

## **DISCLAIMER**

The transcripts of the City of Los Angeles' four public hearings -- held January 4 at Van Nuys City Hall, January 7 at the Council District 11 Field office in Westchester, January 11 at the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power's office downtown, and January 12 at the Witherbee Auditorium -- are now available for viewing on the City's website: [www.lacity-irp.org](http://www.lacity-irp.org) . The transcripts were prepared by certified court reporters and have been accepted by the City as reasonably accurate records of the public hearings. The City is not soliciting comments on the transcripts. The City is making the transcripts available through its website in the spirit of sharing information with those who have a common interest in the Integrated Resources Plan and its Draft Environmental Impact Report.

## **NEXT STEPS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESS**

The public comment period will close on March 31, 2006 and the City's environmental documentation team will begin the process of preparing the Final Environmental Impact Report. All comments -- written in letters and emails, or voiced at one of the four public hearings -- will be carefully reviewed and considered. The comments and responses to the comments will be published as a part of the Final EIR. The public will be notified as soon as the Final EIR is available.

Los Angeles, California, Thursday, January 12, 2006

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MR. DOTY: We do have a Spanish translator en route, and we were hoping to wait until she was here. Also there were a lot of people trying to get through the signing-in process. Since the public hearing is for the public, we will get started in about five minutes.

For those of you looking for the strategically superior position to take in the auditorium when we take public comments, you'll be speaking from this microphone down here in the front to your right.

Okay. I think we can get started now.

Good evening. My name is Jim Doty. I am an environmental supervisor with the City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works' Bureau of Engineering, and I will be the hearing officer tonight. Thank you all for attending. This is the fourth public hearing for the Integrated Resources Plan Environmental Impact Report, which we lovingly call the IRP EIR.

We had planned to have simultaneous Spanish translation, but that hasn't been set up yet. Could you find out if there are people who want Spanish?

(Audience queried in Spanish.) Okay. I think we're good to go.

1           Okay. I assume they were saying hi to  
2 neighbors and friends. It looked like an English wave  
3 anyway.

4           I hope you signed in in the lobby on one of the  
5 sign-in sheets. I also hope you picked up an agenda.  
6 Yes, today we have agendas. After this brief  
7 introduction, there will be a short presentation giving  
8 an overview of the IRP and the EIR, and after that it  
9 will be your turn to speak and our job to listen.

10          Speaker cards are available in the lobby. I  
11 have quite a few here. If you would like to speak,  
12 please fill out one of the cards, and you can put it in  
13 the box in the lobby or hand it to one of the IRP team  
14 members. And with that let me have the IRP team members  
15 introduce yourselves -- name, rank, serial number. And  
16 let's go counterclockwise this time.

17           (Introductions from the audience.)

18          Okay. Did we get everybody? Okay. Little  
19 housekeeping matters -- the restrooms and drinking  
20 fountains -- you go out the lobby, make a left, go past  
21 the angry ostrich, through the double doors, and it's on  
22 your right. The penguins are around to your right,  
23 which you probably already know.

24          Okay. The City of Los Angeles's Department of  
25 Public Works and Department of Water and Power have

1 worked for quite a while with leaders from many  
2 organizations and agencies in developing alternatives  
3 and setting priorities for the city's Integrated  
4 Resources Plan. It has given us the opportunity to  
5 interact closely with stakeholders in many informal  
6 public meetings and workshops.

7 This public hearing is different. This is a  
8 formal process. Everything said today is being recorded  
9 by our court reporter and will be part of a formal  
10 record for the preparation of the final environmental  
11 impact document. Public participation is an essential  
12 part of the CEQA process.

13 The purposes of review of the EIR include  
14 sharing expertise, disclosing agency analyses, checking  
15 for accuracy, detecting omissions, discovering public  
16 concerns, and soliciting counterproposals. We hope you  
17 will focus on whether the EIR sufficiently identifies  
18 and analyzes the IRP's possible environmental impacts  
19 and ways in which the significant effects of the project  
20 might be avoided or mitigated.

21 Comments are most helpful when they suggest  
22 additional specific alternatives or mitigation measures  
23 that would provide better ways to avoid or mitigate  
24 significant environmental effects. At the same time  
25 keep in mind that the adequacy of an EIR is determined

1 in terms of what is reasonably feasible in the light of  
2 factors such as the magnitude of the project itself, the  
3 severity of its likely environmental impact, and the  
4 geographic scope of the project. CEQA does not require  
5 lead agencies to conduct every test or perform all  
6 research, study, and experimentation recommended or  
7 demanded by commenters.

8 Commenters should explain the basis for their  
9 comments and should submit data or references offering facts,  
10 reasonable assumptions based on facts, expert opinions  
11 supported by facts. An effect will not be considered  
12 significant in the absence of substantial evidence.  
13 Reviewing organizations should include with their  
14 comments the name of a contact person who would be  
15 available for later consultation if necessary.

16 This public hearing is your opportunity to tell  
17 us what you think. Our job is to listen. We will  
18 receive your oral comments on the Draft EIR and then  
19 move on to the next speaker. We will not respond to  
20 your comments today, but we will respond in writing in  
21 the Final EIR. We greatly appreciate the time and  
22 effort that you are putting into this tonight.

23 And now I'd like to introduce Louis Utsumi, who  
24 will provide a technical review of the IRP and the EIR.

25 MR. UTSUMI: Thank you, Jim. Again, my name is

1 Louis Utsumi, and I'm part of the Integrated Resources  
2 Plan team that worked on the Environmental Impact  
3 Report. What I'd like to do today is provide a brief  
4 description of the alternatives that were included in  
5 the Environmental Impact Report as well as a brief  
6 summary of some of the primary impacts that are  
7 identified in the Environmental Impact Report.

8 Okay. The Integrated Resources Plan is the  
9 first wastewater facilities plan that's utilizing a  
10 stakeholder-driven alternative planning process. And  
11 when we say stakeholder-driven, we mean various  
12 community members and stakeholders that comprised a  
13 steering group actively participated in developing  
14 alternatives that are included in the EIR. The steering  
15 group helped develop the preliminary alternatives,  
16 helped evaluate them and screen them down to the  
17 alternatives that are included in the environmental  
18 document. All of the IRP alternatives meet future needs  
19 and future as well as current regulatory requirements.

20 The city of Los Angeles's population -- and  
21 this includes the population of the service area and the  
22 contract agencies that it serves -- is expected to grow  
23 by over approximately 800,000 persons over the next 20  
24 years or so, and this poses various wastewater  
25 management and water provisions challenges. In

1 addition, there is runoff quality aspects that are  
2 becoming increasingly regulated. So again all of the  
3 IRP alternatives will meet future needs, future  
4 wastewater needs, as well as regulatory requirements.

5 Some of the long-term benefits of the  
6 Integrated Resources Plan are cleaner rivers and  
7 beaches, and also it would mean improved public health  
8 and safety. And because the IRP alternatives will  
9 increase the amount of recycled water that's used, as  
10 well as beneficial uses -- urban runoff, we expect an  
11 increase in sustainability.

12 Okay. Each of the alternatives are comprised  
13 of numerous different mixes of wastewater, recycled  
14 water, and runoff management elements. All of the  
15 wastewater elements involve capacity expansions at one  
16 or more of the city's treatment plants, and these sewers  
17 can meet future needs and prevent overflow. And again  
18 with the increase in population, the city must meet and  
19 manage future wastewater flows safely and adequately.  
20 Recycled water elements would all increase the recycled  
21 water to offset the need to import water from outside of  
22 the city. And as it stands right now, about 85 percent  
23 of the water that the city uses is imported from outside  
24 of the city. The recycled water element would help offset  
25 the need to import water, and then the runoff element would  
26 all capture and beneficially reduce runoff to reduce

1 pollutants into the environment as well as to provide  
2 additional water resources.

3 Earlier -- at some earlier public meetings or  
4 public hearings we talked about -- I mentioned a  
5 half-inch-storm plan within the city of Los Angeles  
6 would produce 2.5 billion gallons of runoff, and it's  
7 actually 1.7. The 2.5 is -- billion is associated with  
8 the entire L.A. River watershed. But of the amount of  
9 runoff that's produced -- a fair chunk of that would be  
10 managed by the Integrated Resources Plan.

11 Okay. The Environmental Impact Report analyzes  
12 five alternatives. Four of the alternatives are the  
13 alternatives that were developed by the stakeholders and  
14 the steering group. Alternative 1 is based on the  
15 expansion of the Hyperion Treatment Plant in Playa del  
16 Rey. Alternative 2 is based on the expansion of the  
17 Tillman and L.A./Glendale water reclamation plant.  
18 Alternative 3 and 4 are based on expansion of wastewater  
19 capacity at the Tillman plant only. And the last  
20 alternative in the environmental document is Alternative  
21 5, the no project alternative, and this is required by  
22 the California Environmental Quality Act.

23 Okay. There are a lot of common features to  
24 all of the alternatives. They all involve treatment  
25 plant expansion at one or more of the plants. They all

1 involve the three new sewer systems -- excuse me --  
2 interceptor sewers. They involve wastewater storage at  
3 the Tillman, increased recycled water usage, and  
4 dry-weather- as well as wet-weather-runoff-management  
5 features.

6 Okay. We wanted to point out specifically the  
7 three new sewers that are going to extend from the Eagle  
8 Rock area of the city to the Tillman water reclamation  
9 plant. The first sewer is the northeast interceptor  
10 sewer, phase two. That sewer extends from the Eagle  
11 Rock area right there (indicating), past L.A./Glendale  
12 path to roughly Los Angeles Zoo parking lot. The second  
13 segment is the Glendale/Burbank interceptor sewer which  
14 extends from the L.A. Zoo parking lot area westward over  
15 to the Toluca Lake area. And then the last stretch of  
16 the new interceptor sewers would be the Valley Spring  
17 Lane interceptor sewer which would be from the Toluca  
18 Lake area over to the Tillman plant.

19 All right. Some of the main differences  
20 between the alternatives are the Alternative 1, again,  
21 would focus its capacity expansion at Hyperion Treatment  
22 Plant, and the current capacity of the Hyperion plant is  
23 450 million gallons per day. This alternative would  
24 expand that plant to 500 million gallons per day. This  
25 alternative -- actually let me back up slides. The

1 Hyperion plant is right here (indicating). This is the  
2 low point in the wastewater system. This alternative  
3 would manage a moderate or use a moderate level of  
4 recycled water up to 42,000 acre feet per year.

5 Alternative 2 would focus its capacity  
6 expansions at Tillman and the L.A./Glendale plant which  
7 would be -- Tillman is in the Sepulveda Floor Control  
8 Basin, and the Los Angeles plant is located just  
9 southeast of that. Alternative 2 would use a high level  
10 of recycled water at about 53,000 acre feet or up to  
11 53,000 acre feet per year.

12 Alternative 3 focuses its treatment expansion  
13 at the Tillman water reclamation plant, and it uses  
14 a moderate level of recycled water on the order of  
15 43,000 acre feet per year. It manages a lower level of  
16 runoff than the other alternatives. Alternative 1, 2,  
17 and 4 manage 42 percent of the dry-weather runoff  
18 generated in the city. Alternative 3 will manage  
19 26 percent. And then for wet-weather runoff,  
20 Alternative 3 will manage 39 percent, whereas the other  
21 alternatives will manage 47 percent.

