwood -- led by Starwood for DCRT. Proposed a project  
23 in that solicitation, and we were awarded the project in  
24 July of 2015. When completed, this line will be owned  
25 and operated by DCRT, but the operational control of the

1 line, the capacity of the line, will be -- it will be  
2 subsumed into the California ISO footprint. The  
3 California ISO customers will pay for the entire cost of  
4 this line.

5 And it will be a fully regulated asset. DCRT  
6 is in the process of becoming a utility in the state of  
7 California. We are in the California Public Utility  
8 Commission process for that. And we will be a  
9 participating transmission owner with the California ISO  
10 under the FERC rules.

11 The line will be just like any other regulated  
12 asset that is owned by APS or SCE. We will be receiving  
13 a FERC-approved rate -- we will go through a  
14 FERC-approved ratemaking process and will receive a  
15 transmission revenue requirement that will be set forth  
16 by FERC. And it will be incorporated into the California  
17 ISO transmission access charge.

18 CHMN. CHENAL: Very good.

19 What is the source of generation for the power  
20 on this line? Basically, is this line intended to bring  
21 power to California or from California?

22 MR. AMIRALI: Actually, sir, the line is purely  
23 a bidirectional line. Historically, the flow of power  
24 was unidirectional, even though an AC line can carry  
25 power either direction. Because of our power system

1 configuration, the location of generation resources and  
2 the loads, California was a net importer.

3           The world has changed significantly in the last  
4 seven to ten years, where the direction of the flow of  
5 power changes several times during every day and as well  
6 as every season. So right now, it is truly a  
7 bidirectional resource that is providing value to both  
8 Arizona and California and to the Southwest in general as  
9 well.

10           CHMN. CHENAL: And then who -- I know this will  
11 come out in the testimony. It's just more my curiosity.  
12 But power flowing into Arizona, is it flowing into  
13 Arizona or through Arizona to other markets? Where is  
14 this power going? Who is the intended customer?

15           MR. AMIRALI: So, again, this is a network  
16 resource. As you know, Arizona utilities are a part of  
17 the EIM market, energy imbalance market, and they're  
18 participating in it in California.

19           So each region is -- this line allows for an  
20 easier sharing of resources between regions. So, for the  
21 sake of argument, when the solar energy is higher in  
22 California and there's a -- because of all the rooftop  
23 solar and all of the must-generate required energy in  
24 California for reliability, there are several times  
25 during the day where they have excess generation. The

1 Arizona utilities are benefiting by importing energy into  
2 Arizona because California is actually paying Arizona  
3 utilities to take the power and back down their existing  
4 resources that they have under contract. So it is truly  
5 allowing both regions to maximize their resources as well  
6 as providing them operational flexibility.

7 Typically, under the current situation, APS is  
8 a part of the EIM market. So that the energy that we  
9 have seen flow direction, based on our studies, it is  
10 typically going to Arizona and California, moving between  
11 two states. Of course, it's an AC system, so the energy  
12 flows where it flows.

13 CHMN. CHENAL: Interesting. I know it's going  
14 to be of interest to the Committee. I know they're going  
15 to ask questions about that. It also goes to the need  
16 for the project, which I think we need to have a good  
17 record of that for your benefit.

18 MR. AMIRALI: Mr. Chairman, may I add one more  
19 thing. Since we have been developing this line, this  
20 line is a necessary infrastructure that will facilitate  
21 the development of additional renewable resources in  
22 Arizona in areas where the development stifled because of  
23 lack of infrastructure or lack of available transmission  
24 capacity. We already have significant amount of  
25 interconnection requests for solar and wind projects that

1 just want to connect directly to the line or want to  
2 connect to Delaney Substation and utilize the line to  
3 deliver energy either to Arizona and California. So we  
4 have got more capacity requesting to interconnect than we  
5 even have capacity on the line.

6 CHMN. CHENAL: That's hours of questions from  
7 the Committee. I can already see we've gone past five  
8 days. I promise you, it's going to be --

9 MS. GRABEL: Stop talking. Just kidding.

10 CHMN. CHENAL: I'm glad I asked. I thought  
11 this was a merchant line, but it's obviously much more  
12 than that and a sign of the times with renewable energy  
13 and the need for additional transmission lines.

14 Okay. So let's go through kind of my little  
15 checklist.

16 Let's talk about the posting and publishing, my  
17 favorite topic. Let's talk about posting first, where  
18 you might intend to post for the hearing that we'll have.

19 MS. GRABEL: So I guess we have an Exhibit 3  
20 where we have proposed sign locations along the route.

21 (Exhibit 3 was marked.)

22 MS. GRABEL: This proposes ten different signs  
23 in the more populated areas. And identified on the  
24 second page is the landowner just for our benefit.  
25 You'll see it's in rest areas, community centers, RV

1 areas, places that we think are likely to be seen and  
2 populated along a relatively rural area.

3 We would also, then, post it in the Corporation  
4 Commission dockets, obviously, in Tucson and in Phoenix,  
5 the Quartzsite Public Library, the Buckeye Public  
6 Library, and also have it available on the project  
7 website.

8 CHMN. CHENAL: Good.

9 Well, I have to tell you, I don't think I've  
10 ever driven that route in all the years I've been here,  
11 so I have no idea what's out there. But looking at this  
12 Exhibit 3, it doesn't look like there's a lot of  
13 population, but it looks like you've hit the roads.

14 MR. ROGERS: So our goal is to hit roads,  
15 interchanges, some places off of the project that people  
16 congregate, particularly in Quartzsite. We've got some  
17 signage on some well-used off-road vehicle trails for  
18 that stakeholder group. But you're right, there's not a  
19 lot of people out there.

20 CHMN. CHENAL: It looks like you targeted where  
21 people would -- driving through the area would see the  
22 signage. So this looks fine to me. And our procedural  
23 order will simply state you'll post signage consistent  
24 with what we discussed at the meeting today.

25 MS. GRABEL: Okay.

1 CHMN. CHENAL: What about the publication?

2 MS. GRABEL: So for publication, we thought we  
3 would publish in The Arizona Republic simply because we  
4 believe it's a reliable publication and this is the  
5 holiday season. Twice as required by statute. We would  
6 do it on December 11th and then again on December 30th.  
7 That assumes that the Notice of Hearing is docketed on  
8 the 6th, the same day we file the application, which we  
9 kind of talked about is probably going to happen.

10 We also just, as a matter of courtesy, would  
11 also publish in the Parker Pioneer, which is the local  
12 paper in the Quartzsite region. We talked to the Parker  
13 Pioneer. It's unlikely that they'll be able to meet our  
14 statutory deadline because they're a weekly publication  
15 and they miss it because of the holidays, but that would  
16 just be a matter of courtesy and not compliance.

