# MEETING STATE OF CALIFORNIA LANDS COMMISSION

HOLIDAY INN SACRAMENTO DOWNTOWN - ARENA

FRESNO/EL DORADO ROOM

300 J STREET

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2020 10:07 A.M.

JAMES F. PETERS, CSR CERTIFIED SHORTHAND REPORTER LICENSE NUMBER 10063

## APPEARANCES

#### COMMISSION MEMBERS:

- Ms. Betty T. Yee, State Controller, Chairperson
- Ms. Eleni Kounalakis, Lieutenant Governor
- Ms. Keely Bosler, Director of Department of Finance, represented by Ms. Gayle Miller

#### STAFF:

- Ms. Jennifer Lucchesi, Executive Officer
- Mr. Colin Connor, Assistant Executive Officer
- Mr. Seth Blackmon, Chief Counsel

#### ALSO PRESENT:

- Ms. Mary Bernier, Interfaith Peace Coalition
- Mr. Francis Coats
- Ms. Randa Coniglio, Port of San Diego
- Ms. Molly Croll, American Wind Energy Association, California
- Mr. Mike DiBernardo, Port of Los Angeles
- Dr. Mark Gold, California Natural Resources Agency
- Mr. Bob Grundstrom, California Resources Corporation
- Ms. Linda Krop, Environmental Defense Center
- Mr. David Labitique, Port of Los Angeles
- Mr. Bill Magavern, Coalition for Clean Air
- Ms. Patricia Miller

# APPEARANCES CONTINUED

# ALSO PRESENT:

- Ms. Diane Oshima, Port of San Francisco
- Ms. Kathryn Phillips, Sierra Club
- Mr. Tom Rudolph, The Pew Charitable Trusts
- Ms. Jennifer Savage, Surfrider Foundation
- Ms. Kanyon "Coyote Woman" Sayers-Roods, Indian Canyon Mutsun Band of Costanoan Ohlone
- Ms. Theresa Simsiman, American Whitewater
- Mr. Dan Slanker, Redwood Creek Association
- Mr. Edward Stancil
- Mr. Creed Stedman, Auburn Indian Community
- Ms. Mari Rose Taruc, Environmental Justice Community Representative
- Ms. Kathy Yhip, Southern California Edison
- Mr. Jay Ziegler, The Nature Conservancy

I N D E X

PAGE

I 10:00 AM - Open Session

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II Consent Calendar 01

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The following item is considered to be noncontroversial and is subject to change at any time up to the date of the meeting.

Land Management

Northern Region - no items

Bay / Delta Region - no items

Central / Southern Region

O1 CALIFORNIA RESOURCES PETROLEUM CORPORATION (LESSEE): Consider adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration, State Clearinghouse No. 2019120471, adoption of a Mitigation Monitoring Program, and amendment of Lease No. PRC 3913.1, a General Lease - Right-of-Way Use, of sovereign land located in the Pacific Ocean, near Emma Wood State Beach, Ventura County; for full removal of two non-operational seawater intake pipelines and one non-operational outfall pipeline under the proposed Intake/Outfall Structures Decommissioning Project. (PRC 3913.1; RA# 05018) (A 37; S 19) (Staff: C. Hudson)

School Lands - no items

Mineral Resources Management - no items

Marine Environmental Protection - no items

Administration - no items

Legal - no items

Kapiloff Land Bank Trust Acquisition - no items

External Affairs - no items

- III Informational Calendar no items
- IV Regular Calendar 02
- O2 CALIFORNIA STATE LANDS COMMISSION
  (INFORMATIONAL): Informational update on implementation of the Commission's 2016-2020 Strategic Plan and stakeholder panel discussion to solicit input to inform the development of the Commission's 2021-2025 Strategic Plan. CEQA Consideration: not applicable. (A & S: Statewide) (Staff: J. Lucchesi, C. Connor, B. Stoddard)

V Public Comment

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VI Commissioners' Comments

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VII Closed Session

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At any time during the meeting the Commission may meet in a session of Government Code section 11126, part of the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act.

A. Litigation.

The Commission may consider pending and possible litigation pursuant to the confidentiality of attorney-client communications and privileges provided under Government Code section 11126, subdivision (e).

- 1. The Commission may consider pending and possible matters that fall under Government Code section 11126, subdivision (e)(2)(A), concerning adjudicatory proceedings before a court, an administrative body exercising its adjudicatory authority, a hearing officer, or an arbitrator, to which the Commission is a party. Such matters currently include the following:
  - Baywood, LLC and California State Lands Commission v. DOES

- California Coastkeeper Alliance, California Coastal Protection v. California State Lands Commission
  - California State Lands Commission v. Signal Hill Service, Inc.; Pacific Operators, Inc., dba Pacific Operators Offshore, Inc.; DOES 1-100
  - California State Lands Commission, et al. v. Martins Beach 1 LLC, et al.
  - Eugene Davis v. State of California and California State Lands Commission
  - Hollister Ranch Owners Association v. Xavier Becerra, et al.
  - In re: HVI Cat Canyon, Inc., Bankruptcy Chapter 11
  - In re: PG&E Corporation and Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Bankruptcy Chapter 11
  - $\bullet$  In re: Rincon Island Limited Partnership Chapter 7
  - In re: Venoco, LLC, Bankruptcy Chapter 11
  - John W. Lebolt and Richard A. Lebolt v. City and County of San Francisco
  - Madden v. City of Redwood City
  - Martins Beach 1, LLC and Martins Beach 2, LLC v. Effie Turnbull-Sanders, et al.
  - $\bullet$  Oakland Bulk and Oversized Terminal, LLC v. City of Oakland
  - Owens Valley Committee v. City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, et al.
  - People of the State of California, ex rel. the Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region v. International Boundary and Water Commission

- Public Watchdogs v. California State Lands Commission
- Renee Walton v. City and County of San Francisco; Port Commission of San Francisco, et al.
- Safe Embarcadero for All v. State ex rel. State Lands Commission, City and County of San Francisco
- San Francisco Baykeeper, Inc. v. State Lands Commission
- San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority v. State of California; State Lands Commission
- Seacliff Beach Colony Homeowners Association v. State of California, et al.
- SLPR, LLC, et al. v. San Diego Unified Port District, California State Lands Commission
- SOS Donner Lake v. State of California, et al
- State of California v. International Boundary and Water Commission, et al.
- State Lands Commission v. Plains Pipeline, L.P., et al.
- United States v. Walker River Irrigation District, et al.
- 2. The Commission may consider matters that fall under Government Code section 11126, subdivision (e)(2)(b), under which;
  - a. A point has been reached where, in the opinion of the Commission, on the advice of its legal counsel, based on existing facts and circumstances, there is a significant exposure to litigation against the Commission, or b. Based on existing facts and circumstances, the Commission is meeting only

to decide whether a closed session is authorized because of a significant exposure to litigation against the Commission.

- 3. The Commission may consider matters that fall under Government Code section 11126, subdivision (e)(2)(C), where, based on existing facts and circumstances, the state body has decided to initiate or is deciding whether to initiate litigation.
- B. Conference with real property negotiators.

The Commission may consider matters that fall under Government Code section 11126, subdivision (c)(7), under which, prior to the purchase sale, exchange, or lease of real property by or for the Commission, the directions may be given to its negotiators regarding price and terms of payment for the purchase, sale, exchange, or lease. At the time of publication of this Agenda, it is not anticipated that the Commission will discuss any such matters; however, at the time of the scheduled meeting, a discussion of any such matter may be necessary or appropriate.

C. Other matters.

The Commission may also consider personnel actions to appoint, employ, or dismiss a public employee as provided for in Government Code section 11126(A)(1).

Adjournment 176

Reporter's Certificate

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## PROCEEDINGS

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CHAIRPERSON YEE: Good morning. I call this special meeting of the State Lands Commissions to order. All the representatives of the Commission are present. I am State Controller Betty Yee and I'm joined today by Lieutenant Governor Eleni Kounalakis and Gayle Miller representing the Department of Finance.

For the benefit of those in the audience, the State Lands Commission manages State property interests in over five million acres of land, including mineral interests. The Commission also has responsibility for the prevention of oil spills at marine oil terminals and offshore oil platforms, and for preventing the introduction of marine invasive species into California's marine waters. Today, we will hear requests and presentations involving the lands and resources within the Commission's jurisdiction.

We recognize that the lands we manage have been inhabited for thousands of years by California's native people and take seriously our trust relationship with these sovereign governments. Today, our gratitude goes to the Nisenan, Wintun, and Miwok people who have inhabited the Sacramento River corridor valley and foothills for countless generations. We welcome Mr. Creed Stedman from the United Auburn Indian Community to come forward and to

address us.

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Good morning.

MR. STEDMAN: Good morning. Good morning, everyone. My name is Creed Stedman and I am the tribe -- and I am a tribal member and the Tribal Heritage Assistant at the United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria.

The ancestral lands of my tribe include

Sacramento, where we are meeting today. Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this discussion regarding the five-year strategic plan for the State Lands

Commission.

When the tribe was asked by a representative from State Lands Commission to open this meeting, the invitation included a request for our opinion with respect to priorities, challenges, equity, and climate change.

Because the State Lands Commission has oversight for lands along rivers and other waterways, where some of our most important cultural sites are located, the tribe is deeply interested in how strategic -- in how the strategic plan addresses these cultural sites and these lands.

In the past, when these sites have been damaged by erosion or projects, we have had a clear mechanism -- we have not had for clear mechanism for protecting, restoring, and stewarding these places. It is our hope

that the strategic plan will prioritize a path for this type of stewardship of our cultural sites.

With the increase in levee work and increased erosion associated with climate change, we have seen more and more damages to our cultural sites in these vulnerable areas, at the same time that the cost for such stewardship are being pushed onto tribes, rather than the management agencies or project proponents.

The tribe has always been an active steward of our cultural sites. However, when these sites are on land that we do not own or have access to, then such stewardship is difficult. Similarly, it is an issue of environmental justice and civil rights when the tribe must pay costs associated with repairing a cultural site that was damaged by activities associated with the project or development.

In conclusion, this strategic plan should include mechanisms for access, funding, and tribal involvement for stewardship of our cultural sites with the State Lands Commission jurisdiction.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to listening to details regarding the updated strategic plan.

Thank you.

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CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you, Mr. Stedman. Thank you for being here.

Okay. Our first order of business will be the 1 adoption of the consent calendar. Is there anyone in the 2 audience who wishes to speak on this item? 3 If not, we will now proceed with the vote. 4 May I have a motion? 5 ACTING COMMISSIONER MILLER: So moved. 6 CHAIRPERSON YEE: Moved by Commissioner Miller. 7 8 COMMISSIONER KOUNALAKIS: Second. 9 CHAIRPERSON YEE: Seconded by Commissioner Kounalakis. 10 Any objection to a unanimous vote? 11 Hearing none. 12 That motion carries. 1.3 The next order of business will be the regular 14 calendar. And we have item number 2 is an informational 15 16 update on the implementation of the Commission's 2016 to 17 2020 strategic plan and stakeholder panel discussion. this will be to solicit input in the development of the 18 Commission's 2021 to '25 strategic plan. Let me turn to 19 20 Ms. Lucchesi for the presentation. Good morning. 21 (Thereupon an overhead presentation was 2.2 23 presented as follows.) EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: Great. 24 Thank you.

Good morning, Commissioners and good morning to everyone

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in our audience this morning. This is an exciting special meeting for all of us today, because it really is the public kick-off of our next -- of the development of our next strategic plan.

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So before we get into the -- hearing from our stakeholders and understanding their perspectives and gaining their insights, I do want to just provide a quick update on our 2019 activities with -- related to our strategic plan. And I hope to get through that in an efficient manner, so we can all hear from our stakeholders who will help inform our next strategic plan.

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EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: So with that, the Commission formally adopted its first ever strategic plan on December 18th in 2015. That five-year plan has guided the Commission's stewardship of its public lands and resources for the last four years and will continue through the end of this year. Our next strategic plan will guide the Commission beginning 2021 through the end of 2025.

Since its creation in 1938, the Commission has been led by 20 Lieutenant Governors, 11 State Controllers, and 32 Finance Directors. And notably, 2019 marked the first year in its 81-year history that the Commission is represented entirely by women: Lieutenant Governor, Eleni

Kounalakis, who was Chair last year; State Controller,
Betty Yee; and the Department of Finance Director, Keely
Bosler.

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manages over five million acres of State-owned lands and resources, as the Chair described earlier. Its primary responsibilities are to manage the use and protection of these lands and resources through leases, permits, and other agreements, as well as to prevent oil spills at offshore facilities and marine oil terminals, and protect State waters from marine invasive species introductions.

The Commission's existing strategic plan enables the Commission to adapt to emerging challenges, while creating a meaningful and rich framework to effectuate State policy goals, promote public access, generate revenue for the benefit of the general fund and the State Teachers' Retirement System, and enforce the protections of the Public Trust Doctrine.

Our strategic plan is anchored in four strategic goals, one, being meet the challenges of our future; lead innovative and responsible land and resource management; engage Californians to help safeguard their trust. All founded on cultivating operational excellence through integrated technology.

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into some of the accomplishments and implementation of our -- in 2019, I do want to talk a little bit about our 2019-20 budget, as -- along with our revenue generation, because our budget does reflect our priorities and our values as an agency.

We have an approximately \$88.8 million budget. This continues the trend of heavy special project funding, nearly outweighing our usual baseline budget. For our decommissioning projects, including Rincon Island and Platform Holly, we were allocated \$44 million in the current budget.

For management of our Bolsa Chica Wetlands, we have \$2 million this year to continue to operate and maintain that significant Southern California asset.

We also received \$2 million to continue our coastal hazard removal and legacy remediation and plugging and abandonment activities. What that tells us is that over half of our budget, \$46 million, is focused on the decommissioning and removal of offshore and shore zone oil facilities and infrastructure. This gives some insight into our current priorities.

We also received over \$1.2 million towards the maintenance and operations of our new records management

IT project. And the 2019-2020 budget also brings a new forestry position to restart our forested school lands management program, plus in a new environmental justice coordinator, and an administrative liaison to drive this new policy effort.

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On the revenue side, the Commission generated over a hundred -- \$164 million in revenue and net profits. This was down approximately nine percent from the \$180 million generated in 2019. The drop is due largely to the decline in oil prices over the course of the year and in deductible expenses from certain operators' plugging and abandonment activities.

In 2019, oil prices dropped into the low to mid \$60 per barrel price from a high of \$70 -- \$75 per barrel in the prior year.

Most of the revenue, \$112 million, is from oil and gas royalties and net profits, of which \$79.2 million is from the Long Beach Unit in West Wilmington oil fields. Surface leasing accounted for \$22.2 million up from about \$20.5 million in 2018, of which, \$1.4 million went to the Lake Tahoe Science and Improvement Account.

Overall, the Commission's leasing activities resulted in 149.4 million to the general fund and \$6.5 million to the California State Teachers' Retirement System.

With 234 staff positions, the total revenue generated by the Commission equates to over \$638,000 per position. And since its creation in 1938, the Commission has generated over \$11.8 billion for the State of California.

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EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: Next, I want to talk about some of our notable accomplishments in 2019. We managed the return of over 7,200 acres of offshore lands to the California Coastal Sanctuary where these offshore lands can no longer be used for oil and gas production or development. We completed the plugging and abandonment of the Piers 421 production well offshore Goleta, which was an incredible accomplishment, given the complexities of the well, the teamwork between various State, federal, and local agencies, and the importance of this effort to the local community.

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EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: We plugged and abandoned 24 of the 50 offshore wells in the Rincon Island decommissioning project. And we've plugged and abandoned 24 of the 25 State onshore wells. The removal and the -- of the wellheads and concrete well cellars are underway, all ahead of schedule and under budget. The Commission sponsored AB 585 by Assembly Member Limón that minimizes

the State's future financial liability for decommissioning oil and gas infrastructure and ensures all lessees fulfill their decommissioning obligations.

The Commission, as lead agency, certified the EIR and approved the decommissioning of units 2 and 3 of the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station early in 2019.

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EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: The Commission also entered into a landmark collaboration agreement with the California Coastal Commission, the California Department of Parks and Recreation --

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EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: -- and the California Coastal Conservancy --

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EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: -- for a public engagement and planning process to inform the development of a coastal access program at Hollister Ranch.

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EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: The Commission approved the a landmark boundary line and easement agreement with over 180 property owners along the shore of Donner Lake in Nevada County that clarifies public and private property ownership and secures public access

rights to the lake.

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EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: From January 1st through December 31st, staff monitored 27 percent of all oil transfers conducted at marine oil terminals in California. During this same period, over 735 million barrels of product were transferred at these same marine oil terminals. Spills directly relating to these oil transfers during this time were just 0.4 barrels, or 17 gallons. That is approximately five parts per billion of oil spill compared to what was transferred, and that's all due to our prevention activities.

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EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: We launched a new online system that allows the public, and stakeholders, and applicants to access, submit, and track lease and permit applications. With this new tool, the Commission can also preserve and make available to the public digital copies of historical records that provide insight and depth into the lands and resources managed by the Commission and the history of California.

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EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: And finally, we launched a new web mapping application for the State waters offshore San Diego in partnership with the Port of

San Diego, which is designed to help users and stakeholders better understand the dynamic ocean space and ocean-related data offshore San Diego.

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EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: So there are many, many other accomplishments and notable achievements that I could go on and on about that we, as a staff, are certainly very proud of over the last year. And that's also just very reflective of the last four years of implementing our strategic plan.

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EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: With that said, I do want to talk a little bit about what having a strategic plan has meant to staff and to our activities.

(Sneeze.)

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EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: Bless you.

A lot of times strategic plans are just a document, words on a paper that get put on a shelf. That is not something that --

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EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: -- has occurred with this strategic plan. It has really served as an empowerment tool for staff, primarily because of the leadership of the Commission and the trust that the -- and confidence the Commission has had in staff to really

implement the strategic vision and goals outlined in the strategic plan.

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push the envelope and move and make significant progress on comprehensive State policy goals, including achieving gender pay equity in some of our leases. It includes closing the last coastal sand mining plant. It includes stepping up and taking responsibility for legacy oil and gas infrastructure that does not have a responsible party. And it has also empowered us to work and partner with various stakeholders across the spectrum from our public, to our non-governmental organizations, to our lessees and our grantees to just do better in managing the State's lands, resources, and assets.

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EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: And so as we pivot to developing our next strategic plan over this year, I'm really looking forward to hearing from the representatives that are here today. I'm grateful for their time, and their travel, and for them to provide their insights and perspectives, and frankly, their very direct, hopefully, and honest assessment of how we've done over the past couple years --

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EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: -- and what they'd like us to see moving forward.

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EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: And so with that, I'll turn it back over to the Chair.

Thank you.

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CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you, Ms. Lucchesi.

Any comments from Commissioners at this point?

Okay. Hearing none. Did you have something

EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: No.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Okay. Great. So why don't we go ahead and hear from those who are going to be presenting before the Commission. Ms. Lucchesi, if I could have a point of personal privilege to introduce the first speaker.

Okay. We have with us today the Deputy Secretary for the California Natural Resources Agency, also the Executive Director of the Ocean Protection Council, Mark Gold, who is just here to present some brief comments to the Commission.

One of the things I just want to highlight is so much of the strategic plan that Jennifer just referred to is predicated on the need to work in partnership. And having the leadership of Mark at the Ocean Protection

Council, which is also coincidentally undergoing a strategic planning process, much further along. But I just want to ask the members of the audience to please stay tuned to the Ocean Protection Council, a natural partnership here with the State Lands Commission, but also just some very, very bold initiatives that the Council will be embarking upon, and it will be the subject of the February 26th meeting of the Council.

So with that, good morning, Mr. Gold.

DR. GOLD: Good morning. I think I made it with three minutes to spare.

(Laughter.)

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DR. GOLD: So it's great to be here. And I'm so glad that you led with partnership, because I can tell you from the minute I started a little over six months ago, we have worked very, very closely with the State Lands Commission in every aspect of what we do, including working on this strategic plan.

In reference to the plan itself, what I've been charged to do by the Governor Newsom Administration, as well as Secretary Crowfoot, is to have a bold plan. And within that plan, there's a great deal of overlap with the work that State Lands Commission is doing and has been doing for quite some time.

And so there are four pillars of the plan itself,

one of which is the impacts of climate, both on the built environment, as well as aquatic ecosystems. We also have a section on biodiversity. And with each section, we have bold targets and goals, as well as actions moving forward. The focus of our plan's five-year period is very similar to yours, in that regard. There's also an equity section is the third section, and last is blue economy.

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And so obviously, each and every one of those sections, there's a tremendous overlap with the work that the State Lands Commission does. In the process of putting that together, we've had -- I don't even know how many drafts we tortured Jennifer and her staff to review.