22 And then the last alternative, Alternative 4,  
23 again, focuses its treatment capacity at Tillman, but it  
24 uses a high level of recycled water, up to 56,000 acre  
25 feet a year.

1           This is a rough overview of the alternatives  
2 that are in the EIR. Section 2 in the EIR provides a  
3 much greater level of detail, and if you want to get a  
4 more thorough understanding of the project, I urge to  
5 definitely review Chapter 2.

6           Okay, shifting gears a bit and focusing on the  
7 environmental impacts, the California Environmental  
8 Quality Act is the governing law which the city must  
9 comply with. This law requires that decision makers or  
10 the city's city council to consider the environmental  
11 consequences of their decision or the project before  
12 they approve that project. The law also requires that  
13 if a project is going to result in significant impacts  
14 or have the potential to result in significant impacts,  
15 that an Environmental Impact Report be prepared. So  
16 that's why we did an Environmental Impact Report for the  
17 IRP.

18           Okay. Some of these environmental analyses are  
19 summarized on this slide. We have aesthetics, air  
20 quality, geology, noise, public services, public  
21 cumulative impacts. All of these -- all of these  
22 resource areas are discussed in the Environmental Impact  
23 Report in Section 3. Some of the impacts that are  
24 significant after mitigation include air quality. Both  
25 construction and operation of the IRP alternatives will

1 result in emissions that exceed the significant  
2 threshold levels that are established by the South Coast  
3 Air Quality Management District, and because of that,  
4 we've identified the significant impacts.

5 There's also a potential for odors at the  
6 Hyperion Treatment Plant as well as the air treatment  
7 facilities that are proposed for northeast interceptor  
8 sewer phase two, Glendale/Burbank interceptor sewer, and  
9 the Valley Spring Lane interceptor sewer. Air treatment  
10 facilities will draw out the air from the sewer, treat  
11 it through multistage treatment process to remove the  
12 odor compounds, and then release the treated air to the  
13 atmosphere. But there still could be odors in close  
14 proximity to the air-treatment facilities.

15 Okay. The next impact is cultural resources.  
16 Archeological and paleontological resources are buried  
17 resources whose locations are not known, and if they are  
18 encountered during construction, they could be damaged.  
19 And that's considered to be significant.

20 Geology soils. Southern California is  
21 underlaid with numerous faults, and one fault is the  
22 Hollywood-Raymond fault. That fault crosses northeast  
23 Los Angeles, and the northeast interceptor sewer phase  
24 two is going to cross that fault. Mitigation measures  
25 have been identified to minimize the impacts of that,

1 but because earthquakes are unpredictable and the  
2 potential for rupture can't be completely discounted,  
3 and because of that, the EIR identifies that as a  
4 significant impact. There is also a potential for  
5 construction of new sewers to result in surface  
6 settlement. As the tunnelling advances and soil is  
7 removed, it could result in some settlement at the  
8 ground surface, so that's identified as a significant  
9 impact after mitigation.

10 Recreation. There are several construction  
11 sites from the northeast interceptor sewer phase two and  
12 for the Glendale/Burbank interceptor sewer that are  
13 proposed for recreational facilities or parks, and there  
14 are also permanent facilities that are proposed for  
15 recreational areas which are the air-treatment  
16 facilities. And both construction and operation of  
17 these facilities is going to basically result in a  
18 reduction in the amount of recreational area, and that's  
19 considered to be a significant impact.

20 Okay. The northeast interceptor sewer phase  
21 two and the Glendale/Burbank interceptor phase two --  
22 during construction there are several different job-site  
23 options. One of them is the Los Angeles Zoo parking  
24 lot. If that job site is selected, then that would  
25 result in a loss of parking spaces in the L.A. Zoo

1 parking lot on the order of up to 225 spaces. This loss  
2 would be for the duration of construction which would be  
3 three years each for NEIS and for GBIS, and that's  
4 considered to be a significant impact.

5 And then the last significant impact identified  
6 is the water quality. Because there is a possibility  
7 that new sewers could break during a major earthquake,  
8 wastewater within those sewers could get into the ground  
9 water, and that's considered to be a significant impact.

10 Okay. This is basically a summary of the main,  
11 primary impacts in the EIR, and again, Chapter 3 or  
12 Section 3 of the EIR has a much more thorough  
13 description and evaluation of the impacts.

14 What are the next steps in the process? We  
15 have this public hearing today, and all of the comments  
16 that are submitted at this hearing, as well as written  
17 comments submitted by the close of the comment period on  
18 February 27, will be all responded to, and all of the  
19 responses will be included in a Final Environmental  
20 Impact Report which is due in spring of 2006, this year.  
21 City staff will then make a recommendation for  
22 certification of the Final EIR as well as a  
23 recommendation for project approval. It would be one of  
24 the IRP alternatives, and that's expected sometime in  
25 summer of 2006.

1           Okay. Then comments, again, are due by  
2 February 27th at the address above, and you can also  
3 e-mail your comments to the e-mail address at the bottom  
4 of the slide. Okay. Thank you.

5           MR. DOTY: Thank you, Louis.

6           Now it is your turn to speak and my job to  
7 listen. First, a few ground rules -- we will go through  
8 the speaker cards. If you have not submitted a card,  
9 you may do so at any time prior to the close of the  
10 hearing. When you are called upon to speak, please  
11 begin by stating your name, and if you are representing  
12 an agency or a group, please tell us the name of that  
13 group. Please speak clearly so that your concerns can  
14 be recorded accurately, and I'm sure it would help our  
15 court reporter if you spelled your last name.

16           Please limit your comments to three minutes. I  
17 have 19 cards here already. If we went real fast, no  
18 time in between speakers, that's one hour. The last  
19 person to speak doesn't really want to wait an hour, but  
20 do take the time you need. If you -- if you cannot say  
21 it all within the three minutes, you will have an  
22 opportunity to come back to the microphone after the  
23 rest of the speakers have had their say.

24           Also in view of time, there may be a few people  
25 here who were at previous hearings. If your comments

1 remain the same, it is not necessary for you to speak a  
2 second time. We have your concerns down, and we are  
3 even now starting to address them. However, you are, of  
4 course, at liberty to speak a second time.

5 If, in the course of the evening, the  
6 statements you would have made are made clearly by  
7 somebody before you, please feel free to stand up where  
8 you are or say loudly enough for the court reporter to  
9 hear you, "What I would have said has already been said,  
10 so I do not need to speak." And I'm sure that that will  
11 speed things on a bit.

12 We have a microphone set up over here to your  
13 right down in front. Please come to that microphone so  
14 that your words can be heard clearly by all.

15 All right. The first speaker is Lynn Brown.  
16 After Lynn Brown the next speaker will be Rodney  
17 Andersen.

18 MS. BROWN: Good evening. I'm Lynn Brown,  
19 Equestrian Trails Incorporated. There's many concerns  
20 that we have about this project, and I understand that  
21 these are not questions that can be answered at this  
22 time. So my -- there are several things that I would  
23 like to clarify or at least put forth.

24 One of my biggest concerns is the staging area  
25 that you're talking about. If the staging area, for

1 example, was in Pecan Grove, that -- does that not  
2 represent a huge disruption and closure of the trail for  
3 the long periods of time to public use? Wherever it's  
4 staging is going to be a major disruption.

5 My understanding is that there are parts of  
6 the -- there have been requests that perhaps that the  
7 drilling take place up the Los Angeles River as opposed  
8 to running it through either the park or through  
9 people's homes or through home areas.

10 Another concern I've heard of is that if it  
11 were to be in the pollywog, not only would you have a  
12 very odiferous belching station right there, backing up  
13 against the homes, but a large construction of a service  
14 house of some sort. Another field that I've heard --  
15 which I'm not sure is true -- it would result in the  
16 permanent closure of pollywog to all equestrian  
17 activity, and that would be a concern, a great concern  
18 aside from the home owner values that are a concern of  
19 the property owners, the fact that it would cut across  
20 the equestrian center, cut across Betty Davis Park, cut  
21 into Pecan Grove with all the old oak trees and the old  
22 sycamores. These are all concerns of ours. We would  
23 greatly prefer, if possible, to run it up the L.A.  
24 River, which I understand also from sources in the park  
25 that the park does not wish for this project to take

1 place in the park. And of course, the home owners don't  
2 wish for it to take place in their homes. This is a  
3 very difficult situation.

4 I'm concerned when you talk about the air  
5 quality after mitigation, that it's still going to smell  
6 like a sewer. Boy, that's a detrimental idea to be  
7 considered. I have to look further into it in order to  
8 be able to make more intelligent comments. I didn't  
9 expect to be the first rattle out of the box here.

10 But these are our concerns is that there is  
11 loss of recreation, loss of trails. To run it up  
12 through on the south side is the major access to -- for  
13 all the recreational trails for that equestrian area.  
14 That is the way we get to the park. So that's a big  
15 concern. From that standpoint as well, these people are  
16 very concerned about the loss of the pollywog area and  
17 the home owner's value. Thank you.

18 MR. DOTY: Rodney Andersen, and next speaker  
19 after Mr. Andersen would be Gail Just.

20 MR. ANDERSEN: Good evening. And yes, my name  
21 is Rodney Andersen, and I'm with the City of Burbank's  
22 Public Works and representing the City of Burbank  
23 tonight. We have made comments at the public hearing in  
24 Van Nuys. I wanted to elaborate a little bit on those  
25 comments and again express the strong opinion of our

1 council who are all in agreement with the comments from  
2 an earlier meeting that we've had. And I believe our  
3 mayor is also going to speak tonight if there's time.

4 The City of Burbank appreciates the opportunity  
5 to come in and comment again, and while we understand  
6 the need for City of L.A. to expand and improve its  
7 wastewater system and recycle-water system and  
8 storm-water system, these improvements should not create  
9 significant, adverse impacts on neighboring cities.

10 Unfortunately, the Glendale/Burbank interceptor sewer  
11 north alignment alternative would create unavoidable,  
12 significant, adverse environmental impacts to Burbank  
13 residents and businesses. The City of Burbank is  
14 adamantly opposed to the northern alignment and requests  
15 the Final Environmental Impact Report characterize the  
16 northern alignment as an environmentally inferior  
17 alternative and urges the City of L.A. to reject that  
18 alternative. The GBIS northern alignment would create  
19 significant construction and operational related  
20 impacts. The northern alignment includes tunnelling  
21 under Burbank residential properties and businesses  
22 along several -- and adding maintenance holes along  
23 several Burbank streets.

24 Of particular concern are the proposed shaft  
25 sites adjacent to the city of Burbank. Specifics on our

1 issues with the shaft site and with the project concerns  
2 will be included in a letter that we will be sending  
3 shortly. The thing includes problems with the  
4 aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, geology  
5 and soils, land use and planning, noise and vibration,  
6 population, housing, employment, recreation, and traffic  
7 transportation. In each of those areas the Draft  
8 Environmental Impact Report addresses we see problems  
9 with the GBIS northern alignment.

