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Exempt from Filing Fees
Government Code § 6103

6 Attorneys for
7 Antelope Valley Watermaster

8 **SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**
9 **FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES - CENTRAL DISTRICT**

11 Coordination Proceeding,
12 Special Title (Rule 1550(b))

Judicial Council Coordination
Proceeding No. 4408

13 **ANTELOPE VALLEY**
14 **GROUNDWATER CASES**

LASC Case No.: BC 325201

Santa Clara Court Case No. 1-05-CV-049053
Assigned to the Hon. Jack Komar, Judge of
the Santa Clara Superior Court

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AND ALL RELATED ACTIONS

**DECLARATION OF CRAIG A. PARTON
IN SUPPORT OF OPPOSITIONS TO
THE MOTIONS TO SET ASIDE OR
MODIFY JUDGMENT BY JOHNNY AND
PAMELLA ZAMRZLA AND JOHNNY
LEE AND JEANNETTE ZAMRZLA;
EXHIBIT A**

Date: December 13-14, 2022
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Dept: 17

22 I, CRAIG A. PARTON, declare and state as follows:

23 1. I make this declaration in support of the Antelope Valley Watermaster's
24 ("Watermaster") Oppositions to the Motions to Set Aside or Modify Judgment filed by Johnny and
25 Pamella Zamrzla and Johnny Lee and Jeanette Zamrzla.

26 2. I am a partner with the law firm of PRICE, POSTEL & PARMAL LLP, counsel of
27 record for the Watermaster, and am duly licensed to practice law in California. I have personal
28 knowledge of the facts stated herein and, if called upon to do so, I could testify to these facts.

1 3. On, June 3, 2022, from 8:59 a.m. - 5:43 p.m., the deposition of Johnny Zamrzla was
2 taken at 1331 Garden Highway, 2nd Floor in Sacramento, California. I personally attended the
3 deposition of Johnny Zamrzla on that date and time.

4 4. Attached hereto as Exhibit "A" is a true and correct copy of the transcript of the
5 deposition of Johnny Zamrzla reported by Ingrid Skorobohaty, CSR No. 11669.

6 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the
7 foregoing is true and correct, and that this declaration is executed on October 12, 2022, at Santa
8 Barbara, California.

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CRAIG A. PARTON

PROOF OF SERVICE

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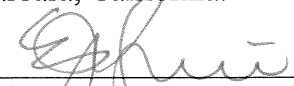
STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

I am employed in the County of Santa Barbara, State of California. I am over the age of eighteen (18) and not a party to the within action. My business address is 200 East Carrillo Street, Fourth Floor, Santa Barbara, California 93101.

On October 12, 2022, I served the foregoing document described **DECLARATION OF CRAIG A. PARTON IN SUPPORT ITS OPPOSITIONS TO THE MOTIONS TO SET ASIDE OR MODIFY JUDGMENT BY JOHNNY AND PAMELLA ZAMRZLA AND JOHNNY LEE AND JEANNETTE ZAMRZLA; EXHIBIT A** on all interested parties in this action by placing the original and/or true copy.

- BY ELECTRONIC SERVICE:** I posted the document(s) listed above to the Santa Clara County Superior Court Website @ www.scefilng.org and Glotrans website in the action of the Antelope Valley Groundwater Cases.
- (*STATE*) I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.
- (*FEDERAL*) I hereby certify that I am employed in the office of a member of the Bar of this Court at whose direction the service was made.

Executed on October 12, 2022, at Santa Barbara, California.



Signature
Elizabeth Wright

Exhibit A

Johnny Zamrzla
June 03, 2022

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Coordination Proceeding

Judicial Council

Coordination

ANTELOPE VALLEY GROUNDWATER
CASES,

Proceeding No. 4408

Los Angeles County Waterworks
District No. 40 v. Diamond Farming
Co.

Los Angeles County Waterworks
District No. 40 v. Diamond Farming
Co.

Wm Bolthouse Farms, Inc. v. City
of Lancaster

Diamond Farming Co. v. City of
Lancaster

Diamond Farming Co. v. Palmdale
Water District,

AND RELATED ACTIONS

DEPOSITION OF JOHNNY ZAMRZLA

Friday, June 3, 2022

8:59 a.m. - 5:43 p.m.

1331 Garden Highway, 2nd Floor

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

REPORTED BY:

Ingrid Skorobohaty

CSR No. 11669

<p>1 APPEARANCES: 2 3 For Deponent Johnny Zamrzla: 4 MATHENY SEARS LINKERT JAIME LLP 5 NICHOLAS R. SHEPARD, ATTORNEY AT LAW 6 3638 American River Drive 7 Sacramento, California 95864-5901 8 (916) 978-3434 9 nshepard@mathenysears.com 10 11 For City of Los Angeles and Los Angeles World 12 Airports: 13 14 KRONICK, MOSKOVITZ, TIEDEMANN & GIRARD 15 JENIFER N. RYAN, ATTORNEY AT LAW 16 ERIC N. ROBINSON, ATTORNEY AT LAW 17 1331 Garden Highway, 2nd Floor 18 Sacramento, California 95833 19 (916) 321-4500 20 jrryan@kmtg.com 21 erobinson@kmtg.com 22 23 For Grimmway Enterprises: 24 25 LEBEAU THELEN LLP ROBERT G. KUHS, ATTORNEY AT LAW 5001 East Commercenter Drive, Suite 300 Bakersfield, California 93309 (661) 325-8962 rkuhs@lebeauthelen.com County Sanitation District of Los Angeles: ELLISON SCHNEIDER HARRIS DONLAN CHRISTOPHER M. SANDERS, ATTORNEY AT LAW 2600 Capitol Avenue, Suite 400 Sacramento, California 95816 (916) 447-2166 cms@eslawfirm.com</p>	<p>Page 2</p>	<p>1 INDEX TO EXAMINATION 2 3 WITNESS: JOHNNY ZAMRZLA 4 EXAMINATION 5 By Ms. Ryan 6 By Mr. Kuhs 7 By Mr. Parton 8 By Mr. Sanders 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25</p>	<p>Page 4</p> <p>PAGE 7 189 244 259</p>
<p>1 APPEARANCES (continued): 2 3 For Antelope Valley Watermaster: 4 PRICE, POSTEL & PARMA LLP 5 CRAIG A. PARTON, ATTORNEY AT LAW 6 200 East Carrillo Street, Suite 400 7 Santa Barbara, California 93101 8 (805) 962-0011 9 cap@ppplaw.com 10 11 Also present (appearing via videoconference): 12 13 STAN POWELL 14 JEFF DUNN 15 JOHN UKKESTAD 16 WILLIAM SLOAN 17 ALEXANDER LEMIEUX 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25</p>	<p>Page 3</p>	<p>1 INDEX TO EXHIBITS 2 JOHNNY ZAMRZLA 3 In re Antelope Valley Groundwater 4 Friday, June 3, 2022 5 Ingrid Skorobohaty CSR No. 11669 6 7 MARKED DESCRIPTION PAGE 8 Exhibit 1 "Exhibit A to Judgment Approving 9 Small Pumper Class Action 10 Settlements" 24 11 Exhibit 2 Notice of Class Action for the 12 "Small Pumper" Class Action 26 13 Exhibit 3 Notice of Proposed Willis Class 14 Action Settlement and Settlement 15 Hearing 27 16 Exhibit 4 Notice of Proposed Settlement 17 for the "Small Pumper" Class 18 Action and Settlement Hearing 28 19 Exhibit 5 One page headed "Exhibit A" 29 20 Exhibit 6 Two-page document headed 21 "Antelope Valley Blue Ribbon 22 Committee" 57 23 Exhibit 7 Two-page document headed "our 24 roots - Antelope Valley Blue 25 Ribbon Committee" 57 26 Exhibit 8 One color aerial photograph 66 27 Exhibit 9 One color aerial photograph 66 28 Exhibit 10 One page headed "Town Hall 29 Meeting" 83 30 Exhibit 11 One page headed "Groundwater 31 Association to be a joint host 32 at town hall" 85</p>	<p>Page 5</p>

Page 6			Page 8		
1	INDEX TO EXHIBITS		1	A. I don't wanna guess, but I would say more than	
2	(continued)		2	a dozen.	
3	JOHNNY ZAMRZLA		3	Q. Okay.	
4	In re Antelope Valley Groundwater		4	And what was your context as a witness? Were	
5	Friday, June 3, 2022		5	you a party to the case, or a percipient witness?	
6	Ingrid Skorobohaty CSR No. 11669		6	A. Depends on the case.	
7			7	Most of them, I was serving as a construction	
8	MARKED DESCRIPTION PAGE		8	expert.	
9	Exhibit 12 Multipage document entitled	134	9	Q. Were any of the matters where you were --	
10	"Adjudication Antelope Valley		10	filed a lawsuit against someone -- a plaintiff?	
11	Groundwater"		11	A. Not that I recall.	
11	Exhibit 13 Parcel Map	138	12	Q. What about -- were you a defendant in any of	
12	Exhibit 14 15 color aerial photographs	153	13	those lawsuits?	
13	Exhibit 15 Declaration of Johnny Zamrzla	188	14	A. When I'm serving as an expert, I'm not a	
14	re Opposition by the Zamrzla's		15	defendant.	
14	[sic] to the Watermaster's		16	Q. No. It would be someone has filed a lawsuit	
15	Motion for Monetary, Declaratory		17	get you or your --	
15	and Injunctive Relief Against		18	A. I would not be serving as an expert in those.	
16	Zamrzla's [sic]		19	Q. No.	
16	Exhibit 16 One color photograph	196	20	But would you -- were you acting as a witness	
17			21	in those?	
18			22	A. I was being hired as an expert.	
19			23	Q. I guess, just to try to clarify my question,	
20			24	have you ever been sued by anyone?	
21			25	A. Over the years, I'm sure we have.	
22					
23					
24					
25					
Page 7			Page 9		
1	SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA		1	Q. Well, how do you remember being sued by	
2	FRIDAY, JUNE 3, 2022, 8:59 A.M.		2	anyone -- you personally?	
3			3	A. Me personally?	
4	JOHNNY ZAMRZLA,		4	Q. Mm-hmm.	
5	having been first duly sworn, was examined and		5	A. Don't recall.	
6	testified as follows:		6	Q. You don't recall.	
7			7	Would any documents help refresh your	
8	EXAMINATION		8	recollection?	
9	MS. RYAN: Good morning, Mr. Zamrzla. My name		9	A. Well, if I saw a document that showed I was	
10	is Jenifer Ryan. I'm an attorney for the City of		10	involved in a lawsuit, yes, it would.	
11	Los Angeles World Airports Division, here representing		11	Q. Do you know of any documents that exist?	
12	among the other settling parties.		12	A. Do I?	
13	THE WITNESS: Yes, ma'am.		13	Q. Yes.	
14	And my name is Zamrzla.		14	A. No, I don't.	
15	MS. RYAN: "Zamrzla." Thank you.		15	Q. Have you ever hired an attorney for lawsuits	
16	THE WITNESS: Yes, ma'am.		16	where you've been sued, do you recall?	
17	BY MS. RYAN:		17	A. Have I ever had an attorney for what?	
18	Q. Have you ever been a witness in a deposition		18	Q. If you -- when you -- if you have been sued	
19	before?		19	before, did you -- do you recall hiring an attorney?	
20	A. I have.		20	MR. SHEPARD: I'll just object it calls for	
21	Q. Which matters were you a witness for?		21	speculation and lacks foundation. He already testified	
22	A. Mainly construction.		22	he doesn't recall being sued before.	
23	Q. So can you elaborate a little more.		23	Go ahead.	
24	How many -- how many depositions have you sat		24	THE WITNESS: Well, we use law firms for a	
25	for before?		25	number of things in our construction business, not	

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1 necessarily for lawsuits, but to represent us in claims
2 of different matters.
3 BY MS. RYAN:
4 Q. So do you understand today that your testimony
5 is under oath and has the same effect as if you were in
6 a courtroom, before a judge?
7 A. Yes, I do.
8 Q. And that you've taken an oath that requires
9 you to testify truthfully, accurately, and completely?
10 A. I understand that.
11 Q. I'd like you to please answer my questions
12 with a "yes" or "no." No nods or inaudible responses.
13 It helps the court reporter and makes sure we have a
14 clear and accurate transcript.
15 Do you understand that?
16 A. I understand.
17 Q. And, for the court reporter's ease and our
18 transcript clarity, please wait till I finish asking a
19 question before you answer.
20 Do you understand that?
21 A. I do.
22 Q. And I will attempt to make my questions as
23 clear as possible, but if any questions are vague or you
24 don't understand, please ask me to rephrase. Otherwise,
25 if you answer the question, we'll -- everyone presumes

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1 that you understand the question and can answer it.
2 A. Understand.
3 Q. And you should answer each question
4 truthfully, accurately, and completely.
5 A. Yes, ma'am.
6 Q. I'm entitled to your best estimate and
7 recollection of events and conversations. I don't want
8 you to speculate or guess, but please provide your best
9 recall of events.
10 A. I understand.
11 Q. We wanna make sure you can testify fully and
12 completely today. To that end, are you taking any
13 medications that could affect your ability to recall any
14 events or conversations?
15 A. No.
16 Q. Do you have any medical conditions that would
17 affect your ability to recall?
18 A. No.
19 Q. Do you have any issues with recalling events
20 or conversations?
21 A. No.
22 Q. And is there any reason why you cannot testify
23 truthfully here today?
24 A. No.
25 Q. So everything we say today will be taken down

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1 by the court reporter and will be used in future
2 proceedings, so if there's any difference between what
3 you say here and in a hearing later on, we're allowed to
4 point out that difference and your testimony, so it's
5 important that you testify accurately today.
6 A. Understand.
7 Q. Do you have any questions about anything I've
8 just told you?
9 A. None.
10 Q. And if you need to take a break, that's fine.
11 Just let us know. If there's a question pending, please
12 answer the question, and then we can go ahead and take a
13 break.
14 A. Understand.
15 Q. Great. We will get started.
16 So, Mr. Zamrzla, can you please list all of
17 the properties that you own in L.A. County, in
18 Los Angeles County.
19 A. Well, the L.A. County properties mainly are
20 the ones that we're involved with here, of course, which
21 are our residence, which is 40 acres, and the adjoining
22 property, which is two parcels consisting of right at
23 80 acres.
24 Q. And when you say two parcels at 80 acres,
25 what's the breakdown for each parcel? How many acres

