1 1 BEFORE THE STATE OF WASHINGTON 2 ENERGY FACILITY SITING EVALUATION COUNCIL 3 4 IN THE MATTER OF THE) APPLICATION OF:) 5 6 SCOUT CLEAN ENERGY, LLC, FOR) NO. EF-210011 7 HORSE HEAVEN WIND FARM, LLC,)) 8 Applicant.) 9 10 DEPOSITION UPON ORAL EXAMINATION OF 11 DAVID KOBUS 12 Benton County Public Services Building (Large Conference Room) 13 102206 E Wiser Parkway Kennewick, WA 99336 14 15 FRIDAY, JULY 21, 2023 11:05 A.M. 16 17 18 TAKEN AT THE INSTANCE OF THE APPLICANT 19 20 21 REPORTED BY: 22 MONNA J. NICKESON, RPR, CRR, CCR, CSR CA 14430 TRI-CITIES COURT REPORTER SERVICE, LLC. 23 509.942.8477 MONNA@TRICITIESREPORTING.COM 24 25

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1	INDEX	
2	IN RE: SCOUT CLEAN ENERGY CASE NO. EF-210011	
3	FRIDAY, JULY 21, 2023	
4	WITNESS: DAVID KOBUS	PAGE
5	EXAMINATION BY MR. ARAMBURU: EXAMINATION BY MS. VOELCKERS:	5 138
6	EXAMINATION BY MS. FOSTER: EXAMINATION BY MR. ARAMBURU:	192 211
7	EXAMINATION BI MR. ARAMBURU.	
8	EXHIBITS	
9	NUMBER DESCRIPTION	PAGE
10	Exhibit 1 Horse Heaven Wind Farm Updated ASC Redline	11
11	Exhibit 2 Letter from Mr. Ritter to EFSEC 1/31/2022	175
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		

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5 1 BE IT REMEMBERED that on FRIDAY, 2 JULY 21, 2023, at 11:05 A.M., the deposition of DAVID KOBUS was taken before 3 Monna J. Nickeson, Certified Realtime 4 5 Reporter, Registered Professional Reporter, 6 Certified Livenote Reporter, Certified 7 Court Reporter (WA 3322), Certified Shorthand Reporter (ID 1045), (OR 16-0441), 8 9 (CA 14430), the following proceedings took 10 place: DAVID KOBUS 11 12 having been first duly sworn to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, 13 testified as follows: 14 EXAMINATION 15 16 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 17 Mr. Kobus, would you state your full Ο. name and business address? 18 19 David Kobus, D-a-v-i-d, K-o-b-u-s. Α. 20 My business address is 1385 Cortland Avenue, 21 Richland, Washington. 2.2 I'm Richard Aramburu. I'm the Ο. 23 attorney for Tri-Cities C.A.R.E.S, one of the 24 intervenors in the EFSEC proceeding. We're 25 here today to take your deposition.

6 1 Have you ever had your deposition 2 taken before? No, I have not. 3 Α. Okay. Let me just, and with 4 Ο. 5 permission of your counsel, try to talk about 6 some ground rules as we go through the 7 deposition. So, first of all, we can't talk over 8 9 each other because the court reporter has 10 difficulty taking down both of us speaking at the same time. So if you will allow me to --11 12 even though you may think you know the answer 13 before I finish it, let me finish my question, and then we'll give you time to finish your 14 15 answer. So let's not talk over each other, 16 okay? 17 And if you don't understand the question that's being asked to you, let me know 18 19 right away, and I'll try to reformulate the 20 question, put it in clearer terms, but please 21 let me know. We don't want to have any 2.2 confusion later on. 23 This deposition will be transcribed. 24 It may be used for various purposes. It may be 25 used as a part of the EFSEC proceedings. So

7 1 you should consider the things that you're 2 saying today may become a part of the record before EFSEC. 3 You're not permitted under the 4 5 rules, the Civil Rules for Superior Court, to 6 confer with your counsel after I have asked you 7 a question. You can't ask her, so what do you think of the question, how should I answer, 8 9 those kinds of things. Outside of that, you 10 can confer with her as you like. 11 We're starting at 11:00 today. Ιf 12 you need a break at any time, you just let me 13 know and we'll do that. I would like to do 14 this in one fell swoop, so to speak, if we can, 15 but let's -- we'll see how it goes. 16 I understand counsel for Benton 17 County and for Yakima will also have questions 18 for you as time goes by. 19 So do you understand those kind of 20 parameters we're talking about? 21 Α. I do. 2.2 Okay. Okay. Well, let's get Q. started, then. 23 24 I don't know a great deal about you, 25 Mr. Kobus. Could you tell us your education

8 1 and background professional experience? 2 Α. Sure. Education-wise, I have a bachelor's in nuclear technology and a master's 3 in engineering management. My background is I 4 5 worked for -- well, I was in the Navy for eight 6 and a half years in the Navy nuclear program. 7 Then came to work -- well, I worked in the nuclear industry, ultimately came to 8 9 work for Energy Northwest here, and held 10 various positions out at the nuclear plant. And eventually transitioned into being their 11 12 project manager, developer for renewable energy 13 projects. And ended up developing the Nine 14 Canyon Wind Project, which was built in three 15 phases, permitted through the county. And then, after leaving Energy 16 17 Northwest, I was in the financial services industry for a while. And then, eventually, 18 19 hired on with Scout Clean Energy, and am now 20 the project manager for the Horse Heaven Clean 21 Energy Center. 2.2 Q. And when did you come to work for 23 Scout? 24 Α. 2018. 25 And you indicated -- were you the Q.

9 1 project manager for the Nine Canyon project? 2 Α. I was. Developer, project manager, 3 yes. 4 And are you a licensed professional Ο. 5 engineer? 6 Α. I am not. 7 Before you came to work for Scout, Q. had you worked -- outside of Nine Canyon, had 8 9 you worked on any other projects in the Horse 10 Heaven Hills, wind projects? Not in the Horse Heaven Hills, no. 11 Α. 12 But for Energy Northwest, I was developing 13 projects all over the Pacific Northwest for them. Some -- one was sold to Avista, and 14 15 others just did not come to fruition. 16 Q. Okay. And do you recall a Columbia 17 project in the Horse Heaven Hills? 18 Sure. It's the first time I met my Α. 19 CEO, Michael Rucker. He was working for 20 Clipper Windpower and was marketing a project 21 that they were trying to develop on the BLM 2.2 land initially is where they started trying to 23 develop. 24 And so we were looking at and 25 engaged for, you know, many weeks trying to see

10 1 if that project was something that Energy 2 Northwest was willing to partner up, so to 3 speak, with Clipper Windpower to build a wind 4 project there. What's the time frame of that? 5 Ο. 6 Α. That would have been 2010, somewhere 7 around 2009, 2010. And where was -- and that was the 8 Ο. 9 Columbia project, correct? Is that what we're 10 talking about, the same thing? Yeah, that's what was the name of it 11 Α. 12 at that time. Yeah. 13 Q. And give me a general geographic 14 description of the Columbia project. 15 Α. Well --16 Q. You might do it in relation to 17 this -- the project we're here. Is it part of it, some of it, is it --18 It's part of it, but the Columbia 19 Α. 20 project also included the BLM land, which is 21 the higher ground which goes over towards 2.2 Benton City and over to Chandler Butte. And that was about the extent of it. 23 24 I actually had wind leases west of 25 that on that same ridge line for Energy

11 1 Northwest. And so I was looking at combining 2 the project I was developing further west with what Clipper was developing along the BLM area 3 and partially on what now is part of the Horse 4 5 Heaven leasehold that we're trying to develop. 6 Q. And was the Columbia project -- is 7 the land for the Columbia project now part of 8 the -- this project? 9 My understanding is yes. I know one Α. 10 landowner that was part of Columbia that we have a lease with. But, you know, to be honest 11 12 with you, I really don't remember what was all 13 in the Columbia footprint. 14 Q. Okay. Thank you. Thank you. 15 So, today, we're going to have a 16 number of questions about the updated ASC. And 17 I have put in front of you what's been marked as Exhibit 1 for this deposition. 18 19 (Exhibit 1 was identified.) 20 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 21 And I will represent to you and to Q. 2.2 your counsel that we downloaded this paper copy from the EFSEC website, and we have downloaded 23 24 the redline version of the amended ASC. 25 MR. ARAMBURU: And, Counsel, is

12 1 there any objection to this document being 2 used by the witness? 3 MS. PERLMUTTER: No. Based on your 4 representation that it was -- that it's the 5 document you downloaded from the EFSEC 6 website, we're good to go. 7 BY MR. ARAMBURU: And you also notice when you open it 8 Q. 9 that it's double-sided, so we're trying to save 10 a little paper here. So we have a number of questions 11 12 about the amended ASC, as I will refer to it. 13 And can you tell me who wrote the document? Yeah, sure. It was Tetra Tech was 14 Α. 15 our primary contributor who prepared the 16 redline under my guidance. 17 Okay. So we have redline portions Ο. of the document, and those were amended from 18 19 the original February 2021 application; is that 20 correct? 21 Α. Correct, yes. 2.2 And who wrote the original Ο. 23 application? 24 Α. Tetra Tech did as well under my 25 guidance.

13 1 And were any portions of the Ο. 2 application that were written by anyone else, other than Tetra Tech? 3 There were contributors to it, like, 4 Α. 5 various section -- for example, the wildlife 6 section, Western Ecosystems contributed to 7 that. And then there were various functional areas within Tetra Tech that also contributed 8 9 expertise related to various sections in the 10 document. And did you write any sections of 11 Ο. 12 the document yourself? 13 Α. There may have been paragraphs or 14 sections, like, for example, looking at 15 alternatives to the proposal we were making and describing -- you know, being the initial 16 17 author of describing what those alternatives were and how they were evaluated. 18 19 And then, from that point on, it was 20 a collaborative effort from the team that, you 21 know, any of us could have added redlines and 2.2 scrubbed content that was provided by Tetra 23 Tech. 24 But -- so there were a few sections 25 that I was the original author. For the most

	14
1	part, I relied on Tetra Tech to author the
2	majority of it because of their extensive
3	expertise in, you know, many projects,
4	different regions, and having a lot of talent
5	readily available to contribute that
6	information.
7	Q. Okay. I don't want to put words in
8	your mouth, and feel free to disagree with my
9	characterization.
10	Would it be fair to call you the
11	editor of the document?
12	A. It would. I had the last word on
13	it.
14	Q. Okay. Okay. Good. Good.
15	Now, did the lawyers review the
16	document?
17	A. Yes, absolutely.
18	Q. And did the lawyers write I'm
19	talking about lawyers, counsel for Scout, did
20	the lawyers write any sections of the
21	amended of the updated ASC?
22	MS. PERLMUTTER: I'm going to object
23	on the grounds on privilege grounds.
24	You don't have to answer that question.
25	MR. ARAMBURU: Counsel, I'm simply

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15 1 asking whether lawyers did it. I'm not asking for particulars regarding what the 2 lawyers did. I'm simply asking whether the 3 lawyers were involved. I think that's a 4 5 fair question. 6 MS. PERLMUTTER: It calls for work 7 product, but you can answer. THE WITNESS: Okay. There were 8 9 contributions in the form of redlines. Ι 10 do not recall any original authoring material. 11 12 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 13 Q. Okay. So if we look through here, 14 some of the redline provisions could have been 15 authored by lawyers? 16 Yeah. You know, we approached this Α. 17 at a team effort. We wanted to make sure that we had, you know, the best available 18 19 information to fully capture what we believed 20 was a document that, you know, in our attempt 21 would be, you know, above reproach and, you 2.2 know, best available that EFSEC has seen. 23 Let me -- as kind of an example Ο. 24 here, there's a section in the document about 25 land use. And that's -- I'm going to use those

16 1 today as well, Mr. Kobus. 2 Yeah. Give me a page number. Α. 3 So what we've done is we've divided Q. up into the sections 1, 2, 3, 4. So this 4 5 would -- we're now looking at page 2-7. 6 Α. Okay. 7 And towards the bottom of that page, Q. 8 under section 2.1.3, there's a reference to 9 land use and zoning ordinances; do you see 10 that? 11 Yes. Α. 12 Q. And then it goes on to the next 13 page. 14 Α. Okay. 15 Q. Do you know who wrote that? I am certain Tetra Tech wrote the 16 Α. 17 basic draft, and then I know I probably diddled 18 with it a bit as well, redlined, you know. 19 And you generally described the Q. 20 nature of the process in drafting and 21 finalizing --2.2 Α. Yes. 23 -- the amended ASC. Ο. 24 Was there any input from any 25 potential purchasers of the project to the

17 1 updated ASC? 2 MS. PERLMUTTER: Object as to --3 THE WITNESS: No. 4 MS. PERLMUTTER: Object as to form. 5 You can answer the question. 6 THE WITNESS: No. 7 BY MR. ARAMBURU: And were any utilities consulted 8 Q. 9 about the content of the ASC? 10 You know, we -- in marketing the Α. project, we market to any potential offtaker, 11 12 any potential purchaser, for the entire time we 13 develop these projects. 14 And so we had many, many 15 conversations with regional utilities, 16 commercial and industrial potential offtakers. 17 I even had conversations with Benton PUD. 18 And so, in the process, we consider 19 designing the project and developing it so it 20 is the most attractive type of project that we 21 can put together for that mass market to try 2.2 and capture the best fit offtaker for the 23 project. But in no uncertain terms, there's no 24 input from potential offtakers in this 25 document.

18 1 Okay. You indicated that you had a Ο. conversation with someone from Benton PUD? 2 Correct. 3 Α. And can you tell me who that was? 4 Ο. 5 Α. Rick Dunn. 6 And can you tell me the nature of Q. 7 the conversation? We were, at one point, considering 8 Α. 9 utilizing right-of-way easements that they have 10 for their system, and the possibility of co-locating transmission lines in their 11 12 easements, as well as the possibility of 13 engaging in -- I forget the exact terminology 14 for it, but a cooperative agreement where we 15 could work together in finding ways that we 16 could collaborate on the project relative to 17 the infrastructure and relative to potential interest that the PUD might have to become part 18 19 of it. 20 Q. Can you be a little more specific 21 about was there -- well, let me ask this 2.2 question. 23 I offered them a draft agreement Α. 24 that said, here's what we can do for you. 25 Here's what you can do for us. Here's what

19 1 we'll offer to pay you for your service. 2 Please sign or tell me what change you'd make. 3 And what --Q. 4 It was to that extent. Α. 5 Ο. Excuse me. I'm violating my own 6 rule here. 7 MS. PERLMUTTER: Happens all the time. 8 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 9 10 And was that an agreement to acquire Q. the entire project? 11 12 Α. No, no. At that point, it was an 13 agreement to work together on potential 14 infrastructure sharing and finding the most 15 optimal economical way to interconnect the 16 project with the Bonneville grid. 17 So you were going to possibly share Ο. 18 Benton County easements? 19 Sure. I'll give you an example. Α. 20 The City of Richland and Benton County were 21 working together to supply or provide a high 2.2 voltage transmission line in the Dallas Road 23 area. 24 And the City of Richland built the 25 line to a terminus and it was never energized.

	20
1	So it's a 115 high voltage line sitting out
2	there alongside the highway. Was a great
3	opportunity for us to potentially co-locate
4	transmission to be able to interconnect with
5	the Bonneville grid.
6	And it did not become fruitful. The
7	PUD chose not to work with us on it. The City
8	of Richland indicated that if we could do
9	something with the PUD, then they'd maybe be
10	interested and talk to us about it. But the
11	PUD kind of changed their whole approach after
12	that.
13	Q. So was there ever a proposal to
14	acquire power from Benton PUD?
15	A. Yes.
16	Q. And what was the nature of that
17	proposal?
18	A. That, you know, offtakes available,
19	you know. If you're interested, we'd be
20	willing to talk about it.
21	Q. My question was, was there ever
22	discussion that Scout would buy power from
23	Benton PUD?
24	A. Well, for sure. And those
25	discussions are ongoing and continue because,

21 1 you know, understand that when we locate a 2 collector substation in a utility territory, we're going want backup service from the local 3 distribution system in the event we become 4 5 disconnected from the grid. We're going to need power to run the 6 7 SCADA, you know, keep all the metering energized, run the air conditioners. We also 8 9 need back feed service from the grid to power 10 the heaters and oil pumps and those sorts of 11 things when there's no wind on the system. 12 And so the way Bonneville 13 orchestrates those contracts is that we 14 actually sign up to interconnect with the grid, 15 but then we also have to have an agreement with 16 the PUD to provide that back feed service. 17 Because Bonneville won't deal directly with us, it has to go through the local PUD. 18 19 So, in fact, if at the end of the 20 month we net -- actually haven't drawn power 21 from the grid in the form of back feed, we have 2.2 to pay the PUD for that. And so that's ongoing 23 for the life of the project. 24 And we also have crossing agreements 25 that we're going to have to have with the PUD.

22 1 We're going to cross their distribution. We're 2 actually going to have to bury and reroute some of their distribution so that it is -- we have 3 the appropriate setbacks and meet their 4 5 criteria for proximity to their infrastructure. 6 So it's an ongoing relationship. 7 And I've been working -- Pat, in fact, and I, have been meeting with the PUD, and we have --8 9 the next step in our process is that I have to 10 offer them an easement agreement and designate everywhere where we're going to cross or have 11 to move their infrastructure. 12 13 Q. So has there been discussions with 14 the PUD to acquire power from them to use for, 15 for example, the batteries? 16 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Asked 17 and answered. You can answer. 18 THE WITNESS: Yeah, one of the 19 things with the battery storage portion of 20 the system is you have the option of 21 charging it from the output of the wind 2.2 project, charging it from the solar 23 project, or charging it from the grid. 24 And so we discussed and entertained 25 those options with the PUD to see if they

23 1 would be interested in providing grid 2 charge power for the batteries in the event that, you know, they need to be charged and 3 there isn't adequate solar available at the 4 5 time or there isn't adequate wind 6 generation at the time. 7 BY MR. ARAMBURU: So was there ever a calculation of 8 Ο. 9 the expected energy that might be acquired on 10 an average basis from Benton for the purpose of that recharging of the batteries? 11 12 Α. Not recharging of the batteries, no. 13 We -- we did have calculations and had 14 discussions about the backup station service 15 that would be needed. 16 But when it came to the battery, the 17 PUD indicated that they didn't believe -- well, first, they didn't have the energy to do it. 18 19 They didn't have the power supply to do it. 20 And they didn't believe that they could acquire 21 it from Bonneville to do it. And so the 2.2 discussions ended at that point because we 23 didn't see a success path. 24 Ο. So if you don't get this energy from 25 Benton, where are you going get it?

24 1 We either -- from the output of the Α. 2 wind project, from the solar, or from the offtake utility. That's actually -- see, with 3 the battery, the way that will work in the 4 5 marketplace is, we will allow them to dispatch 6 it, and then we just have a tolling agreement 7 that, you know, pays us for the amount of dispatch they utilize. 8 9 And the ideal situation is, you 10 know, they're going to take transmission from 11 the project, and when they need to charge the battery, they would just decrement some of that 12 13 transmission to provide grid charge for the battery through their contractual arrangements 14 15 with Bonneville. That's the optimal way. 16 I mean, with the PUD, I was just 17 thinking, you know, maybe they'd want to get into that business, and, you know, have a 18 19 potential revenue stream, but it isn't proving 20 to be viable. 21 So the alternative to that is to get Ο. 2.2 it from BPA (indecipherable). 23 (The Court Reporter requested 24 clarification.) 25

	25
1	BY MR. ARAMBURU:
2	Q. Get it from BPA through the grid.
3	A. No. BPA has indicated they will not
4	supply it, but they'll wheel it. I mean,
5	that's what BPA generally does is, they have an
6	open access transmission tariff where they
7	allow utilities and IPPs like we are to
8	interconnect with the grid, and then you
9	contract for who you're sending power to or who
10	you're getting power from, and then you pay
11	Bonneville for the wheeling on their system.
12	So they're responsible for the
13	reliability of the system. They may provide
14	you balancing services that are required, you
15	know, to maintain grid stability. But
16	Bonneville doesn't sell power.
17	They are they're fully
18	contracted. They may be able to sell power to
19	the wholesale markets when they have excess.
20	But, you know, generally Bonneville is just the
21	wheeler. They're the grid interconnect and the
22	grid manager.
23	Q. I understand the concept of a
24	wheeling agreement with Bonneville, but who
25	would be the source of the power that would be

26 1 wheeled to this project to take care of 2 batteries, for example? The offtaker. 3 Α. Who is the offtaker? 4 Ο. 5 We don't -- we don't have an Α. 6 offtaker identified yet. 7 Is it likely that we're going have Q. an offtaker identified within the next year? 8 9 Let me answer the question this way. Α. 10 It's challenging to market a large commercial-scale energy project and finance it 11 12 without a permit. And an offtaker, this is, you know, 13 a risky scenario bringing on new generation, 14 15 period. And, clearly, if you don't have a permit -- if you don't have a permit to build 16 17 the project, it's difficult for an offtaker to make commitments. 18 19 And so until we get that permit, 20 it's not very likely that we're going to have 21 that offtake identified. 2.2 As I understand the situation, that Ο. 23 Scout is actively marketing this project now to 24 utilities, to various --25 Anybody who will listen. I'm sorry, Α.

27 1 I interrupted. I'm sorry. 2 Ο. That's fine. 3 So there is an active marketing project -- or effort ongoing, even though 4 5 there's no license from EFSEC? 6 Α. That's correct. 7 And I just had a couple of questions Q. 8 here that I'm -- I'm confused about in the ASC, 9 and perhaps you can just help me clarify here. 10 Α. Sure. On page 285 -- 2-85. I think it's 11 Q. 12 here. Costs. It says the cost of the project 13 would be \$1.727 billion; is that correct? 14 Α. Yes. 15 Is that whether you build the 244 Q. 16 turbine version or the 150 version? 17 The best response I can give you to Α. that is, you know, at the time we originally, 18 19 you know, developed the application, we were 20 looking at the most likely equipment that would 21 have the best fit and the best economics for 2.2 the project. 23 And so, you know, in response, my 24 belief is that represents the ideal turbine for 25 the project, which still remains the ideal

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1	turbine for the project, and that's the 244,
2	smaller platform equipment.
3	Q. Okay. And I noticed that this cost
4	was not was not updated.
5	So are these costs from February of
6	2021?
7	A. Yes. And they're no longer
8	accurate. Tremendous things have happened in
9	the market, inflation, supply constraints,
10	changes that the manufacturers are making in
11	actually how they market turbines.
12	But, you know, we have an exclusive
13	arrangement with General Electric associated
14	with this particular project development. And
15	so the expectation there is that we will use
16	General Electric equipment unless we can
17	demonstrate that there is a more economically
18	viable available, as high a quality model of
19	turbine that can be built and delivered in the
20	timeframe we need for the project.
21	And then, at that point, we would,
22	you know, pursue legal challenge to that
23	exclusivity if we deemed it necessary.
24	Q. Let me understand what's going on
25	here.

Γ

29 So at the moment, Scout has a 1 2 contract with GE? 3 No, no contract. Α. 4 I'm sorry. Ο. 5 We have exclusivity. We're Α. 6 obligated with exclusivity. 7 Exclusivity --Q. 8 Α. Yeah. 9 -- with GE to buy a GE turbine? Q. 10 Α. Yes. And you would -- that is considered 11 Q. 12 to be a binding contract, then, correct? 13 Α. The exclusivity aspect of it. 14 Q. Okay. 15 Let me explain a little bit more. Α. 16 And you don't have to. I want you Q. 17 to fully answer the questions that are put to 18 you, Mr. Kobus. 19 And you've been kind of extending 20 the answers, and I'm happy to have you do that, 21 and I want you to answer your questions fully. 2.2 But I sense somehow that a little bit we're 23 going off. 24 Α. Well, I don't want to waste 25 anybody's time if it's not information you want

	30
1	to hear. I just want to explain, you're asking
2	for terms such as, do we have a contract with
3	GE? No, we have not procured turbines from GE.
4	Do we have an obligation from a prior
5	arrangement that gives them exclusivity? Yes,
6	we do.
7	Q. Okay. Okay. And so you indicated
8	in your previous answer that the cost estimate
9	found on page 2-85 of the amended ASC is
10	probably too small?
11	A. Too small.
12	Q. And do you have any information to
13	give us about how much too small it is?
14	A. Well, the greatest component of the
15	cost of the project is the turbines, the
16	turbine supply. And the way the current market
17	is, every time we ask GE for a price update, it
18	has an escalator on it.
19	So, you know, this was a '21 price
20	basis. In fact, for the redline, we didn't
21	even update it because we know it's out of date
22	and it's going to change likely the next time
23	we ask GE for a price update.
24	I mean, that's just how this market
25	works. And the components supply, the material

Ι

31 1 supply, the fundamental commodities have 2 escalated up and gone down just in the last six 3 months. 4 Okay. I understand the answer. Ο. 5 And on a general basis, is this 6 10 percent wrong, 20 percent wrong? Order of 7 magnitude, if you can. If you can. 8 Α. I can't answer that. 9 GE also makes the bigger turbines, Q. 10 don't they? Yes, they do. 11 Α. 12 And on the construction side of Q. 13 things, have you updated estimates for the construction side? 14 15 Α. We continue to update estimates and we continue to work with vendors, you know, for 16 17 example, the EPC-type vendors that we've been 18 engaged with. We try and update -- refresh our 19 request for proposals related to the balance of 20 plant cost for the project, which are also a 21 major -- one of the major components of the 2.2 ultimate cost. 23 Okay. Someone may be reading this Ο. 24 deposition and doesn't know --25 Α. Sure.

	32
1	Q what EPC is. Could you define
2	that?
3	A. That's engineer procure construct.
4	And so those are the type of contractors that,
5	you know, they come in, they provide
6	engineering for the balance of the plan. They
7	work with the turbine supplier which is a
8	separate contract. The turbine supply
9	agreement is separate.
10	But it's EPC contractor who arranges
11	and erects and constructs the project. So
12	they're like the general contractor. If you
13	were to go out and build a building, they'd be
14	the general contractor that you hire even
15	though you may be buying a Butler building.
16	That's a similar analogy.
17	Q. Would it be fair to characterize it
18	as a sort of design build contract, EPC?
19	A. Yeah, elements of it. We don't
20	design in-house, but we do have design
21	capability internally within the company. And
22	they're actually the ones that work with the
23	contractors we hire.
24	And we have other consultants that
25	we bring in as well. Like the electrical

Ι

33 1 design is done by a separate consultant. 2 That's even prior to letting the EPC contract. 3 So the current preferred plan is Ο. 4 244 turbines? 5 Α. Up to 244. 6 Q. Okay. 7 We're permitting the maximum extent Α. we believe we can optimally site on that 8 9 project. 10 And I don't mean to be facetious in Ο. any manner, but the plan for 244 turbines maxes 11 12 out the project, is that for to say? 13 Α. We will -- we will not go more than 14 244, but we cannot build more than 235 because 15 we have an agreement with the Department of 16 Defense that's -- it's called a mitigation 17 agreement. We're in the viewshed of the fossil 18 Oregon NORAD facility. 19 And so they've -- as part of the 20 mitigation response team, they evaluated our 21 turbine layouts and have indicated places where 2.2 we had to reduce the number of turbines. So 23 we've -- we have an agreement with them where 24 we could not build more than 235. 25 And is the 235 turbine layout shown Q.

1 in the amended ASC? 2 No, because we want to permit all Α. 244 so we have the flexibility as we optimize 3 this project, until we get to the point where 4 5 we pull the trigger on the construction, we 6 need all of those locations available. 7 I don't know what I'm going to lose 8 in the next week for something to pop up that 9 says, that's too much cut and fill. We can't 10 build that one. You got to use one of the 11 others that you got on the bench, and replace 12 it. 13 So I've got to have all 244 sites 14 permitted so I have that flexibility to build 15 the optimal, most suitable project for whoever 16 the ultimate offtake entity is, or entities. 17 It could be more. 18 Q. Okay. 19 Or we could sell the project to Α. 20 somebody. I mean, all these things are on the 21 table. It's what developers do. I mean, we're 2.2 a private developer. We're trying to satisfy a 23 market. And, you know, as opportunities come 24 available, we'll evaluate them to the fullest. 25 So the change from the 244 to the Q.

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35 1 235, which is the maximum, is that -- that does 2 not identify specific turbines. It just says 3 you can't have more than 244, is that the way 4 the arrangement is? 5 The 235 turbines that we can build Α. 6 are precisely identified by coordinates in the 7 mitigation agreement, yes, and that's publicly 8 available. 9 Okay. So that's where I'd go to Q. 10 look for that? Yeah, yeah. 11 Α. 12 Q. Okay. So I want to go back a little 13 bit of the history of the project. 14 I understand you got involved in 15 2016? 16 Α. 2018. 17 2018? Q. 18 Α. Yes. 19 Q. Okay. And what was the project when 20 you got involved? 21 When I got involved, it was a Α. 2.2 250-megawatt project intending to interconnect 23 at Red Mountain. 24 Q. And 250? 25 250 megawatts of wind, yes. Α.

36 Of wind only? 1 Q. 2 Α. Yes. 3 And that was in 2018? Q. 4 That was in 2018, yes. Α. 5 Q. And was that a viable project? 6 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection as to 7 form. You can answer. 8 THE WITNESS: Every iteration we 9 have in the development of the project is 10 intended to get it to the most viable state 11 we can. 12 As it turns out, you know, we never 13 did have a success path to interconnect at Red Mountain, and that's why we gave up 14 15 that interconnection request. BY MR. ARAMBURU: 16 17 That was a BPA connection? Ο. 18 Α. Yeah, yeah. 19 Q. And what was wrong with Red 20 Mountain? 21 We -- how do I say it? It was Α. 2.2 challenging to get all of the easements that 23 were required to get our gen-tie installed from 24 the project site to actually to the Red 25 Mountain substation.

37 1 In the interim, we were competing against another wind developer that had leases 2 3 and interconnections in the queue interspersed with our leases on the project site. 4 5 And, ultimately, we worked with that 6 competitor, acquired their assets, acquired two 7 interconnection queue positions that they had for the 230 kV line on the east and the 500 kV 8 9 line on the west, which made the 115 kV 10 interconnect no longer viable because now the 11 project had expanded to be -- well, I think at 12 that stage it was 850 megawatts at that time. 13 Q. Okay. 14 But, you know, our job as developers Α. 15 is we're continuing to finesse and optimize and 16 make this more attractive for an offtake 17 market. And so we're constantly working. That's my job, is to look for ways to make this 18 19 better, to make it more attractive, to make it 20 more economical. 21 So there was capacity at the Red Ο. 2.2 Mountain substation to take the 250 turbine 23 project? 24 Α. Yes, yes. 25 Who was with the competitor? Q.

38 1 WPD Incorporated. In fact, we have Α. 2 an ongoing -- similar to exclusivity with GE, 3 have an ongoing contract obligation with them 4 as a result of acquiring those assets. 5 Which include leases? Ο. 6 Α. I'm sorry? 7 Which include leases, land leases? Q. 8 No. With WPD, we've acquired all of Α. 9 the land lease that we desire. And they've 10 given up the ones we didn't desire. And so, 11 yes, we're the only ones out there that have 12 leases, that I know of. 13 Q. So just to backtrack a little bit. 14 When you came on board in 2018, the 15 project that was then under consideration was a 16 250 megawatt wind project? 17 Yes. Α. So, then, what was the next 18 Q. 19 iteration of the project? 20 Α. Well, the next iteration was to 21 acquire leases from WPD and this eastern 2.2 interconnection that they had that was in the 23 queue for 250 megawatts. 24 But then, since we had more assets, 25 more ability to interconnect, we added another

39 1 100 megawatt interconnect request to use up the 2 remaining available capacity on the 230 kV side 3 of the project. So that then went up to 350 4 megawatts. 5 That was all wind? Ο. 6 Α. Yes. At the time, that was all 7 wind. 8 And did you take over a queue Q. 9 position --10 Α. Yes. -- from them? 11 Q. 12 Two of them. Α. 13 Q. Two of them? 14 Α. Yeah. 15 A 250 megawatt and a 100 megawatt? Q. 16 No. We filed the 100 on our own. Α. 17 You can file and terminate and file 18 interconnect requests to your heart's content. 19 So we acquired their 250. We then 20 filed for another 100 megawatts of wind. And 21 then we filed for another 300 megawatt of solar. And then we filed for another 2.2 23 100 megawatt of solar overbuild. 24 Ο. Okay. I don't mean to interrupt 25 I was just trying to get a consecutive you.

40 1 arrangement here. 2 So 250 to begin with? 3 Α. Yes. Then we go from 250 plus 100. And 4 Ο. 5 then what's the next iteration after that? The next iteration after that was to 6 Α. 7 file a 300 megawatt solar. So that would make 8 it 650 megawatts of interconnection on the 9 230 kV system. 10 And that was east or west? Q. 11 That was the east side. Α. 12 Okay. So 350 of wind and 300 of Q. 13 solar? Yes. 14 Α. 15 Q. And was there a layout for that 16 I mean, was there a design -project? 17 Α. It's in the -- it's in the 18 application for site certification, yes. 19 Q. Okay. Okay. So that adds up to 650, then? 20 21 Α. Yes. 2.2 Then what was the next iteration of Q. 23 the project? We filed for 100 megawatts of solar 24 Α. 25 overbuild.

41 1 Q. Okay. 2 Want me to explain that? Α. 3 Yes. And what do you mean by Q. 4 overbuild? 5 It means that we're interconnecting Α. 6 100 megawatts, but it's not -- it's not in 7 increasing the amount of transmitted energy on 8 the system. It's literally behind the meter. 9 So it says you can never exceed 10 350 megawatts on the system. But you have 100 megawatts of solar that if, say, the wind 11 12 dies down, then you can interject that into the 13 system as long as you maintain below 350 megawatts. So that's -- available 14 transmission capacity is the terminology that's 15 16 used. 17 So in various places in the Ο. 18 application you use the term "grid injection 19 capacity"? 20 Α. Yes. 21 Is that what we're talking about? Q. 2.2 Grid injection capacity is kind of Α. 23 the term that relates to what you can inject 24 into the system and have it go where you 25 desire.

42 1 So why is there a grid injection Q. 2 capacity? What causes that to happen? 3 That's the capability of the Α. 4 Bonneville system. It has limitations. Ι mean, wires have limits. Bonneville has to 5 6 manage reliability on the grid, so they have to 7 maintain the electrical characteristics of everybody that's interconnected with the grid. 8 9 And so they do a lot of study to determine, you 10 know, how much can be inter -- injected at any point in the system. 11 12 Q. And any hope that you can get your 13 overbuild into the system? MS. PERLMUTTER: 14 Objection as to 15 form. You can answer. 16 THE WITNESS: We don't need to. 17 It's overbuild. BY MR. ARAMBURU: 18 19 Q. Okay. 20 Α. You inject it whenever you drop 21 below 350 megawatts injection, you can use some 2.2 of that overbuild. Let me just go through. Let's say, you know, the wind is blowing, we're 23 24 generating 350 megawatts injection of wind on 25 the east side, and the wind starts to die down.

43 1 The solar's there and Okav. 2 available. It's daytime. We can just start injecting the solar to maintain 350 megawatts, 3 even though the wind has died down. 4 5 Ο. So over the course of a year, what 6 period of time in percentages, perhaps, would 7 you not be able to use the full capacity, the 8 full nameplate capacity and interject it into 9 the grid? 10 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Calls 11 for speculation. You can answer. 12 THE WITNESS: You know, that's kind 13 of a commercial concern. That's -- I mean, 14 that's the intellectual property that, 15 we're trying to market this project, and we're designing various components of it to 16 17 optimize the output relative to the 18 climatic conditions that are here. 19 And we spend a lot of effort to make 20 sure those numbers are ideal. And we work 21 with our potential offtakers -- I mean, 2.2 that's why we did the 100 megawatts 23 overbuild was in response to an offtaker's 24 desire to be able to optimize the 25 transition on the grid.

44 1 And what I mean by that is, if you 2 have 350 megawatts of wind, you've got have 3 350 megawatts of capacity. Well, what 4 happens when the wind stops blowing? You 5 still have that obligation. You're still 6 paying for that capacity on the system. 7 So what if you could add solar that would ramp up using that same contractual 8 9 capacity to use it when the wind is not? 10 You're optimizing your system. And the same thing goes for battery 11 12 storage. The intent is to optimize it so 13 when you've got solar, when you've got that 14 excess solar that's there and able to 15 generate, you can divert it to charge the 16 battery without using the transmission 17 system. 18 And so all of these things work together to optimize the project for the 19 20 eventual offtaker. 21 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 2.2 I understand that. Ο. 23 And who was the offtaker that wanted 24 the 100 overbuild, the 100 megawatts overbuild? 25 I can't answer that. Α.

45 MS. PERLMUTTER: You tell me. 1 Ιf 2 that's confidential, then I'm going to 3 object and ask him not to respond. THE WITNESS: It's confidential 4 5 negotiations. I'm not at liberty to say 6 that. 7 BY MR. ARAMBURU: Are these ongoing negotiations now? 8 Q. 9 Yes. Α. 10 My question to you is without regard Q. to an offtaker or purchaser of the project. 11 12 My question to you is, you've 13 described a scenario by which wind slows down, 14 but the sun keeps shining just like it's 15 shining out today? 16 Α. Yeah. 17 And then you can ramp up the sun to Ο. take account of the declining production from 18 19 your wind turbines, correct? 20 Α. Exactly. You got it. You got. 21 Okay. Now, my question to you is, Q. 2.2 how often does that happen? What period of 23 time over the year? Is this 10 percent of the 24 year, 20 percent of the year, 50 percent of the 25 year? How often does this happen?

46 1 Α. Frequently. 2 Well, I mean, but can you help me Q. with some sort of quantification if you would, 3 4 Mr. Kobus? 5 I would rather refrain from it Α. 6 because we're still optimizing the project. Ι 7 mean, we don't know what size the batteries are going to be. You know, we know what size the 8 9 solar is going to be, but that is our 10 intellectual property. That's what we do for a 11 living. 12 But these are mathematical Q. calculations, are they not? These are 13 14 calculations that you make? 15 Α. I have to know the exact conditions 16 of what size the battery is, what time of year 17 that you're talking about, to, you know, be able to determine what that optimization level 18 19 is. But bottom line, I can't spout it off, off 20 the cuff. If I said a number, I'd be wrong. 21 Q. Why? 2.2 Because -- you said this is a big Α. 23 document. And I'm the project manager for this 24 site, and I have to know a little bit about 25 everything. So I can be a few questions deep

47 1 on anything, but I don't have all those numbers 2 at my -- on the tip of my tongue. 3 Okay. But there are certain times Q. of the year when the overbuild for solar or the 4 5 overbuild for wind, correct? There's an 6 overbuild for wind? 7 Α. Yes. 8 Okay. Both of those might be Q. 9 optimized when one or the other declines in 10 production? Correct. Well, the overbuild on the 11 Α. 12 wind is a bit different. 13 Q. Explain why. The overbuild on the wind is, from 14 Α. 15 the point of generation to the actual point of delivery to the grid, there's electrical 16 17 losses. 18 And so, with the wind, you can 19 technically have those overbuilt turbines 20 functioning all the time because all they're 21 doing is making up for the losses between your 2.2 nameplate generation and what's actually 23 getting injected into the grid. 24 Ο. I'm sorry, doesn't that depend on 25 the length of the transmission?

48 1 It depends on all things electrical Α. 2 related to the project. There could be 3 turbines on one side of the project generating 4 fairly strongly and on the other side not. 5 So it's just, you know, a dynamic 6 where you have the overbuild design to be the 7 desired amount to make up for the average 8 electrical losses on the project. But 9 recognize you can never exceed your available 10 injection capacity. Okay. But you're talking about line 11 Ο. 12 losses, right? 13 Α. Yeah. 14 Q. That's, what, 3, 4 percent at most? 15 Α. That's probably a fairly good 16 number, yeah. 17 But you're not overbuilding because Ο. you're losing 3 or 4 percent on the 18 19 transmission, are you? 20 Α. Oh, yes, we are. 21 That's the sole reason for Q. 2.2 overbuild? 23 Α. Oh, yes. 24 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. 25 Mischaracterizes his testimony. But you

49 1 can answer. 2 THE WITNESS: Yes. We have other 3 projects within the Scout portfolio that we have overbuilt turbines for that exact 4 5 reason, and it works quite well. 6 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 7 So if you get to a situation where Q. 8 the grid can no longer take power because 9 you've reached grid injection capacity, then at 10 that point, whatever solar energy is being 11 produced or turbine energy is being produced 12 isn't doing anything, is it? 13 Α. We have -- we will have what's called a park controller for the output of 14 15 project that will make sure you don't exceed 16 your injection limit for the grid. And it will 17 ramp back on any generators as necessary to remain below that maximum injection capacity. 18 Okay. So if you've reached grid 19 Q. 20 injection capacity, and you've got -- do you 21 turn off the turbines, then? Is that what you 2.2 do? 23 They're ramped back. Α. No. I mean, 24 you have the ability to dial back the 25 generation of any turbine, individually or as

50 1 an entire park. 2 Q. Okay. And you do that by changing 3 pitch of the blades; is that right? Generally, yeah. Yeah. 4 Α. 5 Okay. We were going through the Ο. 6 project here, and you've been very helpful with 7 trying to provide a bit of a kind of continuum 8 here. 9 So I think we're at the point of 10 350 wind, 300 solar, 650 total megawatts. 11 Okay. I thought we were at the Α. 12 point of 350 wind, 300 solar, 100 solar. Okay. Okay. 13 Q. Overbuild, 100 overbuild. 14 Α. 15 And if I'm trying to put words in Q. 16 your mouth, Mr. Kobus, tell me to stop, okay? 17 All right. Α. 18 So now we're up to it looks like, if Q. 19 my math is right, 750? 20 Α. Of generation, yes. 21 Q. Okay. 2.2 I mean, it can actually be more than Α. 23 that because the solar generation is based on 24 the inverter, the nameplate rating of the 25 inverter.

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1	I can actually have more solar
2	panels than the nameplate rating of the
3	inverter to increase efficiency of the
4	operative project.
5	Because the sun doesn't shine all
6	the time. And so we actually optimize the
7	number of solar panels. So if you're looking
8	at nameplate solar panels, that can actually
9	even be higher.
10	That's a difficulty with evaluating
11	it this way is that, you know, these are
12	parameters related to our agreements with
13	Bonneville, which is a federal power marketer.
14	And, you know, the State's just concerned that
15	you meet Bonneville's criteria. And so, you
16	know, we're designing the project with that in
17	mind.
18	But the key parameters are what we
19	say in the application for site certification,
20	and that's the nameplate capacity of the wind
21	and the nameplate capacity of inverters.
22	Q. I'm going to really try to simplify
23	this, and if you don't agree with me, tell me.
24	BPA doesn't care how many turbines
25	you build, how many solar panels you put, or

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52 1 anything else, as long as you don't try to put 2 more than a certain amount into the grid? That's not true. 3 Α. 4 Ο. Okay. Why am I wrong? 5 Α. BPA has to manage the electrical 6 characteristics of the grid and maintain 7 reliability for everyone that's interconnected. I can't overbuild any more than four turbines 8 9 because that's what we filed in our 10 interconnection application. So BPA cares very much. 11 In fact, 12 they care that the turbines we interconnect are 13 state of the art technology and have certain 14 electrical control characteristics that meet 15 their criteria for grid reliability. So, yes, 16 of course, Bonneville cares. 17 But their principle concern is that Ο. a solar farm, wind farm, hybrid project doesn't 18 19 try to inject into the system more than a 20 certain amount? 21 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection as to 2.2 foundation. But you can answer if you can. 23 THE WITNESS: They will assure that 24 we do not inject more than we are 25 contractually allowed, and they'll require

53 us to have devices associated with the 1 2 project that control that. BY MR. ARAMBURU: 3 4 Okay. Okay. Now, I think we're up Ο. to around 750. Now, what's the next step in 5 6 the continuum of the project? 7 Α. We terminated the 300 megawatt 8 interconnection request on the east side. 9 Why was that? Q. 10 We discovered that when Bonneville Α. was doing their feasibility studies, that what 11 12 they would have required to do for the network 13 would have been extremely costly. And we 14 decided that it would not have been in the best 15 interest of our potential offtake market to 16 shoulder that kind of cost. 17 So you forgot about the 350, then? Ο. MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Form. 18 19 You can answer. 20 THE WITNESS: The 350 is still 21 there. This is the extra 300 solar that we 2.2 added and then terminated. BY MR. ARAMBURU: 23 24 Ο. Okay. But as I understand it, 25 the -- you terminated the -- your position in

54 1 the queue for the 350? 2 Α. No. For the 300. 3 Oh, for the 300. Excuse me. Q. 4 The extra 300 solar. Every one of Α. these interconnects is a precise application 5 6 document and a precise queue position and, you 7 know, meets all of Bonneville's tariff 8 requirements related to it. 9 So they manage the queue. And so if 10 you put in 300 and then terminate it, it doesn't affect anything else in the queue. 11 You 12 just terminated your queue position for that 13 300 desired injection. 14 Q. Somebody else moves up? 15 In this case, anybody could file, Α. 16 but there wasn't capacity to do it because, as 17 I said, when we had our feasibility study, it was determined that the network upgrades that 18 19 would be required -- well, I don't want to 20 repeat myself, so... 21 Network upgrades on the BPA side? Q. 2.2 On the BPA side would be very Α. 23 expensive, yes. 24 Ο. So has a decision been made now 25 between the 244 smaller turbines and the

55 1 150 larger turbines? Is that a corporate 2 decision made as of now? 3 No. We -- that will be a Α. 4 last-minute determination when we go to the 5 turbine supplier and negotiate for the turbine 6 that we desire to have. 7 So there's interconnect proposals Ο. 8 that have been made to BPA, am I correct about 9 that? 10 Α. Yeah. For the whole project? 11 Q. 12 Α. Yes. 13 Q. And what's the status of those? 14 Α. We have -- we're at the E&P 15 agreement stage for both interconnections, 16 which means Bonneville is doing engineering and 17 procurement that we have funded to advance the 18 design of the projects, culminating in a large 19 generator interconnection agreement once we 20 have unappealable permit available. 21 And when do you expect the decision Q. 2.2 on the interconnect with BPA? 23 At the point we have an unappealable Α. 24 permit. 25 If you got your permit today, would Ο.

56 1 you get the approval from the interconnect --2 large interconnect agreement with BPA? Within a very short period of time, 3 Α. 4 yes. 5 I understand from the application Ο. 6 that they're going through a NEPA review 7 process? 8 Α. Yes, yeah. 9 And when will that be complete? Q. 10 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Foundation. You can answer if you know. 11 12 THE WITNESS: Typically, it's the 13 last thing they do before issuing the large generator interconnect agreement. 14 15 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 16 Q. Okay. And then I gather from 17 reading the application, sometime or another, batteries were added to this thing? 18 19 Α. Yes, battery storage. 20 Q. And when did that happen? 21 When we added the solar. It was a Α. 2.2 solar battery. So it was a hybridization that was done at the same time. 23 24 Ο. Okay. And reading the application, 25 it looks to me that there's 300 megawatts of

57 batteries in two -- and 1550 in each place, am 1 2 I right about that? Yes. We intended -- we have two 3 Α. 4 points of interconnection. And so, to optimize 5 the project, we wanted the solar and the 6 battery to be clustered by the interconnection 7 to minimize the amount of wires to make it as cost effective as possible. 8 9 Because we didn't know where 10 Bonneville was actually going to finally decide 11 where the western interconnect would be, we had 12 to have a redundant part of the application to 13 cover whichever decision Bonneville would make 14 so that we wouldn't have to add it to the 15 application later on in the process, which 16 would, you know, be an increased impact 17 environmentally, so... 18 Ο. So I don't see any drawings or 19 designs or any engineering for the battery 20 project. Is that ongoing that? 21 That is ongoing, yes. Α. 2.2 But it's not here, is it? Q. Here --23 I'm sorry, here as in the updated amended site 24 application? 25 There's as much in there about the Α.

58 1 battery as I believe there is about solar and 2 wind. Okay. Well, we have locations for 3 Q. the turbines. 4 5 Α. And the type of battery technology 6 that's available in the market, the size of 7 battery that we are anticipating using. 8 Q. And the batteries are going to be 9 lithium ions? 10 Α. That's the most commercially viable 11 economical technology on the market today. 12 However, it's going to be whatever the offtaker 13 desires. The offtaker could step up and say, I 14 want eight hour batteries, or I want a flow 15 battery of a different technology, and we would 16 scramble to accommodate that, if necessary, do 17 an amendment to our SCA, and a supplemental EIS, if necessary, to accommodate it. 18 19 So let me understand that scenario. Q. 20 Scout would build the project to the 21 specifications of the offtake, is that the way 2.2 it works? 23 We would attempt to design the Α. 24 project to meet their specifications, but we'd 25 have to permit it. We'd have to adjust our

59 1 permitting to incorporate it. 2 Ο. So would it be more than 3 300 megawatts for batteries? 4 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. 5 Speculation. You can answer. 6 THE WITNESS: We don't intend to 7 increase the size of the batteries, no. 8 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 9 And I read in the application that Q. 10 the size of the area for the batteries is six acres; is that right? 11 12 Could be if we build the largest Α. 13 amount we were contemplating, yes. 14 Q. But as we're sitting here today and 15 we're thinking about whether this ought to be 16 approved or not, we should assume two battery 17 locations with 150 megawatts each, correct? 18 Α. That's correct. 19 THE COURT REPORTER: Can we take a 20 break? 21 MR. ARAMBURU: Yes. 2.2 (A recess was taken.) BY MR. ARAMBURU: 23 24 Ο. Mr. Kobus, we're back on the record 25 I want to have you turn to page 2-15 of now.

60 the amended ASC. So there's -- under 1 2 section 2.3, there's some redline language that 3 was added here. 4 Was that something you were 5 responsible for? 6 Α. Yes, I was. 7 So do I have the right person as the Q. 8 one who wrote it? 9 Α. Yes, yes. 10 Okay. Wonderful, wonderful. Okay. Q. And so why was the redline put in? 11 12 What was the change that was necessary? Can 13 you explain? 14 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. The 15 document speaks for itself. You can 16 answer. 17 THE WITNESS: There were two things 18 that were going on, one with Bonneville and one with EFSEC staff. The EFSEC staff 19 20 exchange was when EFSEC was going to 21 publish the -- their notice, their SEPA 2.2 notice for having to do an EIS --BY MR. ARAMBURU: 23 24 Ο. Let me interrupt you. 25 A determination of significance,

61 would that be the document? 1 2 Α. Yes. 3 Excuse me for the Okay. Q. 4 interruption. 5 And I had an exchange with Α. Yeah. 6 Amy Hafkemeyer at EFSEC about the concept of 7 nameplate capacity. That, you know, I had discovered that, you know, for example, on the 8 9 solar, if the application materials say 10 nameplate capacity, it depends on whether it's the solar inverters or the solar modules 11 12 themselves, which as I said earlier, could add 13 up to a larger amount of generation potential than the inverter itself. And so we were 14 15 clarifying the terminology related to nameplate 16 capacity so it was clear that you could 17 overbuild. 18 What was happening with Bonneville 19 is, Bonneville was, you know, maintaining the 20 policy of the inverter nameplate for solar, but 21 they were also saying that you could not 2.2 overbuild wind. 23 And so we engaged in further 24 conversation with Bonneville and eventually 25 came to the understanding -- we got to the

62 1 right person in Bonneville, and came to 2 understand that you could overbuild the wind, you just have to have a separate interconnect 3 to do it. You have to spell out how many 4 5 turbines, what type of turbines that you would 6 use to be able to overbuild the wind. 7 So at that point it was clear we had 8 to change the terminology so that it supported 9 the fact that you could do overbuild of both 10 solar panels and wind turbines. And so this redline was an intent to 11 12 just bring together all of that mutual 13 understanding that occurred between us and 14 EFSEC and Bonneville at the time. 15 Well, let's stick with page 2-15. Q. 16 Α. Sure. 17 You indicated that you could Ο. overbuild, wind turbines -- push solar off to 18 19 the side for a second -- overbuild wind 20 turbines even though -- okay. 21 You could overbuild wind turbines, 2.2 but BPA had to know how these wind turbines 23 were going to get -- these overbuilt turbines 24 were going to get on the system. 25 Α. Yeah.