10 In summary, Burbank's waste in the Draft EIR is  
11 currently inadequate because it fails to disclose and  
12 analyze all potentially significant, adverse  
13 environmental impacts. The Draft EIR fails to provide  
14 comparative analysis between the two alignments. If  
15 analysis was done in Draft EIR, it would clearly show  
16 that the GBIS south alignment is the environmentally  
17 superior alternative.

18 In light of CEQA's mandate that a public agency  
19 should not approve a project where feasible alternatives  
20 would substantially lessen environmental impacts, the  
21 City of Burbank urges L.A. to reject the GBIS north  
22 alignment. Thank you.

23 MR. DOTY: Thank you, Mr. Andersen. Gail Just.  
24 The next speaker will be James Franken.

25 MS. JUST: Hello, my name is Gail Just. I live

1 at 2015 Riverside Drive in the city of Burbank in the  
2 community called the Rancho. My comments today are in  
3 reference to the GBIS, the Glendale/Burbank interceptor  
4 sewer. There are two alternative plans to the GBIS.  
5 One, the south alignment past Forest Lawn Drive, and  
6 it's on the south side of the 134 freeway. The other,  
7 the north alignment, runs through Burbank and  
8 necessitates the building of a sewage-air-treatment  
9 facility in the heart of a residential community and  
10 equestrian community, my community, the Rancho.

11 The impact on the Rancho, a unique and special  
12 neighborhood, should the north alignment be built, would  
13 be devastating. The introduction of a  
14 sewage-air-treatment facility, something in an  
15 industrial style connect, complete with chain-link  
16 fencing and barbed wire would bring urban blight to  
17 suburban bliss, unmitigatable. The loss of pollywog,  
18 the urban sphere with 250 Rancho and 500  
19 equestrian-center horses have the opportunity to  
20 exercise, train, discipline, and frolic would be  
21 disastrous for our community. There is only one field  
22 in the Rancho. Pollywog is it. The impacts,  
23 unmitigatable.

24 In reviewing the EIR several things in regard  
25 to pollywog caught my attention. The site was referred

1 to as a vacant parcel. This is misleading. Pollywog is  
2 a field that belongs to the Los Angeles Department of  
3 Recreation and Parks. To my knowledge it is a piece of  
4 Griffith Park that was severed with the building of the  
5 134 freeway. Pollywog is not an empty piece of asphalt  
6 begging to be developed. Pollywog is a recreational  
7 site that is the pulse of the community it serves.

8 The Environmental Impact Report also refers to  
9 this parcel as an equestrian trail, and the EIR assures  
10 us that the construction impacts to this equestrian  
11 trail would be less than significant. Let me assure  
12 you, nothing could be further from the truth. Pollywog  
13 is not only nor merely an equestrian trail. The impacts  
14 will be very significant. Pollywog will be irrevocably  
15 transformed. The original intent for the use of the  
16 land will be thwarted.

17 In the EIR they referred to thresholds of  
18 significance. The EIR states -- and I quote --  
19 "Determination of significant and land-use consistency  
20 and compatibility shall be made on a case-by-case basis  
21 considering the following factors: Whether the proposal  
22 is inconsistent with the adopted land use or specific  
23 plan for the site." I submit that the original intent  
24 for this land as part of Griffith Park was for  
25 recreational use and enjoyment, and I thoroughly submit

1 that that is exactly the function that pollywog fills  
2 now. The EIR further states, "Based on these factors,  
3 an alternative would have a significant land-use impact  
4 if it would --" and then they designate it LU-2 "--  
5 introduce permanent features that would disrupt, divide,  
6 or isolate existing neighborhoods, communities, or land  
7 uses." Building the ATF in pollywog field would  
8 absolutely disrupt our neighborhoods, it would  
9 absolutely disrupt our community, and it would  
10 absolutely disrupt land uses. Part of the problem --

11 MR. DOTY: One minute.

12 MS. JUST: Part of the problem with the EIR  
13 conclusion about this vacant parcel is that the report  
14 has made a serious omission by not recognizing the  
15 Rancho zoning as an equestrian community. This omission  
16 would leave the report to call an equestrian site a  
17 vacant parcel. And to conclude that once the ATF was  
18 built, all negative impacts would be mitigated, the  
19 draft conclusion is incorrect. The north alignment is  
20 misguided and ill-advised, and I'm here tonight to say  
21 that the City of Los Angeles has a southern alternative,  
22 and they should embrace it. Thank you.

23 MR. DOTY: Thank you. James Franken, and the  
24 next speaker will be Mary Schindler.

25 MR. FRANKEN: James Franken, F-r-a-n-k-e-n,

1 1320 Riverside Drive. I'm speaking out tonight to state  
2 my opposition to the GBIS northern alignment planned by  
3 Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. As 20-year  
4 residents, our family in the Burbank Rancho area, we  
5 feel this plan threatens our peaceful and harmonious  
6 neighborhood, and we have come to share this. Among the  
7 problems and disruptions that we see that this plant  
8 would create are permanent elimination of contaminants  
9 of the current pollywog pond recreation area resulting  
10 in the loss of dog-walking areas and horse trails,  
11 excessive traffic congestion and related noise for the  
12 three- to four-year duration to build the plant,  
13 unsightly buildings out of character with existing  
14 neighborhoods, loss of personal property values,  
15 potentially repulsive odors emanating from the plant  
16 during and after construction.

17 We personally walk our dogs on pollywog pond  
18 every day. Losing this option creates a true hardship  
19 for us and is extremely disappointing, and we strongly  
20 support the south alignment along Forest Lawn Drive  
21 which would minimize disruption to the Burbank  
22 neighborhood.

23 And finally a personal thought, I honestly  
24 believe that the residents of Forest Lawn would object  
25 much less to have the GBIS than the Burbank residents

1 and home owners.

2 MR. DOTY: Thank you. Mary Schindler. And the  
3 next speaker will be Judy Priebe.

4 MS. SCHINDLER: Good evening. My name is Mary  
5 Schindler, S-c-h-i-n-d-l-e-r, and I'm a Rancho resident  
6 of 21 years, 604 South Sparks Street, and I wanted to  
7 mention the word is getting out in the Burbank  
8 community, and it seems we are of one mind in support of  
9 the southern alignment of the L.A. sewer project. We  
10 gratefully appreciate this opportunity to let our views  
11 be heard.

12 I do have one question. Assuming the southern  
13 alignment, is it possible to generate electricity by  
14 burning off the gasses passing through our water and  
15 actually use these odors and these gasses to generate  
16 electricity? I don't know if that's been considered.  
17 Thank you.

18 MR. DOTY: Thank you. Judy Priebe. I'm not  
19 sure I'm going to pronounce -- and the next speaker will  
20 be Jay Geisenheimer.

21 MS. PRIEBE: Hi. Judy Priebe, P-r-i-e-b-e.  
22 Nobody can spell that. I live at 713 South Reed, which  
23 is right next to the entrance in pollywog. So I am  
24 deeply affected by this project that is being proposed  
25 here, and I feel very strongly that this neighborhood

1 that we live in is so unique in the people that are here  
2 are here because they love horses, and the need for this  
3 field for us to use for our horses and to walk our dogs  
4 and do all the things that people actually moved into  
5 this neighborhood to do, it would be a crime. And it's  
6 a beautiful field. If you've never been there, it's  
7 beautiful. It's a significant focal point in our  
8 community, and we need to keep it there.

9           And I feel very strongly that if we lose  
10 pollywog, the environmental impact on our neighborhood  
11 that already suffers from the noise from the freeway --  
12 we've waited 20-plus years for a sound wall that only  
13 went halfway down the field instead of the entire  
14 distance of the field -- so we still deal with the noise  
15 from the freeway, the smog from the freeway. And now  
16 you're going to ask us to put up with the smog and  
17 pollution and noise as a belching station. There is  
18 nothing appropriate about this decision to have it in  
19 this field, next to -- and in this wonderful community  
20 that is our neighborhood. And that's all I have to say,  
21 but thank you.

22           MR. DOTY: Jay Geisenheimer. I am sorry. And  
23 the next speaker will also be mispronounced by me, Tal  
24 Lancaster.

25           MS. GEISENHEIMER: My name is Jay Geisenheimer,

1 and I'm a Burbank Rancho resident.

2 MR. DOTY: Could you spell your name, please.

3 MS. GEISENHEIMER: We'll be here all night.

4 G-e-i-s-e-n-h-e-i-m-e-r. In 2003 Burbank City Council  
5 appointed me to a one-year term on the Los Angeles  
6 Equestrian Center Advisory Board.

7 My neighbors know how involved I am in my R-1A  
8 neighborhood. The Los Angeles sewer system is beyond  
9 forcing lifestyle. It is about our health. It is about  
10 the possible leakage into our water system. It is about  
11 the depreciation of our homes which for most of us is  
12 our retirement money. None of this is good, but the  
13 south-side location is better than right next to our  
14 homes. I don't understand why anything but the  
15 south-side location would even be considered. We're a  
16 small group of citizens. Does that make us  
17 insignificant?

18 MR. DOTY: Thank you. Tal Lancaster, and the  
19 next speaker will be Denise Taylor.

20 MR. LANCASTER: It's pronounced Tal. Last  
21 name, Lancaster, L-a-n-c-a-s-t-e-r. I'm also in the  
22 Rancho district. We just bought a house in November,  
23 1815 Valley Heart Street, which is right down near the  
24 proposed pathway.

25 I'm also against the north alignment.

1     Actually, most people have already said mostly what I,  
2     you know, wanted to say other than just talking about  
3     the air quality, particularly in that in this district  
4     people are outdoors all the time, day and night.  
5     They're outdoors with their horses; they're out there  
6     with their dogs; they're out there walking all the time.  
7     And just to have to try and put up with these odors, I  
8     think, is unacceptable, as opposed to the south side  
9     where, yes, it will be disruptive somewhat, and where  
10    the other part of the shaft is also, but no homes are  
11    actually affected by where they're going to put the  
12    shaft sites and air purification spots.

13           Also as far as I'm sitting, there will be  
14    disruption on Riverside during construction which is  
15    also a main bicycle artery, and there's no sidewalks on  
16    that part of Riverside and all the streets nearby that  
17    have no sidewalks for the pedestrians, and it's going to  
18    be an increase in traffic, and it's going to be safety  
19    issues. And with horses around all the time, I'm afraid  
20    that it's going to be a big safety concern as far as  
21    congestion with all that traffic.

22           On the site -- personal note -- I'm one of the  
23    privileged people who actually get to walk to work. My  
24    only two alternatives is through pollywog or through  
25    Riverside, and because there is no sidewalk I envision

1 the bicycle pathways with increased traffic, and there's  
2 no real alternative route, so I'm probably going to have  
3 to be taking a car now if it is in the north side.

4 I'm also just concerned about the impact on  
5 property values. We just purchased a place. We're  
6 trying to finance it next year, and that probably won't  
7 be able to happen if this stuff is going and it's going  
8 to devalue houses in effect for people who want to live  
9 here and want to see it continue for that particular  
10 lifestyle that that area provides.

11 Yes. I just wanted to reiterate the fact that  
12 this is going to apply to people's homes, whether it's  
13 on the north side, whether it's on the south side at  
14 least where the zoo is and the other part of the  
15 shopping center -- I don't know where it is -- but it's  
16 going to be right in somebody's neighborhood. Thank  
17 you.

