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BEFORE THE ARIZONA POWER PLANT  
AND TRANSMISSION LINE SITING COMMITTEE

Applicant: UNS ELECTRIC ) DOCKET NO. TBA  
Project: UNSE GOLDEN VALLEY ) LS CASE TBA  
230-kV TRANSMISSION ) PREFILING  
LINE PROJECT ) CONFERENCE

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At: Phoenix, Arizona  
Date: March 8, 2021

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

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1 BE IT REMEMBERED that the above-entitled  
2 and numbered matter came on to be heard before the  
3 Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting  
4 Committee in Phoenix, Arizona, commencing at 2:03 p.m.  
5 on the 8th day of March 2021, with all participants  
6 appearing via videoconference.

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9 BEFORE: THOMAS K. CHENAL, Chairman

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APPEARANCES:

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For the Applicant:

13

SNELL & WILMER LLP  
Mr. J. Matthew Derstine  
400 East Van Buren Street  
Phoenix, Arizona 85004

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For the Arizona Corporation Commission Staff:

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Mr. Stephen Emedi  
Staff Attorney, Legal Division  
1300 West Washington Street  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

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1 ALSO PRESENT:

2 Mr. Eric Raatz, Project Manager,  
Tucson Electric Power Company

3 Mr. George Miller, Transcon Environmental, Inc.

4 Ms. Gourjia Odisho, Snell & Wilmer, Paralegal

5 Ms. Ranie Rozenberg, Snell & Wilmer, Paralegal

6 Ms. Melissa Morales, Senior Regulatory Coordinator,  
7 Tucson Electric Power Company

8 Mr. Andrew Smith, ACC Staff

9 Mr. Tod Brewer, Assistant to Chairman Chenal

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1 CHMN. CHENAL: This is the time set for the  
2 pre-filing conference on CEC 188, the UNSE Golden Valley  
3 case.

4 May we have appearances, please?

5 MR. DERSTINE: I'll start. I'm Matt Derstine,  
6 Snell & Wilmer, counsel for UNS Electric, the applicant.

7 Gourgia, you can go ahead and be on the Snell  
8 team and state your appearance.

9 MS. ODISHO: I'm Gourgia Odisho from Snell &  
10 Wilmer, paralegal.

11 MS. ROZENBERG: Ranie Rozenberg from Snell &  
12 Wilmer, paralegal.

13 MR. DERSTINE: Oh, thank goodness. You're here.

14 CHMN. CHENAL: I think it shows disrespect,  
15 Ranie. We're not moving the date to accommodate your  
16 baby.

17 MS. ROZENBERG: No worries.

18 CHMN. CHENAL: If you were to ask right now,  
19 we'd continue this hearing, just so you know.

20 MS. ROZENBERG: I will not be asking that.

21 MR. RAATZ: Eric Raatz, with UNS Electric.

22 MS. MORALES: I'll follow. Melissa Morales with  
23 UNS Electric.

24 CHMN. CHENAL: Hello.

25 MR. MILLER: I'm George Miller, with Transcon

1 Environmental. We are assisting UNSE in the preparation  
2 of the CEC application.

3 CHMN. CHENAL: Very good.

4 Mr. Emedi, we're waiting for you.

5 MR. EMEDI: I didn't want to -- I didn't want to  
6 step on anyone's toes. My apologies. Stephen Emedi, on  
7 behalf of Staff, and we, also, have Andrew Smith from  
8 ACC Staff with us, as well.

9 CHMN. CHENAL: And Tod Brewer is with me. He's  
10 been doing a great job on these Line Siting hearings,  
11 and I'm happy to have him aboard.

12 Who are we missing? Let's see. I don't have  
13 everyone's --

14 MR. DERSTINE: I think the only party who we  
15 anticipated might join for this pre-filing conference is  
16 a member of the board of supervisors from Mohave County,  
17 and I'm missing her name.

18 Melissa, what was the supervisor's name -- or  
19 Eric?

20 MR. RAATZ: Supervisor Bishop, Jean Bishop.

21 MR. DERSTINE: Okay. So we had -- you know, we  
22 had reached out to various agency and government  
23 representatives, alerted them to this pre-filing  
24 conference. I think Supervisor Bishop had indicated a  
25 desire to join, but -- yeah, I guess, given that we

1 don't have them appearing at the moment, then maybe  
2 we'll just move forward.

3 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay. Very good.

4 And I just want to ask the court reporter if  
5 we're all legible and the audio is good?

6 THE REPORTER: Yes, it is, Mr. Chairman. Thank  
7 you.

8 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay. Well, if for any reason,  
9 you know, it gets fuzzy, just let us know, okay? Don't  
10 be afraid to ask anyone to repeat a question. You don't  
11 have to ask me to do that. Just go ahead so we can move  
12 this along.

13 So -- all right. Good. And, Mr. Derstine, I  
14 don't know who interested parties might be in this case,  
15 but are there any interested parties? And, to the  
16 extent there are, have they been provided notice to  
17 appear today?

18 MR. DERSTINE: You know, this -- Mr. Raatz will  
19 cover kind of the long, extended history of this project  
20 that goes back several years and was then paused and now  
21 has since moved forward starting in 2016. It involves  
22 involvement with BLM, as the lead agency, doing an  
23 environmental assessment. So there's been communication  
24 and contact and outreach with a variety of folks,  
25 landowners, et cetera. At this point in time, we're not

1 aware of any parties who intend to intervene.

2 We have had some communication with folks who  
3 have some opposition to the eastern family routes. And,  
4 again, we'll -- Mr. Raatz can give you the context of  
5 that. That involves the preferred route selected by  
6 BLM, but you know, the level of engagement or the desire  
7 to be a part of these proceedings, you know, we didn't  
8 have that level of understanding, no counsel who  
9 represented them.

10 So beyond sending the notice out to various  
11 agencies, et cetera, which prompted the response from  
12 Supervisor Bishop, we're not aware at this time of  
13 anyone who has expressed a desire to be a party to the  
14 proceeding.