But really collaboration was absolutely the key in what we were doing. What's unique about the effort and what we're trying to get done - and hopefully on the 26th we'll have approval of that plan - is to really not look at this as what the coast and ocean needs are for the OPC moving forward, but really what are the needs of the state. In that regard, I think there's even more overlap, since obviously that's the same lens in which you look at things here at the State Lands Commission.

And so to that end, talking about a couple of areas on the blue economy. It's not just talking about, you know, what are we doing on tourism, which is what everybody thinks about in the blue economy, but it's

talking about how do we get to a hundred percent renewables in a way that's looking at the ocean as being a contributor.

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Is there an environmentally sound way to move forward, for example, on offshore wind? And to that end, we've already invested some funds in really looking at the environmental impacts of offshore wind projects in a couple different locations off the coast of California. And so that's been a highlight.

We put in a port item in there. And who does more on the port than the State Lands Commission. So obviously, you know, the leadership on really greening the ports comes out of this agency really more than any other agency in the state. And I think that's -- that's another critical component.

And the area that we talk about all the time is -- in the state of California way back from when I was running Heal the Bay back in the nineties, is, you know, what are we doing as a state on aquaculture? And right now, we don't have a coordinated approach to that effort. And you have a commitment that we're moving forward in investing OPC dollars to try working with Fish and Wildlife hand in glove in putting together an aquaculture plan for the state of California that's focused on the algaes, as well as shellfish. Let's get a program up and

going that's consistent, and everybody knows where it's at, and do that soon before we start getting into all the debates over finfish that have been so controversial for so many years.

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You know, and that's where a five-year plan is actually helpful, because you're setting the objective only a few years out, rather than where we want to be long term.

Now, a climate that moves us in a completely different direction, because you can't really look five years out. You have to look longer term. And I'm sure you're suffering with the same challenge here on how do you deal with that?

And so we've worked with you very closely on sea level rise issues as an example, which have such a tremendous impact on our tidelands. And I'm happy to say we're moving in the right direction, trying to -- trying to get all the departments together in the state that have something to do with sea level rise, whether it's Caltrans, Office of Emergency Services, State Lands, Fish and Wildlife, not just the usual suspects of the Coastal Commission, the Coastal Conservancy, and BCDC to try to get on the same page on the principles that we're just going to apply on a day-to-day basis in dealing with sea level rise, so that we're all moving in the same direction

as a state.

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We don't have time to be inefficient in dealing with climate impacts and sea level rise. And so that's an effort we started even before the approval of this plan, just because that collaboration is just absolutely critical in getting things done. And hopefully, you'll see something from that effort really in the next couple months that I'm excited about.

So when you look at the things that we invest in at the OPC, a lot of it is research oriented, and -- but I think with the change in this administration, really trying to move forward more on the policy side I think is absolutely critical. And we're really trying to do that through this strategic plan.

And we understand that there are many, many areas, another one being equity, where the leadership certainly isn't going to come from the OPC. There's been entities. Departments have been dealing with this area for much longer, and frankly much more comprehensively, and strategically than we are. And frankly, in that case, we're going to follow more than lead in this regard in top priorities for this administration, which include things like access for all, and really trying to make that happen, and really working much more closely with tribes and better engaging underserved communities and all the

things that we do to manage the coast and ocean.

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So we have a lot ahead of us. The biodiversity side equally challenging because of climate. I've talked to you on -- you know, how disturbing things are with the kelp forest collapse in the north coast. We're trying things that, frankly, I never would have tried before. would have been completely against. And it will actually be on the agenda coming up on the 26th, where we're actually paying urchin boats to remove urchins off the north coast in a way that I would not have supported, frankly, in my previous career. But if I had not been dragged out there by my staff and some of my colleagues to actually, you know, scuba dive and see how bad the situation is, I don't think I would have supported such an effort.

But it shows you that we have to be bold, because the impacts that we're fearing were happening on climate are happening today. It's not something that's happening five years from now, ten years from now, 50 years from now.

You know, another example, I'm sure you saw was ocean acidification. That there was a recent study in the last two weeks showing that Dungeness crab -- obviously, our number one fishery, that Dungeness crab larvae are already vulnerable to low pHs that we're seeing off our

north coast and off the Oregon coast.

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So pretty disturbing. And as such, we need to be bold. And I'm guessing a lot of the people are going to be before you today are going to talk about how great you've been on stewardship for years, but the importance of urgency has never been greater because of the climate crisis.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak and share some ideas. I'd be glad to answer any questions you may have.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Great. Thank you, Mr. Gold.

Commissioners, questions?

DR. GOLD: All right.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you so much.

DR. GOLD: Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: See you on the 26th.

Okay. Jennifer, do you want to introduce our next guests.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: Yes. It's my honor and my pleasure to introduce Ms. Kanyon "CoyoteWoman" Sayers-Roods from the Indian Canyon Mutsun Band of Costanoan Ohlone People. Thank you for being here.

MS. SAYERS-ROODS: (Spoke in Native American Language.) Kanyon "CoyoteWoman" Saryers-Roods. I thought I was going to speak later.

(Laughter.)

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MS. SAYERS-ROODS: So I'm already catching myself getting physiological responses hearing some of these things. I am non-academically trained. However, I have learned how to speak and engage in community spaces that you're able to understand some of the cultural concerns.

As an indigenous woman raised Indian Canyon, the only federally recognized Indian country between Sonoma and Santa Barbara along central coastal California, we are a very small band. But my mother has led a lot of efforts around sacred site protection and that has led my career going forward to honor truth and history.

So when we think about strategies when it comes to protecting the land, when it comes to stewarding the land, where are the indigenous peoples and where is the prioritization of the original stewards of these places? Because if we want to talk about honoring truth and history, if we want to talk about the decision-making process, we need to have an inclusive purview around these histories. So when you start strategizing what we need to do, it's very reactionary. I actually call it primitive.

So we have primitive decision-making practices that are reactionary, like, oh, let's do something about climate change, let's do this, let's do that, let's filter this, let's change that. But instead of grounding

ourselves, starting an opportunity to be in connection with indigenous peoples, relationship building, community building, and then making a decision that is equitable, that is just, that is diverse, and that is inclusive, or I'll just rehash it and say the JEDI phrasing, because, you know, Just, Equitable, Diverse.

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And so like even right now, I'm paying attention to my body. It's very frustrating to hear that these kind of conversations happen, and then if natives were informed or not, did have capacity or not, are part of the conversation or not, it's disheartening to hear that how many -- can you phrase -- can you tell me how many acres were protected with the sanctuary?

EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: In this last year?

MS. SAYERS-ROODS: Those --

EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: Yes. This last year over 7,200 acres.

MS. SAYERS-ROODS: Indigenous peoples don't have access to that. We can't touch our cultural resources. We can't engage in educational outreach with our communities. We can't gather in these spaces to have ceremony. And this is counted as a success case. It's very exclusive. So I'm -- I apologize for a little emotion coming through.

And so I just want you to consider what does it

mean to think about -- well, my shirt -- decolonizing and reindigenizing our methodology, and instead of making a decision that's a little quick. I really appreciate the perspective that was recently just shared, that until he was on the ground and when he realized what's going on, that maybe the decision would have been made a different way. And I highly recommend that all of these spaces, all of these communities, before you make a decision about these places and spaces that you are impacting, are you considering how your actions and words impact not only yourself, your community, the environment, but seven generations. And does that consider the seven and more generations that have been stewarding these lands since time immemorial.

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So I'm curious if you have any questions, because I -- as the CEO of Kanyon Konsulting, LLC, it is my goal and -- or my community's goal, because I have an awesome team, to bridge the gap between contemporary and indigenous value systems. And my goal is to teach the teachers. Anyone who's in the position of educating the public, I want to be sure that they consider these perspectives.

And so when it comes to, well, school systems, when teachers put indigenous peoples as past tense, when school teachers don't consider their bioregion, when

school teachers don't have consultation about indigenous peoples. Nothing about us without us. And then that goes into environment, and that goes into State Parks, and that goes into National Parks, that goes into private land.

So I just hope that you would consider honoring truth and history, ensuring that the layers of history of these spaces and places are considered, because the timeline of these places, and inclusive decision-making practices that have communal accountability and reciprocity to our kinship of nature and our responsibility to be good ancestors in training.

So I want to say thank you for your time.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: I just want to express gratitude for your time, and your honesty, and your truth. And I think as we move forward in developing our next strategic plan, that is something that we hope that we will continue to learn and continue to honor. So do the -- are you ready to move on?

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Yes.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: Okay.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Let me hear from the

Commissioners.

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Commissioner Kounalakis?

COMMISSIONER KOUNALAKIS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

25 | I think -- oh sorry.

Thank you, Madam Chair. I wrote down, "Nothing about us without us", because we're regularly recognizing native peoples and native lands, but we don't always necessarily have representatives at the table in each of these decisions. So thank you for your presentation.

Thank you for reminding us and that is certainly something I'm going to carry with me.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you, Commissioner.

Any other comments?

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think we are ready to move on to our first panel. And with that, I'd like to introduce first Elaine Forbes with the Port of San Diego -- San Francisco. Then Randa Coniglio with the Port of San Diego. And if you guys come up and your name tags are up at the table. And Kathy Yhip with Southern California Edison, Bob Grundstrom with California Resources Corporation, and Mike DiBernardo with the Port of Los Angeles.

And it looks like Diane you're here. Hi. Over on the far left Diane.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Jennifer, before we get started, I just wanted to be sure, are there other tribal members in the audience?

EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: No, Unfortunately, we've had a number of folks come down with the flu, which

is -- yes. So we're also -- unfortunately, Jan Brisco from Lake Tahoe and Nancy Sutley from Los -- the Los Angeles DWP are not able to be either because they are both ill so -- so maybe we can -- we didn't actually coordinate who was going to go first or anything like that, so maybe I'll start with you, Diane, is that okay? Great.

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MS. OSHIMA: Good morning, Commissioners Yee and Lieutenant Governor and Commissioner Miller. I'm Diane Oshima. I'm with the Port of San Francisco. It's good to see you again. And I am expressing my regrets from Elaine Forbes, because she was planning on being here, but she is not feeling well and all sort of under the gun for some other projects as well. But thank you very much for inviting us.

I think, as the first -- as the first one up, I'm going to just kind of go from my own notes and to also applaud -- I'm really glad that we had the presentation on the OPC strategic plan as well, because the Port of San Francisco is a seven and a half mile long portfolio stretching from Fisherman's Wharf, which is very tourist focused, but also the center of the biggest fishing industry along the west coast all the way down to through the Ferry Building, through our historic districts, and down into the industrial waterfront where our cargo

operations still continue today.

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And in terms of State Lands' strategic plan and your leadership, it has been remarkable and really a wonderful partnership. Our planning and strategic planning is very similar to what State Lands is focused on, in terms of the diversity of activities and the balancing across many different public needs that we manage.

Environment Division. We have just completed an update to the port's master plan for all of the land uses and operations along the port's waterfront. And we're so grateful that Jennifer and her team were active partners on the waterfront plan working group, because it was important for our public to understand what Public Trust means, what are the duties and responsibilities, and who are the staff who are administering all of the services. It really was a great education for all of us, but particularly for the public to understand how it is that our agencies are working together with BCDC, as three trust agencies, for improving the maritime, the commercial, the recreational, and environmental facilities along this waterfront.

Climate change is definitely one of our big drivers here. And the waterfront plan update was really

around starting that public conversation. Even though we don't have the solution, but to start the public conversation, so that people can start to get aligned and acquainted with the scope of the issues that are facing San Francisco in support of what we now have as a waterfront resilience program.

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And I wanted to call out Brad Benson, who's here today also, who's available to answer questions about the Embarcadero Seawall Project, which many of you may have been familiar of. That's a -- initially was identified as a seismic -- urgent seismic retrofit need, but obviously any investments over time will have to incorporate adaptation for rising seas as well.

But then we've also extended that program through the entire seven and a half mile of the port's property and we're coordinating with the City of San Francisco to integrate a city resilience plan. And I think the partnership opportunities and the learning opportunities between our efforts, other ports, and State Lands is going to be important, so that the alignment that is being sought in all of the State efforts that you have are being brought forth down onto the local as well.

I think one of the things that the resilience program offers is a case study for different problem solution strategies and specific investments. We won't

necessarily have everything covered and we won't necessarily get everything a hundred percent right. But I think that working with the regulatory agencies, our Trust agencies, and the public to align what it is that we think are the proper steps to take and the priorities will help us all understand what we learn in the successes and the lessons that we take into each round of resilience investments and improvements.

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I'd like to just highlight one of the examples that we're facing right now is along the Embarcadero.

It's not only the seawall, but also the finger piers -the historic finger piers that line the embarcadero, from the ferry building, on through to Fisherman's Wharf, and down to the ballpark, if you're familiar with those.

We have had a long working relationship with State Lands on aligning and really developing a tailored Public Trust strategy to allow for the ballpark, the Ferry Building, and these projects. And now, we have, with Jennifer's team, developed updated policies to help form more saving of these port resources that incorporate flood protections and adaptation, so that we can try and retain these resources for the next few decades, while we are planning for what the higher waters dictate for a future waterfront, along the San Francisco shoreline.

So that partnership has been important. I think

I also want to emphasize that the planning, whether for OPC or for Coastal Commission, we'd like to be able to be part of the conversation on emphasizing the importance of ports, and water-dependent industries, and the need for protections in place, not only the replacement and the upgrade for adapting to higher water levels.

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Ports are a major economic element for the State economy, as well as for the San Francisco Bay region. And our efforts are really focused on maintaining the stability of the revenues and the economic, and the jobs associated with Public Trust maritime industries, while we're also developing the port for public-oriented uses, and the open space system that's been developed, but to maintain stability for the many different jobs and industries that our region requires.

And the OPC plan we would like to work further with you all to make sure that there are protection in place climate change adaptation strategies, as well as longer term lifestyle replacement strategies going forward.

In terms of sustainable growth and how we are addressing some of the equity objectives that have been discussed, I really applaud the representative from Ohlone Tribe, because we have found the same thing in terms of having the conversations about what the issues are before

coming up with any proposed policies or strategies, that has been the transparency. The true two-way conversations have been very instrumental in our ability to make a lot of progress on updating our policies for the public's understanding.

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We are now trying to implement projects based on policy updates that were produced through the waterfront plan working group public process and are very confident and grateful for the partnership from the public as well as our State Lands and public agency partners to support rehabilitating more of our port facilities, our maritime functions, and trying to maintain a balance, so that any investment really delivers public access, maritime operations, new environmental technologies, and sea level rise adaptation.

So with that, I will wrap-up my comments here and look forward to the conversations.

I guess one last thing that I would add, I forgot to mention, is for the future strategic plan, the opportunity for the ports and the stakeholders here to actually gather more frequently to share best practices and strategies amongst ourselves on projects on the ground that we're all trying to manage would help with that alignment and efficient sharing of strategies and hopefully public investments as well.

Thank you.

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CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you very much, Ms. Oshima.

And what we'll do is we'll hear comments from each of you and then we will engage the Commissioners' questions.

Please.

MS. CONIGLIO: Do you want to go in order like this?

EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: Yes, that's perfect.

MS. CONIGLIO: Hi. My name is Randa Coniglio.

I'm the President and CEO or Executive Director of the

Port of San Diego. Thank you so much for having us today
and congratulations on this process. I think it's already
been really enlightening and interesting for me. I'm sure
it has been for you and I think it's just fabulous how
you've put together such an inclusive process.

At the Port of San Diego, we view the State Lands Commission as one of our most valued partners. In fact, Jennifer and I have known each other for probably close to 20 years, when we were both baby staffers at our respective agencies. And I really value our relationship of mutual appreciation and trust. And I think that the partnership between the Port of San Diego and the State Lands Commission is one of our most effective and

productive partnerships.

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We're really happy -- we were happy to participate in the development of the last strategic plan and honored to be invited to participate in your second iteration.

I'm going to focus on four ideas that we think might warrant consideration in development of your next strategic plan and we'll see if that's helpful at all.

So first, the acknowledgement and sometimes even emphasis in your current strategic plan of the partnership between the Commission, and ports, and harbors. I really appreciate -- we appreciate and think that that's important. Of all State agencies, I think the State Lands Commission has probably the deepest understanding of what we do as ports on the coast of California.

In the words of your plan, the Commission and its staff have a proven record of successfully partnering with these ports and harbor districts to facilitate and promote responsible maritime commerce, navigation, trade, and waterfront revitalization.

I think the Port of San Diego and the State Lands
Commission have lived that partnership and could probably
come up with dozens of instances historically and
particularly this last year with our ocean planning
process and the ocean mapping. I'd like to see us look

for ways to continue to institutionalize those partnerships and create more joint endeavors that can help us together better serve the Public Trust. So that's the first theme or principle.

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Secondly, I think you might want to consider an acknowledgement that environmental goals and economic growth are not always mutually exclusive. The current strategic plan talks a lot about balancing environmental goals with economic growth. And while that is often something we need to figure out a way to do, I think we've experienced examples where the two are -- can be accomplished at the same time.

So, for example, we're working a pilot program right now with respect to planning for sea level rise, where we're -- rather than protecting the shoreline traditionally, protecting it with a new concrete product that is -- I think the word is biophilic, but it encourages the life in the water to actually attach to it and live in it. And it's shaped like little tide pools, so it's called eco-concrete or ecocrete. And it will actually be creating habitat while protecting the shoreline. So we've just installed some of that in some of our areas to pilot that project.

But it's a good example of accomplishing two things at once, I guess I would say. I think the State

Lands Commission could can be a catalyst to encourage that kind of innovation statewide. You're well set up to do that.

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The third principle -- and I'm going to talk about another example of that a little later with respect to wetlands restoration. The third principle is something that we really value is that the State Lands Commission should continue to be a facilitator between State agencies and ports. And like I mentioned earlier, because of your understanding of the importance of and the functions of ports, we sometimes call on you all to help us navigate things between other State agencies that impact our port.

Not all State agencies are experts in what we do or even have a general idea and sometimes are very aggressive in their desires for implementation -- implementation and phasing of regulations that impact us.

So, for example, the Port of San Diego -- at the Port of San Diego, we're firm believers in electrification. We were the first port to implement shore power for our cruise ships. But now as CARB wrestles with how to implement more shore power, sometimes they're considering timelines that don't allow for the appropriate engineering and CEQA processing.

So in the past, State Lands has helped us facilitate conversations and adjustment of some of those

regulations. And we think that that's an important role that you all could play to help the ports and harbors comply and continue to provide the jobs and promote the things that we do.

Fourthly, with respect to revenue generation, we think that you're probably going to have to be very creative. And I was impressed by the accomplishments that Jennifer shared today over 2019 -- the 2019 calendar year. In fact, I don't know how you do it with half the employees we have. That was a pretty impressive list of accomplishments. But it appears that oil and gas revenues will not be achieved at the same level in the years to come, and that's going to require some creativity.

One of the things that we have thought about is that you might want to consider taking a little thing that we're doing in San Diego and how you can maybe scale that up. So we've got a project in our south bay to restore a salt pond. It's very creatively named pond 20.

(Laughter.)

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MS. CONIGLIO: And rather than develop this area, as we were being urged to do by some of our stakeholders, we're going to restore it into a more vibrant wetlands and then sell mitigation credits to developers. So we'll earn -- the model shows that we'll earn enough money by selling the mitigation credits to perform the restoration,

and improve the environment, and still have some revenue stream over and above that.

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What we were thinking is that with your five million acres of land, you might have an opportunity to really scale that kind of thing up and pursue projects that would increase biodiversity, increase carbon sequestration, and carbon capture, so sort of the offset side of all the greenhouse gas emissions reduction efforts that the State is undertaking, and maybe be able to do some sort of banking and mitigation credit kind of opportunity there, maybe with your grantees. So this mitigation -- wetland mitigation banking thing sort of scaled up many times over, and to accomplish other goals besides just wetlands.

So just an idea. Please don't ask me any questions about that, because I don't know of any model or anything, but it seemed like something that you might be really okay.

AGP VIDEO: Hold on. Don't touch anything.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Sure. Okay. Let's recess for five minutes while we get this resolved.

(Off record: 11:01 a.m.)

(Thereupon a recess was taken.)

(On record: 11:09 a.m.)

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Okay. The Commission will now

reconvene. Thank you for your patience.

Okay. We will now hear from Kathy.

Good morning

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MS. YHIP: Good morning, Chair Yee,

Commissioners, Ms. Lucchesi. My name is Kathy Yhip, and

I'm a senior advisor in Southern California Edison's

Regulatory Affairs Group in our Energy and Environmental

Policy Division.

Southern California, or SCE, we appreciate the opportunity to offer our perspective as a lessee in the State Lands Commission's development for its 2021 to '25 strategic plan.

SCE is a public utility providing electricity to over 15 million customers. And our service territory ranges over 50,000 square miles.