18 MR. DOTY: Denise Taylor, and the next speaker  
19 will be Dennis Dreith or Dreith.

20 MS. TAYLOR: Thank you for providing us this  
21 opportunity to speak. My name is Denise Taylor,  
22 T-a-y-l-o-r. My focus tonight is the proposed Valley  
23 Heart shaft and ATF site known to our community as  
24 pollywog. I am in favor of the south alignment to the  
25 GBIS alternative alignment. The north alignment would

1 have a devastating effect on the Burbank Rancho  
2 neighborhood, although there is no mention of our  
3 neighborhood in Section 3.16 of the Draft EIR. Section  
4 3.16-30 refers to pollywog as, quote, "vacant parcel,"  
5 end quote, provides access to an equestrian trail along  
6 the Los Angeles River. Valley Heart pollywog is a  
7 natural, equestrian park used as a trail access as  
8 recognized by the EIR, but it is far more than that to  
9 area residents. It is where we train and exercise our  
10 horses. We teach our children horsemanship. On rainy  
11 days it's the only convenient area to relieve the  
12 pressure of horses that have been cooped up in their  
13 stalls. American foals take their first outing in  
14 pollywog. Lamé or infirm horses can be hand walked  
15 here. Residents with their veterinarians use it as a  
16 place for lameness exams. Sadly it's sometimes a place  
17 to euthanize our horses, because for some of us, there  
18 is no other alternative but the street.

19 Joggers and dog walkers also frequent pollywog.  
20 The GBIS north alignment construction project would have  
21 a significant impact on the residents and animals by  
22 posing serious safety issues as horses are easily  
23 frightened and exhibit flight tendencies. Horses and  
24 cars share the rural Rancho streets. Heavy construction  
25 equipment rumbling in and out of our neighborhood would

1 not only be stressful to horse and rider, but  
2 potentially very dangerous.

3 Pollywog is a treasured natural park to its  
4 community. To find it described as a vacant parcel in  
5 the EIR draft is a travesty. It is obvious that the  
6 City of Los Angeles has no understanding of its value to  
7 our neighborhood. Why was pollywog omitted in Section  
8 3.16, Recreation as follows: Table 3.16-4, Figure  
9 3.16-4, Table 3.16-5, Figure 3.16-5? Pollywog is at  
10 ground zero. Why does Table 3.16 not address the ATF at  
11 this Valley Heart shaft site? 3.16-37350 -- why isn't  
12 the loss of an exercise area considered as an impact?  
13 Please research the impacts further.

14 Does only parkland grass and its link  
15 constitute a park? Pollywog is situated on Griffith  
16 Park land. It is a valued piece of land which local  
17 residents utilize throughout the day, seven days a week,  
18 and a treatment facility is an unacceptable front yard  
19 monument to our homes.

20 Connecting the sewer -- the existing sewer to  
21 the new line can be accomplished on the south alignment  
22 where it belongs, away from homes that are situated on  
23 the border of the pollywog shaft site.

24 The emissions will exceed safe levels. ATF  
25 stinks and are unhealthy. ATF do not belong within a

1 few feet of our homes. Our property values would  
2 plummet.

3 The adoption of the south alignment mitigates  
4 the serious issues for the Rancho. Pollywog is  
5 overlooked in the Draft EIR when it was chosen for the  
6 Valley Heart shaft site and ATF. Therefore, it is best  
7 for the City of Los Angeles to give it recognition as a  
8 park and afford the same interest as the other parks in  
9 all sections of the Final EIR. Thank you.

10 MR. DOTY: Dennis Dreith, and the next speaker  
11 will be Steve Taylor.

12 MR. DREITH: Dennis Dreith, D-r-e-i-t-h. I am  
13 the CEO of (inaudible) musicians secondary markets fund  
14 and also a Valley Spring home owner which is also the  
15 area that a large number of our employees live. And  
16 when I first heard the proposal, I listened to this  
17 tonight, and I thought, you know, this is something we  
18 really need. There's something here I'm hearing that's  
19 an important problem we have. Then again as I was  
20 listening to all the things that are going to happen as  
21 a result of the solutions, and I was thinking that the  
22 resulting impacts are far worse than the problem we're  
23 trying to solve.

24 One of the things that concerns me, obviously,  
25 as a home owner on Valley Spring Lane was due to my own

1 property values. I wouldn't expect the city to be every  
2 bit as concerned or at least concerned for the same  
3 reason I am, that area is also home to a large, large  
4 segment of people who live in apartment homes, don't  
5 have yards. And there is a proposed site for Woodbury  
6 Park. This facility would decimate that park.

7 Literally hundreds of families live around that area in  
8 apartment houses with a lot of young families, either  
9 people who have two and three children. There's  
10 certainly new families there. This is the only place  
11 for those children to play. That park is essential to  
12 that neighborhood. Eliminating this park would decimate  
13 that neighborhood, and it would just totally decimate  
14 the quality of life in that neighborhood. That park is  
15 absolutely essential for the surrounding area. Those  
16 children have no place to play except in the street.

17 I don't think that is what the city really  
18 wants to see happen. There are alternatives. We must  
19 go down this path, and I have serious reservation  
20 there's really a solution at all, but there are a number  
21 of sites. There is a Caltrans storage facility closeby  
22 which is a more than suitable site for the sewage  
23 tunnel. Thank you.

24 MR. DOTY: Steve Taylor, and the next speaker  
25 will be Floran Frank.

1           MR. TAYLOR: Good evening. My name is Steve  
2 Taylor, T-a-y-l-o-r. My comments are directed tonight  
3 to the proposed Valley Heart shaft site. Section  
4 3.12-36 IRP component GBIS alignment. Under component  
5 impact, the statement reads, quote, "No disruptions,  
6 divisions, or isolation of communities and  
7 neighborhoods," end quote. The shaft site at Valley  
8 Heart would, number one, create an immense disruption to  
9 people who use pollywog on a daily basis to exercise  
10 their horses, dog walkers, daily runners, and those of  
11 us who just enjoy the walk and the trails.

12           Number two, it would divide and isolate the  
13 western portion of our Rancho community, homes west of  
14 Buena Vista who use the trails daily to gain access to  
15 the bridge at Maraposa to go into Griffith Park and  
16 equestrian trails to travel over -- it would force  
17 equestrians to travel over a mile down busy Riverside  
18 Drive to get back to the trails. They wouldn't have  
19 access down through pollywog. It would be closed off.  
20 So how can this EIR represent that there won't be any  
21 disruption, division, or isolation of our neighborhood?

22           Also the EIR ignores a posted restriction to  
23 traffic on Riverside Drive at Buena Vista eastbound to  
24 Main Street, prohibiting vehicles three axles or more  
25 and vehicles 6,000 pounds and above. This would

1 prohibit dirt-hauling trucks and large construction  
2 machinery from accessing the Valley Heart shaft site.

3 I believe the Rancho neighborhood is entitled  
4 to a more thorough review than we received in the Draft  
5 EIR. I strongly support the implementation of the south  
6 alignment and a rejection of the north alignment. Thank  
7 you.

8 MR. DOTY: Floran Frank, and the next speaker  
9 would be Jef Vander Borght.

10 MS. FRANK: I didn't expect to speak. By the  
11 way, I've been a docent for 38 years here at the L.A.  
12 Zoo, so I suppose I should be responsible.

13 Okay. We are talking about wiping out many  
14 million-dollar homes. Our horses have made our homes  
15 very, very valuable, and we are very lucky people. And  
16 we've been thinking, telling everybody isn't this great?  
17 We have 57 miles of riding trails in Griffith Park, wow.  
18 And here we are living in a fool's paradise, and this is  
19 God awful, couldn't be worse.

20 The City of Burbank should insist a certified  
21 environmentalist to check this situation out. It's  
22 very, very bad. And if you want to talk to Louise  
23 Jackson, you'll learn about how many people who live  
24 down near pollywog already have gotten cancer. So if  
25 you want to get more cancer, in a few million-dollar

1 homes, then go ahead and do this horrible thing.

2 I want to know -- this is what worries me very  
3 much -- why do the cities meet with L.A. for two years  
4 or more without telling us who live in the Rancho area  
5 that they were meeting with L.A. and what was the  
6 situation, what was the story, and what was going on?  
7 And we would like to know, and I think we're entitled to  
8 know more about this situation. I think there's a lot  
9 that we do not know that we should know. Thank you.

10 MR. DOTY: Jef Vander Borght, and the next  
11 speaker would be Dennis Jackson.

12 MR. VANDER BORGHT: Good evening. Jef Vander  
13 Borght, mayor of the City of Burbank. Thank you for the  
14 opportunity to speak tonight and give my comments.

15 Number one, you've indicated that this is a  
16 stakeholder-driven program or proposal, but as one of  
17 the stakeholders, I was never ever notified of the  
18 proposed alignment. The alignment simply came out just  
19 in the last few months. Whenever our staff involvement  
20 occurred in the past, it occurred without any alignment  
21 involved, and while we all recognize the urgency and the  
22 need for this type of the proposal, we in Burbank are  
23 extremely concerned with the proposed north alignment as  
24 shown on the EIR. There are several reasons why we're  
25 concerned. You've heard from some of the speakers here

1 tonight. I will concentrate on a couple of them.

2 One of them has to do with air quality. Sadly,  
3 the Rancho area in Burbank sits directly above a highly  
4 polluted underground water aquifer that tends to be the  
5 drainage point for the San Fernando Valley. Any  
6 disturbance of an area that is polluted such as the  
7 ground water, regardless of the steps will undoubtedly  
8 cost you in construction, the creation of airborne  
9 particulate matters at a time when cancer is a concern,  
10 as noted by other speakers, and at a time when we have  
11 the proximity of the freeway to add to this with  
12 additional possible construction air particulate matters  
13 that would be impossible to mitigate, would make the  
14 northern alignment already a no-starter from my  
15 perspective.

16 In addition to that, the impacts to the land  
17 use, to the value of the property, to the immediate  
18 quality of the areas that have been used for  
19 recreational purposes for a substantial amount of time  
20 would continue to disrupt what is for us a residential  
21 area in Burbank. Add to that the noise and the ongoing  
22 maintenance and disruption that will occur as a result  
23 of the air-treatment facility that is being proposed,  
24 and we find ourselves adamantly, categorically, and  
25 without question opposing the northern alignment. There

1 is no question the southern alignment would be a better  
2 alternative. That alignment does not show any  
3 air-treatment facilities, and we also strongly support  
4 that, that at the end of the day an air-treatment  
5 facility a half a mile away could still produce a large  
6 negative impact on the Burbank residents.

7 Please consider our concerns, some of which  
8 will be given in writing also in the future from our  
9 staff. So as you analyze the impacts -- and I don't  
10 need to repeat some of the conditions or concerns that  
11 the residents have already given -- but please know that  
12 we adamantly, categorically oppose the northern  
13 alignment on behalf of Burbank.

14 MR. DOTY: I've already started to get requests  
15 from people who are further down the stack of cards if  
16 they could please come out of order because they want to  
17 go home. At this time I'm not going to do that.