63 1 And have you provided that Ο. 2 information to them? 3 Yes. We filed an interconnection Α. 4 request to add four turbines, four additional 5 turbines of the same kind of turbine to the 6 project configuration. 7 Okay. And so over onto page --Q. Just can I clarify one thing? 8 Α. 9 Q. Okay. 10 These four overbuild turbines are Α. part of the 235. They're not four additional 11 12 that we're slamming out there. Okay. They 13 would be part of the 235 that we're allowed to 14 build. 15 Q. Okay. 16 We would just configure the site so Α. 17 that whatever was injecting on the east side 18 had those four additional turbines injecting 19 there, so they wouldn't be available to inject 20 on the west side. 21 Okay. And more capacity in the east Q. 2.2 side substation than the west? 23 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection as to 24 form. You can answer if you can. 25 THE WITNESS: On the east side per

64 1 the interconnect applications we have in 2 the queue, we have the ability to interject 3 350 megawatts of wind turbines, plus four more or -- or 13.6 more megawatts above 4 5 that 350 as overbuild. 6 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 7 Let me have you look at page 2-15, Q. 8 the second full paragraph. 9 Α. Okay. 10 Is this something you wrote? Q. Well, again, it's -- working with 11 Α. 12 Tetra Tech, I contributed, you know, editorial, 13 yes. So I'm reading this, and it says 14 Q. 15 that the transmitted the two -- two 16 transmission lines, two interconnections, one 17 east, one west. 18 Α. Okay. 19 And 650 megawatts of nameplate Q. 20 generating capacity could interconnect at the 21 Bofer Canyon substation. 2.2 Α. Correct. 23 But that's limited to the Ο. 24 350 megawatts injection capacity, right? 25 That's actually an error. I need to Α.

65 1 fix that. 2 Q. Okay. 3 Because at that time, the 650 was Α. 4 the 350 wind plus that additional 350 solar, 5 which we subsequently terminated. So this is incorrect? 6 Q. 7 Α. Yeah, this is incorrect. I need to 8 fix that. 9 Q. So tell me how we can fix it. 10 We can only inject -- per our Α. current interconnection request, we can inject 11 12 350 megawatts on that 230 kV system. 13 Q. That's what it says. It says up to 650. 14 Α. 15 Well, it says up to 650 --Q. 16 Α. Could interconnect. It says up to 17 650 could interconnect, but that it's limited 18 to 350 injection capacity. While, if we were 19 doing 650, we would need 650 of injection 20 capacity. 21 But you don't have 650, you only Q. 2.2 have 350? 23 Wind only we have 350, and we Α. 24 terminated the interconnection for the 25 300 solar. So I could tomorrow file a new one

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1	for that 350 solar and be within my, you know,
2	EFSEC permitting bounds, but we don't intend to
3	do that.
4	Q. So, I'm sorry, the way I read the
5	sentence, and this appears to be your sentence,
6	so I want to make sure we get it right.
7	It says up to 650 megawatts of
8	nameplate generating capacity, limited to
9	350 megawatts grid injection capacity, could go
10	to the planned 230 kV Bofer substation.
11	So as I understand it, we have
12	650 megawatts of nameplate generating capacity
13	that can be hooked up to the system, but the
14	most you can do is 350. That's the way I read
15	that sentence.
16	A. Well, that is correct. That's the
17	most we can do, yeah.
18	Q. Okay. Good.
19	Now, so that so that sentence is
20	fine?
21	A. Yeah, that's true. At this point in
22	time, that's fine. We terminated the extra
23	300.
24	Q. Then it says, up to 350 megawatts of
25	nameplate generating capacity, grid injection

67 1 capacity, could interconnect to the BPA 500 kV 2 Webber Canyon substation. 3 But that doesn't say whether that's 4 wind or solar. 5 No. You said up to 350, but it's up Α. 6 to 500 is what it says. Up to 500 megawatts. 7 As I read the sentence, and I don't Q. 8 want to argue with you, Mr. Kobus, but as I 9 read the sentence, it says that 350 nameplate 10 generating capacity could be wind or solar. Ιt doesn't separate it --11 12 Α. I'm sorry, you've lost me. Are you 13 on second full paragraph on 2-16? I'm on the third sentence: 14 Ο. 15 Up to 500 megawatts of nameplate 16 generating capacity/grid interconnect. 17 Correct. I'm with you. Α. 18 But that doesn't say that that's Q. wind or solar or combination of the two, just 19 20 500 megawatts, period. 21 Α. Okay. 2.2 Is that right? Q. 23 That's what it reads, yes. Α. 24 Ο. And is that correct? Have I got it 25 right?

68 1 At the time we updated it, that was Α. 2 correct. Originally, this was a 500 megawatt 3 interconnection request for wind, but we 4 subsequently did material modification and 5 evaluation and it is now 340 megawatts of wind 6 and 160 megawatts of solar, per those --7 So is this information correct or Q. 8 not? 9 This is the application information, Α. 10 yes. Okay. We don't need to correct 11 Ο. 12 this, this isn't wrong? 13 Α. No, it doesn't need to be corrected. 14 But we've filed another interconnect request 15 for another 100 megawatts of solar there. So 16 if you look in the queue, we have 600 megawatts 17 of interconnect request right now at that 500 18 kV. 19 So let me go over and let's talk Q. 20 about solar now, if we may. And look over on 21 page 2-49 of the application. 2.2 Okay. I am there. Α. 23 And it's paper, Mr. Kobus, my Ο. 24 goodness. 25 Α. Yeah.

69 1 Down in the second paragraph --Q. 2 Α. Slick paper, too. 3 We had it printed thickly so it Q. 4 wouldn't bleed through. 5 Yeah. Α. 6 Q. Second paragraph talks about solar 7 arrays --8 Α. Yes. 9 -- and nameplate generation Q. 10 capacity. And then there would be -- first sentence says micrositing factors, solar 11 12 technology. Then it says: 13 Nameplate generation capacity of 14 solar arrays may be greater than --15 (The Court Reporter requested 16 clarification.) 17 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 18 We'll start that sentence over Q. 19 again. 20 The nameplate generation capacity of 21 the solar arrays may be greater than the 2.2 maximum grid injection capacity, but will be 23 limited to the maximum grid injection capacity 24 as a function of the AC ratings of the 25 inverters.

70 1 Is that right? 2 Α. Yes. 3 Okay. So what's the maximum grid Q. 4 generation -- you refer to maximum grid 5 injection capacity here. What is that number? 6 Α. Well, the purpose of this sentence 7 is to state what I've already related to you about that the solar arrays, the modules, can 8 9 actually be greater than the inverter capacity. 10 And so our interconnect is limited to the inverter nameplate rating. That's what that's 11 12 intended to say. 13 Q. I'm going to try to make this 14 simple, and correct me if I'm wrong. 15 The solar panels can create all the 16 generation that you want, but what actually is 17 produced and goes into the grid is limited by the inverter? 18 19 Α. Correct. 20 And how much of -- how much more Q. 21 nameplate capacity of the panels would there be 2.2 than the inverter capacity? 23 Α. That's a design parameter we're 24 still optimizing. 25 I mean, in general terms, 5 percent, Q.

71 2 percent, 20 percent? 1 2 Α. 20. 3 20 percent? Q. 4 Α. Yeah. 5 Okay. Can you buy a different Q. 6 inverter and get it to produce more power? 7 Α. Sure. 8 So as we go through this process and Q. 9 we're looking at these turbines, can you tell 10 me what the output of each individual turbine is that's located on your maps? 11 12 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection to form. Answer if you can. 13 THE WITNESS: The smaller size 14 15 turbine? 16 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 17 Well, let's say bigger size. Ο. We'll 18 talk about the 244 smaller turbine arrangement. 19 Α. Okay. Is there data available that 20 Ο. 21 predicts the amount of generation that comes 2.2 from each turbine as shown on your drawing that 23 locates the turbine? 24 MS. PERLMUTTER: Renew the 25 objection. You can still answer.

72 1 THE WITNESS: It's the nameplate 2 capacity of the turbine itself. If at the 3 time we submitted the application we had a 3 megawatt model versus a 6 megawatt model. 4 5 Now, that 3 megawatt model is likely to be 6 a 3.4 megawatt turbine, and that is its 7 limit, 3.4 megawatts. BY MR. ARAMBURU: 8 9 Okay. I think I misspoke --Q. 10 Α. Okay. -- when I did my question. Let's go 11 Q. 12 at it again. 13 The -- can you predict, let's say, 14 for a 3 megawatt turbine that's located in each 15 part of the site, how much power would actually 16 come from that, given wind parameters, other 17 parameters for the property? 18 MS. PERLMUTTER: Object as to form. 19 You can answer if you can. 20 THE WITNESS: Depends on the wind 21 how much it's generating. It can't 2.2 generate more than 3.4 megawatts. BY MR. ARAMBURU: 23 24 Ο. But let me put it this way. 25 Is your assumption when you give us

73 1 this drawing that shows all the wind turbines, 2 and I know they're going to be moved around, 3 but the assumption is each one of these 4 turbines is going produce the same amount of 5 power? 6 Α. Well, they're not going to be moved 7 The micrositing corridors are the around. 8 micrositing corridors. 9 Q. Okay. We'll leave that out of the 10 question. 11 Α. Okay. 12 We'll leave that out of the Q. 13 question. Okay. Can you repeat the --14 Α. 15 Is the assumption, the operating Q. 16 assumption when you locate these turbines on 17 the map, that each one of them is going to be 18 equal in production to every other one? 19 They're all going to be different. Α. 20 And --Q. 21 But they can't exceed 3.4 megawatts. Α. 2.2 I understand that. Q. 23 But do you have information that 24 might indicate which of the turbines would be 25 better producers than other turbines?

74 1 Yes, we do. That's how we cited the Α. 2 turbines on the site originally is, you look 3 for the highest wind spot and you put a dot 4 there. So I want that turbine, that's the 5 highest one. 6 Then you fill out the site and force 7 rank the turbines based on their production potential. And when you get to the maximum 8 9 injection capacity you can inject, the rest of 10 the turbines are on the bench because they're 11 lower producers. 12 Q. Okay. But is that data, is that --13 does that data exist for the individual 14 turbines? 15 Α. Well, yeah, we create that data. 16 That's the intellectual property that gives us 17 our competitive advantage. Okay. I understand your position on 18 Ο. 19 that, but that data does exist? 20 Α. Well, we're marketing a project so, 21 of course, we're going to analyze it to the 2.2 fullest extent, yes. 23 I'm not trying to get into marketing Ο. 24 or proprietary interest or anything of that 25 nature.

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1	A. Okay.
2	Q. My question is simple.
3	Is the data available by which we
4	could look at each turbine to see what its
5	production is?
6	MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection as to
7	form. You can answer it if you can.
8	THE WITNESS: I cannot answer it,
9	and the reason I cannot answer it is we
10	have obligations with the turbine suppliers
11	that we will not disclose their power
12	curves, period.
13	MS. PERLMUTTER: If I may, for a
14	second. My objection was to form because
15	of the question available. I think you
16	guys are talking cross purposes.
17	If your question is, does data
18	exist, there's one answer. If your
19	response is, can I disclose the data,
20	that's a different answer.
21	Now I'll let it to you guys to
22	figure out what you want to do.
23	BY MR. ARAMBURU:
24	Q. It was the first question, does this
25	data exist, no matter proprietary, secret,

Γ

76 1 triple X secret? 2 Α. Yes. 3 And that would be data for Okay. Ο. 4 each turbine? 5 I mean, we wouldn't be flying blind Α. 6 designing a project without knowing that 7 information. The data exists and it's our 8 competitive advantage. 9 Q. I understand. It was not intended 10 to be a disparaging question. I just want to know whether the data exists or not. 11 12 Α. Okay. 13 Q. I read some information about the 14 impacts of wakes from one turbine on the next 15 downstream turbine. Are you familiar with that 16 concept? 17 Yes, I am. Α. 18 And so other people who may be Q. 19 reading this for the first time, what is the 20 wake effect? 21 Well, the wake effect is that every Α. 2.2 turbine has an influence on the wind that goes 23 past it because it extracts energy and it 24 creates turbulence. 25 Just like, you know, a boat on the

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1	river. There's a wake of stirred-up water that
2	is there after the boat leaves, and it makes
3	waves and reverberates and eventually
4	dissipates.
5	With turbines, there's a wake effect
6	that influences that downstream wind. And so
7	when you design a project, you make sure you
8	have certain distance between turbines on a
9	string and between subsequent strings of
10	turbines to make sure that that wake has
11	adequately dissipated so it doesn't have a
12	dominant effect on the performance of the
13	turbine that's just downwind of it.
14	Q. And was the wake effect studied for
15	either the 244 turbine or the 150 turbine
16	project?
17	MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection as to
18	form. You can answer if you can.
19	THE WITNESS: The layout of the site
20	is precisely that way to make sure that the
21	wake effects are minimized to the extent
22	necessary to maintain the performance of
23	the turbines that we desire.
24	BY MR. ARAMBURU:
25	Q. I understand that was the intention.

Γ

78 1 What engineering or design was done to assess the wake effect of the turbines? 2 3 MS. PERLMUTTER: Object as to form. You can answer if you can. 4 THE WITNESS: We know the wind 5 6 resource profile. We know the performance 7 characteristics of a given wind turbine. 8 We model them together to come up with what 9 we believe the production profile is for 10 the site. BY MR. ARAMBURU: 11 12 Q. I understand that. 13 But is there a specific modeling 14 that takes into account the wake turbulence? 15 Α. Our internal modeling, yes, it does. 16 Yeah, we have to know that. Yeah. 17 And that was done for this project? Ο. 18 Α. Of course, yes. And did you have Greg Poulos do that 19 Q. 20 work? 21 We do it internally, and then we Α. 2.2 also have independent evaluators that do it. 23 So, you know, Greg Poulos is affiliated with 24 ArcVera. And so ArcVera is our second check of 25 our internal assessments, yes.

79 And did ArcVera run a model to 1 Ο. 2 assess the effect of wake turbulence on 3 downstream turbines? MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. 4 5 Foundation. You can answer if you can. 6 THE WITNESS: On our turbines, yes. 7 BY MR. ARAMBURU: And when was that done? 8 Ο. 9 It's continually done on a frequent Α. 10 basis. Every time we change the layout we reevaluate it. 11 12 Q. And in my readings, it appears that 13 Mr. Poulos has been active in the community 14 talking about the impacts of wake turbulence. 15 Are you familiar with that work? 16 Α. Yes, yeah. 17 And was that model that he was Ο. talking about in those studies been applied to 18 19 this project? 20 Α. I do not know what model you're 21 referring to. I'm sure my resource manager 2.2 would, but I don't keep up with the different names and vintages of the software. 23 24 Q. Okay. 25 I might add that the turbine Α.

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1	supplier as well restricts how close you can
2	have turbines to each other.
3	Q. Why does the turbine supplier care?
4	MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection.
5	Foundation. You can answer if you can.
6	THE WITNESS: Because the loading,
7	the mechanical loading on the turbine, is
8	affected by wakes as well.
9	So it's not just production. It's
10	the structural integrity and the they
11	have to warrant it to last a period of
12	time. And so in order to honor the
13	warranty, they have to make sure you're not
14	overloading the turbines by exposing them
15	to a greater wake.
16	BY MR. ARAMBURU:
17	Q. Let me try to make it simple, and
18	disagree with me if you like.
19	There are two concerns with wake
20	turbulence. One is, you're robbing the
21	downstream turbine of wind, affecting its
22	efficiency, and you're also creating
23	turbulence.
24	A. No. That is the same thing.
25	Q. Okay.

Τ

81 1 Α. The two concerns are the impacts of 2 the turbulence on the downstream turbines, plus 3 the mechanical loading that occurs from that 4 turbulence. 5 So I understand. Ο. 6 The wind is now uneven, it's not a 7 linear path? 8 Α. Right. 9 We've got a bunch of wind that's Q. 10 running around like that, and that may put additional pressures on the downstream turbine, 11 12 and so the manufacturers want to assess that; 13 is that right? 14 Α. Exactly, yeah. 15 Q. Okay. Okay. 16 Α. You got it. 17 See, we're going to agree on Q. 18 something. 19 Α. Yeah. 20 MS. PERLMUTTER: Excuse me if I 21 throw up for a moment. 2.2 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 23 Let's turn to page 2-103. Ο. I 24 understand that the proposal is to phase this 25 project?

82 1 Α. When we were initially conceiving 2 how to permit this, we wanted to accomplish two 3 main things. Number one is, we wanted to permit it all at once because we wanted to 4 assure that for all of the stakeholder concerns 5 6 out there, that we are putting forth the 7 maximum extent of what we conceive we can develop in this -- in Benton County. 8 9 And so at the time, the 10 interconnections were on separate paths in the 11 Bonneville evaluation system. We didn't know 12 which interconnect was going to get built 13 first, east or west. 14 So it could have been that we were 15 thinking of Phase 1 initially, but the Phase 2 16 interconnect became federalized and got built, 17 and we wanted to shift to then starting on Phase 2 first. 18 19 We also conceived that maybe we 20 could build the whole thing all at once. But 21 in the application, we had to accommodate all 2.2 of those concepts, but at the end of the day, 23 we had to make sense of it, too, so that people 24 can understand it. 25 But the decision as to how we build

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1	the project, whether phasing, all at once, will
2	in large part be determined by the turbine
3	supply. You know, turbine suppliers are
4	changing how they commit their production
5	capacity.
6	And so the turbines, we may not be
7	able to get all the turbines in a single
8	season. We may not be able to get all the
9	craft people that we need to construct it all
10	in the same season.
11	You know, it's the concept where if
12	it takes so long to do something with ten
13	people, adding ten more can cut it in half, no,
14	that isn't how it works. But, also, we don't
15	know if the craft capacity is going to be
16	available at the time that we need them. They
17	could be building a solar project in
18	Yakima County and Benton County at the same
19	time, as well as a wind project in Oregon.
20	And so until we get to the final
21	throes after we get an unappealable permit and
22	actually start the contracting process and the
23	financing process, we won't know for sure how
24	this is going to be staged.
25	Q. Okay. Well, I've been reading table

Ι

84 1 2.15-1, and seeing that as the phases that 2 would be followed. Is that table still 3 accurate? 4 Yeah. Relatively speaking, yeah. Α. 5 Ο. So I have not seen a drawing or a 6 map of where Phase 1 is. Can you tell me where 7 Phase 1 is? 8 Α. It can change. 9 Q. Well --10 The concept at the time we did this, Α. you can see Phase 1 says 230 kV, right? 11 So 12 it's turbines and solar and battery in 13 proximity to the 230 kV point of 14 interconnection. 15 Q. But right now, I don't see a map 16 that shows where Phase 1 and Phase 2 is; is 17 that correct? 18 It hasn't been determined yet. Α. 19 Would it be fair to say that one is Q. 20 east and one is west? 21 That's where the 230 kV interconnect Α. 2.2 is on the east, yeah. You can say that, yeah. 23 So Phase 1 on the -- I'm trying to Q. 24 figure out --25 Α. Okay.

85 1 -- because we're working towards the Ο. 2 hearing where we are here. 3 Α. Yeah. 4 So the battery system, Phase 1, Ο. 5 150 megawatts of battery. 6 Α. Yeah. 7 Phase 2-A another 150 --Q. 8 Yeah. Α. 9 -- megawatts. But Phase 2-B, the Q. 10 alternative, has no batteries in it at all. Because the only reason phase --11 Α. 12 alternative B exists is as an all wind 13 alternative. That's why there's no battery on 14 alternate B. 15 Q. Okay. 16 Α. There's only two phases that were 17 contemplated, but Phase 2 was portrayed as one 18 with battery and one with no battery. 19 Q. Phase 2? 20 Phase 2, yeah. Α. 21 Okay. And why wouldn't you do Q. 2.2 batteries for the wind project? 23 Α. Well, we're optimizing the project 24 for the interest of the offtakers. They may 25 not want the battery portion of the

86 1 hybridization. 2 Q. They may not want either of them? 3 There's potential that no one wants Α. 4 the battery, in which case, we just wouldn't 5 build it. 6 Q. It becomes a very different project, 7 though, without the battery, doesn't it? 8 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection as to 9 form. 10 THE WITNESS: Not really. The battery optimizes it, but it's a great 11 12 project without the battery. 13 BY MR. ARAMBURU: So over on page 2-102, Phase 2 A and 14 Ο. 15 B, one includes 10.2 miles of transmission and 16 the other one has 19. What's the difference? 17 There's a keyword in there called Α. 18 intertie. It says: Up to 19.4 miles of 230 kV intertie 19 between the east substation and the west 20 21 substation. 2.2 Ο. Okay. 23 And on Phase 2 alternative A, it's Α. 24 10.2 miles of 230 kV gen-tie from the 25 intermediate substation to the step-up

87 substation. And -- well, you can read it. 1 2 Q. So gen-tie is a transmission line? 3 Yeah. Gen-tie is from the generator Α. to tie into the transmission system, yes. 4 5 Ο. Okay. And then how do we get to the 6 19 on the second one? 7 Because we have initially designed Α. 8 in an intertie between the east side of the 9 project and the west side of the project. 10 Q. And that's Phase 2-B? That's where it's depicted, yes. 11 Α. 12 That's 2-B? Q. 13 Α. Yeah. 14 Q. Okay. Page 2-103 says: 15 The turbine supplier and EPC 16 contractor would be selected during the EFSEC 17 ASC review process. Is that an accurate statement? 18 Do 19 you see where I'm pointing you, Mr. Kobus? 20 Α. No, I don't, but --21 Okay. It's --Q. 2.2 So the intention is that we would Α. 23 have the project permitted as considered in the 24 application. And then we would select the 25 turbine supply, the solar supply, the EPC

88 1 contractor. And we have an obligation to 2 provide the final design of the site before we 3 start construction. In fact, we -- currently, 4 the DEIS says we have to do it 180 days prior 5 to the start of construction. 6 Q. Okay. But this says it would be 7 selected during the review process. Is that going to happen? We're in the review process 8 9 now. 10 Α. Yeah. And we'll be in the review 11 process until the SCA is approved by the 12 governor. 13 Q. The question is, is that process, is 14 that selection process ongoing now? 15 Α. We're constantly working with the 16 turbine suppliers, the solar suppliers, all the 17 equipment suppliers. So I've also looked at the schedule 18 Ο. 19 here of construction, which is broken down into 20 two phases. 21 Α. Yes. 2.2 Appears to me to be a pretty Q. 23 aggressive schedule working beginning just a 24 few months after the ASC is approved; is that 25 right?

89 That's -- that's correct. 1 Α. 2 Is that the current plan, to build Q. 3 it that quickly? 4 We're going to build it absolutely Α. 5 as quickly as we can get started. 6 Ο. Okay. 7 But we're going to need to finance Α. 8 it first. But it's not financed now? 9 Ο. 10 No. We don't have a permit. Α. So you can't finance something that doesn't have a 11 12 permit. 13 Q. Look at page 2-118, please. Very 14 last sentence on that page, would you read 15 that? You can read it to yourself. 16 Α. Okay. 17 Is that an accurate statement today? Q. 18 Α. Absolutely. 19 Q. You say there that it's: 20 Favorable for regional utilities as 21 it is coincident with peak loading demand. 2.2 Does this represent your conversation with regional utilities? 23 24 Α. Absolutely. 25 And who would those utilities be? Ο.

90 1 All utilities in the region. Α. 2 Q. Like? 3 Avista, Portland Sound Energy, Α. 4 Portland General, Benton PUD. Anybody that has 5 a demand for clean energy. 6 Q. And are these utilities ready to 7 purchase the output? 8 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. 9 Foundation. Answer if you can. 10 THE WITNESS: It's -- there are 11 press releases constantly about the 12 procurement activities of the regional 13 utilities. You can find exactly what they 14 want based on active RFPs that are 15 currently in existence. You can follow their IRPs, which are publicly available, 16 17 that actually forecast what their demands 18 are going to be and where they're going to 19 get it and what they think their best 20 viable resource is for them. 21 And we are trying to optimize and 2.2 formulate this project to meet that 23 evolving demand. 24 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 25 I understand that. Q.

91 1 But in terms of regional utilities, 2 is there any regional utility that indicates they want to buy the output of this project? 3 Is there any that indicate -- yes. 4 Α. 5 Ο. How many? 6 Α. All of them. 7 All of them are interested in buying Q. 8 the output? 9 Plus -- plus C&Is. There's a high Α. 10 demand right now for clean energy. There's going to be shortages in the very near future. 11 12 There's going to be slim pickings as to what's 13 available to meet those demands. And the closer, the better. The closer we are to the 14 15 load, the desired market, the better. They all 16 want it. They're clamoring for it. 17 If I was to call PSE this afternoon Ο. and ask them whether they want to buy the 18 19 output of this project, what would they say? 20 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Calls 21 for speculation. And also on foundation. 2.2 You can answer if you can. 23 THE WITNESS: I can't answer that. 24 They change their minds every day. I'm 25 sorry. They have procurement cycles and

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1	they're a regulated utility. They have to
2	follow the rules on how to procure new
3	resources.
4	BY MR. ARAMBURU:
5	Q. Has PSE issued an RFP for a project
6	this size?
7	A. Oh, yeah. They just closed one, in
8	fact. And they've said they're working on
9	another.
10	Q. Okay. The second part of your
11	sentence says that it's a commercially viable
12	site, favorable for utilities, as it is
13	coincident with peak loading demand.
14	Could you explain that?
15	A. The loading demands in the Pacific
16	Northwest are winter. So there are peak winter
17	loading demands. This region is a storm-driven
18	climate. So when the winter storms come in and
19	when the spring storms come in as the seasons
20	change, that's when we get our peak generation.
21	You know, as opposed to a gorge
22	project per se, is more predominantly summer,
23	summer peaking. This is winter peaking, and
24	that's when the utilities' loads peak the
25	largest.

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93 1 So the generation profile of this 2 project is a very good match for the load 3 profile that the utilities have to serve. Well, is it not the case that 4 Ο. 5 particularly wind during cold times in the 6 Tri-Cities doesn't blow for days and days? 7 There are times it doesn't blow for Α. 8 days and days, that's right. 9 So that's not coincident with peak Q. 10 loading demand, is it? Sure is. Because when it does blow, 11 Α. 12 there's a lot of it available. It's an 13 intermittent resource. It generates when the 14 wind blows, correct. 15 MR. ARAMBURU: So it's 1 o'clock. 16 Maybe we --17 MS. PERLMUTTER: Off the record. 18 (A recess was taken.) 19 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 20 Ο. We're back on the record so everyone 21 can hear. 2.2 Now I'd like you to turn over to 23 2 - 118. 24 Α. Okay. 25 Exhibit 1, or the updated ASC. Q.

94 1 Α. Yes. 2 Section -- paragraph 2.22 is the Q. 3 analysis of alternatives. And it says: 4 The application shall include 5 analysis of alternatives for site, route, and 6 other major elements of the proposal. 7 And there's a page or two here. 8 Goes over to page 121, about alternatives? 9 Did you have any hand in writing 10 this? 11 Α. Yes. 12 Q. Did you write it? Are you the 13 author? I initiated it, yes. But then it 14 Α. 15 was a team effort, like the entire document. 16 And I have not seen in the ASC or in Q. 17 this particular section of the updated ASC an 18 alternate site layout with fewer turbines; is 19 that correct? 20 That's correct. Α. 21 And why isn't -- why haven't you Q. 2.2 presented a project that has an alternative for 23 site? 24 Α. I mean, the ASC explains why we 25 didn't. But it was EFSEC's choice as to how

95 1 they were going to evaluate alternatives, and 2 they chose the no alternative, and then the two 3 turbine options for the proposed alternative. That was an EFSEC decision. We didn't --4 couldn't influence that. 5 6 Q. So the two alternative turbines were 7 the 244 and the 150 layouts? 8 Α. That's correct. 9 So who at EFSEC told you that's the Q. 10 way it's going to be? 11 EFSEC staff. So the official is Α. 12 Sonia Bumpus. 13 Q. Is she the one that told you that? 14 Α. She's the one that made the 15 decision. And then, you know, we had many 16 conversations about it. We have staff calls 17 regularly with EFSEC. 18 They're not required to evaluate 19 alternatives. It's an option, they're not 20 required. 21 Well, let's not get into a legal Ο. 2.2 argument over that. 23 Α. Okay. 24 Q. I just want to know what's actually 25 happening here.

96 1 So the original ASC, which was 2 February of 2021, as I recall? 3 Α. Yeah, yeah. 4 Contained pretty -- a lot of the Ο. 5 same language, but some further explanation 6 with the updates. 7 Α. Right. 8 So did EFSEC staff tell you you Q. didn't have to consider alternatives before 9 10 February of '21? Α. 11 No. 12 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection as to form. It's unclear as to -- if you can 13 14 answer, go ahead. 15 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 16 Well, let me clarify the question. Q. 17 Let's not have questions that are out of order. 18 You indicated you were told by EFSEC 19 staff that you didn't have to consider options 20 other than the 244, 150, correct? 21 When they were ready to complete the Α. 2.2 DEIS they made that determination and informed 23 us of it. 24 Ο. Okay. But this was done before --25 Yeah, this was --Α.

97 1 -- the DEIS was started? Ο. 2 I don't believe they need to Α. 3 evaluate alternatives, and so we wrote this 4 accordingly. 5 Okay. But was this part of the Ο. 6 application done in concert with EFSEC staff? 7 This was our application for Α. No. site certification. And we evaluated the 8 9 alternatives as we deemed necessary. 10 Okay. But EFSEC staff said you did Q. not have to consider a smaller project; is that 11 12 correct? 13 Α. They ultimately came to that 14 decision when they were finalizing the draft 15 EIS. 16 Was that in consultation with you? Q. 17 They independently came to that Α. decision. 18 19 Ο. Well, was this discussed in 20 communications, in conversations with EFSEC 21 staff? 2.2 I'm certain I've told them what I Α. 23 just told you, that I don't believe we're 24 obligated to evaluate alternatives. It doesn't 25 make sense to evaluate alternatives. We need

98 1 to permit the optimal project and be nimble to 2 continue to optimize it until we actually are to the point where we're ready to finance the 3 4 project. 5 I understand the business objectives Ο. 6 that are here, and I appreciate what you're 7 telling me. The question is, when did EFSEC 8 9 staff tell you that you didn't have to consider 10 alternatives? When were those conversations? What EFSEC told us is that they 11 Α. 12 determined that the only alternatives that need 13 to be evaluated are the no alternative and the 14 proposal, with the exception that the proposal 15 would be the two turbine option alternatives. 16 Q. So the original ASC came in, was 17 filed on February -- in February of 2021 --18 Α. Right. 19 -- is that correct? Q. 20 Α. Right. 21 Did you have those conversations Q. 2.2 with EFSEC about the alternatives prior to 23 filing the application? 24 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection as to 25 form. You can answer.

99 1 THE WITNESS: I'm sure I told them, 2 we don't think you need to evaluate 3 alternatives. BY MR. ARAMBURU: 4 5 Ο. So was it your request that they not 6 be considered? 7 I can't request that. They're the Α. 8 decision-maker. 9 I understand they're the Q. 10 decision-maker, but you can also ask them to do things, and I don't think you're shy about 11 12 that. 13 So did you ask them to not consider any alternatives? 14 15 A. No, I did not make a request that 16 said, please do not consider alternatives. I 17 said, you make the decision as you see fit. 18 And was that decision made for the Ο. 19 ASC and for the DEIS, for both of the 20 documents? 21 Α. No, no. 2.2 MS. PERLMUTTER: Object as to form. 23 Go ahead, you can answer. 24 THE WITNESS: It wasn't the decision 25 until the DEIS came out.

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1	BY MR. ARAMBURU:
2	Q. Well, but this document came out
3	the original document here updated now
4	A. Yeah.
5	Q with new language, that came out
6	in February of '21. The draft impact statement
7	didn't come out until December of '22.
8	A. This is our document. We created
9	this, and we updated it in the image that we
10	expect to be permitted for. And EFSEC's
11	responsible for their independent environmental
12	impact statement and determination of what
13	alternatives would be evaluated. They made
14	their choice. We submitted our application as
15	you see it.
16	Q. But your application doesn't contain
17	any discussion of alternatives other than no
18	action or the 244, 150?
19	A. What's required by EFSEC is what's
20	in this analysis of alternatives.
21	Q. Did you present this analysis to
22	EFSEC as consistent with
23	WAC (indecipherable)
24	(The Court Reporter requested
25	clarification.)

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101 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 1 2 Q. Did you go to EFSEC and ask -- and 3 present to EFSEC draft language in compliance with WAC 463-60-296 and ask them to approve it? 4 5 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection as to 6 form. And calls for a legal conclusion. 7 If you can answer it, you can. 8 THE WITNESS: We submitted the 9 document to them and asked them to process 10 it. That's -- I mean, that's the form it took. I did not request them to not 11 12 evaluate alternatives. I likely told them, 13 you don't need to, because that's what I 14 believe. 15 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 16 Q. Okay. 17 I can read WACs, too, just like Α. anybody else. 18 19 Okay. So that's your reading of the Q. 20 WAC 463-60-296? 21 I think it's EFSEC's, too. Α. 2.2 Okay. Now --Q. 23 Well, that was speculating. Α. Ι 24 probably shouldn't have done that. 25 Okay. So you're very determined to Q.

102 1 talk about only what I'm going to call the 244, 150 options. We understand what those are? 2 3 That's what I want to permit, yeah. Α. I need that flexibility. 4 5 Okay. Now, why can't we do half Ο. 6 that project? 7 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. BY MR. ARAMBURU: 8 9 What's wrong with that? Q. 10 MS. PERLMUTTER: Object as to form. And calls for speculation. But you can 11 12 answer. 13 THE WITNESS: We need to be able to 14 get an offtaker for this project. One of 15 the key factors in determining the 16 economics of the project is the economy of 17 scale. 18 So we need to build it -- you know, 19 if we could add any more turbines that 20 would increase the overall average capacity 21 factor, we would do that because that 2.2 improves the economics. 23 So we've built it out to the extent 24 we believe maintains a viable, desirable, 25 competitive offering for our marketplace.

103 1 And so anything we do to knock off turbines 2 is changing that economy of scale and making it less economic. 3 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 4 5 Ο. Well, I don't understand the 6 difference of economy of scale. We've got a 7 certain number of turbines here. We've got a 8 certain -- they can be cut in half. 9 What's the economy of scale? Why 10 isn't the option of half the turbines something 11 that can be explored? 12 MS. PERLMUTTER: Object as to form. 13 You can answer. THE WITNESS: I know every 14 combination of turbines versus 15 16 infrastructure cost. We've evaluated the 17 full spectrum over and over and over 18 exhaustively. 19 And you have to accept that there is 20 economy of scale when you have a certain 21 basic economic infrastructure cost. And so 2.2 the more generation you can pile onto it, 23 the cheaper that generation per unit is 24 going to be. 25 That's -- this is our business.

104 1 This is what we do to develop projects that 2 the market will prefer. BY MR. ARAMBURU: 3 4 Well, for example, Phase 1 of the Ο. 5 project --6 Α. Yes. 7 -- on page 2-101, if you would like Q. 8 to refer to it. 9 Α. Okay. 10 Phase 1 and Phase 2, right? Q. 11 Α. Yes. 12 Why don't we just build Phase 1 of Q. 13 the project? What are the economies of scale 14 that prevent you from just building that 15 project? 16 Scout has been investing Α. 17 considerable time and capital in building the largest project we can bring to market because 18 19 that's what makes us successful. So the commercial case for this site 20 21 is to build absolutely as much as we can to 2.2 satisfy the market need. So any whittling away 23 that we do of anything that generates as a part 24 of this mix is hurting our prospects. 25 Well, I understand that there are Ο.

105 1 certain sunk costs of wages and engineering and 2 various other things, salaries of people that have already been spent for this project. 3 Α. Uh-huh. 4 5 Ο. But just in terms of Phase 1, it 6 consists of turbines on the east side, consists 7 of a substation on the east side, a battery 8 operation --9 Α. Yeah. 10 -- on the east side, substation, Q. 11 some connections, and a large generation 12 request of BPA. 13 Why isn't that a standalone project? 14 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Asked 15 and answered. If you can answer it, you 16 can. 17 THE WITNESS: We have no interest in 18 tying our hands behind our back and 19 limiting the competitiveness and the 20 ultimate revenue potential of this project 21 for our company. Why would we shoot 2.2 ourselves in the foot and make it smaller? BY MR. ARAMBURU: 23 24 Q. Could you --25 That's not our business. Α.

106 I understand that Scout is in the 1 Ο. 2 business of selling wind turbines, solar, et 3 cetera. 4 Α. Yeah. 5 I understand that. Ο. 6 Α. Yeah, yeah. 7 My question is, if you built Q. Phase 1, would somebody buy it? 8 9 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Calls 10 for speculation. And asked and answered. You can answer. 11 12 THE WITNESS: I would believe there 13 might be somebody out there that just wants Phase 1. 14 15 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 16 Q. Okay. And so why isn't then Phase 1 17 an alternative to this project that avoids certain environmental impacts, cultural 18 19 impacts, impacts --20 Because it doesn't meet our needs. Α. 21 If that's the reason then --Q. 2.2 We're a private developer. We want Α. 23 to build as much capacity to meet the market 24 need in the Pacific Northwest as we can 25 possibly do. That what makes us survive and

107 1 prosper, right? 2 Q. Okay. I understand the objectives. 3 I don't have disagreement with them. But you've indicated to me that 4 5 there's a really high demand for renewable 6 projects now. 7 The entire thing, yep, and more. Α. There's not enough to meet the demand. 8 9 So to use the vernacular, people are Q. 10 snapping them up? Disagree with that? No, that doesn't --11 Α. 12 Q. Okay. 13 Α. That doesn't meet it. Because 14 there's a long, long process in negotiations to 15 get to the point where you ultimately come to a 16 completed offtake agreement with an entity. 17 And it takes years. I mean look at how long we've been developing this. I mean, it takes 18 19 years. 20 So when it's ready, when we have our 21 permit in hand, we've got a good chance of 2.2 winning a market bid for it. 23 But there are projects that are much Ο. 24 smaller than this that are being developed and 25 sold either to commercial entities or to

108 1 utilities; isn't that true? 2 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. 3 THE WITNESS: That is true. Sorry. 4 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. 5 Argumentative. You can answer. 6 THE WITNESS: Yeah, there are small 7 projects, there are big projects. We're a big project builder. 8 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 9 10 I want to go back and talk about the Q. batteries a little bit. 11 12 Α. Sure. 13 Q. The batteries, as I understand, are 14 a bit of a latecomer to this project? 15 Α. We chose -- when batteries started 16 becoming commercially feasible, when the 17 technology evolved and the prices dropped where it started to get in the ballpark of something 18 19 that would be interesting to our offtake 20 market -- and like I say, we converse with our 21 offtakers all the time, and they're telling us, 2.2 this is what we desire. 23 You're probably not familiar with 24 the Wheatridge Project, which was built, you 25 know, 30 miles south of Umatilla. That was one

109 1 of the first hybrid projects in the region. 2 We saw that happening. We conversed with our market and they said, yeah, we're 3 looking at wanting hybrid, you know, if you can 4 5 make the economics work. 6 So we evaluate the heck out of it 7 and get ourselves to a point where we feel we have something that is competitive in the 8 9 market. 10 And there is interest in the 11 batteries by some utilities, but whether we 12 build it or not will depend on what the market 13 will bear. 14 So would you say that the project as Ο. 15 a whole would have commercial viability without 16 the batteries? 17 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Calls 18 for speculation. And lack of foundation. 19 But you can answer. 20 THE WITNESS: The batteries add an 21 optimization element, but it's in the eye 2.2 of the beholder, in this case, the market, 23 whether it's advantageous for them or not. 24 And also understand, it may not be 25 advantageous for a party today, but

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1	ten years from now it might be. So I want
2	it in there. I want it permitted so
3	ten years from now, if that market
4	develops, I can build it.
5	BY MR. ARAMBURU:
6	Q. Okay. And so what so it was
7	decided that the batteries, there would be one
8	on each side of the project?
9	A. Well, you couple the batteries
10	ideally with solar. Because you know solar
11	only generates when the sun shines. And so,
12	since it's not generating at night, it would be
13	nice to have an option. And it's, you know, an
14	optimization technique to add the storage.
15	So you can phase shift the
16	generation of the solar from the daytime when
17	the sun's shining to like a high peak time when
18	the sun goes down.
19	(Telephone interruption.)
20	THE WITNESS: That's typically how
21	utilities use it in the current market is,
22	they'll use the solar to charge it, and
23	then they'll dispatch it sometime later
24	when there is no solar and they still have
25	peak needs.

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111 1 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 2 Q. Okay. So have you estimated the 3 amount of time it would take for the solar or 4 for the batteries to discharge into the grid? 5 Just like your car battery, it Α. 6 depends on how long you're cranking it as to 7 how long it's going to last. It'll be dispatched. So if it's a four-hour battery, it 8 9 means if you're dispatching it at maximum 10 capacity, it'll last four hours. How long does it take to charge? 11 Ο. 12 Depends on what you're charging it Α. 13 with. You can charge it pretty quick or can 14 you charge it all day long. You optimize it. 15 Q. What's your experience of batteries? 16 I have -- well, every car I've had Α. 17 has one. I know how they work. It's very 18 similar. 19 I'm not talking about car batteries, Q. 20 Mr. Kobus. I'm talking about commercial-grade 21 lithium-ion batteries of 150 megawatts. 2.2 What experience do you have with 23 anything -- with lithium-ion batteries at that 24 scale? 25 I've studied the heck out of it, and Α.

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1	I have very good experts that support me with
2	any demand or question I desire. And the
3	manufacturers are more than eager to tell us
4	all the technical details we need.
5	And we're evaluating we have a
6	whole group that we've hired at Scout that
7	knows batteries and knows what to do with them.
8	Q. Okay. So are there some reports
9	about the operation of the battery
10	(The Court Reporter requested
11	clarification.)
12	BY MR. ARAMBURU:
13	Q. Are there any reports that have been
14	done with regard to the operations of the
15	batteries?
16	MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection.
17	Foundation and form.
18	You can answer, if you can.
19	THE WITNESS: We have lots of
20	information from the manufacturers
21	BY MR. ARAMBURU:
22	Q. And do you
23	A on how they work, yeah.
24	Q. And do you have a manufacturer for
25	the batteries that has been selected?

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113 Same as for solar and wind turbines. 1 Α. 2 We're constantly evaluating the market and 3 looking at available technology and price points. And when the time comes, I'll 4 5 guarantee you we're going to choose the most 6 optimal arrangement and manufacturer at the 7 time. 8 Q. But it may be that the operator doesn't need the batteries? 9 10 Α. Yeah. 11 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection as to 12 form. You can answer. THE WITNESS: It may be we don't 13 build it on the first buildout, that it'll 14 15 be five years from now before we decide to 16 put the batteries in and upgrade the 17 project. But I got to have it in here to do that, so... 18 19 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 20 Q. But if one's analyzing the project 21 now, one should consider the batteries are a 2.2 part of it? 23 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Form 24 and foundation. You can answer. 25 THE WITNESS: Our market looks at

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1	all of these optimizations constantly.
2	They're constantly evaluating what's
3	optimal, and it changes literally from day
4	to day.
5	So today, right now, I can't tell
6	you what our first buildout is going to
7	look like because I can't tell you who the
8	offtaker is. We haven't selected our
9	equipment, so I can't tell you what brand
10	name of battery we're going have. We may
11	have a six-hour battery. We may have an
12	eight-hour battery. I can't tell you right
13	now. I would if I could, but we have to be
14	nimble. We have to keep this flexible.
15	BY MR. ARAMBURU:
16	Q. So for people looking at it and
17	talking about the application and whether EFSEC
18	ought to grant a permit for this, we go with
19	the current technology, which is lithium-ion
20	four-hour batteries?
21	MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection.
22	Foundation. You can answer.
23	THE WITNESS: No. We go with
24	150 megawatt battery potential. We can
25	build up to 150 megawatts of battery at

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115 1 each point of interconnection. 2 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 3 No, I understand you're going buy a Q. lot of batteries. 4 5 Α. Yeah. 6 But we're basically talking about Q. 7 four-hour lithium-ion batteries, correct? Not necessarily. I mean, that was 8 Α. 9 our target at the time we last updated the ASC. 10 I don't know what it's going to turn out. Well --11 Ο. 12 I want to do the most optimal. Α. Ι 13 want to sell the most of this project that I 14 can to meet regional needs for clean energy. 15 That's what this is all about. That's what we 16 need to do. 17 Okay. I understand that. Q. 18 Α. Yes. 19 The question is, for people who are Q. 20 assessing the project now, we're not going to 21 base that on something 15 or 20 years from now 2.2 when the batteries may be bigger or longer or 23 different composition. 24 We need to do it on the basis of 25 what's currently commercially available; isn't

116 1 that correct? 2 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Form 3 and foundation. You can answer, if you 4 can. 5 THE WITNESS: We have what we need 6 to tell EFSEC. They can make a decision on 7 what's in here. BY MR. ARAMBURU: 8 9 Q. Okay. Good. 10 So in connection with the discussion of batteries is this question of water for the 11 12 project. 13 Α. (Witness nodded head up and down.) 14 Q. And I understand -- I'm, again, 15 looking at the application, page 2-86 talks 16 about water supply. 17 Have you been involved in assessing 18 and getting water rights for the project? 19 I'm the key person doing that, yes. Α. 20 You're the one? Q. 21 Α. Yes. 2.2 Okay. Okay. And I understand from Q. 23 reading the document that drilling a well and 24 getting water from a well on the site is not feasible. 25

117 1 Α. Not true. 2 Q. Well, the --3 There are wells out there. Α. I understand that. I'm not talking 4 Ο. about those wells. 5 6 Α. But if you want to go dig dry holes 7 to try and see if you can get water, no thanks. No thanks. 8 9 So as I understand, that no new Q. 10 water rights are anticipated for this project. You're not going to be getting new water rights 11 12 to provide for water for the project. Not true. We will have rights for 13 Α. 14 whatever water supply we need, and contract for 15 the project. And we have that identified, and 16 it's perfectly valid. 17 Page 1-10 under energy and natural Q. 18 resources, it says: 19 No new water rights are anticipated 20 to be necessary for the use of local off-site 21 water resources. Is that correct? 2.2 23 Objection as to MS. PERLMUTTER: 24 form. You can answer, if you can. 25 This update indicated THE WITNESS:

118 1 we do not need to obtain new water rights. 2 We have water supply potential that has 3 water rights. BY MR. ARAMBURU: 4 And what's that? 5 Ο. 6 Α. Appendix -- which -- the one in 7 there that identifies the Port of Walla Walla 8 agreement. 9 Ο. Okay. So that's what you're relying 10 on? We may find others. 11 Α. 12 Q. Okay. Has an investigation been 13 made of other water suppliers for the project 14 other than the Port of Walla Walla? 15 Α. I've been working on it for two 16 years. In fact, we originally thought we 17 would -- the most convenient and obvious would be Kennewick. They have a huge water --18 19 municipal water system, and they were selling 20 water to anybody that applied and checked out a 21 water meter. And then they decided to change 2.2 their policy and say, no, we're going to keep 23 it for only within the city limits. 24 Q. Okay. So --25 That's too bad. That was water Α.

119 1 literally right next to the project. 2 Q. Not available now, though? 3 Not available now. Α. And have you talked to other water 4 Ο. 5 districts or water utilities about getting 6 water? 7 Almost all of them, yeah. Α. 8 And has anybody else other than the Q. 9 Port of Walla Walla said they will provide 10 water? Yes. We've turned down suppliers of 11 Α. 12 water. 13 Q. Okay. And where would those be? Locally, yeah. 14 Α. 15 Q. Locally? 16 I'm not going to name parties that Α. 17 we're in negotiations with. 18 But you don't have a signed Q. 19 agreement water right for any of those parties, 20 do you? 21 From Port of Walla Walla, yeah. Α. 2.2 Yeah. Q. 23 But not the other ones you're 24 talking about? 25 No, I don't -- I don't have signed Α.

120 1 agreements. 2 Ο. And --3 You know a lot of agreements don't Α. get signed until they're needed, right? 4 You 5 sign them just in time when you've found the 6 optimal source and the most economic and best 7 opportunity for you. 8 That's the way business works? Q. 9 Α. Yeah. 10 So let's look over page 2-150, Q. 11 please. 12 Boy, this is a big document. Okay. Α. 13 I'm there. 14 Ο. Under statement of compliance on 15 that page. 16 Α. Yes. 17 The first sentence reads: Ο. 18 Construction and operation of the 19 project would comply with certain sections of 20 the Benton County code. And the last one listed there is: 21 2.2 Minimum standard -- minimum 23 standards fire flows, water mains, fire 24 hydrants, and roads. 25 Do you see that?

121 1 Α. Yes. 2 Q. Did you write this? 3 No. Tetra Tech wrote this. Α. 4 And has the project -- can the Ο. 5 project meet these requirements? 6 Α. I'm absolutely convinced we can. 7 And what would be the source of Ο. 8 water for the minimum fire flows, water mains, 9 fire hydrants, roads, et cetera, particularly 10 for the batteries? MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection to form. 11 12 And asked and answered. But you can 13 answer, if you can. 14 THE WITNESS: The batteries may not 15 have water suppression. They're not 16 required to. 17 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 18 Okay. But I'm asking about the Q. 19 minimum standard fire flows. 20 What information can you provide me 21 that those fire flows are being met? 2.2 Α. The standards are not going to 23 expect you to have water available when there's 24 no hydrants. So, obviously, you have to have 25 some capability to get the water to where it's

	122
1	needed. So I'm absolutely convinced we can
2	meet the standards. We just said that here.
3	Q. No, I understand what you've said
4	here.
5	My question is, where are where
6	are the drawings, where are the specifications,
7	where are the other materials that indicate
8	these minimum standards can be met?
9	A. In the section of the ASC where it
10	addresses water. It addresses it in various
11	places.
12	Q. I understand, and I've read through
13	a lot of the document, but I have seen no
14	drawings. I've seen no standards. I've seen
15	nothing about fire hydrants. And I've seen
16	nothing about the
17	A. There will be no fire hydrants.
18	There is no water service out there. We have
19	to have contracted sources of water. We do not
20	intend to drill our own wells.
21	We will have water storage at the
22	site because we'll need water for domestic
23	needs as well in normal operation on a daily
24	basis. We will rely on Benton County Fire
25	Services in the event of an emergency.

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123 1 Well, if there was a fire up there Ο. 2 now, what would be the source of water for 3 extinguishing it? 4 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. 5 Foundation. Calls for speculation. You 6 can answer. 7 THE WITNESS: Well, I can answer it's BC-1, Benton County Number 1. 8 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 9 10 Ο. And how much water do they have available to fight a fire? 11 12 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Lack of 13 foundation. Answer if you can. 14 THE WITNESS: I don't know what 15 their equipment -- current equipment is. Ι 16 know they have water tankers, I've seen 17 them out fighting fires. 18 They have interagency agreements 19 where, if they need more, they can get it from BC-2, they can get it from 20 21 Walla Walla, they can get it from any of 2.2 the local fire departments. They will meet the need. 23 24 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 25 So on page 2-151, there's further Q.

124 1 discussion of water. Could you turn over 2 there? 3 Α. Sure. 4 And about two-thirds of the way down Ο. that first paragraph --5 6 Α. Okay. 7 Q. -- there are two sentences that say: 8 Proof of water availability is addressed in section 3.3 of this ASC. 9 10 Automatic sprinkler systems would be installed in the project O&M building and in the BESS 11 12 containers per BCC 3.04.041. 13 Do you see that sentence? 14 Α. Yes. 15 Q. And so is it the intention of Scout 16 to put automatic sprinkler systems in the BESS 17 operations? Yeah. I mean, that's our statement. 18 Α. 19 Q. And how big are these? How big are 20 the battery operations? 21 We haven't procured the battery yet, Α. 2.2 so I really can't answer you. 23 As best I can see, it's six acres of Q. 24 battery. 25 Well, they're modularized Α.

125 1 containers. They're self-contained. I mean, I've seen them down at the Wheatridge facility 2 3 and there they have the suppression, it's just not connected to anything. 4 5 We're going to have the same thing. 6 We're going to have modules, like C bands, 7 they'll be modularized components that you build together whatever size you need. 8 What's the source of water for the 9 Q. 10 automatic sprinkler systems that you mentioned here on page 151? 11 12 Α. I don't have an answer for you at 13 the moment. Well, there isn't any, isn't that 14 Ο. 15 the case? 16 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. 17 Argumentative. 18 THE WITNESS: I just don't know what 19 the plan is. We haven't procured it yet. 20 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 21 Are you aware the fire dangers with Q. 2.2 lithium-ion batteries? 23 Yes, yeah. Α. 24 Q. And what are those dangers? 25 They can have internal faults that Α.