Electric transmission and distribution facilities are, by their very nature, linear facilities, so we span both public and private lands. And SCE holds leases from the Commission for both sovereign and school lands.

Over the years, our relationship with Jennifer and her staff has been built on respect and collaboration, with a shared objective for responsible use of State Lands to meet public needs.

One example of the Commission's successful implementation of your Strategic Goal 1.1 was your

decision, back in March of last year, for decommissioning of Units 2 and 3 of the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station.

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I'd like to acknowledge and thank the staff for their very diligent work in preparing the EIR and for the robust stakeholder engagement.

The Commission's approval for us to move forward with decommissioning allows us to proceed with safety and systematically dismantling the station that for over 30 years provided electricity to Southern Californians. We will leave the area in a condition that meets all State and federal requirements, and is fully protective of public safety.

To respond on a more granular basis, if you will, to some of the questions posed by Jennifer in terms of what should be capped or changed in the strategic plan, the plan, I would note, is very comprehensive and would recommend continuing with those goals as already outlined.

However, it may be contemplated as part of your strategy for responsible management or even improving your operational excellence, but one thought is to consider explicitly including an action item to review your permitting process to identify opportunities to improve efficiency and to improve schedule certainty for project applicants.

The intent of the recommendation is not, in any way, to reduce protection of California's resources, but rather to improve transparency about the milestones in the agency's review, and the expected time frames to achieve those milestones.

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In terms of goals or strategies that should be continued, SCE encourages the Commission to continue the balanced approach for responsible land and resource management, and your commitment to protect public health and safety.

Sustainable growth and environmental or resource protection is absolutely not mutually exclusive. To the contrary, a robust economy is necessary for Californians to have the means and mechanisms to protect their environment, and the State's resources, and to continue to enjoy a healthy lifestyle.

We also encourage the Commission to continue to expand the use of technological solutions as part of your strive for excellence, things like the electronic permit system, and the digitization of GIS records has been very helpful as part of your strategic plan. In addition to improving process efficiency, having that type of information readily available to the public fosters improved stakeholder engagement and allows for more improve — informed participation.

In terms of top priorities moving forward for the next five years, not to sound like a broken record, but we'd encourage the Commission to continue to prioritize the balanced approach for responsible use of lands and resources, and sustainable growth.

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We'd also encourage the Commission to continue to make decisions based on scientifically sound principles, and peer-reviewed studies as you move forward.

In terms of challenges for the Commission. One of the likely challenges that is recognized, but not necessarily verbalized, is the need for adequate staffing to accomplish the Commission's goals in a timely manner.

Almost every single organization that I'm aware of is facing the retirement of experienced staff, and the loss of institutional knowledge moving forward.

And as we try to accomplish more on faster timelines, not having that institutional knowledge, not having that experience can certainly hamper your ability to achieve your goals.

As to how the Commission might balance sustainable economic growth, including revenue generation, and at the same time protect the environment, improve equity, and address the issues of climate change, I don't have any specific suggestions.

I would note, however, that California cannot

thrive without sustainable growth. And it is absolutely not necessary to sacrifice protection of the environment and the resources to accomplish that.

Thank you again for the opportunity to participate.

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CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you very much, Ms. Yhip.
Mr. Grundstrom.

MR. GRUNDSTROM: First, I want to thank Jennifer, Seth, the State Lands staff for really building and developing a positive working relationship. And I want to thank the Commissioners for your leadership and for including myself in this very important process.

So I'm Bob Grundstrom. I represent California
Resources Corporation. We're the largest oil and gas
producer in the State of California. We're a long-time
partner and operator of the very unique public-private
partnership that is the Long Beach Unit and the tidelands
properties down in Long Beach.

I'm extremely proud to represent approximately a thousand employees and contractors from THUMS, Tidelands, and Huntington Beach, and also proud of the fact that since I've been with the company we've generated about \$4 billion of revenue for the State Lands Commission through those assets, mostly in Long Beach. And a hundred -- over a hundred of the 160 million in 2019 and our five-year

program plan, which we work with staff every other year estimates about \$485 million over that five-year period. So the revenues will still be there in the near term, depending on other changes ahead of us.

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But -- you know, but I'm in a new role at CRC and I come from a business and operations perspective, not from a government affairs or regulatory perspective. And my new role has really two key elements. One is to support our current operations, support our partners, like the State in continuing to be the operator of choice in California. We provide the power that fuel our modern lifestyles every day.

But the other part of the role is really trying to establish CRC as the company -- the energy company of the future. And the way we've done that, and the way we've set up a path is to really align ourselves with the sustainability goals of the state, and that includes protecting our water resources, that includes reducing methane emissions, which are actually ahead of the State's goals on, includes bringing renewables into our portfolio. We control roughly two million acres through the State and have facilitated 600 megawatts -- over 600 megawatts of solar on those properties by allowing -- allowing solar providers to put their projects in that same area. But we also are looking at behind-the-meter projects to power our

operations, things that we will actively bring renewables and solar into our facilities.

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But most importantly, from my perspective, the future for us is about lowering our carbon intensity. And we're aggressively pursuing a carbon capture and sequestration project in Central California. It will be the first of its kind in California, the largest in the United States, and once implemented, will be -- will result in a 30 percent reduction in our carbon footprint. This is amazing technology. It's something that we have invested \$8 million in already and there's a big road ahead of us, and be happy to speak to it more as we get to questions.

But I am a true believer in that technology as part of this solution. And I believe if we take the technology and a reliable, all-of-the-above approach to energy, to energy security, those are the elements that have been in the plan and need -- I would suggest should be in the future plans, so we can continue to provide local jobs, local resources, local oversight, over our critical energy infrastructure, energy resources, and also will work to -- the new elements would be to work to lower our carbon intensity, while still powering our lives.

And the elements that maybe we can come back to later with questions is just how do we encourage and

promote the operators that do the right thing, that are here -- earlier, the item was on consent calendar, but it was about removing pipelines at the end of a lease working with a community to do the right thing.

We also do need those operators to have a viable investable future, if we're going to have big projects like carbon capture.

So with that, I'm really excited to be here and I look forward to the discussion.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you, Mr. Grundstrom.

Mr. DiBernardo, welcome.

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MR. DIBERNARDO: Good morning, Chairwoman Yee, Governor Kounalakis, and Ms. Miller, Executive Director Lucchesi, State Lands staff, and quests.

On behalf of our Executive Director, Gene Seroka, I'm happy here -- to be here today. My name is Mike DiBernardo, Deputy Executive Director of Marketing and Customer Relations at the Port of Los Angeles. I also have my colleague David Libatique here, who's our Deputy Executive Director of Stakeholder Engagement. And we're here to answer any questions for later on as well.

Thank you for inviting us back again this year. We were part of the last strategic plan efforts that were done by the Commission. So we thank you for being -- for allowing us to be here.

As a legislative grantee of the Port, the Port of Los Angeles has enjoyed a strong partnership with State Lands Commission. And consistent with our trust obligations, we continue to promote commerce, moving 9.3 million TEUs last year and remaining the busiest container port in the nation, in spite of uncertainty in the international trade.

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Our executive director prides himself on three strategic focus areas, and those are business, community, and environment. Together with our neighbor at the Port of Long Beach, our complex ranks number eight in the world in terms of container volume at almost 17 million twenty-foot equivalent units that took place in 2019.

Cargo that passes through our gateway touches every corner of the State and nation. All 80 State
Assembly Districts, all 40 State Senate Districts, and all 435 U.S. Congress Districts.

As you know, we're a very diverse port, in that not only do we handle cargo, we handle cruise activities, automobiles, liquid bulk, fishing, recreational boating, and visitor serving. We appreciate the opportunity to provide input on the development of the State Lands Commission's 2020 -- '21-'25 strategic plan.

First, we applaud the efforts that this Commission has done, as well as the staff of State Lands,

on the work that they did in the past strategic plan. We do not recommend any eliminations, or changes, or additions of the topics to the next five-year strategic plan. We find that the existing plan was very comprehensive.

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For the next five years, we would reemphasize strategic goal number one to lead innovative and responsible land and resource management, which recognizes the unique role that California ports and harbors play for the State and the nation. We welcome the Commission's commitment to partnering with the port to promote commerce, navigation, trade, fishing, vessel passenger services, resource protection, and restoration and waterfront revitalization.

The strategies you have identified to achieve the goal are appropriately special for the ones that address the application of evolving Public Trust principles and the emphasis on public access, public health, climate change, and environmental protection and public safety.

Strategic plan goal number one, and its included strategies, provide an adequate framework for the port to continue to promote its competitiveness, advance the clean air action plans, and engage the technology, development, and innovation, and play a role in the workforce development and training.

However, maintaining the Commission's role with respect to trustees and balancing competing policy objectives amidst the complex array of economic, environmental, and social interests at play will be the biggest challenge, and one which we stand ready to partner with you on.

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For example, the State Lands efforts on environmental protection, especially in the face of climate change and sea level rise are of paramount importance. The approach pursued by the Port of Los Angeles and the Port of Long Beach in 2006 with the creation of the San Pedro Bay Clean Air Action Plan remains a landmark institutional response.

Since 2006, the ports have used a variety of innovative measures to reduce sources specific emissions, even as we had 26 percent growth in cargo. In collaboration with our customers, we reduced greenhouse gases by ten percent, NOx by 60 percent, diesel particulate matters by 87 percent, and SOx by 98 percent.

The current approach used by the Commission allows initiatives like the CAP to be adopted and benefit the private sector collaboration.

The Port of Los Angeles has developed a sea level rise adaptation study to address the impacts of sea level rise. We currently are revising our Port Master Plan to

incorporate these strategies based on the best available science and recommendations by this Commission.

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Mean sea level rise has risen four inches in Los Angeles area over the last century. With global sea levels projected to continue to rise, public and private shoreline assets will become more vulnerable to an increase in the frequency and the magnitude of coastal flood events.

This study identifies the areas of national leading seaport that are projected to expose sea level rises for the 20, 30 year, 2050, and 2100, and it provides an overview of the port's assets and vulnerabilities and presents a suite of strategies to adapt over time and become more resilient to sea level rise.

The Port of Los Angeles has added sea level rise to its current strategic plan, along with its engineering designs and risk management considerations. We also plan to include language around sea level rise in our RFPs and permits. And we issued our first coastal development permit with a special condition incorporating sea level rise.

We will continue to monitor the science around sea level rise and continue to update the study along with collaboration with both the State Lands Commission and our tenants.

As another example, we encourage State Lands
Commission to continue to work with individual trustee
ports on how to achieve shared goals on promotion of
public access and responsible economic development -increase the predictability regarding the consistency
determination process and the guidelines applied to
evaluate trust consistency of waterfront commercial uses
critical to revitalize the designated visitor serving
areas.

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Trustees -- trustee ports without the benefit of the economic engine, such as existing high traffic, tourism area, or downtown district adjacent to the port are especially hampered from the lack of specific -- of what can and cannot be developed in areas of commercial use.

Increase coordination and clarity on retail, entertainment, and other uses can contribute to the activation of vacant and underutilized waterfront areas attract a larger visitor base and further achieve the intent of Public Trust Doctrine.

In summary, the State Lands Commission's current strategic plan is a comprehensive framework with the trustees can address numerous challenge -- challenges. We welcome a closer partnership and support a balanced reasonable approach. We're here to support and carry out

your mission.

And thank you for your time today.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you, Mr. DiBernardo.

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So at this time, Jennifer, I'd like to engage the Commissioners with our panelists. This is a time -- this is not meant to be debate, but we really appreciate all of you sharing your perspectives. And I think we're hearing some common themes coming out of each one of you.

So, Commissioners, questions?

Yes, Commissioner Kounalakis.

COMMISSIONER KOUNALAKIS: Thank you very much. Thank you all very much for not just coming down here today and participating in this process with us, but for what you and your teams do every day to work with the Commission staff to make sure that our mutual cooperation is -- is as effective as it can possibly be.

So I have a couple of questions for you and the breadth of the work within your jurisdictions, within our jurisdiction is such that the scope can be very, very broad. Having been a San Francisco Port Commissioner, there were the maritime responsibilities of the port, but then there are other things that we've seen recently, for instance, around the use of these properties not just as maritime use, but also in the interests of the people of

the state of California. And we know that we have a major housing crisis. And there was a recent question of use of some property in the San Francisco Port around that.

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So my first two questions, particularly for those representing the ports are, first of all, can you talk a little bit more about specifically what is this next generation of activity going to look like in addressing sea level rise? You know, you talked about planters that are also like seawalls. But what are you -- what is the scope of how dramatically you think that our planning needs to change around sea level rise in order to be able to protect our ports.

And then my second question is about the use of properties at the ports for the current housing crisis and whether or not you think that should be something we should be thinking about in our strategic plan, based on the experiences that you've had over this last four-year term. I'll have one or two more questions, but that was -- that was my first one for the ports.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: That's great. Thank you.

MS. OSHIMA: I'll start, but it looks like my partner next door has some information to offer as well.

And again, I'd like to just point out Brad
Benson, if you want to be able to get more detail around
the port's waterfront resilience program. On the

resilience front, there are many different moves, because there's not a one-size-fits-all, even within the context of just one port, let alone a whole state tidelands portfolio.

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For our open spaces, we've actually been designing them, so that they are flush with the landside, the embarcadero, the landside fabric that we have to join in with, but incorporating designs to be able to cant it up to essentially buy time and to design edge features that are providing flood protections, landscaping that can accommodate intermittent King tide or other types of storm surges.

So on a project-specific level like that, there are some fairly simple moves that actually maintain the viability of the use -- the public's use of those parks and open spaces.

For our longer term developments, at Pier 70, we -- that's a 68-acre area. Twenty-five acres has been -- is being developed by a master developer in coordination with our shipyard area and then some historic building rehabilitation that has been completed within the last couple of years at the Orton 20th Street historic core.

But Brookfield is our development partner. And they are actually elevating the site and incorporating all

new horizontal, new green infrastructure as part of their, you know, 60- to 75-year kind of time frame for being able to manage the water over time.

COMMISSIONER KOUNALAKIS: How high are they elevating?

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MS. OSHIMA: About four feet. So they're taking guidance from all of the State agencies, including BCDC, and then, in some cases, sort of putting a little margin on top of that, where we have properties that are on solid fill.

So another example would be the Giants are teaming up with Tishman Speyer as a development partner for a 20-acre parking lot that now has been serving the ballpark closer to China Basin Channel. They, too, are raising the site by five feet to be able to support a mixed-use development with major waterfront parks and have -- so both of our developers are taking similar approaches to that.

COMMISSIONER KOUNALAKIS: And do you think that's four to five feet of elevation to mitigate for impacts for the next 60 years, is that what I heard, is kind of the window?

MS. OSHIMA: Well, the window now, depending on the projections that you look at at 2100, are going from three and a half feet up to six feet. And so, you know,

there is a calculated effort guided by BCDC and the developer's own investment decisions about how to raise that and then you still have adaptive design beyond that. So one is basic elevation and then another is, you know, park areas that can take water and can be adapted over time and still leave margin for course corrections based on changes and conditions that we don't know today.

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A best effort -- obviously, no one has the crystal ball, but there is a very intentional effort to try and be as forward thinking and to leave options open for adaptations to come around later on. The Mission Rock project in particular is within the Mission Bay area of the waterfront, for those of you who are familiar, where the Chase Center arena has just opened up for the Warriors. And that area, in general, has a lower elevation. So there's a larger discussion that's going to have to take place around how the Mission Bay waterfront should be adapting, as well as a neighborhood. So whatever happens on that larger plane will influence then what Mission Rock future improvements would be as well.

COMMISSIONER KOUNALAKIS: So the Warriors' arena was not elevated?

MS. OSHIMA: The Warriors' arena is, but the earlier developments --

COMMISSIONER KOUNALAKIS: Okay.

MR. OSHIMA: -- were not elevated. And so there are, you know, a lot of adaptation planning that's still ahead us of us there.

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So I think these two examples also speak to some of the housing question that you have, because, as we all know, housing on Public Trust land is not allowed under normal circumstances. And this really reveals a very close and sophisticated collaboration that the Port of San Francisco has had with State Lands in terms of state legislation that has been required for all of our major projects. And it has been really, I think -- Jennifer, when would -- when was SB 815? That was probably over 15 years ago --

EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: Um-hmm.

MS. OSHIMA: -- at this point, where we were recognizing San Francisco's waterfront is so right up against the rest of the city. And the integration of what we do along our facilities to not just meet our Public Trust objectives, but to serve major public infrastructure systems of the city and to weave ourselves into the fabric of the neighborhoods and the districts that are upland of that require some exceptions from the standard Public Trust rules.

And Jennifer and her predecessor attorneys have been extraordinarily creative and helpful to craft the

principles of the Public Trust in a San Francisco dense urban context, so that we could do trust swaps to be able to free up lands, to be able to develop for those non-Trust uses, whether they be housing or office that are the economic drivers for the clean-up and the improvement of the shoreline properties, and the creation of the public open spaces, and the public benefits that come from these projects, but also to do it in the context of how does Pier 70 fit into the rest of San Francisco, how does the Mission Rock project fit into the Mission Bay waterfront and into the rest of the San Francisco city at large.

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And in the context of the resilience program work now, that is taking it to a fuller scale than we've ever had to deal with before, because now we're really into major public infrastructure systems and regional transportation networks, the Embarcadero, sewer system for the city, transbay tube that connects BART to the East Bay, underground portals to our subways that are subject to flooding. These are not just port decisions. These are State and federal, as well as local, investments and decisions that need to be made in alignment. And that's kind of the scope of what the waterfront resilience program is trying to undertake.

MS. CONIGLIO: Hi. Thank you. I think at the

Port of San Diego we have a lot of similarity with Port of San Francisco and have a number of approaches, depending on the particulars of the area. So the tidelands that we administer go all the way around San Diego's harbor and include not only the sort of hardened typical port marine-related facilities, but also sensitive habitat and other development areas.

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So we have a large development in our south bay, where it's pretty much a greenfield development and we imported dirt -- millions of dollars worth of dirt to elevate a pad six feet. So that particular project is surrounded by parks, which are being designed to handle inundation. So we have to look at a variety of ways to deal with sea level rise.

I think most of our efforts, however, have been really trying to understand the science. We're very fortunate to have the Scripps Institute in our backyard, and have partnered with not only Scripps, but the Navy that we share. The Navy is sort of our next door neighbor all the way around the harbor.

And so together we have installed some -- a lot of monitoring devices to really capture what happens in real time with storm surge and so on. And we'll continue to work very closely with those partners to try to understand exactly what we need to do and when.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you.

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MR. DIBERNARDO: So for the Port of Los Angeles, as I mentioned, we did some things in our permit. But we looked at different areas. So we had the cargo wars and miscellaneous operations; the critical facilities, such as the power plants and so forth; transportation network with our on-dock rail and the rail network that we have; and community and commercial assets, as well as natural habitats.

So we looked at all those areas. There is some temporary flooding in certain year milestones that we looked at, both in 2030, 2050, and 2100. We noticed that the container terminals are in good shape. There is some areas like our liquid bulk facilities that will have temporary flooding further down the road. And we're working -- actually, as you know, we're doing the MOTEMS enhancements to our wharves and getting them prepared for the future and building them at the right height to protect us from any issues with the sea level rise.

So any of the work that we're doing, any new work that we're building, we're definitely taking this plan into consideration and making sure that our facilities are built above the areas that are -- or the heights that we're looking at for issues.

We're also looking at, you know, can you use

sandbags, things of that nature that are for temporary use, if there's a storm that comes in. And so that's being looked at in certain areas as well.

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So we have a comprehensive plan. Worked closely with State Lands on it. We'll continue to work with State Lands in regards to the sea level rise and what we can do to prevent any issues with our -- with our customers.

In regards to housing, as you know, the Mayor of Los Angeles has a very aggressive initiative, as far as the homeless situation in Los Angeles. There's a number of areas throughout Los Angeles that temporary housing is being built. We thank the Commission staff here for allowing us to offer up an area that we have for temporary use, 42 months, of using it for temporary housing for the folks that are unable to provide housing or have housing.

So the area is not along the waterfront. It's actually upstream a little bit within the City of Wilmington. But it's an area that we acquired through the PMA, through a land swap that we do with the PMA. So that's on temporary housing that we're doing for them right now. And then the city is looking at areas surrounding the port, that they're using for temporary housing as well.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Great. Thank you, Mr. DiBernardo.

Commissioner Kounalakis, please.

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COMMISSIONER KOUNALAKIS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

So if I can just suggest that in our strategic plan, we look at now what we now of as two examples, where temporary housing relative to the homeless crisis are happening in our ports and on our port properties, and look at that and see if we can't kind of flesh that out a little bit in terms of policy.