17 And then do you want to talk about affected  
18 jurisdictions now?

19 CHMN. CHENAL: Let me ask a question. Where is  
20 Parker in relation to Quartzsite?

21 MR. ROGERS: Parker is north of Quartzsite.

22 CHMN. CHENAL: Northwest.

23 MR. ROGERS: Barely northwest, right on the  
24 Colorado River.

25 CHMN. CHENAL: Is it on Exhibit 1? I see the

1 CRITs up there, the Colorado River Indian tribe.

2 MR. ROGERS: Yeah.

3 The Parker Gazette, though, isn't published  
4 from Parker. That's just the name of it; right?

5 MS. GRABEL: The Parker Pioneer.

6 MR. ROGERS: I'm sorry, the Pioneer.

7 CHMN. CHENAL: I'm asking about the city of  
8 Parker, the town of Parker. It's on the Colorado.

9 MR. ROGERS: It's about a 45-minute drive north  
10 of Blythe.

11 CHMN. CHENAL: As I'm looking at Exhibit 1,  
12 it's not shown on the map because it's north of what's  
13 depicted on the map.

14 MR. AMIRALI: Yes, sir.

15 CHMN. CHENAL: All right.

16 MS. GRABEL: I was informed that the people in  
17 the Town of Quartzsite rely on the Parker Pioneer as  
18 their local paper.

19 CHMN. CHENAL: That's good. And, obviously, if  
20 you have The Arizona Republic, that's circulated in the  
21 area, so that's going to comply with the requirements.

22 Okay. Very good. Now, let's talk about  
23 affected jurisdictions. What are the affected  
24 jurisdictions?

25 MS. GRABEL: The statutory affected

1 jurisdictions, we believe, are Maricopa County, La Paz  
2 County, the Town of Quartzsite, the Arizona State Land  
3 Department, and the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

4 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay.

5 MS. GRABEL: Do you want to see it?

6 CHMN. CHENAL: Is -- let me ask this,  
7 Ms. Grabel. Is the Delaney Substation, then, in Maricopa  
8 County?

9 MS. GRABEL: It is, yes.

10 CHMN. CHENAL: And it does not cross any city  
11 or town or political subdivision other than Maricopa  
12 County until it gets to La Paz County?

13 MS. GRABEL: Yes.

14 CHMN. CHENAL: And does it actually go through  
15 Quartzsite?

16 MR. ROGERS: No, it doesn't.

17 MS. GRABEL: They're still involved, and we've  
18 been talking to them.

19 CHMN. CHENAL: Now, I have a question, and I  
20 don't know the answer to this. Do we need to include any  
21 political subdivisions in California?

22 MS. GRABEL: I don't believe we're required to  
23 under the statute because it refers specifically to  
24 state, which is generally interpreted to mean Arizona.  
25 If you would like us to, we certainly can.

1 CHMN. CHENAL: That's not going to affect me.  
2 It could affect the applicant if someone were opposed to  
3 the project and tried to make a legal argument that you  
4 needed to include affected jurisdictions more broadly  
5 than just in the state of Arizona.

6 MR. ROGERS: Our CPCN application will give  
7 them a venue within the California Public Utilities  
8 Commission to be heard.

9 CHMN. CHENAL: Right. But our statute has  
10 certain requirements for notice, and one of them is to  
11 provide notice to affected jurisdictions. And I  
12 certainly don't disagree with Ms. Grabel on it. I'm just  
13 raising it as something to look into from your  
14 perspective because I will sign it either way. But I'm  
15 just offering that as something just, you know, look  
16 into. And if in doubt, I always say overnotify than  
17 undernotify.

18 MS. GRABEL: Okay.

19 CHMN. CHENAL: I tend to agree with you that  
20 it's not, but I just can't predict the future. And if  
21 someone wants to argue that, we can easily take that  
22 argument out of the equation by including the  
23 jurisdiction in California, but that's going to be up to  
24 you.

25 MS. GRABEL: Okay. I'll revisit the issue.

1 Thank you.

2 And we did prepare this as Exhibit 4, the  
3 Notice of Filing List of Affected Jurisdictions.

4 (Exhibit 4 was marked.)

5 CHMN. CHENAL: So Exhibit 4 is the Notice of  
6 Filing List of Affected Jurisdictions.

7 And I'm going to leave that up to the  
8 applicant. I'm certainly not going to make a  
9 determination on that.

10 MR. BARNES: Mr. Chairman, do you have an  
11 instinct of what your decision would be if a California  
12 resident drives to Quartzsite and wants to speak to the  
13 process?

14 CHMN. CHENAL: I think it would be hard to say  
15 no. I think the Corporation Commission would frown on  
16 that, I think our Committee would frown on it, not to  
17 hear public comment. Technically, it's not evidence in  
18 our case, but it informs the Committee and might raise  
19 some questions.

20 And I think -- again, and my general philosophy  
21 is it can't do harm to allow the person to speak, but  
22 there could be some due process claim if you don't. And  
23 I just would like to keep this proceeding as clean as  
24 possible and take out any avenues of, you know, arguments  
25 or legal action that there's been a lack of due process.

1           That's just my general feeling. That's why I  
2 offered the thought on affected jurisdictions. And,  
3 Mr. Barnes, I think, to your question, yeah, we'd hear  
4 that. It's not evidence, so it isn't like it would taint  
5 the evidence that we rely on for the hearing.

6           But having said that, I don't think our  
7 jurisdiction extends into California for our conditions.  
8 So even though the line is going there, I think it goes  
9 to the state border. And then after that, it's no longer  
10 our jurisdiction.

11           MS. GRABEL: Right.

12           CHMN. CHENAL: I mean, I'm -- I have to rethink  
13 that a little too.

14           MR. BARNES: It might be worth thinking. And  
15 we haven't spoken about it together, but the California  
16 resident has their only processes to participate in. And  
17 I would think that that might be one answer the Chairman  
18 would consider, is to explain to the California resident  
19 that there is a California process.

20           CHMN. CHENAL: Yeah.

21           MS. GRABEL: I'm thinking of the other  
22 interstate projects, too, that I'm aware of. Southline,  
23 for example, SunZia. I don't believe they considered the  
24 other states affected jurisdictions, but we'll ask.

25           CHMN. CHENAL: I don't think it does either. I

1 mean, those projects started in another state, ended in  
2 Arizona. Here we have one that starts in Arizona, goes  
3 to California.

4 MS. GRABEL: Maybe it starts in California and  
5 goes to Arizona.

6 CHMN. CHENAL: Maybe it starts in California  
7 and goes to Arizona.

8 Well, if a California resident would come to  
9 Quartzsite to give three-minute public comment, we're  
10 going to hear it.

11 All right. And we have lodging for -- at least  
12 in Quartzsite for out of town for Committee members?

13 MS. GRABEL: We do.

14 CHMN. CHENAL: And the court reporter?

15 MS. GRABEL: We do. There's one hotel, the  
16 Super 8. And we have lodging in Phoenix, too, for any  
17 Committee members who need it.

18 And do you have a preference for whether it's  
19 Buckeye or Phoenix?

20 CHMN. CHENAL: Let's talk about that. The  
21 statute has to be near where the project is, but I don't  
22 think -- I think Phoenix is fine. Did you have a  
23 preference as an applicant? Phoenix, probably?

24 MS. GRABEL: Phoenix, probably. It's closer.

25 CHMN. CHENAL: Do you have a hotel in mind for

1 Phoenix?

2 MS. GRABEL: Apparently, the Wyndham Garden  
3 Phoenix Midtown is something that the project team has  
4 been used to. The facility only fits 50. I don't know  
5 if that's too small, so we might look elsewhere if you  
6 think that's a little too small. How big do you think  
7 you need a conference room?