126 1 cause them to burn. 2 Q. And have you seen lithium-ion fires? 3 Have you seen any videos of them? 4 I've seen pictures of Teslas burning Α. up, sure. Is this a Tesla? I don't know if 5 6 we're going buy Tesla batteries. I don't know 7 that answer. They might be the best one in the 8 market. 9 You're not going to buy Tesla car Q. 10 batteries, are you? Tesla makes batteries for battery 11 Α. 12 storage for commercial utility projects. Yes, 13 they do. I understand that they do, but do 14 Q. 15 you understand what the fire dangers of those 16 batteries are in a commercial setting on 17 six acres of property? 18 We will negotiate with the Α. 19 manufacturer to make sure we meet all standards 20 for the batteries that we procure for the site. 21 And so they will be safe as the technology is 2.2 available. 23 Ο. I understand they will be. 24 What will be the source of water to 25 fight a fire at the batteries?

127 1 Benton County 1. Α. 2 Q. Okay. 3 Well, it's Benton County 2 at the Α. west site because that's over in Benton 4 5 County 2 territory. So Benton County 2. 6 Q. Okay. So if I go to Benton -- have 7 you asked Benton County about their ability to 8 fight a six-acre battery fire up on the 9 plateau? 10 Α. Yes. Talked -- spoke with the fire 11 marshal myself. 12 What did he say? Q. 13 Α. He said, I don't have time for this. 14 I'm sorry, that's what he said. He won't 15 answer phone calls anymore. So talk to the 16 Benton County fire marshal. 17 So the answer is, you haven't gotten Ο. 18 approval --19 Benton County will be the provider Α. 20 of emergency services. They're going to have 21 to figure it out. 2.2 But you have not gotten approval Q. 23 from the Benton County fire marshal for the 24 plans for this six-acre battery operation, have 25 you?

128 1 We do not have our emergency plan Α. 2 approved through the county, no. That will 3 likely be a condition of our site certification 4 agreement. That's how that works. 5 Ο. Are you familiar with the concept of 6 thermal runaway in lithium-ion batteries? 7 I believe I understand. That's what Α. 8 I meant by internal faults that can occur. 9 And you're aware that this is a Q. 10 fast-moving fire? Α. Yeah. 11 12 Q. Very fast, correct? 13 Α. Within the battery, yeah. Not away from the battery. 14 15 Q. Are you familiar with the concept of 16 repropagation of fires in lithium-ion 17 batteries? 18 A. I believe that's a concern, yeah. 19 You have to watch it. 20 Q. Have to keep water on it for days at 21 a time, don't you? 2.2 Α. I can't say for sure. This is 23 commercially available technology, right. This 24 is state of the art. We're going after state 25 of the art lithium-ion batteries, if that's

129 what we install at the site. 1 We will get the best batteries 2 3 available in the market, and they will be 4 demonstrably safe and they'll be warranted. 5 And I'll guarantee you Benton County will make 6 sure that they have the emergency services 7 capability they need to support this project. 8 Q. You guarantee that they will? 9 They have to. That's their Α. 10 responsibility. That sounds like a legal conclusion 11 Q. 12 to me. 13 MS. PERLMUTTER: You don't have to 14 answer that. 15 THE WITNESS: Okay. 16 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 17 So we had a little trouble copying Ο. page -- this is actually page 2-126. And when 18 19 we copied it, we got a couple of holes through, 20 but this is what it looks like. It's your --21 Α. Yes, okay. 2.2 Do you see that? Q. 23 Α. Yeah. 24 Q. Can you find that there in the 25 material? Yeah, I think it's up -- yeah, I

130 1 think it's right here. Right there. Can you turn that over? That's what 2 3 talks about the Benton County fire marshal? 4 Α. Yes. 5 Ο. Okay. And there's a hole through it 6 there, but it refers to Benton County code and 7 International Fire Code? Α. Yes. 8 9 And have you investigated the Q. 10 requirements for fighting lithium-ion fires that are found in the International Fire Code? 11 12 Α. Yes. 13 Q. You have. 14 It says a permit may be required for 15 the Benton County fire marshal in accordance 16 with International Fire Code; do you see that? 17 Yes. Α. 18 And have you secured that permit? Q. 19 No. Α. 20 Q. Have you received a commitment from 21 the Benton County fire marshal to issue such a 2.2 permit? 23 Α. No. We engaged with him and, as I 24 said, he indicated he didn't have time to deal 25 with it.

131 And then there's another sentence 1 Ο. 2 after that that was recently added, which says: 3 If necessary, the applicant would obtain these permits in coordination with 4 5 EFSEC. 6 Do you see that? 7 Α. Yes. EFSEC has preemptive authority 8 to issue the permits themselves. 9 So if you can't get it from the Q. 10 Benton County fire marshal, you're going to ask EFSEC to issue the permit? 11 12 Α. Absolutely. It's a benefit of going 13 to EFSEC, it's a one-stop shop. 14 MS. PERLMUTTER: Wait until there's 15 a question pending. 16 THE WITNESS: Oh, sorry. 17 MS. PERLMUTTER: That's okay. 18 You're doing great. 19 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 20 Ο. I'd like you to look at page 4-33, 21 and the very last sentence. 2.2 Got it. Α. 23 Last two sentences: Ο. 24 Lithium-ion battery storage may pose 25 a risk of fire and explosion due to the

132 1 tendency for lithium-ion batteries to overheat. 2 Do you see that? 3 Α. Yes. 4 Did you assist in writing this? Ο. 5 Α. I reviewed it, yes. 6 Q. And do you think that's an accurate 7 statement? Α. I believe it is. 8 9 And what is FPRF, which is the end Q. 10 of that sentence? I would have to look at the 11 Α. 12 references to identify that acronym. I'm not exactly sure offhand what it stands for. 13 14 Q. And then it says: If lithium-ion batteries are exposed 15 16 to abnormal heat, electrolyte products may 17 vaporize and be vented from the cells. This vented electrolyte is flammable and may ignite 18 on contact with an ignition source. 19 20 Is that an accurate statement? 21 I believe it, yeah. Α. 2.2 And what water is currently planned Q. 23 to be applied to the extinguishment of a fire that's discussed here? 24 25 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Asked

133 1 and answered. You can answer if you can. THE WITNESS: Well, I remember we 2 just went through a bit ago where we said 3 we were going to have fire suppression for 4 5 the batteries. So whatever water supply is 6 required to make that operational is what 7 it'll end up being. BY MR. ARAMBURU: 8 9 Do you know what the minimum fire Q. 10 flows are that are required for industrial 11 commercial operations in Benton County? 12 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. 13 Foundation. I'm sorry. Objection. Form. 14 You can answer, if you can. THE WITNESS: Not offhand, no. 15 16 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 17 Getting near the end here. Give Ο. me -- I know. I know, you can barely wait. 18 19 MR. ARAMBURU: Let's go off the 20 record for a second. 21 (A recess was taken.) 2.2 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 23 A couple of questions. Q. 24 You have been -- have you been the 25 principal contact for the applicant with EFSEC

134 and EFSEC staff? 1 2 Α. Yes. And how long has that been going on? 3 Q. Since, we -- since, well, prior --4 Α. 5 just prior to filing our permit and getting 6 ready to file it, and then since, I've been the 7 principal contact. Now, that being said, every now and 8 9 then, if there's large files, I'll have Tetra 10 Tech do a manage file transfer to EFSEC, but that's at my authorization and it's considered 11 12 coming from me when I authorize that, so... 13 Ο. So as I understand the record, the 14 first contacts with EFSEC were in the fall of 15 2020. Does that comport with your chronology? 16 That would be -- yeah, that would be Α. 17 the timeframe where we were deliberating whether to do the county permit process or the 18 19 EFSEC process, yeah. 20 And during that period of time, Q. 21 let's say, through the fall of 2020, you were 2.2 involved at that time? 23 Absolutely, yeah. Α. 24 Q. And through 2021. 25 Was there conversations with EFSEC

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1	about the content of the environmental impact
2	statements?
3	A. No.
4	Q. And have you had contact with them
5	about the content of the impact statements?
6	A. Well, when we initially filed our
7	application, we had conducted a SEPA analysis.
8	And, you know, in our belief, we felt we could
9	meet the criteria for mitigated determination
10	of nonsignificance.
11	And then, after we filed for the
12	expedited permitting process, we later decided
13	to rescind that application and agreed with
14	EFSEC that we would support them preparing an
15	environmental impact statement.
16	Q. And so there was interactions, then,
17	between EFSEC and Scout staff, including
18	yourself?
19	A. Yeah, because we had to we had to
20	request them to declare that it would need an
21	environmental impact statement. Because
22	they're the ones that are responsible for that
23	determination and they're the ones that
24	prepare, or have an independent expert prepare
25	the environmental impact statement.

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136 1 And as I understand it, the 0. 2 independent expert is being paid by Scout? 3 Oh, yes. EFSEC is entirely on Α. 4 our -- our -- we have to pay -- we have to pay 5 a certain share of EFSEC's normal costs, plus 6 we have to pay everything specific to this 7 application. 8 The comment period for the draft Q. 9 impact statement ended February 1st of this 10 year. Are you aware of that? 11 Α. Yes. 12 Q. Have you been working with EFSEC 13 concerning the preparation of the final impact 14 statement? They're doing it. We're -- we filed 15 Α. 16 comments on the DEIS for what we would expect 17 them to consider to change or incorporate in the final EIS, but that's all in the record. 18 19 Have there been further Q. 20 communications regarding the final impact 21 statement? 2.2 Α. Only through data requests where 23 they're actually asking us for things that they 24 feel they need in order to make the 25 determinations they need for the final EIS,

137 1 yes. 2 Q. Has EFSEC indicated to you when they 3 expect to issue the final impact statement? When we asked to extend the EFSEC 4 Α. 5 process to the point of a final document that's 6 ready to be provided to the governor, we 7 discussed that the final EIS would be part of 8 that record that they create, along with the 9 site certification agreement that would go 10 along with that. So I don't know exactly -- exactly 11 12 when the final EIS is going to be completed. 13 Q. Have you asked them? 14 Α. Oh, yeah. 15 And what did they say? Q. 16 Α. It depends. They still are doing 17 evaluations. And those were documented in the recent data requests 7 and 8. We've provided 18 19 information, and we still owe them a document 20 for data request 7. 21 What's that? Q. 2.2 The transportation impact analysis. Α. 23 Okay. And is there going to be any Q. 24 additional visual impact analysis provided? 25 We did do additional, and it has Α.

138 1 been provided in response to data request 7. 2 Ο. And that's been provided to EFSEC 3 staff? 4 Yeah, it's on the docket. Α. 5 Q. Okay. 6 Α. In fact, the Yakima Nation have 7 requested some points of interest that --8 identified points of interest for us to do 9 visual simulations, which we did. 10 MR. ARAMBURU: Okay. I think that's all the questions I have right now. 11 Thank 12 you, Mr. Kobus. 13 EXAMINATION 14 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 15 Hello, again, Mr. Kobus. I'm Q. 16 Shona Voelckers from the Yakima Nation. Same 17 ground rules apply, of course, to this 18 conversation. And as I'm sure you expect, I'm 19 going to jump around a bit. 20 Α. Okay. 21 Does Exhibit 1 reflect any efforts Q. 2.2 by Scout to avoid impacts to the Yakima 23 Nation's traditional cultural properties? 24 Α. The intention is that we desire to 25 know what those impacts are, and have, in fact,

139 requested those to be identified to the fullest 1 2 extent. 3 For those we've heard and evaluated, 4 we've actually made an attempt to redesign the 5 project in consideration of those. And our 6 intent is to continue to work with the Yakima 7 Nation to come to hopefully an agreeable 8 compromise. 9 Are those attempts reflected Q. 10 anywhere in Exhibit 1? 11 I'm going to say not. I don't think Α. 12 they are. 13 Q. Have you reviewed the confidential 14 TCP report submitted into the adjudication 15 record by Jessica Lally? 16 Α. The most recent, yes. 17 It was just recently because --Q. 18 Yeah. Α. 19 The -- but the report itself? Q. 20 Α. Yeah. 21 Does Exhibit 1 reflect any efforts Q. 2.2 by Scout to minimize impacts to the Yakima 23 Nation's traditional cultural properties? 24 Α. We have continued to maintain the 25 fullest extent of the development of the

140 project, and have not yet reduced impacts. 1 2 There are settlement discussions in 3 progress with the parties associated with the 4 permit. We do intend to mark up the document 5 as part of the post-adjudication redline to make those concessions in accordance with those 6 7 settlement agreements that, you know, we would like to have done prior to the end of 8 9 adjudication. 10 So as we sit here today, there's Ο. nothing within Exhibit 1 that reflects an 11 12 effort by Scout to minimize impacts to Yakima 13 Nation's traditional cultural properties, 14 correct? 15 Α. (No verbal response.) Is it fair to say those efforts have 16 Q. 17 not been yet incorporated into the application? 18 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Form. 19 You can answer, if you can. 20 THE WITNESS: I need to back up a 21 step. 2.2 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 23 Sure. Ο. 24 I was attempting to engage with Α. 25 Jessica Lally literally the first week I

141 1 started working for Scout back in 2018. 2 There was some information available that indicated Webber Canyon was important to 3 the Yakima Nation. And we did pull back and 4 5 allowed additional margin related to Webber 6 Canyon because we knew that to be the case. 7 But recent discussions, no, they 8 have not been incorporated into the application 9 as it stands today. 10 So as we sit here today, just so I'm Ο. clear, there isn't something in Exhibit 1 that 11 12 you could point me to right now that reflects 13 an effort by Scout to minimize impacts to TCP? 14 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. It's been asked and answered -- asked and 15 16 answered. But you can respond. 17 THE WITNESS: There has been an 18 effort all along to attempt to optimally 19 design the project and not load up the west 20 end of it because we know that there are 21 important TCPs there. 2.2 You know, as it stands, there's also 23 airspace restrictions that kept us away 24 from the west as well. But, you know, I 25 have to admit that in what we applied for,

142 there, yes, there was consideration for 1 2 Yakima TCPs. 3 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 4 But there's nothing -- I just want Ο. 5 to make sure I understand your answer clearly 6 to my question. 7 There's nothing that we could point 8 to today as we sit here that demonstrates 9 Scout's efforts to minimize impacts to Yakima 10 Nation traditional cultural properties? Objection. 11 MS. PERLMUTTER: Asked 12 and answered. You can answer again. 13 THE WITNESS: The only thing I could point to -- well, I can't point to, but the 14 15 only thing I can respond with is, there are 16 things we intentionally didn't include in 17 consideration of Yakima TCPs. BY MS. VOELCKERS: 18 19 But it's no to my question on Ο. whether that is reflected in Exhibit 1 as a 20 21 document? 2.2 Not as a document, no. Α. So that's not reflected in the 23 Ο. 24 application that EFSEC has, that's knowledge 25 that you hold personally?

143 1 And it's in the layout of the Α. 2 project. As I said, there are things we could 3 have done that we chose not to. 4 And have you provided information Ο. 5 about what you could have done that you chose 6 not to? 7 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection as to 8 form. You can answer. 9 THE WITNESS: At that stage of the 10 project, we had a letter from the Yakima Nation that said, we will not converse with 11 12 the applicant until it is part of the EFSEC 13 process, and we will consult government to 14 government. And so that was when 15 conversation ceased. 16 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 17 Okay. So is there anything external Ο. to the exhibit in front of you that you could 18 19 point to that documents that? 20 Α. They're confidential. No, I 21 couldn't point to them. They're part of 2.2 ongoing settlement negotiations. 23 And you're aware that there's not an Ο. 24 active settlement negotiation as of today, 25 correct?

144 1 I wouldn't put it that way. I would Α. 2 say we've made a proposal that was rejected and 3 not countered. But I would say we're still 4 intending to negotiate, and we've requested to 5 do that, and our intention is to continue to 6 try. 7 But it does take two parties to Q. continue a settlement discussion, correct? 8 9 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. 10 Argumentative. You can answer. THE WITNESS: Yeah, we would like 11 12 the Yakima Nation to come to the table. 13 Yeah. BY MS. VOELCKERS: 14 15 Q. And does Exhibit 1 reflect any 16 efforts by Scout to mitigate impacts to Yakima 17 Nation's traditional cultural properties? 18 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Asked 19 and answered. Answer if you can, or you 20 want to answer again. 21 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 2.2 I'm going to clarify my question. Q. Ι 23 have not asked about mitigation yet. 24 So does Exhibit 1 reflect any 25 efforts by Scout to mitigate impacts to Yakima

145 1 Nation's traditional cultural properties? 2 Α. I believe we've offered very robust 3 mitigation that benefits Yakima Nation as well, 4 yes. That mitigates impacts to 5 Ο. 6 traditional cultural properties? 7 I believe so, yeah. Α. And how do you understand me to be 8 Q. 9 using that term? 10 Α. I understand that the identification of traditional cultural properties is a complex 11 12 concept. And with, you know, all respect to 13 the Yakima Nation, we need that articulated to the fullest extent. And that's what we hope to 14 15 come to the table with, and have precise, 16 concise conversations about things that are 17 possible. 18 You know, but declaring the whole 19 thing is a TCP that's unmitigable doesn't help. 20 Ο. So I just want to make sure I'm not 21 using terms that we're not clear on. 2.2 Do you know what I mean when I say, 23 "legendary sites"? 24 Α. Yes. 25 And you know what I mean when I say, Q.

146 monumental sites"? 1 2 Α. Not real clear on the distinction 3 between the two. 4 How do you understand me to be using Ο. 5 the words, "legendary sites"? Sites that the Yakima Nation 6 Α. 7 believes since creation have been utilized and passed down from generation to generation what 8 9 the significance is and how they've been 10 utilized and what their value is to the culture. 11 12 Q. Okay. And you said you reviewed 13 Jessica Lally's TCP report that generally 14 summarizes --15 Α. Yes. 16 Q. -- the project's impact to TCPs? 17 Yes. Α. 18 So based upon your review of that, Q. 19 is it fair to say that there isn't anything in 20 Exhibit 1 that contains commitments by Scout to 21 mitigate impacts to Yakima Nation's traditional 2.2 cultural properties that have been identified 23 by Jessica Lally? 24 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection to form. 25 You can answer, if you can.

147 1 THE WITNESS: Well, my understanding 2 is the mitigation is no wind turbines on Horse Heaven Hill. So I can't work with 3 that. So the site has to be permitted in 4 5 accordance with EFSEC and, you know, we're 6 asking for the current infrastructure 7 that's in the application. BY MS. VOELCKERS: 8 You mentioned the discussion between 9 Q. 10 Scout and Yakima Nation about any -- about alterations to the project design --11 12 Α. Yes. 13 Q. -- that were proposed. 14 Have you discussed any alterations 15 to the project design contained in Exhibit 1 16 with anyone else outside Scout and your legal 17 counsel? 18 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Form 19 and foundation. You can answer. 20 THE WITNESS: We are negotiating a 21 settlement with counsel for the 2.2 environment. BY MS. VOELCKERS: 23 24 Ο. And is any of that discussion reflected within Exhibit 1? 25

148 1 Α. No. 2 Is any of that discussion reflected Q. 3 in any materials available to EFSEC right now? 4 The settlement negotiations, we're Α. 5 intending to keep them confidential until it's 6 executed. We have provided our version of that 7 to the AG and it's under review. Which is consistent with how some 8 Ο. 9 negotiations work. I'm not trying to suggest 10 it's wrong. But I'm just trying to confirm that 11 12 there's isn't anything that EFSEC has to review 13 to incorporate any project design changes in their review of the application today? 14 15 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Form 16 and foundation. You can answer. 17 THE WITNESS: In recent discussions 18 with EFSEC we've told them we are preparing the results of the current status of 19 20 project changes, of infrastructure changes, 21 and that will be forthcoming. 2.2 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 23 Okay. So they're aware that it's Ο. 24 coming? 25 Α. Yes.

149 1 And do those project changes include Ο. anything besides what you've been discussing 2 3 with counsel for the environment? 4 We have not discussed any of the Α. 5 negotiations or proposals with the Yakima 6 Nation with any other parties. That was 7 confidential with Yakima Nation. 8 Okay. But the project designs that Ο. 9 you -- putting that aside, right, we'll move on 10 from that. 11 Α. Okay. 12 Q. Is there any other project design 13 that you are currently contemplating aside from what has been proposed in confidential 14 15 conversations with Ms. Reyneveld? 16 Α. Yes. 17 And what are those other design Ο. 18 alterations? 19 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Form. 20 You can answer, if you can. 21 THE WITNESS: Until we submit them 2.2 to EFSEC, they're still a work in progress. 23 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 24 Ο. Have they been shared externally 25 outside of Scout?

150 1 Just with our team, just with our Α. 2 legal and technical consultants. 3 Okay. So you've discussed different Q. 4 design alterations than what's in Exhibit 1, 5 but they've not been shared external to Scout 6 and legal counsel? 7 Correct. We're waiting for all the Α. 8 parties, all things to progress as they should 9 until the time we're ready to identify them. 10 Okay. So EFSEC staff does not have Q. them? 11 12 Α. No, they do not. 13 Q. And EFSEC's counsel does not have 14 them? 15 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection as to 16 form. You mean council or counsel? 17 MS. VOELCKERS: Thank you. We'll 18 take both in turn. 19 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 20 Ο. EFSEC's legal counsel doesn't have 21 them? 2.2 To my knowledge, that's correct. Α. And the council that will decide and 23 Ο. 24 make a recommendation to the governor, the 25 EFSEC council, not legal counsel, they don't

151 1 have a copy of any of the project designs that 2 are being discussed? Yeah. Just to be clear, we don't 3 Α. interface with the council, only through the 4 5 monthly meetings or if they do a tour of the 6 site. That's the only interface we have with 7 council members. 8 Q. Okay. I appreciate the 9 clarification. 10 So then to be clear, as we go into 11 an adjudication hearing, the material that they 12 have in front of them is Exhibit 1? 13 Α. Correct. 14 Q. Without alterations to the design? 15 MS. PERLMUTTER: I'm going to object 16 as to form when you say that they have in 17 front of them. We've just been talking about at least two entities. So if you 18 19 could clarify that, that would be good. 20 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 21 Well, I'm going to take it as whole Q. 2.2 entity. EFSEC as an entity, staff, legal 23 counsel, everyone. 24 As we sit here today, they only have 25 the project design contained in Exhibit 1 in

152 1 front of you? 2 Α. That's correct. 3 When do you anticipate giving them Q. 4 the proposed design alterations? 5 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection to form 6 and foundation. You can answer. 7 THE WITNESS: I have to defer to legal counsel on that as to how that's 8 9 going to be unveiled in the EFSEC 10 adjudication. BY MS. VOELCKERS: 11 12 Q. Okay. So it's a legal strategy on when that information is available? 13 14 Α. Yes, yes. 15 I'm not going to get into a whole Q. back-and-forth on the lack of alternatives 16 17 because I think that was covered a lot, but I do want to just understand kind of can versus 18 19 can't in terms of what could be possible. So -- and I understand there's a lot 20 21 of, you know, economic interest, business 2.2 interest. That's your job, not mine. 23 But can the project move forward 24 without the solar field? 25 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection to form.

153 1 THE WITNESS: It's possible. Is it 2 optimal? No. 3 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 4 Can the project move forward without 0. 5 the northwest solar field, same answer? 6 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Form 7 and foundation. You can answer. THE WITNESS: Same answer. 8 9 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 10 Can the project move forward without Q. the southwest solar field? 11 12 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Form 13 and foundation. 14 THE WITNESS: Same answer, yeah. 15 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 16 Can the project move forward without Q. 17 any solar fields? 18 MS. PERLMUTTER: Same objection. 19 Form and foundation. 20 THE WITNESS: Same answer, yes. 21 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 2.2 So is it fair to say that the solar Q. 23 portion of the project is what moves it towards 24 optimal, but the solar fields themselves are 25 not necessary for the project?

154 1 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Form. 2 THE WITNESS: It's in the eye of the 3 beholder as far as the offtake potential. 4 If they say they want 100 megawatts solar 5 overbuild on the east side, we're going to 6 try and make it work. 7 And so, you know, we have a market we intend to meet. And we want to optimize 8 9 and make this as big as we can, of course, 10 we're within the constraints of what's in the application. But that's our business 11 12 is bringing the market what they need. 13 BY MS. VOELCKERS: Could you market the project without 14 Q. 15 the solar fields? 16 It's possible, but not optimal. Α. 17 Understood. Okay. We can move on Q. 18 from that part. 19 Yeah. Α. 20 Ο. I heard a couple of times from you 21 today that Scout has ongoing discussions with 2.2 potential offtakers, correct? 23 That's correct. Α. 24 Q. Offtaker is the right word? 25 Α. Yes.

155 1 Okay. And it sounded like, but Ο. correct me if I'm wrong, those discussions have 2 gone so far as to have potential offtakers make 3 requests about the project design; is that 4 5 correct? 6 Α. That's correct. The offtakers 7 identify what's desired to meet their needs, 8 and then we attempt, where possible, to 9 structure the project if we want to meet their 10 need. There's -- I mean, there's a whole 11 12 spectrum, there's a whole smorgasbord of things that you can do to optimize and. The first one 13 14 that has the best deal relative to our bids, 15 we'll be happy with. 16 Q. So is it fair to say than an 17 offtaker could make a suggestion or request that's kind of further out from what others are 18 19 asking, so you might not honor that request? 20 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection as to 21 form. You can answer. 2.2 THE WITNESS: We might not be able 23 to honor that request. So we would say, 24 this is what we can do and this is what 25 it'll cost.

156 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 1 2 Q. Because you're getting input from multiple offtakers, so you can balance that 3 4 input? 5 Α. Sure, sure. I mean it's no secret, 6 you know, Atlas Agro is trying to build a 7 fertilizer plant in Richland. They're going to need power. They have to have clean energy. 8 9 And there's very unique needs that they have 10 given where they are, where they're interconnecting, and the demand that they need 11 12 to provide for that facility. 13 And so they're likely to engage with 14 us and say, we want you to do this, and if you 15 do it, then we will sign an agreement. 16 Q. How many potential offtakers, you 17 don't have to be exact here, but, in general, how many potential offtakers have provided 18 19 input on the project design contained in 20 Exhibit 1? 21 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection to form. 2.2 You can answer. 23 THE WITNESS: I'm going to say, to 24 the best of my knowledge, none. Because 25 our application was created in our concept

157 1 of what the market's going to desire. 2 And we pushed the bubble out to get 3 the maximum flexibility. And then our 4 intent is to remain as nimble as possible 5 to be able to optimize to eventually sell 6 the maximum extent of the energy from this 7 project that we can. BY MS. VOELCKERS: 8 9 Have you made enough progress with a Q. 10 potential offtaker to have any sort of agreement that's contingent on the project 11 12 being permitted? 13 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection as to 14 form. You can answer. 15 THE WITNESS: No. They will not --16 they have indicated they -- no one wants to 17 agree to procure something without a 18 permit. They have to have certainty. They 19 have to have line of sight certainty on 20 that permit. 21 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 2.2 Right. But earlier, you discussed Q. 23 an exclusivity agreement with a turbine 24 provider. Do you have any agreement with a 25 potential offtaker --

158 1 (The Court Reporter requested 2 clarification.) 3 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 4 Do you have any tentative agreements Ο. 5 with potential offtaker or offtakers that 6 commits them to purchasing the project once it 7 is permitted? Α. 8 No. 9 And you talked now and earlier about Q. 10 optimal project. Α. Yes. 11 12 Q. And I just want to be clear, when 13 you're using "optimal" today, you mean optimal 14 economically? 15 Α. That's correct. Well, I need 16 embellish that a little bit. Optimization also 17 includes lowest environmental impact, most 18 efficient and reliable interconnection to the grid. All of that figures into the 19 optimization. You know, it has to be minimized 20 21 to the extent practical related to the SEPA 2.2 criteria. 23 As you sit here today, is it your 0. 24 testimony that the project is designed to have 25 the lowest environmental impact?

159 1 We specifically chose this site for Α. 2 its low relative environmental impact. And we've done everything practical to design the 3 site to minimize that impact, avoid where 4 5 necessary, and, in fact, provide mitigation for 6 where it can't be avoided. 7 And when you say that you are Q. providing mitigation where something can't be 8 9 avoided, you're referring to environmental 10 impacts, correct? 11 Α. Correct. 12 Q. And if you're saying that 13 something -- environmental impact can't be 14 avoided, is that, it can't be avoided and the project still exists, or it can't be avoided 15 16 for the optimal project? 17 It can't be avoided as a project Α. exists. For example, we're going to have 18 19 one acre of permanent impact to shrub step. We 20 can't avoid it. 21 (The Court Reporter requested 2.2 clarification.) 23 To shrub step habitat, THE WITNESS: 24 and we can't avoid it. So I've got to 25 mitigate for that one acre of permanent

160 1 impact. 2 BY MS. VOELCKERS: Why can't you avoid it? 3 Q. It would be economically infeasible 4 Α. 5 to, you know, for example, route a conductor -a whole series of conductors several miles 6 7 around a one-acre shrub step impact. 8 So we believe that we can mitigate, 9 onsite is preferred, and we do have a site 10 identified in our habitation mitigation plan, but that's a case where it would just be 11 12 unreasonable to avoid that one acre. And, you 13 know, we feel that's acceptable. 14 Q. Unreasonable, but not impossible? 15 Α. Right. 16 Q. So is it fair to say that when the 17 Exhibit 1 discusses avoidance of environmental impacts and says that something cannot be 18 19 avoided, does that really mean that it's 20 unreasonable from a business perspective to 21 avoid that impact? 2.2 That's what it means, yes. Α. 23 Okay. Q. Thank you. 24 You talked about the benefit of 25 going to EFSEC, and I think you used the term

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1	"one stop shop"?
2	A. Correct.
3	Q. I would certainly agree that by
4	going to EFSEC you're saving administrative
5	burden by applying to them rather than multiple
6	regulators.
7	My question, though, is about your
8	understanding. Is it your understanding that
9	EFSEC can override all other permitting
10	entities with oversight of the project?
11	MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Calls
12	for a legal conclusion. And irrelevant.
13	You can answer.
14	THE WITNESS: EFSEC has preemptive
15	authority.
16	BY MS. VOELCKERS:
17	Q. Even over permits required under
18	federal law?
19	A. No, they cannot preempt federal.
20	Q. And what about permits required
21	under state law, apart from Benton County's own
22	regulations?
23	MS. PERLMUTTER: I'm going to object
24	on foundation grounds. Calls for legal
25	conclusion. And it is also specifically

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	162
1	one of the issues that have been excluded
2	from the adjudication by Judge Torem.
3	(The Court Reporter requested
4	clarification.)
5	MS. PERLMUTTER: By Judge Torem,
6	T-o-r-e-m.
7	MS. VOELCKERS: State law permitting
8	has been excluded?
9	MS. PERLMUTTER: Preemption of
10	local preemption of local land use plans
11	or ordinances.
12	BY MS. VOELCKERS:
13	Q. So is it your understanding that
14	EFSEC can override or preempt state law
15	requirements outside of those local-induced
16	regulations?
17	MS. PERLMUTTER: Same objection.
Asked about preemption	THE WITNESS: I believe they could
L22	go through the process it would take to do
"comply"	that. I don't think they would, but that's
one person heard this as "we are go	personal opinion.
to <u>fight</u> that fully"	For example, the new lighting
that person RECORDED it, sh	reduction, we are going to comply with that
and her husband hear the same thir	fully. And we would desire EFSEC to agree
25	with us with that.

163 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 1 You said you've been working on the 2 Q. 3 water supply for the project for a couple of 4 years now. 5 Α. Yeah. 6 Q. Is it fair to say it's been hard to 7 find water in this area? MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. 8 Form. 9 You can answer it. 10 THE WITNESS: No, it's not hard. BY MS. VOELCKERS: 11 12 It's not hard to find extra water? Q. 13 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Asked 14 and answered. You can answer it. And to 15 form. THE WITNESS: There are water 16 17 sources available. I'll give you an 18 example. The Welch's grape juice plant in 19 Kennewick, they've got a tremendous well 20 there. And it's not under contract. 21 Somebody owns it. It's not available to 2.2 us. BY MS. VOELCKERS: 23 24 Ο. Is it fair to say that you have to 25 find water to purchase for the project?

164 1 Anything other than drilling your Α. 2 own hole, you have to purchase, yeah. 3 Q. And drilling your own hole is not necessarily an option? 4 5 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Form. 6 You can answer. 7 THE WITNESS: It's too risky to 8 drill wells up on the site. If you look 9 over the landscape, you'll see farmers that 10 have green trees and you'll see farmers that don't. The ones with green trees have 11 12 wells. The others don't. 13 BY MS. VOELCKERS: I guess what I'm getting at is that 14 Ο. 15 it's not easy to find new water sources that 16 have not already been appropriated by someone 17 else? 18 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection as to 19 form. Asked and answered. You can answer. 20 THE WITNESS: Well, anybody that has 21 substantial water resource is in the 2.2 business of making revenue from it. BY MS. VOELCKERS: 23 24 Q. By selling it? 25 By selling it, yeah. Α.

165 To folks that need it for new 1 0. 2 development? 3 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Foundation and form. You can answer. 4 5 THE WITNESS: Irrigators. There's 6 lots of wells up there for irrigators. 7 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 8 Q. Are you aware that new commercial 9 development cannot be permitted until an 10 applicant has demonstrated available water to support the development? 11 12 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. 13 Relevance. You can answer. THE WITNESS: Well, it sounds 14 reasonable. 15 16 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 17 Both for construction and operation Ο. of the development, right? 18 19 Yeah, sounds reasonable. Α. 20 Q. And you know that under EFSEC's own 21 regulations, projects are required to 2.2 demonstrate legally available water in support 23 of their applications? 24 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Calls 25 for a legal conclusion. You can answer, if

166 1 you can. 2 THE WITNESS: As part of our 3 application process, yes, we have to answer the questions, where is your water coming 4 5 from? 6 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 7 Is it fair to say that you Q. understand that you would have to answer that 8 9 question whether you were going through the 10 county permitting process or EFSEC? 11 Α. I believe that would be true, yeah. 12 Q. Prior to obtaining a permit? 13 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Form. 14 You can answer. 15 THE WITNESS: Identifying the source 16 prior to obtaining your permit, yeah. 17 BY MS. VOELCKERS: Yeah. And to be clear, I'm not 18 Q. 19 talking about any contracts. I'm just talking 20 about demonstrating available water. 21 You understand that you have to 2.2 demonstrate that there's water available for 23 the project? 24 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Calls 25 for a legal conclusion. You can answer it.

167 1 THE WITNESS: We would not get to 2 this stage in our development without 3 having a line of sight on water supply. 4 Not only one, but multiple, so we have contingencies. And we're going to continue 5 6 to go after the cheapest one that's most 7 convenient to the site. 8 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 9 Was that a "yes" to my question, Q. 10 though? I think it was. 11 Α. 12 Q. If we could turn to page 2-87 of 13 Exhibit 1. 14 Α. Okay. 15 Sorry, I lost my page here. Q. Just 16 take a sec. 17 So the bottom of page 2-87 talks 18 about construction water supply, and then it 19 continues on page 2-88. So if we could turn 20 there. Middle of third line down, it says --21 are you there? 2.2 Α. Yes. 23 Q. It says: 24 As an alternative to the City of 25 Kennewick, the project may source water from

168 1 either another local off-site public utility, 2 private irrigator, or wells. As an example, 3 refer to the Port Walla Walla availability of 4 water for hire letter in Appendix J. 5 Α. Yes. 6 Q. So that refers to Appendix J as an 7 example. Α. 8 Yes. 9 Do you have any other letters from Q. 10 other potential water sources that would demonstrate legally available water for the 11 12 project? 13 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Calls 14 for a legal conclusion. But you can 15 answer. 16 THE WITNESS: We are in negotiations 17 with other parties. Do I have a signed 18 agreement? No. 19 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 20 Ο. And there isn't any other documents 21 to share at this time that demonstrate 2.2 available water for the project? 23 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Form. And I think asked and answered. You can 24 25 answer.

169 1 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry, could you 2 ask it again? 3 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 4 There aren't any other documents Ο. 5 that could be shared at this time that would show additional available water for the 6 7 project? 8 MS. PERLMUTTER: Repeat the 9 objection. You can answer. 10 THE WITNESS: We have a land use license with Department of Natural 11 12 Resources for an existing well site. That's a public record. 13 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 14 15 Q. Where would I find that publicly? 16 I'm sure it's available by request Α. 17 from Department of Natural Resources. I mean, 18 I can provide it to you. 19 You can provide it? Q. 20 Α. Yeah, yeah. 21 Okay. Any other documents? Q. 2.2 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Form. 23 You can respond. 24 THE WITNESS: No. 25

170 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 1 2 Ο. Does the land use license agreement 3 with DNR cover construction water or operation 4 water? 5 The land use license is to use that Α. 6 portion of state land. And the intended 7 purpose is to reactivate a well that exists 8 there, but we have to negotiate the terms, and 9 that is a work in progress. 10 So the well is not currently being Q. used to exercise a water right? 11 12 Α. Not current, no. 13 Q. So is it possible you might need to go to ecology to resolve any -- to use that 14 15 well, to determine if it has a valid water 16 right? 17 Objection. MS. PERLMUTTER: Form. 18 And calls for speculation. But you can 19 answer, if you can. 20 THE WITNESS: Department of Natural 21 Resources has assured us they have water 2.2 rights that can be transferred to reactivate that well. 23 24 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 25 That's what I was going to ask. Q.

171 1 Thank you. 2 Α. Okay. We have water solved. Т 3 shouldn't have --4 Is it solved or are you working on Ο. 5 it? 6 A. We're working on it. We believe --7 well, Port of Walla Walla in a pinch, yeah. They have ample water. 8 9 I'm not disagreeing with your use of Q. 10 the word "solved." I'm just trying to understand what is held within your knowledge 11 12 at Scout and what is available to the rest us 13 to understand in terms of the source of the 14 water for the project. 15 I'm speaking to publicly available Α. 16 documents. We have the agreement with the 17 Port of Walla Walla and we have a land use license with Department of Natural Resources. 18 19 Q. And you understand that to cover all 20 water needs for the project? 21 Α. It is --2.2 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Form. 23 Go ahead. 24 THE WITNESS: Yeah. Construction 25 and operational needs, yeah, for the life

172 1 of the project. 2 BY MS. VOELCKERS: Have you had any conversations with 3 Q. EFSEC staff in this back-and-forth on the FEIS 4 about how to provide that information so they 5 6 can analyze the impacts of the project on water 7 resources? THE WITNESS: Yes. I've had 8 9 conversations with them about what we have 10 provided in the ASC redline as believing that satisfies the requirements for a 11 12 permit application for water supply for the 13 full term of the project. BY MS. VOELCKERS: 14 15 EFSEC staff have not requested Q. 16 additional information from you regarding the 17 water supply for the project at this time? MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Form. 18 19 You can answer. 20 THE WITNESS: Correct. They have 21 not. They feel they have enough. They've 2.2 said to me they have what they need. BY MS. VOELCKERS: 23 24 Ο. Based upon Appendix J? 25 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Form

173 1 and foundation. 2 THE WITNESS: That's correct. T'm 3 not going to give EFSEC the land use license for DNR because it's not an 4 5 agreement to lease the well. So I have to 6 get that done before I can notify EFSEC. 7 BY MS. VOELCKERS: And to be clear, Appendix J isn't a 8 Q. 9 water use agreement, correct? 10 Yes, it is a water use agreement. Α. It's an agreement, a commitment to a 11 Q. 12 certain amount of water? 13 Α. Yes, it is. 14 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Form. 15 And argumentative. 16 THE WITNESS: It is an agreement. 17 Now, we'll have to negotiate what upgrades 18 are necessary in order to do that and who 19 pays for it. 20 But they've -- that letter is a 21 statement of capability to provide what 2.2 we've identified as our need for the life 23 of the project. 24 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 25 A statement of capability, right? Q.

174 1 That's what's required. Α. Yeah, yeah. 2 But not a water use agreement in Q. 3 term of the specifics of what Scout will be 4 paying for or what improvements Scout will be 5 making in exchange for a specific amount of 6 water? 7 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Form. 8 And argumentative. You can answer. 9 THE WITNESS: That's correct. We 10 have not inked out that final agreement for 11 all of the terms necessary to be able to 12 access that water. 13 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 14 Appendix J only references water for Q. 15 construction activities. Have you had 16 additional conversations with the Port of 17 Walla Walla about their ability to provide water for operations? 18 19 It's part and parcel, all the same, Α. 20 yeah. 21 Was that just an accidental omission Q. 2.2 from the letter in Appendix J? 23 Objection. MS. PERLMUTTER: 24 Foundation. You can answer. 25 THE WITNESS: Well, the letter was

	175
1	their words. We say in our application
2	that it applies to water for construction
3	and operations.
4	BY MS. VOELCKERS:
5	Q. And I think the letter speaks for
6	itself, to be fair. So I'm not going to ask
7	you again to guess. And I think the ASC speaks
8	for itself in terms of your position.
9	But has there been a discussion
10	between Scout and Port of Walla Walla about
11	whether or not they have sufficient water for
12	full operation of the project?
13	A. Yes. I had personal discussions
14	with them myself. The operational needs for
15	water are very small. In fact, in order to
16	have the most impactful case in the ASC we said
17	we might need three panel washes a year. Well,
18	we might need zero.
19	MS. VOELCKERS: I have an exhibit.
20	(Exhibit 2 was identified.)
21	MS. VOELCKERS: I'm going to have to
22	apologize for those on the Zoom. If you'd
23	like, I can email this to you. It was also
24	provided for Mr. Ritter's deposition. It
25	is a letter from Mr. Ritter to EFSEC dated

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176 1 January 31st, 2022. 2 Do folks need me to email a copy of 3 that? Okay. Not hearing anything on the 4 Zoom. 5 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 6 Q. Mr. Kobus, I'm going to direct your 7 attention to the second page. 8 Α. Okay. 9 And I know you've been in a lot of Q. 10 conversations with WDFW over the years. But look at that last statement 11 12 before the map. 13 Α. Okay. 14 Q. It refers to a meeting in February 15 of 2022 between WDFW, EFSEC, and the applicant. 16 Do you recall if you were at that 17 meeting? 18 Yes, I was. Α. 19 Do you recall being provided a copy Q. 20 of this figure in front of you? 21 Yes, I was. Α. 2.2 Did Scout make any alterations to Q. 23 the project design in response to the February 24 2022 meeting? 25 Α. Yes, we have committed to

177 1 alterations in the design relative to 2 discussions in this meeting. We have not literally agreed to avoid the red circles 3 4 entirely. 5 What alterations were made? Ο. 6 Α. We've changed the routing of 7 overhead cables that -- to not go across 8 canyons, to go around. We've moved turbines 9 back from some of the canyons that were of 10 interest to WDFW for, you know, raptor use areas or ferruginous hawk areas. 11 12 I mean, ultimately, we're in 13 settlement negotiations to reduce even further 14 with the CFE. But, you know, what we've 15 indicated to WDFW is that their recommendations 16 related to ferruginous hawk are premature. 17 They're not relative to publish peer-reviewed documents and not part of the guidelines --18 19 existing guidelines related to ferruginous hawk 20 mitigation -- avoidance and mitigation. 21 Q. And by -- yes? 2.2 MS. PERLMUTTER: Go ahead. I'm just 23 warning him I'm about to object. 24 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 25 And by guidelines, are you referring Q.

	178
1	to the 2009 wind turbine guidelines?
2	MS. PERLMUTTER: I'm going to make a
3	standing objection that this really is
4	outside the scope of the Yakima Nation's
5	participation. I'm not going to instruct
6	him not to answer. We don't need to get a
7	ruling. But your questions are now subject
8	to an ongoing objection.
9	MS. VOELCKERS: I'm going to clarify
10	the objection. Your objection is that the
11	impacts of ferruginous hawks are not
12	relative to the Yakima Nation's concerns?
13	MS. PERLMUTTER: I am per the
14	second prehearing order by Judge Torem, it
15	says:
16	Except as it directly pertains to
17	Yakima Nation's legendary, monumental, or
18	burial sites per the WACs, Yakima Nation
19	shall limit its participation and
20	coordinate its presentation of evidence
21	relating to visual impacts, light and glare
22	with the county, and counsel for the
23	environment, who shall jointly take lead
24	party status for that issue, and coordinate
25	presentation of evidence regarding

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179 1 recreation or recreational land use, 2 transportation, and road safety issues with 3 the county who's the lead party on those 4 issues. As I say, I'm not going to instruct 5 6 him not to answer, but I do object to this 7 entire line. MS. VOELCKERS: And to be clear, the 8 9 objection is that questions about the 10 ferruginous hawk impacts are inconsistent with what you just read? 11 12 MS. PERLMUTTER: That's correct. 13 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 14 Q. You referenced guidelines. Were you 15 referring to the 2009 wind turbine guidelines? 16 That's correct. That's the latest Α. 17 available. Guidance? 18 Q. 19 WDFW -- well, wind power guidelines, Α. that is the latest version, official version. 20 21 And when you referred to Q. 2.2 peer-reviewed articles, what did you mean by 23 that? All of this information was 24 Α. 25 predicated on information Jim Watson had

	180
1	provided, which was not in peer-reviewed
2	documents. To my knowledge, still is not.
3	Q. So is it is it fair to say that
4	the majority of the turbines identified in this
5	figure are still sighted within the red-circled
6	port use areas?
7	MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Form.
8	You can answer.
9	THE WITNESS: They're consistent
10	with what's in our updated redline
11	application, yes.
12	BY MS. VOELCKERS:
13	Q. So Scout has not removed any portion
14	of the corridor siting areas in response to the
15	February 2022 meeting?
16	A. Well, I'm trying to be very clear.
17	As we talked about various concepts and we were
18	working towards resolving issuing related to
19	ferruginous hawk and related to raptor use
20	areas, with respect to what WDFW has provided,
21	we have provided comments to the DEIS that, you
22	know, are very clear that, you know, if
23	ferruginous hawks occupy a nest site, we will
24	be responsive to that occurring. We're not
25	going to take turbines away for a

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	181
1	20-year-year-old nest site that doesn't even
2	exhibit any of twigs remaining that were part
3	of that nest.
4	Q. And why not?
5	A. Because the hawks aren't using the
6	nest. You know, if well, as you can see,
7	you know, there are more nest sites out here
8	than they've identified in these three core
9	areas. So they're not even saying avoid.
10	They're also drawing perfect circles
11	around agricultural fields which, you know, we
12	all know the ferruginous hawks aren't foraging
13	in the middle of the wheat fields.
14	And it's just an impractical,
15	idealistic extent. We're not going to respond
16	to that kind of conjecture and that kind of
17	scenario where they say that you can't use half
18	of the project site because one time many years
19	ago there might have been a nest there.
20	We do our own surveys. There has
21	been no ferruginous hawk occupied nests for the
22	last two years anywhere near here.
23	Q. And when you say impracticable or
24	impractical, you're talking about from a
25	business perspective, right?

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182 Yeah. That's -- we don't have to 1 Α. 2 recover the species. We just have to build the 3 best project with reasonable mitigation. 4 It's not your job to recover the Ο. 5 species? 6 Α. It's no one's job to recover the 7 species --8 Ο. It's not WDFW's --9 (Parties speaking simultaneously.) 10 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 11 It's not WDFW's job? Ο. 12 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. 13 Argumentative. Lack of foundation. Calls for speculation. If you can answer, you 14 15 can. 16 THE WITNESS: Oh, I believe WDFW is 17 very interested in recovering the species. 18 That's why they designate it as endangered. 19 But you cannot recover the species 20 on the back of the next project that comes 21 along. It's unreasonable. 2.2 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 23 And so just so I'm clear, because Q. 24 you did talk about some things that were done 25 in response.

183 1 There are no turbines moved outside 2 of these red exclusionary areas in response to 3 WDFW's recommendations in February of 2020? MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. 4 Form. And asked and answered. You can answer it. 5 6 THE WITNESS: Remains to be seen. 7 We're still in the process of optimizing the project site. And there may be 8 9 turbines that we decide not to construct in 10 the first buildout of the project that are 11 in those red circles. But as I say, it's a 12 work in progress. 13 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 14 Ο. So, then, is it fair to say that the 15 work in progress may mean that there is 16 additional voidance of impacts to ferruginous 17 hawks based upon development of the project after the permit is issued? 18 19 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Form. 20 Asked and answered. You can answer. 21 THE WITNESS: That is my intention, 2.2 yes. BY MS. VOELCKERS: 23 24 Ο. Based upon business goals to 25 optimize the project?

184 1 MS. PERLMUTTER: I'm sorry? 2 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 3 Based upon business goals to Q. optimize the project? 4 5 We are continuing to evaluate the Α. 6 layout. And there are likely to be cases where 7 deciding not to build a particular turbine site has various benefits, visual benefits, wildlife 8 9 benefits, and other benefits that would make us 10 decide not to build a particular turbine. But I can't, at this stage, identify what those 11 12 are. And based on legal counsel, wait for the 13 right time. 14 THE COURT REPORTER: Is there a good 15 time for a break? 16 MS. VOELCKERS: Yeah. I only have a 17 few questions, but I'm happy to take a 18 break. 19 THE COURT REPORTER: No, go ahead. 20 MS. VOELCKERS: I just want to make 21 a few statements for the record. 2.2 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 23 As we sit here today, do you have Ο. 24 any reason to dispute a statement that the 25 ferruginous hawk --

185 1 (A recess was taken.) 2 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 3 Just a few more questions for me. Q. If I were to represent to you today, 4 5 which I am, that the ferruginous hawk is a 6 treaty reserved resource of the Yakima Nation, 7 would you have any basis on which to dispute my 8 statement? 9 Α. No, I wouldn't have any. 10 If I were to represent to you today Q. that the ferruginous hawk is an integral 11 12 element of at least one traditional cultural 13 property identified within Jessica Lally's TCP 14 report, would you have any basis on which to 15 dispute me? 16 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Form 17 and foundation. You can answer it, if you 18 can. 19 THE WITNESS: I mean, I can't recall 20 exactly what was said about it, but I can 21 tell you that we have the best available 2.2 science on the ferruginous hawk. We do 23 surveys. We've committed to do them 24 annually. 25 We know that there are no occupied

186 1 nests within the last two years on the 2 site. And beyond that, I can't recall 3 precisely what was said about it in her exhibit. 4 5 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 6 Q. So as we sit here today, you have no 7 reason to dispute the statement that I'm making on the record, which is that the ferruginous 8 9 hawk is an integral element of at least one 10 traditional cultural property of the Yakima Nation? 11 12 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Form 13 and foundation. If you can answer it, you 14 can. 15 THE WITNESS: I have no reason to 16 dispute it. 17 BY MS. VOELCKERS: I'd like to turn back to the 18 Q. Exhibit 1, page 2-8. 19 20 Α. Okay. 21 And it's actually the next page, but Q. 2.2 it doesn't have a page number. My understanding is that these are 23 24 the DNR parcels in the vicinity of the project? 25 (The Court Reporter requested

187 clarification.) 1 2 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 3 In the vicinity of the project; is Q. 4 that correct? 5 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Form 6 and foundation. 7 THE WITNESS: But I can answer? 8 MS. PERLMUTTER: Yeah, sorry. 9 THE WITNESS: Yeah, that's how we 10 designate the DNR state trust lands, with 11 the blue. 12 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 13 Q. You referenced earlier land use 14 agreement with DNR for one of the wells that 15 they have on a parcel. 16 Α. Yes. 17 Is that parcel included on this Q. 18 page? 19 Α. No. 20 Q. How far away from the project site 21 is the parcel that's the subject of the land 2.2 use agreement with DNR? 23 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Form. 24 You can answer. Sorry. 25

188 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 1 2 Q. The land use agreement that you 3 referenced earlier today? 4 MS. PERLMUTTER: Repeat the 5 objection. You can answer. 6 THE WITNESS: It is this blue you 7 see just off the very edge. BY MS. VOELCKERS: 8 Q. This one? 9 10 Α. Right here. 11 Right here? Q. 12 Yeah. Α. 13 Q. So west of the project? 14 Α. West of the project. 15 Okay. Thanks. Okay. Q. 16 It's two miles west of Highway 221 Α. 17 on Sellards Road. 18 MR. ARAMBURU: Could I ask, on our 19 official exhibit, that you put a little red 20 dot or little arrow next to that for us? 21 Would that be possible? 2.2 THE WITNESS: Sure. 23 MR. ARAMBURU: I don't mean to 24 interrupt here, but... 25 THE WITNESS: Do you have --

189 1 MS. PERLMUTTER: Actually, no. It's 2 a fountain pen. 3 THE WITNESS: (Witness complied.) 4 I'll put an asterisk by it right there. 5 How's that? You can see it? 6 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 7 Q. Yes. 8 It's called Gould well, G-o-u-l-d. Α. 9 I'm hesitant to talk about it because we don't 10 have an agreement and it's not in the ASC and it's not within our site control. It's going 11 12 to be part of our amendment process 13 post-adjudication. And I think I heard earlier that it 14 Ο. 15 is an ongoing process in terms of the water? 16 Α. Yes. 17 But you can provide that land use Ο. 18 license? 19 I can provide the land use license. Α. 20 Q. And you plan to amend the ASC again? 21 As negotiations progress -- well, Α. 2.2 first of all, we do have to amend the ASC 23 post-adjudication, okay. And we may have 24 subsequent amendments to it after that. So at 25 the appropriate time, when negotiations come to

190 1 fruition and lease agreements are executed with 2 DNR, then the intention would be to certainly include that within the impacted area for the 3 4 project. 5 Ο. And when you say we have to amend it 6 after the adjudication, it being the ASC --7 Α. Yeah. -- do you mean after the 8 Q. 9 recommendation of the council, between when the 10 adjudication ends and the recommendation is -can you be more specific about your 11 12 understanding of the timeline for additional 13 updates to the ASC? 14 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection as to 15 form and foundation. But you can answer. 16 THE WITNESS: My understanding is 17 EFSEC deliberations require the results of 18 adjudication and the corresponding redline 19 of the application for commitments that 20 were made during the adjudication process. 21 So the council, when they do their 2.2 deliberations, they have to have that available to them. 23 24 BY MS. VOELCKERS: 25 So those updates would be made Q.