18 But let me just say this. There doesn't seem  
19 to be a debate going on here. Everybody seems to pretty  
20 much dislike the northern alignment, so let me -- we do  
21 want to hear your comments. We want to make sure all of  
22 the issues are brought up, as I said before. If your  
23 concerns have already been addressed, we encourage you  
24 for your own convenience to merely state that and not  
25 repeat them. If you have prepared written comment --

1 and many of you have -- you can really hand us those  
2 written comments. They will go in the record, and it  
3 will be addressed just as though you have read them to  
4 us. Staff is here to hear your comments, and we'll be  
5 here as long as it takes to hear those comments. Just  
6 out of your own convenience, consider time-saving  
7 measures.

8 That having been said, can I ask everybody in  
9 the auditorium who would like to endorse the comments of  
10 the City of Burbank and its speakers to merely stand up  
11 and show their endorsement. Thank you. You may be  
12 seated. And the hearing continues.

13 MR. COPELAND: There's one thing I want to ask  
14 you with regard to endorsing the southern one as well.  
15 Wouldn't it be fair to ask people endorsing the southern  
16 alignment as well?

17 MR. DOTY: Sir, would you identify yourself for  
18 the record.

19 MR. COPELAND: My name is Todd Copeland,  
20 C-o-p-e-l- --

21 MR. DOTY: Okay. Mr. Todd Copeland asked for  
22 all of those who object to the southern alignment and  
23 would prefer the northern alignment, out of fairness  
24 please stand up. (Interruption from the audience.)  
25 It's the question I'm asking from the chair. So people

1 who support the northern alignment and object to the  
2 southern alignment, please stand up. (Interruption from  
3 the audience.) I'm the hearing -- it is not my intent  
4 to make any positions from here. This is your hearing,  
5 not mine. If I'm being unclear, then let's just  
6 proceed.

7 The next speaker is Dennis Jackson.

8 MR. JACKSON: My name is Dennis Jackson. I  
9 live at 1522 Valley Heart, and I'll give you the Readers  
10 Digest version of my comment so that others can comment.

11 MR. DOTY: Move a little closer to the  
12 microphone.

13 MR. JACKSON: Okay. Again, my name is Dennis  
14 Jackson. I live on Valley Heart. I live adjacent to  
15 the project, the pollywog. I live basically next to  
16 Judy Priebe's property, and I heard about this about two  
17 and a half months ago, and quite frankly, I can't  
18 believe we're still discussing it. I've been to two  
19 city council meetings and now tonight. I understand  
20 there is probably a process that you and government know  
21 better than I, but I'm really perplexed by this  
22 continuing to go on.

23 The fellow who wrote the EIR probably never had  
24 a chance to get out of his office to see what he was  
25 writing about. If he had come, he wouldn't have made

1 the EIR that we have. I live next door. I've lived  
2 there 27 years. That home is my retirement. My wife  
3 does have cancer. I've already had in the back of my  
4 mind, if I need to sell it for some reason, for money,  
5 or whatever, I have that flexibility. I no longer have  
6 it. My property is worth half -- at this moment, given  
7 what's pending -- the value of what I would assume it  
8 should be.

9 I don't need to belabor it, but somebody should  
10 go out and look at the neighborhood, see what's  
11 happening in the neighborhood, and judge for themselves,  
12 this is not for a sewer. Thank you.

13 MR. DOTY: Louise Jackson, and the next speaker  
14 after her would be Jennifer.

15 MS. LOUISE JACKSON: Hi. I am Louise Jackson.  
16 I live at 1560 Valley Heart Drive, and yes, I do have  
17 incurable metastatic breast cancer. It came to light  
18 yesterday actually that my neighbor across the street --  
19 husband died of cancer. My neighbors catty-corner from us  
20 -- the two have also passed away from Lou Gehrig's disease  
21 and also cancer. The neighbor next to them passed --  
22 her husband passed away, and she has breast cancer as  
23 well. I saw her at the chemo facility maybe about six  
24 months ago. The gentleman who lives next door to us  
25 also passed away. He had a cancer patient at work that

1 just passed away of cancer, and my husband at the  
2 beginning of last year had a kidney removed because of  
3 cancer. We have a dog that passed away with cancer, a  
4 horse that passed away with cancer, and a cat that  
5 passed away with cancer. There must be something in the  
6 air.

7 We live actually at ground zero. The north  
8 out fall sewer line runs underneath my property  
9 specifically. I am adjacent to the pollywog area. This  
10 has had an adverse effect on us already in this  
11 neighborhood, and I think I'd like to have within seven  
12 business days a complete soil analysis going down  
13 175 feet which I'm sure the City of Los Angeles has done  
14 in the pollywog area. I also would like to have a  
15 geological report in my possession so I can have  
16 secondary evaluation of the EIR. So I think it's really  
17 important that I have the full report because this  
18 obviously needs to be addressed.

19 The health hazard is staggering, and the fact  
20 that this could -- once you dislodge any -- I mean,  
21 obviously, we have a problem down in that area anyway --  
22 but once you dislodge anything in that area, first of  
23 all, it's all sand. You talk about sediment. What  
24 about liquefaction? Any shaking of the ground in a  
25 sandy soil produces liquefaction. How do you sink

1 foundations? This all needs to be addressed, plus the  
2 air quality, not only in our area, but in the Valley  
3 Spring area. This is meant for all of us, and nobody  
4 wants to get cancer, and nobody wants to have incurable  
5 cancer like I have because each day is very precious. I  
6 think that all of this should be addressed, and there  
7 should be some other alternative for all, whether it be  
8 the Toluca Lake area or the Burbank area. Excluding the  
9 first step, it's just a health hazard. And that's all I  
10 have to say.

11 MR. DOTY: Jennifer Jackson, and the next  
12 speaker will be Mikie Maloney.

13 MS. JENNIFER JACKSON: Hi. My name is Jenny  
14 Jackson, and I live at 1522 Valley Heart Drive. As my  
15 family has already addressed the health issues, I'll  
16 just go on to something I'm pretty familiar with, and  
17 that is horses.

18 The EIR actually fails to address the really  
19 important impacts which is basically the impact of  
20 noise, vibration, construction on the horse-and-rider  
21 combination. If anyone has ever been on a horse before  
22 or neighbor's horses, they're extremely volatile  
23 animals. They're easily spooked. The thing about  
24 pollywog is it's very close to Riverside Drive, which is  
25 basically almost like a freeway nowadays, the main

1 thoroughfare that people get, you know, from the 134 to  
2 get to the 5, and especially with the Disney and NUC and  
3 Warner Brothers, it's almost like a freeway during rush  
4 hour. So if you folks would realize that you get horses  
5 spooked and one horse is spooked, riders fall off, and I  
6 see potentially -- I mean, actually I almost feel like  
7 it's imminent that there will be injuries, not only to  
8 horse and rider, but horses going into traffic is  
9 extremely dangerous. And actually my horse trainer --  
10 her horse was killed, and the occupant of the vehicle  
11 was badly injured by a horse that entered traffic.

12 The thing about horses is that they're a  
13 lifelong commitment. These are animals. They are  
14 almost a part of your life, and regardless if you go  
15 through with this treatment plant at the Valley Heart  
16 site or not, we will be forced to figure out other ways  
17 to exercise our horses because they are a lifetime  
18 commitment, and that would mean people will get their  
19 horse out, regardless of this.

20 There is, I mean, you know, noise. There is  
21 construction going on, and I think they fail to realize  
22 the impact that that has on health, life, and also  
23 lawsuits for the city.

24 Lastly, you know, we addressed this before  
25 about calling it vacant land, calling pollywog vacant

1 land, and I think blatant mischaracterization of it as  
2 unmarked pedestrian trails. Hundreds of horses and  
3 riders use pollywog a day, and hundreds of joggers and  
4 dog walkers use pollywog a day. We're talking thousands  
5 of people that use pollywog in one week. And we're  
6 talking tens of thousands of people that use pollywog in  
7 one month. I think that you minimize something that is  
8 so integral and such at the heart of a community is, I  
9 think, blatant mischaracterization. Prior to the EIR  
10 coming out, we had meetings, and we talked about how  
11 integral it was to our community, and I don't think  
12 anybody listened. So I think that they're all going to  
13 be furious, and I think we probably should just, you  
14 know, just -- how they're going to impact them better  
15 than they did. All right.

16 MR. DOTY: Mikie Maloney. Okay. I have a  
17 letter from Mikie Maloney. I guess that will serve in  
18 lieu. Darcy Conkle, and following Mr. Conkle or  
19 Ms. Conkle will be Anne Pomije.

20 MS. CONKLE: Good evening. My name is Darcy  
21 Conkle, C-o-n-k-l-e, and as a number of residents of the  
22 Rancho, I'm here to address the Valley Heart pollywog.  
23 And basically everything that I had to say has been  
24 stated, but I wanted to make just a quick note that as a  
25 mother, I use pollywog with my daughter to give lessens

1 on her little pony, and I use it for my horse.

2 But also as a professional, I am a loan  
3 consultant, and what I do is loans for people purchasing  
4 and refinancing homes, and I can tell you the  
5 devastation it will be to the property value by putting  
6 it there. As a professional, I can say that because we  
7 have seen in other areas things go up and the property  
8 values plummet, and that's a big loss for the residents  
9 of the Rancho. Thank you.

10 MR. DOTY: Anne Pomije, P-o-m-i-j-e.

11 Sue Panuska. I'm sorry. I'm murdering your  
12 last name, and after her will be Frank Schindler.

13 MS. PANUSKA: I'm Sue Panuska, P-a-n-u-s-k-a.  
14 I'm furious. I'm just out-of-my-mind furious because I  
15 live in the Rancho. I've been there for 12 years. I  
16 have a daughter. I have dogs. I have horses. And the  
17 reality is that we already have a cancer cluster, and I  
18 have talked to Burbank City Council. I have spoken to  
19 the mayor. I have an environmental attorney, and I took  
20 him down to the pollywog yesterday, and what we need to  
21 do is, we have to get soil tests. That's urgent, and if  
22 you did the whole thing, we'll survive this, this moving  
23 and the whole thing, and I'm just telling you, he says  
24 this is the death. When the pollywog was flooded by  
25 Disney and whatever, who knows what crap went into the

1 soil, and if we more and more disturb that soil, and  
2 then we have the -- he doesn't even call it an  
3 aquifaction [sic]; it's an aquifight [sic]. This is the  
4 disease. We have all kinds of -- I've read, and I've  
5 talked, and I've gone on and on and on, and we don't  
6 even need to talk about such. We have a wonderful  
7 community, and it's devastating to lose that. I don't  
8 want to lose my health. I don't want my neighbors to  
9 lose their health. I love my neighborhood. The reality  
10 is that we have a real problem where pollywog is.