8 MS. COBB: We don't know what kind of public  
9 reaction we're going to have. And under open meeting  
10 law, we do have to have a space that accommodates anybody  
11 that may potentially come.

12 CHMN. CHENAL: How many do you have at this  
13 table?

14 MS. COBB: Well, there's eleven plus the three  
15 of us and the Committee members.

16 CHMN. CHENAL: And then there's the Committee,  
17 so we almost have half the capacity right there. There's  
18 always people that show up and listen from the next  
19 hearing or the past hearing.

20 MS. GRABEL: There's the Sheraton Downtown  
21 Phoenix. That certainly has the capabilities.

22 CHMN. CHENAL: I think that sounds better. I  
23 don't think 50 would be enough. Hopefully, you won't  
24 need for 50, but I think that makes sense.

25 If it's at the Sheraton Downtown, there won't

1 be as many Committee members that will feel obliged to  
2 stay.

3 Now, do they have -- so for purposes of the  
4 Notice of Hearing, have you verified that there's room  
5 there, that that's where you would have the hearing?

6 MS. GRABEL: Yes.

7 MS. PALMER: They have meeting rooms that --  
8 well, they could also go as small as 30 people, but they  
9 have bigger rooms, different pricing for different rooms  
10 and connecting rooms and that sort of thing.

11 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay.

12 MS. COBB: Patty, do you know what their  
13 largest capacity is?

14 MS. PALMER: I thought it was up to -- I do not  
15 know exactly, but I thought it was at least, you know,  
16 200 or more.

17 MS. GRABEL: I've been in meetings that have  
18 hundreds.

19 CHMN. CHENAL: That would be sufficient.

20 And where would be the lodging for Committee  
21 members? At the Sheraton?

22 MS. GRABEL: At the Sheraton.

23 CHMN. CHENAL: That sounds good. So I guess  
24 we'll decide, then, that the hearing will resume in  
25 Phoenix, as we discussed. And we'll have it at the

1 Sheraton. Just fill in the address and the dates and  
2 times that we discussed. That will be fine.

3 MS. PALMER: And the rooms will be -- well, for  
4 people that are coming out of town, at the Sheraton. But  
5 we won't know that until closer.

6 MS. GRABEL: I'll work with Marie to figure out  
7 how many rooms we need.

8 CHMN. CHENAL: And I just want to make clear,  
9 the applicant pays for the rooms to avoid reimbursement  
10 issues.

11 MS. GRABEL: Yes.

12 CHMN. CHENAL: If you work with Marie, we'll  
13 figure out which Committee members want rooms and who  
14 will and who won't.

15 Tours. Let's talk about tours.

16 MS. GRABEL: Okay.

17 CHMN. CHENAL: You propose a tour the first  
18 part of the hearing in Phoenix?

19 MS. GRABEL: The first part of the hearing in  
20 Quartzsite.

21 CHMN. CHENAL: I'm sorry, in Quartzsite.

22 MS. GRABEL: Yes.

23 CHMN. CHENAL: So what do you have in mind for  
24 the tour?

25 MS. GRABEL: I'll ask Lowell to address that.

1 MR. ROGERS: So the Town of Quartzsite here,  
2 you see the point where the line diverges from I-10?

3 CHMN. CHENAL: Yes.

4 MR. ROGERS: Start there and drive the  
5 alignment down to where it turns west. Follow that to  
6 essentially midway through the Copper Bottom Pass.  
7 Copper Bottom Pass is a mountain range that we go  
8 through. And by only going midway, you'll see the  
9 topography. You'll be able to see the situation on both  
10 sides. It will give you a representative.

11 If we add on anything past that, it's much more  
12 rugged terrain and slower driving. Certainly possible if  
13 you want to.

14 If you're interested in the area along I-10,  
15 the best way to do that would probably be to stop at  
16 various intersections along the way and generally  
17 describe -- we really are paralleling I-10. So you can  
18 get a sense of the terrain -- it's flat, open land -- as  
19 we go. That's really up to your preference.

20 MS. GRABEL: We'll have seen much of that  
21 driving from Phoenix to Quartzsite.

22 MR. ROGERS: Right. If you wanted to stop  
23 along the way for some descriptive discussion.

24 CHMN. CHENAL: I'm just eyeballing this. I'm  
25 looking at the area from Colorado River to I-10 as a

1 possible tour route.

2 MR. ROGERS: That would take a solid eight  
3 hours.

4 CHMN. CHENAL: Because it's off road?

5 MR. ROGERS: Yes.

6 MS. GRABEL: We're going to have a virtual  
7 tour.

8 MR. ROGERS: The reason I chose this part of  
9 Quartzsite is we can get to the heart of it quickly on  
10 Highway 95. It is relatively accessible dirt roads until  
11 you get into the Copper Bottom Pass area. It will allow  
12 you to understand the part of the project that is new  
13 build as we cut south here.

14 It will also show you where we parallel the  
15 existing Devers line. You can see the Kofa range from  
16 that area. You can see the Yuma Proving Ground from that  
17 area. The off-road vehicle community heavily uses that  
18 area. You can understand their concern. The Town of  
19 Quartzsite is there. A visitors center is also in that  
20 basin. The CRIT tribe is just to the north.

21 CHMN. CHENAL: So tell me again where it is. I  
22 just want to make sure.

23 MR. ROGERS: It would be up here --

24 CHMN. CHENAL: From where I-10 starts to head  
25 south?

1 MR. ROGERS: To about midway in the Copper  
2 Bottom, this area.

3 CHMN. CHENAL: That looks good.

4 MR. ROGERS: And like I said, we can easily  
5 drive here and stop at interchanges if you're interested.

6 We'll also be doing a virtual tour, which will  
7 also inform that open area a little bit.

8 CHMN. CHENAL: That sounds very good. I wasn't  
9 exactly sure where you meant. I thought you started from  
10 Quartzsite and going south, but it's actually from I-10  
11 along the route. And that makes better sense.

12 I'm thinking out loud, though. The portion  
13 along I-10, I think we will have driven that.

14 MR. AMIRALI: Yeah.

15 CHMN. CHENAL: But where I-10 west of Delaney  
16 leaves I-10 and goes back down into Delaney, I think that  
17 might be of some interest as well.

18 MR. ROGERS: Sure. Absolutely. We could  
19 easily have it meet at Delaney, understand our entrance,  
20 that we cross the freeway, and drive I-10 up to -- excuse  
21 me. I forget the name of this road that cuts diagonally  
22 across.

23 So we could start at Delaney, meet there, and  
24 then get back on the freeway, drive this highway to this  
25 area. And we can look this way if you want to. We can

1 easily drive this too. Really, you can look in both  
2 directions. The existing DPV line is there so you have a  
3 visual reference as we're discussing.

4 CHMN. CHENAL: So are there -- from Delaney to  
5 I-10, heading north and then west to I-10 along the  
6 proposed route, are there roads there that you can follow  
7 or --

8 MR. AMIRALI: Dirt roads.

9 MR. ROGERS: Dirt roads.

10 CHMN. CHENAL: And that looks to be about 18  
11 miles, just a quick estimate.

12 MS. GRABEL: An option that you do also have is  
13 a helicopter if you want to take less time and see more  
14 of the line, which is something the applicant has offered  
15 to do.