I also want to thank you, Mike, for talking about existing buildings and what to do in the context of sea level rise with existing buildings, because I think it's going to be really important to look at the innovative work being done at the Port of L.A. and other places and share that information frankly not just with other ports, but with -- make it available through our strategic plan process for others who are grappling with these same issues, cities, and counties, and towns all along the coast to see what the best practices are in entities that are doing this kind of work in our jurisdiction.

I think that can be extremely helpful.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: If I may, I completely agree. And just for a plug for our next Commission meeting on February 28th, which is going to be down in -- at the Long Beach -- new Long Beach City Hall building, we will have a couple of agenda items focused

specifically on our grantees, and the sea level rise assessments that were required to be submitted to us July of last year pursuant to AB 691, then Assembly Member Muratsuchi's bill, and where we're looking at exactly the -- those things that our grantees from our major ports that are represented here down to some of our smaller more boutique harbor districts, and what they are doing in terms of planning for sea level rise, but even more importantly, what are the challenges and the resources that they need and are experiencing in planning for sea level rise and developing the resilience strategies and the adaptation strategies.

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So that is going to be a major component of our February 28th meeting. And it will also help to further inform the next strategic plan pursuant to your direction. So thank you.

MR. DIBERNARDO: If I may also add as well?

In early December actually, the Propeller Club of Northern California actually brought all the ports together that worked on the sea level rise and there was a good collaboration between the groups, as well as the Coast Guard was there, and other folks and we talked about sea level rise and the best practices that each of the ports are doing.

So that was a great effort to bring all the ports

together and collaborate on that. It was a full day session in early December.

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CHAIRPERSON YEE: Yes, Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER KOUNALAKIS: So I have two -- two more questions.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Please, yes

COMMISSIONER KOUNALAKIS: Thank you very much for indulging me with all of this.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: No, no. This is the whole point of this meeting, so, please.

unrelated, but kind of related in my mind. And they really have to do with the impacts of transportation that we engage with at our ports, and one of them is air pollution. And if you could talk a little bit again not just what you're doing, but in the context of our -- of our strategic plan update, where do you see the next step in engaging with air pollution both from the maritime traffic, but also from the transportation to trucks that come and go from the ports?

So again, not just in the context of what you're already doing, but really in thinking forward as what do we do in the next strategic plan to help to really move this along. And I think of invasive species sort of in the same thing, when I think of all of the ships that are

coming, and going, and when they're bringing in. It's not just what's happening out of the smokestacks, but -- the air pollution, but also what's happening under the water with the -- with the ballast water, and some of the other species that can form on the bows of ships and come in and contaminate the waters in the California coast.

So if you could talk a little bit again the ports, but then also Mr. Grundstrom, you had mentioned that you have a program for reducing carbon emissions. It piqued my interest, so I don't know if we have time for that now or later. I would very much like to hear more about that.

Thank you.

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CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you.

Who would like to go first?

Yeah, Randa.

MS. CONIGLIO: Well, you're on that side.

Thank you very much.

At the Port of San Diego we are looking at -hard at electrification. So some of our actually port
tenants joined together to apply for a grant from CARB a
year, year and a half ago to get some on terminal electric
equipment. But more I think relevant to your question is
with respect to the trucks. And we have done some studies
to try to determine how far the trucks go and how many

trucks have more of a routine and shorter haul, so that we can identify places we could put charging equipment in order to try out some electric trucks.

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One of our operator -- terminal operators has actually purchased some electric trucks to try piloting that process. So I think the more that we can get away from the traditional gas engines and electrify that equipment, the better we can do in terms of air pollution.

Another thing that we are just right now doing after having endeavored to get this done for probably ten years is to fund some filters in a nearby elementary school for their air conditioning system, so not necessarily eliminating at the source, but helping some more sensitive receptors in the general area.

MR. DIBERNARDO: So as you know, the Port of L.A., Port of Long Beach is very aggressive with their Clean Air Action Plan. And we are looking at instituting a new Clean Truck Program. We have about 16,000 trucks that visit the port or that are registered in our concession agreements. We have put a requirement in that -- in fact, it was October of 2018 that any new registered trucks have to be 2014 or better, which is better than what the State standards are in place today.

We are doing a number of demonstration projects. We're looking at electric yard equipment, as well as

electric on-road trucks, but also looking at -- and we're tying to stay agnostic on the technology. We're not saying it has to be electric. We're saying it needs to be zero emission. So we're even looking at opportunities of hydrogen fuel cell. And Toyota is doing a very aggressive program right now with on-road trucks. And we're doing a pilot actually with Port Hueneme as well of hydrogen fuel cell trucks with Toyota as well as Shell in a partner in that. So that's zero emission and so we're looking at things like that.

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We're also -- the Mayor's initiatives -- both Mayors, L.A. and Long Beach Mayors' goals is that yard equipment should be zero emission by 2030 and on-road trucks be zero omission by 2035. So we're trying to look at ways of how we get there. And a lot incentive programs that are being offered out there in order to -- to improve the on-road trucks as well as yard equipment.

We also have a vessel speed reduction program at L.A. and Long Beach where ships need to slow down before coming into the harbor. That's done at both 20 and 40 nautical miles.

And then we're also looking at harbor crafts.

The harbor crafts actually generate a lot of -- a lot of pollution, so we're looking at ways that they can advance and be at a certain level with their equipment or their

tugboats and harbor crafts that are used around the port as well.

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MS. OSHIMA: So for the Port of San Francisco, we're very integrated with the city at large showing the city-wide transportation system. We really work closely with the Department of Environment and the MTA that sets a lot of the transportation and environmental policies, and then adapt them into our operations.

So just on a getting around the waterfront, I mean, clearly transit first is the promotion and scaling to bicycles, and all of the improvements for pedestrian so that we're reducing the used of autos as a general matter is just a baseline for us.

On the maritime side, we have biodiesel, renewable diesel, used as fuels for the trucks and the industrial equipment on the land. We have purchased a new locomotive with renewable diesel engine. And certainly the shoreside power, we're really looking at how we can develop -- we have one shoreside power facility now. A shoreside facility at our shipyard and at our cargo terminal, we're looking to see the viability of trying to create another shoreside facility for our second cruise back-up -- back-up cruise terminal.

And then on the ferries and excursions, our ferry -- we have partners in our tenants that are using

renewable diesel now, and a very environmental leader -forward environmental leader in Red and White ferries is
going for a hydrogen fuel cell for excursion in ferry
boats as well, and has a prototype in production right
now.

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So that's a very promising opportunity. And then to look to see how we can create fuel stations along the water front to, you know, promote that as more of a standard is included in our energy plans. And then high charge EV charging stations for electric vehicles.

And in terms of truck traffic, one of the things that has been a real success for San Francisco is to co-locate plants that are near the source of cargo that we're taking over the docks. So we have bulk cargo that's coming in over the southern waterfront dock. And just across the street are the concrete manufacturing plants. So what used to be a lot of trucks bringing in materials and transporting is eliminated. And so we're able to just have that as a very efficient center for industry.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you.

Other questions, Commissioners?

Yes, Commissioner Miller, please.

ACTING COMMISSIONER MILLER: Thank you. You know, I wanted to speak to the Port of San Diego and the idea that environmental goals and economic goals are not

mutually exclusive. I think that was very well put, especially given all the information we have on how you're doing vis-à-vis the -- all the environmental goals of this state, obviously, our partners, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 2045, and we're grateful for that.

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I do think this is an important point for the strategic plan is how we -- how we create that balance between our environmental goals and our economic goals recognizing that State Lands Commission is a revenue generating agency and that is one of our responsibilities.

So I thought the ideas, both looking creatively at revenue sources, whether it's mitigation or continuing to understand the partnership we have with the ports, or if there's even something that we haven't thought about as we work to responsibly decommission wells.

And then the other point, which none of you have specifically touched on, but something that's really important to our office is the bonding capacity of anyone that's on our State Lands. So that if something were to go wrong, whoever it is, whether it's -- whether it's an environmental group or a port, that we recognize the liability to the State, when something, in fact, has to be repaired or paid for.

So we'd appreciate if we could have some discussion about -- and we've started -- I think the staff

has done a great job implementing increased bond requirements to make sure that -- that we're insured should something go wrong. And we've certainly learned from past experiences in that regard.

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So those are our two points in terms of ensuring that the viability of State Lands Commission and continue our partnership and our goals -- our environmental goals. So I completely agree with you that they're not mutually exclusive and how we really work to coordinate those. So thank you.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you, Commissioner Miller. Let me -- I have a couple questions. And it really speaks to a number of different areas. First around the issue of transparency. And, you know, I think, as we think about our partnerships going forward, I think this issue is going to become more and more important, particularly since we are all working in this era of finite resources. And I think we need to just really look at opportunities of where we can be smarter, just capturing those resources but also working with them to meet our goals.

We talked a lot about sea level rise, but I wanted to just kind of shift to kind of air quality for a moment and to the ports particularly, with -- under the prior administration, I know that during the Governor's Climate Action Summit, there was really a lot of

excitement about ports globally. And I guess I always view ports as kind of being global enterprises. So unique to California, obviously, in terms of the economic impact, but really they have -- all of you really have global reach.

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So I wanted to just kind of ask whether you're engaged with some of the more global efforts with respect to initiatives like port decarbonization and what's been instructive about that that actually could be brought back to California where it helps us set a direction more immediately and then long term.

MR. DIBERNARDO: I think David might have something.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Okay. Come forward.

If you'll introduce yourself for the record and then please, welcome.

MR. LIBATIQUE: David Libatique, Deputy Executive Director, Stakeholder Engagement at Port of Los Angeles. So internationally, we are engaged in a number of working groups, I think dating back to about 2007, starting with C40 and the International Association of Port Harbor -- Ports and Harbors. They're with the establishment of World Port Climate Initiative. That evolved into a group that is now largely operating out of IEPH focused on decarbonization of the international supply chain --

maritime supply chains.

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So we are working with -- with those groups to identify policies that could be initiated at a regional level. Many of these policies aren't going to work at just a port or a city level, but need to really be taken at a regional or international level to really have -- to really have an effect. We are looking and working with the South Coast Air Quality Management District to explore ideas around layering incentives to try and incentivize the introduction and deployment of the cleanest available cargo handling ships -- container ships to California.

We're working with the IMO on new standards and also trying to educate other ports around the world about doing their own air emission inventories, and then building that up into initiatives that they can also implement in their own ports. And then we can work cooperatively on strategies and tactics that could help us get to the end-to-end supply chain.

That includes things like digitization, so a more efficient use of existing assets and resources, and collecting data to see how we can actually lower the carbon intensity of the movement of goods from point A to point B.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Okay. Good. I guess what I -- I'll get to you in a moment. You know, this is going to

be a fairly high profile area of focus for the Ocean Protection Council. And I think what might be helpful is really to think about -- I mean, I, for one, just need like an inventory of what all is happening, because we're all kind of working just with the goals in front of us. But I think from a statewide perspective, it would be really interesting to pull all of this work together, see how the Commission and the Ocean Protection Council can be helpful relative to looking at where we could utilize the resources of the State, try to advance some of this work.

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But its -- this particularly has been a bit frustrating to me, because while we've had just some great work and certainly great goals that have been announced more locally and regionally, I think, from a statewide perspective -- and I'm focused on it, because I think this one piece could do so much with respect to how we move relative to reducing greenhouse gas emissions. And so I want to be sure the State is doing our part.

Mr. Grundstrom, you had your --

MR. GRUNDSTROM: Well, not coming from the port side, but I want to make sure we talk about Commissioner Kounalakis' question about the carbon capture and sequestration project --

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Yes. Yes. I was just going to ask you about that.

MR. GRUNDSTROM: -- but also really thinking of it as the bridge to --

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Exactly.

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MR. GRUNDSTROM: -- a future of whether it's hydrogen or a decarbonized economy. Really the focus in the interim is on reducing carbon intensity.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Uh-huh.

MR. GRUNDSTROM: And projects like the carbon capture project in Bakersfield -- outside of Bakersfield, Central California, some of the details -- and it's -- it is early, and it's a multi-year, and billion dollar project. There needs to be a path to get there. And there needs to be a regulatory environment, and community, and economic supports that are required. But it is an existing power plant. Currently, a natural gas fired power plant. It's built. It provides power to 350,000 homes on a daily basis. So the carbon footprint is there.

The property is -- actually, California Energy Commission said it's the optimal location for a carbon capture and sequestration project, because it's remote. It's a property that we own and control. It's the old naval petroleum reserve in Elk Hills. It's a oil and gas facility removed from communities. It is -- also, can be tied into the oil and gas facilities, into the existing power plant.

So when operational, the plant that we're looking at on a 550 megawatt gas power plant would reduce a million and a half metric tons a year of CO2. That's 300,000 cars off -- off of the road through this project. So like I said earlier, it would lead to a 30 percent reduction in our carbon footprint as the largest oil and gas producer in the state of California. It's that bridge, it's that transition through lowering our carbon intensity that gets to the future decarbonized or hydrogen economies in the -- while also having local jobs, having local oversight and steps that can actually get us there without a trillion dollars of infrastructure change.

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CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you, Mr. Grundstrom. So, yeah, Kathy, please.

MS. YHIP: Just one note. I'd suggest you also, as you perform the inventory of actions being taken, engage with the utilities.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Exactly what I was just going to ask you.

MS. YHIP: We are certainly active in discussions and partnerships with the ports, as well as with Caltrans and metro, looking at ways not only to ensure that both — the ships themselves, as well as the vehicles reduce their carbon footprint, but especially along the I-710 corridor, for example, looking at how much time trucks carrying

goods from the port are spending idling on that portion of the freeway and brainstorming about ways to reduce that amount of time.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Yeah. Thank you, Kathy. Appreciate that point.

Yeah, please.

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MR. LIBATIQUE: And just to piggyback on that. A question was raised earlier about how to deal with truck congestion. The State Lands Commission may want to consider integrating more of its planning work with current discussion around the California Freight Mobility Plan. Increasingly, the discussion about freight movement is a systems discussion. It's not your traditional just transportation planning discussion, but it's integrative of a lot of other policy areas, including energy, the Air Resources Board, GO-Biz, of course. So it's an economic, environmental, it's a transportation infrastructure discussion, and energy discussion.

To the extent that the resources under your charge, State Lands, interact and interface with that system, there may be opportunities for the State Lands Commission to play more of a role there in advancing the policy goals that include congestion reduction, GHG emission reduction, as well as economic competitiveness and commerce.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Yeah, appreciate that.

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One other observation to make, and that is -- and the reason I'm focused on this is because I want to applaud the Governor for what he really saw, and I think really from his time here at the Commission, but a lot of what he heard I think were -- you know, what are those things that really could help be a bridge, right, to kind of foster this transition.

And so I think there are -- there's enough that he's put into his budget. You heard from Mr. Gold this morning, who will play a key role in terms of fashioning this Climate Resiliency Bond. So what could that offer in terms of some additional resources. We've got the revolving loan fund that could really focus on climate tech. We've got money in the budget, which I'm thrilled about, for nature-based solutions. And so, I mean, there's a lot in the works, but -- and I think I share this with Commissioner Miller, but -- money is great, but money is not great if it's not directed to the most efficient and, you know, really most impactful use. And so part of this is just to kind of get a feel for what all are we doing now, so that we know how to, you know, really direct these dollars.

And not to say this is enough to really get us over the finish line. It's not by any means, but I think

we just want to be much more strategic in terms of how we work together. And I think transparency will be very key in all of that.

Okay. So any other questions, Commissioners? Yes, Commissioner Kounalakis.

COMMISSIONER KOUNALAKIS: Two more.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Yes, please.

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wanted to go back to the marine invasive species question, because I again asked a compound question before. And we didn't really get too much on that, but this is an area where we're going to have to look at the strategic plan, where we've been for the last four years and where we're going. And maybe since the -- your colleague from Los Angeles who works on international issues is up here, you can maybe talk a little bit about where international standards are going around ballast water exchange and new technologies to deal with marine invasive species.

But this is going to be an important part of the update. So we have an existing program. We have some goals, at least one pretty significant goal about where we want to be on ballast water. Any additional thoughts about what we need to be thinking about for the purposes of the strategic plan?

I have one question after that, but I think I'm

going to ask them one at a time.

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MR. LIBATIQUE: Most of the recent discussion we've had around this issue has been around passage of the Vessel Incidental Discharge Act. And that kind of settled, at least in the eyes of the industry, much of the question around the standards that are going to apply in the State of California.

So in many ways that kind of ties our hands to a great degree. Internationally, I would have to get back to you about where that discussion resides. But with respect to California versus the rest of the U.S., I thought the passage of that Act was definitive.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: I will just add that right now the EPA is going through their rulemaking effort to develop regulations to implement that section of the -- or the Vessel Incidental Discharge Act. And maybe especially over the course of this year, as we're both in parallel, participating in that rulemaking effort, and really advocating for the protection of State waters, and in conjunction developing our strategic plan that we really work with our port partners to help leverage our relationships, both with the federal regulatory agencies with the international community to ensure that our participation in the rulemaking effort is as effective, and we're leveraging the power that we can in that way,

and that is reflective in our strategic plan, especially if things change in the future.

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COMMISSIONER KOUNALAKIS: Okay. Last question, again which I think has been really salient to the -- to the most recent strategic plan that we need to be thinking about projecting forward, and that has to do with something we got a little bit of a briefing on when we opened this session, which is the closure of offshore wells and some onshore wells as well.

And what we've seen very unfortunately is a pattern of companies that, as soon as they've exhausted the use of these offshore wells, they tend to take the companies, maybe the local affiliate of the company that's operating these wells, throw them into bankruptcy and then essentially leave the State in charge of capping, closing, and disassembling the site, which can cost the taxpayers of California tens of millions of dollars.

So the State Lands staff again over the last few years has been very forward-leaning on addressing this in advance by creating mechanisms to raise resources in advance in order to anticipate the possibility of a company basically abandoning and throwing these -- the companies that control the wells into bankruptcy, and then we have to come in and figure out to close them down.

Any thoughts from this panel about -- you know,

because you're all experts, not necessarily in direct jurisdiction, but you work closely with us. And this is a really important issue for us. And probably if -- the most costly thing that we, as stewards of the Public Trust, have had to deal with.

So I'd appreciate from this panel any thoughts about what more we can do to ensure accountability, so that the taxpayers and the people are not left holding the bag.

MR. GRUNDSTROM: As the oil and gas person on the panel, I'll go first.

(Laughter.)

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MR. GRUNDSTROM: And it's part of my answer, it's about being proactive. There's really two elements to it. It's being proactive, which I think we've accomplished here in the two main fields where we heavily interact and where the State would have the most exposure, that's in Huntington Beach and in Wilmington. But it's also about having a viable future, an investable future where there's a continued encouragement in the maintenance of the assets and a continued encouragement in the innovation around the assets.

Unfortunately, the two examples -- two of the examples the State is dealing with were companies that did not have diverse assets and did not have a viable future,

due to events related to their facilities or the facilities they were connected to. So part of being proactive is making sure that you always have a viable future.

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And that's -- those are things that we've done through our diversity of our assets as CRC, but also through direct relations and interaction with staff and State Lands here in Sacramento to be proactive in Huntington Beach with the lease amendment a couple -- three years ago now, where we have provided a security lien on 90 acres of ocean-front property.

It's a pretty valuable resource underlying the oil and gas field, in addition to agreeing proactively beyond any regulations or measures required by CalGEM or DOGGR at the time, to abandon wells on Platform Emmy and to agree to abandon all idle wells over a five-year period. We're more than halfway there.

We have a commitment to work with third-party consultants InterAct to -- I believe State Lands is working with on some of these projects to provide estimates for the potential exposure, if there were to be a doomsday scenario, or if -- you know, if there were to be a liability that came from those properties. We did that prospectively, proactively in advance of requirements through legislation or in advance of any needs -- actual

needs for it.

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So we've been proactive there in Huntington Beach and also we've been proactive in Wilmington, where we've helped lobby for an increase in the Oil Trust Fund abandonment liability, which is at \$300 million today -- funded at 300 million. We've lobbied to increase that. And we work regularly to do what we can to lower that long-term liability, but really be proactive. Let's increase that in advance.

So those are the two key elements is the viable, investable future, which is -- and diverse I think is critical, and secondly being proactive about any sort of sureties, abandonment requirements. Don't wait until it becomes a problem. Talk about it before.

COMMISSIONER KOUNALAKIS: Did you -- did staff have any thoughts about this, because again I know it's a -- it's a big part of the work that you're focused on.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: Right. Yes. Well, Mr. Grundstrom talked about, I think, the two examples most recent that we have been very involved in working on, the lease amendment with the Huntington Beach assets, which was really a creative solution that bore out of not only our experience with Platform Holly and with Rincon Island, but also understanding the bond market, and realizing that that was not at a capacity that could

actually fulfill and meet the requirements that California had.