11 The first thing he said to me as I took him  
12 down there is that when he won the big lawsuit with  
13 Lockheed and all the other stuff, he said -- he said why  
14 is it called pollywog? The mess, the chemicals, all the  
15 other crap that went in there has gone down in the sand,  
16 and I've been told the aquifer fire and all this is down  
17 175 feet, but the top of it is right around a hundred  
18 and 20 feet. As this water and as this -- with the  
19 whole revival thing and the moving and all that good  
20 stuff, you can have particulates. You have particulates  
21 from diesel. You have particulates from all this. This  
22 is a low area. This is where all those -- the diseased  
23 chemicals and everything that came from Lockheed have  
24 settled under our dirt, and what we -- if they start  
25 digging down a hundred and 20 feet, and then it has a

1 big waterfall which Verbonivitch, you know, when she won  
2 her whole lawsuit with that basic -- the aeration, the  
3 water which is obviously going to be polluted water, it  
4 is aerating the sewage that's going to be falling down  
5 in our neighborhood. I mean, we don't have a chance. I  
6 mean cancer, all kinds of problems going, and I am just  
7 saying that -- I'm complaining.

8 My friend just wants to be involved. We want  
9 to have soil testing of pollywog. As soon as you start  
10 messing with all the disease and all of the chemicals  
11 involved in the pollywog, this sand that's drifted down,  
12 and nobody -- there have been no soil tests there. Has  
13 anybody heard of any soil tests under the pollywog? No.  
14 I mean, we need to do that as a community. Even if the  
15 city won't do it, we need to do it as a neighborhood,  
16 and we need to find out what's going on because I  
17 love -- I plan on living in my neighborhood for a very,  
18 very long time. And I don't want to have it cut short  
19 by pollutants and having somebody put a big, huge  
20 waterfall of sewage and contaminants coming out and  
21 flowing through our neighborhood, and that's where I'm  
22 at. So I mean, we need -- we as a neighborhood --

23 MR. DOTY: Could you sum up, please?

24 MS. PANUSKA: I will sum it up. I will sum up  
25 the fact that I want to live a healthy life, and I want

1 our neighborhood to live a healthy life, and I want my  
2 neighbors to have a healthy life, and this is not going  
3 to allow it. Thank you.

4 MR. DOTY: Frank Schindler, and following Mr.  
5 Schindler, Rosemarie White.

6 MR. SCHINDLER: My name is Frank Schindler,  
7 S-c-h-i-n-d-l-e-r. And because the prevailing winds in  
8 the Burbank Rancho neighborhoods generally run from west  
9 to east, the southern alignment would provide much  
10 needed distance for the frequent aromas to dissipate  
11 before entering into or over these adjacent  
12 neighborhoods. And that's why I'm in favor of a  
13 southern alignment, and the same prevailing winds would  
14 also generally move the offensive odors out over the  
15 L.A. River and away from habitation. Thank you.

16 MR. DOTY: Rosemarie White. Following Ms.  
17 White, Mike Scandiffi.

18 MS. WHITE: Thank you. I'm Rosemarie White. I  
19 want to let you know that I'm the chair of the Wildlife  
20 and Endangered Species Committee for the Sierra Club.  
21 I'm also a hike leader and have been hiking in Griffith  
22 Park for about 18 years as a leader. So it's very dear  
23 to my heart.

24 I also want to make a comment on the way that  
25 sanitation has been conducting the community input into

1 this particular project. For the last two years I have  
2 been actually part of the IRP meetings, and I have to  
3 say that I really have the greatest respect for  
4 Sanitation due to the fact that they have proceeded with  
5 the groundbreaking way of dealing with and incorporating  
6 and encouraging the public to come and give their input.

7 So with that said, I would like to recognize  
8 Adel Hagekhalil is here from Sanitation. I would like  
9 to make a comment that this hearing, while it is within  
10 the guidelines of CEQA so that our comments are  
11 recognized and put down, still when this meeting ends,  
12 there is going to be a lot of questions in the minds of  
13 the people here, and I would like to see someone from a  
14 department in Los Angeles say to an audience like this,  
15 if you have any questions, please stay after this formal  
16 meeting is ended, and we would like to answer them so  
17 that people here begin to have some sense of involvement  
18 and their questions answered. I don't need to start a  
19 riot, but what I am saying is, we need more sense of  
20 being included.

21 The other thing I want to say -- and I will be  
22 brief -- Griffith Park, the zoo, and the equestrian  
23 center are unique to the city of Los Angeles. It is  
24 extremely important that there be some recognition that  
25 this building and this project might disrupt in a very

1 harmful way the animals at the zoo and the equestrian  
2 community in terms of the wildlife and horses. This  
3 park sits within the Santa Monica Mountains, and we have  
4 a lot of wildlife here as well, so I'm saying that  
5 whatever alternative it is, that it's less disruptive to  
6 these particular considerations -- I am for that, and I  
7 will fight for that. Thank you.

8 MR. SCANDIFFI: Mike Scandiffi, a Burbank  
9 resident, a Rancho resident.

10 MR. DOTY: Mr. Scandiffi, if you would just  
11 hold up. The next speaker after that will be Chirie  
12 Mann.

13 MR. SCANDIFFI: Oh, I'm sorry.

14 MR. DOTY: No, no, you're right. It will just  
15 give me an opportunity to warn Ms. Mann that she will be  
16 next up.

17 MR. SCANDIFFI: I'd like to follow through with  
18 the previous speaker. I would like to thank Los Angeles  
19 for having the meetings the last two years with many  
20 community groups. However, in the responses to my  
21 comments, I would like to also add that there were no  
22 meetings with the City of Burbank. There were no  
23 meetings with the residential community in the city of  
24 Burbank, and for Rancho residents, those who have ears,  
25 hear, to paraphrase you.

1           The City of Burbank -- and I would like to get  
2 to the bottom of it, and I would like to have a response  
3 in the EIR -- the City of Burbank according to staff was  
4 in the loop for this whole process for the last four  
5 years. There were two years of community meetings with  
6 many, many groups in the city of Los Angeles. Never  
7 once was a Burbank group ever notified to participate in  
8 these meetings. According to your staff at public  
9 works, the engineering department, the City of Burbank  
10 knew about the two alternatives for the last two years.  
11 The City of Burbank also knew of the northern alignment  
12 through the Rancho for the past year, but the City of  
13 Burbank maintains that they knew nothing until  
14 approximately early November 2005. I would like to know  
15 what the truth is because we are involved in the  
16 process. So I request that you answer that.

17           Secondly, on two separate occasions, members of  
18 the public and the City of Burbank said, "Gee, the  
19 northern alignment can't happen unless the City of  
20 Burbank gives easements on Valley Heart and on Riverside  
21 Drive to connect the three shaft sites, with the  
22 pollywog being in the center. At public meetings we  
23 have asked the City of Burbank if they have granted the  
24 City of L.A. those easements. They don't answer the  
25 question. So I would like to know in your EIR, has

1 there been any conversations with the City of Burbank to  
2 grant those easements? Because frankly, if the  
3 easements aren't granted, there is no northern  
4 alignment.

5 Also for those who have ears, it's very  
6 interesting in this whole process that we have no  
7 representation. Even after asking the City of Burbank  
8 to provide environmental consultants for air, water, and  
9 sewage, they haven't an engineer who can handle  
10 everything. We have had no representation at all. We  
11 were not involved in the process at all. We had no  
12 representation at all, and we're not getting the  
13 straight story. In my opinion a lot of the flack for  
14 this has been deflected to the City of L.A. I would  
15 like to know who's telling the truth, and I think the  
16 people in the Rancho want to know who's telling the  
17 truth, and we also want to know, do you intend to sue  
18 the City of Burbank if they do not come through, or will  
19 you just abandon the issue of the northern alignment and  
20 just do the southern alignment? I can't get that answer  
21 from the mayor who's sitting there. The mayor up there  
22 said, a hundred Rancho horses is worth one letter from  
23 him. A hundred Rancho horses is worth one letter from  
24 him, but we can't get him to say one letter from him  
25 should be worth the voices of all the unheard 120,000

1 residents of the city of Burbank. Thank you.

2 MR. DOTY: We'll make a short announcement.  
3 Staff would be pleased to remain after the public  
4 hearing to answer questions you would like to pose to  
5 them.

6 MS. MANN: My name is Chirie Mann. I have been  
7 part of the IRP steering committee, and I felt, from my  
8 point of view, it was a great thing. I come from the  
9 North Valley Coalition where we had the Sunshine Canyon  
10 dump, where there are cancer clusters. No matter what,  
11 the issues must be addressed. Whether the IRP you  
12 already have existing terrible conditions here, whether  
13 the IRP can ameliorate your conditions, they have  
14 engineers. They are brilliant. They know about water.

15 I am not adequate really to address this issue,  
16 but I think your situation is serious enough. I would  
17 stand by you. I don't even belong here, and this is a  
18 problem with all of L.A. We all have similar issues,  
19 and I wish you well, and if I can help you, I'll stand  
20 by you. But I think at least you have this hearing.  
21 The IRP will listen. I do believe they will. What the  
22 results will be is beyond me, but I wish you luck.

23 MR. DOTY: Thank you. Next speaker is Paul  
24 Krekorian, and after Mr. Krekorian, Todd Copeland.

25 MR. KREKORIAN: Good evening. My name is Paul

1 Krekorian, K-r-e-k-o-r-i-a-n. And I'm president of the  
2 Burbank Board of Education, and in this capacity, it's  
3 my obligation to protect the health and safety of over  
4 15,000 students in the Burbank public schools. But I'm  
5 here speaking today in my individual capacity, not in my  
6 capacity as a board member because to my knowledge, no  
7 one at the Burbank Board of Education has ever been  
8 informed of the possibility of this northern alignment.  
9 And it's deeply concerning to me, especially when I've  
10 heard the discussion -- the discussion this evening and  
11 a discussion about cancer clusters and so forth, but we  
12 have three school sites -- two elementary schools and a  
13 middle school within three-quarters of a mile of the  
14 shaft, the proposed shaft on the northern alignment.

15 And so I'm deeply concerned that within a 15-  
16 to 20-minute walk to school, we're going to have  
17 students in those schools passing by the shaft, and I'm  
18 deeply concerned about the impact on their health, the  
19 noise impacts, and the air quality impacts that will  
20 come from that.

21 So in my individual capacity, I'm proud to  
22 stand here with these residents and ask you, please not  
23 to consider a northern alignment, but consider only the  
24 southern alignment. In my official capacity as  
25 president of the board, I am going to be bringing this

1 to the Board of Education for further comment by the  
2 Board and by the Burbank Unified School District. And  
3 hopefully, they will also agree to come out in formal  
4 opposition to the northern alignment. Thank you.

5 MR. DOTY: Todd Copeland, and following Mr.  
6 Copeland, Lydia Ray.

7 MR. COPELAND: Good evening. My name is Paul  
8 Copeland, C-o-p-e-l-a-n-d. I'm a member of the Toluca  
9 Homeowners Association, and frankly, I'm a little bit  
10 late in this situation because this is something new  
11 that we have found out in the city of Toluca Lake or our  
12 portion in Toluca Lake. That the sediment is going to  
13 come directly through, obviously, a very heavily  
14 populated residential area, and one thing I was just  
15 reading briefly about the EIR, which it really does not  
16 anywhere put any kind of comment to, here is this sewer  
17 system which is they are proposing to go right on Valley  
18 Spring Lane, runs literally in about four different  
19 areas about 25 yards from the lake of Toluca Lake. And  
20 there is no mention in here what kind of impact is going  
21 to happen to the lake. So I think that being so close  
22 and this being a hundred feet, a hundred and 50 feet  
23 deep, and obviously we live in an area as one of the  
24 other residents had mentioned earlier, this is a very  
25 silky sand area, and I think there has been no mention

1     whatsoever about the possible effect to the lake which  
2     could be just absolutely enormous from a standpoint that  
3     I can see at one point that somebody would look at this  
4     and say, well, maybe we should just do away with the  
5     lake. So that's a very integral part of Toluca Lake  
6     itself because of the potential that could happen here  
7     although you're shaking your head. I've seen you  
8     disagree. I'm trying to be impartial, but I made that  
9     difficult for you. But I just wanted to say, that has  
10    not been addressed in all due respect to your  
11    impartiality, and I think that needs to be looked at.