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1 are those two parcels individually?
2 A. Because of the highway, one's about 39, plus
3 or minus; the other one's a full 40. And the one I live
4 on is 40.
5 Q. Do you own any other properties in Los Angeles
6 County?
7 A. Yes.
8 Q. What properties do you own?
9 A. That has something to do with what we're here
10 about?
11 Q. Just any properties that you own in
12 Los Angeles County.
13 A. I own business properties.
14 Q. Okay.
15 How many business properties do you own?
16 A. Minimum of two.
17 Q. Minimum of two.
18 Which two are those?
19 A. I have one in Palmdale, where my corporate
20 office is located; one in Azusa, where one of our
21 contracting offices is located.
22 Q. What other business properties do you own in
23 L.A. County?
24 A. Are you asking me in my name?
25 Q. In your name or in the name of any entity

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1 you're in control of or any managerial interest in. Any
2 property that you are associated with.
3 MR. SHEPARD: I'll just object to the extent
4 that this is starting to get pretty far afield and
5 invade his right to privacy. We're starting to talk
6 about his business entities that he owns property that's
7 not even in the Antelope Valley, per se.
8 MS. RYAN: Counsel, I understand, and you've
9 lodged your objection, so I just ask you to just limit
10 it to the objection to the question and let the witness
11 answer, please.
12 Go ahead.
13 THE WITNESS: I don't think I'm planning to
14 get into all those details, what I own. It doesn't have
15 anything to do with whether I was served or not. I
16 wasn't served, and so that's what we're here to talk
17 about, according to the judge.
18 BY MS. RYAN:
19 Q. Well, a part of what we're allowed to go into
20 are your property ownerships, sir, so please -- what
21 other business entities -- other properties do you own
22 or have an interest in in Los Angeles County?
23 A. Let's say that's it.
24 Q. So you said before you had a minimum of two
25 business properties.

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1 A. I did.
2 Q. So is that the only two business properties
3 that you own or have an interest in in Los Angeles
4 County?
5 A. I have an interest in two others.
6 Q. What are those?
7 A. One's 10 acres of raw land in Palmdale, and
8 the other one is commercial piece of property in
9 Irwindale.
10 Q. I'm sorry. I didn't catch the last part.
11 A. Irwindale.
12 Q. Irwindale.
13 Interest in two others. Are there any other
14 properties in Los Angeles County that you own or have an
15 interest in?
16 A. I believe that's it.
17 Q. How is title held in those -- in the two
18 properties that you have in interest in, how is title
19 held?
20 MR. SHEPARD: Which two properties?
21 BY MS. RYAN:
22 Q. We can start with the first one, where you
23 said the 10 acres of raw land in Palmdale.
24 THE WITNESS:
25 It's in the name of Liberated Land and

Page 16

1 Equipment.
2 Q. I'm sorry. I didn't --
3 A. Liberated Land and Equipment.
4 Q. And is that the name of a company, Liberated
5 Land and Equipment?
6 A. It's the title, the way the property's listed.
7 Q. And how does your name appear on that title,
8 that document?
9 A. Well, we're setting up some inheritance, so
10 it's changing, but, originally, I was a partner in it,
11 and now my family is becoming owners of the property.
12 Q. Who were you a partner with?
13 A. Originally, Douglas Cook.
14 Q. Originally, Douglas Cook.
15 And has that changed?
16 A. Yes.
17 Q. Who else have you been a partner with?
18 A. Nobody.
19 Q. Nobody else.
20 So, right now, you're not a partner with
21 anyone?
22 A. It's being -- it's going through a setup for
23 inherited purposes.
24 Q. A setup for inherited purposes.
25 A. Yes.

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1 Q. Has Douglas Cook been your only partner in the
2 interest for Liberated Land and Equipment?
3 A. As a partner, that's correct.
4 Q. Only partner. Okay. As a partner.
5 Has anyone else been -- had some sort of
6 interest in the property?
7 A. Other than what I just said about my family?
8 Q. Yes.
9 A. No.
10 Q. Okay.
11 And how long have you owned that property?
12 A. I'd have to look. Probably 30 years.
13 Q. For the second property, the commercial
14 property in Irwindale --
15 A. Yes.
16 Q. -- how is title held for that property?
17 A. It's in a company called Business Properties.
18 Q. And are you -- is that a company where you are
19 in partnership with anyone else?
20 A. I have two sons involved.
21 Q. And what are your sons' names?
22 A. Johnny Lee is one; Robert Joseph is the other.
23 Q. And is anyone else a partner or have an
24 interest in Business Properties?
25 A. In L.A. County?

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1 Q. Yes.
2 A. No.
3 Q. One other question regarding the 10-acre
4 property in Palmdale: Do you have any wells on that
5 property?
6 A. Wells?
7 Q. Mm-hmm.
8 A. No.
9 Q. And what about the commercial property in
10 Irwindale?
11 A. Wells? No.
12 Q. And just to confirm, for the 10-acre property
13 in Palmdale, is there a well?
14 A. No well.
15 Q. No well.
16 A. Singular or multiple, there's --
17 Q. Okay.
18 A. -- no well.
19 Q. And for the commercial property, are there --
20 is there singular or multiple wells?
21 A. No, ma'am.
22 Q. Thank you, sir.
23 For Kern County -- so I just wanna confirm,
24 before I move to Kern County, so, for Los Angeles
25 County, is it your testimony that the only properties

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1 you own or have an interest in are one residence, two
2 parcels, one 10-acre parcel in Palmdale, and one
3 commercial property in Irwindale?
4 A. No. I have another business operation in
5 Azusa.
6 Q. And how is title held at that property?
7 A. Business Properties.
8 Q. And do you have a well or multiple wells on
9 that property?
10 A. No, I don't.
11 Q. So do you own or have an interest in any other
12 properties in Los Angeles County?
13 A. To the best of my knowledge, that's it.
14 Q. So is it your testimony that the properties
15 you discussed today for L.A. County are the only
16 properties you own in Los Angeles County?
17 A. As I just said -- asked and answered -- to the
18 best of my knowledge.
19 Q. What properties do you own in Kern County --
20 own or have an interest in?
21 MR. SHEPARD: I'll object again based on
22 privacy.
23 Go ahead.
24 THE WITNESS: I don't believe there's anything
25 in Kern County.

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1 BY MS. RYAN:
2 Q. So is your testimony you do not own or have an
3 interest in any properties in Kern County?
4 MR. SHEPARD: Asked and answered.
5 THE WITNESS: That's exactly what I said,
6 ma'am.
7 BY MS. RYAN:
8 Q. Mr. Zamrzla, "yes" or "no," is it occur
9 testimony today --
10 A. No, I don't own any other properties.
11 Q. Just let me get my question out so it's
12 complete in the transcript.
13 "Yes" or "no," do you own any properties or
14 have an interest in any properties in Kern County?
15 A. No.
16 Q. Thank you.
17 Since January 1st, 2000, where have you
18 received your mail?
19 A. Personal mail?
20 Q. Personal mail, yes, and then your business
21 mail. Both.
22 A. Personal mail comes to my residence.
23 Q. And what is your residential address?
24 A. 48910 80th Street West, Lancaster, California
25 93536.

Page 21

1 Q. Where does your business mail go to?
2 A. 2229 East Avenue Q, like "quick," Palmdale,
3 93550.
4 Q. For your personal mail, who checks the
5 personal mail?
6 A. Who checks it?
7 Q. Yeah.
8 Who gets it, brings it into the house?
9 MR. SHEPARD: Are we talking about currently?
10 MS. RYAN: Since 2000.
11 THE WITNESS: To the best of my knowledge, it
12 would be my wife or myself.
13 BY MS. RYAN:
14 Q. How regularly will you -- would you check --
15 do you check the mail?
16 A. I stop every night, when I come in, and check
17 the mailbox.
18 On Saturday, I go out with my dog and check it
19 after the mail is delivered.
20 And now I check it on Sunday because we also
21 are getting Sunday deliveries from people like Amazon
22 and those kinds of people.
23 Q. When you get the mail, what do you usually do
24 with it? Do you look through it? sort it?
25 A. Well, some place. I take it in the house

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1 usually right then.
2 Q. Once you take it in the house, do you sort
3 through your mail?
4 A. I look at it. My wife usually, then, is the
5 one that goes through it and decides where we're gonna
6 put it: Trash can or whatever.
7 Q. For mail that you don't put in the trash can,
8 do you and your wife talk about what to do with it?
9 A. It's usually pretty clear what we're gonna do
10 with it. It's either business related for our home,
11 like taxes or bills or what have you, so we would open
12 it and put it where it needs to go.
13 Q. Do you ever forward your mail to another
14 address, like a P.O. box?
15 A. Do I?
16 Q. You or your wife, yeah. For your personal
17 mail, has it ever been forwarded to a different address?
18 A. I don't believe so.
19 Q. And has anyone else ever picked up your mail
20 for you?
21 A. Yes.
22 Q. When did that happen?
23 A. If we're gone for any period of time.
24 Q. And when someone else picks up your mail for
25 you, what do they usually do?

Page 23

1 A. It's usually put into -- depending on how long
2 we're gonna be gone, it's put into either a carry bag or
3 a box and usually goes into our garage that's kept
4 locked.
5 Q. Does the person who picks it up for you ever
6 sort the mail and get rid of anything?
7 A. I wouldn't think so.
8 Q. And what happens when you return home? What
9 do you do with the mail?
10 A. We go through it.
11 Q. Have you ever received any class-action
12 notices in the mail, not just for this litigation, but
13 any?
14 A. I don't recall.
15 Q. If you were to receive a class action -- have
16 you ever -- take that question off.
17 Have you ever responded to any class-action
18 notice affirmatively?
19 A. Have I? I don't believe so.
20 Wait a minute. Let me back up for a minute.
21 You're talking about, like, I get a notice of a defect
22 on my automobile or something?
23 Q. Yes.
24 A. Yeah.
25 Q. You have received something like that?

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1 A. Yeah. Of course.
2 Q. Okay.
3 And did you -- you obviously read it, it
4 sounds like. Did you respond to that notice?
5 A. Usually, if it's a new vehicle, in the first
6 couple years, and they say, "You need to respond that
7 you got it, set it up for service," I would do that.
8 I'm sure same as my wife does on hers.
9 Q. Any other class notices that you received in
10 the mail?
11 A. Not that I can think of.
12 MS. RYAN: So I'm going to hand to the court
13 reporter a copy of the small-pumper-class judgment to
14 mark as Exhibit 1.
15 And, Counsel, can we consecutively number all
16 deposition exhibits?
17 MR. SHEPARD: Yeah. That's fine with me.
18 MS. RYAN: Okay.
19 (Exhibit 1 marked.)
20 BY MS. RYAN:
21 Q. Mr. Zamrzla, I am representing to you that
22 this is a copy of the small-pumper-class-action judgment
23 that was filed on December 23rd, 2015. This is just an
24 excerpt.
25 And if you'll turn to the final page, it has

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1 the number 50 on the bottom.
2 A. Yes.
3 Q. Do you see that, sir?
4 A. I do.
5 Q. If you look, do you see your name, "Johnny
6 Zamrzla," semicolon, "Pamella" on there, that page?
7 A. I do.
8 Q. And do you see, across from there, where it
9 says "Zamrzla family"?
10 A. I do.
11 Q. And do you see there the address 48910 80th
12 Street West, Lancaster, California 93536-8740?
13 A. I do.
14 Q. And is that your residence?
15 A. It is.
16 Q. Can you also turn to page 24. There's a "24"
17 on the bottom.
18 About midway through the page, do you see your
19 name, Johnny --
20 A. Yes.
21 Q. -- Zamrzla?
22 Do you see the address 48910 80th Street West,
23 Lancaster, California 93536-8740?
24 A. Yes.
25 Q. And is this your address?

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1 A. It is.
2 MS. RYAN: Have this marked as Exhibit 2,
3 please.
4 (Exhibit 2 marked.)
5 BY MS. RYAN:
6 Q. Mr. Zamrzla, do you recognize this document?
7 A. Do I recognize it?
8 MS. RYAN: Mm-hmm.
9 MR. SHEPARD: Are you asking whether he's ever
10 seen this document before?
11 MS. RYAN: Yes.
12 BY MS. RYAN:
13 Q. I'm asking if you recognize it. Have you ever
14 seen this document before?
15 A. Yes.
16 Q. When did you see this document?
17 A. I'm gonna say in the last six months, some
18 time after the holidays, I believe.
19 Q. Last six months of --
20 A. '22.
21 Q. I'll represent to you this is the notice of
22 class action for the small pumper class sent in June 26
23 -- dated June 26, 2009.
24 Did you receive this notice at your address,
25 your personal residence address?

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1 A. No. No -- no receipt of any notices.
2 MS. RYAN: Please have this marked as
3 Exhibit 3.
4 (Exhibit 3 marked.)
5 BY MS. RYAN:
6 Q. Mr. Zamrzla, have you ever seen this document?
7 A. Yes.
8 Q. When did you see this document?
9 A. I'm gonna say it's somewhere in the same time
10 frame that we've found a lot of things, in the last six
11 months.
12 Q. What do you mean by "found a lot of things"?
13 A. We've finally done a lot of research about all
14 that's been going on. We pulled up lots of documents to
15 learn about the whole issue.
16 Q. What do you mean by "the whole issue"?
17 A. The whole water adjudication.
18 Q. The Antelope Valley groundwater adjudication;
19 is that what you're referencing?
20 A. That's the one.
21 Q. Have you ever seen what's marked as Exhibit 3
22 before December 2015?
23 A. Never.
24 Q. What about for Exhibit 2; did you ever see
25 that document before December 2015?