16 CHMN. CHENAL: To take the Committee in a  
17 helicopter?

18 MR. AMIRALI: Yeah.

19 CHMN. CHENAL: We're doing it.

20 MR. AMIRALI: That would allow you to see more.

21 CHMN. CHENAL: We're doing it.

22 MS. GRABEL: Seriously?

23 CHMN. CHENAL: If you're offering it.

24 MR. BARNES: Mr. Chairman, a couple thoughts  
25 may help to inform your decision-making. I'm not sure

1 everyone wants to ride a helicopter that's on your panel.  
2 That may be an issue. I'm not sure.

3 CHMN. CHENAL: I understand that. But there's  
4 one that would.

5 MR. BARNES: I know who that is.

6 The other, to help you on the tour idea, most  
7 all of the public interest was in the space that Lowell  
8 described. The rest of it, there's either existing line  
9 or you're just on Interstate 10. So there's no  
10 controversy with the infrastructure.

11 CHMN. CHENAL: And I understand that. And on  
12 the I-10 portion, the Committee will have seen that. But  
13 I have seen in our hearings that whether or not there's  
14 controversy, there's a keen interest of the Committee to  
15 see where this line is going to go with their own eyes.  
16 Not all of it, necessarily, but at key points. And it  
17 just puts things in perspective. It allows them to see  
18 where this is going to fit.

19 So I understand that, but I still -- I think we  
20 need to have -- and I guess I'm being a little flippant  
21 when I say, Yeah, we're going to do that on a helicopter,  
22 but I'm now thinking that there are some that may not.

23 MR. ROGERS: If you wanted to expand and, in  
24 the interest of time, meet at Delaney Substation, meet on  
25 the north side of I-10 where this highway and -- I'm

1 sorry, I forget the name of this road.

2 MR. BARNES: Is that Salome Road?

3 MR. ROGERS: Yes. Salome Road. Drive off of  
4 I-10 to Salome Road where it intersects.

5 CHMN. CHENAL: I need to see where you're  
6 referring to.

7 MR. ROGERS: Meet at Delaney and then get back  
8 on the I-10, drive to Salome Road. We could meet here,  
9 drive this, if you'd like, but you can see both  
10 directions pretty clearly.

11 We could get back on the freeway, drive here,  
12 and meet at certain intersections to describe this part  
13 of the line.

14 CHMN. CHENAL: I don't think that's necessary  
15 because once we're on I-10, the Committee will see where  
16 that line is going to be.

17 MR. ROGERS: Absolutely.

18 CHMN. CHENAL: And a virtual tour will make  
19 that absolutely clear.

20 I'm more concerned with where the route goes  
21 off of I-10 on the west side and the east side. So I  
22 think your tour makes a lot of sense on the west side.

23 On the east side, it makes sense as well.  
24 Start at Delaney and develop a tour which would include  
25 as much of that as you can see in a two-hour tour.

1 MR. ROGERS: You may be interested in the  
2 Colorado River crossing as well, which is relatively easy  
3 to access. If we jump on this difficult section right to  
4 the river, that's also an option.

5 CHMN. CHENAL: I think that would be good too.

6 MS. GRABEL: So we might want to consider  
7 having the tour start earlier. If we meet at Delaney,  
8 it's closer to Phoenix, obviously. It's going to be a  
9 much longer tour. Have a start time of 10 a.m. or  
10 something.

11 MR. CREW: Maybe earlier.

12 CHMN. CHENAL: If the hearing's going to start  
13 at 9, the tour could start at 9 or earlier than 9.

14 MS. GRABEL: Just giving people time to drive  
15 from Phoenix to Delaney.

16 MS. PALMER: On a Monday morning.

17 CHMN. CHENAL: Yeah, on a Monday morning,  
18 right. So maybe 10 would be the appropriate time to  
19 start.

20 How long would that tour take in your opinion?

21 MR. ROGERS: That's -- where are we ending the  
22 day at? Are we ending in Quartzsite?

23 MS. GRABEL: Ending in Quartzsite for public  
24 comment at 5:30.

25 CHMN. CHENAL: I think -- let me just -- let's

1 just make sure we're clear. I'm envisioning now two  
2 tours, one for the Quartzsite area on the western side  
3 and a separate tour when we're in Phoenix for the eastern  
4 side. Because to try to do both in a day would just be  
5 way too much time. So I'm envisioning two tours.

6 MR. ROGERS: I think the area into Quartzsite  
7 would be about seven hours from the point where we all  
8 meet; get into off-road vehicles, SUVs, together; start;  
9 and when we return. I would allocate seven hours because  
10 this area, just driving it without any stops, would take  
11 two to three hours at least.

12 CHMN. CHENAL: From Quartzsite?

13 MR. AMIRALI: Yeah, the Quartzsite areas.

14 CHMN. CHENAL: So to go from Quartzsite to ...

15 MR. ROGERS: To the project route where the  
16 line deviates from -- departs from I-10 and then drive  
17 that off road and see the project to Copper Bottom Pass  
18 is at least two hours of just driving. It's about ten  
19 miles an hour.

20 MR. AMIRALI: Chairman, that includes stopping  
21 and looking at different routes -- different points along  
22 the route.

23 MR. ROGERS: Questions.

24 MR. AMIRALI: Questions, discussions.

25 MR. BARNES: The road is very primitive.

1 CHMN. CHENAL: I think that's too much time,  
2 the cost-benefit.

3 MR. ROGERS: So we could shorten that  
4 considerably if we do not drive from I-10 on the  
5 corridor, if we drive --

6 CHMN. CHENAL: I'm sorry. I have to see this.

7 MR. ROGERS: We cut out driving this section,  
8 which we call X5. We drive right down Highway 95 here,  
9 drive to there, then drive to there and back. That's  
10 considerably shorter.

11 CHMN. CHENAL: What time are we looking at  
12 there?

13 MR. ROGERS: Three to four hours.

14 CHMN. CHENAL: All right. Let's do that. I'm  
15 glad we're having the discussion.

16 MS. COBB: The three to four hours, is that  
17 including stops?

18 MR. ROGERS: Yes.

19 CHMN. CHENAL: So the three to four hours, that  
20 would use State Route 95 as opposed to the north-south  
21 portion of the proposed route?

22 MR. ROGERS: Yeah. It's a 25-minute drive on  
23 Highway 95 as opposed to a two-hour drive on the off-road  
24 vehicle.

25 CHMN. CHENAL: Let's do that.

1           And maybe if I could ask the applicant to send  
2 me kind of a proposed tour. And if we have any comments,  
3 I can get it back to you. That way, we can work this  
4 out. It makes the most sense.

5           MS. GRABEL: And are you still thinking two  
6 tours?

7           CHMN. CHENAL: Yes, I think so.

8           MS. GRABEL: And would you like us to give the  
9 helicopter a potential option?

10          CHMN. CHENAL: Yeah.

11          MS. PALMER: And would the other tour be the  
12 first week, then?

13          MS. GRABEL: We'll have to look at that  
14 schedule.

15          MR. ROGERS: Or would you rather push the start  
16 of Quartzsite, instead of a Monday, to a Tuesday, have  
17 this tour of I-10 as they travel out Monday, have the  
18 tour of the area south of Quartzsite Tuesday, and then  
19 start the hearings that afternoon?