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And so with companies like CRC being creative in how we bridge that gap between existing bonding capacity and markets, and the actual exposure that the State faces, coming up with things like the lien on the upland property that Mr. Grundstrom mentioned.

I would also say that this is something that we'd love to engage with our grantees and lessees on, because it's not obviously just oil and gas facilities. It's all kinds of infrastructure on State property that we are grappling with end of life, and what that means when the lessee or the owner of that infrastructure -- because the State Lands Commission really just owns the land underneath it -- when the owner of that infrastructure is no longer capable of fulfilling its obligations to remove and restore the leased premises.

So it's -- really, I think there's a lot of cross-cutting themes, particularly with ports that manage significant assets along with our major commercial and industrial lessees that have similar concerns.

So that's something that we hope to be able to learn from and then infuse our next strategic plan with ideas on how to deal with in the future.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Great. Thank you. As we

conclude this panel, several of you have made mention of this. But I wanted to just put a pin on a couple of issues. One is we have the foundation of where we carry out the business of the Commission, you know, really looking at integrative technologies to achieve operational excellence. I don't want to forget about the people part of this. I think the statement about the institutional knowledge could not have been understated. And so if there's a way to continue to look at how to be innovative in terms of continuing to develop the -- you know, the human capital that's going to be required in terms of all of us moving forward.

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And then secondly as we talk and continue to value the partnerships that we -- in which we engage to do our work together, I do think there's probably a need to stress, and maybe it's the times that we're in hopefully to be looking different soon, but the idea about advocacy.

You know, we're charting into a lot of new territory, I think, in terms of the advocacy. It's probably going to look very, very different. We're going to have different kinds of partnerships, not necessarily the usual, you know, kinds of partnerships going in. Just really trying to be very, very vocal about the goals that we're trying to achieve, certainly and the mission of this Commission, but that advocacy is very much a part of the

partnership work that we're going to be doing going forward as well.

Okay. Other comments from Commissioners?

I want to thank all of the panelists for a very, very robust conversation. To be continued. But very much appreciate the observations and really the forthrightness and the honesty about what this Commission needs to really focus on going forward. And we look forward to our continued work on the plan.

Thank you all very much.

(Applause.)

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CHAIRPERSON YEE: I want to just check with our audio/video folks. Do you need a break or are we okay?

Okay. We're good. Very good. All right. So I think Jennifer -- oh, okay.

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THE COURT REPORTER: (Nods head.)

19 EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: Maybe five minutes.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Sure.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: And it will help us get set up for the next panel.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Absolutely.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: Okay.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: That would be great. Thank

you. We'll take a five-minute break then.

(Off record: 12:18 p.m.)

(Thereupon a recess was taken.)

(On record: 12:35 p.m.)

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Okay. All right. There we go.

Thank you.

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We'll proceed with the second panel. And let me turn it over to Ms. Lucchesi, because I think we may have some time constraints with some of the panelists, so --

EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: Right.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: Thank you so much. So I'll just do a quick introduction and then if it's okay with the panel, we'll start with Mari Rose, since she does have to get back on the road pretty quickly.

So we have Linda Krop from the Environmental Defense Center, Mari Rose Taruc representing -- Mari Rose was instrumental in helping us develop our Environmental Justice Policy and implementation plan. And she traveled from the Bay Area to help provide some insights and perspectives today.

Bill Magavern from Coalition for Clean Air.

Theresa Simsiman from American Whitewater, Jay Ziegler

from The Nature Conservancy, Jennifer Savage from the

Surfrider Foundation, and Kathryn Phillips from the Sierra

Club.

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Thank you all for making the time for us today.

So Mari Rose.

MS. TARUC: Wonderful.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: There you go.

MS. TARUC: All right. I think I have five minutes roughly.

worked with the Environmental Justice Working Group to help expand the Commission's understanding of environmental justice and what that meant to us related to your jurisdiction of State lands. And there were several environmental justice groups across the state who poured a lot of their heart and their ideas into your Environmental Justice Policy. And I want to be able to echo some of those, so that it makes it into your strategic plan.

I think I want to start with a landscape of where the environmental justice movement is at this moment in looking forward in time, as well as three recommendations for you for your strategic plan.

In the environmental justice recommendations and for your policy, it's still about stopping the harm to environmental justice communities, disadvantaged communities, low-income communities of color when it comes to the toxics and pollution that is produced in this

state. It's about cleanup of existing facilities that you also have jurisdiction over. And it's about creating opportunities for our communities and workers to be able to survive and thrive through the time.

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Key -- key issues in the landscape are when Governor Brown extended the Cap-and-Trade Program, which the environmental justice community opposed, the piece of that that we are trying to kind of fix is that we need to see emissions reductions in communities. And so AB 617, that law, has a piece of it that's about community emissions reductions plans.

So it looks at the sources in our communities from ports, to freeways, to refineries, and power plants, and it tries to create goals so that we can see those reductions in the community firsthand.

Another opportunity is national conversation, but also in California and local jurisdictions is the Green New Deal. We want to be able to tackle the climate crisis and tackle our economic inequality at the same time. And so where are those opportunities together? And we want the big ideas to come.

I think it helps build on the work of the SB 535 coalition and the investments in disadvantaged communities for climate projects that I got to work with the Asian Pacific Environmental Network, and Coalition for Clean

Air, and other organizations on. There are ways to invest in our communities that actually cleanup, and revive, and revitalize our communities that are big climate projects that takes billions and trillions of dollars.

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I think with the Green New Deal also is the conversation around a Red New Deal around how we repair relationships with indigenous folks that are originally of this land. And so I want to thank that you did a land acknowledgement, and it recognized that that is an important piece of the State Lands Commission in repairing the relationship that you have with the indigenous folks that were removed from this land.

So my three suggestions for you in your strategic plan involve ancestral land returns, manage decline of fossil fuels, and diversifying.

So let me take each of those. In ancestral land returns, it was one of the biggest recommendations in the Environmental Justice Policy from the Environmental Justice Working Group that we gave to you. Recognizing that your history of acquiring the lands involved genocide. And so how is it that you can repair that history and that there's still opportunities to do that.

I think when I -- when I've -- I've been doing climate change work for a long time. And I think we could say that climate change started with the forced removal of

indigenous people and the original stewards of this land.

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And that we can solve climate change by taking lead from the indigenous folks who have thousands of years of knowledge about stewarding this land, and what are the opportunities to solve the climate disaster.

One of the campaigns that the environmental justice community is working on is the PG&E disaster, their wildfires, their shutoffs. Where are oppor -- where are overlaps between solving the utility crisis with PG&E and State Lands?

There are opportunities, like, we've heard the ancestral land returns that have already happened with the Kashia Pomo and the Maidu. And so can we -- let's learn from that and let's do more of that. And so, yeah, repairing those relationships and looking for those opportunities for ancestral land returns.

Second is the managed decline of fossil fuels. The environmental justice movement sees a lot of alignment with Governor Newsom's administration on his environmental policies and priorities around managed decline of fossil fuels. We think that that involves stopping new projects. And so praise the Commission on -- on the Puente power plant that is not a power plant, because the community, and the Commission, and others put a stop to that. So let's see more of that and lets not -- let's not introduce

the opportunity for any new fossil fuel projects.

We want to hear words from you like "decommissioning".

(Laughter.)

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MS. TARUC: That was lovely to hear that when the EJ working group was working with you. And it's like, wow, you can decommission things. Yes, let's see more of that, because EJ communities still struggle with oil terminals, dirty gas plants, nuclear facilities, you name it. They're still there and we want to see them gone. We want to see our communities become whole again and our relationships to the land and climate become whole again.

And so there's a just transition. You've heard us talk about a just transition principles moving from an extractive economy to local resilient communities. We've also -- and that involves talking and planning with workers and communities about how to take on a just transition.

I think I'm close to time, so I want to go into the third recommendation around diversifying. We think not just diversifying your programs -- well, yes, looking at instead of fossil fuels renewable energy that meet the needs of Californians, who are the majority of the state -- people of color the majority of the state, black, brown, Asian, indigenous.

And so to diversify even the relationships that you have in the community around those communities -- and I know I was -- I wasn't on this panel as of last week, but I am today. Part of it is you wanted to diversity on this panel, because there are a lot of environmental organizations that are still largely white. And so how is it that you're working more with environmental justice groups and low-income communities of color, so that your programming is very much in relationship with us.

And so that involves diversifying your community engagement, which communities you engage with. I still want to call the recommendation from the EJ working group around an environmental justice advisory group. How are you having consistent and constant relationships with EJ communities? And so that's one way or you may find another way, but it's focused on that, and part of the culture shift of this Commission in relationship with environmental justice communities and the climate justice and just transition vision that we have.

Thank you.

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CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you so much, Mari. And thank you so much for your leadership and your partnership with the Commission on developing the Environmental Justice Policy. And I can assure you it is really being integrated in everything that we're doing here.

Thank you.

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Okay. Let me move back down to Linda, if you'll...

MS. KROP: Good afternoon. I'm with the Environmental Defense Center, which is a public interest environmental law firm that was founded after the 1969 oil spill in Santa Barbara. And we work in Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo counties.

We also helped write the California Coastal Act in 1994 with then Assembly Member Jack O'Connell. And I want to acknowledge all the work that has been done by the State Lands Commission since then to change the map. And I think more than 20 former State oil and gas leases have been quitclaimed or terminated.

Most recently, the POO, Carone, Signal Hill leases off Carpinteria in our service area. And I can bring you word from our community that people were very appreciative of that act. I know it was courageous and controversial, but it did not go unnoticed.

The Environmental Defense Center, in addition to working on oil and gas issues, we are a participant in the BOEM California Intergovernmental Renewable Energy Task Force. So we are looking at that transition.

I also want to acknowledge the work of the State Lands Commission, in terms of dealing with legacy wells.

We deal with those issues offshore Summerland and Ellwood, and have been monitoring very closely the decommissioning of Platform Holly and 421 Piers, and want to share the appreciation again from our community for the transparency on your website, but also the town hall meetings that your staff have been sponsoring in our area. And they've been very well attended, and people are very appreciative of that.

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So in terms of the questions that were posed, what needs to be eliminated, changed, or added to the next strategic plan. We would like to see the Precautionary Principle up front in line with Pew Commission recommendations. We would like to see the phase-out of fossil fuels. We don't have much time left. It is the most effective way to address some of the key goals in the existing strategic plan to prevent marine pollution and also address climate change.

We would like to see concerted focus on decommissioning of oil- and gas-related facilities. Right now, there are several in process, but there will be more to come. We want to make sure that there are no new leases issued. And with the quitclaim of the Venoco Ellwood leases, the only threat in State waters now are the potential leases in the Tranquillon Ridge. And so I'll talk more about that in a little bit here.

We want to ensure that the Commission maintains the focus on public access, which will become a lot more challenging because of retreating shorelines and sea level rise that will narrow our beaches. And we're already seeing it in our area especially. I want to acknowledge Goleta Beach, which is subject to increasing erosion because of coastal armoring. And so we'd like to see the Commission help facilitate more natural adaptive management solutions that don't increase erosion and reduce public access.

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And with respect to -- specifically to platform decommissioning decisions that will come in the future, I want to acknowledge the Chair's comments at a recent decommissioning workshop that any decision needs to be science based. And we appreciated that comment.

And some of the issues that will need to be addressed include safety, invasive species, and legacy pollution, which we continue to see where the Chevron platforms off of Summerland were not fully removed. And there are huge debris mounds with toxic chemicals.

The second question, what needs to be continued?

Definitely the commitment to protecting Public Trust resources. The State holds these resources in trust for the public for us and for future generations.

Invasive species were mentioned earlier. That's

only going to become more challenging with a changing climate.

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Sea level rise. We would like to see continued partnerships and increased partnerships with local agencies, so that they can do a better job at adaptive management and natural alternatives. We'd like to see consideration of Marine Protected Areas in all planning and leasing decisions. And we would like to see continued transference of Public Trust Lands to the California Coastal Sanctuary.

We'd like to see more focus on renewable energy, including offshore renewable energy. And that's where the Commission could help with data collection, and again, a science-based approach in terms of planning and siting.

We appreciate and want to see the continuance of the coastal hazards and legacy oil and gas removal and remediation program, again in particular Summerland and Ellwood.

We appreciate the State's role in data acquisition, compilation and accessibility, and a commitment to public access to decision making. And one comment we've made on that in the past is when the State Lands Commission holds public hearings, one thing that would make them more convenient for the public would be to move public comment to the beginning of a meeting, so that

people would be encouraged to come and they wouldn't feel like they had to wait through three, or four, or five hours of hearing to speak.

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With respect to the Commission's top priorities over the next five years, we think it's important to stress the connectivity between issues, whether it be, you know, human activities, marine protected areas, invasives, the communities that are affected by the Commission's decisions. We'd like to see a swift transition to clean renewable energy. And as I'm sure everybody is talking about just how to deal with sea level rise, you know, adaptation, coastal erosion, and habitats that are affected by that.

The answer to the next question is basically the same. I think the Commission's biggest challenge lying ahead is climate change and how it affects our beaches, habitats, and infrastructure.

And then finally, how does the Commission balance sustainable economic growth? It's really important to provide equity for all communities, because all communities have a right to economic success, quality of life, and a clean healthy environment.

Information should be available in multiple languages. The Commission may want to consider where hearings are located to make sure that affected

communities can participate. Even hearings can be very helpful for a lot of communities. We want to note the importance of tribal engagement and consultation with all tribes. And I want to express my appreciation to the State Lands Commission staff that they do honor that. They reach out to all tribes. And we have a lot of unrecognized tribes in our area, and that's really important. And then finally, we support hiring an Environmental Justice Liaison.

Thank you.

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CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you very much, Linda.
Bill.

MR. MAGAVERN: Thank you.

I support the comments that have already been made by Linda and Mari Rose and appreciate the progress the Commission has made on renewable energy, enforcement, and environmental justice.

And I will focus my comments on the problems caused by the emissions into our air and atmosphere by the movement of goods in and out of California's ports.

The Commission has jurisdiction to act to reduce the level of harmful air pollution generated on these Public Trust Lands. The Public Trust Doctrine and California Constitution require that Public Trust Lands are held in trust for the people of California.

The Commission has residual and review authority over all granted sovereign lands. And this authority allows the Commission to investigate, audit, and review the administration of all tideland and submerged land grants for compliance with granting statutes and other laws.

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Although, the Commission has a great deal of jurisdiction over these Public Trust Lands, we think the Commission has not yet fully utilized all this authority, and we look forward to the Commission in the future playing a greater role in the oversight of Public Trust Lands to ensure that they are being used in keeping with the public's best interest. We think the strategic plan can be a vehicle for this change.

California's ports are very important to our economy, but they're also a major source of air pollution. And their activities have a direct adverse impact on the lives and health of California residents living near port facilities.

And Mari Rose talked about the fact that the State recognized in a new law three years ago that we need to protect the air at a community level, not just a regional and statewide level. And at the community level, we find that very often the most emissions are coming from the movement of goods.

The implementation of cleaner trucks, locomotives, cargo handling equipment, and ship emissions capture technology is urgently needed for many reasons. We need to reduce the premature death and illness in port communities, and we need California to meet our State and federal air quality standards, as well as to reduce our heavy contribution to the climate crisis, which includes the rising sea levels that we've been talking about.

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The good news is there are solutions available. There are zero-emission and alternative fuel technologies. And those are necessary for California to meet these challenges. Now, in the last strategic plan, you do have a targeted outcome to work with the Commission's grantee ports, relevant local, State, and federal governmental agencies, and non-governmental organizations to ensure port policies and programs are consistent with, and then cites a variety of the plans that the State had, which were relevant at the time.

Now, since then, of course, we have a lot of new plans. Something we come up with a lot in California is plans. And, of course, we need to focus on how we're actually going to reach the goals in those plans. So I would suggest that you substitute now the State Implementation Plan, which is how we try to deliver healthy air to Californians, SB 32, which, of course, sets

the challenging target of reducing our greenhouse gas emissions 40 percent by 2030, the carbon neutrality by 2045 goal that was set by Executive Order, as well as the State's Sustainable Freight Action Plan, which sets a number of goals for the goods movement sector that I've been talking about.

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So I appreciate the fact that Commissioners Yee and Kounalakis have already asked about the air quality issue. I think the Commission can help by supporting the vessels At-Berth Rule that is now pending at the Air Resources Board. This requires the ships to reduce their emissions when they're at the ports and can have a major beneficial impact on the people living downwind from those ports.

We also think you can help in advocating for more investment in these advanced clean technologies from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, from the Transportation Commission's Trade Corridor Enhancement Program, as well as other pots of funding, because it takes -- in addition to strong regulatory standards, it takes incentive dollars to make sure we're continuing to advance the technology and also turnover the dirty engines, mostly diesel engines, into the cleaner alternatives that we have available.

And we also would urge the Commission to push for

cleaner trucks at the ports well before 2035, because the people in these communities have been waiting a long time to get relief from the toxic diesel exhaust coming from the trucks serving the ports, and 2035 is just too long to wait.

So we do think it's entirely possible to balance these environmental goals with continuing to have the goods movement industry be a major driver of economic success and job creation in the state. We can do it by making the transition to these cleaner technologies and hastening that as much as possible.

Thank you.

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CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you, Bill, very much.

Theresa.

Thank you, Mari.

MS. TARUC: Thank you.

MS. SIMSIMAN: My name is Theresa Simsiman and I am the California Stewardship Director for American Whitewater and I would like to thank the Commission for inviting me here today to speak on this panel.

I am speaking on what we consider, or has been considered, kind of the low-hanging fruit in the strategic plan, which is access to our inland waterways. One of the accomplishments that we were very pleased to see was the 2017 legal guide to access of our rivers in the state.

And I would like to talk a little bit about our organization, and why this is important in the strategic plan, and to expand on it in terms of outreach to the public.

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So basically, we are a national river conservation that has a mission to protect and restore American's waterways. Our vision, our values center around restoring developed rivers that have been affected by hydropower projects, protecting the wild and free flowing rivers that we have out there today. We participate in forest planning to identify wild and scenic rivers in our state for extra protection there. And then lastly, the public has -- we want to make sure that the public has access to our rivers. So again, the reason why the legal access guide was important to us.

What we would like to see, in terms of the access guide - and let me just get to my notes here. Sorry - is a continuation of some of the key actions that you had in the strategic plan.

You've got the access guide. But what we would like to see is the outreach to the other governmental jurisdictions and to the public to be a little more robust. As I've mentioned in some of the discussions that we've had, we often get the public coming to us saying how do we solve -- we can't -- we're not allowed on this

river. The landowners are not allowing us on there. And first, we have to determine, you know, do they have a legal right to do that?

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And I have given this legal guide to many of the people that have been working on access at the bridges that are being replaced throughout the state over rivers. And there are some legalities about that concerning access and recreation and people don't know about it. So having this guide, I've been able to give it to them.

But the issue being that it's often hard for just the regular folk to navigate the State agencies, and especially Caltrans. And Caltrans has a legal obligation to do recreation feasibility -- access feasibility studies when they replace a bridge over -- over a river. And it's often hard for us to bring that out to them, because they just -- they don't have this legal guide in front of them. And we're often brushed off, not spoken to, you know, in terms of what needs to be done, and being told that we have to identify the rivers that are important to us and then go to them and tell them, instead of the other way around for them knowing that they have this obligation every time they replace a bridge to look at access to the river, and just doing it on all of their projects.

So in other words, it's kind of selective. It's random of whether someone is paying attention and saying

this needs to be done, where it should be done the other way.

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Also, later on, and hopefully with more dialogue with the Commission, we'd had like to address the brochure, because we do have a concern about the difference that was laid out in the brochure between Public Trust land, rivers, and navigable waterways, in terms of what can be done below the high water mark. I think that needs to be clarified and it is a concern of ours going forward. So I would like to see more conversation on that.

And then we talk about equitable access in terms of physically being able to get to the river, physically being able to enjoy the land. But I think equitable access needs to be addressed also in the information in the technology that you guys have improved. I went on the site. Love all the GIS information that you can download from the State. But the regular person isn't going to know how to navigate that.

So how do you get that information in a form that the regular people can use to advocate as opposed to having, you know, a masters in how to do GIS.

And then thirdly, the last thing I wanted to bring up is something that -- on everybody's mind, PG&E and the utilities. They have a lot of hydropower projects

throughout the state. And I have brought this up. They are going to be identifying the facilities that they are going to decommission. And how is that going to access -- affect the rivers in the State Trust. On the Eel, we have the Potter Valley Hydropower Project, which is going to -- they said they are going to decommission. So how are you going to navigate that in terms of how it affects the Eel River and the Russian River? And that is just one example.

And PG&E is only one utility. There are quite a few hydropower infrastructure that need to be decommissioned or are -- need to be improved. And I think the strategic plan should address that, how is that going to be taken forward?