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1	before the council is finished deliberating so
2	they would have that information?
3	MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Form.
4	Foundation. And asked and answered. You
5	can answer.
6	THE WITNESS: I'm going to have to
7	change my answer because DNR keeps
8	insisting that they will not execute
9	agreements until the final EIS is available
10	because they will point to the final EIS as
11	their SEPA process for land use decisions.
12	And so I can say for certainty that
13	that has to occur first. So the final EIS
14	is going to have to come out before we can
15	amend it to include this.
16	BY MS. VOELCKERS:
17	Q. Okay. And this is my first time in
18	an EFSEC proceeding, so my knowledge is based
19	upon how SEPA normally works at the county
20	level.
21	How will the information about the
22	water source of the project be incorporated in
23	the FEIS if the ASC is not updated before the
24	FEIS is issued?
25	A. They're going to have to deliberate

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192 1 on what's in there now. They can't deliberate 2 on promises. They're going to have to 3 deliberate on what's in the application at the time they review it. 4 5 MS. VOELCKERS: I might have 6 questions depending on what else is asked 7 today, but I don't at this time. 8 MS. FOSTER: This is Ms. Beyer. 9 EXAMINATION 10 BY MS. FOSTER: Good afternoon, Ms. Kobus. My name 11 Ο. 12 is Z Foster. I'm an attorney for Benton 13 County. Hope to make this a little bit shorter 14 for you, but all the same rules apply. You're 15 still under oath. Let's not try to talk over 16 each other. 17 I understand. Α. 18 Perfect. Q. 19 So you said earlier that you have an 20 agreement with the Department of Defense; is 21 that correct? 2.2 Α. Yes. 23 And in that agreement, you had to Q. 24 specify via GPS coordinates as to the location 25 of each turbine, correct?

193 1 Α. That's correct. Those are 2 consistent with our filings with FAA for 3 determinations. So you, throughout the course 4 Ο. Okav. 5 of the deposition today, you mentioned, you 6 know, the project layout may change or you may 7 change the layout. What do you mean when you say that? 8 9 Change the micrositing. Α. 10 What do you mean when you say Q. "change the micrositing"? 11 12 Α. Well, when we prepared the 13 application, we didn't know precisely where we 14 would end up pinpointing where the turbines 15 would be because there's a lot of things that 16 can influence their precise placement. 17 So what we did is everywhere there was a turbine, we expanded the micrositing to 18 19 include a 500-foot area, wherever there was 20 infrastructure, we expanded it to 200 feet, so 21 that we would have flexibility within those 2.2 micrositing corridors. 23 So the application is very 24 conservative in that it includes those entire 25 micrositing corridors even though there's

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1	only could be just one wire underground in a
2	200-foot wide area for the length of that
3	conductor placement.
4	Q. Okay. So to clarify, then, when
5	you're talking about changing the layout,
6	you're not talking about changing the placement
7	of the turbines?
8	MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection as to
9	form. But you can answer.
10	THE WITNESS: It could include the
11	turbines, but the intent is to not move the
12	turbines outside of the micrositing
13	corridor because then we have to change the
14	micrositing corridor, which is an increase
15	in impact.
16	BY MS. FOSTER:
17	Q. Right. I understand that.
18	What I'm trying to get at, though,
19	is if you change the coordinates of the
20	turbines, do you have to go back and get an
21	amended agreement with the DOD?
22	A. You do have some degree of freedom
23	that you can move the turbines. With DOD, it
24	was 190 feet of flexibility. With FAA, it's
25	one arc second.

Γ

195 1 So let's go just based off the Ο. 2 assumption that the turbines are going to be 3 located in the general vicinity of your last DOD agreement. Actually, I'm going to pause on 4 5 that one. 6 How many property owners do you 7 currently have lease agreements with? I believe the number's around 40. 8 Α. 9 Do you have lease agreements with Q. 10 property owners that won't host a turbine or the supporting infrastructure? 11 12 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection to form. 13 You can answer. 14 THE WITNESS: We have one lease 15 agreement where we added a section and a 16 half of property that they did not want 17 turbines on. So we agreed to add the 18 property, but added the condition that 19 turbines could not be on that one and a 20 half section. 21 BY MS. FOSTER: 2.2 But, otherwise, if you have a lease Ο. 23 agreement with a property owner, some portion 24 of the Horse Heaven Wind Farm, be it a turbine, 25 a battery, a solar array, or supporting

196 1 infrastructure, will be going through that 2 property? 3 Α. There are some leases we have that, 4 no, we may not, and we'll likely give up those 5 leases. So we have more leases than 6 infrastructure. 7 It just depends on the ultimate Q. 8 layout? 9 It depends on the ultimate layout, Α. 10 yes. Do you know -- and this is where 11 Ο. 12 we're going back to based upon the most recent 13 application to the DOD where you specified the 14 turbine layout. 15 Α. Yes. 16 Q. Do you know about how many parcels 17 will house turbines? MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection as to 18 19 form. You can answer. 20 THE WITNESS: I don't know the 21 parcel count. I mean, we've got some landowners that have 7,000 acres, we've got 2.2 23 others that have 700 under lease. I mean, 24 I -- and a section of land could have 25 several parcels on it, so...

197 BY MS. FOSTER: 1 2 Q. Exactly. That's what I'm getting 3 at. 4 You don't know how many turbines are 5 going to be per parcel? 6 Α. I know per siting restrictions you 7 generally can't get more than four turbines on 8 a full section of land. But parcel-wise, 9 parcels can be subdivided. And, I guess, 10 it's using the parcel term is what's difficult to answer. Because in our ASC, we have every 11 12 single parcel identified. Every single legal 13 parcel. 14 Q. Right. 15 Α. Yeah. 16 Q. In your conception, how many acres 17 is a section of land? 18 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. 19 THE WITNESS: 640 acres. A section 20 of land is 640 acres. 21 BY MS. FOSTER: 2.2 So it's possible that one parcel, Q. 23 talking boundaries here, one parcel can 24 encapsulate more than 640 acres? 25 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection.

198 1 Foundation. 2 THE WITNESS: No. County -- the way 3 the counties identify parcels, it's section by section, and some sections can be 4 5 subdivided. 6 MS. FOSTER: Just, Ms. Perlmutter, I 7 would appreciate it if you just leave your objections to the form of my question. 8 BY MS. FOSTER: 9 10 So going back to you. Q. So your testimony, then, is that you 11 12 cannot have a parcel larger than 640 acres? 13 Α. That's how the parcels are 14 identified legally, yes. 15 Q. Okay. So, then, I'm trying to just 16 get a firm count here. 17 So your testimony would be that at max for one parcel could maximum have four 18 19 turbines on it? 20 A section of land. Α. 21 Right. But --Q. 2.2 Not a parcel. It doesn't make sense Α. 23 to talk about parcels because a parcel can be 24 five acres on a section of land. And then, of 25 course, there's other parcels that make up the

199 1 full 640. 2 But generally by the restrictions of 3 turbine placement, you can only squeeze four turbines on a section of land which could be a 4 5 single parcel. 6 Q. Is it your understanding that the 7 Horse Heaven Wind Farm project will need to 8 comply with Benton County's conditional use 9 permit criteria? 10 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Calls for a legal conclusion. And relevancy. 11 12 You can answer. 13 THE WITNESS: We already have a ruling. 14 15 BY MS. FOSTER: 16 Q. What's your --17 That we are in compliance with land Α. 18 use requirements. 19 Are you referring to council order Q. 20 number 883? 21 Yes. Α. 2.2 So it's your understanding that that Ο. 23 order stands for the proposition that you 24 comply with Benton County's conditional use 25 permit criteria?

200 1 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. 2 Relevance. And calls for a legal 3 conclusion. MS. FOSTER: Once again, 4 5 Ms. Perlmutter, I'm going to ask you that 6 limit the speaking objections. You may 7 object to the form of my question. MS. PERLMUTTER: I'll make my 8 9 objections. 10 THE WITNESS: The land use consistency states that we are consistent 11 12 with the process the county utilizes for 13 conditional use permits. 14 We identified our compliance in the 15 ASC to every single one of those CUP 16 criteria in existence when we filed our 17 application. 18 BY MS. FOSTER: 19 So it's your understanding that Q. 20 EFSEC has already ruled that Scout is in 21 compliance with Benton County's conditional use permit criteria? 2.2 23 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Asked 24 and answered. You can answer. 25 THE WITNESS: No, I disagree. We

201 1 are consistent. We have a ruling that says 2 we are consistent. But EFSEC can preempt county requirements. 3 BY MS. FOSTER: 4 5 Ο. I think we may be talking over each 6 other here. I agree that -- with you that the 7 order says that you're consistent. However, doesn't the order also 8 9 state that one of -- or I should say, 10 doesn't -- isn't one of the issues for this 11 adjudication whether or not the project 12 complies with Benton County's conditional use 13 permit criteria? MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. 14 15 Argumentative. And calls for a legal 16 conclusion. You can answer. 17 THE WITNESS: One of the issues 18 And is -- yes, that is one of the issues. 19 we would anticipate if the County has 20 conditions to place on the project, they 21 will work through EFSEC to make those 2.2 known. BY MS. FOSTER: 23 24 Ο. So it's your understanding of how a 25 conditional use -- how this process works that

202 1 the only steps left are to condition the 2 project? 3 Α. That's correct. 4 So you do not believe that there can Ο. 5 be a finding that the project does not comply 6 with the conditional use permit criteria? 7 That is my belief, yes. Α. 8 Are you -- are you familiar with the Q. 9 conditional use permit criteria? 10 Α. Oh, yes. So if I said to you that one of the 11 Q. 12 criteria if we sum it up is essentially 13 compatibility with permitted uses, you would agree with me on that? 14 15 Α. Yes. 16 This is where I think the parcel Q. 17 question -- why we're talking about parcels. 18 Because as we've been discussing, 19 like you said, there can be smaller parcels 20 than 640 acres, correct? 21 Correct. Α. 2.2 Are you aware of the average parcel Q. size for the land that you hold leases with for 23 24 the -- of the landowners that you hold leases 25 with?

203 Never tried to calculate it. 1 Α. 2 Q. Okay. 3 It's immaterial. Α. 4 Why is it immaterial? Ο. 5 Because you follow the legal Α. 6 description for the property, and it is what it 7 I mean, it's -- if a parcel size is is. smaller and a different owner, it could have 8 different restrictions on it or different 9 10 setback applications to it. But we deal with legal property descriptions. 11 12 Q. Don't you think the parcel size is 13 important to determine how many turbines you're putting on one parcel? 14 15 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. 16 Argumentative. You can answer if you can. 17 THE WITNESS: It's immaterial. You 18 determine what your buildable area is to 19 place turbines, and then you put them in 20 desired places relative to all of the 21 criteria you're trying to meet relative to 2.2 placing those turbines, and it falls out 23 where it falls out. 24 It's immaterial what parcel it's on. 25 You follow the criteria for desired

204 1 setbacks associated with the parcel. 2 When we filed this application, we 3 believe we were in compliance with the conditional use criteria. And we actually 4 5 stated everywhere we were in compliance and 6 how we were in compliance. 7 And that's still the case. We're maintaining that. We have not asked EFSEC 8 9 for preemption of what the CUP criteria 10 were at the time we filed our application. BY MS. FOSTER: 11 12 Q. So are you aware of the use --13 vaguely aware of the just outright permitted 14 uses -- I'm going to take a step back here. 15 Do you know the zoning designation for the land upon which the Horse Heaven Wind 16 17 Farm is located? 18 Α. Sure, GMA Ag. 19 And are you just vaguely aware of Q. 20 the outright permitted uses in the GMA Ag land? 21 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Form 2.2 and foundation. I'm sorry, form --23 objection as to form. 24 THE WITNESS: Very aware, yes. 25

1	BY MS. FOSTER:
2	Q. So if I represented to you that, in
3	general, most uses within the GMA Ag lands have
4	about one to three structures per parcel, would
5	you have any reason to dispute me on that?
6	A. No, I wouldn't.
7	Q. Okay. So if we're comparing so
8	if we're looking at compatibility, right, which
9	is size and scope, in effect, doesn't it then
10	become very important what the parcel size is
11	because we want to compare how many structures
12	the Horse Heaven Wind Farm is putting on a
13	parcel versus how many structures are in a
14	traditional permitted use?
15	MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Calls
16	for a legal conclusion. Also, irrelevant.
17	But you can answer.
18	THE WITNESS: It's immaterial. I
19	mean, as identified with the Nine Canyon
20	project, the assessors determined that the
21	space the turbines occupy has no effect on
22	zoning at all.
23	BY MS. FOSTER:
24	Q. We're not talking about zoning,
25	Mr. Kobus. I'm talking about number of

206 structures per parcel. 1 2 Α. There is no criteria for number of 3 structures per parcel. 4 So you think that has no relevancy Ο. 5 to a compatibility determination? 6 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. 7 Argumentative. You can answer. THE WITNESS: I don't believe it 8 9 does. 10 BY MS. FOSTER: What is your conception of a 11 Q. 12 compatibility determination? 13 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Relevancy. You can answer. 14 15 THE WITNESS: Wind projects were a 16 permitted use when we filed our application 17 on GMA Ag lands. In fact, GMA Ag lands are 18 a priority for placement of wind turbines 19 because they've already despoiled the land 20 to the maximum extent. All that can grow 21 there is what they plant. It's the perfect 2.2 place to put wind turbines. BY MS. FOSTER: 23 24 Ο. Wind turbines were permitted use? 25 Absolutely. Α.

207 1 Don't you mean they were a Q. 2 conditional use? 3 Absolutely. Α. 4 Is it your conception that a Ο. 5 permitted use is the same thing as a conditional use? 6 7 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. 8 Relevance. THE WITNESS: No, they're different. 9 10 BY MS. FOSTER: 11 Then why did you did say wind Q. 12 turbines were a permitted use? MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. 13 14 Argumentative. You can answer the 15 question. THE WITNESS: I think it's a silly 16 17 distinction you're trying to make. Sorry. 18 BY MS. FOSTER: That's -- no, that's fair. 19 Q. Is the conditional use has to 20 21 satisfy conditions, right? 2.2 That's right. That's what it means, Α. 23 conditional use. 24 Ο. And a permitted use is just allowed 25 outright?

208 1 Α. Outright. You can do it --2 Q. So you --3 (Parties speaking simultaneously.) 4 (The Court Reporter requested 5 clarification.) THE WITNESS: I understand what an 6 7 outright permitted use is. Like minor solar is an example of an outright 8 9 permitted use on GMA Ag lands. 10 BY MS. FOSTER: And to you, a use that is allowed 11 Ο. 12 with conditions and use that is allowed --13 permitted outright, that's a minor distinction? 14 Α. No, I didn't say that. I said --MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. 15 16 (The Court Reporter requested 17 clarification.) 18 MS. PERLMUTTER: Argumentative. You 19 can answer. 20 THE WITNESS: Permitted use is 21 permitted use. If then you want to talk 2.2 about the distinction between outright 23 permitted and conditional, I fully 24 understand what that means. 25 But, in general, when I say wind

209 1 turbines were a permitted use, that's a true statement. So, I guess, I don't 2 understand what you're trying to get at. 3 So maybe if you could rephrase. 4 5 BY MS. FOSTER: 6 Q. Well, you said that wind -- I mean, 7 I don't want to be testifying here, but I could submit to you that if you look at the Benton 8 9 County code in effect at the time at which you 10 submitted your application, if you looked under the permitted uses, would you have found a wind 11 12 turbines farm? 13 Α. Not a farm, no. Individual -- I 14 think it was up to two turbines at the time. 15 But more than that, in essence, a wind farm 16 required a conditional use permit. No question 17 about it. 18 Q. Okay. I think we've gone to a good 19 understanding on that. So I don't mean to 20 repeat myself, but I just want to make sure 21 that we're clear. 2.2 When looking at the project as a 23 whole, you could not tell me a general idea of 24 wind turbines per parcels? 25 As I said, my thumb rule is you Α. No.

210 1 can generally put four wind turbines on a 2 section of land, which is 640 acres. 3 And is -- okay. Q. Is the Horse Heaven Wind Farm, in 4 5 general, following your rule of, will there be 6 four wind turbines per section? 7 MS. PERLMUTTER: I'm going to 8 object. Mischaracterizes testimony. But 9 answer as best you can. THE WITNESS: I don't know of any 10 that have more than four. I know of a lot 11 12 of sections that have four. And there's a 13 lot that have less. And I don't -- I don't understand the distinction. 14 15 BY MS. FOSTER: 16 Well, in general, could you tell me Q. 17 the average wind turbines per section? 18 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. Asked 19 and answered. 20 THE WITNESS: I can't. 21 BY MS. FOSTER: 2.2 You can't. Okay. Q. 23 MS. FOSTER: I think that is all the 24 questions I have for you today, Mr. Kobus. 25 Thank you.

211 1 EXAMINATION 2 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 3 Just a couple of follow-up Q. 4 questions. Would you turn to page --5 THE COURT REPORTER: Can you come 6 down here? 7 MR. ARAMBURU: I'm sorry. 8 THE WITNESS: 2-18, right? BY MR. ARAMBURU: 9 10 Q. Yes. Excuse me. 2-156 -- excuse me, 158. 11 12 I'm there. Α. 13 Q. The number two criteria for 14 conditional use permits in Benton County is set 15 forth at the bottom of page 2-158, you see 16 that? 17 Α. Yes. 18 Do you believe that a six-acre, Q. 19 150-megawatt lithium-ion battery installation would endanger the health, safety, and welfare 20 21 of the surrounding community to an extent 2.2 greater than that associated with other 23 permitted uses? 24 Α. I absolutely believe that's the 25 case, it will not.

212 1 And that's despite the fact that Ο. 2 you've indicated that lithium-ion batteries are subject to fires and --3 Everything is subject to fire. 4 Α. It's 5 a reasonable risk for the technology. 6 Q. But have you considered whether --7 They built these batteries at City Α. of Richland sites just recently. These are 8 9 commercially available technology, and they are 10 They are not unreasonable danger to the safe. health and safety of the public. 11 12 Has the National Fire Protection Q. 13 Association adopted new guidelines for lithium-ion fires? 14 15 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. 16 Foundation. You can answer, if you can. 17 THE WITNESS: I understand there's 18 evolution of the NFPA requirements, but 19 we're not obligated to follow every new 20 requirement that evolved since our permit 21 application. 2.2 We identify the standards that were 23 available at the time of our application, 24 and that's what we follow. 25

213 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 1 2 Q. And up in this area, the GMAA area, 3 right, generally allows agricultural? 4 Α. Correct. 5 Generally allows farmhouses? Ο. 6 Α. Correct. 7 Agricultural sales of products? Q. 8 Α. True. 9 All those things? Q. 10 (Witness nodded head up and down.) Α. Is this more or -- is six-acre 11 Q. 12 lithium-ion battery going to endanger the 13 health and safety of the people up there more or less than those uses? 14 15 Α. This will not be accessible to the 16 general public. So, no, it won't endanger 17 them. 18 And if there's a runaway fire that Q. 19 starts a fire in crop land up there, will that 20 be a greater impact on the people than the uses 21 that are there now? 2.2 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection to 23 foundation. You can answer, if you can. 24 THE WITNESS: I can't speculate on 25 how big a fire's going to be.

214 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 1 2 Ο. But --3 Α. Nobody can. These are self-contained units that have structural steel 4 5 that contains these batteries. And, I mean, 6 yeah, things can melt, but it's not common. 7 It's a rare event. So I have no qualms about 8 that we will not materially endanger. 9 Have you seen the videos of the Q. 10 fire -- the lithium-ion fire that lasted for four days down in Glendale, California? 11 I can neither confirm nor deny that 12 Α. 13 I've seen that video. 14 Q. Are you aware that there was water 15 on that fire for four continuous days and 16 didn't put it out? 17 MS. PERLMUTTER: Objection. 18 Foundation. Answer if you can. THE WITNESS: I'll believe you, if 19 20 that's what you say. I don't know. 21 BY MR. ARAMBURU: 2.2 Well, have you made an investigation Q. to determine whether or not this six acres of 23 lithium-ion batteries poses a greater threat to 24 25 people in the community than the

215 agricultural --1 2 Α. We've gone on record saying we 3 comply. That's what this document is telling 4 you. 5 Yeah, I understand what you said. Ο. 6 Α. Okay. We were on record saying we 7 comply. And I'm personally affirming that I 8 believe it, so... 9 MR. ARAMBURU: Okay. Thank you. 10 MS. PERLMUTTER: I have no 11 questions. 12 MS. FOSTER: I have no questions. 13 MS. VOELCKERS: I have no further 14 questions. 15 MR. ARAMBURU: Just one more thing, 16 which is not a question. 17 There was mention during -- I think 18 it was your question, Shona, concerning the 19 land use permit for the DNR property. 20 THE WITNESS: Yeah, yeah. 21 MR. ARAMBURU: Counsel, could you 2.2 distribute that to the parties so we have 23 it and we not let it go? 24 MS. PERLMUTTER: I certainly can't 25 do it now.

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1	MR. ARAMBURU: Oh, no. I'm not
2	asking now. But within a few days.
3	MS. PERLMUTTER: We've received the
4	request. I don't anticipate a problem, but
5	that's not my call. We'll take it under
6	advisement. I don't expect a problem.
7	MR. ARAMBURU: And a few days is
8	just fine. Thank you.
9	(THEREUPON, the deposition of DAVID
10	KOBUS concluded at 4:35 p.m.)
11	(SIGNATURE RESERVED)
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CERTIFICATE 1 2 I, MONNA J. NICKESON, CCR, CSR, CLR, RPR, 3 CRR, the undersigned Certified Court Reporter, authorized to administer oaths and affirmations in 4 and for the states of Washington (3322), Oregon 5 6 (16-0441), Idaho (1045), and California (14430), do hereby certify: 7 8 That the sworn testimony and/or 9 proceedings, a transcript of which is attached, was 10 given before me at the time and place stated therein; 11 that the witness was duly sworn or affirmed to 12 testify to the truth; that the testimony and/or 13 proceedings were stenographically recorded by me and 14 transcribed under my supervision. That the foregoing 15 transcript contains a full, true, and accurate record 16 of all the testimony and/or proceedings occurring at 17 the time and place stated in the transcript. 18 That I am in no way related to any party to 19 the matter, nor to any counsel, nor do I have any 20 financial interest in the event of the cause. 21 IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have set my hand on 22 July 26, 2023. morray. nickeson 23 NICKESON, CCR, CSR, CLR, RPR, CRR 24 MONNA J. 25

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$ \begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$	'22 [1] - 100:7				
$ \begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$	1		••		
$ \begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$,			005[1]-199.20
	1 [40] - 4:10, 11:18,				9
$ \begin{array}{llllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllll$					
$\begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$			2022 [4] - 176:1,		
$ \begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$					
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $		2		39th [1] - 2:8	
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $		0		4	
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $				4	
$ \begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $				4 [3] - 16:4, 48:14,	
	139:21, 140:11,				Α
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $		175:20	40:9, 65:12, 66:10,		
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $			84:11, 84:13, 84:21,		
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $					
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $		••			
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $				4.33 [1] - 210.10	• •
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $				5	
$ \begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	1/31/2022 [1] - 4:11			5	
$ \begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$				5 [2] - 4:5, 70:25	155:22, 157:5, 174:11
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $				50 [1] - 45:24	abnormal [1] -
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $		2-150 [1] - 120:10	54:25, 71:18, 77:15,	•••	
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $		2-151 [1] - 123:25			• • •
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $					
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $			••		
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $					
$\begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$	68:15, 154:4			-	
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $				6	
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $					• • •
$\begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$					
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$					
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $		2-87 [2] - 167:12,	2nd [1] - 2:4	••	
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$			2		
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$			3		
138 [1] - 4:5 2-B [3] - 85:9, 87:10, 87:10, 87:12 48:18, 72:4, 72:5, 72:14 40:20, 50:10, 64:19, 65:15, 65:15, 65:15, 65:17, 65:19, 65:21, 65:7, 65:19, 65:21, 66:7, 66:12 174:21 1385 [1] - 5:20 2.1.3 [1] - 16:8 3.04.041 [1] - 124:12 65:3, 65:14, 65:15, 65:15, 65:16, 65:21, 66:7, 66:12 174:21 218:6 2.22 [1] - 94:2 3.04.041 [1] - 124:12 3.3 [1] - 124:9 58:16, 58:18, 82:21 15 [1] - 115:21 2.3 [1] - 60:2 3.4 [4] - 72:6, 72:7, 72:22, 73:21 7 82:2 20 [6] - 31:6, 45:24, 71:1, 71:2, 71:3, 71:1, 71:1, 71:2, 71:3, 71:1, 71:1, 71:2, 71:3, 71:1, 71:1, 71:2, 71:3, 71			3 [6] - 16:4, 48:14,	650 [13] - 40:8,	
1385 [1] - 5:20 07.12 72:14 65:3, 65:14, 65:15, accommodate [3] - 14430 [3] - 1:22, 5:9, 2.1.3 [1] - 16:8 3.04.041 [1] - 124:12 65:3, 65:14, 65:15, 58:16, 58:18, 82:21 218:6 2.15-1 [1] - 84:1 3.3 [1] - 124:9 66:7, 66:12 58:16, 58:18, 82:21 15 [1] - 115:21 2.3 [1] - 60:2 3.4 [4] - 72:6, 72:7, 72:22, 73:21 66:7, 66:12 82:2 150 [13] - 27:16, 20 [6] - 31:6, 45:24, 72:22, 73:21 7 82:2 accordance [3] - 155:1, 59:17, 77:15, 71:1, 71:2, 71:3, 30 [1] - 108:25 7 [2] - 137:18 130:15, 140:6, 147:5			, ,		
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$					
218:6 2.22 [1] - 94:2 3.3 [1] - 124:9 60.7, 60.12 accomplish [1] - 15 [1] - 115:21 2.3 [1] - 60:2 3.4 [4] - 72:6, 72:7, 82:2 150 [13] - 27:16, 20 [6] - 31:6, 45:24, 72:22, 73:21 7 accordance [3] - 55:1, 59:17, 77:15, 71:1, 71:2, 71:3. 30 [1] - 108:25 7 [21 - 137:18] 130:15, 140:6, 147:5					
15 [1] - 115:21 2.3 [1] - 60:2 3.4 [4] - 72:6, 72:7, 82:2 150 [13] - 27:16, 20 [6] - 31:6, 45:24, 72:22, 73:21 7 accordance [3] - 55:1, 59:17, 77:15, 71:1, 71:2, 71:3, 30 [1] - 108:25 7 [21 - 137:18] 130:15, 140:6, 147:5				00:7, 00:12	
20 [6] - 31:6, 45:24, 71:1, 71:2, 71:3. 30 [1] - 108:25 7 [2] - 137:18				7	
7 [2] - 137:18				'	
	85:5, 85:7, 95:7,	71:1, 71:2, 71:3,	30 [1] - 108:25 300 [16] - 39:21,	7 [3] - 137:18,	accordingly [1] -
96:20, 100:18, 102:2, 115:21 40:7, 40:12, 50:10, 137:20, 138:1 97:4			• •		
111:21, 114:24, 20-year-oid [1] 50:12, 53:7, 53:21, 7,000 [1] - 196:22 account [2] - 45:18,					
114:25 - 181:1 200 [1] - 193:20 54:2, 54:3, 54:4, 700 [1] - 196:23 78:14	114:25	-		700 [1] - 196:23	78:14
		200 [1] = 100.20			

accurate [7] - 28:8, 84:3, 87:18, 89:17, 132:6, 132:20, 218:15 acquire [5] - 19:10, 20:14, 22:14, 23:20, 38:21 acquired [5] - 23:9, 37:6, 38:8, 39:19 acquiring [1] - 38:4 acre [8] - 127:8, 127:24, 159:19, 159:25, 160:7, 160:12, 211:18, 213:11 acres [13] - 59:11, 124:23, 126:17, 196:22, 197:16, 197:19, 197:20, 197:24, 198:12, 198:24, 202:20, 210:2, 214:23 acronym [1] - 132:12 action [1] - 100:18 active [4] - 27:3, 79:13, 90:14, 143:24 actively [1] - 26:23 activities [2] - 90:12, 174:15 actual [1] - 47:15 add [9] - 44:7, 57:14, 61:12, 63:4, 79:25, 102:19, 109:20, 110:14, 195:17 added [9] - 13:21, 38:25, 53:22, 56:18, 56:21, 60:3, 131:2, 195:15, 195:18 adding [1] - 83:13 additional [13] -63:4, 63:11, 63:18, 65:4, 81:11, 137:24, 137:25, 141:5, 169:6, 172:16, 174:16, 183:16, 190:12 address [2] - 5:18, 5:20 addressed [1] -124:9 addresses [2] -122:10 adds [1] - 40:19 adequate [2] - 23:4, 23.5 adequately [1] -77:11 adjudication [13] -139:14, 140:5, 140:9, 151:11, 152:10, 162:2, 189:13, 189:23, 190:6,

190:10, 190:18, 190:20, 201:11 adjust [1] - 58:25 administer [1] -218:4 administrative [1] -161.4 admit [1] - 141:25 adopted [1] - 212:13 advance [1] - 55:17 advantage [2] -74:17, 76:8 advantageous [2] -109:23, 109:25 advisement [1] -216:6 affect [1] - 54:11 affected [1] - 80:8 affecting [1] - 80:21 affiliated [1] - 78:23 affirmations [1] -218:4 affirmed [1] - 218:11 affirming [1] - 215:7 afternoon [2] -91:17, 192:11 Ag [6] - 204:18, 204:20, 205:3, 206:17, 208:9 AG [1] - 148:7 aggressive [1] -88:23 ago [2] - 133:3, 181:19 agree [7] - 51:23, 81:17, 157:17, 161:3, 162:24, 201:6, 202:14 agreeable [1] - 139:7 agreed [3] - 135:13, 177:3, 195:17 agreement [46] -18:14, 18:23, 19:10, 19:13, 21:15, 22:10, 24:6, 25:24, 32:9, 33:15, 33:17, 33:23, 35:7, 55:15, 55:19, 56:2, 56:14, 107:16, 118:8, 119:19, 128:4, 137:9, 156:15, 157:11, 157:23, 157:24, 168:18, 170:2, 171:16, 173:5, 173:9, 173:10, 173:11, 173:16, 174:2, 174:10, 187:14, 187:22, 188:2, 189:10, 192:20, 192:23, 194:21, 195:4, 195:15, 195:23

agreements [11] -21:24, 51:12, 120:1, 120:3, 123:18, 140:7, 158:4, 190:1, 191:9, 195:7, 195:9 agricultural [4] -181:11, 213:3, 213:7, 215:1 Agro [1] - 156:6 ahead [5] - 96:14, 99:23, 171:23, 177:22, 184:19 air [1] - 21:8 airspace [1] - 141:23 allow [3] - 6:11, 24:5, 25:7 allowed [6] - 52:25, 63:13, 141:5, 207:24, 208:11, 208:12 allows [2] - 213:3, 213.5almost [1] - 119:7 alongside [1] - 20:2 ALSO [1] - 3:12 alterations [9] -147:11, 147:14, 149:18, 150:4, 151:14, 152:4, 176:22, 177:1, 177:5 alternate [2] - 85:14, 94:18 alternative [12] -24:21.85:10.85:12. 85:13, 86:23, 94:22, 95:2, 95:3, 95:6, 98:13, 106:17, 167:24 alternatives [24] -13:15, 13:17, 94:3, 94:5, 94:8, 95:1, 95:19, 96:9, 97:3, 97:9, 97:24, 97:25, 98:10, 98:12, 98:15, 98:22, 99:3, 99:14, 99:16. 100:13. 100:17, 100:20, 101:12, 152:16 amend [4] - 189:20, 189:22, 190:5, 191:15 amended [10] -11:24, 12:12, 12:18, 14:21, 16:23, 30:9, 34:1, 57:23, 60:1, 194:21 amendment [2] -58:17, 189:12 amendments [1] -189:24 amount [13] - 24:7, 41:7, 48:7, 52:2, 52:20, 57:7, 59:13,

61:13, 71:21, 73:4, 111:3, 173:12, 174:5 ample [1] - 171:8 Amy [1] - 61:6 analogy [1] - 32:16 analysis [7] - 94:3, 94:5, 100:20, 100:21, 135:7, 137:22, 137:24 analyze [2] - 74:21, 172:6 analyzing [1] -113:20 AND [2] - 217:2, 217:23 annually [1] - 185:24 answer [137] - 6:12, 6:15, 7:8, 14:24, 15:7, 17:5, 22:17, 26:9, 29:17, 29:21, 30:8, 31:4, 31:8, 36:7, 42:15, 43:11, 44:25, 49:1, 52:22, 53:19, 56:11, 59:5, 60:16, 63:24, 71:13, 71:25, 72:19, 75:7, 75:8, 75:9, 75:18, 75:20, 77:18, 78:4, 79:5, 80:5, 90:9, 91:22. 91:23, 96:14, 98:25, 99:23, 101:7, 102:12, 103:13, 105:15, 106:11, 108:5, 109:19, 112:18, 113:12, 113:24, 114:22, 116:3, 117:24, 121:13, 123:6, 123:7, 123:13, 124:22, 125:12, 126:7, 127:15, 127:17, 129:14, 133:1, 133:14, 140:19, 142:5, 142:12, 143:8, 144:10, 144:19, 144:20, 146:25, 147:19, 148:16, 149:20, 152:6, 153:5, 153:7, 153:8, 153:14, 153:20, 155:21, 156:22, 157:14, 161:13, 163:9, 163:14, 164:6, 164:19, 165:4, 165:13, 165:25, 166:3, 166:8, 166:14, 166:25, 168:15, 168:25, 169:9, 170:19, 172:19, 174:8, 174:24, 178:6, 179:6, 180:8, 182:14,

183:5, 183:20, 185:17, 186:13, 187:7, 187:24, 188:5, 190:15, 191:5, 191:7, 194:9, 195:13, 196:19, 197:11, 199:12, 200:24, 201:16, 203:16, 205:17, 206:7, 206:14, 207:14, 208:19, 210:9, 212:16, 213:23, 214:18 answered [17] -22:17. 105:15. 106:10, 121:12, 133:1, 141:15, 141:16, 142:12, 144:19, 163:14, 164:19, 168:24, 183:5, 183:20, 191:4, 200:24. 210:19 answers [1] - 29:20 anticipate [3] -152:3, 201:19, 216:4 anticipated [2] -117:10, 117:19 anticipating [1] -58:7 apart [1] - 161:21 apologize [1] -175:22 APPEARANCES[2] -2:1, 3:1 appendix [1] - 118:6 Appendix [6] -168:4, 168:6, 172:24, 173:8, 174:14, 174:22 Applicant [1] - 1:8 applicant [5] - 131:3, 133:25, 143:12, 165:10, 176:15 APPLICANT [1] -1:18 application [56] -12:19, 12:23, 13:2, 27:19, 40:18, 41:18, 51:19, 52:10, 54:5, 56:5, 56:17, 56:24, 57:12, 57:15, 57:24, 59:9, 61:9, 68:9, 68:21, 72:3, 82:21, 87:24, 94:4, 97:6, 97:7, 98:23, 100:14, 100:16, 114:17, 116:15, 135:7, 135:13, 136:7, 140:17, 141:8, 142:24, 147:7, 148:14, 154:11,

156:25, 166:3,	133:19, 133:22,	assess [3] - 78:2,	15:18, 15:22, 20:18,	balance [3] - 31:19,
172:12, 175:1,	138:10, 188:18,	79:2, 81:12	23:4, 28:18, 34:6,	32:6, 156:3
			, , ,	,
180:11, 190:19,	188:23, 211:2, 211:7,	assessing [2] -	34:24, 35:8, 39:2,	balancing [1] - 25:14
192:3, 193:13,	211:9, 213:1, 214:1,	115:20, 116:17	41:14, 43:2, 48:9,	ballpark [1] - 108:18
193:23, 196:13,	214:21, 215:9,	assessments [1] -	55:20, 58:6, 63:19,	bands [1] - 125:6
200:17, 204:2,	215:15, 215:21,	78:25	71:20, 75:3, 75:15,	barely [1] - 133:18
204:10, 206:16,	216:1, 216:7	assessors [1] -	83:16, 90:16, 91:13,	base [1] - 115:21
209:10, 212:21,	arc [1] - 194:25	205:20	93:12, 113:3, 115:25,	based [13] - 12:3,
212:23	ArcVera [3] - 78:24,	assets [3] - 37:6,	119:2, 119:3, 121:23,	50:23, 74:7, 90:14,
APPLICATION [1] -	79:1	38:4, 38:24	123:11, 126:22,	146:18, 172:24,
1:4	area [10] - 11:3,	assist [1] - 132:4	128:23, 129:3, 141:2,	183:17, 183:24,
applications [3] -	19:23, 59:10, 163:7,		148:3, 152:13,	
64:1, 165:23, 203:10		associated [5] -	163:17, 163:21,	184:3, 184:12,
	190:3, 193:19, 194:2,	28:13, 53:1, 140:3,		191:18, 195:1, 196:12
applied [4] - 79:18,	203:18, 213:2	204:1, 211:22	165:10, 165:22,	basic [2] - 16:17,
118:20, 132:23,	areas [8] - 13:8,	Association [1] -	166:20, 166:22,	103:21
141:25	177:11, 180:6,	212:13	168:11, 168:22,	basis [8] - 23:10,
applies [1] - 175:2	180:14, 180:20,	Asst [1] - 2:15	169:6, 169:16,	30:20, 31:5, 79:10,
apply [2] - 138:17,	181:9, 183:2	assume [1] - 59:16	171:12, 171:15,	115:24, 122:24,
192:14	argue [1] - 67:8	assumption [5] -	179:17, 185:21,	185:7, 185:14
applying [1] - 161:5	argument [1] - 95:22	72:25, 73:3, 73:15,	190:23, 191:9, 212:9,	batteries [59] -
appreciate [3] - 98:6,	argumentative [11] -	73:16, 195:2	212:23	22:15, 23:2, 23:11,
151:8, 198:7	108:5, 125:17,		Avenue [5] - 2:4, 2:8,	
		assure [2] - 52:23,	2:13, 3:4, 5:20	23:12, 26:2, 46:7,
approach [1] - 20:11	144:10, 173:15,	82:5	average [5] - 23:10,	56:18, 57:1, 58:8,
approached [1] -	174:8, 182:13,	assured [1] - 170:21		58:14, 59:3, 59:7,
15:16	201:15, 203:16,	asterisk [1] - 189:4	48:7, 102:20, 202:22,	59:10, 85:10, 85:22,
appropriate [2] -	206:7, 207:14, 208:18	AT [1] - 1:18	210:17	108:11, 108:13,
22:4, 189:25	ARMBURU [2] - 2:3,	Atlas [1] - 156:6	Avista [2] - 9:14,	108:15, 109:11,
appropriated [1] -	2:5	attached [1] - 218:9	90:3	109:16, 109:20,
164:16	arrangement [6] -	attempt [5] - 15:20,	avoid [9] - 138:22,	110:7, 110:9, 111:4,
approval [3] - 56:1,	28:13, 30:5, 35:4,	58:23, 139:4, 141:18,	159:4, 159:20,	111:15, 111:19,
127:18, 127:22	40:1, 71:18, 113:6		159:24, 160:3,	111:21, 111:23,
approve [1] - 101:4	arrangements [1] -	155:8	160:12, 160:21,	112:7, 112:15,
	24:14	attempting [1] -	177:3, 181:9	112:25, 113:9,
approved [4] - 59:16,		140:24	avoidance [2] -	
88:11, 88:24, 128:2	arranges [1] - 32:10	attempts [1] - 139:9	160:17, 177:20	113:16, 113:21,
Aramburu [1] - 5:22	array [1] - 195:25	attention [1] - 176:7		114:20, 115:4, 115:7,
ARAMBURU [84] -	arrays [4] - 69:7,	Attorney [3] - 2:4,	avoided [7] - 159:6,	115:22, 116:11,
4:5, 4:6, 5:16, 11:20,	69:14, 69:21, 70:8	2:13, 2:15	159:9, 159:14,	121:10, 121:14,
11:25, 12:7, 14:25,	arrow [1] - 188:20	attorney [2] - 5:23,	159:15, 159:17,	125:22, 126:6,
15:12, 17:7, 19:9,	art [3] - 52:13,	192:12	160:19	126:10, 126:11,
23:7, 25:1, 36:16,	128:24, 128:25	Attorneys [1] - 3:3	avoids [1] - 106:17	126:16, 126:20,
42:18, 44:21, 45:7,	articles [1] - 179:22		aware [12] - 125:21,	126:25, 128:6,
49:6, 53:3, 53:23,	articulated [1] -	attractive [3] - 17:20,	128:9, 136:10,	128:17, 128:25,
56:15, 59:8, 59:21,	145:13	37:16, 37:19	143:23, 148:23,	129:2, 132:1, 132:15,
59:23, 60:23, 64:6,		author [4] - 13:17,	165:8, 202:22,	133:5, 212:2, 212:7,
	ASC [35] - 4:10,	13:25, 14:1, 94:13	204:12, 204:13,	214:5, 214:24
69:17, 71:16, 72:8,	11:16, 11:24, 12:12,	authored [1] - 15:15	204:12, 204:13, 204:24,	battery [49] - 22:19,
72:23, 75:23, 77:24,	14:21, 16:23, 17:1,	authoring [1] - 15:10	214:14	
78:11, 79:7, 80:16,	17:9, 27:8, 30:9, 34:1,	authority [2] - 131:7,		23:16, 24:4, 24:12,
81:22, 86:13, 90:24,	60:1, 87:17, 88:24,	161:15	AZIZA [1] - 2:10	24:14, 44:11, 44:16,
92:4, 93:15, 93:19,	93:25, 94:16, 94:17,	authorization [1] -		46:16, 56:19, 56:22,
96:15, 99:4, 100:1,	94:24, 96:1, 98:16,	134:11	В	57:6, 57:19, 58:1,
101:1, 101:15, 102:8,	99:19, 115:9, 122:9,	authorize [1] -		58:5, 58:7, 58:15,
103:4, 104:3, 105:23,	124:9, 172:10, 175:7,		bachelor's [1] - 8:3	59:16, 84:12, 85:4,
106:15, 108:9, 110:5,	175:16, 189:10,	134:12	back-and-forth [2] -	85:5, 85:13, 85:18,
111:1, 112:12,	189:20, 189:22,	authorized [1] -	152:16, 172:4	85:25, 86:4, 86:7,
112:21, 113:19,	190:6, 190:13,	218:4	background [2] -	86:11, 86:12, 105:7,
114:15, 115:2, 116:8,	190.0, 190.13, 191:23, 197:11,	automatic [3] -	8:1, 8:4	111:5, 111:8, 112:9,
118:4, 121:17, 123:9,		124:10, 124:16,	backtrack [1] - 38:13	114:10, 114:11,
	200:15	125:10	backup [2] - 21:3,	114:10, 114:11, 114:14, 114:12, 114:24,
123:24, 125:20,	aside [2] - 149:9,	availability [2] -	23:14	114:12, 114:24, 114:25, 124:20,
129:16, 131:19,	149:13	124:8, 168:3		
133:8, 133:16,	aspect [1] - 29:13	available [53] - 14:5,	bad [1] - 118:25	124:21, 124:24,

126:11, 127:8,	129:2, 155:14,	197:23	Butler [1] - 32:15	184:22, 185:2, 186:5,
127:24, 128:13,	156:24, 182:3,	bounds [1] - 66:2	Butte [1] - 10:22	186:17, 187:2,
128:14, 131:24,	185:21, 210:9	boy [1] - 120:12	buy [9] - 20:22, 29:9,	187:12, 188:1, 188:8,
195:25, 211:19,	better [4] - 37:19,	BPA [16] - 24:22,	71:5, 91:3, 91:18,	189:6, 190:24,
213:12	73:25, 91:14, 91:15	25:2, 25:3, 25:5,	106:8, 115:3, 126:6,	191:16, 192:10,
BC-1 [1] - 123:8	between [14] - 47:21,	36:17, 51:24, 52:5,	126:9	194:16, 195:21,
BC-2 [1] - 123:20	54:25, 62:13, 77:8,	52:11, 54:21, 54:22,	buying [2] - 32:15,	197:1, 197:21, 198:9,
BCC [1] - 124:12	77:9, 86:20, 87:8,	55:8, 55:22, 56:2,	91:7	199:15, 200:18,
BE [2] - 5:1, 217:2	135:17, 146:3, 147:9,	62:22, 67:1, 105:12	BY [166] - 1:21, 2:5,	201:4, 201:23,
bear [1] - 109:13	175:10, 176:15,	brand [1] - 114:9	2:9, 2:15, 3:5, 4:5,	204:11, 205:1,
became [1] - 82:16	190:9, 208:22	break [4] - 7:12,	4:5, 4:6, 4:6, 5:16,	205:23, 206:10,
become [5] - 7:2,	BEYER [1] - 2:8	59:20, 184:15, 184:18	11:20, 12:7, 15:12,	206:23, 207:10,
18:18, 20:6, 21:4,	Beyer [1] - 192:8	bring [3] - 32:25,	17:7, 19:9, 23:7, 25:1,	207:18, 208:10,
205:10	beyond [1] - 186:2	62:12, 104:18	36:16, 42:18, 44:21,	209:5, 210:15,
becomes [1] - 86:6	bid [1] - 107:22	bringing [2] - 26:14,	45:7, 49:6, 53:3,	210:21, 211:2, 211:9,
becoming [1] -	bids [1] - 155:14	154:12	53:23, 56:15, 59:8,	213:1, 214:1, 214:21
108:16	big [8] - 46:22,	broken [1] - 88:19	59:23, 60:23, 64:6,	
BEFORE [2] - 1:1,	108:7, 108:8, 120:12,	Brun [1] - 3:14	69:17, 71:16, 72:8,	С
217:23	124:19, 154:9, 213:25	bubble [1] - 157:2	72:23, 75:23, 77:24,	
begin [1] - 40:2	bigger [3] - 31:9,	build [32] - 10:3,	78:11, 79:7, 80:16,	C&ls [1] - 91:9
beginning [1] - 88:23	71:17, 115:22	26:16, 27:15, 32:13,	81:22, 86:13, 90:24,	C.A.R.E.S [2] - 2:2,
behind [2] - 41:8,	billion [1] - 27:13	32:18, 33:14, 33:24,	92:4, 93:19, 96:15,	5:23
105:18	binding [1] - 29:12	34:10, 34:14, 35:5,	99:4, 100:1, 101:1,	CA [2] - 1:22, 5:9
beholder [2] -	bit [14] - 16:18,	51:25, 58:20, 59:12,	101:15, 102:8, 103:4,	cables [1] - 177:7
109:22, 154:3	29:15, 29:22, 35:13,	63:14, 82:20, 82:25,	104:3, 105:23,	calculate [1] - 203:1
belief [3] - 27:24,	38:13, 46:24, 47:12,	86:5, 89:2, 89:4,	106:15, 108:9, 110:5,	calculation [1] - 23:8
135:8, 202:7	50:7, 108:11, 108:14,	102:18, 104:12,	111:1, 112:12,	calculations [3] -
believes [1] - 146:7	133:3, 138:19,	104:21, 106:23,	112:21, 113:19,	23:13, 46:13, 46:14
below [4] - 41:13,	158:16, 192:13	109:12, 110:4,	114:15, 115:2, 116:8,	California [2] -
42:21, 49:18, 217:4	blades [1] - 50:3	113:14, 114:25,	118:4, 121:17, 123:9,	214:11, 218:6
bench [2] - 34:11,	bleed [1] - 69:4	125:8, 156:6, 182:2,	123:24, 125:20,	cannot [8] - 33:14,
74:10	blind [1] - 76:5	184:7, 184:10	129:16, 131:19,	75:8, 75:9, 160:18,
benefit [2] - 131:12,	BLM [3] - 9:21,	buildable [1] -	133:8, 133:16,	161:19, 165:9,
160:24	10:20, 11:3	203:18	133:22, 138:14,	182:19, 198:12
benefits [5] - 145:3,	blow [3] - 93:6, 93:7,	builder [1] - 108:8	140:22, 142:3,	Canyon [8] - 8:14,
184:8, 184:9	93:11	building [6] - 32:13,	142:18, 143:16,	9:1, 9:8, 64:21, 67:2,
BENTON [1] - 2:7	blowing [2] - 42:23,	32:15, 83:17, 104:14,	144:14, 144:21,	141:3, 141:6, 205:19
Benton [41] - 1:12,	44:4	104:17, 124:11	147:8, 147:23,	canyons [2] - 177:8,
7:16, 10:22, 17:17,	blows [1] - 93:14	Building [1] - 1:12	148:22, 149:23,	177:9
18:2, 19:18, 19:20,	blue [2] - 187:11,	buildout [3] - 113:14,	150:19, 151:20,	capability [6] -
20:14, 20:23, 23:10,	188:6	114:6, 183:10	152:11, 153:3, 153:9,	32:21, 42:3, 121:25,
23:25, 82:8, 83:18,	board [1] - 38:14	built [9] - 8:14,	153:15, 153:21,	129:7, 173:21, 173:25
90:4, 120:20, 122:24,	boat [2] - 76:25, 77:2	19:24, 28:19, 82:12,	154:13, 156:1, 157:8,	capacity [48] - 37:21,
123:8, 127:1, 127:3,	Bofer [2] - 64:21,	82:16, 102:23, 106:7,	157:21, 158:3, 160:2,	39:2, 41:15, 41:19,
127:4, 127:5, 127:6,	66:10	108:24, 212:7	161:16, 162:12,	41:22, 42:2, 43:7,
127:7, 127:16,	Bonneville [25] -	Bumpus [1] - 95:12	163:1, 163:11,	43:8, 44:3, 44:6, 44:9,
127:19, 127:23,	19:16, 20:5, 21:12,	bunch [1] - 81:9	163:23, 164:13,	48:10, 49:9, 49:18,
129:5, 130:3, 130:6,	21:17, 23:21, 24:15,	burden [1] - 161:5	164:23, 165:7,	49:20, 51:20, 51:21,
130:15, 130:21,	25:11, 25:16, 25:20,	burial [1] - 178:18	165:16, 166:6,	54:16, 61:7, 61:10,
131:10, 133:11,	25:24, 42:4, 42:5,	burn [1] - 126:1	166:17, 167:8,	61:16, 63:21, 64:20,
161:21, 192:12,	51:13, 52:16, 53:10,	burning [1] - 126:4	168:19, 169:3,	64:24, 65:18, 65:20,
199:8, 199:24,	55:16, 57:10, 57:13,	bury [1] - 22:2	169:14, 170:1,	66:8, 66:9, 66:12,
200:21, 201:12,	60:18, 61:18, 61:19,	business [15] - 5:18,	170:24, 172:2,	66:25, 67:1, 67:10,
209:8, 211:14	61:24, 62:1, 62:14,	5:20, 24:18, 98:5,	172:14, 172:23,	69:10, 69:13, 69:20,
BESS [2] - 124:11,	82:11	103:25, 105:25,	173:7, 173:24, 174:12, 175:4, 176:5	69:22, 69:23, 70:5,
124:16	Bonneville's [2] -	106:2, 120:8, 152:21,	174:13, 175:4, 176:5,	70:9, 70:21, 70:22,
best [17] - 15:18,	51:15, 54:7	154:11, 160:20,	177:24, 179:13, 180:12, 182:10,	72:2, 74:9, 83:5,
15:22, 17:22, 27:17,	bottom [4] - 16:7,	164:22, 181:25,	180.12, 182.10, 182:22, 183:13,	83:15, 102:20,
27:21, 53:14, 90:19,	46:19, 167:17, 211:15	183:24, 184:3	182.22, 183.13, 183:23, 184:2,	106:23, 111:10
120:6, 124:23, 126:7,	boundaries [1] -	but [1] - 188:24	100.20, 104.2,	capacity/grid [1] -