15 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay. Let's do this,  
16 Mr. Derstine. You've been through a lot of these with  
17 me before. I have a certain number of, you know,  
18 questions to go through, mostly logistics, but why don't  
19 you just take it from here in terms of the background  
20 and the project itself, and Mr. Raatz can explain, as he  
21 deems appropriate. And, then, we'll get into the notice  
22 of hearing and the hearing, the tour, which I don't  
23 think we're going to have one. We'll have a fly-over,  
24 you know, and -- you know, we'll talk about, you know,  
25 the dates and things like that, you know, the logistics,



1 but let's start with a project overview. And you may  
2 even cover some of these topics.

3 MR. DERSTINE: Very good.

4 Eric, why don't you give us an your overview of  
5 the project, and you can maybe start by mentioning -- or  
6 aiding the chairman. I think you've got a map, in  
7 general, of the project area and UNSE's existing  
8 facilities that serve it, and then we can go from there.

9 MR. RAATZ: Yeah, that's correct. Thank you.

10 Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm going to share my  
11 screen, and let me know when you all can see it okay.  
12 So it should be up there.

13 CHMN. CHENAL: We are.

14 MR. RAATZ: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

15 Just a brief overview of the project, what  
16 you're looking at currently is the existing UNSE  
17 system -- 69-kV system -- serving the Kingman and  
18 surrounding areas. For frame of reference, kind of to  
19 the north of our page -- and I'll see if I can highlight  
20 it in here -- in this direction is -- about 90 miles  
21 north is Las Vegas. This is US-93, and this over here  
22 is the City of Kingman and US-68 and, if we continue  
23 west, this is Bullhead City.

24 This project started back in 2006. We  
25 received -- UNSE received a load service increase

1 request from the Planned Mineral Park located right up  
2 here -- or excuse me -- the existing mineral mine, and  
3 that -- at the same time, UNSE was in talks with the  
4 existing Nucor facilities to take over ownership, which  
5 is located right down here.

6 MR. DERSTINE: And what is Nucor? Can you tell  
7 us that?

8 MR. RAATZ: Yeah, Nucor Steel plant. And so  
9 they are -- at the time, they were served by MEC. And  
10 they are interconnected into the existing WAPA 230-kV  
11 system right here, and MEC was going to transfer  
12 ownership of service to UNS Electric to provide the  
13 Nucor facilities service -- electric service here.

14 So --

15 CHMN. CHENAL: And MEC -- excuse me. MEC,  
16 before we use the acronym, which company is that?

17 MR. RAATZ: I'm sorry, Mr. Chairman. Mohave  
18 Electric Co-Op.

19 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay. MEC, Mohave EC. Okay.

20 MR. RAATZ: Yes, sir. Yes, sir.

21 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay. All right.

22 MR. RAATZ: And so this provided a natural point  
23 of interconnection into the existing 230-kV system.

24 So UNSE conducted a system impact study to  
25 determine what would be needed to provide that --

1 service that load increase up at the Planned Mineral  
2 Park -- or excuse me. I keep saying "planned" --  
3 existing mineral park mine up here. And the results of  
4 that indicated a 230-kV service would be needed to  
5 service that load up there. So the thought was to  
6 interconnect into the existing Harris substation and  
7 provide a 230-service from there to the Planned Mineral  
8 Park substation.

9 As any route within this area would cross  
10 federal lands or require to go through the NIPA process,  
11 at that time, I believe, the Mineral Park had contracted  
12 with Transcon to get the NIPA process started, and BLM  
13 took over ownership of that. They took -- suggested  
14 that Transcon continue with the work to support the NIPA  
15 process, and they determined that the EA process would  
16 be sufficient.

17 CHMN. CHENAL: All right. Mr. Raatz, let's -- I  
18 understand what these terms mean, but let's start out  
19 with the words. Let's use the long version, at least  
20 for the first time. Let's go back to what -- the  
21 overview.

22 So this project is to provide a 230-kV line from  
23 the Harris expansion -- I can't read the map, but is  
24 that a substation?

25 MR. RAATZ: That's an existing 230-kV

1 substation.

2 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay. So the project is to take  
3 a 230-kV line from that substation and bring it  
4 northwest to the mining operations.

5 Is that correct?

6 MR. RAATZ: Mr. Chairman, that's correct.

7 CHMN. CHENAL: And there are ultimate routes  
8 that you're going to describe in a moment.

9 Correct?

10 MR. RAATZ: Yes. That's correct.

11 CHMN. CHENAL: All right. And so because it  
12 goes through federal land, an environmental assessment  
13 is necessary?

14 MR. RAATZ: Mr. Chairman, that's correct.

15 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay. I think that's how we need  
16 you to explain it, you know, just so people that are  
17 reading this will understand the terms, at least the  
18 first time.

19 MR. RAATZ: Understood. Thank you.

20 CHMN. CHENAL: All right.

21 MR. RAATZ: So the environmental assessment  
22 started to take place in 2007, and the public outreach  
23 efforts occurred from 2007 to 2008. And there were five  
24 public meetings held on behalf of the environmental  
25 assessment process. From 2007 to 2008, those were

1 attended by, approximately, 161 people. After that, the  
2 project lost speed from 2008 to 2014. The mine, the  
3 existing mine, actually went bankrupt in 2014. So there  
4 was no longer a need for the project at the time, but  
5 UNS Electric procured a load saturation study to be  
6 conducted for the Mohave County service territory.

7 And as part of the results of that load  
8 saturation study, as you can see from the map provided  
9 here, all of the area serving the Kingman and  
10 surrounding areas is served by a radial 69-kV  
11 transmission system, and the results of that load  
12 saturation study indicated that a 230-kV line project  
13 would be needed in the area that was proposed for the  
14 Mineral Park project to support the forecasted load  
15 growth.

16 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay.

17 MR. RAATZ: So fast-forward, then, in 2016, we  
18 picked up progress again on the environmental assessment  
19 process, conducted two more public outreach meetings,  
20 and those outreach meetings were attended by, I believe,  
21 61 people. And fast-forward to August of 2020, the  
22 environmental assessment -- a draft environmental  
23 assessment was completed and published for public  
24 comment and -- review and comment, and that comment  
25 period was closed in September of 2020.

1           And after that, we began -- we held one more  
2 public outreach meeting in support of the CEC, and that  
3 public outreach meeting was held virtually on  
4 February 9th, 2021. I believe it was attended by five  
5 individuals of the public, although notification went  
6 out to -- this is another map that we've got shown here.