Thanks so much.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you, Theresa.

Jay.

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MR. ZIEGLER: Controller Yee, Lieutenant Governor Kounalakis, Director -- or Commissioner Miller, and Executive Director Lucchesi, thank you for the opportunity to be here today. My name is Jay Ziegler. I am representing The Nature Conservancy as its Director of Policy and External Affairs.

The Conservancy has worked very actively, in part on the last strategic plan. We've been a very engaged

Lands Commission, project partner, policy partner from coastal habitat issues to Desert Renewable Energy Conversation Plan, marine spatial planning, ballast water, and you name it. I mean, we've greatly appreciated the accessibility of the Commission, its -- and its interest candidly and best available science to address the issues before the Commission.

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And I think I want to underscore that I really feel that you've gotten a lot of thoughtful input from my fellow panelists. And I really embrace the comments that they've brought forward today. I want to talk about a couple of potential areas that maybe have changed since the last strategic plan, and one that's been informed perhaps a bit by challenges in working with the new administration in Washington -- or the existing administration in Washington.

But let me jump in. I mean, I think the new imperatives that we all understand the urgency of climate change today at a much deeper, more immediate level than we have before. And I think the Commission has an opportunity, by virtue of its Public Trust responsibilities and its lands and water portfolio, to really make an impact, both on a direct engagement, direct action level, as well as a lead on policy.

And let me start on science, because I think that what the State is lacking is a real climate clearinghouse. A couple of my colleagues have talked about the lack of accessibility of science that can really be understood in a decision-making way at -- on a street level. And I think that that's -- we really need to dis -- de-mystify that. And the State could look at models like Australia's National Science Program, the CSIRO model, to really better integrate all climate information as we begin to make management decisions at a landscape scale across California to really have decisions that actually hold, that have benefits for people, and more sustainable communities, and that have benefits for conservation and biodiversity in integrating conservation strategies on a much more holistic level.

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And we just can't do that today. And I think that the -- with the leadership of the Commission, in gaining more accessible science, it doesn't necessarily come from your budget, but rather comes from a bigger base of science that we can all work from, utilize, and inform land-use decisions, development decisions, how we decommission plants, how we move to a renewable economy more effectively. We need that clearinghouse to be a much higher level, much more integrated source of science and decision making.

Second, I think it's -- the Commission's reliance on a couple of oil fields for most of its budget is a pretty perilous place to be as you look five years out. And I think the Commission has to begin a diversification strategy for its revenue base on a really holistic basis. And I think that where I might suggest starting here is actually in a common ground with the Port of San Diego, which is, as we necessarily harden cities and infrastructure on the coast, tidal energy has to go some place. That's a law of physics. And we're -- we can't fight that.

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And so the Commission could really play a leading role working with Caltrans, Department of Water Resources, and other entities to think about how we actually approach a much more holistic strategy for mitigating the impacts of climate change, especially sea level rise on the coast, and with that, also flood risk as well as fire risk in other places that have real impacts for people on the ground.

And so I think just tackling this issue of how we -- how the Commission could provide State leadership on the climate change challenges for us -- before us is really imperative.

The other one is a number of years ago the Commission was the leading voice in helping the State get

to a unified position on the Desert Renewable Energy

Conservation Plan. That work regrettably has been really
thrown out the window by the current administration in

Washington.

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I think all Californians would benefit by a renewed focus in driving either this administration, or hopefully in -- a broader thinking approach to address the imperative of adopting the Desert Renewable Conservation Plan, which is supported by the virtually all stakeholders today, except for a few outliers, to actually make that a more durable conservation strategy in the desert, around which development decisions for both solar and other renewables will benefit, as well as conservation. And so we've got to -- we really need to get around this corner on some really sticky issues.

Embedded in the Commission's strategy here was an -- was a very innovative effort that Commission staff led to launch a memorandum of action with the Bureau of Land Management in the last administration to do large scale land exchanges that would benefit again both conservation and development of renewable energy. We should put renewed focus in that.

A concern would be that the Commission will need to direct additional resources toward capacity and its land transactions ability to do these kinds of land

exchanges, to do other land swaps on the coast that may be in the benefit of local communities across the state.

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So I think that that's an area where the Commission will also need to add capacity. And I would agree with my colleagues here today that from a point of engaging indigenous communities to disadvantaged communities and better understanding, and being actively a partner in your work, there has to be additional capacity in the Commission to do outreach work, to really deliver that linkage to your policy advocacy and a vision for how California adjusts to climate change, and those are big challenges.

And I think that, in particular, addressing this -- the importance of having continuity and predictability in your revenues over the horizon may be a project that you need to go outside traditional State resources to really think about how does the Commission do its work, do its work especially aligned with Public Trust responsibilities in -- and helping the State address climate change, which is just an immediate imperative.

And we thank the Commission staff for its attention to this incredible varied portfolio that you manage. I have not really touched on the Cadiz Project, but there is -- there is a place where our organization and others have been very actively involved in the work of

the Commission to deliver a balanced and sustainable water management policy for California.

And we greatly appreciate the work of how the Commission can use its leverage across State Lands to achieve bigger policy outcomes. So thank you for the work you're doing and we look for to working with you in the future.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Great. Thank you, Jay. Jennifer.

MS. SAVAGE: You know, I did radio for 14 years, and I just forget to turn the microphone on. It's -- all the time.

(Laughter.)

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MS. SAVAGE: So thank you for having me here today. I really appreciate it. And I definitely want to echo the remarks of my colleagues. I'll try to not be too repetitive. Although, I will talk about sea level rise. And I know that you're all familiar with the Surfrider Foundation. But I thought it would be worthwhile to quickly provide an overview of our mission to explain the context for how we evaluated the strategic plan.

Surfrider is an international organization dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of the world's oceans, beaches, and waves through, and this is the important part, a powerful activist network. We have more

than 80 chapters in the United States. We have more than 20 in California. I can't give you the exact number, because there's new high school and college clubs coming up all the time.

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Collectively, our network is on the front lines of beach access, water quality, coastal preservation, plastic pollution, and ocean protection. And it's our chapter volunteers who really drive what we do.

And while surfrider and the State Lands

Commission have differed on some coastal projects, our mission and yours have generally more often aligned over the years, including on such efforts as defending the public's right to access Martins Beach, the ongoing joys of that, applauding your leadership on pay equity at the Mavericks Surf Contest, and elevating efforts to address the pollution crisis happening at the Tijuana River Valley.

We commend the 2019 successes and your staff frankly deserves a huge shout-out for being such a progressive, modern, responsive agency that is evolving in a deliberate and self-aware way.

Which brings me to the priorities ahead. I made a list when I was thinking about this, but it really is more like a web or maybe a Venn Diagram, because, of course, what happens in one area affects the others. For

example, the response to sea level rise will define your approach to coastal access, which has equity consequences.

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And as a practical matter, no single issue puts California's identity and economy at risk as much as the pending impacts of sea level rise.

But even if the State Lands Commission prioritizes responding to and prioritizing -- I'm sorry, responding to and preparing for sea level rise in the most proactive way possible, if other State agencies aren't on the same page, then our beaches will be lost.

And so first and foremost, we suggest building on the Public Trust coordination project model to maximize alignment between all State agencies to ensure that sea level rise adaptation is adequately factored into all projects and policies in a way that maximizes coastal preservation and access, because clearly we really need our beaches.

And this also ties into the current strategic goal of engaging Californians to help safeguard their trust lands and resources, because so many people don't realize the risks that we're facing. And this point was really driven home in the LAO's December report on the State's lack of preparation regarding sea level rise.

As somebody who grew up in the Mojave Desert, I wasn't as clued in to coastal politics as people who owned

property on the beach. But, you know, that beach means as much to people who live inland as it does to people who have an ocean view. And if more Californians realized what they faced losing, I truly believe that more people would engage.

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So if you factor in the economic and equity between coastal and inland populations and the legacy injustice that are related to economic inequity and -- I mean, this is a huge conversation, one that's important to keep having as you continue incorporating and prioritizing equity and environmental justice into your framework.

So additionally, on sea level rise, we support the continuance of the Coastal Hazards Removal Program.

Obviously, with the oil structures as well, but, you know, on our beaches, on our coasts, not only are these structural remnants a danger, but in the face of rising seas, we need to be eliminating and prohibiting as much as possible any structures that will increase erosion.

Finally, last point on the sea level rise topic, we would like to see attention paid specifically to

Humboldt Bay. I'm biased. I live up in Humboldt County on Humboldt Bay, but it is considered, by many experts, to be ground zero for sea level rise. And the remoteness and the relatively low regional population means that the pending impacts, which will be devastating to the economy

up there, are often overlooked. And it is a perfect place to perhaps pursue pilot adaptation projects and work with other State agencies to take care of.

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Addressing and eliminating the sewage, trash, sediment, and chemical waste polluting the Tijuana River Valley region continues to be one of our national priority campaigns. And so we hope to see the Commission and staff continue to advocate for solutions to this crisis as well. There has been a lot of momentum. There's actually funding. So I think this is a good chance to finally get something done.

Surfrider does support the rapid development of renewable energy sources for all the reasons already outlined in response to the climate crisis. We do want the stakeholders to be continually engaged in proposed offshore wind projects, given the lack of data and the increasing concerns related to that industry. And again, we appreciate your staff being very responsive to those concerns when they have been articulated.

Ensuring access to Public Trust lands should, of course, continue to be a priority. Surfrider Santa

Barbara Chapter has engage in the process to correct the long-standing wrong that has prevented the public from accessing the beach through Hollister Ranch. And we anticipate participating in the ongoing battle at Martins

Beach as well.

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And finally - and I'm trying to make sure I say this in the most a 503(c) non-partisan way -

(Laughter.)

MS. SAVAGE: -- what happens in November on the federal level will likely influence your planning. You know, we may find ourselves digging into defense mode, even deeper than we have over the past few years. Efforts to extract as much as possible from our public lands may ramp back up and even intensify. And in any case, I think its -- surfrider thinks that it's very critical to continue fortifying our defenses against the long-standing threats, such as offshore oil drilling, and also to proactively defend against new ones, such as seabed mining.

And while California's marine jurisdiction may end three miles out, your impact, you know, as we've seen, has the potential to reach so much further.

And so with that, thank you.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you very much, Jennifer. Kathryn.

MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you. Kathryn Phillips with Sierra Club California, which is California's oldest environmental organization. We may be the only organization in the room that's older than the State Lands

Commission, so...

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(Laughter.)

MS. PHILLIPS: You know, it feels just like -- almost like yesterday, when you -- when Controller Yee you brought a number of stakeholders together to start talking about a strategic plan for the Commission. And last night, as I was reviewing Jennifer's report for today, and reviewing the plan itself, I was just kind of blown away with how forward looking the plan was, how ambitious it was, and the fact that so much has been achieved.

I think you have a -- 77 percent of it has been done so far. And that says a lot about your staff. But I was also reminded, as I read the plan, about how we lived in an almost innocent time then. It was 2014 and 2015, and we had a federal partner who was addressing environmental challenges, much in the way that California was or was looking forward to doing more.

The real effects of climate change were being felt in California through the drought, but we hadn't experienced year after year of devastating wind-driven wildfires that were putting communities that never thought they'd have to consider a wildfire at risk. And we hadn't started reading newspaper reports about crumbling sea cliffs and broken roads impacted by sea level rise.

So the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

hadn't yet released its report of 2018 that's warning that we have only until 2030, just under ten years now, to really put in place all that needs to be put in place to avoid the most catastrophic effects of the climate crisis.

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So it's against this background of new realities that I think a lot of my colleagues have already spoken and presented a lot of great ideas. But it's against this background that I'm going to make my comments now.

In response to the question of what I recommend needs to be eliminated, changed, or added to the next strategic plan, I have only one thing to say, and that's the next strategic plan needs to be framed around the climate crisis. Every aspect of the plan needs to be informed by this crisis, both the need to cut emissions and play a role in doing that, and the need to adapt and ensure that State lands are used most effectively as adaptation demands.

And so what does this mean in practice? Just a few examples. The State Lands Commission needs to reevaluate its plans for leasing of public lands, including the so-called school lands, for mineral extraction in light of the need for open space and wildlands to serve as refugia, and movement corridors for wildlife at risk because of climate change.

It's probably something that has never -- we

never thought the State Lands Commission would have to take into account, but that is something that's having an effect all over the state or that people all over the state who are thinking about wildlife and land management is how do we allow wildlife that are going to have to move farther north actually make that move or move to higher ground.

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The Commission needs to evaluate its leases of ports and harbors to ensure that terms -- that the terms motivate the transition away from air- and climate-polluting practices and equipment and to the cleanest technologies and practices. I want to underscore some of what Bill Magavern said and draw your attention to that.

I think there are opportunities for the Commission to weigh-in to encourage the Air Resources Board to follow through on some of the rulemaking that's in progress, including the Advanced Clean Transit -- or Advanced Clean Truck Rule, which will require manufacturers to produce more and a wider variety of electric trucks, so we can get to that place where we need to be faster.

The Commission needs to evaluate how many and which of its coastal lands should remain undeveloped or repurposed to provide natural buffers against storm surge

and sea level rise. Draw your attention to the decision you all made not too long ago with the SPHERE Institute about a 9.4 acre piece of property. I mean, that's a nice pilot that will allow the transition of a piece of State land to something that can be used as a park until the storm surges arrive.

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And what needs to be continued? The Commission should continue the path its begun to increase attention to equity and environmental justice, and how State Lands Commission properties are leased and managed.

It also needs to continue its efforts to increase public access to those lands appropriate for recreation.

And that would include projects such as the one that -- to help create access at Hollister Ranch beaches and public lands like that.

But above all, again, the Commission needs to look at everything through the lens of climate change, and how is that -- how is what the Commission doing contributing to climate pollution, and what can the agency do instead to cut its pollution contribution.

And this brings me to the source of Commission funding, which I think is also the biggest challenge the Commission faces. Since it is -- so much of its funding is provided by the oil and gas extraction on public lands, this is something -- it's like the elephant in the room

and it has to be addressed.

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The science is clear, we can't continue to depend on oil and gas for energy and survive as a planet. We just can't. And we know that if the State does the right thing, oil and gas production on State Lands should be encouraged to decline and will decline. And I want to praise the actions that the Commission has already taken to advance decommissioning, and discourage additional extraction offshore.

But we can't -- the Commission can't keep depending on oil and gas extraction for necessary revenue and neither should California as a whole. So -- so when -- the unfortunate thing about relying on these oil and gas revenues is it puts you into a situation where you have to think about, well, if you lose those oil and gas revenues, how do you do all the work that needs to be done? But you really -- the work that needs to be done is to really move away from those oil and gas revenues.

So again, I think it means that you're going to have to really review the Commission's mission and see how you're interpreting it, because the interpretation has changed over the years. It's broad enough to allow you to remake yourself, to do a lot of the things that some of my colleagues have just mentioned, but to rethink how you develop revenues.

So ultimately, the focus has to be on extracting State Lands from any and all oil and gas extraction leases. And the focus needs to identify other opportunities for the Commission to fund itself, without compromising the Public Trust, and public access to lands, and all those other things that we have raised today.

And I just want to thank my colleagues on this panel. It's been really enlightening and interesting to hear all the ideas you have. And I feel very proud to be part of this environmental community.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you, Kathryn. Thank you, all, for being here.

Commissioners, comments?

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Commissioner Kounalakis.

COMMISSIONER KOUNALAKIS: I saw you taking notes, so I thought you were going to dive right in, but thank you, Madam Chair.

Actually, I was just thinking that if staff could address this issue that Kathryn Phillips raises about the source of income of the Commission, and the percentage of funding that comes from the leases, and which part of our budget that funds, and how we should start to think through this process about what it means, you know, these two -- this -- the fact that our -- our goal, which has been stated so many times relative to addressing climate

change can be in direct conflict with the funding of our budget. So, Jennifer, if you could address that, that would be great.

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EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: Yeah. Well, I'll try. I will attempt to add a little bit more clarity with regards to the budget and kind of the state of the law with regards to our offshore oil and gas leases, which will just add to, I think, the need for creative approaches for that just transition.

I realize in hindsight that the way I presented both our revenue generation and our budget, it seemed to -- they -- they're linked. And they are in terms of the work that we do and that added -- and the revenue that's generated for the State as a whole.

But be -- with regards to the entire State budget process, our budget and funding is not directly linked or proportional to the revenue that we generate, whether it's from offshore oil and gas operations or surface leasing. So that revenue just goes into the State's general fund or CalSTRS, depending on the source of the lands those revenues are -- or the type of the lands those revenues are generated from. And we go through the typical budget process every year that every State agency goes through to establish our baseline budget, plus any extra monies that we may need for special projects or positions.

But with that said, that makes this a bigger issue for the entire State, because the revenue that's generated that goes into the State's general fund is significant, and sometime -- in some years, it's more significant than others, because of the fluctuations in oil prices, and technology, and the amount of production.

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And so this is something that is much bigger than just the State Lands Commission, in terms of the revenue that comes in every year from oil develop -- oil and gas production on State property.

But we also view ourselves, because we are in the trenches in terms of overseeing and managing those leases and those operations, like in the Long Beach and West Wilmington, that we always have an eye, not just to the ongoing trend, but the need to address the climate crisis, and acknowledging that that's a fundamental element of it, as well as trying to then balance the bonding and liability issues that we've seen when there's been an immediate termination or shutdown of some of these oil and gas facilities, and what that means in terms of the State's own responsibility and the funding associated with that.

So the other thing I just want to mention, and I hope to provide some clarity with this, but I just realize it's probably -- it just becomes really a complex problem

to solve on so many different levels, is the current offshore oil and gas leases that we have are the statutory and contractual legal framework that we're operating within is very operator friendly.

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And so, for example, they do not have end terms to those leases. That's both dictated in statute and then the accompanying contract. So we don't actually have the ability to renew or terminate on our own.

And so we usually have to wait until a lessee needs something from us in terms of an amendment to those leases, where we can negotiate changes to the operations and to the ultimate life of that lease.

And so it's a -- it's a very nuanced and delicate dance that we're involved in. And we constantly are looking for opportunities to help influence and make changes to those leases, and to the overall operations in a way that advances our State policy goals.

But I -- it's not as simple as some of our other leases, where we do have the ability to decide, the Commission, not to renew a lease.

COMMISSIONER KOUNALAKIS: So maybe I'll just back up though, first of all, and just thank everyone for coming down. I was sort of consumed by this concept and neglected just, first of all, to thank you all for being here. Most of you are very familiar faces. You come and

participate and engage with State Lands regularly. And having you here is a very -- very natural, I think. And having you as part of this update is obviously very important.

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Just a couple of things to kind of really highlight. How incredibly important it is to me, but I think to everyone, that we really look at what we can do in looking forward with our strategic plan to help move our 2045 goals forward. Now, it's in emissions that's relative to air quality, that's going to cut across so much of the work that you do, and what we're going to be looking at.

2045 is -- you know, these markers are out there. And there's an enormous amount of work that we have to do, whether it's in more zero-emission vehicles, of which trucks at our port is going to be a very big part of that, or, you know, all of the elements that we can, you know, connect with those 2045 goals.

And the second thing I want to just ask actually staff to respond to Jay Ziegler's suggestion that this body consider how we might help with a more cohesive way for the State to be thinking of the impacts of climate change. We're a very geographically large and diverse State. Climate change impacts us -- has impacted us very severely when it comes to the wildfires. Seven of the ten

most destructive wildfires in California history have happened in the last decade.

So -- and, of course, our coast, which is environmentally one of our most important geographic assets, but also to all the people who are living there and the communities that thrive on our coast. So I -- that's my second point.

I have one more.

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But if you could kind of address, Jennifer, how you see the opportunity for the State to really be drawing back the lens looking at a -- an ability to coordinate and conceptualize our -- or plan together at the statewide level what our responses should be.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: I have a couple of thoughts on that.

First, the State Lands Commission is such a microcosm of the larger issues in all the different spaces that the State is struggling and facing with the climate crisis. So we are a land holder. We own lands along the waterways, along the coast that are subject to sea level rise. We own lands that are subject to -- that are forested and subject to forest fires. We own lands in the desert, that also are experiencing impacts of climate change, but also all of those types of land holdings also provide opportunities to address the carbon neutrality

goals.

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And we are also obviously a participant in the fossil fuel industry in terms of the oil and gas that's generated on our lands. So we -- we kind of touch on all of the diff -- all the site -- all the elements of the climate crisis cycle.

And so when you see it through that lens and then you look at who our Commissioners are, being the top two fiscal officers in the state, the Director of Finance and the State Controller, the Lieutenant Governor that has a broad view of the statewide public benefit and State policies, two being Constitutional officers that are directly accountable to the people of the state, and then you add on the fact that all of your business as State Lands Commissioners are conducted in public in a very transparent and open way. When you add all of that together, I think in addressing, I think, every single one of the panelists' suggestions about the influence and the bigger statewide national and international view that this Commission brings to the table, we have a lot of tools available to us.