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1 A. Asked and answered, and I said no.
2 Q. How is -- Exhibit 3, was that ever mailed to
3 your house?
4 A. Absolutely not.
5 MS. RYAN: Have this marked as Exhibit 4,
6 please.
7 (Exhibit 4 marked.)
8 BY MS. RYAN:
9 Q. Mr. Zamrzla, Exhibit 4 is before you. It's
10 the 2015 small pumper class notice. Did you ever
11 receive this notice to your house?
12 A. No, I did not.
13 Q. Have you ever seen this document before?
14 A. It does look familiar to me. There are a lot
15 of documents, but I do remember Michael McLachlan on a
16 number of things, as well as, of course, BB&K. I
17 remember seeing this particular document.
18 Q. When did you see that document?
19 A. Again, as we dove into a lot of the paperwork
20 that's been going on in the adjudication for AV.
21 Q. And so that would be --
22 A. Last six or eight months.
23 Q. Last six to eight months.
24 You did not see this document at any time
25 before December 2015?

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1 A. No, never did.
2 It had to be sent to me. None of it was ever
3 sent to me, so I didn't receive it.
4 MS. RYAN: And I'll have this marked as -- I
5 think we're on 5.
6 BY MS. RYAN:
7 Q. How do you know the notice was never sent to
8 you?
9 A. I would have suspected by now somebody would
10 have showed me a receipt. I've never seen one, and
11 we've been in this since 2018, and I would assume by now
12 the Watermaster or Watermaster attorneys would have
13 showed us, "Here. Here's a receipt you were personally
14 served with."
15 MS. RYAN: Exhibit 5.
16 (Exhibit 5 marked.)
17 BY MS. RYAN:
18 Q. Mr. Zamrzla, have you ever seen this document
19 before?
20 A. I think I have -- but I'm not gonna say for
21 sure -- because I remember my wife and I talking about
22 how this started in Riverside, but we didn't figure all
23 this out till very recently. And I do see this one is
24 Riverside. That's kind of where I recall the AV
25 groundwater started and worked its way to the Antelope

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1 Valley. So I don't recall it specifically, but I do
2 believe I have seen it, but I certainly wouldn't wanna
3 tell you I have for sure. If I did see it, it's in the
4 document review that we've been doing for the last few
5 months.
6 Q. When you said your wife and you were talking
7 about it, when was that discussion?
8 A. Most recently.
9 Q. And most recently -- can you elaborate or give
10 me a better estimate?
11 A. Well, our family's been more involved in the
12 last six months, started reviewing articles, documents,
13 other adjudications. I mean, we never looked at any of
14 that before, and we've been amazed by what's out there
15 and how it started and how it got to where it was. We
16 were never involved, never paid attention to it.
17 Q. So you and your wife didn't have a
18 conversation about this document before December 2015?
19 A. No.
20 Q. When you said you thought it started in
21 Riverside, what do you mean by that?
22 A. I remember reading somewhere, in some of the
23 documents, that there were some original disagreements
24 over water with part of the same group -- I believe with
25 Grimmway and whoever -- in the Riverside area and that

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1 it all was compiled together and brought over to the
2 Antelope Valley.
3 Q. And reading some documents.
4 Were any of these documents you read any time
5 between 2000 and 2015?
6 A. No. No. I'm gonna say it again. All of this
7 has been in the last six or eight months.
8 Q. Okay. And I understand you might feel like
9 you're repeating yourself, but it's important, for the
10 transcript, that each answer is self-contained, so it's
11 not that I don't hear you. I'm doing this as part of --
12 a part of the process.
13 A. I understand. And I wanna make sure we got it
14 straight both ways.
15 Q. Right.
16 A. I understand you; you understand me.
17 I've read about Barstow and other things, but
18 not till recently.
19 Q. Okay. And what do you mean by "Barstow and
20 other" --
21 A. Barstow water.
22 Q. Barstell [phonetic/sic] water?
23 A. Yes.
24 Q. Can you explain to me what you mean by that?
25 A. There was quite a round of discussion over

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1 Barstow water. It went back a number of years.
2 Q. How many years?
3 A. It's quite a while before the -- before I knew
4 anything about this one, so I would say quite a while
5 back. I don't wanna guess at it.
6 Q. Can you give me an estimated --
7 A. No.
8 Q. -- range?
9 A. I couldn't.
10 Q. Was it after 2015, or before 2015?
11 A. I believe it was quite a ways before,
12 but . . .
13 Q. Before 2015?
14 A. I believe so.
15 Q. Okay.
16 And can you tell me a little more about what
17 you mean by Barstell [phonetic/sic] water?
18 THE WITNESS: Well, do we go into this? This
19 is not about service. This is not what I'm here for.
20 MR. SHEPARD: She asks a question. She can
21 ask a question, and sounds like it's about another case,
22 but go ahead.
23 THE WITNESS: Okay.
24 Well, I read some things by Justice Ron Robie,
25 and I believe, in my knowledge that I started reading

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1 about, he seems to be quite an expert in the area of
2 water. I didn't realize till most recently that he
3 actually was involved for a number of months with a
4 group of -- in the AV groundwater, trying to bring
5 resolution. But as I went through that, he talked about
6 some of the issues that wound up for purveyors and for
7 overlying water users that was done on a very
8 straight-up basis, and one was Barstow. So I read about
9 it, and it looked like -- you know, it wasn't a real fun
10 read, but it was interesting that Justice Robie had
11 referred to that as a matter that had worked out
12 reasonably well where overlying pumpers were treated
13 fairly, with due process. And, of course, due process
14 is right up my alley on this 'cause I don't believe I've
15 got any, and so I believe entitlement's involved for
16 overlying pumpers, and we didn't get service. We missed
17 out, we weren't involved, and now we started reading
18 more about it, and, you know, you could read for a long
19 time and never run out of documents. It's a vast arena
20 about water, not only just AV groundwater, but other
21 water issues that have come about.
22 BY MS. RYAN:
23 Q. So just so I understand, when you talk Barstow
24 waters, are you talking about another case you've
25 researched in context of this adjudication?

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1 A. It had nothing to do with this one. It was a
2 separate issue. There's been more than one argument
3 over water, and this was, what I would say, a group that
4 argued over water, as the one was before Judge Komar
5 came to this one. There was one Paso
6 Robles/Santa Maria. You can read about those. I'm not
7 trying to tell you that they have anything to do with
8 this. I just read about 'em now that we got into the
9 water issue.

10 Q. Are you referring to the Mojave adjudication?

11 A. It had more of a title than just "Barstow,"
12 but the part that stuck in my head was Barstow.

13 Q. Maybe it's called -- are you referring to a
14 case the City of Barstow versus Mojave?

15 A. I believe that's it, but I'm -- I'm just
16 telling you what I remember, Barstow. If I remembered
17 more of it, I would have said it. I think that's the
18 same one. I'm fairly sure it was, but I'd have to go
19 back and dig it out to tell you exactly what the matter
20 was, but I do believe it's Barstow/Mojave.

21 Q. Since 2000, January 1st, 2000, to present,
22 have you subscribed to any newspapers?

23 A. Well, I've taken the Wall Street Journal for
24 many, many years. I think probably the -- the only
25 other one would be the Antelope Valley Press. That

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1 comes to our office.

2 Q. Do you subscribe to any other newspapers
3 besides the Wall Street Journal and Antelope Valley
4 Press?

5 A. Epoch Times.

6 Q. I'm sorry. I didn't hear the first part.

7 A. The Epoch Times.

8 Q. Epoch Times, Epoch, E-P-O --

9 A. C-H.

10 Q. And any others?

11 A. Newspapers?

12 Q. Yes.

13 A. That's the only ones I can think of.

14 Q. Do you subscribe to the L.A. Times?

15 A. No. I wouldn't have the Times around.

16 Q. How long have you been a -- had a subscription
17 to the Antelope Valley Press?

18 A. I think since it was the Gazette, and
19 they've -- they kept shrinking down. Years.

20 Q. Can you give me an estimated range how many
21 years?

22 A. Let's go with 40 or something like that. Long
23 time.

24 There was a shrinking of local newspapers.
25 There's only one left. In fact, it's so small now, if

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1 the wind's blowing, it blows away.

2 I suspect -- I think Valley Press, Antelope
3 Valley Press, the Gazette. The only one left is the
4 Antelope Valley Press. They're in Palmdale.

5 Q. And do you -- just to clarify, you receive the
6 Antelope Valley Press at your business office?

7 A. That is correct.

8 Q. At what address is that?

9 A. Same one I gave you: 2229 East Avenue Q,
10 Palmdale, California.

11 Q. Do you receive the Antelope Valley Press at
12 your home?

13 A. No.

14 Q. What's the practice -- how is your newspaper
15 delivered to your business?

16 A. Business? Somebody drives by and throws it.
17 If it lands in the parking lot, that's fine. Sometimes
18 it lands in the bushes where somebody comes and picks it
19 up and brings it in in the morning.

20 Q. And do you -- when you come in, do you read
21 the newspaper?

22 A. When I come in, do I read the newspaper. I
23 wouldn't put that as a priority, no. I might look at it
24 some time during the day.

25 Q. So throughout the day, you might open the

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1 paper and read it.

2 A. Yeah, I might, mm-hmm.

3 Q. And how often do you go into the office?

4 A. Unless I'm outta town, I'm there every day.

5 Q. And when you look at the newspaper, what,
6 generally, do you read?

7 A. Well, interestingly, I go to the obituary
8 because I'm always interested to see if any of my
9 clients have passed away. And then I usually look at
10 the sports. And then I look at some of the community
11 news.

12 Q. Do you advertise in the paper?

13 A. Do I? You know, we have. In fact,
14 interestingly, we haven't in quite a while. We haven't
15 needed to. But, years ago, we did.

16 Q. When did you advertise? What range of years?

17 A. 20 years ago.

18 Q. And for how long do you think?

19 A. I couldn't tell you. I have no idea.

20 Q. Would you say five years you advertised?

21 A. No, I wouldn't say that.

22 Q. Would it be less than five years?

23 A. I would think it would be a spot now and then.
24 We might put an ad in based on weather. If it looked
25 like rainy season was coming, we might put an ad in.

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1 You're asking me, like, newspapers, and I was
2 trying to think. I wouldn't call the local Elks club
3 magazine a newspaper, but I have an ad in there, as I do
4 other community prints, but I wouldn't wanna be caught
5 that I left 'em out. They're not newspapers. They're
6 newsworthy to somebody, I guess, but, in my book, I
7 wouldn't call 'em a newspaper.

8 Q. I understand.

9 But, first, going back to the Antelope Valley
10 Press --

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. -- were any of your advertisements in the
13 paper between 2000 and 2015?

14 A. I don't believe so. I believe it would have
15 been prior to that.

16 Q. And what makes you think it would be prior to
17 2000?

18 A. Our advertising has not been required in that
19 kind of a market because that would be residential.

20 Q. Have you ever advertised in the Los Angeles
21 Times?

22 A. I wouldn't say I haven't, but I'm not sure.

23 Q. Would you --

24 A. Very possible.

25 Q. Possible.

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1 And would there be documents that would
2 refresh your recollection, like receipts or business
3 records, showing when you would advertise?

4 A. If somebody showed me an ad, would I believe
5 it? Yeah. If you showed me an ad and it's in the
6 newspaper, it's got my name on it, I'd believe it. But,
7 otherwise, I don't have any documents, so . . .

8 Q. So your company -- did your company purchase
9 the ad? Does your company generally, in practice,
10 purchase advertising?

11 A. When you say if my company was advertising,
12 would they purchase it? Yeah, they would.

13 Q. And would you keep a receipt or log of your
14 advertising purchases?

15 A. For 20 years ago? I don't think hardly.

16 Q. Maybe not 20 years ago, but any advertising
17 purchases, would you keep those?

18 A. I'm sure we would for a period of time with
19 whatever the requirement would be.

20 Q. Do you have an accountant or a financial
21 person?

22 A. Are you kidding me? Of course.

23 Q. Do they keep records of business expenses?

24 A. Do we keep -- of course we do.

25 Q. Okay.

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1 A. We file taxes and all that sort of thing.

2 Q. And so would your business expenses include
3 advertisement -- money spent on ads or other type of
4 marketing?

5 A. If we spend money on it and paid it on a
6 company check, it would be part of the records. Is that
7 what you're asking?

8 Q. Yes.

9 A. Of course.

10 Q. So you mentioned that you put ads in other
11 kind of community -- you didn't wanna call 'em
12 "newspapers," but maybe newsletters or magazines. Where
13 else have you placed advertisements?

14 A. Radio.

15 Q. What radio station?

16 A. Normally, local country.

17 Q. What other print publications have you put
18 advertisements in?

19 A. I just did a big ad in the Antelope Valley
20 Assembly, which is a political group, and I support
21 them.

22 Vets for Veterans. Every time they come out
23 with a paper, I usually advertise in that. Some of it
24 we get for free because we're doing a lot of their roofs
25 for -- on a donation for veterans and locally. But

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1 sometimes they do an annual gala, and I put an ad in.

2 The radio station, I can tell you they just
3 called me the other day because I got, like, a
4 15,000-dollar credit to -- but, you know, there hasn't
5 been a lotta rain, so we don't usually advertise when
6 it's hot. We would put our advertising dollars out
7 right before windstorm or rainstorm if we're looking to
8 attract residential people.

9 Q. And you said -- with your ads in the local
10 Elks magazine, the Antelope Valley Assembly, Vets for
11 Veterans, were any of these ads placed between 2000 and
12 2015?

13 A. I've been a member of the Elks for about 50
14 years. There's been an ad in there a long time.

15 Q. Have you had an ad the whole 50 years?

16 A. Far as I can remember.

17 Q. And when you say it's a local magazine, do you
18 mean local to Antelope Valley?

19 A. Local to the Elks club locally.

20 Q. And so does it feature news and events going
21 on in Antelope Valley in that magazine?

22 A. Well, it's about people that live in the
23 Antelope Valley because it's an Antelope Valley Elks
24 club. People that die, people who have births. If
25 they're having a fish fry or something, it's in there.