20          CHMN. CHENAL: Well, a lot of times what we do  
21 is start the hearing. We have the hearing, and the first  
22 night we have the public comment. And then the next  
23 morning, we have a tour. So I think that would work very  
24 well too here.

25           I mean, if we had -- if we had the tour on the

1 23rd for the Phoenix portion of it, which we'll talk  
2 about a little more; and then, in Quartzsite, of course,  
3 if we're almost -- if we make more progress than we  
4 think, we don't want to have a tour that's delaying  
5 deliberations.

6 MS. GRABEL: That's what I was thinking.

7 CHMN. CHENAL: I guess, then, the comment is  
8 would we want the Quartzsite tour the afternoon of the  
9 27th? Is that the suggestion?

10 MS. GRABEL: You mean the Delaney tour? Oh,  
11 the Quartzsite tour. As we previously discussed it, that  
12 was the 27th.

13 CHMN. CHENAL: So I think, since we're going to  
14 keep more time in Quartzsite, we can have the Quartzsite  
15 tour, as we just discussed, which is three or four hours,  
16 on the 27th.

17 That would give us enough time to come back and  
18 have our public comment session --

19 MR. AMIRALI: Yeah.

20 CHMN. CHENAL: -- in the evening. There  
21 probably wouldn't be any evidence that day.

22 Then we dive in the 28th in Quartzsite and see  
23 where we go and finish up the CEC process there.

24 MS. PALMER: In terms of the facility in  
25 Quartzsite, so if that first day is the tour -- but we'll

1 still need it for the public comment; right? So I should  
2 just reserve it but tell them no one will probably be in  
3 there during the day.

4 MS. GRABEL: It will start at 5:30, and we'll  
5 need accommodations that day.

6 MS. PALMER: But we'll still pay for the day  
7 even though we won't be there most of the day.

8 MR. AMIRALI: You'll have to do the setup.

9 CHMN. CHENAL: And I'll probably want  
10 accommodations the night before.

11 MS. GRABEL: We're not sure we have  
12 accommodations the night before. That's why we thought  
13 it would be good to do the tour.

14 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay. If that's the case, I  
15 like to get there the day before.

16 MS. GRABEL: There's an RV. You could sleep in  
17 a helicopter.

18 CHMN. CHENAL: There you go.

19 Okay. That makes sense.

20 Now, what about the Phoenix side, the eastern  
21 side? A tour the 23rd, the morning of the 23rd? That's  
22 typically when we would have a tour. I mean, in the  
23 normal course of events, we would have it on the 23rd.

24 (Mr. Gary Gold joined the prefiling  
25 conference.)

1 MS. GRABEL: Okay.

2 CHMN. CHENAL: Do you want to put together a  
3 proposal? We don't have to work it out here, but put  
4 together a proposal, about a three-hour --

5 MS. GRABEL: Start the day with a tour?

6 CHMN. CHENAL: Start the day with a tour.

7 MR. ROGERS: Sure.

8 MS. GRABEL: And would the three hours include  
9 travel to Delaney, the tour, and return to the hotel?

10 CHMN. CHENAL: No. I keep forgetting that.  
11 That's going to probably be four hours, probably in the  
12 morning.

13 MR. ROGERS: It's a solid two-hour drive on the  
14 freeway to get from one end of the project to the other.

15 MR. BARNES: But we're just going from the  
16 Sheraton Hotel to the Delaney Substation.

17 MR. AMIRALI: An hour and 25 minutes.

18 MR. ROGERS: So meet for 30 minutes at the  
19 substation, drive for 30 minutes on the north part.

20 MS. GRABEL: The most efficient way to do it,  
21 really, is to use the long day of commute anyway on the  
22 27th to meet at Delaney, do a tour, and then have the  
23 members drive to the hotel and meet for the second tour.

24 CHMN. CHENAL: Say that again.

25 MS. GRABEL: Have the tour all in one day. It

1 will be a long travel day, but you're already traveling  
2 from Phoenix to Quartzsite as it is, and most of it's the  
3 same route. So rather than interrupting the evidentiary  
4 hearing in Phoenix, if you start early in Quartzsite,  
5 we'll meet at Delaney, which is already the part we have  
6 to travel, just a little off the beaten path. Do a  
7 couple hours at the Delaney Substation, hit the hotel,  
8 take a break or whatever, and then continue the tour for  
9 the additional three hours and then have public comment  
10 that night.

11 So it's long, but it's more efficient than  
12 interrupting the hearing, because I think what that will  
13 effectively do is it will definitely increase the time  
14 for the evidentiary hearing by a day or two.

15 CHMN. CHENAL: But how do the Committee members  
16 get from Phoenix to Quartzsite?

17 MS. GRABEL: Wouldn't they drive themselves  
18 anyway? Oh, I see what you're saying.

19 CHMN. CHENAL: Yeah.

20 MS. GRABEL: Well, that's okay. I mean, if we  
21 meet at Delaney and we have RVs there, they take the  
22 tour, bring them back to their cars. Then they take  
23 their cars, take them to the hotel. We'll meet them at  
24 the hotel and do the second leg of the tour.

25 MR. ROGERS: Honestly, we could do that tour

1 with non-off-road vehicles if, off of Salome Road, you  
2 chose not to go off the road. You can see miles in both  
3 directions. Any sedan can make it. It will be on  
4 pavement the entire time.

5 CHMN. CHENAL: Well, here's the thing. We have  
6 some older members of the Committee. We've lost people  
7 on these tours. We need to do it with a bus. That's  
8 just the only way that we can really expect it to work.

9 MR. ROGERS: Okay.

10 CHMN. CHENAL: It's just been a disaster the  
11 one time we tried this. It was an absolute disaster.

12 MR. ROGERS: You know, now that you say it, you  
13 know, you miss one exit -- one person misses an exit ...

14 MS. GRABEL: I don't think it's a good idea.

15 CHMN. CHENAL: Yeah.

16 So are you -- I mean, it seems like we still  
17 need to have two tours.

18 MR. AMIRALI: Right.

19 MR. ROGERS: Would the Committee members want  
20 their own vehicles in Quartzsite?

21 CHMN. CHENAL: Probably. As opposed to a bus  
22 or something? I think probably.

23 MR. ROGERS: We'll come up with a proposal.

24 MS. GRABEL: We'll come back with a proposal.

25 MR. ROGERS: I would want my own car in

1 Quartzsite too.

2 CHMN. CHENAL: I'm going to say yes.

3 MS. COBB: Mr. Chairman, Gary has arrived.

4 CHMN. CHENAL: So we're looking at a tour in  
5 Phoenix probably the 23rd.

6 MS. GRABEL: Okay.

7 CHMN. CHENAL: And Quartzsite probably the  
8 afternoon of the 27th.

9 MS. GRABEL: Sorry, I have to feed my meter.

10 MR. AMIRALI: She stays. I go.

11 CHMN. CHENAL: That's okay. We prosecute  
12 people out there who ...

13 MS. GRABEL: I'm abiding by the law in front of  
14 the AG's office. That's for sure.

15 CHMN. CHENAL: All right. So I think we're  
16 talking about a Phoenix tour the 23rd and Quartzsite the  
17 afternoon of the 27th.