12           Also I don't see anybody else here really kind  
13    of in disagreement to the southern alignment because  
14    frankly, I think a lot of people in Toluca Lake are not  
15    even aware of this situation going directly through  
16    their neighborhood. So that being the case, what I  
17    would like to see personally addressed to the Toluca  
18    Lake Homeowners Association, the effect to the lake  
19    itself.

20           And also I think there's one other thing. Is  
21    this going directly right under the golf course as well?  
22    I am a member of that golf course as well, and I can  
23    tell you that our monthly newsletter that we get from  
24    lakeside, there has been no mention of this going  
25    underneath the southern portion of the golf course

1     itself, and I think that ought to be -- another letter  
2     ought to be directed to the members at Lakeside to let  
3     them know what kind of mitigation factors are going to  
4     be to the golf course as well. Thank you very much.

5             MR. DOTY: Thank you. Lydia Ray, and after Ms.  
6     Ray, Louis Alvarado.

7             MS. RAY: Actually, my name is Ray, R-a-y.

8             MR. DOTY: I'm sorry.

9             MS. RAY: That's quite all right. I am not  
10    lucky enough to live in the city of Burbank. I work  
11    there. My heart is there. I had the second best choice  
12    other than Glendale Rancho. I appreciate the City of  
13    L.A. letting us use the Betty Davis Park. We let them.  
14    I notice that lately Glendale has been trying to get  
15    more park sites available for their citizens, and you  
16    mentioned that in Burbank it probably doesn't have quite  
17    enough, although they have quite a few, but we would be  
18    using some parks. That obviously is a quality-of-life  
19    issue for people as well, and maybe this continues with  
20    a couple years of work, then maybe some people that have  
21    not had them for those times. I work for the power  
22    plant. I work for the City of Burbank. I don't work  
23    for that gentleman up there, the mayor who spoke. I  
24    work for the citizens. They allow me to go to work  
25    every day and serve them. Hopefully, you feel the same

1 way about your job representing L.A. One of the things  
2 I love about the city and the city of Pasadena is that I  
3 find there's a very healthy competition between the  
4 cities. But if anything is needed, police, fire, and  
5 utilities are there to help the citizens of those other  
6 cities.

7 In my neighborhood which is Glendale Rancho, I  
8 moved in knowing I've got two freeways. I think those  
9 are the same Glendale/Burbank freeways per se that serve  
10 us all. I can see and hear them. You get used to the  
11 sound, other than the crashes. I live by the L.A.  
12 River. If you come, you see that there's the animals.  
13 There's birds. If you really look, there's medical  
14 waste. The fire department will have to do a total  
15 hazmat if they go save a life there. It's almost a  
16 sewer itself.

17 We do live in this neighborhood because of the  
18 quality of life. I tell friends from other states that  
19 I grew up with, yes, we pay the price to live here, but  
20 I would not trade it for anything. I would hope that  
21 you guys, the City of L.A., would respect the life we've  
22 chosen to be in the city, have a little bit of the  
23 country with us, and not the lady just like you don't  
24 want a spare pit development. I can stop it by looking  
25 at the fence. It doesn't mean that it will be a good

1 thing. I would appreciate anything you guys can do to  
2 have lots of other alternatives and respect the wishes  
3 of this community so that we all can work together  
4 somehow along the way. Thank you.

5 MR. DOTY: The last speaker card I have is from  
6 Louis Alvarado. We are bringing a microphone to that  
7 speaker.

8 While we do that, if someone who has not spoken  
9 would like to do so, fill out a card now or just hold  
10 your seat, and we'll get to you.

11 MR. ALVARADO: Thank you very much. My name is  
12 Louis Alvarado, and I know a lot of you here recognize  
13 me. I'm not only a member of the Sierra Club, but I am  
14 the mayor of Griffith Park. My concern here for the  
15 last 35 years is the use of the open space called  
16 Griffith Park. It seems that a lot of people that drive  
17 by Griffith Park assume that it's there for anyone to  
18 use as they see fit. But there's a controversy in its  
19 preservation.

20 I believe we should retain every square foot of  
21 Griffith Park in open space and not be utilized by any  
22 special interest groups or any facility of any builders  
23 of any type. Pollywog to me is a very special piece of  
24 property, and it is part of Griffith Park. So I believe  
25 that we should retain it. And if anything takes place

1 in this, it's going to stay pollywog the way it is now  
2 and in the future because I know this for a fact. I  
3 will work very strong and very hard to keep it as open  
4 space.

5 I was sent here by some people to represent the  
6 environment, the preservation of Griffith Park. You had  
7 Dr. Rosemarie that showed up. You have quite a few  
8 people here representing the Sierra Club, and I really  
9 want to thank them for being here tonight. And I want  
10 to thank you guys for giving me the opportunity to be  
11 here. I know one thing for sure. That our councilman,  
12 councilman from district number 4, Barnes -- our comment  
13 very strongly in open space. And I know that our Mayor  
14 Antonio Villaraigosa feels very strongly as an  
15 environmentalist, and I also believe very strongly in  
16 open space. So I believe that this sanitation, even  
17 though we realize it's a necessity to have this project,  
18 it should investigate and use a lot of imagination and  
19 come out with some good solutions where it will not  
20 affect the property owners and the general population in  
21 that project. Thank you very much. Nice to be here.

22 MR. DOTY: Is there anybody else that would  
23 like to speak? I see one in the center here. Ma'am, if  
24 you'd like to come up to the microphone.

25 As those that are getting up to leave, one last

1 announcement. There are a limited number of executive  
2 summaries available in the lobby if you would like to  
3 pick one up.

4 MS. BENTRISS: My name is Beverly Bentriss,  
5 B-e-n-t-r-i-s-s. I live in Toluca Lake on Valley Spring  
6 Lane. I'm new to finding out about all of this. I just  
7 want to share with all of you that have spoken so  
8 eloquently and passionately tonight about your concerns  
9 about the equestrian center and your equestrian way of  
10 life. Believe me, my heart goes out to you. Why don't  
11 they have our way of life impacted so severely and  
12 health problems, not have our property values plummet?

13 But I would ask for the same concern as you  
14 want to bounce everything to the southern alignment. We  
15 walk our animals too. We have a great quality of life  
16 in Toluca Lake. We are outdoors. A Woodridge Park is  
17 out there, and as you've heard, many of the children  
18 have nowhere else to park. So be concerned for us, too,  
19 when you talk about health problems, air pollution  
20 problems, and way of life, plummeting property values.  
21 So rather than split it and go north, go south, why  
22 don't we look at it together as members of the valley?  
23 Maybe it's just a bad proposition. Maybe we need to  
24 look at it more thoroughly and completely. I don't want  
25 you to suffer the way of life. I don't want the horses

1 to freak out and run into traffic. Of course, we don't,  
2 but be concerned for us, too, for our children, the air  
3 we breathe, and our property values too. Thank you.

4 MR. DOTY: Anyone else who has not spoken who  
5 would like to speak? Mr. Andrew Meyer.

6 MR. MEYER: My name is Andrew Meyer, and I live  
7 in Burbank at 1620 Riverside Drive. Lived there about  
8 13 years. A lot of people have said a lot of very  
9 eloquent things, and what I want to add onto this is  
10 that if many of us bought into this neighborhood because  
11 of pollywog and because of the quality of life it  
12 brought to us now. I personally have horses in my  
13 backyard, and I have dogs in my backyard, and my wife  
14 uses that almost every morning. It's an important part  
15 of our quality of life.

16 On top of that obviously is the obvious ugly  
17 specter of having a lot of legal battles that you don't  
18 want to have and we don't want to have, but as many have  
19 said our homes are an important part of our lifestyle  
20 and probably a very important part of our retirement  
21 plan, and watching our life savings, so to speak, going  
22 in half is probably not one of those things that we  
23 would do easily and without some kind of a fight. Thank  
24 you very much.

25 MR. DOTY: Any additional speakers? In the

1 back there, sir, with your hand up. Did I see a hand up  
2 over on this side of the room?

3 MR. ZUGELTER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My name  
4 is Frank L. Zugelter, Z-u-g-e-l-t-e-r. I live at so  
5 10109 Toluca Lake Avenue in Toluca Lake. I'm the  
6 president of the Toluca Lake Homeowners Association. I  
7 think the comments made by the Burbank's representatives  
8 here concerning how terrible it would be to utilize the  
9 northern alignment in this project, together with the  
10 comment made by Mr. Copeland and by Beverly who lives in  
11 the Toluca Lake area, tells us that the City of  
12 Los Angeles has -- it would be worthwhile for the City  
13 of Los Angeles to consider a totally different alignment  
14 rather than the northern alignment and/or the southern  
15 alignment.

16 Assuming that the northern alignment would not  
17 be utilized but a decision were to be made to the  
18 southern alignment, we're going to face the same  
19 problems environmentally as it's quite clear the  
20 northern alignment provides those problems to the  
21 Burbank residents in this beautiful area that they  
22 consider very worthwhile keeping.

23 So I think it behooves the City of Los Angeles  
24 to take a good look at this because there's different  
25 jurisdictional boundaries here, should not be due to the

1 fact you're coming all the way from Glendale to Burbank  
2 into the city of Los Angeles. This has got to be looked  
3 at from a completely, complete overview of the entire  
4 region, and to separate the issues between northern  
5 alignment and southern alignment is not going to solve  
6 the problem that does exist because it's like a traffic  
7 situation. You're taking a problem from point A to  
8 point B. The City of Los Angeles better review once  
9 again more thoroughly. Thank you very much.

10 MR. DOTY: The lady in purple who's coming up.

11 MS. MAURER: Good evening. My name is Jan  
12 Maurer. Last name is spelled M-a-u-r-e-r. First name  
13 is Jan, J-a-n. I have been a resident of Burbank since  
14 1972 and in the Burbank Rancho area. I went to the very  
15 first meeting that I went to on this was the one at the  
16 equestrian center, and that was the first I'd heard of  
17 all of this.

18 One of my burning questions that I had there  
19 was, why don't they run their sewer lines down the river  
20 because you've already got access? There's no digging.  
21 It seems that you can get the engineers to do something  
22 with the belching sewer gases. You know, you're talking  
23 about an eight-and-a-half-foot, I think, diameter sewer  
24 pipe. I don't see there would be a problem that they  
25 could incorporate that into the bottom, the southern

1 section of the river and avoid that gas that would go  
2 through the different neighborhoods because it already  
3 is going through the different neighborhoods and  
4 basically are affected.