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1 And my ad has been in there about as long as I
2 can remember.
3 Q. And the radio station that you advertise on,
4 you said that was local as well?
5 A. Yes, ma'am.
6 Q. And does that local station broadcast local
7 news for Antelope Valley?
8 A. Well, they did at one time. I don't listen to
9 it much, so I don't know that they still do news, but --
10 it's basically a country station.
11 Q. At any time when you were reading the Antelope
12 Valley Press did you see anything about the Antelope
13 Valley adjudication?
14 A. Probably did because normally water stuff is
15 on the front page. As I recall, that's still where
16 water issues come up. They're usually on the front
17 page.
18 Q. And what do you recall reading?
19 MR. SHEPARD: When?
20 BY MS. RYAN:
21 Q. Since 2000, when you've been reading the
22 Antelope Valley Press and you've read about water
23 issues, and you said you probably heard about the
24 adjudication, what do you recall?
25 A. Somebody new's been appointed to Antelope

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1 Valley Kern board or the Watermaster board or possibly
2 somebody just got appointed, I remember reading the
3 other day, to Palmdale Water. Those are the kind of
4 things that are in there. They usually stand out 'cause
5 they got, like, a water faucet at the beginning of the
6 ad. That's the way they are currently. I can't
7 remember previously other than, you know, if it's water,
8 you just see that.
9 Q. Okay.
10 A. Jumps off a page at you.
11 Q. So talking in the time frame before
12 December 2015, when you read the water issues in the
13 Antelope Valley Press, did you read about this
14 litigation?
15 A. Well, that's what we were trying to talk about
16 a minute ago, and I don't recall anything specifically.
17 If there was a water story in there and it was during
18 that period, I might well have read it. I don't recall
19 specifically.
20 Q. Do you remember talking to anyone about what
21 you would have read in the paper about the adjudication?
22 A. Specifically because of the paper?
23 Q. Because of the paper.
24 A. That doesn't ring a bell.
25 Q. You wouldn't have talked to someone at work or

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1 your wife about a story you would have read?
2 A. I don't recall that. I wasn't involved, so I
3 had no reason to be doing any discussion.
4 Q. Would there be any benchmark of time that
5 might help you recall anything you read in the paper?
6 A. Any benchmark in time. I suppose the only
7 benchmark would be maybe about 2014 or '15, maybe '13,
8 somewhere in there, Supervisor Mike Antonovich asked me
9 to form the blue ribbon committee. Had to do with
10 zoning. And I know that the water issue was still going
11 on because some of the people that were on my board were
12 involved with water issue as well.
13 Q. And what do you mean by "water issue"?
14 A. The one we're here talking about. You want me
15 to call it out each time? Antelope Valley groundwater.
16 Q. Adjudication.
17 Yeah. It is important that we're clear about
18 your testimony.
19 A. Well, that's what I'm referring to.
20 Q. Okay.
21 And you said in 2013 is when Supervisor
22 Antonovich --
23 A. I gave you, like, three years there. Now you
24 picked out one.
25 Q. I'm starting with what I believe was the

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1 earliest. Was it 2013, you said? Is that correct?
2 A. I'm giving you parameters. Somewhere in there
3 it started.
4 Q. Somewhere. You're not sure if --
5 A. We're be here all day, and I won't remember
6 which one it was.
7 Q. So it could have been before 2013.
8 A. Before that? No, it couldn't have been.
9 Q. So it would only be after 2013.
10 A. I believe so.
11 Q. Okay.
12 A. We can find that out. It's not a secret. But
13 it was triggered by rezoning that was starting to take
14 place in the county.
15 Q. And so you said you had other board members
16 who were involved in the water issue, which we've
17 established is the Antelope Valley groundwater
18 adjudication, correct?
19 A. Correct.
20 Q. And so who were these other board members that
21 were involved in the litigation?
22 A. Well, on the list, if you -- we submitted that
23 list as a exhibit. Had everybody on there.
24 Of course, the one that would jump to my mind
25 right off the bat would be Gene Nebeker because he was a

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1 prominent member of the adjudication and also as a board
2 member of the blue ribbon.

3 Q. How long have you known Gene Nebeker?

4 A. Well, I've known of him for a good many years
5 'cause we're not that far apart in our properties. He
6 lives about maybe 3 to 4 miles from me. We call
7 ourselves west-side farmers. Been there a long time, I
8 would say before the '90s, last of the '90s somewhere.
9 But probably knew about his name. Got to know him a lot
10 better when he became Farm Bureau president. That one I
11 can tell you, to save you asking me. It was about, I'm
12 gonna say, '07 maybe. '06, '07, '08 is when he became
13 president.

14 Q. So you talked about the blue ribbon committee.
15 How long were you -- are you a current member of the
16 blue ribbon committee?

17 A. Well, the committee's been disbanded, but I
18 guess I could say we're still members of it, but there
19 is no acting committee.

20 Q. What was the time span of the blue ribbon
21 committee? 2013 to when would you say it disbanded?

22 A. Maybe six years.

23 Q. So to 2019, about?

24 A. I'd have to look at those to tell you for
25 sure. My thinking is '13, '14, or '15 it kicked off.

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1 Went for about five years, reached a resolution, and
2 pretty much disbanded.

3 Q. What was the purpose of the blue ribbon
4 committee?

5 A. Well, as I said, to begin with, it had to do
6 with zoning.

7 Q. Zoning. Can you elaborate a little more about
8 what in particular it had to do with zoning and what
9 issues were being addressed?

10 A. Well, it was, like, the second time around. I
11 think the one previously was in the '60s. This one was
12 a desire by the County to change the size of properties
13 that you could build homes on -- I know more about it
14 now because I've now tied the water into it in the last
15 year or so -- the population, and they wanted to cut it
16 down to where 50-acre parcels per house, and, of course,
17 that didn't sit well with a lot of people that wanted to
18 build onto half-acre parcels. They came out there to do
19 that in the high desert. And so that's what sorta
20 started it, was, What should the properties' sizes be?
21 And should they be -- should they end at my property,
22 for instance, on 80th Street, with 2 and a half on one
23 side, and they want me to be 50 on the other side. We
24 said that that needs to be looked at. It's not right.
25 It was called a town and country plan for some

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1 mysterious reason, but that's what they called it, and
2 it was going through the county pretty vigorously to
3 make changes.

4 Q. So were water issues, the source the water,
5 discussed as part of this committee?

6 A. It became clear later in the meetings.
7 Gene joined us not in the beginning. He came
8 on board after the committee got started. And, of
9 course, he added a little different flavor, that this
10 has to do with more than just property; it has to do
11 with cutting back on water too. That was something that
12 I hadn't -- it hadn't come to my attention before.

13 Q. So you said when you joined in 2013 you had
14 talked to other board members about the litigation.
15 How -- what -- who did you talk to about that -- what
16 board members?

17 A. Well, first of all, I'm not sure that it was
18 2013. I gave you a range there. I think it was just
19 before the adjudication came to an end, which was right
20 at 2016, December of 2015.

21 Q. So at no point between 2013 and 2016 did you
22 ever talk about the adjudication as a part of the blue
23 ribbon committee?

24 A. In generalities, I think it was discussed. I
25 can't specifically tell you other than one of the

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1 prominent members of the committee was representation
2 from Tejone Ranch, and, of course, they called
3 themselves Centennial, and they were planning a large
4 development on the far west end of town, and Greg
5 Medeiros was on the committee, and they -- so there was
6 discussions about what they were doing, which was on a
7 large scale, of course, to develop a very large
8 residential/commercial development on the far west end
9 of the valley, right near Interstate 5.

10 Q. Did the blue ribbon committee meet regularly?

11 A. It did.

12 Q. How often did they meet?

13 A. Often enough to make you sick of meetings; I
14 can tell you that.

15 Pretty regularly.

16 Q. Once a month?

17 A. More often, I believe.

18 Q. So twice a month? Weekly?

19 A. I'm gonna say a couple times a month was
20 probably -- depending upon -- we were also meeting with
21 the planning people downtown and trying to get some feel
22 for where it was going, or they would come out, and I'd
23 say a minimum would be a monthly meeting, but my
24 recollection is even more than that.

25 Q. And that would be couple meetings a month for

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1 the span of the six years or so that the committee was
2 working?

3 A. Probably at least -- my recall would be at
4 least a monthly meeting, depending, again, on what
5 transactions were taking place at the planning
6 department. There always seemed to be some pressure
7 point that somebody wanted to meet.

8 The chairman was Harvey Holloway, and I'm not
9 sure that I was at every meeting, but I was at quite a
10 few of them.

11 Q. How many meetings would you say you attended?

12 A. As I sit here today, I couldn't tell you that.

13 Q. Could you estimate a percentage? Was it
14 95 percent? 90 percent?

15 A. I would say I probably was at the majority,
16 well over 50 percent I think I was at, personally.

17 Q. And did the blue ribbon committee prepare any
18 agendas for meetings?

19 A. Yeah. They kept -- they kept minutes, I'm
20 sure, and they had agendas.

21 Q. Do you know who prepared the minutes and
22 agendas?

23 A. I can only think of her first name, Diane.
24 She ran the Antelope Valley Board of Realtors. And her
25 sister, who was -- last name was Brown -- was with the

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1 Building Industry Association, and, between those two
2 girls, they kept the paperwork fresh for minutes and
3 agendas. And most of the meetings were with the one
4 sister that ran the Antelope Valley Board of Realtors.
5 That's where we had a lot of our office meetings.

6 Q. Did they keep an attendance sheet, a sign-in
7 sheet?

8 A. I don't -- I think we signed in, but I don't
9 wanna guess on it. I -- it kinda seems like we always
10 did, but --

11 Q. Do you --

12 A. -- I couldn't tell you for sure.

13 MR. KUHS: Let him finish the question [sic].

14 BY MS. RYAN:

15 Q. I'm sorry, sir. Did I interrupt you?

16 A. Well, I think we had sign-in sheets, but I
17 can't tell you for sure.

18 It was well attended. I know people came. It
19 was not like they weren't interested, and people were
20 very interested in being there for meetings and some of
21 the changes that were being proposed because it had a
22 lot to do with the future of their property valuations.

23 Q. Do you have any files with blue ribbon
24 committee documents?

25 A. I don't believe I do, but I wouldn't say I

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1 don't because it's possible -- that there is a
2 possibility that I would have some; although, it would
3 not -- after it got organized, the two ladies -- I call
4 'em the two girls, but the two sisters kept track of all
5 the minutes and attendance and that sort of thing, so
6 there were records kept. I don't know whether even the
7 chairman would have those or a couple of the prominent
8 people that were part of Centennial, which was Tejene
9 Ranch.

10 Q. And did the blue ribbon committee -- as part
11 of their records, did they print or publish any sort of
12 newsletter or an update on activities?

13 A. I don't recall that.

14 Q. And you mentioned before there might be
15 various maybe planning-commission meetings or meetings
16 with others in -- as part of the blue ribbon committee,
17 so my question is, Did the blue ribbon committee meet
18 with city officials in Lancaster or in L.A. County?

19 A. Not Lancaster. This was County.

20 Q. County. So L.A. County.
21 Did you meet with --

22 A. The planning department.

23 Q. Planning department.

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. And do you remember who within the planning

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1 department?

2 A. Yeah. The head honcho. I think Zimmer or --
3 no.

4 Yes. We met with people that were on the
5 planning -- were actually hired employees of the County,
6 were part of the planning department, L.A. County, from
7 the head honcho down through.

8 Q. At any time that you met with someone from the
9 L.A. County planning department was the Antelope Valley
10 groundwater adjudication discussed?

11 A. I think what I mentioned earlier, the only
12 recall I have was from time to time it would come up
13 with Gene Nebeker and -- because several times members
14 of the blue ribbon met with Farm Bureau in the Farm
15 Bureau office, where they were obviously involved in the
16 adjudication, and we were talking about what we were
17 doing with blue ribbon. So was it ever talked about? I
18 would suspect it probably was. I don't recall any
19 details 'cause I wouldn't, obviously, in the
20 adjudication, and I don't recall that being a prominent
21 discussion at any meetings.

22 Q. At any meetings as part of the blue ribbon
23 committee.

24 A. Where it was a major issue, I do not.

25 MR. KUHS: That misstates -- I think that

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1 misstates the question. I don't think the question was
2 whether it was a major issue. The question was whether
3 it was discussed.
4 THE WITNESS: I'm sure it had to be discussed.
5 I can't recall a specific, but I would believe it would
6 have been some discussion or he mentioned it.
7 BY MS. RYAN:
8 Q. Why is that?
9 A. Because it was going on at the same time.
10 Q. And when you say why it had to be discussed,
11 why do you think it would have had to have been
12 discussed?
13 A. We had some of the players that were on both
14 sides. I -- and I remember Gene talking about it. The
15 Tejone Ranch people, Centennial, they had a hired hand
16 that was David Gasson [phonetic], I think, some kind of
17 company called Point -- he used to be on the planning
18 commission. He knew all the players. Tejone had hired
19 him to help them with some of the issues they were
20 working on, and they actually donated his time to the
21 blue ribbon committee. And his -- his job and his
22 expertise was zoning, and he had been on the L.A. County
23 zoning committee, as an employee, before he went in
24 business for himself. I can't think of his name. The
25 company had something to do with Point, Point 1 or Point

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1 something. But he was a specialist in zoning and had
2 been represented with -- Greg, who was an employee of
3 Tejone, brought him to almost all the meetings, and he
4 went with us whenever we met with zoning people.
5 Q. So what did he bring up about the adjudication
6 when he was with you in these meetings?
7 A. All I remember is that there was discussion
8 that I heard that Tejone had been buying water rights,
9 but that's -- there was probably more than that
10 discussed, but that was one that I remember having
11 heard. And I thought, Gee, that's kinda strange, big
12 company like that. Probably the biggest individually
13 owned piece of property, real estate, in the state of
14 California, and they're trying to build a facility and
15 they're buying water rights. But that's the only recall
16 I have.
17 Q. You don't recall any other discussion about
18 the adjudication?
19 A. Not specifically, no.
20 Q. When you said it had to be brought up at other
21 blue ribbon committee meetings, what was discussed about
22 the adjudication?
23 A. I think I was meaning I would suspect it was
24 discussed from time to time because you had a crossover
25 of people, but I don't remember anything specifically.