18 MS. GRABEL: All right.

19 CHMN. CHENAL: And I think we can make it as  
20 efficient as we can. We don't have to go through the  
21 entire part. As long as you can see a cross section as  
22 we go, that's fine.

23 MR. ROGERS: I do think it would be beneficial  
24 to get into the Copper Bottom Pass area.

25 CHMN. CHENAL: Yes. The helicopter is

1 intriguing. I don't know if that's going to fit into the  
2 process.

3 MS. GRABEL: Chairman, would you be amenable to  
4 starting the hearing in Phoenix at 9 a.m. or 10 a.m. as  
5 opposed to 1?

6 CHMN. CHENAL: Sure.

7 MS. GRABEL: Which?

8 CHMN. CHENAL: 10. But we're going to need  
9 hotel accommodations the night before for out of state.  
10 And I think that makes sense in Phoenix. Not in  
11 Quartzsite, but in Phoenix. I think it makes sense  
12 because the tours are going to take up a little more  
13 time. So we can do that.

14 All right. Anything more on the tours?

15 I think, generally, we have an idea what it's  
16 going to look like, but you can fine-tune it and come up  
17 with an agenda or itinerary of a tour. It would probably  
18 involve buses.

19 MR. ROGERS: We'll have buses for the part that  
20 we cover Delaney. We'll probably transition to multiple  
21 off-road SUVs for the part south of Quartzsite just  
22 because buses won't take those roads. So we'll travel  
23 and meet as a group, on the record, and go from there.

24 CHMN. CHENAL: How would the helicopter fit  
25 into this? As a pilot, I'm kind of curious.

1 MR. ROGERS: I've done these in helicopter, and  
2 it's -- you would need to break up your Committee because  
3 it can only hold a certain amount of people. But the  
4 tour -- I would propose that we simply -- we take off  
5 from probably the airport right there in Quartzsite.  
6 There's a helipad. And we fly east, and then we fly  
7 back. And one of our team would be there all the time to  
8 narrate points of interest, field questions. But you  
9 would probably have to do the same flight multiple times  
10 with different passengers.

11 CHMN. CHENAL: Here's the problem with that.  
12 We have to have everything on the record. And I can  
13 imagine the court reporter trying to -- flying through  
14 the air and taking this all down. That would be amazing.

15 MR. ROGERS: It's challenging.

16 CHMN. CHENAL: So as tantalizing as that is, I  
17 think that would be a little difficult.

18 MS. JGERENAIA: Could we record it and then  
19 transcribe it?

20 MS. GRABEL: We could do that, sure. There's  
21 nothing wrong with that. No problem. We could record it  
22 and transcribe it.

23 CHMN. CHENAL: Record it and transcribe it.

24 MR. ROGERS: We could probably hook up a  
25 recording device on the mics of the helicopter. Everyone

1 will have ear protection and microphones. The person  
2 talking would broadcast it throughout the system of the  
3 helicopter so everybody can hear what they're saying.

4 I don't know for sure if it's technologically  
5 possible, but we can look into installing some sort of  
6 recording device that catches all of the communication,  
7 verbal communication, that's done. But we need to look  
8 at that.

9 MS. GRABEL: We can make it part of our  
10 proposal.

11 CHMN. CHENAL: What I don't know is who would  
12 be interested on the Committee to do that. I bet there  
13 would be some that would. But it would probably have to  
14 be all or none. Those that want to take the tour would  
15 do it. You can't have a bus or a helicopter.

16 I'd sure like to have that as an option, and I  
17 appreciate the offer.

18 What would the Phoenix area side look like?  
19 Would that also lend itself to a helicopter tour?

20 MR. ROGERS: Oh, if we're going to get into a  
21 helicopter, we'll do the entire project twice. We'll fly  
22 the whole route one way, we'll fly it back to the other  
23 end, and fly to our return. We would do the whole thing.

24 CHMN. CHENAL: I see. So you'd start in  
25 Quartzsite, go all the way to Phoenix, and come back?

1 MR. ROGERS: Come back.

2 And then go to the other end, probably fly all  
3 the way to Blythe because it's only a little more, and  
4 come back to Quartzsite.

5 CHMN. CHENAL: Beautiful.

6 Now, how big is the helicopter?

7 MS. GRABEL: Eight.

8 MR. ROGERS: Maximum.

9 CHMN. CHENAL: But it will hold eight?

10 MR. ROGERS: We'll have to see what model is  
11 available.

12 MS. GRABEL: Actually, he told me that two are  
13 available.

14 MR. ROGERS: Okay. Then that's the answer,  
15 eight people. Does that include the pilot? I assume so.

16 So that would be seven, six Committee members  
17 if there's a person from the project team.

18 CHMN. CHENAL: Could you have two helicopters  
19 or just one?

20 MS. GRABEL: Two.

21 CHMN. CHENAL: So you could accommodate  
22 everyone in one trip.

23 MR. ROGERS: The risk there is you have a  
24 different narrator describing the project. It could be a  
25 slightly different description. It will probably be a

1 different description from flight to flight just the way  
2 the questions go, but everybody will hear the answers.

3 MR. CREW: They would see the record.

4 CHMN. CHENAL: Or we have a script.

5 MS. GRABEL: Script is a good idea.

6 CHMN. CHENAL: Or we have a script that's read  
7 to denote the points, and that's all -- there's no  
8 questions till we get back. That way, everything is  
9 uniform.

10 Let's throw that in as an option, and we'll  
11 poll the Committee to see.

12 MR. BARNES: Mr. Chairman, if I might, do you  
13 have any idea how long it would take to get in the  
14 helicopter and do the length and land again? Can we do  
15 that like we were going to do our normal tour on the 27th  
16 in the afternoon?

17 MR. ROGERS: I imagine you could do it in two  
18 hours of flying time.

19 MR. BARNES: If that were possible, then we  
20 could begin the tour on Monday afternoon in Quartzsite  
21 and be back in time for the public hearing.

22 MR. CREW: Assuming you get both helicopters at  
23 once.

24 MR. AMIRALI: I just checked. Both helicopters  
25 are available on the 27th.

1 CHMN. CHENAL: And that would mean we wouldn't  
2 need to have a tour in Phoenix. So that would actually  
3 free up a lot of time. And we still have a virtual tour  
4 for those that don't want to take a tour. I think that's  
5 a beautiful solution.

6 MS. GRABEL: We'll draw up two proposals, one  
7 for driving and one for helicopter.

8 CHMN. CHENAL: Prehearing conference. We have  
9 January 15th at 1:30 p.m.

10 Are there any disputes or litigation regarding  
11 the project?

12 MS. GRABEL: No, sir.

13 CHMN. CHENAL: Procedural order will be very  
14 similar to the past procedural orders. I think there's  
15 one additional -- a couple things we'll have to address  
16 that will be new in the procedural order.

17 One, we're going to have the transcripts remain  
18 on the project website until the final order from the  
19 Corporation Commission because we've had a project or two  
20 where people pull it down right after our -- you know,  
21 and there's always the -- we need a little more time. So  
22 I'll work on some language there.