7           So this is the Planned Mineral Park substation  
8 towards the top of the page, the existing Harris  
9 substation towards the bottom of the page, and the black  
10 dotted line represents the study area. So notification  
11 went out to everyone within this study area. It is  
12 defined from one mile from the outermost route. So --  
13 and this area would be two miles along the common  
14 corridor.

15           So these are the routes that ultimately resulted  
16 in the environmental assessment process. As  
17 Mr. Derstine had mention, the E1, E Cerbat alternative  
18 is the preferred route, and that is shown starting at  
19 the Harris substation, towards the bottom of the page,  
20 the gray triangle, and then following the orange line to  
21 the green dotted line and continuing crossing 6 --  
22 Route 66, paralleling Interstate 40 here and then  
23 crossing over Interstate 40 and then paralleling US-93.  
24 And then there is an existing 69-kV line in this area  
25 that we plan on picking up, and so this would be double

1 circuitry from here and removing that existing 69-kV  
2 line and continuing north to the Planned Mineral Park  
3 substation.

4           There are four other alternatives that were  
5 presented in that environmental assessment -- or excuse  
6 me -- five; the second being the E2 Cerbat alternative,  
7 originating at the existing Harris substation, heading  
8 south from that and continuing -- there's an existing  
9 Western Area Power Administration 230-kV line. It  
10 follows that -- parallels that for, approximately, half  
11 a mile and then turns and continues north where it picks  
12 up with that E Cerbat 1 alternative, and then from there  
13 it's a common -- common route. It goes -- there's an  
14 existing mountain range right here, and it just goes  
15 around rather than through.

16           And, then, there are four alternatives. They're  
17 called the west alternatives, again, originating at the  
18 Harris substation. All four routes are common until we  
19 just pass Oatman Highway, and then here they diverge and  
20 the divergence is -- impacts the amount of BLM land that  
21 we do cross. And continuing on north on Tooman Road and  
22 continuing on to the Kofa Road, and from here the blue  
23 line is a common to all six routes. We do cross federal  
24 lands, City of Kingman and Mohave County, for all of  
25 these options.

1           And as I said, UNSE will be moving forward in  
2 the application as E1 as the preferred alternative,  
3 similar or identical to what the Bureau of Land  
4 Management has recommended is the preferred alternative,  
5 the E1, E Cerbat alternative.

6           CHMN. CHENAL: Okay. And how long is E1? I  
7 mean, assuming that's the alternative?

8           MR. RAATZ: E1 is 16.9 miles long.

9           CHMN. CHENAL: Okay.

10          MR. RAATZ: And they're all, roughly,  
11 approximately, 16 to 18 miles in length. E1 is the  
12 shortest of all alternatives, with E2 actually being one  
13 of the longer alternatives. It's 17.9 miles, and then  
14 the west alternatives range between -- I believe it's  
15 17.4 and 17.8 miles.

16          CHMN. CHENAL: Okay. All right. Good. Thank  
17 you.

18          MR. RAATZ: Thank you.

19          MR. DERSTINE: And, Eric, the -- you know, you  
20 tipped him off in terms of land ownership, but the  
21 affected jurisdictions are what?

22          MR. RAATZ: Mohave County, City of Kingman, and  
23 we will be crossing Arizona State land and Bureau of  
24 Land Management public land. So these will be parties  
25 that we would notice.



1 MR. DERSTINE: Okay.

2 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay. Very good. Thank you.

3 So anything further on the background,

4 Mr. Derstine?

5 MR. DERSTINE: I don't think so. I think that  
6 gives you some context and understanding of the project.  
7 Yeah, I don't know that there's a lot more to add on the  
8 project description at this point. The substations --  
9 the beginning -- the Harris substation, the company is  
10 negotiating -- it's privately owned. So it's  
11 negotiating for access rights to expand that Harris  
12 substation at the starting point on the east.

13 The Mineral Park station that terminates on the  
14 west is a planned substation. Those will go through the  
15 local county permitting processes. I don't know that  
16 anything is required for the Harris expansion. It's  
17 already zoned industrial. If we are not able to secure  
18 rights at Harris, the starting point for the line will  
19 be at a WAPA substation, which is virtually adjacent  
20 there. So it starts at either one or the other existing  
21 subs on the east and ends at a planned substation. The  
22 project will be defined as this 17-mile, 230-kV  
23 transmission line.

24 CHMN. CHENAL: Will the application cover the  
25 substations?

1 MR. DERSTINE: No. Other than, you know, in  
2 keeping with kind of TEP's well-known and certainly  
3 familiar-to-you position on its interpretation of the  
4 Line Siting statute, we're going to -- you know, we'll  
5 talk about the substations at either end of the line,  
6 whatever sort of permitting process is involved, to get  
7 those approved, but the CEC will simply cover the  
8 transmission line itself.

9 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay. Well, I say "okay" in,  
10 yes, I understand that's TEP's position.

11 MR. DERSTINE: Okay. And its affiliates, too,  
12 UNSE.

13 CHMN. CHENAL: And its affiliates. Okay.

14 So -- all right. The evidentiary hearing, I  
15 just wanted to check my -- starts April 26 in Kingman.  
16 It looks like we'll do the normal start at 1:00 p.m. on  
17 that day, you know, and the standard 9:00 to 5:00  
18 hearing hours for the rest of the days.

19 And how long do you expect the hearing to last?

20 MR. DERSTINE: I am fairly confident that we can  
21 complete it by that Friday. So just reserving --  
22 setting aside one week should be sufficient for our  
23 hearing days.

24 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay.

25 MR. DERSTINE: And is the 26th -- for some

1 reason, I had thought -- is the 26th a Monday or a  
2 Tuesday?

3 CHMN. CHENAL: Monday is the 26th.

4 MR. DERSTINE: Okay. I didn't know if your  
5 preference would be to start on Tuesday, let people  
6 travel -- members of the Committee travel on Monday, or  
7 if you wanted to -- or starting at 1:00 on the Monday is  
8 sufficient, but that certainly gives us, you know, more  
9 time and more leeway if the hearing runs long.

10 CHMN. CHENAL: Yeah, we've had a lot of hearings  
11 out of town, but -- we'll start on a Monday, but it will  
12 be Monday at 1:00.