67:16	114:3, 148:13,	62:7, 141:11, 145:21,	115:25, 128:23, 212:9	139:8
capital [1] - 104:17	148:20, 149:1, 217:3	146:2, 151:3, 151:10,	COMMISSION [1] -	conceive [1] - 82:7
capture [2] - 15:19,	CHANGES [1] -	158:12, 166:18,	217:25	conceived [1] -
17:22	217:2	173:8, 179:8, 180:16,	commit [1] - 83:4	82:19
car [4] - 111:5,	changing [5] - 50:2,	180:22, 182:23,	commitment [2] -	conceiving [1] - 82:1
111:16, 111:19, 126:9	83:4, 103:2, 194:5,	209:21	130:20, 173:11	concept [9] - 25:23,
care [4] - 26:1,	194:6	clearer [1] - 6:20	commitments [3] -	61:6, 76:16, 83:11,
51:24, 52:12, 80:3	characteristics [4] -	clearly [2] - 26:15,	26:18, 146:20, 190:19	84:10, 128:5, 128:15,
cares [2] - 52:11,	42:7, 52:6, 52:14,	142:5	commits [1] - 158:6	145:12, 156:25
52:16	78:7	climate [1] - 92:18	committed [2] -	conception [3] -
Carole [1] - 3:15	characterization [1]	climatic [1] - 43:18	176:25, 185:23	197:16, 206:11, 207:4
case [11] - 54:15,	- 14:9	Clipper [3] - 9:20,	commodities [1] -	concepts [2] - 82:22,
86:4, 93:4, 104:20,	characterize [1] -	10:3, 11:3	31:1	180:17
109:22, 125:15,	32:17	close [1] - 80:1	common [1] - 214:6	concern [3] - 43:13,
141:6, 160:11,	charge [8] - 23:2,	closed [1] - 92:7	communications [2]	52:17, 128:18
175:16, 204:7, 211:25	24:11, 24:13, 44:15,	closer [2] - 91:14	- 97:20, 136:20	concerned [1] -
CASE [1] - 4:2	110:22, 111:11,	CLR [2] - 218:2,	community [3] -	51:14
cases [1] - 184:6	111:13, 111:14	218:24	79:13, 211:21, 214:25	concerning [2] -
causes [1] - 42:2	charged [1] - 23:3	clustered [1] - 57:6	company [2] - 32:21,	136:13, 215:18
CCR [3] - 1:22,	charging [4] - 22:21,	co [2] - 18:11, 20:3	105:21	concerns [4] - 80:19,
218:2, 218:24	22:22, 22:23, 111:12	co-locate [1] - 20:3	compare [1] - 205:11	81:1, 82:5, 178:12
ceased [1] - 143:15	cheaper [1] - 103:23	co-locating [1] -	comparing [1] -	concert [1] - 97:6
cells [1] - 132:17	cheapest [1] - 167:6	18:11	205:7	concessions [1] -
Center [1] - 8:21	check [1] - 78:24	Code [3] - 130:7,	compatibility [4] -	140:6
CEO [1] - 9:19	checked [1] - 118:20	130:11, 130:16	202:13, 205:8, 206:5,	concise [1] - 145:16
certain [15] - 16:16,	choice [2] - 94:25,	code [3] - 120:20,	206:12	concluded [1] -
47:3, 52:2, 52:13,	100:14	130:6, 209:9	competing [1] - 37:1	216:10
52:20, 77:8, 97:22,	choose [1] - 113:5	Cohe [1] - 3:15	competitive [4] -	conclusion [11] -
103:7, 103:8, 103:20,	chose [6] - 20:7,	coincident [3] -	74:17, 76:8, 102:25,	101:6, 129:11,
105:1, 106:18,	95:2, 108:15, 143:3,	89:21, 92:13, 93:9	109:8	161:12, 161:25,
120:19, 136:5, 173:12	143:5, 159:1	cold [1] - 93:5	competitiveness [1]	165:25, 166:25,
certainly [3] - 161:3,	chronology [1] -	collaborate [1] -	- 105:19	168:14, 199:11,
190:2, 215:24	134:15 circled [1] - 180:5	18:16	competitor [2] -	200:3, 201:16, 205:16 condition [3] - 128:3,
certainty [3] -		collaborative [1] - 13:20	37:6, 37:25	195:18, 202:1
157:18, 157:19, 191:12	circles [3] - 177:3, 181:10, 183:11		complete [2] - 56:9, 96:21	conditional [16] -
certification [5] -	cited [1] - 74:1	collector [1] - 21:2 Columbia [8] - 9:16,	completed [2] -	199:8, 199:24,
40:18, 51:19, 97:8,	Cities [2] - 5:23, 93:6	10:9, 10:14, 10:19,	107:16, 137:12	200:13, 200:21,
128:3, 137:9	CITIES [2] - 1:22, 2:2	11:6, 11:7, 11:10,	complex [1] - 145:11	201:12, 201:25,
Certified [5] - 5:4,	City [6] - 10:22,	11:13	compliance [8] -	202:6, 202:9, 204:4,
5:6, 5:7, 218:3	19:20, 19:24, 20:7,	combination [2] -	101:3, 120:14,	207:2, 207:6, 207:20,
certify [1] - 218:7	167:24, 212:7	67:19, 103:15	199:17, 200:14,	207:23, 208:23,
cetera [2] - 106:3,	city [1] - 118:23	combining [1] - 11:1	200:21, 204:3, 204:5,	209:16, 211:14
121:9	Civil [1] - 7:5	coming [3] - 134:12,	204:6	conditioners [1] -
CFE [1] - 177:14	clamoring [1] - 91:16	148:24, 166:4	complied [1] - 189:3	21:8
challenge [1] - 28:22	clarification [11] -	comment [1] - 136:8	complies [1] -	conditions [5] -
challenging [2] -	24:24, 69:16, 100:25,	comments [2] -	201:12	43:18, 46:15, 201:20,
26:10, 36:22	112:11, 151:9, 158:2,	136:16, 180:21	comply [7] - 120:19,	207:21, 208:12
chance [1] - 107:21	159:22, 162:4, 187:1,	commercial [11] -	162:23, 199:8,	conducted [1] -
Chandler [1] - 10:22	208:5, 208:17	17:16, 26:11, 43:13,	199:24, 202:5, 215:3,	135:7
change [18] - 19:2,	clarify [7] - 27:9,	104:20, 107:25,	215:7	conductor [2] -
30:22, 34:25, 60:12,	63:8, 96:16, 144:22,	109:15, 111:20,	component [1] -	160:5, 194:3
62:8, 79:10, 84:8,	151:19, 178:9, 194:4	126:12, 126:16,	30:14	conductors [1] -
91:24, 92:20, 118:21,	clarifying [1] - 61:15	133:11, 165:8	components [4] -	160:6
136:17, 191:7, 193:6,	Clean [2] - 8:19, 8:20	commercial-grade	30:25, 31:21, 43:16,	confer [2] - 7:6, 7:10
193:7, 193:9, 193:11,	CLEAN [3] - 1:6, 3:2,	[1] - 111:20	125:7	Conference [1] -
194:13, 194:19	4:2	commercial-scale	comport [1] - 134:15	1:12
changed [2] - 20:11,	clean [4] - 90:5,	[1] - 26:11	composition [1] -	confidential [7] -
177:6	91:10, 115:14, 156:8	commercially [6] -	115:23	45:2, 45:4, 139:13,
changes [7] - 28:10,	clear [15] - 61:16,	58:10, 92:11, 108:16,	compromise [1] -	143:20, 148:5, 149:7,

149:14 configuration [1] -63.6 configure [1] - 63:16 confirm [2] - 148:11, 214.12 confused [1] - 27:8 confusion [1] - 6:22 conjecture [1] -181:16 connected [1] -125:4 connection [2] -36:17, 116:10 connections [1] -105:11 consecutive [1] -39:25 conservative [1] -193:24 consider [10] - 7:1, 17:18, 96:9, 96:19, 97:11, 98:9, 99:13, 99:16, 113:21, 136:17 considerable [1] -104:17 consideration [4] -38:15, 139:5, 142:1, 142.17 considered [5] -29:11, 87:23, 99:6, 134:11, 212:6 considering [1] -18:8 consistency [1] -200:11 consistent [8] -100:22, 148:8, 180:9, 193:2, 200:11, 201:1, 201:2, 201:7 consists [2] - 105:6 constantly [6] -37:17, 88:15, 90:11, 113:2, 114:1, 114:2 constraints [2] -28:9, 154:10 construct [3] - 32:3, 83:9, 183:9 construction [13] -31:12, 31:14, 34:5, 88:3, 88:5, 88:19, 120:18, 165:17, 167:18, 170:3, 171:24, 174:15, 175:2 constructs [1] -32:11 consult [1] - 143:13 consultant [1] - 33:1 consultants [2] -32:24, 150:2

consultation [1] -97.16 consulted [1] - 17:8 contact [4] - 132:19, 133:25, 134:7, 135:4 contacts [1] - 134:14 contain [1] - 100:16 contained [7] - 96:4, 125:1, 147:15, 151:25, 156:19, 214:4, 217:19 containers [2] -124:12, 125:1 contains [3] -146:20, 214:5, 218:15 contemplated [1] -85:17 contemplating [2] -59:13, 149:13 content [5] - 13:22, 17:9, 39:18, 135:1, 135:5 contingencies [1] -167:5 contingent [1] -157:11 continually [1] - 79:9 continue [8] - 20:25, 31:15, 31:16, 98:2, 139:6, 144:5, 144:8, 167:5 continued [2] - 3:1, 139:24 continues [1] -167:19 continuing [2] -37:15, 184:5 continuous [1] -214:15 continuum [2] -50:7, 53:6 contract [11] - 25:9, 29:2, 29:3, 29:12, 30:2, 32:8, 32:18, 33:2, 38:3, 117:14, 163.20 contracted [2] -25:18, 122:19 contracting [1] -83:22 contractor [5] -32:10, 32:12, 32:14, 87:16.88:1 contractors [2] -32:4, 32:23 contracts [2] - 21:13, 166:19 contractual [2] -24:14, 44:8 contractually [1] -

52:25 contribute [1] - 14:5 contributed [3] -13:6. 13:8. 64:12 contributions [1] -15.9contributor [1] -12.15contributors [1] -13.4control [3] - 52:14, 53:2, 189:11 controller [1] - 49:14 convenient [2] -118:17, 167:7 conversation [6] -18:2, 18:7, 61:24, 89:23, 138:18, 143:15 conversations [13] -17:15, 17:17, 95:16, 97:20, 98:10, 98:21, 134:25, 145:16, 149:15, 172:3, 172:9, 174:16, 176:10 converse [2] -108:20, 143:11 conversed [1] -109:2 convinced [2] -121:6, 122:1 cooperative [1] -18:14 coordinate [2] -178:20, 178:24 coordinates [3] -35:6, 192:24, 194:19 coordination [1] -131:4 copied [1] - 129:19 copy [4] - 11:22, 151:1, 176:2, 176:19 copying [1] - 129:17 core [1] - 181:8 corporate [1] - 55:1 correct [67] - 10:9, 12:20, 12:21, 18:3, 27:6, 27:13, 29:12, 45:19, 47:5, 47:11, 55:8, 59:17, 59:18, 64:22, 66:16, 67:17, 67:24, 68:2, 68:7, 68:11, 70:14, 70:19, 84:17, 89:1, 93:14, 94:19, 94:20, 95:8, 96:20, 97:12, 98:19, 115:7, 116:1, 117:22, 128:12, 140:14, 143:25, 144:8, 150:7, 150:22, 151:13, 152:2, 154:22,

154:23, 155:2, 155:5, 155:6, 158:15, 159:10, 159:11, 161:2, 172:20, 173:2, 173:9, 174:9, 179:12, 179:16, 187:4, 192:21, 192:25, 193:1, 202:3, 202:20, 202:21, 213:4, 213:6, 217:20 corrected [1] - 68:13 CORRECTIONS [1] -217.5corrections [1] -217:20 corresponding [1] -190:18 corridor [3] - 180:14, 194:13, 194:14 corridors [4] - 73:7, 73:8, 193:22, 193:25 Cortland [1] - 5:20 cost [11] - 27:12, 28:3, 30:8, 30:15, 31:20. 31:22. 53:16. 57:8. 103:16. 103:21. 155:25 costly [1] - 53:13 costs [4] - 27:12, 28:5, 105:1, 136:5 council [9] - 150:16, 150:23, 150:25, 151:4, 151:7, 190:9, 190:21, 191:1, 199:19 COUNCIL [1] - 1:2 counsel [20] - 6:5, 7:6, 7:16, 11:22, 14:19, 14:25, 147:17, 147:21, 149:3, 150:6, 150:13, 150:16, 150:20, 150:25, 151:23, 152:8, 178:22, 184:12, 215:21, 218:19 Counsel [2] - 2:14, 11:25 count [2] - 196:21, 198:16 countered [1] -144:3 counties [1] - 198:3 **County** [29] - 1:12, 7:17, 19:18, 19:20, 82:8, 83:18, 120:20, 122:24, 123:8, 127:1, 127:3, 127:5, 127:7, 127:16, 127:19, 127:23, 129:5, 130:3, 130:6, 130:15, 130:21, 131:10,

133:11, 192:13, 201:19, 209:9, 211:14 county [10] - 8:15, 128:2, 134:18, 166:10, 178:22, 179:3, 191:19, 198:2, 200:12. 201:3 COUNTY [1] - 2:7 County's [5] -161:21. 199:8. 199:24, 200:21, 201:12 couple [7] - 27:7, 110:9, 129:19, 133:23, 154:20, 163:3, 211:3 course [8] - 43:5, 52:16, 74:21, 78:18, 138:17, 154:9, 193:4, 198:25 Court [13] - 5:7, 7:5, 24:23, 69:15, 100:24, 112:10, 158:1, 159:21, 162:3, 186:25, 208:4, 208:16, 218:3 **COURT** [5] - 1:22, 59:19, 184:14, 184:19, 211:5 court [1] - 6:9 cover [3] - 57:13, 170:3, 171:19 covered [1] - 152:17 craft [2] - 83:9, 83:15 cranking [1] - 111:6 create [3] - 70:15, 74:15, 137:8 created [2] - 100:8, 156:25 creates [1] - 76:24 creating [1] - 80:22 creation [1] - 146:7 criteria [19] - 22:5, 51:15, 52:15, 135:9, 158:22, 199:9, 199:25, 200:16, 200:22, 201:13, 202:6, 202:9, 202:12, 203:21, 203:25, 204:4, 204:9, 206:2, 211:13 crop [1] - 213:19 cross [3] - 22:1, 22:11, 75:16 crossing [1] - 21:24 CRR [3] - 1:22, 218:3, 218:24 CSR [3] - 1:22, 218:2, 218:24 cuff [1] - 46:20

culminating [1] -55·18 cultural [12] -106:18. 138:23. 139:23, 140:13, 142:10. 144:17. 145:1, 145:6, 145:11, 146:22, 185:12, 186:10 culture [1] - 146:11 CUP [2] - 200:15, 204:9 current [10] - 30:16, 33:3, 65:11, 89:2, 110:21, 114:19, 123:15, 147:6, 148:19, 170:12 curves [1] - 75:12 cut [3] - 34:9, 83:13, 103.8 cycles [1] - 91:25

D

daily [1] - 122:23 Dallas [1] - 19:22 danger [1] - 212:10 dangers [3] - 125:21, 125:24. 126:15 data [16] - 71:20, 74:12, 74:13, 74:15, 74:19, 75:3, 75:17, 75:19, 75:25, 76:3, 76:7, 76:11, 136:22, 137:18, 137:20, 138:1 date [2] - 30:21, 217:4 dated [1] - 175:25 DAVID [8] - 1:11, 4:4, 5:3, 5:11, 5:19, 216:9, 217:18, 217:22 David [1] - 5:19 davs [10] - 88:4. 93:6, 93:8, 128:20, 214:11, 214:15, 216:2, 216:7 daytime [2] - 43:2, 110:16 deal [5] - 7:24, 21:17, 130:24, 155:14, 203:10 December [1] -100:7 decide [5] - 57:10, 113:15, 150:23, 183:9, 184:10 decided [4] - 53:14, 110:7, 118:21, 135:12 deciding [1] - 184:7 decision [15] - 54:24,

55:2, 55:21, 57:13, 82:25, 95:4, 95:15, 97:14, 97:18, 99:8, 99:10, 99:17, 99:18, 99:24, 116:6 decision-maker [2] -99:8.99:10 decisions [1] -191:11 declare [2] - 135:20, 217:18 declaring [1] -145:18 declines [1] - 47:9 declining [1] - 45:18 decrement [1] -24:12 deemed [2] - 28:23, 97.9 deep [1] - 46:25 Defense [2] - 33:16, 192:20 defer [1] - 152:7 define [1] - 32:1 degree [1] - 194:22 DEIS [7] - 88:4, 96:22, 97:1, 99:19, 99:25, 136:16, 180:21 deliberate [3] -191:25, 192:1, 192:3 deliberating [2] -134:17. 191:1 deliberations [2] -190:17. 190:22 delivered [1] - 28:19 delivery [1] - 47:16 demand [10] - 89:21, 90:5, 90:23, 91:10, 92:13, 93:10, 107:5, 107:8, 112:2, 156:11 demands [4] - 90:17, 91:13, 92:15, 92:17 demonstrably [1] -129.4demonstrate [5] -28:17, 165:22. 166:22, 168:11, 168:21 demonstrated [1] -165.10demonstrates [1] -142:8 demonstrating [1] -166:20 deny [1] - 214:12 department [1] -170:20 Department [5] -33:15, 169:11, 169:17, 171:18,

192:20 departments [1] -123:22 depicted [1] - 87:11 DEPOSITION [1] -1:11 deposition [11] - 5:3, 5:25, 6:1, 6:7, 6:23, 11:18, 31:24, 175:24, 193:5, 216:9, 217:19 described [2] -16:19, 45:13 describing [2] -13:16, 13:17 DESCRIPTION [1] -4:9 description [2] -10:14, 203:6 descriptions [1] -203:11 design [27] - 32:18, 32:20, 33:1, 40:16, 48:6, 55:18, 58:23, 70:23, 77:7, 78:1, 88:2, 141:19, 147:11, 147:15, 148:13, 149:12, 149:17, 150:4, 151:14, 151:25, 152:4, 155:4, 156:19, 159:3, 176:23, 177:1 designate [3] -22:10, 182:18, 187:10 designation [1] -204:15 designed [2] - 87:7, 158:24 designing [4] -17:19, 43:16, 51:16, 76:6 designs [3] - 57:19, 149:8, 151:1 desirable [1] -102.24 desire [11] - 38:9, 38:10, 41:25, 43:24, 55:6, 77:23, 108:22, 112:2, 138:24, 157:1, 162:24 desired [7] - 48:7, 54:13, 91:15, 155:7, 203:20, 203:25, 217:3 desires [1] - 58:13 despite [1] - 212:1 despoiled [1] -206:19 details [1] - 112:4 determination [8] -55:4, 60:25, 96:22, 100:12, 135:9,

135:23, 206:5, 206:12 determinations [2] -136:25, 193:3 determine [6] - 42:9, 46:18. 170:15. 203:13. 203:18. 214:23 determined [6] -54:18.83:2.84:18. 98:12, 101:25, 205:20 determining [1] -102:15 develop [6] - 9:21, 9:23, 11:5, 17:13, 82:8, 104:1 developed [2] -27:19, 107:24 developer [5] - 8:12, 9:2, 34:22, 37:2, 106:22 developers [2] -34:21, 37:14 developing [6] -8:13, 9:12, 11:2, 11:3, 17:19, 107:18 development [9] -28:14, 36:9, 139:25, 165:2, 165:9, 165:11, 165:18, 167:2, 183:17 develops [1] - 110:4 devices [1] - 53:1 dial [1] - 49:24 diddled [1] - 16:17 die [1] - 42:25 died [1] - 43:4 dies [1] - 41:12 difference [2] -86:16, 103:6 different [14] - 14:4, 47:12, 58:15, 71:5, 73:19, 75:20, 79:22, 86:6, 115:23, 150:3, 203:8, 203:9, 207:9 difficult [2] - 26:17, 197:10 difficulty [2] - 6:10, 51:10 dig [1] - 117:6 direct [1] - 176:6 directly [2] - 21:17, 178:16 disagree [4] - 14:8, 80:18, 107:10, 200:25 disagreeing [1] -171:9 disagreement [1] -107:3 discharge [1] - 111:4 disclose [2] - 75:11, 75:19

disconnected [1] -21.5discovered [2] -53:10. 61:8 discussed [9] -22:24, 97:19, 132:24, 137:7, 147:14, 149:4, 150:3, 151:2, 157:22 discusses [1] -160:17 discussing [2] -149:2, 202:18 discussion [9] -20:22, 100:17, 116:10, 124:1, 144:8, 147:9, 147:24, 148:2, 175:9 discussions [11] -20:25, 22:13, 23:14, 23:22, 140:2, 141:7, 148:17, 154:21, 155:2, 175:13, 177:2 disparaging [1] -76:10 dispatch [3] - 24:5, 24:8, 110:23 dispatched [1] -111:8 dispatching [1] -111:9 dispute [6] - 184:24, 185:7, 185:15, 186:7, 186:16, 205:5 dissipated [1] -77:11 dissipates [1] - 77:4 distance [1] - 77:8 distinction [5] -146:2, 207:17, 208:13, 208:22, 210:14 distribute [1] -215:22 distribution [3] -21:4, 22:1, 22:3 districts [1] - 119:5 divert [1] - 44:15 divided [1] - 16:3 DNR [9] - 170:3, 173:4. 186:24. 187:10. 187:14. 187:22, 190:2, 191:7, 215:19 docket [1] - 138:4 document [29] -12:1, 12:5, 12:13, 12:18, 13:10, 13:12, 14:11, 14:16, 15:20, 15:24, 17:25, 46:23, 54:6, 60:15, 61:1,

94:15, 100:2, 100:3, due [1] - 131:25 80:22 42:7, 47:16, 48:1, entirely [2] - 136:3, 100:8, 101:9, 116:23, efficient [1] - 158:18 48:8, 52:5, 52:14 duly [2] - 5:12, 177.4 120:12, 122:13, 218:11 effort [8] - 13:20, electrolyte [2] entities [4] - 34:16, 137:5, 137:19, 140:4, Dunn [1] - 18:5 15:17.27:4.43:19. 132:16, 132:18 107:25. 151:18. 142:21, 142:22, 215:3 during [6] - 87:16, 94:15, 140:12, element [3] - 109:21. 161:10 documented [1] -88:7, 93:5, 134:20, 141:13, 141:18 185:12. 186:9 entity [4] - 34:16, 107:16, 151:22 137:17 elements [2] - 32:19, 190:20, 215:17 efforts [6] - 138:21, documents [8] -139:21, 140:16, 94:6 dynamic [1] - 48:5 environment [3] -99:20, 143:19, 142:9, 144:16, 144:25 email [2] - 175:23, 147:22, 149:3, 178:23 168:20, 169:4, Ε **EFSEC** [80] - 4:11, 176:2 ENVIRONMENT [1] -169:21, 171:16, 5:24, 6:25, 7:3, 11:23, Email [4] - 2:10, 2:12 E&P [1] - 55:14 177:18, 180:2 12:5, 15:22, 27:5, 2:16, 3:6, 3:10 Environment [1] -**DOD** [4] - 194:21, eager [1] - 112:3 60:19, 60:20, 61:6, embellish [1] -2:14 194:23, 195:4, 196:13 easement [1] - 22:10 62:14, 66:2, 87:16, 158:16 environmental [12] -95:4, 95:9, 95:11, domestic [1] easements [4] emergency [4] -100:11, 106:18, 122:22 95:17, 96:8, 96:18, 18:9, 18:12, 19:18, 135:1, 135:15, 122:25, 127:20, dominant [1] - 77:12 36:22 97:6, 97:10, 97:20, 135:21, 135:25, 128:1, 129:6 done [17] - 16:3, 98:8, 98:11, 98:22, 158:17, 158:25, east [18] - 37:8, EMILY [1] - 3:5 33:1, 56:23, 78:1, 40:10, 40:11, 42:25, 100:19, 100:22, encapsulate [1] -159:2, 159:9, 159:13, 101:2, 101:3, 114:17, 78:17, 79:8, 79:9, 53:8, 63:17, 63:21, 197:24 160:17 116:6, 131:5, 131:7, 96:24, 97:6, 101:24, 63:25, 64:17, 82:13, environmentally [1] end [8] - 21:19, 112:14, 140:8, 143:3, 84:20, 84:22, 86:20, 131:11, 131:13, 82:22, 132:9, 133:7, - 57:17 143:5, 159:3, 173:6, 87:8, 105:6, 105:7, 133:25, 134:1, 133:17, 140:8, EPC [7] - 31:17, 182:24 134:10, 134:14, 105:10, 154:5 141:20, 193:14 32:1, 32:10, 32:18, dot [2] - 74:3, 188:20 eastern [1] - 38:21 134:19, 134:25, endanger [4] -33:2, 87:15, 87:25 135:14, 135:17, double [1] - 12:9 easy [1] - 164:15 EPC-type [1] - 31:17 211:20, 213:12, 136:3, 136:12, 137:2, double-sided [1] ecology [1] - 170:14 213:16, 214:8 equal [1] - 73:18 137:4, 138:2, 142:24, 12.9 economic [4] endangered [1] equipment [7] -143:12, 147:5, 148:3, down [18] - 6:10, 103:3, 103:21, 120:6, 182:18 27:20, 28:2, 28:16, 148:12, 148:18, 31:2, 41:12, 42:25, 152:21 ended [3] - 8:13, 88:17, 114:9, 123:15 149:22, 150:10, 43:4, 45:13, 69:1, economical [3] -23:22, 136:9 erects [1] - 32:11 150:25, 151:22, 88:19, 110:18, 19:15, 37:20, 58:11 ends [1] - 190:10 ERRATA[1] - 217:1 152:9, 160:25, 161:4, 116:13, 119:11, economically [3] energized [2] error [1] - 64:25 161:9, 161:14, 124:4, 125:2, 146:8, 28:17, 158:14, 160:4 19:25, 21:8 escalated [1] - 31:2 162:14, 162:24, 167:20, 211:6, economics [4] -**ENERGY** [4] - 1:2, escalator [1] - 30:18 166:10, 172:4, 213:10, 214:11 27:21, 102:16, 1:6, 3:2, 4:2 Esq [2] - 3:8, 3:9 172:15, 173:3, 173:6, downloaded [3] -102:22, 109:5 energy [15] - 8:12, **ESQ** [5] - 2:5, 2:9, 175:25, 176:15, 11:22, 11:23, 12:5 economies [1] -23:9, 23:18, 23:24, 2:10, 3:5, 3:5 190:17, 191:18, downstream [6] -104:13 26:11, 41:7, 49:10, essence [1] - 209:15 200:20, 201:2, 76:15, 77:6, 79:3, economy [5] -49:11, 76:23, 90:5, essentially [1] -201:21, 204:8 80:21, 81:2, 81:11 102:16, 103:2, 103:6, 91:10, 115:14, 202:12 EFSEC's [7] - 94:25, downwind [1] -103:9, 103:20 117:17, 156:8, 157:6 estimate [1] - 30:8 100:10, 101:21, 77:13 Ecosystems [1] -Energy [8] - 8:9, estimated [1] - 111:2 136:5, 150:13, draft [6] - 16:17. 13.6 8:16, 8:19, 8:21, 9:12, estimates [2] -150:20, 165:20 18:23. 97:14. 100:6. edge [1] - 188:7 10:1, 10:25, 90:3 31:13, 31:15 eight [3] - 8:5, 58:14, 101:3, 136:8 editor [1] - 14:11 engage [2] - 140:24, et [2] - 106:2, 121:9 114:12 drafting [1] - 16:20 editorial [1] - 64:12 156:13 evaluate [10] - 34:24, eight-hour [1] drawing [4] - 71:22, education [2] - 7:25, engaged [4] - 9:25, 95:1, 95:18, 97:3, 114:12 73:1, 84:5, 181:10 8:2 31:18, 61:23, 130:23 97:24, 97:25, 99:2, EIS [10] - 58:18, drawings [3] - 57:18, education-wise [1] engaging [1] - 18:13 101:12, 109:6, 184:5 60:22, 97:15, 136:18, 122:6, 122:14 engineer [2] - 9:5, 8:2 evaluated [7] -136:25, 137:7, drawn [1] - 21:20 EF-210011 [2] - 1:6, 32:3 13:18, 33:20, 97:8, 137:12, 191:9, drill [2] - 122:20, 4:2 engineering [6] -98:13, 100:13, 191:10, 191:13 164:8 effect [10] - 76:20, 8:4, 32:6, 55:16, 103:16, 139:3 either [5] - 24:1, drilling [3] - 116:23, 57:19, 78:1, 105:1 76:21, 77:5, 77:12, evaluating [4] -77:15, 86:2, 107:25, 164:1, 164:3 77:14, 78:2, 79:2, entertained [1] -51:10, 112:5, 113:2, 168:1 driven [1] - 92:17 205:9, 205:21, 209:9 22:24 114:2 Electric [2] - 28:13, drop [1] - 42:20 effective [1] - 57:8 entire [7] - 17:12, EVALUATION [1] -28:16 dropped [1] - 108:17 effects [1] - 77:21 19:11, 50:1, 94:15, 1.2 electrical [7] - 32:25, dry [1] - 117:6 efficiency [2] - 51:3, 107:7, 179:7, 193:24 evaluation [2] - 68:5,

82:11	exercise [1] - 170:11	exposing [1] - 80:14	187:20	Fifth [1] - 2:13
			FARM [1] - 1:7	
evaluations [1] -	exhaustively [1] -	extend [1] - 137:4		fight [3] - 123:11,
137:17	103:18	extending [1] - 29:19	farm [5] - 52:18,	126:25, 127:8
evaluators [1] -	exhibit [5] - 143:18,	extensive [1] - 14:2	209:12, 209:13,	fighting [2] - 123:17,
78:22	175:19, 181:2, 186:4,	extent [15] - 10:23,	209:15	130:10
event [5] - 21:4,	188:19	19:4, 33:7, 74:22,	Farm [6] - 4:10,	figure [5] - 75:22,
23:2, 122:25, 214:7,	Exhibit [24] - 4:10,	77:21, 82:7, 102:23,	195:24, 199:7,	84:24, 127:21,
218:20	4:11, 11:18, 11:19,	139:2, 139:25,	204:17, 205:12, 210:4	176:20, 180:5
eventual [1] - 44:20	93:25, 138:21,	145:14, 157:6,	farmers [2] - 164:9,	figures [1] - 158:19
eventually [5] - 8:11,	139:10, 139:21,	158:21, 181:15,	164:10	file [7] - 39:17, 40:7,
8:18, 61:24, 77:3,	140:11, 141:11,	206:20, 211:21	farmhouses [1] -	54:15, 65:25, 134:6,
157:5	142:20, 144:15,	external [2] - 143:17,	213:5	134:10
everywhere [3] -	144:24, 146:20,	150:5	fast [2] - 128:10,	filed [16] - 39:16,
22:11, 193:17, 204:5	147:15, 147:25,	externally [1] -	128:12	39:20, 39:21, 39:22,
	150:4, 151:12,	-		
evidence [2] -	151:25, 156:20,	149:24	fast-moving [1] -	40:24, 52:9, 63:3,
178:20, 178:25		extinguishing [1] -	128:10	68:14, 98:17, 135:6,
evolution [1] -	160:17, 167:13,	123:3	faults [2] - 125:25,	135:11, 136:15,
212:18	175:20, 186:19	extinguishment [1] -	128:8	200:16, 204:2,
evolved [2] - 108:17,	EXHIBITS [1] - 4:8	132:23	favorable [2] - 89:20,	204:10, 206:16
212:20	exist [4] - 74:13,	extra [4] - 53:21,	92:12	files [1] - 134:9
evolving [1] - 90:23	74:19, 75:18, 75:25	54:4, 66:22, 163:12	feasibility [2] -	filing [2] - 98:23,
exact [4] - 18:13,	existence [2] -	extracts [1] - 76:23	53:11, 54:17	134:5
46:15, 49:4, 156:17	90:15, 200:16	extremely [1] - 53:13	feasible [2] - 108:16,	filings [1] - 193:2
exactly [8] - 45:20,	existing [2] - 169:12,	eye [2] - 109:21,	116:25	fill [2] - 34:9, 74:6
81:14, 90:13, 132:13,	177:19	154:2	February [12] -	final [14] - 83:20,
137:11, 185:20, 197:2	exists [6] - 76:7,		12:19, 28:5, 96:2,	88:2, 136:13, 136:18,
EXAMINATION [10] -	76:11, 85:12, 159:15,	F	96:10, 98:17, 100:6,	136:20, 136:25,
1:11, 4:5, 4:5, 4:6,	159:18, 170:7	P	136:9, 176:14,	137:3, 137:5, 137:7,
4:6, 5:15, 138:13,	expanded [3] -	FAA [2] - 193:2,	176:23, 180:15, 183:3	137:12, 174:10,
192:9, 211:1, 217:3	37:11, 193:18, 193:20	194:24	federal [3] - 51:13,	191:9, 191:10, 191:13
example [16] - 13:5,	expect [7] - 55:21,	facetious [1] - 33:10	161:18, 161:19	finalizing [2] - 16:21,
13:14, 15:23, 19:19,	100:10, 121:23,	FACILITY [1] - 1:2	federalized [1] -	97:14
22:15, 26:2, 31:17,	136:16, 137:3,	facility [3] - 33:18,	82:16	
	138:18, 216:6	125:2, 156:12		finally [1] - 57:10
61:8, 104:4, 159:18,			feed [3] - 21:9,	finance [4] - 26:11,
160:5, 162:22,	expectation [1] -	fact [15] - 21:19,	21:16, 21:21	89:7, 89:11, 98:3
163:18, 168:2, 168:7,	28:15	22:7, 30:20, 38:1,	feet [2] - 193:20,	financed [1] - 89:9
208:8	expected [1] - 23:9	52:11, 62:9, 88:3,	194:24	financial [2] - 8:17,
exceed [4] - 41:9,	expedited [1] -	92:8, 118:16, 138:6,	FEIS [3] - 172:4,	218:20
48:9, 49:15, 73:21	135:12	138:25, 159:5,	191:23, 191:24	financing [1] - 83:23
except [1] - 178:16	expensive [1] -	175:15, 206:17, 212:1	fell [1] - 7:14	fine [4] - 27:2, 66:20,
exception [1] - 98:14	54:23	factor [1] - 102:21	felt [1] - 135:8	66:22, 216:8
excess [2] - 25:19,	experience [3] - 8:1,	factors [2] - 69:11,	ferruginous [15] -	finesse [1] - 37:15
44:14	111:15, 111:22	102:15	177:11, 177:16,	finish [3] - 6:13, 6:14
exchange [3] -	expert [2] - 135:24,	fair [16] - 14:10, 15:5,	177:19, 178:11,	finished [1] - 191:1
60:20, 61:5, 174:5	136:2	32:17, 84:19, 140:16,	179:10, 180:19,	fire [33] - 120:23,
excluded [2] - 162:1,	expertise [2] - 13:9,	146:19, 153:22,	180:23, 181:12,	121:8, 121:9, 121:19,
162:8	14:3	155:16, 160:16,	181:21, 183:16,	121:21, 122:15,
exclusionary [1] -	experts [1] - 112:1	163:6, 163:24, 166:7,	184:25, 185:5,	122:17, 123:1,
183:2	EXPIRES [1] -	175:6, 180:3, 183:14,	185:11, 185:22, 186:8	123:11, 123:22,
exclusive [1] - 28:12	217:25	207:19	fertilizer [1] - 156:7	125:21, 126:15,
exclusivity [8] -	explain [6] - 29:15,	fairly [2] - 48:4,	few [8] - 13:24,	126:25, 127:8,
28:23, 29:5, 29:6,	30:1, 41:2, 47:13,	48:15	46:25, 88:24, 184:17,	127:10, 127:16,
29:7, 29:13, 30:5,	60:13, 92:14	fall [2] - 134:14,	184:21, 185:3, 216:2,	127:23, 128:10,
38:2, 157:23	explains [1] - 94:24	134:21	216:7	130:3, 130:15,
excuse [6] - 19:5,	explanation [1] -	falls [2] - 203:22,	fewer [1] - 94:18	130:21, 131:10,
54:3, 61:3, 81:20,	96:5	203:23	field [3] - 152:24,	131:25, 132:23,
211:10	explored [1] - 103:11	familiar [6] - 76:15,	153:5, 153:11	133:4, 133:9, 212:4,
execute [1] - 191:8	explosion [1] -	79:15, 108:23, 128:5,	fields [5] - 153:17,	213:18, 213:19,
	131:25	128:15, 202:8	153:24, 154:15,	213.16, 213.19, 214:15
executed [2] - 148:6,		far [3] - 154:3, 155:3,		Fire [5] - 122:24,
190:1	exposed [1] - 132:15	iai [3] - 104.0, 100.0,	181:11, 181:13	וו כ [ט] - ובב.ב4,

130:7, 130:11,	71:12, 72:18, 75:7,	113:24, 114:22,	gather [1] - 56:16	143:13, 143:14
130:16, 212:12	75:14, 77:18, 78:3,	116:3, 123:5, 123:13,	GE [9] - 29:2, 29:9,	governor [3] - 88:12,
fire's [1] - 213:25	86:9, 96:13, 98:25,	133:13, 147:19,	, ,	137:6, 150:24
	99:22, 101:6, 101:10,	148:16, 152:6, 153:7,	30:3, 30:17, 30:23,	
fires [6] - 123:17,		153:13, 153:19,	31:9, 38:2	GPS [1] - 192:24
126:2, 128:16,	102:10, 103:12,		gen [4] - 36:23,	grade [1] - 111:20
130:10, 212:3, 212:14	112:17, 113:12,	161:24, 165:4, 173:1,	86:24, 87:2, 87:3	grant [1] - 114:18
firm [1] - 198:16	113:23, 116:2,	174:24, 182:13,	gen-tie [4] - 36:23,	grape [1] - 163:18
first [22] - 5:12, 6:8,	117:24, 121:11,	185:17, 186:13,	86:24, 87:2, 87:3	great [4] - 7:24, 20:2,
9:18, 23:18, 69:10,	133:13, 140:18,	187:6, 190:15, 191:4,	General [5] - 2:13,	86:11, 131:18
75:24, 76:19, 82:13,	143:8, 146:24,	198:1, 204:22,	2:15, 28:13, 28:16,	greater [7] - 69:14,
82:18, 89:8, 109:1,	147:18, 148:15,	212:16, 213:23,	90:4	69:21, 70:9, 80:15,
113:14, 114:6,	149:19, 150:16,	214:18	general [13] - 10:13,	211:22, 213:20,
120:17, 124:5,	151:16, 152:5,	fountain [1] - 189:2	31:5, 32:12, 32:14,	214:24
134:14, 140:25,	152:25, 153:12,	four [20] - 52:8, 63:4,	70:25, 156:17, 195:3,	greatest [1] - 30:14
155:13, 183:10,	153:19, 154:1,	63:10, 63:11, 63:18,	205:3, 208:25,	green [2] - 164:10,
189:22, 191:13,	155:21, 156:21,	64:3, 111:8, 111:10,	209:23, 210:5,	164:11
191:17	157:14, 163:8,	114:20, 115:7, 197:7,	210:16, 213:16	Greg [2] - 78:19,
fit [3] - 17:22, 27:21,	163:15, 164:5,	198:18, 199:3, 210:1,	generally [10] -	78:23
99:17	164:19, 165:4,	210:6, 210:11,	16:19, 25:5, 25:20,	grid [39] - 19:16,
five [2] - 113:15,	166:13, 168:23,	210:12, 214:11,	50:4, 146:13, 197:7,	20:5, 21:5, 21:9,
198:24	169:22, 171:22,	214:15	199:2, 210:1, 213:3,	21:14, 21:21, 22:23,
fix [3] - 65:1, 65:8,	172:18, 172:25,	four-hour [3] - 111:8,	213:5	23:1, 24:13, 25:2,
65:9	173:14, 174:7, 180:7,	114:20, 115:7	generate [2] - 44:15,	
flammable [1] -	183:4, 185:16,	FPRF [1] - 132:9	72:22	25:8, 25:15, 25:21,
132:18	186:12, 187:5,	frame [1] - 10:5		25:22, 41:18, 41:22,
	187:23, 190:15,	free [1] - 14:8	generates [3] -	42:1, 42:6, 42:8, 43:9,
flexibility [6] - 34:3,	191:3, 194:9, 195:12,		93:13, 104:23, 110:11	43:25, 47:16, 47:23,
34:14, 102:4, 157:3,	196:19, 198:8, 200:7,	freedom [1] - 194:22	generating [10] -	49:8, 49:9, 49:16,
193:21, 194:24	204:21, 204:22,	frequent [1] - 79:9	42:24, 48:3, 64:20,	49:19, 52:2, 52:6,
flexible [1] - 114:14	204:21, 204:22, 204:22	frequently [1] - 46:1	66:8, 66:12, 66:25,	52:15, 66:9, 66:25,
flow [1] - 58:14		FRIDAY [3] - 1:15,	67:10, 67:16, 72:21,	69:22, 69:23, 70:3,
flows [5] - 120:23,	Form [3] - 153:6,	4:3, 5:1	110:12	70:4, 70:17, 111:4,
121:8, 121:19,	170:17, 183:19	front [6] - 11:17,	generation [22] -	158:19
121:21, 133:10	FORM [1] - 217:2	143:18, 151:12,	23:6, 26:14, 47:15,	ground [3] - 6:6,
flying [1] - 76:5	formulate [1] - 90:22	151:17, 152:1, 176:20	47:22, 49:25, 50:20,	10:21, 138:17
folks [2] - 165:1,	Fort [1] - 3:9	fruitful [1] - 20:6	50:23, 61:13, 69:9,	grounds [3] - 14:23,
176:2	forth [4] - 82:6,	fruition [2] - 9:15,	69:13, 69:20, 70:4,	161:24
follow [7] - 90:15,	152:16, 172:4, 211:15	190:1	70:16, 71:21, 92:20,	group [1] - 112:6
92:2, 203:5, 203:25,	forthcoming [1] -	full [11] - 5:17, 43:7,	93:1, 103:22, 103:23,	grow [1] - 206:20
211:3, 212:19, 212:24	148:21	43:8, 64:8, 67:13,	105:11, 110:16, 146:8	guarantee [3] -
follow-up [1] - 211:3	forward [4] - 152:23,	103:17, 172:13,	generator [3] -	113:5, 129:5, 129:8
followed [1] - 84:2	153:4, 153:10, 153:16	175:12, 197:8, 199:1,	55:19, 56:14, 87:3	guess [4] - 164:14,
following [2] - 5:9,	fossil [1] - 33:17	218:15	generators [1] -	175:7, 197:9, 209:2
210:5	Foster [1] - 192:12	fullest [5] - 34:24,	49:17	guidance [3] - 12:16,
follows [1] - 5:14	FOSTER [28] - 2:10,	74:22, 139:1, 139:25,	geographic [1] -	12:25, 179:18
	4:6, 192:8, 192:10,	145:14	10:13	guidelines [8] -
foot [1] - 105:22	194:16, 195:21,	fully [6] - 15:19,	given [5] - 38:10,	177:18, 177:19,
footprint [1] - 11:13	197:1, 197:21, 198:6,	25:17, 29:17, 29:21,	72:16, 78:7, 156:10,	
FOR [6] - 1:6, 2:2,	198:9, 199:15, 200:4,	162:24, 208:23	218:10	177:25, 178:1,
2:7, 2:12, 3:2, 3:7	200:18, 201:4,			179:14, 179:15,
foraging [1] - 181:12	201:23, 204:11,	function [1] - 69:24	glare [1] - 178:21	179:19, 212:13
force [1] - 74:6	205:1, 205:23,	functional [1] - 13:7	Glendale [1] - 214:11	guys [2] - 75:16,
forecast [1] - 90:17	206:10, 206:23,	functioning [1] -	GMA [6] - 204:18,	75:21
foregoing [2] -	207:10, 207:18,	47:20	204:20, 205:3,	
217:19, 218:14	208:10, 209:5,	fundamental [1] -	206:17, 208:9	Н
FOREGOING [1] -		31:1	GMAA [1] - 213:2	hablest 470.00
217:3	210:15, 210:21,	funded [1] - 55:17	goals [2] - 183:24,	habitat [1] - 159:23
forget [1] - 18:13	210:23, 215:12	future [1] - 91:11	184:3	habitation [1] -
forgot [1] - 53:17	foundation [35] -		goodness [1] - 68:24	160:10
form [73] - 15:9,	52:22, 56:11, 79:5,	G	gorge [1] - 92:21	Hafkemeyer [1] -
17:4, 21:21, 36:7,	80:5, 90:9, 91:21,		Gould [1] - 189:8	61:6
42:15, 53:18, 63:24,	109:18, 112:17,	G-o-u-l-d [1] - 189:8	government [2] -	half [8] - 8:6, 83:13,
. , ,				