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1 And, again, since I was not involved in adjudication, it
2 was not something I paid any attention to.
3 Q. Did any of your family members attend blue
4 ribbon committee meetings?
5 A. No.
6 MR. KUHS: Let's take a five-minute break.
7 (Recess taken 10:21 to 10:38 a.m.)
8 BY MS. RYAN:
9 Q. Mr. Zamrzla, you -- I believe you said the
10 blue ribbon committee started in 2013. Is that correct?
11 A. No.
12 MR. SHEPARD: Misstates prior testimony.
13 THE WITNESS: I gave you three years.
14 BY MS. RYAN:
15 Q. Three years.
16 What were those three years?
17 A. '13, '14, '15.
18 Q. Would it have started before 2013?
19 A. I was just giving you my best recall. I don't
20 remember.
21 Q. Would a document help refresh your
22 recollection?
23 A. Probably.
24 MS. RYAN: I'll have this marked as Exhibit 6,
25 please.

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1 (Exhibit 6 marked.)
2 BY MS. RYAN:
3 Q. Mr. Zamrzla, I'll represent to you this is an
4 article from the Antelope Valley Press published on June
5 14, 2013 on-line.
6 Can you please read the first sentence of the
7 article.
8 A. "The Antelope Valley blue ribbon committee
9 came together about two years ago," so that would make
10 it June of 2011.
11 Q. Do you have any reason to doubt that the
12 committee would have formed in June 2011?
13 A. I would say that's probably correct.
14 MS. RYAN: Have this marked as Exhibit 7.
15 (Exhibit 7 marked.)
16 BY MS. RYAN:
17 Q. Mr. Zamrzla, I represent to you this is from
18 the blue ribbon committee, and do you see what's on this
19 paper? Can you tell me what you see there?
20 A. Do you want me to tell you the whole thing I
21 see?
22 Q. Just generally, does this list the committee
23 members to the blue ribbon committee?
24 A. That's what it is, blue ribbon committee.
25 Q. Do you see each name listed?

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1 A. I do.
2 Q. Are those -- were those members of the blue
3 ribbon committee?
4 A. Well, certainly some of 'em.
5 Q. Who on here was not a member of the blue
6 ribbon committee?
7 A. Well, Craig Van Dam was on early, but he
8 didn't ever make any meetings. He was busy with his
9 farming. And I think that's how the Farm Bureau got
10 represented, because Gene Nebeker came on representing
11 the Farm Bureau, instead of Craig Van Dam.
12 Q. Is anyone on this list not a member of the
13 blue ribbon committee?
14 A. Anybody on the list that's not a member?
15 Q. Well, anyone who's listed here on this list --
16 you said that it was some of the members. Is anyone
17 here not -- is anyone here erroneously on this list?
18 A. Well, Gene is on it. Craig is on it, and I
19 was just trying to explain -- maybe I shouldn't have --
20 that I don't believe Craig ever participated.
21 Q. So other than -- sorry. I interrupted you.
22 A. It's okay.
23 Q. Please finish.
24 A. So was he a member? He was on the committee.
25 I think Mike -- Mike, of course, knew the Van Dam family

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1 for years, and I think we just kinda looked around the
2 corner. When somebody didn't show up, it's okay. You
3 went about your business.
4 They were political supporters, of course, of
5 Mike, so he wouldn't red-line 'em, but I don't remember
6 Craig ever showing up for a meeting, so I'm just
7 pointing that out.
8 Other than that, I think you got pretty much
9 all of 'em.
10 Q. Is this an accurate list? It doesn't have to
11 be everyone, but is this an accurate list of committee
12 members on the blue ribbon committee?
13 A. I'd have to go back and look. At the moment,
14 that looks pretty good. Are there some missing? There
15 could be, that came on.
16 Q. Is there anyone on the list who should not be
17 on the list?
18 A. I mentioned what I thought was gonna be
19 helpful, but the only one I spotted that really did not
20 participate was Craig.
21 Q. So do you see there that John Calandri is a
22 blue ribbon committee member?
23 A. I do see him.
24 Q. Did he attend meetings?
25 A. He did.

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1 Q. Did you talk to John at meetings?
2 A. I talked to everybody that was at the
3 meetings.
4 Q. Including John?
5 A. Of course.
6 Q. How often would you say you talked to John at
7 meetings?
8 A. I can't imagine a meeting would go by we
9 didn't all talk to each other. We all participated.
10 Q. Do you remember what you would talk to John
11 Calandri about?
12 A. We were there as a blue ribbon committee
13 talking about zoning.
14 Q. Did you talk to John Calandri about -- I'm
15 gonna say "the adjudication," but let me take a step
16 back first.
17 When we're -- when I say "the adjudication,"
18 meaning the Antelope Valley groundwater adjudication, so
19 when we're talking about this litigation, this case, can
20 we agree to use the word "adjudication"?
21 A. I suggested that earlier. I didn't wanna --
22 Q. Okay.
23 A. Yeah. Absolutely. That's what we're talking
24 about.
25 Q. Sorry if I didn't pick up on it earlier, but

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1 that's great.
2 A. We are talking about Antelope Valley --
3 Q. Adjudication.
4 A. -- adjudication.
5 Q. So you understand, when I say "adjudication,"
6 that's what I mean?
7 A. Yes, ma'am, I do.
8 Q. So did you ever talk to John Calandri about
9 the adjudication?
10 A. In particulars, not that I recall.
11 Q. Not -- what about not in particulars?
12 A. I never talked to anybody during that time
13 frame about individual activities that were going on
14 about myself or what they were doing. It never came up.
15 Q. What about not individual activities with the
16 adjudication, the adjudication in general?
17 A. I think there were general discussions, but I
18 wasn't a part of it, didn't feel -- I thought it was the
19 big guys, so I never -- I never paid that much attention
20 to -- but I don't remember there was that much
21 conversation about water or adjudication. We were there
22 for blue ribbon.
23 Q. Did you talk to Greg Medeiros when you were --
24 as a member of the blue ribbon committee?
25 A. I talk to Greg a lot, even besides blue

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1 ribbon.

2 Q. What do you talk to Greg about?

3 A. He was a sponsor of my rodeos and PBR, a good
4 friend. We had a lot of political things we
5 participated in together, community activities that went
6 beyond the blue ribbon, and he was a representative of
7 Tejone Ranch, pretty big players in the -- or they
8 looked to be big players. It didn't work out, but we
9 hope they'll be a player one day in the construction and
10 housing in the Antelope Valley.

11 Q. So how long have you known Greg Medeiros?

12 A. I met him with the blue ribbon committee.

13 Q. So that would be about 2011?

14 A. Well, you corrected me on my guess or where I
15 thought it was, so that would be about the first that
16 I -- that I knew of him.

17 Q. How often would you talk to Greg Medeiros?

18 A. How often? Well, it certainly wasn't, you
19 know, like, weekly. It would be occasional. I mean,
20 we -- we did things that crossed over together. So tell
21 me what you're looking for, and I'll try to answer it.

22 Q. Just want an answer to the question if you can
23 estimate how often you talked to him. Was it every
24 month you talked to him? Every week? Every couple
25 months?

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1 A. Something would come up, we'd talk. I mean,
2 we didn't have a schedule. I didn't try to talk to him
3 every week. If they were gonna have a brunch out at
4 their hunting club, I'd get invited. If they were doing
5 something political for Mike, they'd invite me. If we
6 were doing something on the rodeo, they were sponsors.
7 They loved to come. We'd just be talking when things
8 came up. I also supported them and their activities and
9 was asked to be involved and talk about how I thought
10 the Tejone Ranch was gonna be good for the Antelope
11 Valley. I was a supporter of them.

12 Q. When you said lunch with Mike, Mike who?

13 A. Mike Antonovich, the supervisor.

14 Q. And for -- he helped you with the rodeo. Can
15 you explain to me -- did you host rodeo events on your
16 property?

17 A. I have.

18 Q. Okay.

19 Did Greg come to your property, then? Did he
20 ever visit your property?

21 A. You want me to speed this up?

22 Q. I'm asking the question. Just go ahead and
23 answer, please.

24 A. We've done rodeos on my property for junior
25 high school and high school.

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1 When I said they were a sponsor, Tejone Ranch
2 or Centennial, we did PBR and pro rodeo at the
3 fairgrounds, Antelope Valley Fairgrounds. That's not my
4 house. That's where they were a sponsor. They did not
5 sponsor high school or junior high school or those kinds
6 of events that we do at our ranch.

7 Q. Okay.

8 So my understanding is Tejone didn't sponsor
9 events at your ranch, but Dr. Greg Medeiros ever visit
10 your ranch?

11 A. I'm not sure about that. I don't believe I
12 recall that ever happening, but could have.

13 Q. If Greg said that he had visited your ranch,
14 would you agree with him?

15 A. If he said he did? Lots of people were there.
16 If he said he was there, I'd absolutely believe him.

17 Q. Did you ever talk to Greg about the
18 adjudication?

19 A. No.

20 Q. If Greg said he had ever talked to you about
21 the adjudication, would you agree with him?

22 A. If we talked about it, it probably was after
23 it was over, after the '15, if it ever came up. I don't
24 remember ever talking to him during the adjudication
25 process when -- whether you wanna start in '99 or you

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1 wanna start in '05 or '06 or -- but when it ended,
2 December 23rd of 2015, I don't remember talking to him
3 about water in that time frame. If we talked about it,
4 it would have been afterwards possibly.

5 Q. Now, you just said "water," but what did you
6 mean by you two talked about water?

7 A. Adjudication.

8 Q. Thank you.

9 A. I thought we agreed on it.

10 Q. We did. You didn't follow your agreement
11 there.

12 So Craig Van Dam, did you -- you explained
13 earlier that you didn't think he attended meetings. Let
14 me just clarify. Did Craig Van Dam attend any meetings
15 for the blue ribbon committee?

16 A. If he said he did, then he did. I don't
17 recall him being at any meetings.

18 Q. Did you -- do you know Craig Van Dam outside
19 of the blue ribbon committee?

20 A. Up till about six months ago, he was my
21 next-door neighbor.

22 Q. How long has he been your next-door neighbor?

23 A. He built in -- 2001, I think, he built that
24 house.

25 He was on the corner of my 80-acre parcel, so

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1 he's not my next -- well, he is very close. It's only a
2 house between -- there's no houses between him and I, so
3 he's my neighbor.
4 2000/2001's when they built the house.
5 (Exhibits 8 and 9 marked.)
6 BY MS. RYAN:
7 Q. So looking at what's been marked as
8 Exhibit 8 -- and, Mr. Zamrzla, do you see, in the bottom
9 right corner, the Bates Stamp Z 00132?
10 A. Yes.
11 Q. Do you recognize this document?
12 A. Yeah. We sent 'em to counsel.
13 Q. Can you just kind of help orient me. I'm
14 looking at the left side of the map, where it says
15 "Zamrzla ranch," and there's a box -- there's a blue ink
16 box around it. What is that property?
17 A. The square that would be to the left side,
18 says "Zamrzla ranch," is the 40-acre parcel where the --
19 our house is. That's the ranch.
20 Q. Okay.
21 And what is in the square next to it, where it
22 says "Zamrzla 75th Street 80 acres"?
23 A. That pretty much tells you.
24 Q. Yes. Can you explain to me the wording
25 underneath there.

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1 A. Prepared for planting.
2 Q. Okay.
3 And what's being prepared for planting there?
4 A. The 80 acres.
5 Q. Right. And what are you planting on the
6 80 acres?
7 A. I'd have to go back and look. Those were
8 times when carrots and onions were being grown, and they
9 were being grown by those that were leasing our water
10 and property that raise 'em.
11 Q. And then there's one other square with
12 writing, says "Van Dam." Who lives in the -- do you see
13 where I'm looking at, sir?
14 A. Right where it says "D-8"?
15 Q. Mm-hmm.
16 A. That's a dirt road, and that's Craig and Marta
17 Van Dam.
18 Q. Is this the same Craig Van Dam who's listed as
19 a member of the blue ribbon committee on Exhibit ??
20 A. It's the same Craig Van Dam.
21 Q. And your neighbor, who you were referring to,
22 since 2011; is that correct?
23 A. '1.
24 Q. 2001.
25 A. They built in '1 and finished by '2. I think

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1 it started '01 and '2.
2 Q. Okay.
3 And then looking at Exhibit 9, is that --
4 where it says "Van Dam," is that the same household,
5 Craig and Marta Van Dam? Is that the same residence
6 there?
7 A. It's the only one, yes, Craig and Marta, one
8 house, right there on the corner where it says "D-8."
9 Q. Okay.
10 So how often did you talk to Craig Van Dam?
11 A. How often. Well, his dad and I were good
12 friends, probably personal best friends. I've known the
13 boys since they were young. We hunt together. Talk to
14 him all the time.
15 Q. So all the time, daily?
16 A. Daily? Sometimes could be daily, if we're
17 talking about something particular, but not -- no. I
18 wouldn't call him every day.
19 Q. So you've known him since he was a boy; is
20 that true? Is that what you testified, that you've
21 known Craig Van Dam since he was a boy?
22 A. Yeah. They grew up at the dairy, and I've
23 known 'em -- their mom and dad's dairy.
24 Q. So about how old do you think he was when you
25 first met him?