13 MR. DERSTINE: Very good.

14 CHMN. CHENAL: I think that -- we don't want to  
15 extend this. I mean, do you want to add a day or two to  
16 the following week, just in case, or not? I mean, I'll  
17 leave it up to you. We'll do everything we have to to  
18 get it done that week, but it's the things that we can't  
19 control -- intervenors and, you know, opposition -- and  
20 that extends out. And if we don't finish, then we have  
21 to re-notice.

22 MR. DERSTINE: All right.

23 CHMN. CHENAL: You know, we're talking about --  
24 you know, I don't know when we would be able to do it.  
25 It could be a fair -- a delay. Let's say, even 30 days,

1 I mean, just to get everyone back together; whereas, if  
2 we -- if we add a few days to it, we might be in a  
3 better situation.

4 MR. DERSTINE: There's certainly no harm in  
5 noticing those additional days. It saves them for us  
6 and, as you said, we don't have to re-notice. So I'm  
7 open to that, and we can -- when I draft -- I'm  
8 finalizing the draft notice of hearing, and I'll  
9 include -- you suggest just continuing over to the  
10 Monday and Tuesday just to have those additional days in  
11 case we need them?

12 CHMN. CHENAL: You know, I just have always  
13 pushed the applicants to put -- to tack on a few extra  
14 days, you know, and hopefully there won't be a question  
15 about using it.

16 But let me ask Tod if you know the availability  
17 of the Committee that week, that following week.

18 You're on mute. Sorry.

19 MR. BREWER: I do, Mr. Chairman. Let me pull  
20 that up, and I can go over that. I believe everybody is  
21 available the following week, as well.

22 CHMN. CHENAL: All right. At least so that we  
23 have a quorum. Well, I'm not suggesting that I would  
24 look forward to, you know, spending the weekend in  
25 Kingman and then -- or, alternatively -- I mean, that's

1 nothing against Kingman. It's just, you know, I mean,  
2 it seems like that should be enough time, but if we have  
3 to come back -- we have to leave and drive back to  
4 Phoenix, a lot of us drive and go back to Kingman to  
5 pick up the last day or two.

6 So, you know, it's not the optimum situation,  
7 but we can certainly work even longer than the normal  
8 hearing hours we normally set to try to complete it. I  
9 know the Committee would feel the same way, but some  
10 things you can't control. And if you're saying -- you  
11 know, my general -- my general rule of thumb is to take  
12 what the lawyer says and add a day or two onto it. If  
13 you say, well, we should comfortably be done by Friday,  
14 that, frankly, makes me feel uncomfortable. So that's  
15 why I'm suggesting a couple more days.

16 MR. DERSTINE: Right. No, I got you, and I  
17 think it's good advice. So we'll take it.

18 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay. Now, what about the  
19 logistics of the hearing? The venue?

20 MR. RAATZ: Mr. Chairman, we have set aside the  
21 Hampton Inn and Suites in Kingman, Arizona. They had an  
22 event room there. I believe it is, approximately, 2,500  
23 square feet, about a third of the size that we had for  
24 the Vail to Tortolita hearing, but myself and Transcon  
25 went and visited the site this past Friday and believe

1 it would be adequate for -- should the COVID protocol be  
2 necessary at that time.

3 CHMN. CHENAL: So let's talk about that. Are we  
4 going to be under a TEP or TEP-affiliate protocol? And,  
5 if so, what is it?

6 MR. RAATZ: Mr. Chairman, I am hearing from  
7 leadership, as things have been dynamic over the past  
8 week. So I will follow up with that, but at this time,  
9 it is a standard UNSE protocol similar to that of the  
10 Vail to Tortolita project.

11 CHMN. CHENAL: So what is that, I mean, in terms  
12 of the size of the room? Will the room accommodate --  
13 assuming everyone were to appear, the Committee would  
14 appear in person, plus the attorneys and, you know, A/V  
15 people and witnesses, would that universe of people fit  
16 within that size room and still stay within the  
17 parameters of the TEP protocol or UNSE protocol?

18 MR. RAATZ: Yes, Mr. Chairman. A proposed 20  
19 people are allowed in the room and, in speaking with the  
20 audio/video planner there, he is going to set up a booth  
21 external to that room or adjacent to it to allow for  
22 public comment, as well. It will be similar where  
23 there's a computer set up to interact via Zoom.

24 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay. All right. Good. Now,  
25 we'll be 80 miles from Las Vegas, but I don't see any

1 takers on that.

2 MR. DERSTINE: I think we're closer to Laughlin.  
3 So if we extend into the next week, we'll get a block of  
4 rooms in Laughlin somewhere.

5 CHMN. CHENAL: There you go.

6 Okay. So I always ask the standard question.  
7 The rooms will be paid directly by the applicant to  
8 avoid the reimbursement process.

9 Correct?

10 MR. RAATZ: Yeah.

11 MR. DERSTINE: Yes.

12 MR. RAATZ: That is correct.

13 CHMN. CHENAL: A tour -- I don't think we're out  
14 of the woods yet on -- I mean, enough on COVID to where  
15 I'll feel comfortable having the Committee take a  
16 physical tour. So -- and I'm not sure the Committee  
17 would want to. If we had a robust, you know, fly-over  
18 presentation, I think, you know, we're still -- we're  
19 still enough of a concern that I think we should avoid a  
20 physical tour and, instead, have a more comprehensive  
21 fly-over.

22 MR. DERSTINE: Yes. Eric is currently working  
23 on the fly-over. We've talked through kind of trying to  
24 make that as detailed as possible in terms of at least  
25 showing landscape and impacts of the proposed routes.

1 And so I think we're confident that we can put together  
2 a fly-over simulation that gives the committee a good  
3 understanding of the routes and the impacts, either from  
4 the eastern collection of routes, as well as the western  
5 collection of routes, so they can understand what we're  
6 looking at.

7 CHMN. CHENAL: Perfect, perfect. And I  
8 personally like the tours. I much prefer having a tour  
9 and, in this case, I may decide to just drive in the car  
10 because it seems like a fairly, you know, straight shot.  
11 And it's a long, you know, road. So I might just get a  
12 feel for it, but I think I'm -- you know, the fly-over  
13 would be good alternative here.

14 The pre-hearing conference, let's set a date for  
15 that. Monday, April 29th -- excuse me. Monday,  
16 April 19th? Does that work for people? That puts us  
17 within ten days and gives us plenty of time if we need  
18 to wrestle with any issues.