102:5, 103:8, 103:10,	hire [3] - 32:14,	175:20, 180:4, 181:8,	38:7, 94:4, 142:16,	76:13, 112:20,
181:17, 195:16,	32:23, 168:4	185:13, 197:12,	149:1, 190:3, 191:15,	121:20, 137:19,
195:20	hired [2] - 8:19,	198:14, 200:14,	193:19, 194:10	141:2, 143:4, 152:13,
	112:6	205:19	included [2] - 10:20,	172:5, 172:16,
hand [3] - 94:9, 107:21, 218:21		identifies [1] - 118:7	187:17	172.3, 172.10, 179:25,
	history [1] - 35:13		-	191:2, 191:21
hands [1] - 105:18	hold [3] - 142:25,	identify [7] - 35:2,	includes [3] - 86:15,	
happy [3] - 29:20,	202:23, 202:24	132:12, 150:9, 155:7,	158:17, 193:24	informed [1] - 96:22
155:15, 184:17	hole [3] - 130:5,	184:11, 198:3, 212:22	including [1] -	infrastructure [12] - 18:17, 19:14, 22:5,
hard [3] - 163:6,	164:2, 164:3	identifying [1] -	135:17	, , ,
163:10, 163:12	holes [2] - 117:6,	166:15	inconsistent [1] -	22:12, 103:16,
HARPER [1] - 2:9	129:19	ignite [1] - 132:18	179:10	103:21, 147:6,
hawk [11] - 177:11,	honest [1] - 11:11	ignition [1] - 132:19	incorporate [3] -	148:20, 193:20, 105:11, 106:1, 106:6
177:16, 177:19,	honor [3] - 80:12,	image [1] - 100:9	59:1, 136:17, 148:13	195:11, 196:1, 196:6
179:10, 180:19,	155:19, 155:23	immaterial [5] -	incorporated [3] -	initial [1] - 13:16
181:21, 184:25,	hooked [1] - 66:13	203:3, 203:4, 203:17,	140:17, 141:8, 191:22	initiated [1] - 94:14
185:5, 185:11,	hope [3] - 42:12,	203:24, 205:18	Incorporated [1] -	inject [8] - 41:23,
185:22, 186:9	145:14, 192:13	impact [26] - 57:16,	38:1	42:20, 52:19, 52:24,
hawks [5] - 178:11,	hopefully [1] - 139:7	100:6, 100:12, 135:1,	incorrect [2] - 65:6,	63:19, 65:10, 65:11,
180:23, 181:5,	HORSE [1] - 1:7	135:5, 135:15,	65:7	74:9
181:12, 183:17	Horse [12] - 4:10,	135:21, 135:25,	increase [4] - 51:3,	injected [2] - 42:10,
head [2] - 116:13,	8:20, 9:9, 9:11, 9:17,	136:9, 136:13,	59:7, 102:20, 194:14	47:23
213:10	11:4, 147:3, 195:24,	136:20, 137:3,	increased [1] - 57:16	injecting [3] - 43:3,
health [3] - 211:20,	199:7, 204:16,	137:22, 137:24,	increasing [1] - 41:7	63:17, 63:18
212:11, 213:13	205:12, 210:4	146:16, 158:17,	indecipherable [1] -	injection [20] -
hear [2] - 30:1, 93:21	host [1] - 195:10	158:25, 159:2, 159:4,	100:23	41:18, 41:22, 42:1,
heard [3] - 139:3,	hour [6] - 58:14,	159:13, 159:19,	indecipherable) [1] -	42:21, 42:24, 48:10,
154:20, 189:14	111:8, 114:11,	160:1, 160:7, 160:21,	24:22	49:9, 49:16, 49:18,
hearing [3] - 85:2,	114:12, 114:20, 115:7	194:15, 213:20	independent [4] -	49:20, 54:13, 64:24,
151:11, 176:3	hours [1] - 111:10	impacted [1] - 190:3	78:22, 100:11,	65:18, 65:19, 66:9,
heart's [1] - 39:18	house [2] - 32:20,	impactful [1] -	135:24, 136:2	66:25, 69:22, 69:23,
heat [1] - 132:16	196:17	175:16	independently [1] -	70:5, 74:9
heaters [1] - 21:10	Houston [1] - 3:9	impacts [24] - 76:14,	97:17	inked [1] - 174:10
Heaven [12] - 4:10,	huge [1] - 118:18	79:14, 81:1, 106:18,	indicate [3] - 73:24,	input [5] - 16:24,
8:20, 9:10, 9:11, 9:17,	hurting [1] - 104:24	106:19, 138:22,	91:4, 122:7	17:24, 156:2, 156:4,
11:5, 147:3, 195:24,	hybrid [3] - 52:18,	138:25, 139:22,	indicated [18] - 8:25,	156:19
199:7, 204:16,	109:1, 109:4	140:1, 140:12,	18:1, 20:8, 23:17,	insisting [1] - 191:8
205:12, 210:4	hybridization [2] -	141:13, 142:9,	25:3, 30:7, 33:21,	install [1] - 129:1
HEAVEN [1] - 1:7	56:22, 86:1	144:16, 144:25,	62:17, 96:18, 107:4,	installation [1] -
heck [2] - 109:6,	hydrants [5] -	145:5, 146:21,	117:25, 130:24,	211:19
111:25	120:24, 121:9,	159:10, 160:18,	137:2, 141:3, 157:16,	installed [2] - 36:23,
held [2] - 8:9, 171:11	121:24, 122:15,	172:6, 178:11,	177:15, 212:2, 217:4	124:10
hello [1] - 138:15	122:17	178:21, 179:10,	indicates [1] - 91:2	INSTANCE [1] - 1:18
help [3] - 27:9, 46:2,		183:16	individual [3] -	instruct [2] - 178:5,
145:19		important [4] -	71:10, 74:13, 209:13	179:5
holpful (4) 50.6		111.0 111.01		• • • • • • • •
helpful [1] - 50:6		141:3, 141:21,	individually [1] -	integral [2] - 185:11,
hereby [2] - 217:18,	ID [1] - 5:8	203:13, 205:10	individually [1] - 49:25	186:9
hereby [2] - 217:18, 218:7	Idaho [1] - 218:6	203:13, 205:10 impossible [1] -	individually [1] - 49:25 induced [1] - 162:15	186:9 integrity [1] - 80:10
hereby [2] - 217:18, 218:7 hesitant [1] - 189:9	Idaho [1] - 218:6 idea [1] - 209:23	203:13, 205:10 impossible [1] - 160:14	individually [1] - 49:25 induced [1] - 162:15 industrial [2] - 17:16,	186:9 integrity [1] - 80:10 intellectual [3] -
hereby [2] - 217:18, 218:7	ldaho [1] - 218:6 idea [1] - 209:23 ideal [4] - 24:9,	203:13, 205:10 impossible [1] - 160:14 impracticable [1] -	individually [1] - 49:25 induced [1] - 162:15 industrial [2] - 17:16, 133:10	186:9 integrity [1] - 80:10 intellectual [3] - 43:14, 46:10, 74:16
hereby [2] - 217:18, 218:7 hesitant [1] - 189:9 high [6] - 19:21, 20:1, 28:18, 91:9,	Idaho [1] - 218:6 idea [1] - 209:23	203:13, 205:10 impossible [1] - 160:14 impracticable [1] - 181:23	individually [1] - 49:25 induced [1] - 162:15 industrial [2] - 17:16, 133:10 industry [2] - 8:8,	186:9 integrity [1] - 80:10 intellectual [3] - 43:14, 46:10, 74:16 intend [5] - 59:6,
hereby [2] - 217:18, 218:7 hesitant [1] - 189:9 high [6] - 19:21, 20:1, 28:18, 91:9, 107:5, 110:17	Idaho [1] - 218:6 idea [1] - 209:23 ideal [4] - 24:9, 27:24, 27:25, 43:20 idealistic [1] -	203:13, 205:10 impossible [1] - 160:14 impracticable [1] - 181:23 impractical [2] -	individually [1] - 49:25 induced [1] - 162:15 industrial [2] - 17:16, 133:10 industry [2] - 8:8, 8:18	186:9 integrity [1] - 80:10 intellectual [3] - 43:14, 46:10, 74:16 intend [5] - 59:6, 66:2, 122:20, 140:4,
hereby [2] - 217:18, 218:7 hesitant [1] - 189:9 high [6] - 19:21, 20:1, 28:18, 91:9, 107:5, 110:17 higher [2] - 10:21,	Idaho [1] - 218:6 idea [1] - 209:23 ideal [4] - 24:9, 27:24, 27:25, 43:20 idealistic [1] - 181:15	203:13, 205:10 impossible [1] - 160:14 impracticable [1] - 181:23 impractical [2] - 181:14, 181:24	individually [1] - 49:25 induced [1] - 162:15 industrial [2] - 17:16, 133:10 industry [2] - 8:8, 8:18 infeasible [1] - 160:4	186:9 integrity [1] - 80:10 intellectual [3] - 43:14, 46:10, 74:16 intend [5] - 59:6, 66:2, 122:20, 140:4, 154:8
hereby [2] - 217:18, 218:7 hesitant [1] - 189:9 high [6] - 19:21, 20:1, 28:18, 91:9, 107:5, 110:17	Idaho [1] - 218:6 idea [1] - 209:23 ideal [4] - 24:9, 27:24, 27:25, 43:20 idealistic [1] - 181:15 ideally [1] - 110:10	203:13, 205:10 impossible [1] - 160:14 impracticable [1] - 181:23 impractical [2] - 181:14, 181:24 improvements [1] -	individually [1] - 49:25 induced [1] - 162:15 industrial [2] - 17:16, 133:10 industry [2] - 8:8, 8:18 infeasible [1] - 160:4 inflation [1] - 28:9	186:9 integrity [1] - 80:10 intellectual [3] - 43:14, 46:10, 74:16 intend [5] - 59:6, 66:2, 122:20, 140:4, 154:8 intended [5] - 36:10,
hereby [2] - 217:18, 218:7 hesitant [1] - 189:9 high [6] - 19:21, 20:1, 28:18, 91:9, 107:5, 110:17 higher [2] - 10:21, 51:9 highest [2] - 74:3,	Idaho [1] - 218:6 idea [1] - 209:23 ideal [4] - 24:9, 27:24, 27:25, 43:20 idealistic [1] - 181:15 ideally [1] - 110:10 identification [1] -	203:13, 205:10 impossible [1] - 160:14 impracticable [1] - 181:23 impractical [2] - 181:14, 181:24 improvements [1] - 174:4	individually [1] - 49:25 induced [1] - 162:15 industrial [2] - 17:16, 133:10 industry [2] - 8:8, 8:18 infeasible [1] - 160:4 inflation [1] - 28:9 influence [3] - 76:22,	186:9 integrity [1] - 80:10 intellectual [3] - 43:14, 46:10, 74:16 intend [5] - 59:6, 66:2, 122:20, 140:4, 154:8 intended [5] - 36:10, 57:3, 70:12, 76:9,
hereby [2] - 217:18, 218:7 hesitant [1] - 189:9 high [6] - 19:21, 20:1, 28:18, 91:9, 107:5, 110:17 higher [2] - 10:21, 51:9 highest [2] - 74:3, 74:5	Idaho [1] - 218:6 idea [1] - 209:23 ideal [4] - 24:9, 27:24, 27:25, 43:20 idealistic [1] - 181:15 ideally [1] - 110:10 identification [1] - 145:10	203:13, 205:10 impossible [1] - 160:14 impracticable [1] - 181:23 impractical [2] - 181:14, 181:24 improvements [1] - 174:4 improves [1] -	individually [1] - 49:25 induced [1] - 162:15 industrial [2] - 17:16, 133:10 industry [2] - 8:8, 8:18 infeasible [1] - 160:4 inflation [1] - 28:9 influence [3] - 76:22, 95:5, 193:16	186:9 integrity [1] - 80:10 intellectual [3] - 43:14, 46:10, 74:16 intend [5] - 59:6, 66:2, 122:20, 140:4, 154:8 intended [5] - 36:10, 57:3, 70:12, 76:9, 170:6
hereby [2] - 217:18, 218:7 hesitant [1] - 189:9 high [6] - 19:21, 20:1, 28:18, 91:9, 107:5, 110:17 higher [2] - 10:21, 51:9 highest [2] - 74:3, 74:5 Highway [1] - 188:16	Idaho [1] - 218:6 idea [1] - 209:23 ideal [4] - 24:9, 27:24, 27:25, 43:20 idealistic [1] - 181:15 ideally [1] - 110:10 identification [1] - 145:10 identified [19] -	203:13, 205:10 impossible [1] - 160:14 impracticable [1] - 181:23 impractical [2] - 181:14, 181:24 improvements [1] - 174:4 improves [1] - 102:22	individually [1] - 49:25 induced [1] - 162:15 industrial [2] - 17:16, 133:10 industry [2] - 8:8, 8:18 infeasible [1] - 160:4 inflation [1] - 28:9 influence [3] - 76:22, 95:5, 193:16 influences [1] - 77:6	186:9 integrity [1] - 80:10 intellectual [3] - 43:14, 46:10, 74:16 intend [5] - 59:6, 66:2, 122:20, 140:4, 154:8 intended [5] - 36:10, 57:3, 70:12, 76:9, 170:6 intending [3] - 35:22,
hereby [2] - 217:18, 218:7 hesitant [1] - 189:9 high [6] - 19:21, 20:1, 28:18, 91:9, 107:5, 110:17 higher [2] - 10:21, 51:9 highest [2] - 74:3, 74:5 Highway [1] - 188:16 highway [1] - 20:2	Idaho [1] - 218:6 idea [1] - 209:23 ideal [4] - 24:9, 27:24, 27:25, 43:20 idealistic [1] - 181:15 ideally [1] - 110:10 identification [1] - 145:10 identified [19] - 11:19, 26:6, 26:8,	203:13, 205:10 impossible [1] - 160:14 impracticable [1] - 181:23 impractical [2] - 181:14, 181:24 improvements [1] - 174:4 improves [1] - 102:22 IN [5] - 1:4, 4:2,	individually [1] - 49:25 induced [1] - 162:15 industrial [2] - 17:16, 133:10 industry [2] - 8:8, 8:18 infeasible [1] - 160:4 inflation [1] - 28:9 influence [3] - 76:22, 95:5, 193:16 influences [1] - 77:6 information [22] -	186:9 integrity [1] - 80:10 intellectual [3] - 43:14, 46:10, 74:16 intend [5] - 59:6, 66:2, 122:20, 140:4, 154:8 intended [5] - 36:10, 57:3, 70:12, 76:9, 170:6 intending [3] - 35:22, 144:4, 148:5
hereby [2] - 217:18, 218:7 hesitant [1] - 189:9 high [6] - 19:21, 20:1, 28:18, 91:9, 107:5, 110:17 higher [2] - 10:21, 51:9 highest [2] - 74:3, 74:5 Highway [1] - 188:16 highway [1] - 20:2 Hill [1] - 147:3	Idaho [1] - 218:6 idea [1] - 209:23 ideal [4] - 24:9, 27:24, 27:25, 43:20 idealistic [1] - 181:15 ideally [1] - 110:10 identification [1] - 145:10 identified [19] - 11:19, 26:6, 26:8, 26:21, 35:6, 117:15,	203:13, 205:10 impossible [1] - 160:14 impracticable [1] - 181:23 impractical [2] - 181:14, 181:24 improvements [1] - 174:4 improves [1] - 102:22 IN [5] - 1:4, 4:2, 217:2, 218:21	individually [1] - 49:25 induced [1] - 162:15 industrial [2] - 17:16, 133:10 industry [2] - 8:8, 8:18 infeasible [1] - 160:4 inflation [1] - 28:9 influence [3] - 76:22, 95:5, 193:16 influences [1] - 77:6 information [22] - 14:6, 15:19, 29:25,	186:9 integrity [1] - 80:10 intellectual [3] - 43:14, 46:10, 74:16 intend [5] - 59:6, 66:2, 122:20, 140:4, 154:8 intended [5] - 36:10, 57:3, 70:12, 76:9, 170:6 intending [3] - 35:22, 144:4, 148:5 intent [5] - 44:12,
hereby [2] - 217:18, 218:7 hesitant [1] - 189:9 high [6] - 19:21, 20:1, 28:18, 91:9, 107:5, 110:17 higher [2] - 10:21, 51:9 highest [2] - 74:3, 74:5 Highway [1] - 188:16 highway [1] - 20:2 Hill [1] - 147:3 Hills [3] - 9:10, 9:11,	Idaho [1] - 218:6 idea [1] - 209:23 ideal [4] - 24:9, 27:24, 27:25, 43:20 idealistic [1] - 181:15 ideally [1] - 110:10 identification [1] - 145:10 identified [19] - 11:19, 26:6, 26:8, 26:21, 35:6, 117:15, 138:8, 139:1, 146:22,	203:13, 205:10 impossible [1] - 160:14 impracticable [1] - 181:23 impractical [2] - 181:14, 181:24 improvements [1] - 174:4 improves [1] - 102:22 IN [5] - 1:4, 4:2, 217:2, 218:21 in-house [1] - 32:20	individually [1] - 49:25 induced [1] - 162:15 industrial [2] - 17:16, 133:10 industry [2] - 8:8, 8:18 infeasible [1] - 160:4 inflation [1] - 28:9 influence [3] - 76:22, 95:5, 193:16 influences [1] - 77:6 information [22] - 14:6, 15:19, 29:25, 30:12, 63:2, 68:7,	186:9 integrity [1] - 80:10 intellectual [3] - 43:14, 46:10, 74:16 intend [5] - 59:6, 66:2, 122:20, 140:4, 154:8 intended [5] - 36:10, 57:3, 70:12, 76:9, 170:6 intending [3] - 35:22, 144:4, 148:5 intent [5] - 44:12, 62:11, 139:6, 157:4,
hereby [2] - 217:18, 218:7 hesitant [1] - 189:9 high [6] - 19:21, 20:1, 28:18, 91:9, 107:5, 110:17 higher [2] - 10:21, 51:9 highest [2] - 74:3, 74:5 Highway [1] - 188:16 highway [1] - 20:2 Hill [1] - 147:3	Idaho [1] - 218:6 idea [1] - 209:23 ideal [4] - 24:9, 27:24, 27:25, 43:20 idealistic [1] - 181:15 ideally [1] - 110:10 identification [1] - 145:10 identified [19] - 11:19, 26:6, 26:8, 26:21, 35:6, 117:15,	203:13, 205:10 impossible [1] - 160:14 impracticable [1] - 181:23 impractical [2] - 181:14, 181:24 improvements [1] - 174:4 improves [1] - 102:22 IN [5] - 1:4, 4:2, 217:2, 218:21	individually [1] - 49:25 induced [1] - 162:15 industrial [2] - 17:16, 133:10 industry [2] - 8:8, 8:18 infeasible [1] - 160:4 inflation [1] - 28:9 influence [3] - 76:22, 95:5, 193:16 influences [1] - 77:6 information [22] - 14:6, 15:19, 29:25,	186:9 integrity [1] - 80:10 intellectual [3] - 43:14, 46:10, 74:16 intend [5] - 59:6, 66:2, 122:20, 140:4, 154:8 intended [5] - 36:10, 57:3, 70:12, 76:9, 170:6 intending [3] - 35:22, 144:4, 148:5 intent [5] - 44:12,

intention [7] - 77:25,	78:25, 125:25, 128:8	180:18	knowledge [6] -	96:5, 100:5, 101:3
87:22, 124:15,	internally [2] - 32:21,	IT [1] - 5:1	142:24, 150:22,	large [7] - 26:10,
138:24, 144:5,	78:21	it'll [5] - 111:7,	156:24, 171:11,	55:18, 56:2, 56:13,
183:21, 190:2	International [3] -	111:10, 113:14,	180:2, 191:18	83:2, 105:11, 134:9
	130:7, 130:11, 130:16	133:7, 155:25		
intentionally [1] -		,	known [1] - 201:22	Large [1] - 1:12
142:16	interrupt [3] - 39:24,	iteration [6] - 36:8,	knows [2] - 112:7	larger [3] - 55:1,
inter [1] - 42:10	60:24, 188:24	38:19, 38:20, 40:5,	Kobus [18] - 5:17,	61:13, 198:12
interactions [1] -	interrupted [1] - 27:1	40:6, 40:22	5:19, 7:25, 16:1,	largest [3] - 59:12,
135:16	interruption [2] -	itself [6] - 60:15,	29:18, 46:4, 50:16,	92:25, 104:18
interagency [1] -	61:4, 110:19	61:14, 72:2, 139:19,	59:24, 67:8, 68:23,	last [16] - 14:12,
123:18	interspersed [1] -	175:6, 175:8	87:19, 111:20,	31:2, 55:4, 56:13,
interconnect [31] -	37:3		138:12, 138:15,	80:11, 89:14, 111:7,
19:15, 20:4, 21:14,	intertie [3] - 86:18,	J	176:6, 192:11,	111:10, 115:9,
25:8, 25:21, 35:22,	86:19, 87:8	_	205:25, 210:24	120:21, 131:21,
36:13, 37:10, 38:25,	INTERVENER [2] -	JACKSON [1] - 2:8	KOBUS [7] - 1:11,	131:23, 176:11,
39:1, 39:18, 52:12,	2:2, 2:7	January [1] - 176:1	4:4, 5:3, 5:11, 216:10,	181:22, 186:1, 195:3
55:7, 55:22, 56:1,	intervenors [1] -	Jessica [6] - 3:9,	217:18, 217:22	last-minute [1] - 55:4
56:2, 56:14, 57:11,	5:24	139:15, 140:25,	Krupin [1] - 3:13	lasted [1] - 214:10
62:3, 64:1, 64:20,	inverter [10] - 50:24,	146:13, 146:23,	kV [14] - 37:8, 37:9,	latecomer [1] -
65:16, 65:17, 67:1,	•••	185:13	39:2, 40:9, 65:12,	
67:16, 68:14, 68:17,	50:25, 51:3, 61:14,	Jim [1] - 179:25		108:14
	61:20, 70:9, 70:11,	job [6] - 37:14,	66:10, 67:1, 68:18,	latest [2] - 179:16,
70:10, 82:12, 82:16,	70:18, 70:22, 71:6	,	84:11, 84:13, 84:21,	179:20
84:21	inverters [3] - 51:21,	37:18, 152:22, 182:4,	86:19, 86:24	LAW [1] - 2:3
interconnected [2] -	61:11, 69:25	182:6, 182:11	_	law [4] - 161:18,
42:8, 52:7	investigated [1] -	jointly [1] - 178:23	L	161:21, 162:7, 162:14
interconnecting [2] -	130:9	Judge [3] - 162:2,		Law [2] - 2:4, 3:3
41:5, 156:11	investigation [2] -	162:5, 178:14	lack [4] - 109:18,	lawyers [8] - 14:15,
interconnection [16]	118:12, 214:22	juice [1] - 163:18	123:12, 152:16,	14:18, 14:19, 14:20,
- 36:15, 37:7, 38:22,	investing [1] -	July [1] - 218:22	182:13	15:1, 15:3, 15:4,
40:8, 52:10, 53:8,	104:16	JULY [3] - 1:15, 4:3,	Lally [3] - 139:15,	15:15
55:19, 57:4, 57:6,	involved [6] - 15:4,	5:2	140:25, 146:23	layout [13] - 33:25,
63:3, 65:11, 65:24,	35:14, 35:20, 35:21,	jump [1] - 138:19	Lally's [2] - 146:13,	40:15, 77:19, 79:10,
68:3, 84:14, 115:1,	116:17, 134:22		185:13	94:18, 143:1, 184:6,
158:18	ion [19] - 111:21,	К	land [37] - 9:22,	193:6, 193:7, 194:5,
interconnections [4]	111:23, 114:19,		10:20, 11:7, 15:25,	196:8, 196:9, 196:14
- 37:3, 55:15, 64:16,	115:7, 125:22, 126:2,	K-o-b-u-s [1] - 5:19	16:9, 38:7, 38:9,	layouts [2] - 33:21,
82:10		Karen [1] - 3:14	162:10, 169:10,	95:7
interconnects [1] -	128:6, 128:16,	keep [6] - 21:7,	170:2, 170:5, 170:6,	lead [2] - 178:23,
54:5	128:25, 130:10,	79:22, 114:14,	171:17, 173:3, 179:1,	••
	131:24, 132:1,	118:22, 128:20, 148:5	187:13, 187:21,	179:3
interest [12] - 18:18,	132:15, 211:19,		188:2, 189:17,	lease [9] - 11:11,
53:15, 74:24, 85:24,	212:2, 212:14,	keeps [2] - 45:14,	189:19, 191:11,	38:9, 173:5, 190:1,
105:17, 109:10,	213:12, 214:10,	191:7	196:24, 197:8,	195:7, 195:9, 195:14,
138:7, 138:8, 152:21,	214:24	KENNETH [1] - 2:9		195:22, 196:23
152:22, 177:10,	ions [1] - 58:9	Kennewick [4] -	197:17, 197:20, 108:20, 108:24	leasehold [1] - 11:5
218:20	IPPs [1] - 25:7	1:13, 118:18, 163:19,	198:20, 198:24,	leases [13] - 10:24,
interested [5] -	IRPs [1] - 90:16	167:25	199:4, 199:17,	37:2, 37:4, 38:5, 38:7,
20:10, 20:19, 23:1,	irrelevant [2] -	kept [1] - 141:23	200:10, 202:23,	38:12, 38:21, 196:3,
91:7, 182:17	161:12, 205:16	key [3] - 51:18,	204:16, 204:20,	196:5, 202:23, 202:24
interesting [1] -	irrigator [1] - 168:2	102:15, 116:19	206:19, 210:2,	least [3] - 151:18,
108:19	irrigators [2] - 165:5,	keyword [1] - 86:17	213:19, 215:19	185:12, 186:9
interface [2] - 151:4,	165:6	kharper@mjbe.	Landess [1] - 3:13	leave [3] - 73:9,
151:6	issue [5] - 130:21,	com [1] - 2:10	landowner [1] -	73:12, 198:7
interim [1] - 37:1	131:8, 131:11, 137:3,	kind [13] - 7:19,	11:10	leaves [1] - 77:2
interject [3] - 41:12,	178:24	15:23, 20:11, 29:19,	landowners [2] -	leaving [1] - 8:16
43:8, 64:2		41:22, 43:12, 50:7,	196:22, 202:24	
intermediate [1] -	issued [3] - 92:5,	53:16, 63:5, 152:18,	lands [5] - 187:10,	left [1] - 202:1
86:25	183:18, 191:24	155:18, 181:16	205:3, 206:17, 208:9	legal [25] - 28:22,
intermittent [1] -	issues [6] - 162:1,		landscape [1] -	95:21, 101:6, 129:11,
	179:2, 179:4, 201:10,	kinds [1] - 7:9	164:9	147:16, 150:2, 150:6,
93:13	201:17, 201:18	knock [1] - 103:1	language [4] - 60:2,	150:20, 150:25,
internal [4] - 78:15,	issuing [2] - 56:13,	knowing [1] - 76:6	anguaye [4] - 00.2,	151:22, 152:8,

152:12, 161:12, 161:24, 165:25, 166:25, 168:14, 184:12, 197:12, 199:11, 200:2, 201:15, 203:5, 203:11, 205:16 legally [3] - 165:22, 168:11, 198:14 legendary [3] -145:23, 146:5, 178:17 length [2] - 47:25, 194.2 less [3] - 103:3, 210:13, 213:14 Letter [1] - 4:11 letter [7] - 143:10, 168:4, 173:20, 174:22, 174:25, 175:5, 175:25 letters [1] - 168:9 letting [1] - 33:2 level [2] - 46:18, 191:20 liberty [1] - 45:5 license [8] - 27:5, 169:11, 170:2, 170:5, 171:18, 173:4, 189:18, 189:19 licensed [1] - 9:4 life [3] - 21:23, 171:25, 173:22 light [1] - 178:21 lighting [1] - 162:22 likely [10] - 26:7, 26:20, 27:20, 30:22, 72:5, 101:12, 128:3, 156:13, 184:6, 196:4 limit [4] - 49:16, 72:7, 178:19, 200:6 limitations [1] - 42:4 limited [6] - 64:23, 65:17, 66:8, 69:23, 70:10, 70:17 limiting [1] - 105:19 limits [2] - 42:5, 118.23 line [13] - 10:25, 19:22. 19:25. 20:1. 37:8. 37:9. 46:19. 48:11.87:2.157:19. 167:3, 167:20, 179:7 linear [1] - 81:7 lines [2] - 18:11, 64:16 listed [1] - 120:21 listen [1] - 26:25 literally [5] - 41:8, 114:3, 119:1, 140:25, 177:3

lithium [20] - 58:9, 111:21, 111:23, 114:19, 115:7, 125:22, 126:2, 128:6, 128:16, 128:25, 130:10, 131:24, 132:1. 132:15. 211:19. 212:2. 212:14, 213:12, 214:10, 214:24 lithium-ion [19] -111:21, 111:23, 114:19, 115:7, 125:22, 126:2, 128:6, 128:16, 128:25, 130:10, 131:24, 132:1, 132:15, 211:19, 212:2, 212:14, 213:12, 214:10, 214:24 Livenote [1] - 5:6 living [1] - 46:11 LLC [3] - 1:6, 1:7, 1:22 LLP [1] - 3:3 In [1] - 217:6 load [3] - 91:15. 93:2, 141:19 loading [8] - 80:6, 80:7, 81:3, 89:21, 92:13, 92:15, 92:17, 93:10 loads [1] - 92:24 local [8] - 21:3, 21:18, 117:20, 123:22, 162:10, 162:15, 168:1 local-induced [1] -162:15 locally [2] - 119:14, 119:15 locate [3] - 20:3, 21:1.73:16 located [4] - 71:11, 72:14, 195:3, 204:17 locates [1] - 71:23 locating [1] - 18:11 location [1] - 192:24 locations [3] - 34:6, 58:3, 59:17 look [17] - 15:13, 35:10, 37:18, 64:7, 68:16, 68:20, 74:2, 75:4, 89:13, 107:17, 114:7, 120:10, 131:20, 132:11, 164:8, 176:11, 209:8 looked [2] - 88:18, 209:10 looking [13] - 9:24,

11:1, 13:14, 16:5, 27:20, 51:7, 71:9, 109:4, 113:3, 114:16, 116:15, 205:8, 209:22 looks [4] - 50:18, 56:25, 113:25, 129:20 lose [1] - 34:7 losing [1] - 48:18 losses [4] - 47:17, 47:21, 48:8, 48:12 lost [2] - 67:12, 167:15 low [1] - 159:2 lower [1] - 74:11 lowest [2] - 158:17, 158:25 Μ MADE [1] - 217:2 magnitude [1] - 31:7 main [1] - 82:3 mains [2] - 120:23, 121:8 maintain [7] - 25:15, 41:13, 42:7, 43:3, 52:6, 77:22, 139:24 maintaining [2] -61:19, 204:8 maintains [1] -102:24 major [3] - 31:21, 94:6 majority [2] - 14:2, 180:4 maker [2] - 99:8, 99:10 manage [4] - 42:6, 52:5, 54:9, 134:10 management [1] -8.4 manager [7] - 8:12, 8:20, 9:1, 9:2, 25:22, 46:23, 79:21 manner [1] - 33:11 manufacturer [3] -112:24, 113:6, 126:19 manufacturers [4] -28:10, 81:12, 112:3, 112:20 map [4] - 73:17, 84:6, 84:15, 176:12 maps [1] - 71:11 margin [1] - 141:5 mark [1] - 140:4 marked [1] - 11:17 market [33] - 17:11, 17:21, 26:10, 28:9, 28:11, 30:16, 30:24, 34:23, 37:17, 43:15,

53:15, 58:6, 58:11, 91:15, 104:2, 104:18, 104:22, 106:23, 107:22, 108:20, 109:3, 109:9, 109:12, 109:22, 110:3, 110:21, 113:2, 113:25, 126:8, 129:3, 154:7, 154:12, 154:14 market's [1] - 157:1 marketer [1] - 51:13 marketing [6] - 9:20, 17:10, 26:23, 27:3, 74:20, 74:23 marketplace [2] -24:5, 102:25 markets [1] - 25:19 marshal [7] - 127:11, 127:16, 127:23, 130:3, 130:15, 130:21, 131:10 mass [1] - 17:21 master's [1] - 8:3 match [1] - 93:2 material [5] - 15:11, 30:25, 68:4, 129:25, 151:11 materially [1] - 214:8 materials [3] - 61:9, 122:7, 148:3 math [1] - 50:19 mathematical [1] -46:12 matter [2] - 75:25, 218:19 **MATTER**[1] - 1:4 max [1] - 198:18 maxes [1] - 33:11 maximum [14] - 33:7, 35:1, 49:18, 69:22, 69:23, 70:3, 70:4, 74:8, 82:7, 111:9, 157:3, 157:6, 198:18, 206:20 ME [1] - 217:23 mean [50] - 24:16, 25:4, 30:24, 33:10, 34:20, 34:21, 39:24, 40:16, 41:3, 42:5, 43:13, 43:21, 44:1, 46:2, 46:7, 49:23, 50:22, 70:25, 76:5, 94:24, 101:10, 107:17, 107:18, 115:8, 124:18, 125:1, 145:22, 145:25, 150:16, 155:11, 156:5, 158:13, 160:19, 169:17, 177:12, 179:22,

183:15, 185:19, 188:23, 190:8, 193:7, 193:10, 196:21, 196:23, 203:7, 205:19, 207:1, 209:6, 209:19, 214:5 means [6] - 41:5, 55:16. 111:9. 160:22. 207:22, 208:24 meant [1] - 128:8 mechanical [2] -80:7, 81:3 meet [20] - 22:4, 51:15, 52:14, 58:24, 90:22, 91:13, 106:20, 106:23, 107:8, 107:13, 115:14, 121:5, 122:2, 123:22, 126:19, 135:9, 154:8, 155:7, 155:9, 203:21 meeting [6] - 22:8, 176:14, 176:17, 176:24, 177:2, 180:15 meetings [1] - 151:5 meets [1] - 54:7 megawatt [15] -38:16, 39:1, 39:15, 39:21, 39:23, 40:7, 53:7, 68:2, 72:4, 72:5, 72:6, 72:14, 114:24 megawatts [46] -35:25, 37:12, 38:23, 39:4, 39:20, 40:8, 40:24, 41:6, 41:10, 41:11, 41:14, 42:21, 42:24, 43:3, 43:22, 44:2, 44:3, 44:24, 50:10, 56:25, 59:3, 59:17, 64:3, 64:4, 64:19, 64:24, 65:12, 66:7, 66:9, 66:12, 66:24, 67:6, 67:15, 67:20, 68:5, 68:6, 68:15, 68:16, 72:7, 72:22, 73:21, 85:5, 85:9, 111:21, 114:25, 154:4 melt [1] - 214:6 members [1] - 151:7 MENKE [1] - 2:8 mention [1] - 215:17 mentioned [3] -125:10, 147:9, 193:5 met [3] - 9:18, 121:21, 122:8 meter [2] - 41:8, 118:21 metering [1] - 21:7 Michael [1] - 9:19 micrositing [10] -

69:11, 73:7, 73:8,	MONNA [3] - 1:22,	133:19, 133:22,	165:16, 165:24,	municipal [1] -
193:9, 193:11,	218:2, 218:24	138:10, 188:18,	166:6, 166:13,	118:19
193:18, 193:22,	MONNA@	188:23, 211:2, 211:7,	166:17, 166:24,	mutual [1] - 62:12
193:25, 194:12,	TRICITIESREPORTING	211:9, 213:1, 214:1,	167:8, 168:13,	MY [1] - 217:25
194:14	.COM [1] - 1:23	214:21, 215:9,	168:19, 168:23,	[.]=0
middle [2] - 167:20,	month [1] - 21:20	215:15, 215:21,	169:3, 169:8, 169:14,	Ν
181:13	monthly [1] - 151:5	216:1, 216:7	169:22, 170:1,	IN
might [16] - 10:16,	months [2] - 31:3,	MS [256] - 4:5, 4:6,	170:17, 170:24,	name [5] - 5:18,
18:18, 23:9, 47:8,	88:24	12:3, 14:22, 15:6,	171:22, 172:2,	10:11, 114:10,
73:24, 79:25, 106:13,	monumental [2] -	17:2, 17:4, 19:7,	172:14, 172:18,	119:16, 192:11
110:1, 126:7, 155:19,	146:1, 178:17	22:16, 36:6, 42:14,	172:23, 172:25,	nameplate [23] -
155:22, 170:13,	most [21] - 13:25,	43:10, 45:1, 48:24,	173:7, 173:14,	43:8, 47:22, 50:24,
175:17, 175:18,	17:20, 19:14, 27:20,	52:21, 53:18, 56:10,	173:24, 174:7,	51:2, 51:8, 51:20,
181:19, 192:5	34:15, 36:10, 48:14,	59:4, 60:14, 63:23,	174:13, 174:23,	51:21, 61:7, 61:10,
miles [6] - 86:15,	58:10, 66:14, 66:17,	71:12, 71:24, 72:18,	175:4, 175:19,	61:15, 61:20, 64:19,
86:19, 86:24, 108:25,	113:5, 115:12,	75:6, 75:13, 77:17,	175:21, 176:5,	66:8, 66:12, 66:25,
160:6, 188:16		78:3, 79:4, 80:4,	177:22, 177:24,	67:9, 67:15, 69:9,
mind [1] - 51:17	115:13, 118:17, 120:6, 139:16,	81:20, 86:8, 90:8,	178:2, 178:9, 178:13,	69:13, 69:20, 70:11,
minds [1] - 91:24	120.0, 139.10, 158:17, 167:6,	91:20, 93:17, 96:12,	179:8, 179:12,	70:21, 72:1
mine [1] - 152:22	175:16, 196:12, 205:3	98:24, 99:22, 101:5,	179:13, 180:7,	names [1] - 79:23
Minelli [1] - 3:14	Mountain [5] - 35:23,	102:7, 102:10,	180:12, 182:10,	NATION [1] - 3:7
minimize [6] - 57:7,	•••	103:12, 105:14,	182:12, 182:22,	Nation [16] - 138:6,
139:22, 140:12,	36:14, 36:20, 36:25, 37:22	106:9, 108:2, 108:4,	183:4, 183:13,	138:16, 139:7, 141:4,
141:13, 142:9, 159:4	mouth [2] - 14:8,	109:17, 112:16,	183:19, 183:23,	142:10, 143:11,
minimized [2] -	50:16	113:11, 113:23,	184:1, 184:2, 184:16,	144:12, 145:3,
77:21, 158:20	move [9] - 22:12,	114:21, 116:2,	184:20, 184:22,	145:13, 146:6,
minimum [6] -	,	117:23, 121:11,	185:2, 185:16, 186:5,	147:10, 149:6, 149:7,
120:22, 121:8,	149:9, 152:23, 153:4, 153:10, 153:16,	123:4, 123:12,	186:12, 186:17,	178:18, 185:6, 186:11
121:19, 122:8, 133:9		125:16, 129:13,	187:2, 187:5, 187:8,	Nation's [9] - 138:23,
minor [2] - 208:7,	154:17, 194:11, 194:23	131:14, 131:17,	187:12, 187:23,	139:23, 140:13,
208:13	moved [4] - 73:2,	132:25, 133:12,	188:1, 188:4, 188:8,	144:17, 145:1,
minute [1] - 55:4	73:6, 177:8, 183:1	138:14, 140:18,	189:1, 189:6, 190:14,	146:21, 178:4,
mischaracterizes [2]	moves [2] - 54:14,	140:22, 141:14,	190:24, 191:3,	178:12, 178:17
- 48:25, 210:8	153:23	142:3, 142:11,	191:16, 192:5, 192:8,	National [1] - 212:12
misspoke [1] - 72:9		142:18, 143:7,	192:10, 194:8,	Natural [4] - 169:11,
mitigate [5] - 144:16,	moving [1] - 128:10 MR [84] - 4:5, 4:6,	143:16, 144:9,	194:16, 195:12,	169:17, 170:20,
144:25, 146:21,	5:16, 11:20, 11:25,	144:14, 144:18,	195:21, 196:18,	171:18
159:25, 160:8	5.16, 11.20, 11.25, 12:7, 14:25, 15:12,	144:21, 146:24,	197:1, 197:18,	natural [1] - 117:17
	12.7, 14.25, 15.12, 17:7, 19:9, 23:7, 25:1,	147:8, 147:18,	197:21, 197:25,	nature [4] - 16:20,
mitigated [1] - 135:9	36:16, 42:18, 44:21,	147:23, 148:15,	198:6, 198:9, 199:10,	18:6, 20:16, 74:25
mitigates [1] - 145:5		148:22, 149:19,	199:15, 200:1, 200:4,	Navy [2] - 8:5, 8:6
mitigation [12] -	45:7, 49:6, 53:3, 53:23, 56:15, 59:8,	149:23, 150:15,	200:8, 200:18,	near [3] - 91:11,
33:16, 33:20, 35:7,	53.23, 56.15, 59.8, 59:21, 59:23, 60:23,	150:17, 150:19,	200:23, 201:4,	133:17, 181:22
144:23, 145:3, 147:2, 150:5, 150:8, 160:10	64:6, 69:17, 71:16,	151:15, 151:20,	201:14, 201:23,	necessarily [2] -
159:5, 159:8, 160:10, 177:20, 182:3	72:8, 72:23, 75:23,	152:5, 152:11,	203:15, 204:11,	115:8, 164:4
mix [1] - 104:24	72.8, 72.23, 75.23, 77:24, 78:11, 79:7,	152:25, 153:3, 153:6,	204:21, 205:1,	necessary [13] -
	80:16, 81:22, 86:13,	153:9, 153:12,	205:15, 205:23,	28:23, 49:17, 58:16,
model [8] - 28:18, 72:4, 72:5, 78:8, 79:1,	90:24, 92:4, 93:15,	153:15, 153:18,	206:6, 206:10,	58:18, 60:12, 77:22,
72.4, 72.5, 78.8, 79.1, 79:17, 79:20	93:19, 96:15, 99:4,	153:21, 154:1,	206:13, 206:23,	97:9, 117:20, 131:3,
modeling [2] - 78:13,	100:1, 101:1, 101:15,	154:13, 155:20,	207:7, 207:10,	153:25, 159:5,
78:15	102:8, 103:4, 104:3,	156:1, 156:21, 157:8,	207:13, 207:18,	173:18, 174:11
modification [1] -	105:23, 106:15,	157:13, 157:21,	208:10, 208:15,	need [57] - 7:12,
68:4	108:9, 110:5, 111:1,	158:3, 160:2, 161:11,	208:18, 209:5, 210:7,	21:6, 21:9, 23:3,
modularized [2] -	112:12, 112:21,	161:16, 161:23,	210:15, 210:18,	24:11, 28:20, 34:6,
	113:19, 114:15,	162:5, 162:7, 162:9,	210:21, 210:23,	42:16, 64:25, 65:7,
124:25, 125:7	115:2, 116:8, 118:4,	162:12, 162:17,	212:15, 213:22,	65:19, 68:11, 68:13,
modules [3] - 61:11, 70:8, 125:6	121:17, 123:9,	163:1, 163:8, 163:11,	214:17, 215:10,	83:9, 83:16, 89:7,
	123:24, 125:20,	163:13, 163:23,	215:12, 215:13,	97:2, 97:25, 98:12,
moment [3] - 29:1, 81:21, 125:13	129:16, 131:19,	164:5, 164:13,	215:24, 216:3	99:2, 101:13, 102:4,
81:21, 125:13 Monna (1) - 5:4	133:8, 133:16,	164:18, 164:23,	multiple [3] - 156:3,	102:13, 102:18,
Monna [1] - 5:4	, ,	165:3, 165:7, 165:12,	161:5, 167:4	, -,

104:22, 106:24,	188:20	151:15, 161:23,	obligated [3] - 29:6,	oil [1] - 21:10
112:4, 113:9, 115:16,			• • • •	
	NFPA [1] - 212:18	177:23, 179:6, 200:7,	97:24, 212:19	olc.org [1] - 3:10
115:24, 116:5,	nice [1] - 110:13	210:8	obligation [4] - 30:4,	omission [1] -
117:14, 118:1,	NICKESON [3] -	objection [124] -	38:3, 44:5, 88:1	174:21
122:22, 123:19,	1:22, 218:2, 218:24	12:1, 22:16, 36:6,	obligations [1] -	once [6] - 55:19,
123:23, 125:8, 129:7,	Nickeson [1] - 5:4	42:14, 43:10, 48:24,	75:10	82:4, 82:20, 83:1,
135:20, 136:24,	night [1] - 110:12	52:21, 53:18, 56:10,	obtain [2] - 118:1,	158:6, 200:4
136:25, 140:20,	nimble [3] - 98:1,	59:4, 60:14, 63:23,	131:4	one [80] - 5:23, 7:14,
145:13, 154:12,		71:12, 71:25, 75:6,		
155:10, 156:8,	114:14, 157:4	75:14, 77:17, 79:4,	obtaining [2] -	9:14, 11:9, 18:8,
	Nine [4] - 8:13, 9:1,		166:12, 166:16	22:18, 31:21, 34:10,
156:11, 158:15,	9:8, 205:19	80:4, 86:8, 90:8,	obvious [1] - 118:17	47:9, 48:3, 54:4, 60:8,
165:1, 170:13,	Ninth [1] - 3:4	91:20, 96:12, 98:24,	obviously [1] -	60:18, 60:19, 63:8,
172:22, 173:22,	NO [2] - 1:6, 4:2	101:5, 102:7, 105:14,	121:24	64:16, 64:17, 65:25,
175:17, 175:18,	nobody [1] - 214:3	106:9, 108:2, 108:4,	occupied [2] -	73:3, 73:17, 73:18,
176:2, 178:6, 199:7	none [1] - 156:24	109:17, 112:16,	181:21, 185:25	74:5, 75:18, 76:14,
needed [3] - 23:15,		113:11, 113:23,	occupy [2] - 180:23,	80:20, 82:3, 84:19,
120:4, 122:1	nonsignificance [1]	114:21, 116:2,	205:21	84:20, 85:17, 85:18,
needs [9] - 106:20,	- 135:10	117:23, 121:11,		86:3, 86:15, 86:16,
110:25, 115:14,	NORAD [1] - 33:18	123:4, 123:12,	occur [2] - 128:8,	
	normal [2] - 122:23,		191:13	87:6, 92:7, 95:13,
122:23, 155:7, 156:9,	136:5	125:16, 132:25,	occurred [1] - 62:13	95:14, 102:14,
171:20, 171:25,	normally [1] - 191:19	133:12, 133:13,	occurring [2] -	108:25, 110:7,
175:14	North [1] - 2:8	140:18, 141:14,	180:24, 218:16	111:17, 113:21,
negotiate [5] - 55:5,	Northwest [8] - 8:9,	142:11, 143:7, 144:9,	occurs [1] - 81:3	116:20, 118:6,
126:18, 144:4, 170:8,	8:17, 9:12, 9:13, 10:2,	144:18, 146:24,	OF [7] - 1:1, 1:4, 1:4,	120:21, 126:7,
173:17		147:18, 148:15,	1:11, 1:18, 2:3,	131:13, 155:13,
negotiating [1] -	11:1, 92:16, 106:24	149:19, 150:15,	, , ,	157:16, 159:19,
147:20	northwest [1] - 153:5	152:5, 152:25, 153:6,	217:23	159:25, 160:7,
	Notary [1] - 217:25	153:12, 153:18,	off-site [2] - 117:20,	
negotiation [1] -	NOTE [1] - 217:3	154:1, 155:20,	168:1	160:12, 161:1, 162:1,
143:24	nothing [6] - 5:13,		offer [2] - 19:1, 22:10	167:4, 167:6, 181:18,
negotiations [12] -	122:15, 122:16,	156:21, 157:13,	offered [2] - 18:23,	185:12, 186:9,
45:5, 45:8, 107:14,	140:11, 142:4, 142:7	161:11, 162:17,	145:2	187:14, 188:9, 194:1,
119:17, 143:22,		163:8, 163:13, 164:5,	offering [1] - 102:25	194:25, 195:5,
148:4, 148:9, 149:5,	notice [3] - 12:8,	164:18, 165:3,		195:14, 195:19,
168:16, 177:13,	60:21, 60:22	165:12, 165:24,	offhand [2] - 132:13,	197:22, 197:23,
189:21, 189:25	noticed [1] - 28:3	166:13, 166:24,	133:15	198:18, 200:15,
NEPA [1] - 56:6	notify [1] - 173:6	168:13, 168:23,	OFFICE [1] - 2:3	201:9, 201:10,
	noting [1] - 217:20	169:9, 169:22,	Office [1] - 2:13	201:17, 201:18,
nest [6] - 180:23,	nuclear [4] - 8:3, 8:6,	170:17, 171:22,	official [3] - 95:11,	
181:1, 181:3, 181:6,	8:8, 8:10		179:20, 188:19	202:11, 203:14,
181:7, 181:19	number [15] - 11:16,	172:18, 172:25,	offtake [9] - 24:3,	205:4, 215:15
nests [2] - 181:21,	12:11, 16:2, 33:22,	173:14, 174:7,	26:21, 34:16, 37:16,	one's [2] - 113:20,
186:1		174:23, 178:3, 178:8,	53:15, 58:21, 107:16,	182:6
net [1] - 21:20	46:20, 48:16, 51:7,	178:10, 179:9, 180:7,		one-acre [1] - 160:7
network [3] - 53:12,	70:5, 82:3, 103:7,	182:12, 183:4,	108:19, 154:3	one-stop [1] - 131:13
54:18, 54:21	186:22, 199:20,	183:19, 185:16,	offtaker [20] - 17:11,	ones [7] - 32:22,
	205:25, 206:2, 211:13	186:12, 187:5,	17:22, 26:3, 26:4,	38:10, 38:11, 119:23,
never [5] - 19:25,	Number [1] - 123:8	187:23, 188:5,	26:6, 26:8, 26:13,	
36:12, 41:9, 48:9,	NUMBER [1] - 4:9	190:14, 191:3, 194:8,	26:17, 44:20, 44:23,	135:22, 135:23,
203:1	number's [1] - 195:8		45:11, 58:12, 58:13,	164:11
new [14] - 26:14,	numbers [2] - 43:20,	195:12, 196:18,	102:14, 114:8,	ongoing [14] - 20:25,
65:25, 92:2, 100:5,	•••	197:18, 197:25,	154:24, 155:17,	21:22, 22:6, 27:4,
117:9, 117:11,	47:1	199:10, 200:1,	157:10, 157:25, 158:5	38:2, 38:3, 45:8,
117:19, 118:1,	_	200:23, 201:14,		57:20, 57:21, 88:14,
162:22, 164:15,	0	203:15, 204:21,	offtaker's [1] - 43:23	143:22, 154:21,
165:1, 165:8, 212:13,		204:23, 205:15,	offtakers [12] -	178:8, 189:15
212:19	O&M [1] - 124:11	206:6, 206:13, 207:7,	17:16, 17:24, 43:21,	onsite [1] - 160:9
	o'clock [1] - 93:15	207:13, 208:15,	85:24, 108:21,	open [2] - 12:8, 25:6
next [16] - 16:12,	oath [1] - 192:15	210:18, 212:15,	154:22, 155:3, 155:6,	• • • •
22:9, 26:8, 30:22,	oaths [1] - 218:4	213:22, 214:17	156:3, 156:16,	operating [1] - 73:15
34:8, 38:18, 38:20,	object [15] - 14:22,	objections [3] -	156:18, 158:5	operation [8] -
40:5, 40:6, 40:22,	17:2, 17:4, 45:3,	198:8, 200:6, 200:9	offtakes [1] - 20:18	105:8, 112:9, 120:18,
53:5, 76:14, 119:1,	72:18, 78:3, 99:22,		often [2] - 45:22,	122:23, 127:24,
182:20, 186:21,		objectives [2] - 98:5,	45:25	165:17, 170:3, 175:12
	102:10, 103:12,	107:2	10.20	

operational [3] -	12:22, 13:25, 15:10,	Pacific [3] - 9:13,	part [29] - 6:25, 7:2,	per [16] - 63:25,
133:6, 171:25, 175:14	96:1, 98:16, 100:3	92:15, 106:24	10:17, 10:19, 11:4,	65:10, 68:6, 92:22,
operations [6] -	originally [4] - 27:18,	PAGE [2] - 4:4, 4:9	11:7, 11:10, 14:1,	103:23, 124:12,
112:14, 124:17,	68:2, 74:2, 118:16	page [39] - 16:2,	18:18, 33:19, 57:12,	178:13, 178:18,
	otherwise [1] -		63:11, 63:13, 72:15,	197:5, 197:6, 205:4,
124:20, 133:11,		16:5, 16:7, 16:13,		, , ,
174:18, 175:3	195:22	27:11, 30:9, 59:25,	83:2, 92:10, 97:5,	206:1, 206:3, 209:24,
operative [1] - 51:4	ought [2] - 59:15,	62:15, 63:7, 64:7,	104:23, 113:22,	210:6, 210:17
operator [1] - 113:8	114:18	68:21, 81:23, 86:14,	137:7, 140:5, 143:12,	percent [11] - 31:6,
opinion [1] - 162:21	ourselves [2] -	87:14, 89:13, 89:14,	143:21, 154:18,	45:23, 45:24, 48:14,
opportunities [1] -	105:22, 109:7	94:7, 94:8, 104:7,	166:2, 174:19,	48:18, 70:25, 71:1,
34:23	output [9] - 22:21,	116:15, 117:17,	177:18, 181:2, 189:12	71:3
opportunity [2] -	24:1, 43:17, 49:14,	120:10, 120:15,	partially [1] - 11:4	percentages [1] -
20:3, 120:7	71:10, 90:7, 91:3,	123:25, 125:11,	participation [2] -	43:6
opposed [1] - 92:21	91:8, 91:19	129:18, 131:20,	178:5, 178:19	perfect [3] - 181:10,
optimal [15] - 19:15,	outright [8] - 204:13,	167:12, 167:15,	particular [4] -	192:18, 206:21
24:15, 34:15, 98:1,	204:20, 207:25,	167:17, 167:19,	28:14, 94:17, 184:7,	perfectly [1] - 117:16
113:6, 114:3, 115:12,	208:1, 208:7, 208:8,	176:7, 186:19,	184:10	performance [3] -
120:6, 153:2, 153:24,	208:13, 208:22	186:21, 186:22,	particularly [2] -	77:12, 77:22, 78:6
154:16, 158:10,	outside [8] - 7:9, 9:8,	187:18, 211:4, 211:15	93:5, 121:9	perhaps [2] - 27:9,
158:13, 159:16	147:16, 149:25,	paid [1] - 136:2	particulars [1] - 15:2	43:6
	162:15, 178:4, 183:1,	Pam [1] - 3:14	parties [8] - 119:16,	period [9] - 26:15,
optimally [2] - 33:8,	194:12	panel [1] - 175:17	119:19, 140:3, 144:7,	43:6, 45:22, 56:3,
141:18	overall [1] - 102:20	panels [7] - 51:2,	149:6, 150:8, 168:17,	43.0, 45.22, 50.3, 67:20, 75:12, 80:11,
optimization [5] -		• • • •		
46:18, 109:21,	overbuild [30] -	51:7, 51:8, 51:25,	215:22	134:20, 136:8
110:14, 158:16,	39:23, 40:25, 41:4,	62:10, 70:15, 70:21	Parties [2] - 182:9,	perjury [1] - 217:19
158:20	42:13, 42:17, 42:22,	paper [4] - 11:22,	208:3	PERLMUTTER [151]
optimizations [1] -	43:23, 44:24, 47:4,	12:10, 68:23, 69:2	partner [1] - 10:2	- 3:5, 12:3, 14:22,
114:1	47:5, 47:6, 47:11,	paragraph [6] - 64:8,	party [4] - 109:25,	15:6, 17:2, 17:4, 19:7,
optimize [16] - 34:3,	47:14, 48:6, 48:22,	67:13, 69:1, 69:6,	178:24, 179:3, 218:18	22:16, 36:6, 42:14,
37:15, 43:17, 43:24,	50:14, 52:8, 61:17,	94:2, 124:5	passed [1] - 146:8	43:10, 45:1, 48:24,
44:12, 44:19, 51:6,	61:22, 62:2, 62:6,	paragraphs [1] -	past [1] - 76:23	52:21, 53:18, 56:10,
57:4, 90:21, 98:2,	62:9, 62:18, 62:19,	13:13	Pat [2] - 3:13, 22:7	59:4, 60:14, 63:23,
111:14, 154:8,	62:21, 63:10, 64:5,	parameter [1] - 70:23	path [3] - 23:23,	71:12, 71:24, 72:18,
155:13, 157:5,	154:5	parameters [5] -	36:13, 81:7	75:6, 75:13, 77:17,
183:25, 184:4	overbuilding [1] -	7:20, 51:12, 51:18,	paths [1] - 82:10	78:3, 79:4, 80:4,
optimized [1] - 47:9	48:17	72:16, 72:17	Paul [1] - 3:13	81:20, 86:8, 90:8,
optimizes [1] - 86:11	overbuilt [3] - 47:19,	parcel [29] - 174:19,	pause [1] - 195:4	91:20, 93:17, 96:12,
optimizing [5] -	49:4, 62:23	187:15, 187:17,	pay [6] - 19:1, 21:22,	98:24, 99:22, 101:5,
44:10, 46:6, 70:24,	overhead [1] - 177:7	187:21, 196:21,	25:10, 136:4, 136:6	102:7, 102:10,
85:23, 183:7	overheat [1] - 132:1	197:5, 197:8, 197:10,		103:12, 105:14,
option [6] - 22:20,	overloading [1] -	197:12, 197:13,	paying [2] - 44:6, 174:4	106:9, 108:2, 108:4,
95:19, 98:15, 103:10,	80:14	197:22, 197:23,		109:17, 112:16,
	override [2] - 161:9,	198:12, 198:18,	pays [2] - 24:7,	113:11, 113:23,
110:13, 164:4	162:14	198:22, 198:23,	173:19	114:21, 116:2,
options [4] - 22:25,		199:5, 202:16,	peak [8] - 89:21,	117:23, 121:11,
95:3, 96:19, 102:2	oversight [1] -		92:13, 92:16, 92:20,	123:4, 123:12,
OR [2] - 3:4, 5:8	161:10	202:22, 203:7,	92:24, 93:9, 110:17,	125:16, 129:13,
ORAL [2] - 1:11,	owe [1] - 137:19	203:12, 203:14,	110:25	131:14, 131:17,
217:3	own [8] - 19:5, 39:16,	203:24, 204:1, 205:4,	peaking [2] - 92:23	131.14, 131.17, 132:25, 133:12,
orchestrates [1] -	122:20, 161:21,	205:10, 205:13,	peer [3] - 177:17,	
21:13	164:2, 164:3, 165:20,	206:1, 206:3	179:22, 180:1	140:18, 141:14,
order [11] - 31:6,	181:20	parcel-wise [1] -	peer-reviewed [3] -	142:11, 143:7, 144:9,
80:12, 96:17, 136:24,	owner [2] - 195:23,	197:8	177:17, 179:22, 180:1	144:18, 146:24,
173:18, 175:15,	203:8	parcels [11] - 186:24,	pen [1] - 189:2	147:18, 148:15,
178:14, 199:19,	owners [2] - 195:6,	196:16, 196:25,	penalty [1] - 217:18	149:19, 150:15,
199:23, 201:7, 201:8	195:10	197:9, 198:3, 198:13,	pending [1] - 131:15	151:15, 152:5,
ordinances [2] -	owns [1] - 163:21	198:23, 198:25,	people [11] - 76:18,	152:25, 153:6,
16:9, 162:11		202:17, 202:19,	82:23, 83:9, 83:13,	153:12, 153:18,
Oregon [3] - 33:18,	Р	209:24	105:2, 107:9, 114:16,	154:1, 155:20,
83:19, 218:5	•	park [2] - 49:14, 50:1	115:19, 213:13,	156:21, 157:13,
original [7] - 12:19,	p.m [1] - 216:10	Parkway [1] - 1:13	213:20, 214:25	161:11, 161:23,
onginar _[1] 12.10,			210.20, 217.20	
I contract of the second secon				