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1 A. Twenties.
2 Q. In his twenties?
3 A. I believe so.
4 Q. Okay.
5 Do you know old he is today?
6 A. I'd say he's less than 60, probably -- maybe
7 58, thereabouts.
8 Q. And --
9 A. I don't know exactly.
10 Q. You said you were best friends with his dad?
11 A. Delmar.
12 Q. How long have you known Delmar?
13 A. Delmar's one of the first people I knew when I
14 was looking for property to buy in the Antelope Valley.
15 Q. And how often did you and Delmar talk over the
16 course of your friendship?
17 A. Well, I mean, we had no schedule. We did a
18 lot of things together. We hunted together every year.
19 I went with him. He was a longtime sponsor, for over
20 30-some years, of rodeo and PBR. We hunted together, as
21 I said, every year.
22 High Desert Dairy was where his facility was
23 located.
24 He actually came and looked at the hay crop
25 when I first bought 80th Street, and that was in 1970,

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1 so 50-some -- well, he died in 2014, so knew him best
2 part of a lifetime.
3 Q. Did he own did he live in Antelope Valley?
4 A. Yes.
5 Q. Did he own property?
6 A. High Desert Dairy.
7 Q. High Desert Dairy.
8 Where is High Desert Dairy?
9 A. East side.
10 Q. East side of -- can you give me a specific
11 city?
12 A. I'm on the west side; he was on the east side.
13 Q. Of Lancaster, or --
14 A. Antelope Valley. Yeah. Lancaster.
15 Q. Did you ever talk to Delmar Van Dam about the
16 adjudication?
17 A. Yes.
18 Q. What did you discuss?
19 A. You know, not a lot directly, other than I
20 understood from him it was the big boys that were
21 involved, the big farmers, and I remember, early on, he
22 said, "This is not your gig. You got -- you're not a
23 big farmer." And I agreed. And he said, "It's gonna
24 cost a lotta money," and he reiterated that several
25 times over the years, that, "Not only did I tell you it

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1 was gonna cost a lot of money, it is costing a lot of
2 money." And, at some point, "Don't quit doing the
3 farming you're doing. You'll always be allocated some
4 water." I said, "Okay."
5 Q. When did you have conversations with Delmar
6 Van Dam about the adjudication?
7 A. When exactly? Couldn't tell you.
8 Q. What about an estimate?
9 A. We were together an awful lot. I mean, we
10 went to every banquet together, Ducks Unlimited,
11 Pheasants, Friends of the National Rifle Association.
12 We were -- we went and took our sons with us. We were
13 community involved.
14 Q. So those times together, were they before
15 2015?
16 A. Been going on over 30 years.
17 Q. Would you have conversations about the
18 adjudication between 2000 and 2015?
19 A. Very limited. Never got personal about it.
20 Q. You said you spoke to him directly. You said
21 your conversations directly about the adjudication. Did
22 you have any indirect conversations about the
23 adjudication?
24 A. I just told you: Very costly. All the big
25 farmers are fighting for water rights. Just keep doing

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1 what you're doing.
2 Q. Was Delmar Van Dam a party to the litigation?
3 A. He told me he was. I saw his name in there
4 recently. Him and Gert were both in there, and the
5 boys.
6 Q. So at no point Delmar Van Dam ever said you
7 should consider joining the adjudication?
8 A. No. The opposite. No.
9 Q. You said -- what were the discussions that you
10 had prior to the 2015 adjudication?
11 A. I think I've told you what they were, the
12 generalities. I don't remember any specific times or
13 places other than -- when we were at social events, we
14 didn't really talk about it. He might say, "This thing
15 is costing me a bundle" or something. When we were
16 together in South Dakota, we might talk about, you know,
17 how the changes were taking place in the adjudication.
18 There was -- big farmers were fighting for their water
19 rights, and his recommendation was, to me, "Just keep
20 doing what you're doing, using your water, keeping track
21 of it, and you'll always be able to get some of your
22 overlying water rights and -- since farming's not your
23 business."
24 Q. Was Delmar Van Dam a big farmer?
25 A. He owned the only dairy left in the -- in the

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1 Los Angeles County, and, yeah, they farmed quite a few
2 acres.
3 Q. So you would classify him as a big farmer?
4 A. Well, if you look at what I recently looked
5 at, I never knew before -- never paid any attention to
6 anybody's actual -- what they were using in acre-feet or
7 what they were gonna get, but I now know more about that
8 for Gary and Craig and Delmar.
9 Q. But at the time Delmar told you it was big
10 farmers, would you -- did you consider Delmar a big
11 farmer as well?
12 A. I did.
13 Q. Did you talk to Greg Van Dam about the
14 adjudication -- Craig Van Dam?
15 A. I don't recall any detail.
16 Q. So is it your testimony that you've never
17 talked to Craig Van Dam about the adjudication?
18 A. I didn't say that. I don't remember any
19 details.
20 Q. So if you had talked to him about the
21 adjudication -- when -- you don't recall details. Do
22 you recall when you've talked to him about the
23 adjudication?
24 A. I don't really.
25 Q. If Craig Van Dam said he talked to you about

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1 the adjudication before 2015, would you agree?
2 A. Depends on what he said he talked to me about.
3 I know Craig very well. I trust he would be
4 truthful, but if he told you something that wasn't true,
5 I'd have to read what he said.
6 Q. If Craig Van Dam said he talked to you about
7 joining the -- as an overlying land owner to the
8 litigation before 2015, would you agree?
9 A. I don't recall that.
10 Q. Would anything refresh your recollection of
11 that conversation happening?
12 A. Not that I can think of.
13 Q. No documents?
14 A. Can't think of anything. No.
15 Q. No e-mails?
16 A. E-mails? I don't think you can find an e-mail
17 from Craig. He's not an e-mailer. But maybe you have
18 one.
19 Q. And did you ever talk to Marta Van Dam about
20 the adjudication?
21 A. Definitely not.
22 Q. Why definitely not?
23 A. Well, if I didn't talk to Craig much, I
24 certainly wouldn't be talking to Marta either. I
25 wouldn't talk to Gert either -- Delmar's wife. So, no,

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1 I did not talk to Marta.
2 Q. So Gene Nebeker was a member of the blue
3 ribbon committee, correct?
4 A. Gene Nebeker was on the list I showed you from
5 our exhibit that you showed me again now, which was my
6 list. Took us a while to get there, but, yes, Gene was
7 on it. He was not on originally, as I said hour and a
8 half ago, but he got on.
9 Q. And if I remember correctly, you've known Gene
10 since, you said, the left of the '90s?
11 A. Latter part of the '90s.
12 Q. How do you know Gene?
13 A. More than what I told you?
14 Q. Yeah.
15 A. Couldn't -- I'd have to imagination -- I have
16 no imagination. I know him as a reputation and around
17 the area as a farmer. I knew who he was and what he
18 was, his association with sheep, things he was
19 participating in, raising sheep, his farming. I think
20 he was second or third generation, member of the Farm
21 Bureau and eventually was president for quite a few
22 years.
23 Q. How often would you talk to Gene Nebeker?
24 A. Well, I probably talked to Gene more than
25 anybody about adjudication.

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1 Q. I didn't ask about the adjudication. I just
2 said, How often did you talk to Gene Nebeker since the
3 '90s?
4 A. Talked to him at the meetings, obviously, when
5 he was there. Don't remember any particulars other than
6 zoning, but, otherwise, on telephone calls over the
7 years, talked to him quite a bit.
8 Q. How would you describe your -- the nature of
9 your relationship with Gene Nebeker?
10 A. I think it was good, very -- I thought he was
11 very straightforward. I thought he was concerned about
12 what was happening. I think he felt sorry for people
13 that he knew were gonna be losing water rights. I found
14 him to be a very decent guy to talk to.
15 Q. Would you consider Gene Nebeker a personal
16 friend?
17 A. Personal? I'd say he was a good business
18 associate that I could call up and talk to him about
19 farming or adjudication issues. He would tell you the
20 best-he-could answer to your question. Would that be
21 good personal friends? I don't know I'd call 'em
22 personal friends.
23 Q. Since the '90s, when you've known Gene, did
24 you talk to him monthly? every other month? weekly? How
25 would you characterize when you'd call him up?

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1 A. I'd call him or he'd call me, but there was no
2 schedule. We didn't have a -- every Tuesday of every
3 month we're gonna talk, or anything like that.
4 Q. I understand there's no schedule, but can
5 you -- your best estimate, how frequently would you talk
6 to him?
7 A. Much, much more frequently after I got the
8 letter from Mr. Parton in 2018.
9 Q. Before 2018, how frequently?
10 A. Just off and on, generalities, meetings at the
11 blue ribbon and meetings where we would go to the Farm
12 Bureau. And I've been a member of the Farm Bureau for
13 umpteen hundred years, so I knew him from there.
14 Q. Did you talk to Gene Nebeker about the
15 adjudication before 2015?
16 A. I thought I made it clear that, Yes, he told
17 me things about it, never in detail about what his
18 situation was, never discussed my particulars, but in
19 generalities, is what I thought I was leading you to
20 hear.
21 Q. What did -- what did he talk to you about?
22 Can you recall?
23 A. Well, as I said, people were gonna lose their
24 water rights. He was concerned about the numbers being
25 incorrect, whether there was really an overdraft. Some

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1 things were pretty direct in what he thought. I don't
2 know that I wanna get into all the details, but he's not
3 bashful about telling what he thought.

4 Q. What were the details that he shared with you?

5 A. Much more detailed since his group finalized,
6 obviously, the -- can't think of the name of the group
7 right now, but it was, like, the Antelope Valley
8 Groundwater Group or something, and that group then
9 disbanded. I knew that he was trying to sell his
10 property. Once he sold -- once I got the letter and
11 sent it to him and talked to him a little bit about my
12 predicament, then he -- he was very concerned that we
13 needed to pay attention to what we were doing because we
14 could have some real issues with our water, and that had
15 not been expressed to me prior. I was kinda going by
16 the assumption that Delmar had said, you know, overlying
17 rights, due process. We also knew we hadn't been
18 notified. So I'm not sure where your -- where your
19 question wants to go, but much more information in
20 detail from Gene after I was actually sent a letter.
21 And then, of course, once I got the bill, we talked a
22 lot more.

23 Q. And when you say "sent a letter," which one
24 are you referring to?

25 A. The letter that came stating that we were not

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1 using -- we were illegally using water. And then,
2 shortly thereafter, went on for back and forth, and then
3 we got an invoice for farming, using water.

4 Q. What was the date of that letter?

5 A. First one was June or July, I believe, of
6 2018, just saying we were illegally pumping water.

7 Q. When Gene Nebeker told you that people were
8 going to lose their water rights, did that occur prior
9 to December 2015?

10 A. I'm not sure about that.

11 Q. Were you ever sure about that?

12 A. I think he did, but I'm not positive.

13 Q. Would any benchmark of time help you recall
14 when Gene Nebeker told you that people were going to
15 lose their water rights before December 2015?

16 A. There might be something that would jog my
17 memory on that.

18 Q. What would that be?

19 A. Looking back at correspondence between us. I
20 mean, he -- you know, he shared with me some of the
21 concerns he had about dust and valley fever and so on
22 and so forth, talked about issues with the overdraft and
23 the cutbacks and that there was gonna be a ramp-down and
24 things that I had not heard before, but I don't think we
25 actually really got a whole lotta detail till probably

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1 closer to the time that I got the actual letter.

2 Q. But there could be correspondence that, prior
3 to December 2015, he shared the concern that people
4 might lose their groundwater rights?

5 MR. SHEPARD: Misstates prior testimony.

6 MS. RYAN: I'm asking for clarification.

7 THE WITNESS: Well, as I sit here right now, I
8 can't tell you there is. There could be.

9 BY MS. RYAN:

10 Q. And is it your testimony that you have no
11 recollection whatsoever that Gene Nebeker told you that
12 people may be losing their groundwater rights before
13 December 2015?

14 A. I'm just not sure about that. He could have,
15 but I don't recall it.

16 Q. Well, I just wanna make sure we're clear
17 because this is your opportunity to testify now and
18 share with us what you do know instead of -- so we're
19 not being surprised at a hearing later, before the
20 judge, if something changes that.

21 Is there any recollection of him saying there
22 would be a concern of somebody losing their groundwater
23 rights before December 2015?

24 MR. SHEPARD: Asked and answered.

25 THE WITNESS: I can't think of anything.

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1 BY MS. RYAN:

2 Q. Did -- before December 2015, did Gene Nebeker
3 ever talk to you about joining the adjudication?

4 A. That -- there was some talk maybe without -- I
5 don't even know that he talked to anybody else, but
6 there was a conversation in, I believe -- only because I
7 remember seeing some -- something that flagged a memory,
8 and my wife and I both talked to him, and I believe that
9 was just before the adjudication, in 2014, and he said,
10 you know, if we still were interested, he could look
11 into it, but I said, "You know, we don't think it
12 affects us. We don't think we're big farmers. We think
13 we're gonna get some allocation, and we're gonna leave
14 it at that." But I do know it was some time, I believe,
15 in 2014.

16 Q. Why did you believe it did not affect you --
17 the adjudication did not affect you?

18 A. It's hard to recollect from then to now
19 because, obviously, we've read so much more since we got
20 involved, and it's much more clear to us we were never
21 served. There's still a constitution in California and
22 the United States, and there's due process and so forth,
23 and I don't -- I never got served any notice.

24 And then, of course, since we've read other
25 things about what the court established, based on a

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1 hundred acres or more and 25 acre-feet per year and all
2 that, we shouldn't -- we've taken the position we were
3 not in the -- in the adjudication.
4 Q. In 2014, when Gene talked to you about joining
5 the adjudication, did you consult an attorney?
6 A. No.
7 Q. Why not?
8 And just to be clear -- I wanna be specific --
9 about your decision-making in 2014, not after you
10 received the letter in 2018.
11 A. I think we were already of the belief that,
12 you know, we're not farmers. It was the bigger farmers
13 that were using a lot of water. Farming was not our
14 livelihood, and, based on overlying water rights and so
15 forth, and what I have been told from Delmar, we get
16 some kind of water rights. It probably won't be
17 farming, but neither will anybody else. That's not our
18 livelihood.
19 Q. You had said Gene Nebeker was also the head of
20 another association, Antelope Valley Groundwater
21 Agreement Association. Is that your recollection?
22 A. He was part of a group. Yes.
23 Q. Would a document help refresh your memory?
24 A. About the name of it?
25 Q. Yes.