19 MR. DERSTINE: Yeah, I think that that's fine  
20 for me. I'm just thinking ahead a little bit to your  
21 procedural order and in terms of the filing  
22 requirements.

23 CHMN. CHENAL: Yeah.

24 MR. DERSTINE: If you don't anticipate any  
25 changes and it's a matter of witness summaries, which I



1 think are the main things that are to be filed now under  
2 the new procedure, as opposed to all the exhibits and  
3 PowerPoints, I think that works. We'd have to have  
4 everything on file by 5:00 p.m., the Friday before, the  
5 23rd. So I think that's fine.

6 CHMN. CHENAL: I mean, is there -- I mean, I  
7 have a few things later that week, Tuesday and  
8 Wednesday. And I think Thursday, you know, is a little  
9 too close.

10 MR. DERSTINE: Yeah. No, I think the 19th is  
11 fine.

12 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay. How about 2:00 o'clock?

13 MR. DERSTINE: No complaints here. Anyone else?

14 MR. RAATZ: I'm good. Thank you.

15 CHMN. CHENAL: Let me put that in right now.  
16 Okay. Technology is great. We have a VPN line into  
17 our -- into our system at the Attorney General's Office,  
18 but you can't hold a Zoom conference over because it's  
19 just one more layer of, you know, interference, I guess.  
20 And so I have my Zoom meeting outside of that system,  
21 basically, just on my personal computer. So while I do  
22 that, I don't have my work calendar up, so I've got to  
23 push the stuff in. It's definitely a First-World COVID  
24 problem, but the things we have to learn to do things a  
25 little differently.

1           So -- okay. So pre-hearing -- and I see Tod has  
2 already put it in for me so I didn't have to fuffz with  
3 my phone.

4           Did you do that, Tod?

5           MR. BREWER: I did, Mr. Chairman.

6           CHMN. CHENAL: All right. It looks much better  
7 than what I did.

8           Okay. So I'll have the standard procedural  
9 order, as you said, Mr. Derstine, with, you know, the  
10 witness summaries filed before that.

11          MR. DERSTINE: Can I touch on that? We don't  
12 have to decide it now, but like -- and this has been my  
13 experience from the last two -- the hearings that we had  
14 at the end of last year. Under the new procedural  
15 order, we're just filing the witness summaries with  
16 docket control. And then, prior to the pre-hearing  
17 conference, the rest of the exhibits, et cetera, we do  
18 file in the docket, but those come later and don't have  
19 to be filed in advance of the pre-hearing conference.

20          I'm just wondering if -- does that procedure  
21 work for those members of the Committee who will appear  
22 virtually? Are they getting the exhibits in advance? I  
23 just don't know what sort of obstacles there are in  
24 terms of we're not filing some things that we generally  
25 do file with docket control and does that put those

1 Committee members at a disadvantage, who aren't showing  
2 up live to the hearing, to get a hearing book or an  
3 iPad?

4 CHMN. CHENAL: Well, we've been -- that's a good  
5 point. We've been -- the problem with the exhibits is  
6 having to file so many, you know, exhibit books. It's  
7 just -- it's too much.

8 MR. DERSTINE: Yeah.

9 CHMN. CHENAL: And people don't really use it.  
10 I mean, they use the iPad.

11 MR. DERSTINE: Right.

12 CHMN. CHENAL: What is nice -- in some hearings  
13 this is done -- is we get the exhibits emailed to Tod,  
14 for example, and then we distribute those to the  
15 committee, you know, like, before the hearing.

16 MR. DERSTINE: Yeah, we would -- we would be  
17 happy to do that. I explored that with Marie, and I  
18 think -- for the Southline hearing, and I think, at the  
19 time, she had indicated that she did not have email or  
20 didn't have authorization to email committee members  
21 directly; that it had to come through docket. That's my  
22 recollection. Maybe I'm wrong on that, but if what you  
23 indicated in that we could email those various hearing  
24 exhibits to Tod, you know, a short time in advance of  
25 the hearing and he can distribute those to the Committee

1 members who have elected or need to attend virtually, I  
2 think that's a great way to handle it.

3 CHMN. CHENAL: Yeah. And I want it done when we  
4 do the procedural order in this case. I mean, I assume  
5 you'll have the exhibits ready to go at the time of the  
6 pre-hearing conference.

7 Is that right, or is that maybe not entirely  
8 correct if they don't have to be filed at that time?

9 MR. DERSTINE: Yeah, we -- yeah, so your new  
10 procedure does allow us some greater flexibility in  
11 finalizing those exhibits that we don't necessarily have  
12 all of the PowerPoints finalized, et cetera, at the time  
13 of the pre-hearing conference. So that has been one of  
14 the benefits in that it's given us some more time to  
15 finalize those and we're not filing supplemental  
16 exhibits to correct prior filings that we had to get  
17 filed in advance of the pre-hearing conference, and it  
18 is a lot of stuff, yeah.

19 CHMN. CHENAL: Well, if we could get them by a  
20 few days before. I mean, to get it, you know, at 5:00  
21 o'clock on the Friday and the hearing starts Monday,  
22 there's no time to get them to them versus getting them  
23 really on Monday, but if we could get them, you know,  
24 Thursday or maybe Friday morning, even, to give Tod an  
25 opportunity to get them to the Committee where they can,

1 you know, have a chance to look at them, I think that  
2 would be appreciated.

3 MR. DERSTINE: Yeah. And we're going to have to  
4 get them printed and put into binders because we need,  
5 you know, backups, anyway, even though, as you said,  
6 most of the Committee members rely on the electronic  
7 versions that they'll access through the iPads. So in  
8 drafting the procedural order, if we get Tod an  
9 electronic set of our exhibits, say, by the 21st,  
10 hearing starts on the 26th, that would give him some  
11 time to get them out and Committee members an  
12 opportunity to look at them in advance of the start of  
13 the hearing, if that's --

14 CHMN. CHENAL: Yeah, that's fine.

15 MR. DERSTINE: Okay.

16 CHMN. CHENAL: The 21st, even the 22nd. I  
17 mean --

18 MR. DERSTINE: Okay.

19 CHMN. CHENAL: If we got them on the 22nd, that  
20 would work, too.

21 MR. DERSTINE: Okay. That would be great.

22 Thank you.

23 CHMN. CHENAL: So let's plan on that.

24 Tod, if you can, make a note to remind me I  
25 should address that in the procedural order.

1 MR. BREWER: Yes, sir.

2 CHMN. CHENAL: And, then, we'll -- prior to the  
3 pre-hearing conference, we'll get the draft CEC, as  
4 well.

5 MR. DERSTINE: Well, so our plan is to file the  
6 CEC application on -- no later than -- well, our  
7 expectation is the 16th. And so I need to get you a  
8 draft -- my plan was to get you a draft of the notice of  
9 hearing and the agenda for you to look at, say, no later  
10 than -- well, by Wednesday of this week.