23 The other thing is, on your public outreach,  
24 have you consolidated the public comment with  
25 stakeholders? You're going to have testimony on your

1 outreach program, and I'm sure you've taken public  
2 comment through the various sources, websites, public  
3 meeting, town halls, whatever. I'm sure you've had  
4 meetings with legislators, Commission, all that.

5 Do you have, like, a spreadsheet that  
6 consolidates all those efforts?

7 MR. AMIRALI: We do.

8 CHMN. CHENAL: And without having anything  
9 privileged in there, more and more, the Committee is  
10 asking for something like that to be able to see very  
11 quickly what the comments were. And so I'm going to ask  
12 that one be prepared. I didn't want to order it without  
13 you having it. But since you have it, we'll have that or  
14 something similar to that as an exhibit.

15 MS. GRABEL: We actually anticipated filing it  
16 as our Exhibit J.

17 CHMN. CHENAL: Perfect.

18 We talked about public comments.

19 Draft CEC. You indicated you have one,  
20 actually.

21 MS. GRABEL: I do, yes.

22 CHMN. CHENAL: This will be Exhibit 5.

23 (Exhibit 5 was marked.)

24 MS. GRABEL: What this draft lacks but the one  
25 that we file will have is the latest cases from which we

1 took each condition. I know that's something you like.

2 CHMN. CHENAL: Yeah.

3 MS. GRABEL: Based on our past experience with  
4 you, we've included all of the conditions and believe  
5 that this project probably fits most of them. And so  
6 we'll just leave them all in there so that we can redline  
7 them that very day in the CEC deliberations.

8 CHMN. CHENAL: All right. And when you do,  
9 we'd like to see track changes where these have -- the  
10 ones you're proposing are different than the ones you've  
11 taken from a previous case, they have track line changes  
12 to show what changes you made.

13 MS. GRABEL: Yes. And what I was trying to  
14 communicate and didn't do very well, we won't change  
15 them. We'll just keep them as is.

16 CHMN. CHENAL: Very good.

17 We'd like a Word version of that as well.

18 MS. GRABEL: Okay.

19 CHMN. CHENAL: Permitting. Are there any -- I  
20 went through the federal -- you have an EIS?

21 MS. GRABEL: Yes.

22 CHMN. CHENAL: The NEPA process.

23 Are there any other permits required in  
24 addition to the CEC? Can you summarize what others are  
25 necessary and where you are with obtaining those, please.

1 MS. GRABEL: Certainly. We have the  
2 California-required permits. And, actually, I'm going to  
3 ask either Ali or Lowell to give the details.

4 MR. AMIRALI: So we have already filed an  
5 application for the Certificate of Public Convenience and  
6 Necessity with the California Public Utilities  
7 Commission. We have already had two prehearing  
8 conferences on this matter.

9 We are going to be filing our testimony in that  
10 procedure on December the 16th, with intervenor testimony  
11 due sometime in mid-March of 2020 and potential hearings  
12 happening between May of 2020 and July of 2020.

13 And that process is expected to be completed  
14 sometime in late Q3 and early Q4 of 2020.

15 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay. And that's the  
16 California?

17 MR. AMIRALI: That's the California.

18 Lowell, do we have any other permits necessary?

19 MR. ROGERS: No. Discretionary action.

20 CHMN. CHENAL: So the only permits you would  
21 require would be -- would there be construction permits  
22 or dust ...

23 MR. ROGERS: We'll get a Notice to Proceed from  
24 the BLM federal lands, and that will be coming out of our  
25 right-of-way authorization. All of the conditions that

1 were in the FEIS will be met before we can proceed for  
2 that work.

3 We have a similar process through Arizona State  
4 Land.

5 Do you want to talk to that?

6 MR. CREW: It's primarily a right-of-way  
7 authorization that looks at the federal environmental  
8 documents as well. But it's primarily an authorization  
9 that just provides a right-of-way. So that process would  
10 be completed well before the California process.

11 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay. I assume there's no  
12 permitting process with Quartzsite, the City of  
13 Quartzsite?

14 MR. AMIRALI: No.

15 CHMN. CHENAL: Is there anything with Maricopa  
16 County or La Paz County that's required that you're aware  
17 of?

18 MS. GRABEL: Not that we're aware of.

19 CHMN. CHENAL: All right.

20 As to the hearing venues, we like robust WiFi.  
21 There's nothing worse. I'm not thinking the Sheridan is  
22 going to be an issue, but we like to have robust WiFi in  
23 the hearing venues.

24 Also, it's not an obligation, but we've had a  
25 lot of applicants provide iPads or Surfaces with the

1 documents loaded. So if that's something you would  
2 consider, I'll tell you, it's appreciated by the  
3 Committee.

4 MS. GRABEL: We'll do that.

5 CHMN. CHENAL: It's interesting to see the  
6 change where there were piles of binders. Now it's just  
7 the tablets, with the exception of one member. We're in  
8 new technology rules.

9 MS. GRABEL: We can have binders and cookies.

10 CHMN. CHENAL: I think that's probably what I  
11 needed to cover.

12 Are there any -- do you have any issues or  
13 concerns or questions that I can answer or we can  
14 discuss?

15 MS. GRABEL: Are there any issues that you  
16 think we should specifically address in our testimony or  
17 be prepared for the Committee members to ask?

18 CHMN. CHENAL: I think they're going to be very  
19 interested in what the purpose is of this line, why it's  
20 necessary, what the need is. It goes to need. And how  
21 it's going to be used, you know, for the flows on the  
22 line.

23 We've had a number of renewable energy hearings  
24 recently. Not long ago, we don't -- there's a wind farm  
25 in Northern Arizona south of Winslow, and we dealt with

1 the gen-tie line there. But there was a lot of interest  
2 in the renewable energy and how, you know, you need to  
3 fill in -- there's the duck curve. You have to fill in  
4 that power from other sources.

5 We've had two data center cases that use huge  
6 amounts of power that were very interesting.

7 So I think it's going to be important to  
8 describe the reason for the lines and, you know, the  
9 users, the end users, things like that.

10 MR. AMIRALI: Uh-huh.

11 CHMN. CHENAL: There would have been a lot of  
12 issues with -- or questions or concerns with the  
13 wilderness area, but you're bypassing that.

14 So nothing I've heard so far leads me to  
15 believe there's going to be anything other than the need  
16 for the project.

17 MS. GRABEL: Okay. Do you anticipate that all  
18 of the Committee members will attend?

19 CHMN. CHENAL: I don't remember.

20 MS. COBB: I think we have a full Committee.  
21 I'll double-check, but I think we have a full Committee  
22 because we tried to work around schedules.

23 MR. BARNES: Mr. Chairman, I recollect that in  
24 the other interstate sitings that you've done, like  
25 SunZia and Southline, that the Committee had questions

1 about how they related to the other state, like which  
2 came first and was one dependent on the other and what  
3 happened if one didn't perform and that sort of thing.  
4 So I imagine we'll find all those questions as well.

5 CHMN. CHENAL: That's a good point. And some  
6 of that was because of the source of generation.

7 In some respect, SunZia was a huge gen-tie line  
8 bringing wind power from New Mexico into Phoenix. And  
9 then there was a discussion about whether the power was  
10 going to Phoenix or being shipped through to California.  
11 That certainly was an area of inquiry and questions.