And it's really leveraging the ideas and the partnerships with our stakeholders here in the audience, those that are watching the webcast, and who were here previously to find those common ground and common themes

on which we could make real progress. And we could be a very -- we could almost be our own little pilot project in certain elements in that way.

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COMMISSIONER KOUNALAKIS: Okay. Something to think about. And then my last question goes to something that Jennifer Savage addressed in the mission of Surfrider, which is protecting the coast, but also allowing and recognizing that people enjoy visiting the coast and the importance of accessibility to our coastline, there's been a real surge of interest in helping to support access to the beauty and the recreational opportunities of the California coast to all Californians.

My husband grew up in San Francisco, and so the ocean was always a part of his upbringing. I didn't go to the Pacific Ocean for the first time until I was about 12 years old. And I didn't go back again until the end of high school growing up here in Sacramento. And so I really feel that very viscerally that you can be in California and not know what's just, you know, on the other -- other side of the state.

And -- so but my question for all of you representing the environmental community is how do we know when we're getting it right with these two pieces of, for instance, the Surfrider goal of protecting sensitive

habitat, protecting sensitive coastline, and river areas of -- along our rivers, but at the same time having access for Californians and promoting access to Californians? So I'd really love to hear that -- a little bit more about that from all you. And that is my last one.

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MS. SAVAGE: Well, I'll jump in. And so we do take the enjoyment part of our mission very seriously. And, you know, really believe that everybody who lives in California or visits California has the right to go to the coast and experience that joy, and peace, and amazing experience that you can really only find in big awesome outdoor spaces.

it. We also, of course, work to be good stewards of our coastal resources, and there's -- so there's a couple different parts of that. I just do -- I want to highlight, first of all, that there is a very common argument that coastal property owners who don't want visitors use, which is that somehow if you open the coast that the hordes of, you know, unwashed masses will descend upon the coast and destroy it and trash it. And we hear that -- I mean, I hear that almost like on a daily basis in the work that I do.

So, you know, we try to be careful about not aligning ourselves with the idea that public access equals

destruction of natural resources. However, there is a very real concern, you know, that I think plays out in our natural places, where if you have a lot of visitors and not adequate staffing, and education, and other aspects, that it can be, you know, overwhelming for the natural environment.

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And so a lot of places where we see that happen, you know, say like in -- I'm up in the north coast, you know, where some of our State Parks have been chronically underfunded, and it's a rural area, and there's not necessarily a lot of other eyes on people all the time, and so sometimes it's just a matter of if there were more Rangers around. Sometimes it's a matter of education and outreach. And sometimes people don't know habitat is sensitive. I live along the dunes up in Humboldt County. And if you didn't know that the dunes were full of life, and special, and there's 41 different kind of bees that live there, and all these different plants, you know, people just -- they might not think twice about stomping across, you know, different areas.

But we have a great organization, Friends of the Dunes, it does a lot of outreach. And so, you know, kind -- some of this is just a simple matter of ensuring that there's adequate funding, adequate staffing, adequate outreach for the public, so that everybody -- not -- so

that everyone, in addition to enjoying these incredible places, feels that stewardship opportunity.

So I would say that that's -- you know, that's primarily the direction that we come from and we try to implement that through our chapter network, you know, actively working on the ground to educate people, and advocate for more funding at the local and State levels. And then on a statewide level, of course, we advocate for more in the budget for our beloved State agencies. So that's how we -- what we try to do.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Theresa.

Any more responses?

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MR. ZIEGLER: Let me -- I think, Jennifer has give you a really thoughtful response on this on a practical scale. I do think this is one of the reasons why I talked about the importance of having a better science database on what are the landscape level objectives that the Commission is trying to solve for, how does your strategy fit with local coastal plans, how does it fit with other natural resource management activities. And especially on the coast, how does it fit in a real-world sense where we know that we're going to be in this very near term, 2045, effort to try to get to net neutrality on carbon, fighting this battle against rising sea levels across the state at varying degrees with

different levels of economic impact.

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And I think all of that has to be squared up in a way that all Californians more transparently understand the choices that we're making.

And that's where I think this kind of integrated level of science that the Resources Agency, that State Lands Commission, that OPC and its work, and everyone is doing is much more accessible, so that we all understand really the gravity of the challenge ahead of us, because I think in many ways, the policy actions, yes, there are leasing actions that you're involved in. There's decommissioning of natural gas power plants and other immediate challenges.

But I think that just bringing this together, in a sense of what objectives are you managing to, and how does that science database help you solve for that and help other agencies solve for the challenges that they're trying to meet becomes really important in making science-based decisions a lot more accessible than they are today.

And I think that's -- and just we're getting such a acceleration in how these databases can work together and data basin can integrate multiple levels of analysis, that I think that how those tools are applied, so that we in California are the science leaders in science-based

decision making and not following whatever Washington might be up to today.

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MS. SIMSIMAN: Well, in terms of how do you have the balance between all of the stakeholders in terms of access, the private landowners, the people who would like to enjoy, again engagement of all. And what's interesting, American Whitewater is currently working with Fresno Building Healthy Communities. And we took them up to the San Joaquin River Gorge which is 45 minutes outside of Fresno. They are currently trying to fight for access in San Joaquin River Gorge in Fresno itself.

But was -- what was interesting is when they came up there, they had no idea that that resource was there. So kind of going back to what I had talked about when I was trying to go on the site, looking at all the GIS technology, which, for me, was great, because I understood how to integrate -- engage with it, but to look at what are those public rivers, what's the public lands that I can go and enjoy. And again, I think it's about outreach and letting people know that they have rights to access the rivers in their area.

MS. KROP: Thank you for the question. I have two thoughts on that. First of all, without access, you don't get appreciation. And I think people have to have that personal relationship, that personal experience to

understand the importance and the fragility of the resources at stake and to become stewards. And I've seen this happen multiple times in my career.

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For example, we protect a lot of areas that provide Snowy Plover breeding grounds. And there have been experiments to just exclude people, which is very controversial, or to implement docent-led programs where people can go to the beach, the Plovers are protected, people learn, and they understand, and they learn a lot about the environment.

Similarly, we have a creek cleanup program in our office, where we bring people to creeks to clean them up. And maybe you wouldn't want them in all these creeks, but because we do it through an education program, they walk away being stewards of our watersheds. And now, in the main community, where we've been conducting that program for a few years, now we're actually getting -- the city is actually sponsoring a creek and watershed management plan, because of our creek cleanup program.

We like to get people out to the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary and they become much more aware about plastics in the marine environment and overfishing. So I think you need to introduce people to have them understand the importance and want to take action.

The second thing is, obviously, we have to design

access to protect the resource. We helped protect the Fiscalini Ranch in Cambria. And there were just trails all over that ranch and through very sensitive habitats on a coastal bluff. Once we protected it, the community -- I can't remember if it was, you know, NGOs or the county, put in boardwalk trails with a lot interpretive signage. And there's a lot of restoration. So actually having access there has improved the habitat value.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you, Commissioner Kounalakis.

Commissioner Miller.

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ACTING COMMISSIONER MILLER: Just briefly, to Jennifer, your point about the staff and how you've evolved in a deliberative and self-aware way. I thought that was beautiful way to say that the -- you deserve so much credit. And I know that the Board has certainly offered a lot of leadership that clearly you've made a huge difference and a huge impact. So thank you for saying that and to all of you for being here.

I do -- just in terms of -- I'm not sure this is a specific question, but I think we've heard a lot about these creative funding sources, Mr. Magavern, and Mr. Ziegler, and Ms. Phillips. I think the way that we can really work together to see if those, not only -- and I think Jennifer's point about how the budget works, that

it's not commensurate with the funding, but in general, if we can use this opportunity as a way to test some of the more creative sources out there, I think is a good idea, not only in terms of revenue generation, but also in terms of sort of carrot and stick approach, Mr. Magavern, to your point around air pollution.

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So I really look forward to that -- those conversations. And I don't know how the Chair will have those going forward, but I'd really appreciate learning more about it. Obviously, I've been taking copious notes. I have a lot to learn, but would love to really see if we can engage on that, and how we can have that be a productive part of this conversation.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Absolutely.

ACTING COMMISSIONER MILLER: Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you, Commissioner Miller.

Look forward to your participation in that.

I'm going to put you all on the sport for a bit, because this is probably the hardest question to ask. And I think the observation that many have been making about just how intersectional all the issues are that we're dealing with is just becoming so much more clear.

But given that we're in this reality of where there are finite resources, yes, there are going to be opportunities in terms of new revenue generation. But I

guess I'm thinking in my head about priorities and how do we -- given that intersectional -- intersectionality and the urgency of just, you know, the work that's before us, what would you say this Commission ought to be prioritizing, in terms of our dedication of staff resources, the -- our time, and just given the resources that we currently have to work with now, as we continue to kind of carry out what Commissioner Miller is looking to do, which I have some ideas about, yes.

Maybe, Kathryn, you want to start.

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MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah. I mean, I think if -- not just climate change, but public health, if you look through that lens, you'll make figuring out what to do at the ports to make them less polluting would be a high priority. I think that was addressed somewhat in the previous strategic plan, but we know a lot more. There are a lot more things happening. The technology has advanced. I think what this State Lands Commission can do is a lot more than you used to be able to do. And I think one of the things to remember too in all of that is that it doesn't cost the State Lands Commission necessarily money to force the users, the folks who are making money off the ports to do the right thing.

And Bill mentioned earlier, you know, the -- one of the most important things is to make sure that there

are a certain number of incentives out there for heavy-duty vehicles to make sure we accelerate that transition. They're a regulatory process going through. But to get people to adopt things earlier, we need to make sure that the budget looks -- looks healthy for incentives and that there are consistent incentives. And I think it would be valuable for this Commission to work with the Air Resources Board, the Energy Commission, and those entities that are responsible for figuring out how do we -- how do we really accelerate the adoption of electric trucks to work with them to -- to support what's going to be required.

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It's going to be a lot of money up front. But what we're going to get in the end is less climate pollution, but we're also going to get healthier people. And when you have healthier people, you cut back on health costs, lost days at school, lost days at work, and all of those things that aren't counted.

So I would -- I would make that the top priority. And again, looking at things through the lens of climate change, you'll probably figure out the second and third priorities too.

MR. MAGAVERN: And I agree with Kathryn. And just to put it in context, over 80 percent of the air pollution in California comes from transportation. And

over half of that pollution is from the movement of goods, not people.

So that's why the port and freight system is actually crucial. We talk about greenhouse gas emissions, the percentages are smaller, but still significant and -- and growing.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you. Jay or Linda.

MR. ZIEGLER: I think the one thing we haven't done is taken anything off of your plate.

(Laughter.)

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MR. ZIEGLER: So I appreciate, you know, the question. I think this nexus of public health to climate change is a great frame that -- I mean, I think from, you know, my organization is concerned about loss of biodiversity, but our lens on this is trying to figure out where is the intersection of what -- of issues that affect people, as well as nature. And I think my note would also be, as I said in the -- on the prior question, that you really look at landscape scale science and what climate change is bringing to you, to the lands that you manage, and think about how you triage that, because these challenges are more immediate in some areas of the coast and some river systems.

And I think that -- and so if you take a science-based approach to where the climate risks are

accelerated, if you will, and especially on the coast, that that may be one mechanism that becomes really important in a place where the Commission can really be a thought leader.

And I think also just in this space of elevating science, and using your respective offices and influence in the Legislature, becomes really important also with respect to modernizing the ports and reducing their pollution footprint too.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Good. Appreciate that, Jay. Thank you.

Jennifer.

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MS. SAVAGE: It's actually a perfect question to ask nonprofits, because everything is always urgent --

(Laughter.)

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Right.

MR. SAVAGE: -- and we always have to figure out what to do first --

(Laughter.)

MS. SAVAGE: -- with not a lot of money usually, so -- so I feel like we should all be prepared for this one.

I also would agree that the climate change/public health lens is a really potentially efficient way to look at this. And, you know, as I -- as I said before, so much

of what I see, because we do work with a lot of State agencies and go to a lot of these different meetings and -- is -- just is the need for the State to coordinate. And I know that, you know, you are one Commission. I would just -- you know, if -- whatever you can do to inspire other agencies to come along on these challenges would be really helpful.

My sense is that there is an administration-wide movement and legislative interest in getting State agencies to be more aligned. So hopefully, there's some momentum around there. The LAO report had some, you know, great suggestions in it. And wherever State Lands can plug into that, I think is really effective, but it's just -- it is such a big problem. It does intersect in so many places, in so many ways that, you know, the State Lands alone, no matter how great everybody does, can't solve the problem.

So really getting everybody -- the right people together in an effective way, not just like more committees and meetings, but really getting everybody to take the kind of actions that are necessary in a unified and aligned way I think is so critical.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you, Jennifer.

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MS. SIMSIMAN: Of course, I would say inland

waters and access to our rivers.

(Laughter.)

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MS. SIMSIMAN: But no, really, if you're looking for a consensus of priorities, it would be climate change. For inland waterways, there is an effect in the fact of people looking to hydropower as a way to solve some of, you know, the climate change issues. And we don't necessarily agree that turning to hydropower is healthy for our rivers.

So, again, taking a look at climate change and its effects, not only on the coast, but on the inland waters, and public health is the underlining theme there.

MS. KROP: I actually did try to take one thing off of your plate, new oil and gas leasing.

(Laughter.)

CHAIRPERSON YEE: The old ones keep us quite busy. Thank you very much.

(Laughter.)

MS. KROP: I think the State Lands Commission's unique interface of covering offshore waters, as well as terrestrial lands puts you in a unique position to look at climate change resiliency and do we need more marine protected areas offshore, do we need, you know, more carbon sequestration in the water, such as, you know, planting eelgrass and kelp. And then the interface with

the coast in terms of do we need to have some buffers to address the fact that we're going to see sea level rise and do we need to protect certain lands and areas from development, so that they are available to absorb some of the effects of climate change. So I think that unique interface would be a great priority focus.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you. Thank you very much.

Other comments, Commissioners?

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Yes. Commissioner Kounalakis, please.

COMMISSIONER KOUNALAKIS: So I just have one more question for you, because I don't want the day to end having had so many important panelists or such important stakeholders without mentioning the school lands. Any thoughts or feedback from all of you in the implementation of our strategic plan over the last four years relative to the school lands, which are generally not on the coast, generally not even near the water.

But any thoughts the degree to which you or your organizations have followed the management of the school lands that you might want to raise on the panel today?

MR. ZIEGLER: We've been pretty actively engaged with the Commission in the desert lands. And I mentioned this briefly in my remarks, but I think that there are great opportunities to reconcile lands that should be

conserved for environmental purposes and lands that could be exchanged out to benefit solar development, in the desert to benefit school lands. And I think Jennifer that MOU or -- was ultimately signed, but really not acted on by BLM in any meaningful way. Is that -- but I think there's a -- there's a platform there. We may need a new administration to get active on it again.

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But I think there is a template and a lot of work that was done really four and five years ago, three years ago, that's a blueprint to act on to really, you know, focus on really again large landscapes for conservation in the desert and figuring out lands to develop in a smarter way.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: So just to add on to that. Yes, there was an MOU signed with the prior administration's California Director of the BLM and the State Lands Commission that would have facilitated the first land exchange that would have allowed the BLM to acquire from the State Lands Commission in holdings in exchange for an operating solar facility, which would have been a great first step and example, not only from a revenue generation perspective to support CalSTRS, but that, yes, we can do this.

And it would give -- would have given solar and other renewable energy operators confidence, too, that the

State Lands Commission's leasing practices and policies were going to be complementary to their business model, and not something to be necessarily afraid of, because of the unknown.

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Unfortunately, because of changing priorities at the federal level and changes in leadership at the California BLM level, that has not been implemented. And I think what I'm hoping through the strategic plan and through working with our stakeholders is that we can position ourselves even better for when those priorities change, so that we can capitalize on the work that we've done previously and optimize that change in priority to really just hit the ground running.

COMMISSIONER KOUNALAKIS: Okay. Thank you very much for that, because I think it is really important that we not lose site of that part of this portfolio and just the size of it, and not just for desert lands, but how we think about some of the forested lands as well.

MS. PHILLIPS: So I did mention school lands earlier, but, you know, it would be helpful, and maybe you already have it, if there was available a public inventory of school lands and their ecological value, plus other values. I mean, obviously some of them are considered for mineral extraction and that sort of thing. But it would be really valuable to have that. And then it -- that

might help guide us about which ones we want to advocate for keeping in a wild condition, and which ones we think should be swapped out to become park land, while you swap something out to become -- to use for renewables or something like that.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: That's a great idea and we'll take notes on implementing that idea through the next strategic plan. We've done a lot of that work for a large swath of the desert lands through the DRECP process. We're actually in the middle of trying to hire a consultant to help us inventory our 55,000 acres of forested school lands. And so we're on that track, but that's a great idea to put in our implementation plan of the next strategic plan, so we continue with that work and I -- thank you.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you very much.

Any other comments, Commissioners?

Okay. Seeing none. I want to thank all of the panelists for just really some wonderful input and thank you for being here.

To be continued.

Thank you.

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(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON YEE: We do have a number of speakers on this item. And thank you for your patience. I hope

you've found this to be a very engaged set of input that we've been getting.

So first let me call up Francis Coats, if he'll come forward. Let me call each of the speakers up in the order that you signed in. Francis Coats, Tom Rudolph and Molly Croll. You'll each have three minutes to address the Commission.

Hang on one second.

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AGP VIDEO: Push the button on the microphone, the white button.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: There you are.

MR. COATS: Hello.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Yes.

MR. COATS: Hi. I'm Francis Coats. I'm a retired attorney, oil and gas landman for five years, 30 years with the State as an attorney. And I tend to advocate for public access to public lands.

The first thing I wanted to say is that we -you're going to have to deal with the homeless problem to
some extent. As the trustee for so much land,
particularly along the inland waters, the problem is
partly in your court and you need to participate in any
attempts to resolve it.

The homeless encampments are excluding public users, they're creating some pollution, and nobody has

figured out a reasonable way for these people to live in the meantime.

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The next thing which comes up with points that were just raised, the -- with -- especially with regard to the school lands. Okay. We have a State Constitutional provision that says that all land owned by the State is open for public fishing and that no land owned by the State will be sold or transferred without reserving in the public the absolute right to fish.

So the school lands you still own are subject to a public right to fish, and all of -- the Constitutional provision was added November 8th, 1910. And all of your school lands patents, since that time, have that reservation expressly in them, that the buyers knew, everybody knows, that it's subject to the right to fish, but no one has told the public where this land is.

So that's kind of -- we asked for that at the stage of the earlier strategic plan and we didn't get any -- didn't get anything.

The other thing is that the land that you sold, but reserved mineral interests -- the land that you sold all has the reservation in it too. So all the public land that was sold since November 8th, 1910 has the fishing rights reservation on it.

The mineral reservations that you guys talk about

that come out of the sale of school lands, well, the mineral reservation law came in in 1921. So all the records you have for mineral reservations will tell you which land is subject to fishing rights after 1921. It leaves you about an 11-year period when it would take more homework. But if you have any good handle on the land that you have mineral rights in, then you have a really good handle on almost all the time that fishing rights were imposed.

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Incidentally, early 1929 California Supreme Court caselaw indicates that if the fishing rights were left out of a document, they would be incorporated into the document by the court, whether a patent or a grant.

That's -- if anybody cares that's Boone versus Kingsbury.

The other thing I came to talk about was public access to inland waters, other than those that are owned where the bed is owned by the State. That in Baker v.

Mack in the 1970s, it was told to us that the public has a right to navigate. The navigable easement and the Public Trust apply to inland waters that are navigable in or motor propelled small craft, even if only for recreational purposes, even if the State doesn't own the bed, because it doesn't meet the State title federal land in 1950 test.

And in -- around '81 or so, we have the, oh, the Lyon case, the Clear Lake case, in which the Supreme Court

told us that the public has a right to be on the temporarily dry land between low and high water mark. And in that case, the Supreme Court said that the -- Lyon brought up -- tried to say that this wouldn't apply to access to the temporarily dry land, that the public would have to go follow the water as it receded.

And it cited the Baker v. Mack case. And the court told them no, you're wrong, in a very clear, definite way. No one I know thinks there's any uncertainty about the public's right to be on the temporarily dry banks of recreationally navigable waters in California, except for your legal staff, the only exception to the general understanding that this law applies the way it's been interpreted by the courts.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Mr. Coats, your time has

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Mr. Coats, your time has expired.

MR. COATS: Okay.

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CHAIRPERSON YEE: I'm going to actually have you take that issue offline with our staff.

MR. COATS: Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Okay. Thank you.

Mr. Rudolph.