11 CHMN. CHENAL: That's fine. I'll turn it right  
12 around.

13 MR. DERSTINE: Okay.

14 CHMN. CHENAL: Certainly by Thursday.

15 MR. DERSTINE: Yeah. And then --

16 CHMN. CHENAL: Is that -- when do you need it  
17 back by? Let me ask you that way.

18 MR. DERSTINE: Well, if we can -- I don't know  
19 that you'll make any significant changes, but I know we  
20 do miss things and you do a great job of carefully  
21 reading both of those items. And so it's -- it's only  
22 important to have them in advance of the filing and  
23 before you sign them just so that we can start marking  
24 or mocking up -- whatever the appropriate term is -- the  
25 notice of filing that will be published in the

1 newspapers.

2 CHMN. CHENAL: Right.

3 MR. DERSTINE: And so it helps us in terms of  
4 understanding the size and formatting, et cetera. So I  
5 think, you know, if you turn it around in a couple of  
6 days, say, by that Friday, approve the form of the  
7 notice of hearing, or we get it, you know, finalized  
8 format-wise, that will put us in good shape to make sure  
9 we're going to meet our publication deadline.

10 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay. So by this Friday. That  
11 will not be a problem, and then you'll be filing next  
12 Tuesday, the 16th.

13 MR. DERSTINE: Right.

14 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay. That won't be a problem.

15 All right. So we've covered the application,  
16 procedural order, the notice of hearing, pre-hearing  
17 conference, the draft CEC. Again, we'll get that before  
18 the -- you know, before the pre-hearing conference.

19 Public comment, you know, we'll have that here  
20 in the evening of the first day, the evening of the  
21 26th, and at various times as we need to.

22 Let's talk about how the public comment will  
23 work with the Zoom feature and just how do you want to  
24 handle the public?

25 MR. RAATZ: Mr. Chairman, we have met with the

1 A/V group out there, and they plan on setting up a  
2 partition that would be outside of the conference center  
3 where we'll be hosting the hearing, and there will be a  
4 dedicated computer with a camera and access. And we'll  
5 be having someone monitor entrance into that if Kingman  
6 has a COVID protocol in place for limitations for the  
7 number of people that can attend. So, you know, we'll  
8 try to limit that. And we even thought about having  
9 security there just, if necessary, to make sure that we  
10 can limit the number of people. So we'll give the  
11 person the opportunity to comment via the Zoom feed at  
12 that dedicated terminal.

13 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay.

14 MR. DERSTINE: And by way of background, I think  
15 we have secured the services of the group who handled  
16 your Hashknife hearing, which I thought went very well.

17 CHMN. CHENAL: Yeah, they were very good, as  
18 well.

19 MR. DERSTINE: Yeah. And so those gentlemen,  
20 Peak Audio, will be, you know, handling all of the Zoom  
21 feed, as well as all the logistics in the hearing room,  
22 and they visited the hearing room at the hotel in order  
23 to determine if it has robust WiFi, et cetera, to meet  
24 all the needs for this hybrid hearing. So I think we're  
25 in pretty good shape. I have a -- I feel like them



1 having done a hearing, I feel fairly confident about  
2 their ability to do a good job and cover all the bases.

3 CHMN. CHENAL: Very good. Yeah, they were very  
4 good.

5 So if a member of the public wants to comment,  
6 the way you're going to set it up is they have to show  
7 up at the venue, as opposed to a Zoom feed from their  
8 personal computer?

9 MR. RAATZ: We will have a link to the meeting  
10 on the project website -- I apologize -- as well there,  
11 Mr. Chairman, to allow individuals if they have Zoom  
12 installed on their computer, where they could comment,  
13 as well.

14 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay. So I think that needs to  
15 be addressed in the notice of hearing in some fashion,  
16 Mr. Derstine.

17 MR. DERSTINE: Yes.

18 CHMN. CHENAL: Just the options to provide  
19 public comment.

20 MR. DERSTINE: Right.

21 CHMN. CHENAL: Either in person or via their own  
22 computer with a link, I guess. Everything I've heard is  
23 the COVID cases are expected to really drop  
24 precipitously in April, and I think -- in the short time  
25 between now and then, I think things are going to look a

1 lot different than they do right now, but let's be  
2 prepared for, you know, if that's not the case. And  
3 we'll have a -- you know, basically, a hybrid hearing,  
4 and I think that's fine because I think we've proven, at  
5 least in the previous hearing, that it went very well.  
6 I was very, very happy with it.

7 Are you planning on having all your witnesses  
8 live, then, Mr. Derstine, or will some appear via Zoom?

9 MR. DERSTINE: I think Ms. -- well, I'll let --  
10 Eric, I'll let you and George speak to whether you plan  
11 to be there in person or attend -- or be there  
12 virtually.

13 MR. RAATZ: I'm still awaiting approval,  
14 Mr. Chairman, from leadership, but I'd like to be there  
15 in person.

16 MR. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, I'll be there in  
17 person, as well. This is George Miller with Transcon.

18 CHMN. CHENAL: All right. Good. And, as you  
19 know, we'll take public comment at other points in the  
20 hearing, you know, when appropriate. If we see that  
21 people have showed up -- or have shown up, we'll try not  
22 to inconvenience someone. I know that for the  
23 procedural order, we'll need to get their contact  
24 information in a way such that they can later be  
25 contacted, if necessary. So, you know, that will be the

1 standard process we follow.

2 Mr. Derstine, I think you already reviewed the  
3 permit status, permitting required, some zoning, maybe,  
4 for the one substation, if I remember correctly, Harris.