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1 A. Yeah, it probably would. It's on the tip of
2 my tongue. I know there's four initials. Antelope
3 Valley Ground Group or something -- or Association.
4 MS. RYAN: I'll mark this one as Exhibit 10.
5 (Exhibit 10 marked.)
6 BY MS. RYAN:
7 Q. Mr. Zamrzla, I'll represent to you that this
8 was attached as an exhibit to a motion filed in the
9 Antelope Valley groundwater adjudication, the court.
10 Do you see, in the middle there, the "Antelope
11 Valley Groundwater Agreement Association," and, in
12 parentheses, it says --
13 A. "AGWA."
14 Q. Is that the group Gene Nebeker was part of
15 that you were referring to?
16 A. I believe so.
17 Q. Is there any reason to doubt -- is there
18 another group you were thinking about?
19 A. I think this is Gene's group.
20 Q. Do you see where it says "e-mail:
21 Enebeker@roadrunner.com"?
22 A. I do.
23 Q. Is that Gene Nebeker's e-mail?
24 A. Yes, ma'am.
25 Q. Did you -- do you see, on this document, it's

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1 a notice for a town-hall meeting about the adjudication?
2 A. I do.
3 Q. It took place April 7, 2009.
4 A. I do.
5 Q. Did you attend this meeting?
6 A. No.
7 Q. Have you seen this flyer before?
8 A. No.
9 Q. Had you heard about this meeting?
10 A. No.
11 Q. Had you heard about any other town-hall-type
12 meetings?
13 A. Not that I know of.
14 Q. Did you know anyone who attended this meeting?
15 A. Well, I may have, but not -- I didn't even
16 know about the meeting, so, no, I don't -- there could
17 have been people there I knew, but --
18 Q. Do you remember anyone --
19 A. -- specifics --
20 Q. I'm sorry.
21 A. Specifics, I couldn't tell you. I don't know
22 anybody who was there. Didn't even know, till you
23 showed me, there was a meeting on April 7th of '09.
24 Q. Do you remember anyone talking about this
25 meeting?

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1 A. No, ma'am.
2 MS. RYAN: Mark this as Exhibit 11.
3 (Exhibit 11 marked.)
4 BY MS. RYAN:
5 Q. And before we move on to this one, on
6 Exhibit 10, did Gene Nebeker invite you to this
7 town-hall meeting in Exhibit 10?
8 A. I don't recall anything like that. No.
9 Q. Would anything refresh your recollection,
10 any --
11 A. I don't think so.
12 Q. -- e-mails or documents from Gene?
13 A. No.
14 Q. If Gene said that he invited you to that
15 meeting, would you agree with him?
16 A. I don't think he'd say that because I don't
17 recall ever being invited to a meeting.
18 Q. So looking at what is Exhibit 11, I'll
19 represent to you that this was also attached as an
20 exhibit to the same motion filed in the Antelope Valley
21 groundwater adjudication. It was an article published
22 in Antelope Valley Press March 28, 2009.
23 Do you recall seeing this article in the
24 Antelope Valley press?
25 A. No.

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1 Q. You testified, I believe, that you've been a
2 member of the Los Angeles County Farm Bureau.
3 A. Yes, ma'am.
4 Q. How long have you been a member?
5 A. I really don't know. Long time.
6 Q. Can you give me an estimate? 10? 20? 30
7 years?
8 A. I'd have to guess, and I'm not gonna do that.
9 I don't know. Been a long time.
10 Q. Well, you don't have to speculate, but I am
11 entitled to your best estimate.
12 A. I have no estimate. I don't recall.
13 Q. Have you been a member since 1970?
14 A. I don't know. I'd have to -- I'd have to
15 check and find out. I don't know how long I've been.
16 Q. Okay.
17 What would help you recall when you became a
18 member?
19 A. I'd call the office and ask 'em when we
20 joined.
21 Q. Do you have any documents about when you
22 joined?
23 A. Do I have any?
24 Q. Mm-hmm.
25 A. I don't think so, but there could be a record

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1 somewhere.
2 Q. Were you a member between 2009 and 2015?
3 A. I think so.
4 Q. Do you have any reason to doubt that you were
5 not a member between 2009 and 2015?
6 A. Unless I didn't pay my annual fee and caught
7 up later or something, but, no, I have no reason. I
8 would think I would've been, and a member long before
9 that.
10 Q. And when you say "long before," that would've
11 been at least since 2000?
12 A. I would pretty much assure you I've been a
13 member longer than 20 years.
14 Q. And why did you join the L.A. County Farm
15 Bureau?
16 A. Why?
17 Q. Mm-hmm.
18 A. We raise livestock. We've been supportive of
19 ag. All my family has been in business associated with
20 farming or livestock or food industry, and I supported
21 what I thought was a good group. I knew several of the
22 original players that go way back, and I think that's
23 probably where I was talked in to joining.
24 Q. Have you held any positions within the Farm
25 Bureau -- any officer positions, board positions?

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1 A. Other than member, you mean?
2 Q. Mm-hmm.
3 A. No.
4 Q. Does the Farm Bureau hold meetings?
5 A. Went to a few of their Christmas parties,
6 usually at the insistence of one of their members, but I
7 think they probably do. I don't recall, other than any
8 Christmas parties, ever going to one.
9 Q. So I understand you might be thinking of where
10 I'm going, but my original question is, Do they hold any
11 meetings?
12 A. I'm sure they do, but I don't know.
13 Q. You don't know.
14 Would anything tell you when they hold
15 meetings? Do you get any sort of newsletter or e-mail
16 or notice as a member?
17 A. Well, if they've done it, it hasn't been
18 recently. I haven't seen anything from Farm Bureau.
19 Q. But in the 20 years or so that you've been a
20 member --
21 A. I don't recall.
22 Q. Do you recall seeing any meeting agendas from
23 the Farm Bureau?
24 A. Not specifically, no.
25 Q. You say "not specifically," but what about,

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1 generally, have you seen any?
2 A. Nothing, specific or generally.
3 Q. Did you ever attend any meetings other than
4 the Christmas parties?
5 A. Yeah. I told you, about an hour ago, that we
6 had several meetings at the Farm Bureau with the blue
7 ribbon committee.
8 Q. What was discussed at those meetings?
9 A. Exactly what we're there for: To talk about
10 the blue ribbon committee and the zoning.
11 Q. And when were these meetings?
12 A. Gee, I don't know how I'd find out when they
13 were, but they were -- they were during the time that
14 the blue ribbon committee was operational.
15 Q. Would they be as early as 2011?
16 A. I don't believe the adjudication had finalized
17 when we had several meetings there, so that would have
18 been before the end of 2015.
19 Q. So you would have had meetings at the Farm
20 Bureau before 2015.
21 A. I'm pretty sure, as I said -- make it clear --
22 I think our blue ribbon committee met several times at
23 the Farm Bureau meeting office with members of the Farm
24 Bureau, and that was before the adjudication was
25 finalized. And we were there talking about zoning.

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1 Q. Did you talk about the adjudication?
2 A. I don't -- I think we got into that a little
3 bit back, and I don't remember anything real specific
4 about adjudication.
5 Q. Do you remember anything nonspecific about the
6 adjudication?
7 A. I don't.
8 Q. Does the L.A. County Farm Bureau publish a
9 newsletter?
10 A. Didn't I tell you that I have never seen one
11 recently? If there was, it's quite a while back. I
12 don't recall one.
13 Q. You don't recall one coming to your mailbox at
14 home or at your business?
15 A. Only thing I remember seeing occasionally was
16 something about the annual Christmas party, but I don't
17 remember seeing even that in some time.
18 Q. Do you receive any mail from the L.A. County
19 Farm Bureau?
20 A. I don't specifically recall one.
21 Q. Would anything refresh your recollection?
22 A. Well, if you show me that we've got one, but I
23 don't remember seeing one.
24 We are talking about L.A. County, right?
25 Because I get the state weekly magazine and all those

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1 things.
2 Q. So you receive --
3 A. You're talking about the Lancaster L.A. County
4 Farm Bureau, no.
5 Q. What other farm bureaus are you a member of?
6 A. Well, the California State Farm Bureau, which
7 is all the groups. You know, all the counties that have
8 farm bureaus are joined into the California Farm Bureau
9 Group, and they publish a weekly newsletter and a
10 magazine, part of -- been a part of Ag Day in Sacramento
11 for years, so it's -- but that's a state function. You
12 and I have been talking about -- so make sure there's no
13 mistake -- we're talking about the Antelope Valley, L.A.
14 County.
15 Q. Yes. I appreciate that.
16 So are you a member of the State Farm Bureau?
17 A. Yes.
18 Q. Okay.
19 And you receive these weekly newsletters that
20 they provide?
21 A. Still do.
22 Q. Still do.
23 And so how long have you received their
24 newsletters?
25 A. Letters?

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1 Q. Their newsletters, yes.
2 How long have you received the state --
3 A. These are almost like a newspaper, but --
4 Q. Or the newspaper. Their publication.
5 A. It's a publication.
6 Q. How long have you been receiving that
7 publication for?
8 A. Long time.
9 It's called Ag Alert.
10 Q. So have you received Ag Alert since 2000?
11 A. Oh, yeah.
12 Q. And what do you do when you receive Ag Alert?
13 A. Read it.
14 Q. Do you read -- how big is the Alert?
15 A. 35, 40 printed pages of a -- not a full
16 newspaper size, but a pretty good size.
17 Q. So now I'm gonna ask you about the L.A. County
18 Farm Bureau.
19 Do you pay dues to be a part of the L.A.
20 County Farm Bureau?
21 A. I think it's combined. I think you pay a fee
22 and an added fee for which counties you belong to.
23 Q. Okay.
24 How do you know what to pay to the L.A. County
25 Farm Bureau?

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1 A. They send you a bill.
2 Q. And when do they send you a bill?
3 A. I don't know. I don't know.
4 Q. Is it annually or monthly?
5 A. I suspect it is.
6 Q. Where do you receive that bill?
7 A. I'm not sure. Either at my house or at my
8 office. They don't deliver it, so it's one place or the
9 other. It comes in the mail.
10 Q. It comes in the mail.
11 A. Yes.
12 Q. Does it come to the mail at your house?
13 A. I don't know.
14 Q. Does it come to the mail at your business?
15 A. Don't know.
16 I get one, and you have a place to check the
17 different counties that you wanna participate in, and
18 there are different rates of participation. So much
19 goes to the State, and then you add for the different
20 counties you wanna be a part of.
21 Q. Are you a member of the Antelope Valley Fair
22 Association board of directors?
23 A. No.
24 Q. No.
25 Have you been a member of their --

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1 A. No.
2 Q. -- board of directors?
3 Have you had any association with the Antelope
4 Valley Fair Association?
5 A. Fair Association?
6 Q. Mm-hmm.
7 A. Yeah.
8 Q. Okay. What is that?
9 A. I participate in approving the members of that
10 group. You have to go through our scrutiny to be a
11 member of that. I've been a participant -- let's see.
12 The fair was finished in about 2002, I think, from the
13 old fairgrounds. I've been involved, even before the
14 new fairgrounds, between rodeo, PBR, other events that
15 we participate in and sponsor. And then when the -- you
16 want me to tell you enough so -- 'cause you're not on
17 the right track with "association." I'm on the joint
18 powers, which runs the association.
19 Q. Okay. Thank you for explaining.
20 A. This will speed it up a little bit.
21 Q. What do you do on the joint powers authority?
22 A. We run the staff, key staff. We do -- we have
23 a lease from the State -- it's State property, and so we
24 have a State lease. We have Friends of the Fair that
25 operates the food and concession stands. The

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1 association is -- the number of members of that group
2 has a president and board, and they meet regular. They
3 actually run the fair when they have a fair -- they
4 haven't for a couple years -- and all the other
5 activities. Our five-man board solicits, reviews, and
6 approves and chooses the members that will go on the
7 association board.
8 Q. So you have a five-man board on the joint
9 powers authority.
10 A. Yes, ma'am.
11 Q. Who else is on that board?
12 A. Rob Parris, Marvin Crist, John Calandri, Ron
13 Emard.
14 Q. How long have you been a member of the board
15 of the JPA?
16 A. When the legislation was passed, I was
17 appointed as the first chairman for three years to get
18 the bylaws and the organization put together, and then
19 I've continued on as an appointee by the assembly,
20 California State.
21 Q. When was that?
22 A. When?
23 Q. Mm-hmm.
24 A. I'd have to look. I don't know.
25 Q. Was it 20 years ago?

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1 A. No. The fair wasn't hardly there. The fair
2 opened in 2002. It became, like, a county fair, more or
3 less. I'm gonna say seven or eight years ago,
4 approximately. I'd have to look it up.
5 Q. Do you -- in your role in the JPA, have you
6 heard of the State of California 50th District
7 Agricultural Association?
8 A. Yeah. That's where it started.
9 Q. Okay.
10 Can you explain to me a little bit about what
11 you -- where that -- what you mean by "that's where it
12 started"?
13 A. Well, most of the fairs were agricultural
14 districts that then became state fairs, and that's what,
15 at one time, was the leading organization that ran the
16 fairgrounds, before recent years, when that all changed
17 and they have an association. And then, when the
18 legislation was passed with a 35-year lease, the JP came
19 into effect -- JPA.
20 Q. Who was a part of the 50th District
21 Agricultural Association?
22 A. Who was?
23 Q. Yeah.
24 A. People over the years, different people.
25 Q. Were you a part of --

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1 A. No.
2 Q. Did you know anyone who was?
3 A. I think I've probably known everybody over the
4 years.
5 Q. Did you know anyone specifically a part of the
6 California 50th District Agricultural Association?
7 A. Yes.
8 Q. Who?
9 A. How about George Lane.
10 Q. George Lane was a part of the 50th District
11 Agricultural Association?
12 A. At one time.
13 Q. Do you know when?
14 A. Been a while back.
15 Q. Can you have an estimate? Was it 10 years
16 back? 15 years back?
17 A. I believe it was before the new fairgrounds,
18 so in the 2000 period, before 2000 -- when the
19 construction started and it opened in 2002,
20 approximately. Those are round numbers.
21 Q. Anyone else that you know who's a part of the
22 California 50th District Agricultural Association?
23 A. More recently?
24 Q. Just anyone.
25 A. Well, there's gads of people.