162:5, 162:9, 162:17,	202:13, 204:13,	plant [5] - 8:10,	189:23	press [1] - 90:11
163:8, 163:13, 164:5,		•		• • • •
	204:20, 205:14,	31:20, 156:7, 163:18,	potential [25] -	pressures [1] - 81:11
164:18, 165:3,	206:16, 206:24,	206:21	16:25, 17:11, 17:12,	pretty [3] - 88:22,
165:12, 165:24,	207:5, 207:12,	plateau [1] - 127:9	17:16, 17:24, 18:17,	96:4, 111:13
166:13, 166:24,	207:24, 208:7, 208:9,	platform [1] - 28:2	19:13, 24:19, 43:21,	prevent [1] - 104:14
168:13, 168:23,	208:13, 208:20,	PLLC [1] - 2:3	53:15, 61:13, 74:8,	previous [1] - 30:8
169:8, 169:22,	208:21, 208:23,		86:3, 105:20, 114:24,	•
		plus [7] - 40:4, 64:3,		price [4] - 30:17,
170:17, 171:22,	209:1, 209:11, 211:23	65:4, 81:2, 91:9,	118:2, 154:3, 154:22,	30:19, 30:23, 113:3
172:18, 172:25,	permitting [7] - 33:7,	136:5	155:3, 156:16,	prices [1] - 108:17
173:14, 174:7,	59:1, 66:2, 135:12,	point [28] - 13:19,	156:18, 157:10,	primary [1] - 12:15
174:23, 177:22,	161:9, 162:7, 166:10	18:8, 19:12, 23:22,	157:25, 158:5, 168:10	principal [2] -
178:2, 178:13,	person [3] - 60:7,	28:21, 34:4, 42:11,	potentially [1] - 20:3	
179:12, 180:7,	62:1, 116:19		Poulos [3] - 78:19,	133:25, 134:7
		47:15, 49:10, 50:9,	.,	principle [1] - 52:17
182:12, 183:4,	personal [2] -	50:12, 55:23, 62:7,	78:23, 79:13	printed [1] - 69:3
183:19, 184:1,	162:21, 175:13	66:21, 84:13, 98:3,	power [21] - 20:14,	priority [1] - 206:18
185:16, 186:12,	personally [2] -	107:15, 109:7, 115:1,	20:22, 21:6, 21:9,	private [3] - 34:22,
187:5, 187:8, 187:23,	142:25, 215:7	137:5, 141:12, 142:7,	21:20, 22:14, 23:2,	
188:4, 189:1, 190:14,	perspective [2] -		23:19, 25:9, 25:10,	106:22, 168:2
191:3, 194:8, 195:12,	• • • • • •	142:14, 143:19,		privilege [1] - 14:23
	160:20, 181:25	143:21, 191:10	25:16, 25:18, 25:25,	problem [2] - 216:4,
196:18, 197:18,	pertains [1] - 178:16	pointing [1] - 87:19	49:8, 51:13, 71:6,	216:6
197:25, 199:10,	Pg [1] - 217:6	points [4] - 57:4,	72:15, 73:5, 75:11,	proceeding [2] -
200:1, 200:8, 200:23,	phase [3] - 81:24,	113:4, 138:7, 138:8	156:8, 179:19	5:24, 191:18
201:14, 203:15,	85:11, 110:15	policy [2] - 61:20,	practical [2] -	
204:21, 205:15,			158:21, 159:3	proceedings [5] -
206:6, 206:13, 207:7,	Phase [26] - 82:15,	118:22		5:9, 6:25, 218:9,
	82:18, 84:6, 84:7,	pop [1] - 34:8	precise [4] - 54:5,	218:13, 218:16
207:13, 208:15,	84:11, 84:16, 84:23,	Port [9] - 118:7,	54:6, 145:15, 193:16	process [31] - 16:20,
208:18, 210:7,	85:4, 85:7, 85:9,	118:14, 119:9,	precisely [4] - 35:6,	17:18, 22:9, 56:7,
210:18, 212:15,	85:17, 85:19, 85:20,	119:21, 168:3, 171:7,	77:20, 186:3, 193:13	57:15, 71:8, 83:22,
213:22, 214:17,	86:14, 86:23, 87:10,	171:17, 174:16,	predicated [1] -	
215:10, 215:24, 216:3	104:4, 104:10,		179:25	83:23, 87:17, 88:7,
Perimutter [2] -		175:10		88:8, 88:11, 88:13,
	104:12, 105:5, 106:8,	port [1] - 180:6	predict [1] - 72:13	88:14, 101:9, 107:14,
198:6, 200:5	106:14, 106:16	portfolio [1] - 49:3	predicts [1] - 71:21	134:18, 134:19,
permanent [2] -	phases [4] - 8:15,	portion [6] - 22:19,	predominantly [1] -	135:12, 137:5,
159:19, 159:25	84:1, 85:16, 88:20	85:25, 153:23, 170:6,	92:22	143:13, 162:19,
permission [1] - 6:5	phasing [1] - 83:1	180:13, 195:23	preempt [3] - 161:19,	166:3, 166:10, 183:7,
permit [40] - 26:12,	phone [1] - 127:15		162:14, 201:2	
26:16, 26:19, 34:2,		portions [2] - 12:17,		189:12, 189:15,
55:20, 55:24, 55:25,	pickings [1] - 91:12	13:1	preemption [3] -	190:20, 191:11,
	pictures [1] - 126:4	Portland [3] - 3:4,	162:9, 162:10, 204:9	200:12, 201:25
58:25, 82:2, 82:4,	pile [1] - 103:22	90:3, 90:4	preemptive [2] -	procure [4] - 32:3,
83:21, 89:10, 89:12,	pinch [1] - 171:7	portrayed [1] - 85:17	131:7, 161:14	92:2, 126:20, 157:17
98:1, 102:3, 107:21,	pinpointing [1] -	pose [1] - 131:24	prefer [1] - 104:2	procured [3] - 30:3,
114:18, 130:14,	193:14	poses [1] - 214:24	preferred [2] - 33:3,	
130:18, 130:22,			•	124:21, 125:19
131:11, 134:5,	pitch [1] - 50:3	position [6] - 39:9,	160:9	procurement [3] -
134:18, 140:4,	place [7] - 5:10, 57:1,	53:25, 54:6, 54:12,	prehearing [1] -	55:17, 90:12, 91:25
, ,	201:20, 203:19,	74:18, 175:8	178:14	produce [2] - 71:6,
157:18, 157:20,	206:22, 218:10,	positions [2] - 8:10,	premature [1] -	73:4
166:12, 166:16,	218:17	37:7	177:16	produced [3] -
172:12, 183:18,	placement [5] -	possibility [2] -	preparation [1] -	49:11, 70:17
199:9, 199:25,	193:16, 194:3, 194:6,		136:13	
200:22, 201:13,		18:10, 18:12		producers [2] -
202:6, 202:9, 209:16,	199:3, 206:18	possible [10] - 57:8,	prepare [2] - 135:24	73:25, 74:11
212:20, 215:19	places [4] - 33:21,	145:17, 152:19,	prepared [2] - 12:15,	product [1] - 15:7
,	41:17, 122:11, 203:20	153:1, 154:16, 155:8,	193:12	production [8] -
permits [6] - 131:4,	placing [1] - 203:22	157:4, 170:13,	preparing [2] -	45:18, 47:10, 73:18,
131:8, 161:17,	plan [8] - 32:6, 33:3,	188:21, 197:22	135:14, 148:18	
161:20, 200:13,				74:7, 75:5, 78:9, 80:9,
211:14	33:11, 89:2, 125:19,	possibly [2] - 19:17,	present [2] - 100:21,	83:4
permitted [28] - 7:4,	128:1, 160:10, 189:20	106:25	101:3	products [2] -
	planned [2] - 66:10,	post [3] - 140:5,	PRESENT [1] - 3:12	132:16, 213:7
8:15, 34:14, 87:23,	132:22	189:13, 189:23	presentation [2] -	Professional [1] -
100:10, 110:2, 147:4,	plans [2] - 127:24,	post-adjudication	178:20, 178:25	5:5
157:12, 158:7, 165:9,	162:10	[3] - 140:5, 189:13,	presented [1] - 94:22	professional [2] -
		[0] 170.0, 100.10,	p. 0001100 [1] - 07.22	professional [2] -

8:1, 9:4	147:15, 148:13,	147:13, 149:14, 152:4	16:25	ratings [1] - 69:24
profile [4] - 78:6,	148:20, 149:1, 149:8,	proposition [1] -	purchasing [1] -	RE [1] - 4:2
78:9, 93:1, 93:3	149:12, 151:1,	199:23	158:6	reached [2] - 49:9,
program [1] - 8:6	151:25, 152:23,	proprietary [2] -	purpose [3] - 23:10,	49:19
progress [8] - 140:3,	153:4, 153:10,	74:24, 75:25	70:6, 170:7	reactivate [2] -
149:22, 150:8, 157:9,	153:16, 153:23,	prospects [1] -	purposes [2] - 6:24,	170:7, 170:23
170:9, 183:12,	153:25, 154:14,	104:24	75:16	Read [1] - 217:6
183:15, 189:21	155:4, 155:9, 156:19,	prosper [1] - 107:1	pursue [1] - 28:22	read [13] - 59:9, 66:4,
project [215] - 8:12,	157:7, 157:11, 158:6,	Protection [1] -	push [1] - 62:18	66:14, 67:7, 67:9,
8:20, 9:1, 9:2, 9:17,	158:10, 158:24,	212:12	pushed [1] - 157:2	76:13, 87:1, 89:14,
9:20, 10:1, 10:4, 10:9,	159:15, 159:16,	provide [19] - 19:21,	put [22] - 6:20, 11:17,	89:15, 101:17,
10:14, 10:17, 10:20,	159:17, 161:10,	21:16, 24:13, 25:13,	14:7, 17:21, 29:17,	122:12, 179:11,
11:2, 11:6, 11:7, 11:8,	163:3, 163:25,	32:5, 50:7, 88:2,	50:15, 51:25, 52:1,	217:19
16:25, 17:11, 17:19,	166:23, 167:25,	117:12, 119:9,	54:10, 60:11, 72:24,	readily [1] - 14:5
17:20, 17:23, 18:16,	168:12, 168:22,	121:20, 156:12,	74:3, 81:10, 113:16,	reading [8] - 31:23,
19:11, 19:16, 21:23,	169:7, 171:14,	159:5, 169:18,	124:16, 144:1,	56:17, 56:24, 64:14,
22:22, 22:23, 24:2,	171:20, 172:1, 172:6,	169:19, 172:5,	188:19, 189:4,	76:19, 83:25, 101:19,
24:11, 26:1, 26:11,	172:13, 172:17,	173:21, 174:17,	203:19, 206:22,	116:23
26:17, 26:23, 27:4,	173:23, 175:12,	189:17, 189:19	210:1, 214:16	readings [1] - 79:12
27:12, 27:22, 27:25,	176:23, 181:18,	provided [16] -	putting [4] - 82:6,	reads [2] - 67:23,
28:1, 28:14, 28:20,	182:3, 182:20, 183:8,	13:22, 63:1, 137:6,	149:9, 203:14, 205:12	120:17
30:15, 31:20, 32:11,	183:10, 183:17,	137:18, 137:24,		Reads [1] - 217:6
33:9, 33:12, 34:4,	183:25, 184:4,	138:1, 138:2, 143:4,	Q	ready [7] - 90:6,
34:15, 34:19, 35:13,	186:24, 187:3,	148:6, 156:18,		96:21, 98:3, 107:20,
35:19, 35:22, 36:5,	187:20, 188:13,	172:10, 175:24,	quality [1] - 28:18	134:6, 137:6, 150:9
36:9, 36:24, 37:4,	188:14, 190:4,	176:19, 180:1,	qualms [1] - 214:7	real [1] - 146:2
37:11, 37:23, 38:15,	191:22, 193:6, 199:7,	180:20, 180:21	quantification [1] -	really [7] - 11:12,
38:16, 38:19, 39:3,	201:11, 201:20,	provider [2] -	46:3	51:22, 86:10, 107:5,
40:16, 40:23, 43:15,	202:2, 202:5, 205:20,	127:19, 157:24	questions [21] -	124:22, 160:19, 178:3
44:19, 45:11, 46:6,	209:22	providing [2] - 23:1,	7:17, 11:16, 12:11,	Realtime [1] - 5:4
46:23, 48:2, 48:3,	Project [2] - 8:14,	159:8	27:7, 29:17, 29:21,	reason [9] - 48:21,
48:8, 49:15, 50:6,	108:24	proving [1] - 24:19	46:25, 96:17, 133:23,	49:5, 75:9, 85:11,
51:4, 51:16, 52:18,	project's [1] - 146:16	provisions [1] -	138:11, 166:4, 178:7,	106:21, 184:24,
53:2, 53:6, 55:11,	projects [17] - 8:13,	15:14	179:9, 184:17, 185:3,	186:7, 186:15, 205:5
57:5, 57:20, 58:20,	9:9, 9:10, 9:13, 14:3,	proximity [2] - 22:5,	192:6, 210:24, 211:4,	Reason [1] - 217:6
58:24, 63:6, 74:20,	17:13, 49:3, 55:18,	84:13	215:11, 215:12,	reasonable [4] -
76:6, 77:7, 77:16,	104:1, 107:6, 107:23,	PSE [2] - 91:17, 92:5	215:14	165:15, 165:19,
78:17, 79:19, 81:25,	108:7, 109:1, 126:12,	Public [2] - 1:12,	queue [11] - 37:3,	182:3, 212:5
83:1, 83:17, 83:19,	165:21, 206:15	217:25	37:7, 38:23, 39:8,	received [2] -
85:22, 85:23, 86:6,	promises [1] - 192:2	public [4] - 168:1,	54:1, 54:6, 54:9,	130:20, 216:3
86:12, 87:9, 87:23,	proof [1] - 124:8	169:13, 212:11,	54:11, 54:12, 64:2,	recent [5] - 137:18,
90:22, 91:3, 91:19,	properties [9] -	213:16	68:16	139:16, 141:7,
92:5, 92:22, 93:2,	138:23, 139:23,	publicly [4] - 35:7,	quick [1] - 111:13	148:17, 196:12
94:22, 97:11, 98:1,	140:13, 142:10,	90:16, 169:15, 171:15	quickly [2] - 89:3,	recently [3] - 131:2,
98:4, 102:6, 102:14,	144:17, 145:1, 145:6,	publish [2] - 60:21,	89:5	139:17, 212:8
102:16, 104:5,	145:11, 146:22	177:17	quite [1] - 49:5	recess [4] - 59:22,
104:13, 104:15,	property [16] - 43:14,	PUD [18] - 17:17,		93:18, 133:21, 185:1
104:18, 105:3,	46:10, 72:17, 74:16,	18:2, 18:18, 20:7,	R	recharging [2] -
105:13, 105:20,	126:17, 185:13,	20:9, 20:11, 20:14,		23:11, 23:12
106:17, 108:8,	186:10, 195:6,	20:23, 21:16, 21:18,	ramp [3] - 44:8,	recognize [1] - 48:9
108:14, 109:14,	195:10, 195:16,	21:22, 21:25, 22:8,	45:17, 49:17	recommendation [3]
110:8, 113:17,	195:18, 195:23,	22:14, 22:25, 23:17,	ramped [1] - 49:23	- 150:24, 190:9,
113:20, 115:13,	196:2, 203:6, 203:11,	24:16, 90:4	rank [1] - 74:7	- 150.24, 190.9, 190:10
115:20, 116:12,	215:19	pull [2] - 34:5, 141:4	raptor [2] - 177:10,	recommendations
116:18, 117:10,	proposal [8] - 13:15,	pumps [1] - 21:10	180:19	[2] - 177:15, 183:3
117:12, 117:15,	20:13, 20:17, 81:24,	purchase [3] - 90:7,	rare [1] - 214:7	[2] - 177.15, 183.3 record [15] - 7:2,
118:13, 119:1,	94:6, 98:14, 144:2	163:25, 164:2	rather [2] - 46:5,	
120:19, 121:4, 121:5,	proposals [3] -	purchaser [2] -	161:5	59:24, 93:17, 93:20, 133:20, 134:13
124:11, 129:7, 139:5,	31:19, 55:7, 149:5	17:12, 45:11	rating [3] - 50:24,	133:20, 134:13,
140:1, 141:19, 143:2,	proposed [4] - 95:3,	purchasers [1] -	51:2, 70:11	136:18, 137:8, 139:15, 169:13,
143:10, 147:11,		Parona0010[1] -		133.13, 103.13,

184:21, 186:8, 215:2, 215:6, 218:15 recorded [1] -218:13 recover [4] - 182:2. 182:4. 182:6. 182:19 recovering [1] -182:17 recreation [1] -179:1 recreational [1] -179:1 red [5] - 177:3, 180:5, 183:2, 183:11, 188:19 Red [5] - 35:23, 36:14, 36:19, 36:24, 37:21 red-circled [1] -180:5 redesign [1] - 139:4 Redline [1] - 4:10 redline [12] - 11:24, 12:16, 12:17, 15:14, 30:20, 60:2, 60:11, 62:11, 140:5, 172:10, 180:10, 190:18 redlined [1] - 16:18 redlines [2] - 13:21, 15:9 reduce [2] - 33:22, 177:13 reduced [1] - 140:1 reduction [1] -162:23 redundant [1] -57:12 reevaluate [1] -79.11 refer [4] - 12:12, 70:4, 104:8, 168:3 reference [1] - 16:8 referenced [3] -179:14, 187:13, 188:3 references [2] -132:12, 174:14 referred [1] - 179:21 referring [5] - 79:21, 159:9, 177:25, 179:15, 199:19 refers [3] - 130:6, 168:6, 176:14 reflect [4] - 138:21, 139:21, 144:15, 144:24 reflected [5] - 139:9, 142:20, 142:23, 147:25, 148:2 reflects [2] - 140:11, 141:12

reformulate [1] -6.19 refrain [1] - 46:5 refresh [1] - 31:18 regard [2] - 45:10, 112:14 regarding [4] - 15:2, 136:20, 172:16, 178:25 region [3] - 90:1, 92:17, 109:1 regional [7] - 17:15, 89:20, 89:23, 90:12, 91:1, 91:2, 115:14 regions [1] - 14:4 Registered [1] - 5:5 regularly [1] - 95:17 regulated [1] - 92:1 regulations [3] -161:22, 162:16, 165:21 regulators [1] -161:6 rejected [1] - 144:2 related [14] - 13:9, 31:19, 48:2, 51:12, 54:8, 61:15, 70:7, 141:5, 158:21, 177:16, 177:19, 180:18, 180:19, 218:18 relates [1] - 41:23 relating [1] - 178:21 relation [1] - 10:16 relationship [1] -22.6 relative [10] - 18:16, 18:17, 43:17, 155:14, 159:2, 177:1, 177:17, 178:12, 203:20, 203:21 relatively [1] - 84:4 releases [1] - 90:11 relevance [3] -165:13, 200:2, 207:8 relevancy [3] -199:11, 206:4, 206:14 reliability [4] - 25:13, 42:6, 52:7, 52:15 reliable [1] - 158:18 relied [1] - 14:1 rely [1] - 122:24 relying [1] - 118:9 remain [2] - 49:18, 157:4 remaining [2] - 39:2, 181:2 remains [2] - 27:25, 183:6 remember [2] -

11:12, 133:2 REMEMBERED [1] -5:1 removed [1] - 180:13 renew [1] - 71:24 renewable [2] - 8:12, 107.5repeat [5] - 54:20, 73:14, 169:8, 188:4, 209:20 rephrase [1] - 209:4 replace [1] - 34:11 **report** [4] - 139:14, 139:19, 146:13, 185:14 REPORTED [1] -1:21 reporter [1] - 6:9 Reporter [16] - 5:5, 5:6, 5:7, 5:8, 24:23, 69:15, 100:24, 112:10, 158:1, 159:21, 162:3, 186:25, 208:4, 208:16, 218:3 REPORTER [5] -1:22, 59:19, 184:14, 184:19, 211:5 reports [2] - 112:8, 112:13 represent [4] -11:21, 89:22, 185:4, 185:10 representation [1] -12:4 represented [1] -205.2represents [1] -27:24 reproach [1] - 15:21 repropagation [1] -128:16 request [22] - 31:19, 36:15, 39:1, 53:8, 63:4, 65:11, 68:3, 68:14, 68:17, 99:5, 99:7, 99:15, 101:11, 105:12, 135:20, 137:20, 138:1, 155:17, 155:19, 155:23, 169:16, 216:4 REQUESTED [1] -217:2 requested [14] -24:23, 69:15, 100:24, 112:10, 138:7, 139:1, 144:4, 158:1, 159:21, 162:3, 172:15, 186:25, 208:4, 208:16 requests [4] - 39:18,

136:22, 137:18, 155:4 require [2] - 52:25, 190:17 required [16] - 25:14, 36:23. 53:12. 54:19. 95:18, 95:20, 100:19, 121:16, 130:14, 133:6, 133:10, 161:17, 161:20, 165:21, 174:1, 209:16 requirement [1] -212:20 requirements [8] -54:8, 121:5, 130:10, 162:15, 172:11, 199:18, 201:3, 212:18 reroute [1] - 22:2 rescind [1] - 135:13 RESERVED [1] -216:11 reserved [1] - 185:6 resolve [1] - 170:14 resolving [1] -180:18 resource [6] - 78:6, 79:21, 90:20, 93:13, 164:21, 185:6 Resources [4] -169:12, 169:17, 170:21, 171:18 resources [4] - 92:3, 117:18, 117:21, 172:7 respect [2] - 145:12, 180:20 respond [5] - 45:3, 141:16, 142:15, 169:23, 181:15 response [11] -27:17, 27:23, 33:20, 43:23, 75:19, 138:1, 140:15, 176:23, 180:14, 182:25, 183:2 responsibility [1] -129:10 responsible [4] -25:12, 60:5, 100:11, 135:22 responsive [1] -180:24 rest [2] - 74:9, 171:12 restrictions [4] -141:23, 197:6, 199:2, 203.9 restricts [1] - 80:1 result [1] - 38:4 results [2] - 148:19, 190:17 revenue [3] - 24:19, 105:20, 164:22

reverberates [1] -77.3 review [11] - 14:15, 56:6. 87:17. 88:7. 88:8. 88:10. 146:18. 148:7. 148:12. 148:14. 192:4 reviewed [6] - 132:5, 139:13. 146:12. 177:17, 179:22, 180:1 **Reyneveld** [2] - 2:15, 149:15 RFP [1] - 92:5 **RFPs** [1] - 90:14 RICHARD [2] - 2:3, 2:5 Richard [1] - 5:22 Richland [6] - 5:21, 19:20, 19:24, 20:8, 156:7, 212:8 Rick [1] - 18:5 ridge [1] - 10:25 right-of-way [1] -18:9 rights [8] - 116:18, 117:10, 117:11, 117:13, 117:19, 118:1, 118:3, 170:22 risk [2] - 131:25, 212.5 risky [2] - 26:14, 164:7 Ritter [2] - 4:11, 175:25 Ritter's [1] - 175:24 river [1] - 77:1 RIVES [1] - 3:3 Road [3] - 3:9, 19:22, 188:17 road [1] - 179:2 roads [2] - 120:24, 121.9 robbing [1] - 80:20 robust [1] - 145:2 Room [1] - 1:12 route [2] - 94:5, 160:5 routing [1] - 177:6 RPR [3] - 1:22, 218:2, 218:24 Rucker [1] - 9:19 rule [3] - 19:6, 209:25, 210:5 ruled [1] - 200:20 Rules [1] - 7:5 rules [5] - 6:6, 7:5, 92:2, 138:17, 192:14 ruling [3] - 178:7, 199:14, 201:1 run [3] - 21:6, 21:8,

79:1	se [1] - 92:22	69:18, 70:6, 89:14,	shortages [1] - 91:11	126:20, 127:4, 128:3,
runaway [2] - 128:6,	season [2] - 83:8,	92:11, 120:17,	shorter [1] - 192:13	129:1, 137:9, 147:4,
213:18	83:10	124:13, 131:1,	Shorthand [1] - 5:8	151:6, 159:1, 159:4,
running [1] - 81:10	seasons [1] - 92:19	131:21, 132:10	shoulder [1] - 53:16	160:9, 164:8, 167:7,
	Seattle [2] - 2:5, 2:14	sentences [2] -	show [1] - 169:6	168:1, 169:12,
S	sec [1] - 167:16	124:7, 131:23	shown [2] - 33:25,	180:23, 181:1,
	second [13] - 62:19,	SEPA [5] - 60:21,	71:22	181:18, 183:8, 184:7,
safe [3] - 126:21,	64:8, 67:13, 69:1,	135:7, 158:21,	shows [2] - 73:1,	186:2, 187:20, 189:11
129:4, 212:10	69:6, 75:14, 78:24,	191:11, 191:19	84:16	sites [8] - 34:13,
safety [4] - 179:2,	87:6, 92:10, 133:20,	separate [6] - 32:8,	shrub [3] - 159:19,	145:23, 146:1, 146:5,
211:20, 212:11,	176:7, 178:14, 194:25	32:9, 33:1, 62:3,	159:23, 160:7	146:6, 178:18, 181:7,
213:13	secret [3] - 75:25,	67:11, 82:10	shy [1] - 99:11	212:8
salaries [1] - 105:2	76:1, 156:5	series [1] - 160:6	side [22] - 31:12,	SITING [1] - 1:2
sales [1] - 213:7	section [23] - 13:5,	serve [1] - 93:3	31:14, 39:2, 40:11,	siting [2] - 180:14,
Sarah [1] - 2:15	13:6, 15:24, 16:8,	SERVICE [1] - 1:22	42:25, 48:3, 48:4,	197:6
Sarah.Reyneveld@	60:2, 94:2, 94:17,	service [6] - 19:1,	53:8, 54:21, 54:22,	sitting [2] - 20:1,
atg.wa.gov [1] - 2:16	122:9, 124:9, 195:15,	21:3, 21:9, 21:16,	62:19, 63:17, 63:20,	59:14
satisfies [1] - 172:11	195:20, 196:24,	23:14, 122:18	63:22, 63:25, 87:8,	situation [3] - 24:9,
satisfy [3] - 34:22,	197:8, 197:17,	services [4] - 8:17,	87:9, 105:6, 105:7,	26:22, 49:7
104:22, 207:21	197:19, 198:3, 198:4,	25:14, 127:20, 129:6	105:10, 110:8, 154:5	six [10] - 31:2, 59:11,
save [1] - 12:9	198:20, 198:24,	Services [2] - 1:12,	sided [1] - 12:9	114:11, 124:23,
saving [1] - 161:4	199:4, 210:2, 210:6, 210:17	122:25	sight [2] - 157:19,	126:17, 127:8,
saw [1] - 109:2	210:17	set [2] - 211:14,	167:3	127:24, 211:18, 213:11, 214:23
SCA [2] - 58:17,	sections [9] - 13:9, 13:11, 13:14, 13:24,	218:21	sighted [1] - 180:5	six-acre [4] - 127:8,
88:11		setback [1] - 203:10	sign [5] - 19:2,	127:24, 211:18,
SCADA [1] - 21:7	14:20, 16:4, 120:19, 198:4, 210:12	setbacks [2] - 22:4,	21:14, 120:5, 156:15,	213:11
scale [8] - 26:11,	secured [1] - 130:18	204:1	217:3	six-hour [1] - 114:11
102:17, 103:2, 103:6,	see [28] - 7:15, 9:25,	setting [1] - 126:16	SIGNATURE [1] -	size [15] - 46:7, 46:8,
103:9, 103:20,	16:9, 22:25, 23:23,	settlement [8] - 140:2, 140:7, 143:22,	216:11	46:16, 58:6, 59:7,
104:13, 111:24 scenario [4] - 26:14,	24:3, 57:18, 75:4,	143:24, 144:8,	signed [4] - 119:18,	59:10, 71:14, 71:17,
45:13, 58:19, 181:17	81:17, 84:11, 84:15,	147:21, 148:4, 177:13	119:25, 120:4, 168:17	92:6, 125:8, 202:23,
schedule [2] - 88:18,	87:19, 99:17, 100:15,	several [2] - 160:6,	significance [2] - 60:25, 146:9	203:7, 203:12, 205:9,
88:23	117:7, 120:25,	196:25	silly [1] - 207:16	205:10
SCHIMELPFENIG	124:13, 124:23,	shall [3] - 94:4,	similar [3] - 32:16,	slamming [1] - 63:12
[1] - 3:5	129:22, 130:16,	178:19, 178:23	38:2, 111:18	slick [1] - 69:2
science [1] - 185:22	131:6, 132:2, 164:9,	share [3] - 19:17,	simple [3] - 70:14,	slim [1] - 91:12
scope [2] - 178:4,	164:10, 181:6, 188:7,	136:5, 168:21	75:2, 80:17	slows [1] - 45:13
205:9	189:5, 211:15	shared [3] - 149:24,	simplify [1] - 51:22	small [5] - 30:10,
SCOUT [3] - 1:6, 3:2,	seeing [1] - 84:1	150:5, 169:5	simply [2] - 14:25,	30:11, 30:13, 108:6,
4:2	select [1] - 87:24	sharing [1] - 19:14	15:3	175:15
Scout [35] - 8:19,	selected [4] - 87:16,	SHEET [1] - 217:1	simulations [1] -	smaller [9] - 28:2,
8:23, 9:7, 14:19,	88:7, 112:25, 114:8	shift [2] - 82:17,	138:9	54:25, 71:14, 71:18,
20:22, 26:23, 29:1,	selection [1] - 88:14	110:15	simultaneously [2] -	97:11, 105:22,
49:3, 58:20, 104:16,	self [2] - 125:1, 214:4	shine [1] - 51:5	182:9, 208:3	107:24, 202:19, 203:8
106:1, 112:6, 124:15,	self-contained [2] -	shines [1] - 110:11	single [5] - 83:7,	smorgasbord [1] -
135:17, 136:2,	125:1, 214:4	shining [3] - 45:14,	197:12, 199:5, 200:15	155:12
138:22, 139:22,	sell [5] - 25:16,	45:15, 110:17	sit [7] - 140:10,	snapping [1] -
140:12, 141:1,	25:18, 34:19, 115:13,	Shona [3] - 3:8,	141:10, 142:8,	107:10
141:13, 144:16,	157:5	138:16, 215:18	151:24, 158:23,	so [6] - 54:20,
144:25, 146:20,	Sellards [1] - 188:17	shona@	184:23, 186:6	57:17, 113:18,
147:10, 147:16,	selling [4] - 106:2,	yakamanation [1] -	site [45] - 33:8,	134:12, 196:25, 215:8
149:25, 150:5,	118:19, 164:24,	3:10	36:24, 37:4, 40:18,	software [1] - 79:23
154:21, 171:12,	164:25	shona@	46:24, 51:19, 57:23,	solar [74] - 22:22,
174:3, 174:4, 175:10,	sending [1] - 25:9	yakamanation-olc.	63:16, 72:15, 74:2,	23:4, 24:2, 39:22,
176:22, 180:13,	sense [4] - 29:22,	org [1] - 3:10	74:6, 77:19, 78:10,	39:23, 40:7, 40:13,
200:20	82:23, 97:25, 198:22	shoot [1] - 105:21	88:2, 92:12, 94:5,	40:24, 41:11, 43:3,
Scout's [1] - 142:9	sentence [17] - 66:5,	shop [2] - 131:13,	94:18, 94:23, 97:8,	44:7, 44:13, 44:14,
scramble [1] - 58:16	66:15, 66:19, 67:7,	161:1	104:20, 116:24,	46:9, 47:4, 49:10,
scrubbed [1] - 13:22	67:9, 67:14, 69:11,	short [1] - 56:3	117:20, 122:22,	50:10, 50:12, 50:23,