5 MR. RAATZ: Mr. Chairman, the Planned Mineral  
6 Park does require a rezoning, as well as an industrial  
7 use permit, and then the Harris expansion would require  
8 an industrial use permit.

9 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay. I think you alluded to  
10 this, but we'll have either iPads or Surface Pros, or  
11 something, that will have the documents preloaded? Is  
12 that correct?

13 MR. RAATZ: That's correct, Mr. Chairman.

14 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay. All right. Perfect.

15 And robust -- I love that, robust WiFi. The  
16 crack crew is already tracking that down. That's  
17 important.

18 I don't know. Is that it? Any other issues we  
19 need to talk about?

20 MR. RAATZ: Mr. Chairman, if I may, will you be  
21 requiring masks throughout the duration of the hearing?

22 CHMN. CHENAL: Well, you know, we'll want to  
23 comply with all the requirements of the County of  
24 Kingman, of the State, of TEP, UNSE. I mean, I don't  
25 know who requires what, but at the last hearing we had

1 this hybrid, I mean, a lot of different stakeholders, if  
2 you will, had their own requirements that came into play  
3 that limited what we could do and how many people could  
4 be there and the requirement to wear a mask.

5 I mean, we want to comply with all those  
6 requirements. Masks? We had them at the last hearing.  
7 We certainly had them when we walked around and  
8 interacted with people. Did we have them when we were  
9 sitting at our tables when we were socially distant from  
10 everybody else? I kind of think we did.

11 MR. DERSTINE: Yeah, we did.

12 CHMN. CHENAL: I don't know that we need to do  
13 that, but if it was a requirement, you know, we  
14 certainly don't want to, you know, run afoul of any of  
15 the policies, for example, TEP may have or UNSE, but  
16 unless that particular requirement -- I think, when  
17 you're out of your seat, if you have a mask on, that's  
18 what our office requires; but when we're in our  
19 individual offices, we don't need to be wearing masks.

20 But are we comfortable with that?

21 MR. RAATZ: I think I am, Mr. Chairman. And  
22 could we leave it up to the discretion of the  
23 individual, as well?

24 CHMN. CHENAL: Well, look, we've got to be  
25 sensitive. A lot of Committee members are a little

1 older. I don't know -- they're not going to -- if  
2 someone comes up and comes over to talk to them and  
3 they're not wearing a mask, I don't want someone to be  
4 put in that situation because they'd probably be too  
5 polite to say anything, but if someone is going to come  
6 over and talk to, you know, members of the Committee --  
7 witnesses, whomever -- I think they ought to be wearing  
8 a mask. If we're sitting in our table, we're doing our  
9 thing, I don't think that's necessary.

10 MR. RAATZ: I apologize. I meant just while  
11 we're sitting. If I chose to wear a mask, is that going  
12 to be --

13 CHMN. CHENAL: No, that won't be a problem.

14 MR. RAATZ: Okay. Yeah.

15 CHMN. CHENAL: Yeah.

16 MR. DERSTINE: And I think what we did for the  
17 last hearing and what we should do for this one is we'll  
18 come up with a draft set of COVID protocols for the  
19 hearing room, and we can present those. Those will be  
20 on the project website, but I think what I want to do is  
21 share those with you in advance and maybe we can send  
22 those over with the draft notice of hearing and we can  
23 talk through at least kind of what we think, once Eric  
24 checks in with, you know, the management and leadership  
25 at UNSE -- I mean, because Eric mentioned, I mean, the

1 Governor has just issued some -- made some changes in  
2 terms of, you know, the number of folks who can  
3 congregate.

4 I don't know what Kingman's regulations are, if  
5 they have a mask ordinance or not. So we need to do a  
6 little homework, put together a draft COVID protocol for  
7 the hearing, share that with you, and we'll move forward  
8 from there.

9 CHMN. CHENAL: That makes sense. That makes  
10 sense. Let's find out what the requirements are. And,  
11 of course, they can change between now and then, but  
12 that's right. I generally believe people should, you  
13 know, do what they feel comfortable doing, but I -- just  
14 like in this case, in a closed environment, given the  
15 age of certain of the people, I think it would be  
16 prudent to -- you know, when people are approached, that  
17 they're wearing masks. I just think that's something  
18 that, if nothing else, is good manners in this -- in  
19 this environment.

20 So anything else? I think we covered it, but I  
21 mean, this is -- I think this sounds like an exciting --  
22 oh, what's the value of the cost of -- roughly, of this  
23 project?

24 MR. RAATZ: Let me pull that up. And  
25 Mr. Chairman, did you want to go over sign locations?

1 CHMN. CHENAL: Yes. Sorry. Yeah.

2 MR. RAATZ: Okay.

3 CHMN. CHENAL: Yeah. Yeah, publication and  
4 signs.

5 MR. RAATZ: Right now we're still determining  
6 right-of-way costs for the project, Mr. Chairman, but  
7 the cost ranges anywhere from 22.8 million for -- or  
8 excuse me -- 21.9 for the lower end up to 25.7 on the  
9 higher end.

10 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay.

11 MR. RAATZ: And that's million dollars. And is  
12 it okay if I jump down to signs?

13 CHMN. CHENAL: Sure.

14 MR. RAATZ: Mr. Chairman?

15 CHMN. CHENAL: Please. Sorry. I went past  
16 right that part on my little checklist here.

17 MR. RAATZ: So we're planning on using our  
18 language that we've used in the past for past projects,  
19 you know, revised for this -- specific to this project.  
20 Size would be, approximately, 4-foot-by-4-foot. We've  
21 got 18 locations for signage planned for the project  
22 covering all the routes along the project. I'm going to  
23 start on the north end of the project towards the plant  
24 and the Mineral Park substation. We'll have two right  
25 at the termination of the project facing the direction

1 of flow of traffic, obviously; two along the West  
2 Champion Mine Road -- or excuse me -- on 93 at the  
3 intersection of West Champion Mine Road; two at,  
4 approximately, the intersection of US-68 and Kofa Road.

5 And, then, continuing on for the west  
6 alternatives, we've got two along the route and Bolsa  
7 Drive and then two along Unkar Drive for the W1  
8 alternative, and then two along Apache Road for the W4  
9 alternative, and two along South Kirkland Road for  
10 the -- excuse me -- W3 alternative. And, then, along  
11 the common route for all of the western alternatives  
12 would be at Oatman Highway. And, then, continuing on  
13 for the eastern route, we do have two at the -- along  
14 the Historic 66 and then two at the I-93, US --  
15 Interstate 40 interchange right there.