5 And somebody told me at that meeting that Flood  
6 Control was upset about, I believe, it was the natural  
7 salt water. So that might be something that you can  
8 look into as an alternative to these other two  
9 alternatives, the southern route and the northern route,  
10 et cetera. Because it would just kind of be going right  
11 where you want it to go, to the Tillman plant. I thank  
12 you. I think that's in flood control, isn't that in the  
13 Sepulveda basin? The Tillman plant? So put it right  
14 there. Thank you.

15 MR. DOTY: Thank you. I see another hand.  
16 Yes, sir. We'll take one more speaker after that, and  
17 then I think we'll bring it to a close.

18 MR. GOLLMAN: My name is David Gollman. I live  
19 in Toluca Lake. I'm a member of the Toluca Lake  
20 Homeowners Association.

21 MR. DOTY: Mr. Gollman, could you spell your  
22 name, please.

23 MR. GOLLMAN: G-o-l-l-m-a-n.

24 MR. DOTY: I thought you could spell it.

25 MR. GOLLMAN: I thought so too. I'm pretty

1 good at that. I was listening to the discussion, and I  
2 found it extremely interesting, and then it occurred to  
3 me that this was supposed to be a public hearing.  
4 Unfortunately, the public, at least from our point of  
5 view, has been excluded from some basic information that  
6 we needed to address many of these concerns.

7 We at Toluca Lake found out about what's going  
8 on just in the last few weeks, even less than that.  
9 When I called up your project manager -- his name is  
10 Jawahar -- I spoke to him over the phone. He indicated  
11 that you addressed once at some obscure organization who  
12 had very little to do with the home owners and the  
13 people who are going to be directly impacted. These are  
14 the people that live along your southern route. I don't  
15 quite understand such an approach. If you really want  
16 to have a response of the public, why don't you make  
17 certain that the public is aware of what's going on?  
18 This is something that I can't perceive.

19 Now, I'm not going to rehash all the arguments  
20 which were said before -- the people on the northern  
21 route that want a southern route or vice versa. The  
22 same issue will come up. I notice that you have  
23 90 percent of the people in here objecting to the route  
24 which goes through the pollywog -- I don't know where it  
25 is, but anyway -- objected to that. I can assure you if

1 you transfer it to the route which goes through the  
2 Valley Spring area, you'll have just as many people  
3 coming up in arms and making a lot of noise. The reason  
4 they're not here tonight -- we didn't know about it.  
5 Please keep us informed and do a better job of it. And  
6 thank you very much.

7 MR. DOTY: Thank you. And last speaker.

8 MS. ROSKI: I am Gail Roski, R-o-s-k-i, and a  
9 commissioner of cultural affairs to the City of  
10 Los Angeles. I am a property owner of Valley Spring  
11 Lane, and I and my son both own homes on the lake. We  
12 did not know about this. I do not have a million  
13 questions. The reason why we did not sign a letter or  
14 note to speak is that I don't know what's going on. I  
15 don't know what you're really proposing for Valley  
16 Spring Lane, but I can tell you, I have lived in this  
17 house for 35 years, and the neighborhood is all very  
18 old, very established. The lake association has not  
19 been informed. We have no one here, I believe, from the  
20 lake association at all, and no one knows what's going  
21 on. So you think that we're not powerful? We are. You  
22 think you will not have flack? You will.

23 And it's impossible. You need to think of the  
24 L.A. River. That is where your possibility of getting  
25 it through. Furthermore, I want you to know that I, as

1 a commissioner of cultural affairs, have seen many of  
2 your projects and passed them. So what you're doing is  
3 fine. We need to have this. But you need to use land  
4 that belongs to the city or the state. You need to not  
5 go under people's houses and certainly not under Toluca  
6 Lake.

7 I just built a new addition to my house. To be  
8 able to build a second story, we had to take a soil  
9 report. We had to sink pylons down into the ground  
10 because we live on the lake, and it was very deep and  
11 much more than we expected. So the land is definitely  
12 sand, and you're going to have some problems.

13 I don't know what you're proposing, so I don't  
14 have any -- but I want to go on record that I certainly  
15 want to know what your thoughts are. And I have a  
16 million questions, so I will stay afterwards and ask.  
17 Thank you.

18 MR. DOTY: Thank you. That concludes the  
19 public-comment portion of the hearing. I want to thank  
20 everyone for coming.

21 The public comment period will remain open  
22 until 5:00 p.m. Monday, February 27th. Until then you  
23 may submit written comments to the address on the  
24 overhead slide. Please remember to include the  
25 following information: Your full name, complete address

1 including ZIP code, telephone number including area  
2 code, the organization you're representing if you're  
3 representing an organization.

4 This public hearing is now closed.

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4           SPEAKER: I'm the project direction door  
5 TKREUGS TKREUFRGS manager of sanitation I have no  
6 further questions asked to speak and I one of my about  
7 myself one of the things I value and working with the  
8 PUPB about my goal and the cities TKPWOELG is to work  
9 with each one of the neighbors communities the  
10 communities in L.A. to what air doing the quality of  
11 life and air region was a whole \much\many\ the resource  
12 plan there's a lot of many things many great things are  
13 being proposed here to help EUS as a future of L.A.  
14 better water management management of resources the  
15 happenings of rain 2.7 billion-gallon not ons how can we  
16 HARPBS that water do it in a way where we can provide  
17 open space and parks PHUPLT approximately benefits to  
18 create a park we're going TKRAET things AEUZ part of  
19 this plan but also we immediate to prevent and a SHROU  
20 us toss meet the future theses TH-FR reasonable I don't  
21 know TKAZ a whole we can have sewage coming out of the  
22 TKPWOU PBDZ because that's a huge machine to the quality  
23 of life. So what we intend to do is I am PROFRPB the  
24 KWULTS of life but I understand the issues and the  
25 commented that's what ear here for today to here each

1 one of you what we want to say what are the EUPB  
2 \{{^ed}}\{{^s}} this is the purpose of this project it's to  
3 get more EUPB point remind I sure you and I a shower you  
4 are on PWHRAF of the city we'll take care comments we're  
5 TRAES TKW-R comments we'll do everything a project one  
6 project out of the whole EUPB you were we make sure  
7 your EUPB point is provided we're working with the city  
8 of Burbank KHROET AOE you're STKRAFRT their staff come  
9 speak to them ask address the issue because that you  
10 remember concerns about the issue and we value that at  
11 that time we value and we're not going to we see Burbank  
12 as HR-FPLTS we're going to HRAOPBG as the whole thing  
13 TKATZ a WHOELG \much\many\ we're already in the same  
14 region KWOPB all work together and make sure we are  
15 provide a project that has the least impact I'm not  
16 going to TKEFPL ELG it's going to have impacts it is  
17 construction let's PWHAEUBG THUR questioner do what's  
18 right I promise that you that we will do what's RAOEUG  
19 which believe in that we had a long stake HOELGDZer  
20 project which value that and we STRAEUBG bridge in what  
21 AEUFPG don't over the last four years we've will many  
22 KPWHRAOUPBTSZ meetings you talk specific HRAOEUPLT more  
23 interest comes up we had meetings in different parts and  
24 will SRALG \eye\I\ask other places over the last four  
25 years however I think PWH- we talk specifics this is the

1 specific HREPLTS of the whole project something close to  
2 or heart that's why we see the interest before the EIR  
3 was out we went to Ben that visit a PWHRAOEUB rear the  
4 KWETSZ TRAOEPB staff meetings in other places in the  
5 city where we saw these choice impacts the. Every SEPBG  
6 willing person probably not it's probably medium that we  
7 missed but we did our best and I think my staff and I we  
8 worked hard to reach out we tried to TPRAOEUBG sure the  
9 PHAOEPLTings are done different times of the day we  
10 PHAOEUD that meeting mere close to Burbank to cloak a  
11 HRAEULT we this a streeting in SRAOPB TPHAOEUZ and  
12 meeting downtown AOEUPBL money as far as many of us have  
13 talk today me before I try pie best to be responsive  
14 KPWHREUPLT that we will take your up put and we will  
15 address the issues I think we can come up request  
16 something that we can all be proud up window wire doing  
17 is something good or the TPAOUT of the region you know I  
18 want to that I can STKHUR of may kids your skidded OURPB  
19 grandchildren wick all be proud much AB SHAOURD that we  
20 can take care of what away need and new issue something  
21 that we can be proud much.

22 SPEAKER: Did you ever speak to the tow leek a  
23 neighborhood counsel.

24 unused: I believe we did.

25 SPEAKER: Body.

1           SPEAKER: Just in general I don't know the  
2 SPWEFRBG on that neighborhood TKOUPBS we've done out  
3 pretty much through phone new e-mail newsletters to at  
4 all neighborhood TKOUPBSs wee made presentations to  
5 neighborhood counsel but specifically on that one the  
6 details and the date but you can AULGS look.

7           SPEAKER: Is will a TUFPRBT to have one now  
8 going forward is there an opportunity to have a Toluca  
9 lake meeting wick get everyone out when could you do  
10 that.

11           SPEAKER: But the document the EIR comments are  
12 due February 28th so we have time TWEUPB now and  
13 February you can work and with somebody whoever you want  
14 to designate to setting up the meeting come officer and  
15 have a chat why your community it's not a official  
16 public hearing but a coroner but talk to you get your  
17 TPAEFRPL AL will comments through the process but if  
18 that works.

19           SPEAKER: How can wee find out all the  
20 information we don't know exactly war a hoping for  
21 TPHREURBL \eye\I\A.

22           SPEAKER: AOEULG TKPWEFRB -FRBG a business card  
23 TPAOGS all on the Web side you can down load the  
24 information. Available for HRAOEUPLT you can tell which  
25 base to look into the EIR is pretty thick but I'll teal

1 you where to look the HRAOEUPLT of that sewer I can also  
2 tell you to look at the other PHREPLTs of the EIR great  
3 things that wear proposing this element and this project  
4 but wherever you think is right or Toluca lake meeting.

5 SPEAKER: My staff greater neighborhood a  
6 August 15th 2005 on this issue but that doesn't  
7 preKWHRAOUD TPRUS doing a meeting we have a list was all  
8 the neighborhood counsels we had over I would say 40  
9 specific meetings that came OUFT just before the EIR  
10 KAUFPL out in the beginning of 2005 many we went out to  
11 the communities that we THAOUGT are in close approximate  
12 to? Of knees projects we went out and we called and.  
13 Wide like to come over to Toluca lake. One of my things  
14 that I always say what we're doing is for you and has to  
15 be by you everything is this is for you it's not for me  
16 or anybody else it's for the city TPAOR the community  
17 and for our neighbors so WAOELG work the detail SK-DZ  
18 we'll get to going.

19 SPEAKER: I want a further KAOPLT on PHUFPL  
20 thought has been given to actually having a route go  
21 through the L.A. river why is that not part of the  
22 proposal.

23 SPEAKER: To reach thigs alternatives we had  
24 many that we went to having it in the river. Understand  
25 the river is a PHRAOTSZ issue sewers you have have to be

1 able to access sewers through maintenance hallways if  
2 it's under the channel it's not going to be able to go  
3 in and STPEBGT it to repair it problem were the sewer.

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