12 So that's all part of what -- I probably didn't  
13 say that directly, but that's all part of what is the  
14 need for this line and how does it benefit Arizona.

15 MR. BARNES: In that spirit, how do you score  
16 the Committee's interest in California ratepayers paying  
17 for this project and what that means? Is that anything  
18 other than a box check of who's paying for this?

19 CHMN. CHENAL: I don't know.

20 MR. BARNES: Or is it more complicated than  
21 that? Do you have any instinct?

22 CHMN. CHENAL: I won't talk about the  
23 Committee. It's of interest to me that California's  
24 ratepayers are paying for it and not Arizona ratepayers.  
25 But I'm not going to talk about it with the other

1 Committee members. I mean, I'm not sure we've had a case  
2 just like this.

3 MR. BARNES: This is a special one. This is  
4 different.

5 CHMN. CHENAL: So we seem to be having a number  
6 of those. I think it's part of the renewable energy and  
7 the -- not chaos in the industry, but the change in the  
8 industry. The coal plants shutting down. It just seems  
9 to be a shift, and this is all part of that shift.

10 So I think this is a great -- this will be a  
11 very interesting project. I know I'm looking forward to  
12 hearing it, and I know -- I've talked to some of the  
13 Committee members, and they're interested in hearing this  
14 and looking forward to it. And I haven't even told them  
15 yet about the helicopter ride.

16 I'm available anytime. This is a big project.  
17 And I know some of you have come far to come here today,  
18 so I appreciate that. If there are questions that come  
19 up, please, just let us know, and we'll make ourselves  
20 available and try to make this as convenient as possible  
21 for you guys.

22 MS. PALMER: In terms of the meeting room, I'm  
23 not so much worried about the Sheraton, but the other one  
24 in the RV park in Quartzsite, did the Committee members  
25 need an additional space, either/or both of those, to

1 kind of convene or anything? Or is it just the one --

2 CHMN. CHENAL: That's a good point. No, we  
3 don't.

4 But I wanted to talk about food arrangements.  
5 We haven't talked about that. I don't know if the  
6 Super 8 in Quartzsite -- normally, we have breakfast and  
7 lunch provided.

8 MS. GRABEL: We'll still do that.

9 CHMN. CHENAL: And dinner we've just done on  
10 our own. That's what the Committee prefers.

11 MS. GRABEL: There are local restaurants where  
12 we can get lunch catered from, and we can just bring  
13 bagels that morning from Phoenix.

14 CHMN. CHENAL: I would say we don't need a  
15 room. And, in fact, I would discourage that because we  
16 have to do things on the record. And we just monitor  
17 people, make sure -- don't talk about the case. We don't  
18 want to have all the members sitting in a room at the  
19 same time behind locked doors. So I would frown on that,  
20 actually.

21 MS. GRABEL: Okay.

22 CHMN. CHENAL: We'll cover some things before  
23 the prehearing conference. That's right before the dates  
24 we've selected. Again, we'll have some communications  
25 about the tour, I'm sure. If something comes up, let me

1 know.

2 Other than that, I don't have any further  
3 questions, and we've covered what's on my list.

4 Do you have anything, anyone?

5 MS. COBB: I do have a -- will there be a  
6 different map that excludes the Kofa reserve route?

7 MR. AMIRALI: Yeah, we'll have a new map.

8 MS. COBB: And on prefiling Exhibit No. 3,  
9 there's a road that goes through Brenda. Are there any  
10 signs anticipated along that route?

11 MS. GRABEL: We anticipated signs where the  
12 little push pins are.

13 MR. ROGERS: So the closest the project is to  
14 Brenda is a 12kV distribution line three miles in length.  
15 You see the white star on our map. And it goes to just  
16 the other side of the freeway and connects to another  
17 existing 12kV line that provides station power to the  
18 SCS. That's as close as we get to Brenda, just for  
19 context sake.

20 MS. COBB: I think the road that goes through  
21 there is Route 60 that shoots off of the 10. That's  
22 where I was wondering if maybe there would be signs along  
23 that, or at least where it intersects with the 10,  
24 because that route, the proposed route, goes kind of  
25 along there.

1 MR. ROGERS: There is a BLM parking lot for  
2 off-road vehicles just the other side of our SCS station.  
3 How about a sign there?

4 MR. AMIRALI: By the way, ma'am, SCS is Series  
5 Compensation Station.

6 MR. ROGERS: And we have about a three-mile  
7 12kV transmission line tie-in in that area. Right in  
8 that area, there's a parking lot for off-road users.

9 CHMN. CHENAL: Is this on Exhibit 3?

10 MR. ROGERS: Right about there.

11 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay. So just -- I don't know  
12 the scale of miles as to this, but just a little  
13 southwest of Brenda as located on Exhibit 3. Can you  
14 tell me where that would be on Exhibit 1?

15 MR. ROGERS: Right where that dot is.

16 CHMN. CHENAL: Oh, the star.

17 MR. ROGERS: The star. Just on the other side,  
18 north of the freeway.

19 CHMN. CHENAL: That would seem to make sense to  
20 put one there as well. So that would be No. 10.

21 MS. GRABEL: 11.

22 MR. AMIRALI: No. 11.

23 MR. CREW: Just to your prior question about  
24 the route diagram, there's actually one on the back page  
25 of the draft Notice of Hearing. Again, we'll provide the

1 right one, but just so you see there's actually one with  
2 the actual route right on the back.

3 MR. ANCHARSKI: Exhibit 2.

4 MS. GRABEL: If you look on the second page,  
5 Chairman, there are ten listed. I think the tenth is  
6 maybe not showing on this map.

7 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay. Got it.

8 Okay. So just to clarify the record,  
9 Exhibit 3, second page has a series of sign numbers, 1  
10 through 10. I think only nine are shown on the front  
11 page.

12 MS. GRABEL: We'll fix that.

13 CHMN. CHENAL: And then the 11th will be where  
14 it was just described on Route 60.

15 MS. GRABEL: And I think for the hearing, it  
16 might be helpful to superimpose the line.

17 CHMN. CHENAL: All right. Anything further?

18 MS. GRABEL: I don't think so.

19 CHMN. CHENAL: Going once, going twice.

20 All right. Meeting adjourned.

21 (The prefiling conference concluded at

22 3:20 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  
6 the best of my skill and ability; that the proceedings  
7 were taken down by me in shorthand and thereafter reduced  
8 to print under my direction.

9                    I CERTIFY that I am in no way related to any of  
10 the parties hereto nor am I in any way interested in the  
11 outcome hereof.

12                   I CERTIFY that I have complied with the ethical  
13 obligations set forth in ACJA 7-206(F)(3) and ACJA  
14 7-206(J)(1)(g)(1) and (2). Dated at Phoenix, Arizona,  
15 this 25th day of November, 2019.

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CAROLYN T. SULLIVAN, RPR  
Arizona Certified Reporter  
No. 50528

1                    I CERTIFY that COASH & COASH, INC., has complied  
2 with the ethical obligations set forth in ACJA  
3 7-206(J)(1)(g)(1) through (6).

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