MR. RUDOLPH: Yes. Thank you. Good afternoon, Chair Yee, Lieutenant Governor Kounalakis and staff. My name is Tom Rudolph. And I'm here today on behalf of the

Pew Charitable Trusts. Pew's U.S. Oceans Program has been involved in fisheries management on the west coast for many years. And we've recently begun to work on a broader range of ocean issues, especially protection of coastal habitat.

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This work is driven by our concerns that the ocean, especially the near-shore ocean, is facing an array of stressors, industrialization, climate change, and ocean acidification will increasingly challenge our ability to understand and co-exist with a healthy ocean.

In this context, it's critical to identify and address emerging and future threats, including activities that might harm vital living seafloor habitats that provide critical ecosystem functions and services.

That priority, along with our conclusion that market demand will eventually drive new industrial interest in the valuable minerals found in, on, and under the seafloor is why we ask you to include in your new strategic plan the consideration of new precautionary regulations that would preclude seabed mining off California.

Seabed mining for minerals already exists in various forms. But more importantly, significant growth is projected, as terrestrial sources for important minerals are depleted and as technological capabilities

improve. As far as we know, there's currently no economically viable mineral reserve off California, nor industry plans for exploitation. But there are potentially valuable mineral resources, including phosphorus and precious metals.

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This absence of prospective development presents an opportunity for resource managers to address and emerging issue without immediate pressure or the need to consider existing investments.

We've enjoyed several similar collaborations with California fishery managers in recent years, resulting in the protection of important fish species and sensitive seafloor habitats that had not been previously impacted by fishing gear. We think and hope that there are a variety of potential approaches California resource managers could take to prevent the negative impacts of seafloor mining on critical marine habitats.

One of the first core tenets of an ecosystem based approach to resource management is the avoidance of sensitive areas. In the three-mile wide near-shore area regulated by the State is simply incompatible with a high-impact activity like seabed mining, given it's importance to marine mammals, economically important fisheries and other important water-dependent societal uses.

We also think there could be approaches taken in partnership with other agencies to protect portions of the seabed even beyond three miles. In conclusion, I want to commend you on both your current strategic plan and your commitment to developing a new one.

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I noted that your current plan seeks consistency with evolving Public Trust principles and values.

Inclusion of that keyword was very forward thinking and is relevant considering and emergency -- emerging scientific consensus that for an awful lot of the seafloor disturbance impacts cannot be considered temporary on human time scales.

Slow growing cold water corals over 4,000 years of age and marine sponges, at least 11,000 years old have been found. Recovery of this kind of biogenic habitat from mining impacts would take centuries, if it happened at all.

So again, I'd like to ask you to consider the development of precautionary rules for seabed mining, including a prohibition in State waters as an objective of your new strategic plan. And I hope to have the opportunity to work with you all on that in the future.

Thank you very much for your time today.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you, Mr. Rudolph, for being here. Appreciate it.

MS. CROLL: Hi, everyone. I'm Molly Croll. I'm the Director of the Offshore Wind Program for the American Wind Energy Association, California. Thank you, Commissioners and staff for your time today and for initiating the strategic planning process and inviting stakeholder input. I also thank you for thinking in terms of the long term, toward 2045 and what a five-year strategic plan can do to fulfill our 2045 goals.

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Mr. Gold spoke this morning about the importance of creating a blue economy and the ocean's role in helping achieve our renewable energy goals. A number of panelists on the last panel also talked about framing the State Lands strategic plan in terms of the climate crisis. Support those comments as well.

We absolutely support Mr. Gold's -- sorry, Mr. Gold's point on ocean-based renewables. Offshore wind, especially, should be a crucial part of solving our climate crisis. Ten gigawatts of offshore wind, which is what AWEA California is proposing as a state goal by 2040, would really just satisfy ten percent of the new renewable need -- actually, less than ten percent of the new renewable need, between now and 2040. So it's large in terms of the amount of renewables we have today, but small in that respect. Ten gigawatts is also the size that at commercial scale would drive up to 10,000 jobs for the

state. So starting to think at scale, we think is very important.

To get to that level of commercial scale, we really need state leadership across various agencies. The biggest problems we need to resolve are identifying ocean space sufficient to build that quantity of wind. We need transmission planning and we need permitting -- a permitting process that coordinates the various agencies.

So while we believe that most of the installations will take place in federal waters due to the wind characteristics there, and also probably feasibility of permitting, that doesn't diminish what we see as the State Lands' role in supporting offshore wind.

We definitely don't think it should be a federal-only process. We need State's leadership for things like transmission planning. Obviously, the lines that connect turbines to the shore will go across State waters, so your role there will be essential, and also helping us coordinate stakeholder feedback for coastal communities, tribes, and others.

So we would encourage the State Lands Commission to ideally adopt a big offshore wind planning goal and focus on the support and role it can have in creating a commercial scale industry in primarily federal waters.

Thank you.

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CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you. Thank you, Ms. Croll.

All right. Any other members of the audience who wish to speak on Item number 2?

Okay. Hearing none.

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We have other public comments. Shall we proceed to that?

EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: That's right. Let's proceed.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Okay. Great. Thank you. Thank you for your patience. We have Ms. Kanyon Sayers-Roods please come forward. And she will be followed by Patricia Miller and Edward Stancil.

MS. SAYERS-ROODS: I'd like to thank you for your time. I want to bring up a few things that I'm witnessing in these conversations, is that when we talk about access to land, the entitlement to access to land for public or for other reasons, what about indigenous peoples who want to protect these sites -- these sacred sites that we, as indigenous people, do not believe settlers should be entitled to? What about protecting those? What about spaces that could be interrupted by public domain?

And so similar to that conversation about the Sierra Club saying too many people. But I'm just considering where is the equity in that when it comes to

access, access, access?

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And when it comes to the decision-making practices, what I see when it comes to a rush to make decisions is what I'll parallel to rearranging the tables on the Titanic. It's important, if we had to. But with this rush in this decision making, all of these things are intersecular. They are all connected when it comes to the health of the people, the health of the nation, how we are caring for our bioregions, how we're providing care to all of these systems.

If I make reference to the before time, before settle -- western colonial construct of time, our communities did not have prisons and did not have homelessness. Our communal accountability was strong and it's rooted. But what that means is we need to invest efforts into educating and connecting community to be accountable to its reciprocal kinship to the entire system.

And so when we start making decisions about regulation, or being upset with people to not do this or not do that, even when it comes to the oceans, yeah, not to prioritize allowing mineral extraction. But now, what about agroecology? Because when we think about industrial agriculture, that is hurting these ecological systems too. And the next venture is going to be agroecology. And if

we continue doing things in this western colonial construct of decision making, it is not accountable.

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The same thing when we prioritize science, science, science, our western settler colonial construct of science does not prioritize accountability to these holistic living sacred systems.

And so we need to be inclusive of multi-cultural approaches to what is science, what is technology, what is accountability, what is reciprocity, what is humility?

And so I ask that when you take into these considerations collaboration with multi-cultural communities, and coming part way to be able to meet them, because I'm a unique individual who's able to stand here and speak with you.

But also, there are people who are not in the room who may not be able to navigate this similarly, and it is also all of the agencies' responsibility to become familiar with those communities and invest themselves in those arenas to then be able to join. And let's think about seven generations in the future and how to be good ancestors-in-training.

So I thank you.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you very much.

MS. MILLER: Hello, everybody. Thank you for hearing me today. I have a letter that I wrote to you -- the Commission. And I'll just go ahead and start reading

it, so you'll get an understanding of why I'm here.

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Dear, members. As you are aware, 2018 was a deadly year for California wildfires. I'm very familiar with these events, since our home is located in the Delta fire footprint. Our home survived the fire only because we took active preventative measures, which saved our home from destruction, along with sheer luck, but four direct neighbors lost their homes to the inferno that ensued that day. That was September 5th 2018.

The entire forest around us for miles is a complete loss. We have had our partials logged and are working closely with Ben Rowe with CalFire to coordinate and complete all required cleanup of all dead forest wood. It's an overwhelming task, but must be done to bring the forestland back to health and start the renewal process, which must occur not only for human environment, but also the wildlife that depend on the healthy forests to survive.

I have some continuing grave concerns though.

It's in the nature of further danger to us and potential catastrophic fire hazard, due to the dead mature wood forests on I think it's 240 acres of California State Lands, which is adjacent to our parcels.

I'm representing four home landowners here today, because we all have concerns that if that is not

mitigated, all the undergrowth that's going to grow up in the next three, four, five years is going to be a tinder box that you cannot imagine, if the fire starts again.

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Some of these trees that are three feet in diameter, 250 feet in height, and its dense forest. And I did bring some information, if you would like to look at the parcels how they are to our parcels.

I -- the fire destroyed all the live trees. And I've been in contact with Jim Porter. Last August, I started to contact him regarding the concerns. He's been extremely helpful. And I really love working with him. He did get a timber sale process initiated, the bid, which closes tomorrow. And so I'm praying and hoping that somebody will bid on that to clean it up.

I do have some concerns about that though, because the U.S. forestry land adjacent behind that land put out two bids for forest -- for logging and they didn't get any offers.

So it's been a year and five months since the fire, the timber -- when the fire first came, CalFire approached the Lands Commission about logging it and declined to log it at that time, which would have been the perfect time to log it, because the wood is viable. After a certain amount of time pine wood gets blued and then their value of that wood kind of goes away.

So my question to the Board is what will happen if there are no bids to log this and get it cleaned up? This timber wood will be falling eventually. And it's so dry already, we watched it shrink over the course of the year. So you could see through all the woods now, even worse than when it was just burnt, because the wood is shrinking. It't not soaking any water. It's drying. And we have heavy, heavy winds up there. And it's going to be falling eventually onto our land. And I have grandkids and stuff playing on our property. And if those trees are falling our direction, that's 250 feet, two to three feet around following on our land, let alone the fire hazard that it creates being unmitigated.

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So I'm here today asking that something secondary, plan B, be put into place hopefully, or thought of, or considered, if there's no logging contract. I'd like to see at least a 200-foot buffer from your property land to our land border to be cleared at least to prevent falling trees.

And hopefully, if another fire does go through that section of dead, dead trees, that the flames won't be so intense that I can't save my house again. We saved our house with a sprinkler on top our roof with two 3000-gallon water tanks feeding water with no power to save our house, and it worked.

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So I just would like to present that to you as 1 something to think about and --2 CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you. 3 MS. MILLER: -- hopefully help us out. CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you very much, Ms. 5 Miller. 6 7 MS. MILLER: And I've got to mention the deer. 8 We have a -- still have a herd of about 11, 12 deer that continually stay in the area. I can't say the neighbors 9 haven't been helping them. 10 11 (Laughter.) MS. MILLER: But they stick around, and they're 12 there, and they're viable, and I'd like to see their 13 habitat restored too in some way. 14 Thank you. Do you have -- Ms. 15 CHAIRPERSON YEE: 16 Miller, do you have some documents you want to submit to the Commission? 17 MS. MILLER: Yes. May I approach? 18 19 CHAIRPERSON YEE: Please. Yeah, just give it to, 20 Ms. Lunetta. Actually, you want to just give it to the clerk. 21 EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: Thank you. 2.2 23 MS. MILLER: Thank you. EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: 24 Following --25 following up, if I may, Chair?

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Yes.

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EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: We share Ms.

Miller's concerns. And we are working on a plan B,

coordinating very closely with Calfire and other agencies

within the Natural Resources umbrella to address this

issue.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Great. Thank you, Ms. Lucchesi.

I'm going to ask the next three speakers to just be prepared to come up all testifying on Docktown. Mr. Stancil, please, you're first. Dan Slanker and Mary Bernier. Please come forward. Your time is ticking, Mr. Stancil.

MR. STANCIL: I'm the 5,000-pound gorilla in the room. So liveaboard, liveaboard, liveaboard, liveaboard, liveaboard. So I'm a liveaboard. I respect every part of the river and the ocean. Right now I'm living aboard Redwood Creek. I've been there since 1986.

In 1937, the City of Redwood City made a separate district called the Port District or Port Department. In 1938, State Lands was founded and they entered in in 1967 to an agreement with Redwood City. But in the Redwood City charter, it says that the port is in charge of all water touching underneath water and harbors. So I'm thinking that you guys entered in with the wrong party.

And then when we've come here. This is my seventh time I spoke to you guys. You recognize me, I'm sure. And what they say is that, oh, you know, talk to Jennifer. Oh, talk to Sheri, talk to this, talk to — it's like you guys have to work with the city. And we go to the city, and the city goes, oh, no, we're not working with you. It's all State Lands. They said you have to go. You just have to go.

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And it's like, okay, well, my house is sitting here. It's not on State lands as far as I can tell. It's part of Port District. And, oh, it's navigable, so it's really federal property. Oh, wait a minute, the Ohlones used to live here. I'm thinking, oh, my God, it's a win-win situation. Give it back to the Ohlones. We'll rent from them and everything will be fine.

So there you go. There's a solution for you.

I'd like to see you at least do some sort of significant redistribution of land back to the Ohlone indians who have totally been kicked down the road and pushed off to the side.

Also, on your gas thing that you've got going on with this one guy that has two companies, cut -- if you have one person carrying one big basket of eggs and you want to take that away from them so that you have two smaller baskets, go ahead and cut the lease off for

Newport from San Diego, and that would give you two smaller baskets that you could go ahead and get some more easier terms on.

Anyway, that was it. I got 11 seconds left and I'm thinking the -- you don't have jurisdiction, because you entered into it with the wrong people. You're forcing me to lose my house and I don't like it.

Thank you.

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CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you, Mr. Stancil.

MR. SLANKER: Good afternoon. And thanks for the opportunity to speak, Lieutenant Governor Kounalakis -- excuse me -- and Betty Yee.

So my name is Dan Slanker. I'm a registered professional engineer -- registered professional engineer 20 years at Mercury Marine, and the last standing president of the Redwood Creek Association and Secretary at the San Francisco Bay Marinas For All.

We have Romancing the Creek coming up on February 22nd. It's a wonderful adventure that we have where we clean the creek, and we pull out up to 10,000 pounds of trash from the creek and provide good stewardship to the creek. This has been 20 years that this has been going on. So welcome anybody to come out for it. It's fun. I probably enjoy it the most, but definitely fun.

So I'd like to talk some more about Docktown and

just mention -- I like to point this out. Actually, Mary Bernier was the one that brought this to my attention, that displacement is secondly only to the loss of a loved one and that's exactly what's happening there.

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Right now, we're down to the -- to the most vulnerable residents that are there. I'm definitely one of the lucky ones. As far as some of the other residents that are there, they really have nowhere else to go.

I -- we received a letter back from Eleni's office. And I appreciate that. And I passed that on to the residents and a lot of the residents replied back that they were grateful to have that letter back. So thank you.

Also got some response back from Governor Newsom and possibly a meeting that may be as a result of that. Docktown has been here for 75 years. And I'm not sure why that doesn't fall into the status quo of things. That's a really long time and there's still several lawsuits that are active, and some that may reemerge themselves from what I understand.

The whole deal has been very odd and a sociopolitical, bizarre thing. Certainly doesn't seem right when you step back from it. It just seems like a slow take of the property and land, which was mudflats that people didn't care about. And now it's the last land

that's available in Silicon Valley, so all of a sudden it's valuable and the people that were there are being displaced.

So the California Relocation Act is the only protection that we have from that. And there's no mobile home relocation law. It's kind of out there in no man's land, as far as law and protection-wise, but it doesn't -- it doesn't mean that it's right and that it can go on as it is, as far as unjust compensation for the people that are there.

And the last time I told you about the residents that were made homeless as a result of the Docktown plan and it's still current today and even more. There's still people there that are living right outside the property in their RVs and trailers. And these are people that were actually able to exist at Docktown for 10 or 15 years beforehand, and -- because they had two jobs, they're very hard working people, but they can't afford property outside in Silicon Valley area.

So I believe I'm out of time there. I hope you can help us out in any way that you can, even -- I know housing is a big priority today. And if you can please emphasize that, that would be helpful.

Thank you.

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CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you, Mr. Slanker.

MS. BERNIER: This is wonderful. So I don't have to do my little stopwatch.

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Hi. Thank you very much, Chairwoman Yee,
Lieutenant Governor Eleni Kounalakis, -- donde esta -Commissioner Miller is not here, Jennifer Lucchesi. And I
think I couldn't find -- oh, Sheri Pemberton.

So we've been coming here, I have anyway, for two years talking about trying to use the floating homes that are empty on Redwood Creek for serving the low-income community in our area. And we started out with 35 floating homes and boats, and now there's maybe three floaters left, maybe seven.

But the idea is to try to help the emancipated youth, children who, you know, young -- very young adults now, who are in the foster care system, and who have emancipated themselves or have kind of timed out at 18, and who often don't have housing.

So -- now, I have to look at my notes to make sure I don't forget something.

It was wonderful to hear you being so sensitive to the needs of underserved communities and indigenous peoples. And I know that as it was spoken about with housing, that the normal way of looking at it as Public Trust land, no housing. But there are -- it was a wonderful thing in 2016 that you supported the legislative

solution that Aaron Aknin from the city did, and Senator Hill covered it.

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And Chairwoman Yee, you referred to that February 4th, anyway. No details, but that didn't work out so well.

But right now, our city just keeps saying again, and again, and again that it's illegal to have housing there. So several nonprofits have approached them with different ideas of who their constituency could be, developmentally and other disabilities. I mean, it's really ridic -- it's a sad thing. They all are told no.

So I have a video and -- oh, guy, I still have a few more minutes. The video is basically just yourself Chairwoman Yee and Jennifer speaking on June 21st of 2018, and just encouraging the people who were there speaking from the community to -- certainly, you're working with your city and the State Legislature. And I think the way you had said it was we're here, we're willing to look at a proposal that you might bring back to us.

When I -- that night I was so excited I found
Mayor Bain, and then later I transcribed it and gave all
the city council people the -- you know, the
transcription, tried to show the video at their meeting.
It didn't work. But the next video worked, February 4th's
meeting. And Mayor Bain said he was going to write you.

He was going to clarify what you meant. And five months later -- hi. I forget to acknowledge you in the back -- five months later they finally wrote a letter, November 20th. And when they wrote the letter, we found out that they were -- equally it's out of time.

Oh, no. I was looking at the seconds left instead. So you'll see the video. You've got the transcript.

Aye yai yai, I was looking at it wrong.

Thank you for thinking of the emancipated youth. And just if we could find out, is that still your position, what was said, that we could bring some kind of a proposal, because the non-profits are scared of the City. The City says no. So then the county says no. Everybody is backing up.

Thanks a lot.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Thank you. Thank you.

Ms. Lucchesi, I think that option still stands --

EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: Right.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: -- before the Legislature.

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EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: I think that's right. And we remain open and available to working with the city, with any potential legislators as an author to look at how we balance the needs of -- that have been

expressed here, with the principles of the Public Trust and try to find a solution. As was mentioned earlier, we thought we had gotten to agreement on some language. And unfortunately, it did not move forward.

So that option is still on the table to consider. And so we remain here, and available, and open.

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Great. Thank you.

Any other members of the public who wish to address the Commission?

Okay. Seeing none. Ms. Lucchesi, our next item?

EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI: Adjourning into

closed session is our next item?

CHAIRPERSON YEE: Okay. Very well. Members of the audience, thank you for your patience. Thank you for your participation. The Commission will now go into closed session. So we will ask you to vacate the room, please.

MR. STANCIL: Do we have a quorum?

CHAIR YEE: Yes.

Thank you.

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(Off record: 2:42 p.m.)

(Thereupon the meeting recessed

into closed session.)

(Thereupon the meeting reconvened

open session.)

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(On record: 2:49 p.m.)
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             CHAIRPERSON YEE: Okay. We'll readjourn --
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    we'll -- I'm sorry, we'll reconvene in regular session.
    The Board -- the Commission met in closed session.
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             Ms. Lucchesi, anything to report out?
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             EXECUTIVE OFFICER LUCCHESI:
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             CHAIRPERSON YEE: Okay. Nothing to report out
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    from closed session.
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             Without any other business before the Commission,
    this Commission is adjourned.
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             Thank you.
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              (Thereupon the California State Lands
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             Commission meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.)
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## 1 CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I, JAMES F. PETERS, a Certified Shorthand
Reporter of the State of California, do hereby certify:

That I am a disinterested person herein; that the foregoing California State Lands Commission meeting was reported in shorthand by me, James F. Peters, a Certified Shorthand Reporter of the State of California;

That the said proceedings was taken before me, in shorthand writing, and was thereafter transcribed to the best of my ability, under my direction, by computer-assisted transcription.

I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for any of the parties to said meeting nor in any way interested in the outcome of said meeting.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 20th day of February, 2020.

1.3

James & Cutter

JAMES F. PETERS, CSR

Certified Shorthand Reporter

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