51:1.57.51:8. 51:5.27.58:81.69:20. 52:5.28:1.65:2. 52:5.58:1.69:20. 52:5.58:1.69:2. 52:5.58:1.69:2. 52:5.58:1.69:2. 52:5.58:1.69:2. 52:5.58:1.69:2. 52:1.65:5.58:2. 51:55:57:75:7 120:2.12:2.2. 122:1.22:1.92:3. 51:1.61:1. 50:1.61:1.59:2. 50:1.61:1.59:2.5:57:75:7 stindlig m: 122:1.3 51:1.92:1.59:2. 51:1.61:1.59:2.5:57:75:7 stindlig m: 122:1.3 51:1.92:1.59:2. 51:1.59:2.5:					
5125, 5218, 5321, 544, 6621, 6622, 644, 6621, 6628, 1755, 1757 speaking ip, 610, 12619, 12622, 12619, 1274, 111, 6120, 6624, 6625, 1755, 1757 12619, 2122, 12619, 1272, 111, 6120, 6624, 6625, 1755, 1757 TOEL ip, 53, 1757, 111, 6120, 6614, 6625, 1755, 1757 175, 1757 standing ip, 1783, 1661, 674, 6710, 16618, 6324, 6625, 1755, 1757, 182, 1827, 1827, 1827, 1827, 1861, 664, 6625, 1755, 1707, 182, 1861, 182, 1827, 1827, 1827, 1841, 182, 182, 182, 1827, 1827, 1841, 182, 182, 182, 182, 184, 184, 184, 184, 184, 184, 184, 184	51:1, 51:7, 51:8.	space [1] - 205:21	120:23, 121:22.	stirred-up [1] - 77:1	sufficient [1] -
64.4, 66.21, 66.22, 756, 581, 61.9, 2016, 6221, 66.2, 756, 581, 61.9, 2018, 664, 6625, 756, 581, 6126, 218, 664, 6625, 756, 581, 6126, 218, 664, 6625, 756, 581, 7577 126.11, 7423, 311, 131, 1611, 311, 1412, 1412, 1421, 311, 1411, 1412, 1422, 311, 1419, 1412, 1419, 311, 1221, 1422, 311, 1419, 1412, 1419, 311, 1419, 1412, 1411, 311, 1411, 1412, 1422, 311, 1414, 311, 1411, 1412, 1422, 311, 1414, 311, 1411, 1412, 1422, 311, 1414, 311, 1411, 1412, 1422, 311, 1414, 311, 1411, 1412, 1424, 311, 1414, 311, 1411, 1412, 1424, 311, 1414, 311, 1411, 1412, 1424, 311, 1414, 311, 1411, 1412, 1424, 311, 1414, 311, 1411, 1414, 311, 1414, 1414, 311, 311, 1414, 311, 311, 311, 1414, 311, 311, 311, 311, 311, 311, 311, 311					
57.6. 58.1, 61.9. 2006, 2083 standing (t) - 178.3 131.13, 161.1 stands (t) - 178.3 621.16, 652, 652.5, 1755, 1757, 671.6, 7155, 1757, 7156, 1757, 7166, 717					
61:11, 61:20, 62:10, spack(g), 60:15, stands(g), -132:13, stops(g), -44:4, stilb(g), -34:15, 62:18, 654, 66:25, 75:75, start(g), -43:2, start(g), -42:2, start(g), -42:17,				• • • •	
62:18, 65:4, 65:25, 66:1, 67:4, 67:10, 67:19, 68:6, 68:15, 68:1, 67:4, 67:10, 82:10, 68:6, 68:15, 82:10, 78:25, 88:10, 11, 18:2:19, 83:5, 18:11, 18:22, 19:25, 88:16, 10:21, 17:45, 19:21, 10:22, 110:24, 110:22, 110:24, 110:25, 110:24, 110:25, 110:24, 110:25, 110:24, 110:2		,	_		
66:1.07-4.07-10. species (n) -182-2. start (n) -42-2. 47:12, 56:19, 110:14. Suite (n) -24-2:13. 67:19, 66:6, 66:15. specific (n) -182-17. specific (n) -182-17. start (n) -42-1. 34:12, 56:19, 110:14. Suite (n) -24-2:13. 67:19, 66:6, 66:15. specific (n) -182-0. start (n) -42.1. storm (n) -92:17. storm (n) -92:17. storm (n) -92:17. storm (n) -92:17. storm (n) -92:18. storm (n) -92:17. storm (n) -92:17. storm (n) -92:17. storm (n) -92:18. storm (n) -92:17. storm (n) -92:18. 92:38. 110:22, 110:24, 152:24. specification (n) -15. storm (n) -16:17. storm (n) -16:17. storm (n) -16:17. storm (n) -16:17. storm (n) -17:5 storm (n) -17:5 </td <td></td> <td>-</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>		-			
67:19.68:6.68:15, 122:5, 182:7, 182:17, 69:18, 83:22, 88:3, 122:3, 122:12, 125:12, 34 um (n - 202:12) 69:20, 66:6, 66:11, 182:19, 136:6, 92:2, 89:5, 97:1, 93:17, 44:14, 92:17 starting (n - 723, 90:16 starting (n - 723, starting (n - 713, starting (n - 714,		175:5, 175:7	141:9, 141:22, 199:23	storage [7] - 22:19,	suitable [1] - 34:15
68:20, 68:6, 68:11, 99:14, 69:21, 70:8, 97:25, 88:16, 1002, 174:5, 190:11 182:79 131:24 131:24 131:24 131:24 131:24 69:14, 69:21, 70:8, 97:25, 88:16, 1002, 174:5, 190:11 192:16 131:24	66:1, 67:4, 67:10,	species [5] - 182:2,	start [5] - 43:2,	44:12, 56:19, 110:14,	Suite [3] - 2:4, 2:13,
68:20, 69:6, 69:11, 69:14, 69:21, 70:8, 70:15, 83:17, 84:12, 85:27, 78:13, 136:6, 77:25, 83:16, 60:2, 71:45, 190:11 130:24 storm (1) = 20:17 summarizes (1) = storm (2) = 20:18, 82:17 summarizes (1) = storm (2) = 20:18, 82:19 summarizes (1) = storm (2) = 20:18, 82:17 summarizes (1) = storm (2) = 20:18, 82:17 summarizes (1) = storm (2) = 20:18, 80:10, 20:14, 80:10, 20:14, 80:11, 20:14, 80:10, 20:14, 80:14, 20:14, 80:16, 20:1	67:19, 68:6, 68:15,	182:5, 182:7, 182:17,	69:18, 83:22, 88:3,	122:21, 126:12,	3:4
69:14, 40:21, 70:8, 70:15, 83:17, 84:12, 82:22, 83:6, 100:2, 110:0, 110:16, 110:2, 110:2, 110:0, 110:16, 110:2, 110:2, 110:0, 110:16, 110:2, 110:2, 110:2, 110:2, 110:0, 110:16, 110:2	68:20, 69:6, 69:11,	182:19	88:5	131:24	sum [1] - 202:12
To:15, 83:17, 84:12, 8725, 83:16, 1062, 174:5, 190:11 352, 76:13, 136:6, 197:25, 83:16, 1062, 174:5, 190:11 922, 895, 97:1, 180:15, 108:15, 141:1; 180:15, 108:15, 141:1; 180:15, 108:16, 141:1; 180:15, 108:16, 141:1; 150:1, 152:24, 153:17, 153:22, 153:17, 153:22, 153:17, 153:22, 154:15, 152:24, 154:15, 152:24, 154:15, 152:24, 154:15, 152:24, 154:15, 152:24, 154:15, 152:24, 154:15, 152:24, 154:15, 152:24, 154:15, 152:24, 156:17, 152:24, 156:17, 152:24, 156:17, 112:25, 100:17, 155:12, 100:17, 155:12, 100:18, 122:14, 100:18, 122:14, 100:11, 100:18, 100:10, 122, 100:13, 100:11, 100:12, 100:10, 100:13, 100:10, 1	69:14, 69:21, 70:8,		started [7] - 7:23		
ar228, 88:16, 106:2, 110:20, 110:12, 110:21, 110:24, 110:22, 110:24, 110:22, 110:24, 110:22, 110:24, 110:22, 110:24, 110:22, 110:24, 110:22, 110:24, 110:22, 110:24, 110:24, 110:24, 113:1, 152:24, 153:1, 153:2, 153:24, 154:4, specifical (t) - 174:3 starting (t) - 71.1, starting (t) - 77.9 summer (t) - 92:12, strat (t) - 152:13, 102:11, 153:24, 154:4, specifical (t) - 192:24, 102:17, 153:22, solar's (t) - 43:1, solar's (t) - 43		-	••		
110:22, 110:24, 159:1, 161:25 82:17 92:19 surg - 45:14, 1113, 113, 152:24, specifications gip starts gip - 42:25, starts gip - 42:19 strats gip - 162:10, strats gip - 162:10, strats gip - 162:10, strats gip - 42:19 strats gip - 42:19 strats gip - 42:19 strats gip - 42:19, strats gip - 42:19, strats gip - 42:19, strats gip - 77:9, surk (p - 102:17, supplemental (p - 52:7, supplemental (p - 52:7, supplemental (p - 52:7, strats gip - 77:9, surk (p - 102:17, supplemental (p - 52:7, supplemental (p - 52:7, strats gip - 77:9, surk (p - 102:14, supplemental (p - 52:7, strats gip - 77:9, surk (p - 102:14, supplemental (p - 52:7, strats gip - 77:14, strats gip - 77:14, supplemental (p - 52:13,					
1113.1 1132.1 1522.4 specifications(p) stats(p) - 42.25, 213.19 stream (p) - 24.19 stream (p) - 24.19 110.18 153.17, 153.22, 1554.4, 153.11, 153.22, 1554.5, 208.8 specifica (p) - 174.3 static (p) - 51.7, 155, 10.11, 10.18 stream (p) - 24.19 110.18 110.18 153.17, 155.2, 155.2 specifica (p) - 192.24 162.7, 162.14, 170.6, 10.10, 201.9 stream (p) - 48.4 supprior (p) - 7.5			011	,	
				92:19	••
		specifications [3] -	starts [2] - 42:25,	strategy [1] - 152:12	45:17, 51:5, 110:11,
		58:21, 58:24, 122:6	213:19	stream [1] - 24:19	110:18
	153:17, 153:22,	specifics [1] - 174:3	state [12] - 5:17,	string [1] - 77:9	sun's [1] - 110:17
154:15, 195:25, 208. 196:13 128:24, 161:21, 177:4, 167:10, 2013 strongly (n, 48:4) Superior (n, 7:5) sold (n, 9:14, 107:25 100:17, 155:12 STATE(n, 1:1) structural(n, 2) 80:10, 214:4 Superior (n, 7:5) superior (n, 7:5) sold (n, 48:21 speculating (n) 102:24 STATE(n, 1:1) structures (n, 1:5):9 supplemental (n, 1:5):9 <td>153:24, 154:4,</td> <td></td> <td>36:10, 52:13, 70:7,</td> <td></td> <td></td>	153:24, 154:4,		36:10, 52:13, 70:7,		
sold 2 - 9:14. specify (1) - 192:24 162:7. 162:14, 170:6, specify (1) - 187:10, 2019 structural (2) - 80:10, 214:4 supervision (1) - 80:10, 214:4 sold (2) - 9:14, solved (2) - 171:2, solved (2) - 171:3, somewhere (1) - 100:12, 120:14, somewhere (1) - 100:18, 123:5, sorv (2) - 2625, sorv	154:15, 195:25, 208:8			-	
sold [2] - 9:14, 107.25 Spectrum [2] - 103:17, 155:12 157:10, 201:9 80:10, 214:4 218:14 107.25 103:17, 155:12 STATE[1] - 1:1 structure[1] - 121:14 structure[1] - 121:14 107:10, 201:9 80:10, 214:4 supplemental[1] - 155: 80:17 sold [2] - 48:21 speculating [1] - 122:14 87:16, 89:17, 100:6, 101:23 100:12, 120:14, 122:14 supplemental[1] - 155: 80:1, 80:3, 101:23 100:12, 120:14, 122:14 supplemental[1] - 155: 80:1, 80:3, 101:23 100:12, 120:14, 122:14 100:12, 120:14, 122:14 100:12, 120:14, 122:14 supplemental[1] - 122:14 100:12, 120:14, 122:14 100:12, 120:14, 122:14 100:12, 120:14, 122:14 supplemental[1] - 122:12, 122:06:3 111:15:9 sometime [2] - 131:15:15 55:58:01, 80:3; 123:14 101:23 100:12, 120:14, 122:14 supplemental[1] - 122:14 supplemental[1] - 122:12, 122:0; 122:14 111:125 supplemental[1] - 111:11 111:11 supplemental[1] - 111:11 111:11 supplemental[1] - 111:11 111:11 111:11 111:11 111:11 111:11 111:11 111:11 111:11 111:11 111:11 111:11 111:11 111:11 111:11 111:11:11 111:11:11 111:11:			, ,		
107:25 appendix[] appendix[]<					
sole (n) - 48-21 Structures (a) - 132, and the first and the		•			
solved [g] - 171:2, 171:4, 171:10 213:24 statement [g] - statement [g] - someone [g] - 182; 31:23, 164:16 statement [g] - speculating [n] - someone [g] - 182; 31:23, 164:16 subject [g] - 22:7, 31:23, 164:16 subject [g] - 32:7, 31:23, 164:16 someone [g] - 170:23 43:11, 595, 91:21, 30:12, 110:14, 31:23, 164:16 35:11, 35:25, 35:21, 135:25, 35:21, 135:25, 35:21, 135:25, 35:21, 135:25, 35:21, 135:25, 35:21, 135:25, 35:21, 135:25, 35:21, 135:25, 35:21, 137:3, 35:21, 137:3, 35:31, 137:3, 35:31, 137:31, 137:3, 35:31, 137:3, 138:3, 35:31, 137:3, 138:3, 35:31, 15:19, 15:23, 15					supplemental [1] -
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $		speculate [1] -		structures [5] -	58:17
someone [a] - 18:2, 31:23, 164:16 speculation [a] - 10:23 for (a)		213:24	statement [22] -	205:4, 205:11,	supplier [5] - 32:7,
someone [s] - 18:2, 31:23, 164:16 101:23 100:12, 120:14, 31:23, 164:16 studied [z] - 77:14, sometime [z] - 31:23, 164:16 67:15 sometime [z] - sometime [z] - 10:211, 106:10, sometime [l] - 10:61 102:11, 106:10, 109:11, 108:10, sometime [l] - 109:11, 108:10, 109:11, 109:11, 108:10, sometime [l] - 10:61 135:21, 135:25, 136:9, 138:14, studied [z] - 53:11, 136:21, 137:3, sometime [l] - 100:11, 109:11, 109:12, sometime [l] - 10:61 studied [z] - 109:11, 109:11, 108:12, sometime [l] - 109:11, 109:12, 120:14, sometime [l] - 109:11, 109:12, 120:14, sometime [l] - 100:14, 101:3, sometime [l] - 100:14, 101:3, sometim [l] - 100:14, 101:3, sometime [l] - 100:10, 100:10, 100	171:4, 171:10	speculating [1] -	87:18, 89:17, 100:6,	205:13. 206:1. 206:3	55:5. 80:1. 80:3.
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	someone [3] - 18:2,	• • • • •	100:12, 120:14,		
sometime [2]43:11, 59:5, 91:21, 102:11, 106:10, 109:18, 123:5, 109:18, 123:5, 109:19, 251:5, 110:16, 117:14, 109:18, 123:5, 110:16, 117:14, 110:16, 117:14, 111:16, 117:14, 117:14, 111:16, 117:14, 1	31:23, 164:16		124:18, 132:7.	••	
56:17, 110:23102:11, 106:10, 102:11, 106:10,135:21, 137:3, 136:9, 136:14, 136:21, 137:3,79:1850.10, 10, 00.10, 00.17, 18:13, 19:1110:6102:11, 106:10, 109:18, 123:5,136:9, 136:14, 136:21, 137:3,79:18study [2] - 42:9, sublividel [2] - 30.17, 20:16, 30:25, 31:1,10:650:10, 192:12, spent [1] - 62:4,136:21, 137:3, spent [1] - 62:4,54:1723:19, 26:4, 28:9, sublividel [2] - 30:16, 30:25, 31:1, 197:9, 198:527:12, 29:4, 38:6, 71:2, 91:25, 108:3, 127:14, 131:16,spent [1] - 105:3, spont [1] - 48:19, spinkler [3] - 125:10,135:8, 186:7, 209:2, states [2] - 200:11, spinkler [3] - 135:2, 135:5, 184:21,sublividel [2] - 135:2, 135:5, 184:21, 209:8sublict [4] - 178:7, sublict [4] - 178:7, 116:16, 117:14, 1167:3, 167:18, spinkler [3] - 125:10,states [2] - 200:11, spinkler [3] - 218:5sublict [6] - 72:3, sublict [6] - 72:3, 100:14, 101:8, 139:14, 209:10,sublict [6] - 72:3, subport [6] - 112:1, 100:14, 101:8, 139:14, 209:10,sublict [6] - 72:3, support [6] - 112:1, 100:14, 101:8, 139:14, 209:10,support [6] - 112:1, 100:14, 101:8, 139:14, 209:10,support [6] - 12:1, support [6] - 12:1, 100:14, 101:8, 139:14, 139:14, 139:14, 139:14, 139:14, 139:14,support [6] - 12:1, 100:14, 101:8, 139:14, 139:14, 139:14, 139:14, 139:14, 139:14, 139:14, 139:14, 139:14, 139:14, 139:14, 139	sometime [2] -	• • • • •			•• ••
somewhere (1)109:11, 123:5,136:9, 136:14,136:14,106:13, 123:5,136:9, 136:14,136:21, 137:3,study [2] - 42:9,Sonia (n) - 95:12spenl (n) - 62:4173:21, 173:25,subbivide [2] -sorry [2] - 26:25,spent (n) - 43:19176:11, 184:24,197:9, 198:527:1, 294, 38:6,spent (n) - 105:3statements [n] -subbivide [2] -37:12, 91:25, 108:3,spot (n) - 74:3statements [n] -127:14, 131:16,spot (n) - 74:3statements [n] -133:13, 167:15,spot (n) - 46:19states [2] - 200:11,137:14, 131:16,sprinkler [n] -station (n) - 23:14139:14, 204:22,spot (n) - 199:3station (n) - 23:14167:10squeze (n) - 199:3station (n) - 23:14167:10statif (n) - 60:19,sort [n] - 21:10statif (n) - 60:19,sound [n] - 90:396:19, 97:6, 97:10,sound [n] - 155:1stage [n] - 37:12,sound [n] - 155:1stage [n] - 37:12,165:14, 165:19statig [n] - 22:15,sound [n] - 22:25,172:4, 172:15step [n] - 22:9, 53:5,subsequent [2] -source [n] - 22:25,172:4, 172:1512:4, 172:17, 13:22,statep [n] - 20:113:5:17, 138:3,169:19, 20:116:5:14, 165:19statig [n] - 83:24sourd [n] - 25:25,stage [n] - 37:12,stage [n] - 83:24stick 64, 65, 53:20,12:59, 12:50, 111, 19:22,stateholder [n] -13:17, 166:15,184:1113:19, 102:24stateholder [n] -				•••	
Sonia [1] - 95:12spell [1] - 62:4173:21, 173:25, 173:12, 173:25,sublivided [2] - 30:16, 30:25, 31:1, $30:16, 30:25, 31:1,$ $30:16, 30:25, 31:1,$ $30:17, 29:4, 38:6,$ $3pent [1] - 105:3$ $3pent [1] - 105:3$ $47:24, 57:23, 66:4,$ $spot [1] - 74:3$ $3tatements [3] 30:16, 12:1, 14, 131:16,$ $spot [1] - 46:19$ $135:2, 135:5, 184:21$ $30:17, 12:1, 173:25,$ $statements [3] 3tates [2] - 200:11,$ $127:14, 131:16,$ $spot [1] - 92:19$ $states [2] - 200:11,$ $30:16, 12:1, 184:1, 187:8,$ $124:10, 124:16,$ $station [1] - 23:14,$ $187:24, 204:22,$ $122:10$ $112:10,$ $207:17, 211:7$ $squeeze [1] - 199:3$ $station [1] - 23:14,$ $30:16, 12:1,$ $129:7, 135:14,$ $30:16, 12:1,$ $199:3,$ $sort [3] - 32:18, 46:3,$ $stability [1] - 25:15,$ $sort [3] - 32:18, 46:3,$ $stability [1] - 25:15,$ $sort [3] - 32:14, 10:51,$ $95:11, 95:16, 96:8,$ $90:19, 97:6, 97:10,$ $step [9] - 22:9, 53:5,$ $sounde [1] - 155:1,$ $95:11, 95:16, 96:8,$ $90:19, 97:6, 97:10,$ $step [9] - 22:9, 53:5,$ $sounde [1] - 155:1,$ $159:19, 159:23,$ $120:17, 123:2,$ $172:4, 172:15,$ $step [9] - 22:9, 53:5,$ $subsequent[2] 172:14, 172:12,$ $172:4, 172:15,$ $step [9] - 22:9, 53:5,$ $subsequent[2] 19:12, 19:11,$ $150:10, 151:22,$ $120:14, 125:14, 122:24, 172:15,$ $120:16, 122,$ $120:14, 127:14, 123:24,$ $172:14, 123:12,$ <t< td=""><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></t<>					
sorry [1] - 26:25, 27:1, 29:4, 38:6, 47:24, 57:23, 66:4, 67:12, 91:25, 108:3, 127:14, 131:16, 127:14, 131:16, 137:12, 122:5, 108:3, 127:14, 131:16, 137:12, 122:5, 108:3, 137:12, 122:5, 108:3, 137:12, 122:14, 131:14, 137:4, 137:24, 124:16, 137:12, 122:17, 137:12, 122:17, 137:14, 137:16, 137:17, 138:2, 136:17, 136:17, 138:2, 137:19, 144:3, 137:10, 144:3, 137:10, 144:3, 137:10, 144:3, 137:10, 145:2, 136:13, 25:11, 25:13, 30:9, 136:13, 25:11, 25:13, 30:9, 136:13, 25:11, 25:13, 40:9, 136:14, 21:12, 21:20, 21:12, 21:1				54:17	23:19, 25:4, 28:9,
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $				subdivided [2] -	30:16, 30:25, 31:1,
47:24, 57:23, 66:4, sport [1] - 76:3 statements [3] - statements [3] - states [3] - states [3] - 67:12, 91:25, 108:3, sport [1] - 46:19 states [2] - 200:11, states [2] - 200:11, 209:8 submit [2] - 149:21, 177:12, 172:35, 163:3, 133:13, 167:15, sprinkler [3] - 128:5 states [2] - 200:11, 209:8 submit [2] - 149:21, 209:8 support [5] - 112:1, 135:2, 120:3 states [2] - 200:11, 218:5 submit [2] - 149:21, 100:14, 101:8, 129:7, 135:14, 169:1, 184:1, 187:8, 124:10, 124:16, status [3] - 55:13, 139:14, 209:10 support [6] - 112:1, 100:14, 101:8, 129:7, 135:14, 207:17, 211:7 squeeze [1] - 199:3 states [9] - 22:9, 53:5, subsequent [2] - supporting [2] - 195:11, 195:25 sort [3] - 129:11, sorts [1] - 97:6, 97:10, step [9] - 22:9, 53:5, subsequent[2] - 121:15, 125:3, 133:4 supporting [2] - sounded [1] - 155:1 sort, 13 - 55:15, 143:8, 167:2, 160:7, 204:14 SUBSTANCE [1] - 211:21, 155:25 supporting [2] - 121:15, 125:3, 133:4 sounde [1] - 25:25, 126:24, 55:15, 143:8, 167:2, states [1] - 27:25, 51:5, 143:8, 167:2, states [1] - 27		spend [1] - 43:19		197:9, 198:5	32:8, 83:3, 87:25,
47:24, 57:23, 66:4, 67:12, 91:25, 108:3, 127:14, 131:16, 135:1, 135:5, 135:5, 134:21 187:21, 212:3, 212:4 submit [2] - 149:21, 135:2, 135:5, 134:21 118:2, 133:5, 163:3, 135:2, 135:5, 184:21 127:14, 131:16, 133:13, 167:15, 139:1, 184:1, 187:8, 169:1, 184:1, 187:8, 169:1, 184:1, 187:8, 169:1, 184:1, 187:8, 124:10, 124:16, 207:17, 211:7 spring [n] - 92:19 squeeze [n] - 199:3 statis [a] - 55:13, 124:10, 124:16, status [a] - 55:13, 157:10 187:21, 212:3, 212:4 submit [a] - 149:21, 124:10, 124:16, status [a] - 55:13, 139:14, 209:10 118:2, 133:5, 163:3, 107:3, 167:18, 120:14, 101:8, 139:14, 209:10 sort [a] - 32:18, 46:3, sort [a] - 32:18, 46:3, sort [n] - 21:10 statis [a] - 55:13, 148:19, 178:24 submit [a] - 12:1, 105:11, 165:22 support [a] - 112:1, 105:11, 165:22 sort [n] - 21:10 statif [n] - 60:19, staff [n] - 60:19, sound [n] - 155:1 step [n] - 22:9, 53:5, 96:19, 97:6, 97:10, 96:19, 97:6, 97:10, 96:19, 97:6, 97:10, 96:19, 97:6, 97:10, 96:19, 97:6, 97:10, 96:19, 97:6, 97:10, 96:19, 192:13, 135:17, 138:3, 160:7, 204:14 SUBSTANCE [n] - 211:21 121:15, 125:3, 133:4 suppression [a] - supression [b] - 121:21 support [b] - 112:1, 125:9, 126:24, 135:17, 138:3, 160:7, 204:14 SUBSTANCE [n] - 211:21 211:21 sources [a] - 122:19, 132:19, 166:15, 133:14, 166:16, 133:14, 166:16, 135:11, 251:3, 142:9, 135:11, 251:3, 40:9, 141:21:11, 21:20, 142:11:12, 21:20, 142:11:12, 21:20,		spent [1] - 105:3	185:8, 186:7, 209:2	subject [4] - 178:7,	116:16, 117:14,
$\begin{array}{llllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllll$	47:24, 57:23, 66:4,		statements [3] -	-	118:2, 133:5, 163:3,
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	67:12, 91:25, 108:3,		135:2, 135:5, 184:21		
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	127:14, 131:16,		states [2] - 200:11,	••	
169:1, 184:1, 187:8, 187:24, 204:22, 207:17, 211:7 122:10, 124:16, 125:10 station [1] - 23:14 100:14, 101:8, 139:14, 209:10 129:7, 135:14, 139:14, 209:10 207:17, 211:7 squeeze [1] - 199:3 148:19, 178:24 SUBSCRIBED [1] - statistics [3] - 55:13, 137:10 148:19, 178:24 SUBSCRIBED [1] - supported [1] - 60:19, 95:11, 95:16, 96:8, 96:19, 97:6, 97:10, 96:19, 97:6, 97:10, 96:19, 97:6, 97:10, 96:19, 97:6, 97:10, 97:21, 98:9, 134:1, 135:17, 138:3, 155:14, 165:19 step[9] - 22:9, 53:5, 156:13, 86:25, 140:21, 58:13, 86:25, 140:21, 159:19, 159:23, 120:6, 121:7, 123:2, 120:6, 121:7, 123:2, 120:2, 121:10 statep [1] - 202:1 164:21 supstation [1] - 185:23 suppression [3] - 120:2, 121:1, 122:20, 121:4, 121:1, 121:10 suppression [3] - 120:22, 121:19 120:21, 121:10 120:10, 121:10, 121:10 sup	133:13, 167:15.	• • •			
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $					•••
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $					
sort [3] - 32:18, 46:3, 157:10 stability [1] - 25:15 staff [17] - 60:19, 95:11, 95:16, 96:8, 96:19, 97:6, 97:10, 97:21, 98:9, 134:1, sounds [3] - 129:11, 165:14, 165:19 staff [17] - 60:19, 95:11, 95:16, 96:8, 96:19, 97:6, 97:10, 97:21, 98:9, 134:1, sounds [3] - 129:11, 165:14, 165:19 stap [9] - 22:9, 53:5, 150:10, 151:22, 100:7, 204:14 subsequent [2] - 120:6, 121:7, 123:2, 120:6, 121:7, 123:2, 120:7, 121:10, 120:2, 120:10, 131: 120:22, 121:10, 120:22, 120:10, 131:10, 121:10					
157:10 staff [17] - 60:19, 95:11, 95:16, 96:8, 90:19, 97:6, 97:10, 90:19, 97:6, 97:10, 97:21, 98:9, 134:1, sounds [3] - 129:11, 165:14, 165:19 stenographically [1] 97:21, 98:9, 134:1, 155:17, 138:3, 159:19, 159:23, 165:14, 165:19 subsequent [2] - 77:9, 189:24 195:11, 195:25, 121:15, 125:3, 133:4 sounde [1] - 155:1 sounds [3] - 129:11, 165:14, 165:19 150:10, 151:22, 150:10, 151:22, 120:6, 121:7, 123:2, 120:6, 121:7, 123:2, 120:7, 120:2, 121:10 stenographically [1] - 106:25 substantial [1] - 106:25 survive [1] - 106:25 120:2, 121:10 still [19] - 27:25, 110:24, 137:16, 163:17, 164:15, 163:17, 164:15, 163:17, 164:15, 105:10 sworp [1] - 7:14 sworp [1] - 7:14 105:13 standalone [1] - 105:13 137:19, 144:3, 105:10 105:10 sworn [3] - 5:12, 21:4, 21:11, 22:0, 21:4, 21:11, 22:20, 21:4, 21:11, 22:20, 21:4, 21:11, 22:20, 21:4, 21:11, 22:20, 21:4, 21:11, 22:13, 40:9, 25:11, 25:13, 40:9, 25:11, 25:13, 40:9, 25:11, 25:13, 40:9, 25:11, 25:13, 40:9, 25:11, 25:13, 40:9,		squeeze [1] - 199:3		SUBSCRIBED [1] -	supported [1] - 62:8
sorts [1] - 21:10Stati [1/] - 50:19,ConstructionStatisequent [2] -155:11, 165:20Sound [1] - 90:395:11, 95:16, 96:8,- 218:1377:9, 189:24suppression [3] -sounded [1] - 155:197:21, 98:9, 134:1,58:13, 86:25, 140:21,65:5, 68:4surrounding [1] -sounds [3] - 129:11,135:17, 138:3,159:19, 199:23,SUBSTANCE [1] -211:21165:14, 165:19150:10, 151:22,160:7, 204:14217:2surveys [2] - 181:20,source [11] - 25:25,172:4, 172:15step [9] - 22:25,substantial [1] -185:23120:6, 121:7, 123:2,stage [5] - 37:12,steps [1] - 202:1164:21surveys [2] - 181:20,125:9, 126:24,55:15, 143:9, 167:2,stick [1] - 62:15substation [13] -SW [1] - 3:4132:19, 166:15,184:11still [19] - 27:25,21:2, 36:25, 37:22,swoop [1] - 7:14167:25, 171:13,staged [1] - 83:2444:5, 46:6, 53:20,63:22, 64:21, 66:10,SWORN [1] - 217:23sources [4] - 122:19,82:5110:24, 137:16,86:25, 87:1, 105:7,218:8, 218:11163:17, 164:15,standalone [1] -137:19, 144:3,105:10success [2] - 23:23,21:4, 21:11, 22:20,southwest [1] -120:22, 121:19120:22, 159:15,36:1325:11, 25:13, 40:9,southwest [1] -120:22, 121:19192:15, 204:736:1325:11, 25:13, 40:9,southwest [1] -120:22, 121:19120:22, 121:1936:1336:13		stability [1] - 25:15	steel [1] - 214:4	217:23	supporting [2] -
sorts [1] - 21:10 95:11, 95:16, 96:8, - 218:13 77:9, 189:24 suppression [3] - sound [1] - 90:3 96:19, 97:6, 97:10, 95:11, 95:16, 96:8, - 218:13 77:9, 189:24 suppression [3] - sounds [3] - 129:11, 135:17, 138:3, 159:19, 159:23, 65:5, 68:4 surrounding [1] - 165:14, 165:19 150:10, 151:22, 160:7, 204:14 217:2 surveys [2] - 181:20, source [11] - 25:25, 172:4, 172:15 step up [1] - 86:25 substantial [1] - 185:23 120:6, 121:7, 123:2, stage [5] - 37:12, steps [1] - 202:1 164:21 surveys [2] - 181:20, 132:19, 166:15, 184:11 still [19] - 27:25, 21:2, 36:25, 37:22, swoop [1] - 7:14 167:25, 171:13, staged [1] - 83:24 44:5, 46:6, 53:20, 63:22, 64:21, 66:10, SWORN [1] - 217:23 sources [4] - 122:19, staheholder [1] - 137:19, 144:3, 105:10 sworn [3] - 5:12, 168:10 105:13 149:22, 159:15, success [2] - 23:23, 21:4, 21:11, 22:20, south west [1] - 120:22, 121:19 192:15, 204:7 36:13 25:11, 25:13, 40:9, 161:1 120:22, 121:19 192:15, 204:7		staff [17] - 60:19,	stenographically [1]	subsequent [2] -	195:11, 195:25
Sound [1] - 90:3 sounded [1] - 155:1 sounds [3] - 129:11, 96:19, 97:6, 97:10, 97:21, 98:9, 134:1, sounds [3] - 129:11, step [9] - 22:9, 53:5, 138:625, 140:21, subsequently [2] - 65:5, 68:4 121:15, 125:3, 133:4 165:14, 165:19 source [11] - 25:25, 150:10, 151:22, 160:7, 204:14 SUBSTANCE [1] - 150:10, 151:22, 211:21 120:6, 121:7, 123:2, 172:4, 172:15 step-up [1] - 86:25 substantial [1] - 155:15, 143:9, 167:2, 184:11 164:21 surveys [2] - 181:20, 120:6, 121:7, 123:2, 172:4, 172:15 steps [1] - 202:1 164:21 survive [1] - 106:25 120:19, 166:15, 184:11 still [19] - 27:25, 21:2, 36:25, 37:22, swoon [1] - 7:14 191:22 stage [1] - 83:24 44:5, 46:6, 53:20, 63:22, 64:21, 66:10, SWORN [1] - 217:23 sources [4] - 122:19, 163:17, 164:15, standalone [1] - 137:19, 144:3, 105:10 system [2] - 18:10, 105:13 standalone [1] - 137:19, 144:3, 105:10 21:4, 21:11, 22:20, south [1] - 108:25 standard [2] - 180:2, 180:5, 183:7, 36:13 25:11, 25:13, 40:9, 105:13 standalone [1] - 120:22, 121:19 192:15, 204		95:11. 95:16. 96:8.	- 218:13		suppression [3] -
sounded [1] - 155:1 97:21, 98:9, 134:1, 58:13, 86:25, 140:21, 65:5, 68:4 surrounding [1] - sounds [3] - 129:11, 135:17, 138:3, 159:19, 159:23, 160:7, 204:14 SUBSTANCE [1] - 211:21 source [11] - 25:25, 150:10, 151:22, 160:7, 204:14 Substantial [1] - 185:23 120:6, 121:7, 123:2, 172:4, 172:15 step-up [1] - 86:25 substantial [1] - 185:23 125:9, 126:24, 55:15, 143:9, 167:2, stick [1] - 62:15 substantial [1] - 185:23 132:19, 166:15, 184:11 still [19] - 27:25, 21:2, 36:25, 37:22, swoon [1] - 7:14 stage [1] - 83:24 stakeholder [1] - 70:24, 71:25, 84:2, 67:2, 86:20, 86:21, swoon [3] - 5:12, 191:22 stakeholder [1] - 137:19, 144:3, 105:10 system [2] - 18:10, 163:17, 164:15, standalone [1] - 137:19, 144:3, 105:10 system [2] - 18:10, 105:13 standard [2] - 180:2, 180:5, 183:7, 36:13 36:13 southwest [1] - 120:22, 121:19 192:15, 204:7 successful [1] - 41:8, 41:10, 41:13,	Sound [1] - 90:3		step [9] - 22:9, 53:5,		121:15, 125:3, 133:4
sounds [3] - 129:11, 135:17, 138:3, 159:19, 159:23, 160:0, 00.4 211:21 165:14, 165:19 135:17, 138:3, 160:7, 204:14 SUBSTANCE [1] - 211:21 source [11] - 25:25, 172:4, 172:15 step-up [1] - 86:25 substantial [1] - 185:23 120:6, 121:7, 123:2, 172:4, 172:15 steps [1] - 202:1 164:21 surveys [2] - 181:20, 132:19, 166:15, 132:19, 166:15, 184:11 still [19] - 27:25, 21:2, 36:25, 37:22, swoop [1] - 7:14 191:22 stage [1] - 83:24 44:5, 46:6, 53:20, 63:22, 64:21, 66:10, SWORN [1] - 217:23 sources [4] - 122:19, 105:13 137:19, 144:3, 105:10 sworn [3] - 5:12, 163:17, 164:15, standalone [1] - 137:19, 144:3, 105:10 system [2] - 18:10, 105:13 standalone [1] - 137:19, 144:3, 105:10 success [2] - 23:23, 21:4, 21:11, 22:20, south [1] - 108:25 standalone [1] - 120:22, 121:19 192:15, 204:7 36:13 25:11, 25:13, 40:9, 163:10 105:13 120:22, 121:19 192:15, 204:7 success [2] - 23:23, 21:4, 21:11, 22:20, south [1] - 120:22,	sounded [1] - 155:1		58:13. 86:25. 140:21.		
165:14, 165:19 150:10, 151:22, 160:7, 204:14 217:2 surveys [2] - 181:20, 150:10, 151:22, 172:4, 172:15 step-up [1] - 86:25 substantial [1] - 185:23 120:6, 121:7, 123:2, 172:4, 172:15 step-up [1] - 86:25 substantial [1] - 185:23 125:9, 126:24, 55:15, 143:9, 167:2, stick [1] - 62:15 substantial [1] - 185:23 132:19, 166:15, 184:11 still [19] - 27:25, 21:2, 36:25, 37:22, swoop [1] - 7:14 191:22 stage [1] - 83:24 44:5, 46:6, 53:20, 63:22, 64:21, 66:10, SWORN [1] - 217:23 sources [4] - 122:19, 163:17, 164:15, standalone [1] - 137:19, 144:3, 105:10 system [2] - 18:10, 168:10 105:13 standalone [1] - 137:19, 144:3, 105:10 system [2] - 18:10, 105:13 standalone [1] - 120:22, 121:19 180:2, 180:5, 183:7, 36:13 25:11, 25:13, 40:9, southwest [1] - 120:22, 121:19 192:15, 204:7 successful [1] - 41:8, 41:10, 41:13,	sounds [3] - 129:11,				011
source [11] - 25:25, 172:4, 172:15 step-up [1] - 86:25 substantial [1] - 185:23 120:6, 121:7, 123:2, 172:4, 172:15 steps [1] - 202:1 164:21 survive [1] - 106:25 125:9, 126:24, 55:15, 143:9, 167:2, stick [1] - 62:15 substantial [1] - 185:23 132:19, 166:15, 184:11 still [19] - 27:25, 21:2, 36:25, 37:22, swoop [1] - 7:14 191:22 stakeholder [1] - 82:5 110:24, 17:16, 63:22, 64:21, 66:10, SWORN [1] - 217:23 sources [4] - 122:19, 163:17, 164:15, standalone [1] - 137:19, 144:3, 105:10 system [2] - 18:10, 168:10 105:13 149:22, 159:15, success [2] - 23:23, 21:4, 21:11, 22:20, south [1] - 108:25 standalone [1] - 120:22, 121:19 192:15, 204:7 36:13 25:11, 25:13, 40:9, 120:22, 121:19 192:15, 204:7 successful [1] - 41:8, 41:10, 41:13,	•••				
120:6, 121:7, 123:2, stage [5] - 37:12, steps [1] - 202:1 164:21 survive [1] - 106:25 125:9, 126:24, 55:15, 143:9, 167:2, stick [1] - 62:15 substation [13] - SW [1] - 3:4 132:19, 166:15, 184:11 stiged [1] - 83:24 stick [1] - 62:15 substation [13] - SW [1] - 7:14 167:25, 171:13, 191:22 staged [1] - 83:24 44:5, 46:6, 53:20, 63:22, 64:21, 66:10, SWORN [1] - 217:23 sources [4] - 122:19, stakeholder [1] - 70:24, 71:25, 84:2, 67:2, 86:20, 86:21, sworn [3] - 5:12, 163:17, 164:15, standalone [1] - 137:19, 144:3, 105:10 system [25] - 18:10, 105:13 149:22, 159:15, success [2] - 23:23, 21:4, 21:11, 22:20, south [1] - 108:25 standard [2] - 180:2, 180:5, 183:7, 36:13 25:11, 25:13, 40:9, south [1] - 120:22, 121:19 192:15, 204:7 successful [1] - 41:8, 41:10, 41:13,					• • • •
125:9, 126:24, 55:15, 143:9, 167:2, stick [1] - 62:15 substation [13] - SW [1] - 3:4 132:19, 166:15, 184:11 stick [1] - 27:25, 21:2, 36:25, 37:22, Swoop [1] - 7:14 167:25, 171:13, stage [1] - 83:24 44:5, 46:6, 53:20, 63:22, 64:21, 66:10, SWORN [1] - 217:23 191:22 stakeholder [1] - 70:24, 71:25, 84:2, 67:2, 86:20, 86:21, sworn [3] - 5:12, sources [4] - 122:19, 163:17, 164:15, standalone [1] - 137:19, 144:3, 105:10 system [25] - 18:10, 168:10 105:13 149:22, 159:15, success [2] - 23:23, 21:4, 21:11, 22:20, south [1] - 108:25 standard [2] - 180:2, 180:5, 183:7, 36:13 25:11, 25:13, 40:9, 120:22, 121:19 192:15, 204:7 successful [1] - 41:8, 41:10, 41:13,				substantial [1] -	
132:19, 166:15, 167:25, 171:13, 191:22 184:11 still [19] - 27:25, 184:11 21:2, 36:25, 37:22, 63:22, 64:21, 66:10, 102:4, 71:25, 84:2, 110:24, 137:16, 182:5 swop [1] - 7:14 sources [4] - 122:19, 163:17, 164:15, 168:10 standalone [1] - 105:13 137:19, 144:3, 149:22, 159:15, 149:22, 129:15, 120:22, 121:19 66:25, 87:1, 105:7, 149:22, 159:15, 180:2, 180:5, 183:7, 192:15, 204:7 success [2] - 23:23, 36:13 21:4, 21:11, 22:20, 21:4, 21:11, 22:20, 21:4, 21:11, 22:20, 21:4, 41:10, 41:13,			•	164:21	
167:25, 171:13, 191:22 staged [1] - 83:24 44:5, 46:6, 53:20, 3takeholder [1] - 21:2, 36:23, 37:22, 63:22, 64:21, 66:10, 70:24, 71:25, 84:2, 82:5 SWORN [1] - 217:23 sources [4] - 122:19, 163:17, 164:15, 168:10 standalone [1] - 105:13 70:24, 71:25, 84:2, 110:24, 137:16, 137:19, 144:3, 105:10 63:22, 64:21, 66:10, 82:5, 87:1, 105:7, 105:10 SWORN [1] - 217:23 sources [4] - 122:19, 163:17, 164:15, 105:13 standalone [1] - 105:13 137:19, 144:3, 149:22, 159:15, 149:22, 159:15, 149:22, 159:15, 180:2, 180:5, 183:7, 180:2, 180:5, 183:7, 180:2, 180:5, 183:7, 120:22, 121:19 Success [2] - 23:23, 120:22, 121:19 21:4, 21:11, 22:20, 25:11, 25:13, 40:9, 120:22, 121:19		55:15, 143:9, 167:2,		substation [13] -	SW [1] - 3:4
167:25, 171:13, 191:22 staged [1] - 83:24 44:5, 46:6, 53:20, 70:24, 71:25, 84:2, 10:24, 71:25, 84:2, 63:22, 64:21, 66:10, 67:2, 86:20, 86:21, SWORN [1] - 217:23 sources [4] - 122:19, 163:17, 164:15, 168:10 stadelone [1] - 105:13 110:24, 137:16, 149:22, 159:15, 63:25, 87:1, 105:7, 149:22, 159:15, 218:8, 218:11 south [1] - 108:25 standalone [1] - 120:22, 121:19 137:19, 144:3, 180:2, 180:5, 183:7, 192:15, 204:7 success [2] - 23:23, 36:13 21:4, 21:11, 22:20, 25:11, 25:13, 40:9, 41:8, 41:10, 41:13,		184:11	• •	21:2, 36:25, 37:22,	swoop [1] - 7:14
191:22 stakeholder [1] - 70:24, 71:25, 84:2, 67:2, 86:20, 86:21, sworn [3] - 5:12, sources [4] - 122:19, 82:5 110:24, 137:16, 86:25, 87:1, 105:7, 218:8, 218:11 163:17, 164:15, standalone [1] - 137:19, 144:3, 105:10 system [25] - 18:10, 168:10 105:13 149:22, 159:15, success [2] - 23:23, 21:4, 21:11, 22:20, south [1] - 120:22, 121:19 192:15, 204:7 successful [1] - 41:8, 41:10, 41:13,		staged [1] - 83:24	44:5, 46:6, 53:20,		SWORN [1] - 217:23
sources [4] - 122:19, 163:17, 164:15, 168:10 82:5 110:24, 137:16, 137:19, 144:3, 105:13 86:25, 87:1, 105:7, 105:13 218:8, 218:11 south [1] - 108:25 standalone [1] - 105:13 149:22, 159:15, 180:2, 180:5, 183:7, 120:22, 121:19 86:25, 87:1, 105:7, 105:10 218:8, 218:11 south west [1] - 120:22, 121:19 137:19, 144:3, 149:22, 159:15, 180:2, 180:5, 183:7, 192:15, 204:7 36:13 21:4, 21:11, 22:20, 36:13 southwest [1] - 120:22, 121:19 192:15, 204:7 successful [1] - 120:22, 121:19 41:8, 41:10, 41:13,	191:22	-	70:24, 71:25, 84:2,		
163:17, 164:15, standalone [1] - 137:19, 144:3, 105:10 system [25] - 18:10, 168:10 105:13 149:22, 159:15, success [2] - 23:23, 21:4, 21:11, 22:20, south [1] - 108:25 standard [2] - 180:2, 180:5, 183:7, 36:13 25:11, 25:13, 40:9, southwest [1] - 120:22, 121:19 192:15, 204:7 successful [1] - 41:8, 41:10, 41:13,	sources [4] - 122:19,		110:24, 137:16,		
168:10 105:13 149:22, 159:15, success [2] - 23:23, 21:4, 21:11, 22:20, south [1] - 108:25 standard [2] - 180:2, 180:5, 183:7, 36:13 25:11, 25:13, 40:9, southwest [1] - 120:22, 121:19 192:15, 204:7 successful [1] - 41:8, 41:10, 41:13,	163:17, 164:15,				
south [1] - 108:25 standard [2] - 180:2, 180:5, 183:7, 36:13 25:11, 25:13, 40:9, southwest [1] - 120:22, 121:19 192:15, 204:7 successful [1] - 41:8, 41:10, 41:13,	168:10				· · ·
southwest [1] - 120:22, 121:19 192:15, 204:7 successful [1] - 41:8, 41:10, 41:13,					
152·11 Successiul[1] - 41.0, 41.10, 41.10,					
standards [7] - Surred [1] - 77.1 104:19 41:24, 42:4, 42:11,					
		standards [7] -	3uneu [i] - //.1	104:19	41:24, 42:4, 42:11,

42:13, 44:6, 44:10,	18:13, 41:15, 61:15,	164:7, 164:20, 165:5,	timeline [1] - 190:12	treaty [1] - 185:6
44:17, 52:19, 62:24,	62:8	165:14, 166:2,	tip [1] - 47:2	trees [2] - 164:10,
65:12, 66:13, 82:11,	terminus [1] - 19:25	166:15, 167:1,	today [30] - 5:25, 7:2,	164:11
85:4, 87:4, 118:19	terms [13] - 6:20,	168:16, 169:1,	7:11, 11:15, 16:1,	tremendous [2] -
systems [3] - 124:10,	17:23, 30:2, 70:25,	169:10, 169:24,		
124:16, 125:10	91:1, 105:5, 145:21,	170:20, 171:24,	45:15, 55:25, 58:11,	28:8, 163:19
124.10, 125.10			59:14, 89:17, 109:25,	TRI [2] - 1:22, 2:2
-	152:19, 170:8,	172:8, 172:20, 173:2,	114:5, 140:10, 141:9,	Tri [2] - 5:23, 93:6
Т	171:13, 174:11,	173:16, 174:9,	141:10, 142:8,	TRI-CITIES [2] -
T a a a m (100)0	175:8, 189:15	174:25, 180:9,	143:24, 148:14,	1:22, 2:2
T-o-r-e-m [1] - 162:6	territory [2] - 21:2,	182:16, 183:6,	151:24, 154:21,	Tri-Cities [2] - 5:23,
table [5] - 34:21,	127:5	183:21, 184:14,	158:13, 158:23,	93:6
83:25, 84:2, 144:12,	Tesla [4] - 126:5,	184:19, 185:19,	184:23, 185:4,	tried [1] - 203:1
145:15	126:6, 126:9, 126:11	186:15, 187:7, 187:9,	185:10, 186:6, 188:3,	trigger [1] - 34:5
TAKEN [1] - 1:18	Teslas [1] - 126:4	188:6, 188:22,	192:7, 193:5, 210:24	triple [1] - 76:1
talent [1] - 14:4	testified [1] - 5:14	188:25, 189:3,	together [8] - 17:21,	trouble [1] - 129:17
talks [4] - 69:6,	testify [1] - 218:12	190:16, 191:6,	18:15, 19:13, 19:21,	true [11] - 52:3,
116:15, 130:3, 167:17	testifying [1] - 209:7	194:10, 195:14,	44:19, 62:12, 78:8,	66:21, 108:1, 108:3,
tankers [1] - 123:16	testimony [10] -	196:20, 197:19,	125:8	117:1, 117:13,
target [1] - 115:9	48:25, 158:24,	198:2, 199:13,	tolling [1] - 24:6	166:11, 209:2, 213:8,
tariff [2] - 25:6, 54:7	198:11, 198:17,	200:10, 200:25,	tomorrow [1] - 65:25	217:19, 218:15
TCP [5] - 139:14,	210:8, 217:19,	201:17, 203:17,	tongue [1] - 47:2	trust [1] - 187:10
141:13, 145:19,	217:20, 218:8,	204:24, 205:18,	took [2] - 5:9, 101:11	truth [4] - 5:12, 5:13,
146:13, 185:13	218:12, 218:16	206:8, 206:15, 207:9,	toppenish [1] - 3:10	218:12
TCPs [4] - 141:21,	Tetra [10] - 12:14,	207:16, 208:6,	Torem [3] - 162:2,	-
142:2, 142:17, 146:16	12:24, 13:3, 13:8,	208:20, 210:10,	162:5, 178:14	try [13] - 6:5, 6:19,
team [5] - 13:20,	13:22, 14:1, 16:16,	210:20, 211:5, 211:8,	total [1] - 50:10	17:21, 31:18, 51:22,
15:17, 33:20, 94:15,	64:12, 121:3, 134:9	212:17, 213:24,	tour [1] - 151:5	52:1, 52:19, 70:13,
150:1	THE [147] - 1:1, 1:4,	214:19, 215:20, 217:3		80:17, 117:7, 144:6,
Tech [10] - 12:14,	1:18, 2:2, 2:7, 2:12,	themselves [3] -	towards [5] - 10:21,	154:6, 192:15
12:24, 13:3, 13:8,	3:7, 15:8, 17:3, 17:6,	61:12, 131:8, 153:24	16:7, 85:1, 153:23,	trying [23] - 9:21,
13:23, 14:1, 16:16,		therein [2] - 217:19,	180:18	9:22, 9:25, 11:5, 12:9,
	22:18, 36:8, 42:16,	218:10	traditional [12] -	34:22, 39:25, 43:15,
64:12, 121:3, 134:10	43:12, 45:4, 49:2,	THEREUPON [1] -	138:23, 139:23,	50:7, 50:15, 74:23,
technical [2] - 112:4,	52:23, 53:20, 56:12,	216:9	140:13, 142:10,	84:23, 90:21, 148:9,
150:2	59:6, 59:19, 60:17,	thermal [1] - 128:6	144:17, 145:1, 145:6,	148:11, 156:6,
technically [1] -	63:25, 71:14, 72:1,	they've [10] - 33:19,	145:11, 146:21,	171:10, 180:16,
47:19	72:20, 75:8, 77:19,	38:9, 92:8, 146:9,	185:12, 186:10,	194:18, 198:15,
technique [1] -	78:5, 79:6, 80:6,	150:5, 163:19,	205:14	203:21, 207:17, 209:3
110:14	86:10, 90:10, 91:23,	172:21, 173:20,	transcribed [2] -	turbine [58] - 27:16,
technology [13] -	99:1, 99:24, 101:8,		6:23, 218:14	27:24, 28:1, 28:19,
8:3, 52:13, 58:5,	102:13, 103:14,	181:8, 206:19 thickly [1] - 69:3	TRANSCRIPT[1] -	29:9, 30:16, 32:7,
58:11, 58:15, 69:12,	105:17, 106:12,		217:3	32:8, 33:21, 33:25,
108:17, 113:3,	108:3, 108:6, 109:20,	thinking [3] - 24:17,	transcript [4] -	37:22, 49:11, 49:25,
114:19, 126:21,	110:20, 112:19,	59:15, 82:15	217:20, 218:9,	55:5, 63:5, 71:10,
128:23, 212:5, 212:9	113:13, 113:25,	third [2] - 67:14,	218:15, 218:17	71:15, 71:18, 71:22,
Telephone [1] -	114:23, 116:5,	167:20	transfer [1] - 134:10	71:23, 72:2, 72:6,
110:19	117:25, 121:14,	thirds [1] - 124:4	transferred [1] -	72:14, 74:4, 75:4,
ten [4] - 83:12,	123:7, 123:14,	THISDAY [1]	170:22	75:10, 76:4, 76:14,
83:13, 110:1, 110:3	125:18, 129:15,	- 217:23	transition [1] - 43:25	76:15, 76:22, 77:13,
tendency [1] - 132:1	131:16, 133:2,	threat [1] - 214:24	transitioned [1] -	77:15, 78:7, 79:25,
tentative [1] - 158:4	133:15, 140:20,	three [4] - 8:14,	8:11	80:3, 80:7, 80:21,
term [7] - 41:18,	141:17, 142:13,	175:17, 181:8, 205:4	transmission [14] -	81:11, 83:2, 83:3,
41:23, 145:9, 160:25,	143:9, 144:11, 147:1,	throes [1] - 83:21	18:11, 19:22, 20:4,	87:15, 87:25, 88:16,
172:13, 174:3, 197:10	147:20, 148:17,	throughout [1] -	24:10, 24:13, 25:6,	95:3, 98:15, 157:23,
terminate [2] - 39:17,	149:21, 152:7, 153:1,	193:4	41:15, 44:16, 47:25,	178:1, 179:15, 184:7,
54:10	153:8, 153:14,	throw [1] - 81:21	48:19, 64:16, 86:15,	184:10, 192:25,
terminated [7] -	153:20, 154:2,	thumb [1] - 209:25	87:2, 87:4	193:18, 195:10,
53:7, 53:22, 53:25,	155:22, 156:23,	tie [5] - 36:23, 86:24,	transmitted [2] -	195:24, 196:14, 199:3
54:12, 65:5, 65:24,	157:15, 159:23,	87:2, 87:3, 87:4	41:7, 64:15	turbines [101] -
66:22	161:14, 162:18,	timeframe [2] -	transportation [2] -	28:11, 30:3, 30:15,
terminology [4] -	163:10, 163:16,	28:20, 134:17	137:22, 179:2	31:9, 33:4, 33:11,
- 57 (1)				

				-
22.00 25.0 25.5	ture thinds	70.00 01.01 06.10	105:2, 122:10,	170.0 170.10
33:22, 35:2, 35:5,	two-thirds [1] -	79:22, 81:21, 86:19,		179:8, 179:13,
45:19, 47:19, 48:3,	124:4	86:25, 107:10,	180:17, 184:8	180:12, 182:10,
49:4, 49:21, 51:24,	tying [1] - 105:18	114:25, 116:13,	vendors [2] - 31:16,	182:22, 183:13,
52:8, 52:12, 54:25,	type [5] - 17:20,	123:1, 126:5, 127:8,	31:17	183:23, 184:2,
55:1, 58:4, 62:5,	31:17, 32:4, 58:5,	129:25, 133:7, 140:4,	vented [2] - 132:17,	184:16, 184:20,
62:10, 62:18, 62:20,	62:5	140:20, 141:19,	132:18	184:22, 185:2, 186:5,
62:21, 62:22, 62:23,	typically [2] - 56:12,	164:8, 165:6, 193:14,	verbal [1] - 140:15	186:17, 187:2,
63:4, 63:5, 63:10,	110:20	196:4, 198:25,	vernacular [1] -	187:12, 188:1, 188:8,
63:18, 64:3, 71:9,		202:12, 209:14,	107:9	189:6, 190:24,
73:1, 73:4, 73:16,	U	211:3, 213:2, 213:10,	version [6] - 11:24,	191:16, 192:5, 215:13
73:24, 73:25, 74:2,		213:13, 213:19	27:16, 148:6, 179:20	voidance [1] -
74:7, 74:10, 74:14,	ultimate [5] - 31:22,	update [6] - 30:17,	versus [4] - 72:4,	183:16
77:5, 77:8, 77:10,	34:16, 105:20, 196:7,	30:21, 30:23, 31:15,	103:15, 152:18,	voltage [2] - 19:22,
77:23, 78:2, 79:3,	196:9	31:18, 117:25	205:13	20:1
79:6, 80:2, 80:14,	ultimately [5] - 8:8,	Updated [1] - 4:10	via [8] - 2:9, 2:15,	
81:2, 83:6, 83:7,	37:5, 97:13, 107:15,	updated [14] - 11:16,	3:5, 3:13, 3:14, 3:14,	W
84:12, 94:18, 95:6,	177:12	14:21, 17:1, 28:4,	3:15, 192:24	W 0.40
102:19, 103:1, 103:7,	Umatilla [1] - 108:25	31:13, 57:23, 68:1,	viability [1] - 109:15	Wa [1] - 3:10
103:10, 103:15,	unappealable [3] -	93:25, 94:17, 100:3,	viable [9] - 24:20,	WA [5] - 1:13, 2:5,
105:6, 106:2, 113:1,	55:20, 55:23, 83:21	100:9, 115:9, 180:10,	28:18, 36:5, 36:10,	2:9, 2:14, 5:7
147:2, 177:8, 180:4,	uncertain [1] - 17:23	191:23	37:10, 58:10, 90:20,	WAC [3] - 100:23,
180:25, 183:1, 183:9,	unclear [1] - 96:13	updates [3] - 96:6,	92:11, 102:24	101:4, 101:20
193:14, 194:7,	under [19] - 7:4,	190:13, 190:25	vicinity [3] - 186:24,	WACs [2] - 101:17,
194:11, 194:12,	12:16, 12:24, 16:8,	upgrade [1] - 113:16	187:3, 195:3	178:18
194:20, 194:23,	38:15, 60:1, 117:17,	upgrades [3] - 54:18,	video [1] - 214:13	wages [1] - 105:1
195:2, 195:17,	120:14, 148:7,	54:21, 173:17	videos [2] - 126:3,	wait [3] - 131:14,
195:19, 196:17,	161:17, 161:21,	UPON [1] - 1:11	214:9	133:18, 184:12
197:4, 197:7, 198:19,	163:20, 165:20,	uses [8] - 202:13,	viewshed [1] - 33:17	waiting [1] - 150:7
199:4, 203:13,	192:15, 196:23,	204:14, 204:20,	vintages [1] - 79:23	wake [13] - 76:20,
203:19, 203:22,	209:10, 216:5,	205:3, 209:11,	violating [1] - 19:5	76:21, 77:1, 77:5,
205:21, 206:18,	217:18, 218:14	211:23, 213:14,	visual [4] - 137:24,	77:10, 77:14, 77:21,
206:22, 206:24,	underground [1] -	213:20	138:9, 178:21, 184:8	78:2, 78:14, 79:2,
207:12, 209:1,	194:1	utilities [17] - 17:8,	Voelckers [2] - 3:8,	79:14, 80:15, 80:19
209:12, 209:14,	undersigned [1] -	17:15, 25:7, 26:24,	138:16	wakes [2] - 76:14,
209:24, 210:1, 210:6,	218:3	89:20, 89:23, 89:25,	VOELCKERS [79] -	80:8
210:17	understood [1] -	90:1, 90:6, 90:13,	4:5, 138:14, 140:22,	Walla [20] - 118:7,
turbulence [8] -	154:17	91:1, 92:12, 93:3,	142:3, 142:18,	118:14, 119:9,
76:24, 78:14, 79:2,	uneven [1] - 81:6	108:1, 109:11,	143:16, 144:14,	119:21, 123:21,
79:14, 80:20, 80:23,	unique [1] - 156:9	110:21, 119:5	144:21, 147:8,	168:3, 171:7, 171:17,
81:2, 81:4	unit [1] - 103:23	utilities' [1] - 92:24	147:23, 148:22,	174:17, 175:10
turn [12] - 49:21,	units [1] - 214:4	utility [6] - 21:2,	149:23, 150:17,	wants [3] - 86:3,
59:25, 81:23, 93:22,	unless [1] - 28:16	24:3, 91:2, 92:1,	150:19, 151:20,	106:13, 157:16
115:10, 124:1, 130:2,	unmitigable [1] -	126:12, 168:1	152:11, 153:3, 153:9,	warning [1] - 177:23
150:18, 167:12, 167:10, 186:18, 211:4	145:19	utilize [1] - 24:8	153:15, 153:21,	warrant [1] - 80:11
167:19, 186:18, 211:4	unreasonable [5] -	utilized [2] - 146:7,	154:13, 156:1, 157:8,	warranted [1] - 129:4
turned [1] - 119:11	160:12, 160:14,	146:10	157:21, 158:3, 160:2,	warranty [1] - 80:13
turns [1] - 36:12	160:20, 182:21,	utilizes [1] - 200:12	161:16, 162:7,	washes [1] - 175:17
twigs [1] - 181:2	212:10	utilizing [1] - 18:9	162:12, 163:1,	WASHINGTON [1] -
two [32] - 37:6,	unveiled [1] - 152:9		163:11, 163:23,	1:1
39:12, 39:13, 57:1,	up [60] - 8:13, 10:2,	V	164:13, 164:23,	Washington [2] -
57:3, 59:16, 60:17,	16:4, 21:14, 31:2,	-	165:7, 165:16, 166:6,	5:21, 218:5
64:15, 64:16, 67:19,	33:5, 34:8, 36:14,	vaguely [2] - 204:13,	166:17, 167:8,	waste [1] - 29:24
80:19, 81:1, 82:2, 85:16, 88:20, 04:7	38:10, 39:1, 39:3,	204:19	168:19, 169:3,	watch [1] - 128:19
85:16, 88:20, 94:7, 95:2, 95:6, 98:15	40:19, 44:8, 45:17,	valid [2] - 117:16,	169:14, 170:1,	water [94] - 77:1,
95:2, 95:6, 98:15, 118:15, 124:4, 124:7	47:21, 48:7, 50:18,	170:15	170:24, 172:2,	116:11, 116:16,
118:15, 124:4, 124:7, 131:23, 144:7, 146:3	53:4, 54:14, 58:13,	value [1] - 146:10	172:14, 172:23,	116:18, 116:24,
131:23, 144:7, 146:3, 151:18, 181:22	61:13, 65:14, 65:15,	vaporize [1] - 132:17	173:7, 173:24,	117:7, 117:10,
151:18, 181:22, 186:1, 188:16	65:16, 66:7, 66:13,	various [12] - 6:24,	174:13, 175:4,	117:11, 117:12,
186:1, 188:16, 209:14, 211:13	66:24, 67:5, 67:6,	8:10, 13:5, 13:7, 13:9,	175:19, 175:21,	117:14, 117:19,
203.14, 211.13	67:15, 77:1, 78:8,	26:24, 41:17, 43:16,	176:5, 177:24, 178:9,	117:21, 118:1, 118:2,

118:3, 118:13,	west [17] - 10:24,	93:5, 93:14, 106:2,	170:20, 171:24,	178:12, 178:17,
118:18, 118:19,	11:2, 37:9, 40:10,	113:1, 147:2, 178:1,	172:8, 172:20, 173:2,	178:18, 185:6, 186:10
118:20, 118:21,	63:20, 63:22, 64:17,	179:15, 179:19,	173:16, 174:9,	YAKIMA[1] - 3:7
118:25, 119:4, 119:5,	82:13, 84:20, 86:20,	206:15, 206:18,	174:25, 180:9,	vear [10] - 26:8, 43:5,
		206:22, 206:24,	182:16, 183:6,	45:23, 45:24, 45:25,
119:6, 119:10,	87:9, 127:4, 141:19,			
119:12, 119:19,	141:24, 188:13,	207:11, 208:25,	183:21, 185:19,	46:16, 47:4, 136:10,
120:23, 121:8,	188:14, 188:16	209:6, 209:11,	186:15, 187:7, 187:9,	175:17
121:15, 121:23,	western [1] - 57:11	209:15, 209:24,	188:6, 188:22,	years [13] - 8:6,
121:25, 122:10,	Western [1] - 13:6	210:1, 210:6, 210:17	188:25, 189:3,	107:17, 107:19,
122:18, 122:19,	wheat [1] - 181:13	Wind [7] - 4:10, 8:14,	190:16, 191:6,	110:1, 110:3, 113:15,
122:21, 122:22,	Wheatridge [2] -	195:24, 199:7,	194:10, 195:14,	115:21, 118:16,
123:2, 123:10,	108:24, 125:2	204:16, 205:12, 210:4	196:20, 197:19,	163:4, 176:10,
123:16, 124:1, 124:8,	wheel [1] - 25:4	Windpower [2] -	198:2, 199:13,	181:18, 181:22, 186:1
125:9, 126:24,	wheeled [1] - 26:1	9:20, 10:3	200:10, 200:25,	yourself [3] - 13:12,
128:20, 132:22,	wheeler [1] - 25:21	winning [1] - 107:22	201:17, 203:17,	89:15, 135:18
133:5, 163:3, 163:7,	wheeling [2] - 25:11,	winter [4] - 92:16,	204:24, 205:18,	
163:12, 163:16,	25:24	92:18, 92:23	206:8, 206:15, 207:9,	Z
163:25, 164:15,	WHEREOF [1] -	wire [1] - 194:1	207:16, 208:6,	-
164:21, 165:10,	218:21	wires [2] - 42:5, 57:7	208:20, 210:10,	zero [1] - 175:18
165:22, 166:4,	whichever [1] -	wise [2] - 8:2, 197:8	210:20, 211:8,	zfoster@mjbe.com
166:20, 166:22,	57:13	Wiser [1] - 1:13	212:17, 213:24,	[1] - 2:11
167:3, 167:18,	whittling [1] - 104:22	Wiser [1] - 1.13 Witness [3] - 116:13,	214:19, 215:20,	zoning [4] - 16:9,
167:25, 168:4,	••••	189:3, 213:10	218:21	204:15, 205:22,
168:10, 168:11,	whole [13] - 5:13,		witness [2] - 12:2,	205:24
168:22, 169:6, 170:3,	20:11, 55:11, 82:20,	WITNESS [134] - 4:4,	218:11	Zoom [9] - 2:9, 2:15,
170:4, 170:11,	109:15, 112:6,	15:8, 17:3, 17:6,	wonderful [2] - 60:10	3:5, 3:13, 3:14, 3:14,
170:15, 170:21,	145:18, 151:21,	22:18, 36:8, 42:16,	word [3] - 14:12,	
171:2, 171:8, 171:14,	152:15, 155:11,	43:12, 45:4, 49:2,	154:24, 171:10	3:15, 175:22, 176:4
171:20, 172:6,	155:12, 160:6, 209:23	52:23, 53:20, 56:12,		
172:12, 172:17,	wholesale [1] - 25:19	59:6, 60:17, 63:25,	words [4] - 14:7,	
173:9, 173:10,	wide [1] - 194:2	71:14, 72:1, 72:20,	50:15, 146:5, 175:1	
	wildlife [2] - 13:5,	75:8, 77:19, 78:5,	works [8] - 30:25,	
173:12, 174:2, 174:6,	184:8	79:6, 80:6, 86:10,	49:5, 58:22, 83:14,	
174:12, 174:14,	WILLA [1] - 3:5	90:10, 91:23, 99:1,	120:8, 128:4, 191:19,	
174:18, 175:2,	Willa.perlmutter@	99:24, 101:8, 102:13,	201:25	
175:11, 175:15,	stoel.com [1] - 3:6	103:14, 105:17,	WPD [3] - 38:1, 38:8,	
189:15, 191:22,	willing [2] - 10:2,	106:12, 108:3, 108:6,	38:21	
214:14	20:20	109:20, 110:20,	write [5] - 13:11,	
Watson [1] - 179:25	WIND [1] - 1:7	112:19, 113:13,	14:18, 14:20, 94:12,	
waves [1] - 77:3	wind [86] - 9:10,	113:25, 114:23,	121:2	
ways [2] - 18:15,	10:3, 10:24, 21:11,	116:5, 117:25,	writing [2] - 94:9,	
37:18	22:21, 23:5, 24:2,	121:14, 123:7,	132:4	
WDFW [7] - 176:10,	35:25, 36:1, 37:2,	123:14, 125:18,	written [1] - 13:2	
176:15, 177:10,	38:16, 39:5, 39:7,	129:15, 131:16,	wrote [8] - 12:13,	
177:15, 179:19,	39:20, 40:12, 41:11,	133:2, 133:15,	12:22, 16:15, 16:16,	
180:20, 182:16	42:23, 42:24, 42:25,	140:20, 141:17,	60:8, 64:10, 97:3,	
WDFW's [3] - 182:8,		142:13, 143:9,	121:3	
182:11, 183:3	43:4, 44:2, 44:4, 44:9, 45:13, 45:10, 47:5	144:11, 147:1,		
Webber [3] - 67:2,	45:13, 45:19, 47:5,	147:20, 148:17,	Y	
141:3, 141:5	47:6, 47:12, 47:14,	149:21, 152:7, 153:1,	I	
website [2] - 11:23,	47:18, 50:10, 50:12,	153:8, 153:14,	Yakima [30] - 2:9,	
12:6	51:20, 52:18, 58:2,	153:20, 154:2,	7:17, 83:18, 138:6,	
week [2] - 34:8,	61:22, 62:2, 62:6,	155:22, 156:23,	138:16, 138:22,	
140:25	62:10, 62:18, 62:19,	157:15, 159:23,	139:6, 139:22,	
weeks [1] - 9:25	62:21, 62:22, 64:3,	161:14, 162:18,	140:12, 141:4, 142:2,	
Welch's [1] - 163:18	65:4, 65:23, 67:4,	163:10, 163:16,	142:9, 142:17,	
welfare [1] - 211:20	67:10, 67:19, 68:3,	164:7, 164:20, 165:5,	143:10, 144:12,	
wells [8] - 117:3,	68:5, 72:16, 72:20,	165:14, 166:2,	144:16, 144:25,	
117:5, 122:20, 164:8,	73:1, 74:3, 76:22,	166:15, 167:1,	145:3, 145:13, 146:6,	
164:12, 165:6, 168:2,	77:6, 78:5, 78:7,	168:16, 169:1,	146:21, 147:10,	
187:14	80:21, 81:6, 81:9,	169:10, 169:24,	149:5, 149:7, 178:4,	
107.14	83:19, 85:12, 85:22,	100.10, 100.24,		