16 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay.

17 MR. RAATZ: And I did not call any out for the  
18 E2 Cerbat alternative. There was no roadway. This road  
19 that you see here is the railroad. So there is no road  
20 within this proximity for the E2 alternative.

21 CHMN. CHENAL: I think with 17 signs, as  
22 depicted on the exhibit, no one in Kingman will not know  
23 that there's a hearing coming up upon us. So, I think  
24 that's good.

25 So what about -- that's good. That looks very



1 reasonable, more than reasonable.

2 What about publication? Which paper are you  
3 planning on using?

4 MR. RAATZ: It is called, Mr. Chairman, the  
5 "Kingman Daily Miner." It's the local publication up  
6 there, and I believe the days that we had picked out --  
7 the first publication would be on April 21st, which is a  
8 Wednesday.

9 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay. April 21st?

10 MR. RAATZ: Yeah, April -- I'm sorry.

11 CHMN. CHENAL: Not March?

12 MR. RAATZ: March 24th. I apologize.

13 March 24th, which is a Wednesday.

14 CHMN. CHENAL: Right.

15 MR. RAATZ: And then --

16 MR. DERSTINE: The 21st.

17 MR. RAATZ: March 21st, yeah. March 21st and  
18 March 24th.

19 CHMN. CHENAL: March 21 and March 24.

20 Correct?

21 MR. RAATZ: That's correct, Mr. Chairman.

22 CHMN. CHENAL: All right. Now, you had two  
23 exhibits that I think you've looked at today, the two  
24 maps.

25 Can we get hard copies of those to the court

1 reporter so she can make those -- Exhibits A was the  
2 first one that we -- let's make Exhibit 1 the first one  
3 you referred to, Mr. Raatz, and then the second one that  
4 you were just reading from with the signage would be  
5 Exhibit Number 2.

6 MR. RAATZ: This will be Number 1 and Exhibit  
7 Number 2. We can do, Mr. Chairman.

8 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay.

9 MR. DERSTINE: Is it better to mail a hard copy  
10 to the court reporter or an electronic version and she  
11 would print it and make it part of the transcript?  
12 Whatever her preference is.

13 CHMN. CHENAL: I guess that's for the court  
14 reporter.

15 MR. DERSTINE: We can follow up with Marta and  
16 confirm.

17 CHMN. CHENAL: All right. Yeah, whatever the  
18 preference would be there.

19 Mr. Emedi, did you have any -- okay. The first  
20 question is, is the Staff going to intervene in this  
21 case?

22 MR. EMEDI: As far as I know, no, we're not. I  
23 haven't an order that we are, but Andrew and I are just  
24 joining today to pull out some information.

25 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay. Any questions of the

1 applicant or of the process?

2 MR. EMEDI: I don't have any.

3 Andrew, do you have any questions?

4 CHMN. CHENAL: None?

5 MR. EMEDI: No.

6 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay. All right.

7 MR. DERSTINE: And, Mr. Chairman, can I  
8 interject here? I keep staring at Mr. Emedi and I  
9 should probably put this off the record, but you've  
10 known him longer than I have. It appears that this past  
11 year, he's gone gray. I lost all my hair, but -- am I  
12 correct, Mr. Emedi? Have you gone gray?

13 MR. EMEDI: You know, I've been -- I've been  
14 going gray -- I think I got my first gray hair when I  
15 was, like, 21.

16 MR. DERSTINE: Wow.

17 MR. EMEDI: Yeah, it's progressively getting  
18 worse, though, as the years go by.

19 MR. DERSTINE: That's very distinguished. It  
20 looks great.

21 CHMN. CHENAL: Yeah. Yes, you better follow  
22 that up with that, Mr. Derstine. Don't fault the Staff  
23 attorney if --

24 MR. EMEDI: Yeah, we're intervening now.

25 MR. DERSTINE: Yeah.

1 CHMN. CHENAL: Was it worth it?

2 MR. DERSTINE: Yes. I love having him here. I  
3 need company. I need company in Kingman.

4 CHMN. CHENAL: All right. Good. Well, now I  
5 actually think that that completed everything on my  
6 checklist.

7 Does anyone else have any thoughts, comments,  
8 anything we should talk about? Business casual. I  
9 always seem to forget that, but people know that by now;  
10 but it will be business casual. And if anything comes  
11 up between now and the pre-hearing conference, just  
12 shout and we'll get together again.

13 I think we've got a couple of things on the  
14 to-do list, the protocol. You know, we'll get prior to  
15 the hearing -- the pre-hearing conference the CEC. I  
16 think -- I think the procedural order is pretty clear,  
17 but you know, any changes from previous CECs, I think,  
18 would be red-lined with a reference to the previous  
19 hearing number. That would be very helpful.

20 Tod, anything we've forgotten?

21 MR. BREWER: I don't believe so.

22 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay. If nothing else, thank  
23 you, and I look forward to seeing you or -- you know,  
24 seeing you for the pre-hearing conference, and I'm  
25 actually looking forward to this hearing. It should be

1 an interesting one. It's always fun to get out and see  
2 different parts of Arizona and, frankly, I'm not that  
3 familiar with the Kingman area. So it will be fun.

4 MR. DERSTINE: Thank you.

5 CHMN. CHENAL: Okay.

6 MR. RAATZ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

7 CHMN. CHENAL: So thank you, and the meeting is  
8 adjourned.

9 (Whereupon, the proceedings concluded at 3:04  
10 p.m.)

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1 STATE OF ARIZONA )  
2 COUNTY OF MARICOPA )

3

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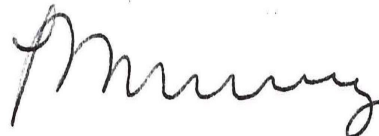
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18 March, 2021.

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24 I CERTIFY that Coash & Coash, Inc., has complied  
25 with the ethical obligations set forth in ACJA 7-206  
(J)(1)(g)(1) through (6).

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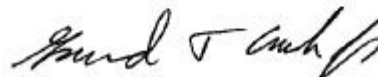
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Coash & Coash, Inc.  
Registered Reporting Firm R1036

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