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1 The more recent ones are -- Ron Emard was
2 there a year or two ago. Sandy Grove.
3 Q. Was John Calandri a part of the 50th District
4 Agricultural Association?
5 A. I can't tell you that John was ever on the
6 50th. May have been.
7 Q. What about Rob Parris?
8 A. I don't think Rob was ever on the 50th. I
9 believe he was on the association. In fact, I know he
10 was. That was quite a while back. But he heads up the
11 Friends of Fair now.
12 Q. And what about Marvin Crist; was he on the
13 50th Agricultural Association?
14 A. No.
15 He's been a part of the JPA.
16 Q. Has -- how often do you talk to Ron Emard?
17 A. How often? I see him a couple times a month
18 at the sheriff's meeting. He's been a longtime sponsor,
19 Antelope Valley Harley-Davidson, which he's the owner
20 of. He's active in a number of the Children's Hospital
21 fundraisers, a number of things. I see him, talk to
22 him -- whenever I see him, I talk to him, but several
23 times a month, probably.
24 Q. Have you ever talked to Ron Emard about the
25 adjudication before 2015?

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1 A. I don't think I've ever talked to him about
2 water.
3 Q. But have you ever talked to him about the
4 adjudication?
5 A. I never talked to him about water,
6 adjudication, nothing. Nothing in that category.
7 Q. You keep saying "water," but when we talked
8 about adjudication, we meant --
9 A. I'm not talking about drinking water. We're
10 talking about adjudication here today.
11 Q. Yeah.
12 A. No.
13 Q. So you never talked to him?
14 A. No. Never talked to him about that.
15 Q. What about George Lane; have you ever talked
16 to George Lane about the adjudication?
17 A. Don't think I've ever talked to him. Well, as
18 close to that is he -- he called me -- we do a lot of
19 work together. Been friends for years. He's in
20 construction, builds a lot of buildings, so we have a
21 lot of relationships together. The last time I talked
22 to him, he called me up and said, "Hey, do you have any
23 wheel lines for sale?" And I said, "I think I've got
24 'em sold." And he said, "Well, if you hear of anybody
25 or got any extra, call me back." And that's the last

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1 time I talked to him about -- is that water related?
2 Well, water's gonna go through the wheel lines, but we
3 never really talked about water or adjudication.
4 Q. Again, we established that, when you say
5 "adjudication," I mean the litigation. I don't mean any
6 other water in general. I just mean this Antelope
7 Valley groundwater adjudication.
8 So just so I have my question on the
9 transcript clear, and your answer, did you ever talk to
10 George Lane about the adjudication?
11 A. No.
12 MS. RYAN: Any other follow-up at this time,
13 or good time for lunch?
14 MR. KUHS: Why don't we go off the record.
15 MS. RYAN: Can we go off the record?
16 (Discussion off the record.)
17 * * *
18 (Luncheon recess taken 11:52 a.m. to 12:42 p.m.)
19 * * *
20 BY MS. RYAN:
21 Q. Mr. Zamrzla, do you know Brandon Calandri?
22 A. John's son, yes.
23 Q. How do you know Brandon Calandri?
24 A. John's son.
25 Q. So did you meet Brandon Calandri through John

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1 Calandri?
2 A. Pretty much.
3 Q. How did you meet Brandon Calandri?
4 A. Other than John telling me, "This is my son
5 Brandon" a few years ago.
6 He's part of the business -- or was -- in the
7 onion business, in which they're not as involved.
8 John has turned over his position with the
9 sheriff's department, where we kind of are supporters
10 and put Brandon on that detail, so I see him more
11 regularly now, but, other than that, I don't know much
12 about him, other than he's part of the family and part
13 of the dispute going on in the family, I guess, with the
14 divorce and all that, and I see him at meetings. He's
15 involved in the community.
16 Q. What meetings do you see him at?
17 A. I just told you. Sheriff's.
18 Q. Sheriff's.
19 What are the sheriff's meetings? Just please
20 reiterate.
21 A. We support the sheriffs locally. We have a
22 group. It's a fundraising group. We buy things for the
23 sheriffs that they can't get through the County and fund
24 them, raise a lot of money for 'em.
25 He's on that committee. We meet regularly,

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1 either at the sheriff's station or at the transportation
2 department, Antelope Valley Transportation.
3 Q. How regularly do you meet?
4 A. When I say monthly, that's once a month.
5 Q. When do you -- when did the committee, the
6 sheriff committee, start?
7 A. How many years ago?
8 Q. Mm-hmm.
9 A. Oh, let's see. Long time.
10 Q. Can you estimate how long?
11 A. 40, 50 years ago.
12 Q. And how long have you been a member of the
13 committee?
14 A. I'm the longest standing member. Long time.
15 Q. So about, you said, 50 years ago it started,
16 so have you been a member for 50 years?
17 A. Say for 35 or 40, I would guess.
18 Q. And how long has Brandon Calandri been a
19 member?
20 A. I don't think the ink has dried on that yet.
21 He just barely has been maybe a year. Took over for --
22 for his dad.
23 Q. And how long have you known Brandon Calandri?
24 A. I've probably known him, because of the
25 community, probably five years maybe. Maybe a little

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1 longer.
2 Q. And other than --
3 A. Well, I know of him. I mean, John's son. Are
4 we personal friends? No. So when you say I've known
5 him, I gotta be careful on how I say this to you because
6 I know who he is. We're on some committees together.
7 We've never been social together, but I know who he is;
8 he knows who I am.
9 Q. Have you known Brandon Calandri, as how you've
10 described, for the past ten years?
11 A. Yeah, I would think so.
12 Q. What about the past 15 years?
13 A. I -- I don't know.
14 Q. Have you ever talked to Brandon Calandri about
15 the adjudication?
16 A. No.
17 Q. Do you know Gary Godde?
18 A. Gary Godde? I know the name. I don't know
19 him very well. They're a longtime family, the Goddes.
20 Q. Is that how you know the name?
21 A. Yeah. They're a longtime family.
22 Q. So you've never met Gary Godde?
23 A. I think I have, but I don't have a recall or
24 any particular relationship.
25 Q. Yeah. My question's if you've met him.

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1 A. I'm not gonna -- I'm not gonna try to -- I
2 know who he is. I know his name. He's part of the
3 Godde family. Have I ever met him? I couldn't even
4 tell you I have met him.
5 Q. How did you hear about the Godde family?
6 A. They've been in the valley for many, many
7 years. They were farming right next to where -- the
8 property that went to Quartz Hill High School years ago.
9 I mean, it's -- we've been in the valley for a long
10 time. We know community people.
11 Q. Do you know anyone else in the Godde family?
12 A. Yeah. I've known a couple of 'em -- one of
13 'em used to be a part-time sheriff reserve -- but not
14 very well.
15 Q. Who was that?
16 A. I don't remember his name.
17 Q. Do you know any other Godde family members?
18 A. You mean do I know 'em personally?
19 Q. Just know them. Have you met them and talked
20 to them before?
21 A. I would suspect I've been in meetings, been in
22 social atmosphere, but not -- not a direct relationship
23 of any kind.
24 Q. Okay.
25 What meetings would you have met the Godde

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1 family in?
2 A. I would believe that they've been to
3 fundraisers where most of the folks come out and support
4 somebody like the supervisor, the new supervisor,
5 other -- other events. They're -- they're a longtime
6 family in the Antelope Valley.
7 Q. And when would these events take place? Was
8 it before 2015?
9 A. They've taken place for years.
10 Q. Did they take place before 2015?
11 A. Of course.
12 Q. Do you know Gailen Kyle?
13 A. Yes.
14 Q. How do you know Gailen Kyle?
15 A. Well, I know he's part of the Kyle and Kyle
16 family, and he is the senior one, I guess. They're
17 farmers.
18 Q. How long have you known Gailen Kyle?
19 A. 20 years maybe. Maybe longer.
20 Q. How did you meet Gailen Kyle?
21 A. I think I actually met his wife, Julie, first.
22 Q. How did you meet Julie Kyle?
23 A. During the different meetings with the Farm
24 Bureau.
25 Q. Do you talk to Gailen -- how often do you talk

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1 to Gailen Kyle?
2 A. I don't talk to him very often.
3 Q. Would you say once a year?
4 A. Sometimes more than that maybe.
5 Q. So once a month?
6 A. Oh, no. No. It would be a business -- I'm
7 not calling him to BS with him. I'm calling to order
8 some hay or whatever I'm doing. Business relationship.
9 Q. How often would you say that is, then? Just a
10 few times a year? A handful? Five or less?
11 A. I don't have any record of how often I would
12 do that.
13 Q. But you have a business relationship with him,
14 so what does that mean?
15 A. Used to have. He used to do a lot of farming
16 for hay.
17 Q. And so you would -- would you purchase hay
18 from him?
19 A. I would.
20 Q. Did you have an account with him?
21 A. I guess you would call it that, if I buy from
22 him.
23 Q. So he would -- and that would keep track of
24 the hay you bought from him and when?
25 A. Would I keep track of hay I bought from him?

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1 Q. Yeah.
2 Would you have any receipts of that?
3 A. I probably would till I'd get an invoice, I'd
4 pay it, and we'd keep the records as long as the
5 requirements are -- six years, four years, seven years,
6 whatever they are -- for the CPA.
7 Q. How often do you talk to Julie Kyle?
8 A. Usually talk to her more often, but not -- you
9 know, not anywhere close to your weekly or monthly.
10 Just when something came up, she needed something, or, I
11 couldn't get a hold of Gailen, I talked to her about an
12 order. She's usually the one that would answer the
13 office phone.
14 Q. And would you make these orders before 2015?
15 A. Yeah. I was buying from 'em before that.
16 Q. Did you ever talk to Gailen Kyle about the
17 adjudication?
18 A. Yeah.
19 Q. When did you talk to Gailen Kyle about the
20 adjudication?
21 A. It was in a meeting right after I got a letter
22 and a bill from the Watermaster attorney and the board,
23 and I went to my first meeting of their organization,
24 and I can't tell you the date off the top of my head,
25 but it seemed like it was in February. In fact, that's

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1 the first time I actually met Mr. Parton. Introduced
2 myself. He told me he couldn't talk to me 'cause I
3 didn't have my attorney with me. Said, "I'm
4 representing myself today." Introduced my son. We had
5 a very short conversation. And that was the same day
6 that I ran in to Gailen, who was at the meeting, and
7 he -- want me to tell you what took place, or do you
8 wanna take -- ask questions?
9 Q. Yeah. I have other questions, so --
10 A. Go ahead.
11 Q. Before 2015, did you talk to Gailen Kyle about
12 the adjudication?
13 A. Don't think so.
14 Q. If Gailen Kyle said that he talked to you
15 about the adjudication and joining the adjudication,
16 would you agree with him?
17 A. No.
18 Q. Before 2015, would you agree --
19 A. No, I wouldn't.
20 Q. Let me finish my question before --
21 A. Go ahead.
22 Q. So Gailen Kyle said that he talked to you
23 about the adjudication and joining the adjudication
24 before 2015. Would you agree with him?
25 A. No, I wouldn't.

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1 Q. Before 2015, did you talk to Julie Kyle about
2 the adjudication?
3 A. Only in general terms with the blue ribbon
4 committee. Nothing independently or personal.
5 Q. And what do you mean by "general terms with
6 the blue ribbon committee"?
7 A. Well, if we're there talking about general
8 discussions between the blue ribbon and her
9 representation as a member of adjudication and the Farm
10 Bureau, could have been the word "adjudication"
11 discussed. I don't remember anything particular, but I
12 do remember she was at several meetings.
13 Q. And at those several meetings, did she talk
14 about the adjudication at each one?
15 A. Don't remember that, other than what I just
16 told you. But nothing ever personal.
17 Q. And what do you mean by "personal"?
18 A. She never said anything to me about my water
19 issues; I never said anything to her about hers. If we
20 were talking, it was as a group, generally talking about
21 the Antelope Valley adjudication and the blue ribbon
22 committee and zoning.
23 Q. So if Julie Kyle said that she had talked to
24 you about the adjudication and joining it before 2015,
25 would you agree with that?

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1 A. No.
2 Q. Do you know Edgar Ritter?
3 A. Don't think so. I think I know the name, but
4 I don't remember Ritter.
5 Oh, Ritter. All right. Ritter, R-I-T-T.
6 Yeah. I know the son.
7 Q. Okay.
8 What's the son's name?
9 A. Actually, he's a friend of my son Johnny
10 Lee's. I didn't talk to him directly. My son did. But
11 I know who he is. I don't know if I can think of his
12 first name for sure or not. He was the son of the
13 Ritter family.
14 Q. So do you only know the son of Edgar Ritter,
15 or do you also know Edgar Ritter?
16 A. I don't believe I knew Ed himself.
17 Q. How long have you known the son of Edgar
18 Ritter?
19 A. My son has talked to him a little bit
20 because -- and I don't think I've ever actually talked
21 to him directly, and that's been since the adjudication
22 ended, to the best of my recollection.
23 Q. So your -- you had no conver- -- did you have
24 any conversations with Edgar Ritter's son about the
25 adjudication before 2015?

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1 A. Make sure we're understanding. I don't think
2 I've ever talked to him directly about it. I think my
3 son has, but not before 2016.
4 Q. So not -- now, you said you directly. Have
5 you indirectly talked to Edgar Ritter's son about the
6 adjudication?
7 A. You mean my son talked to him? My son did
8 talk to him.
9 Q. And by "son," which son are you referring to?
10 A. Johnny Lee.
11 Q. Did Johnny Lee tell you what Edgar Ritter's
12 son said about the adjudication?
13 A. A little bit.
14 Q. What did he say?
15 A. Basically that, I think, his mom dropped out.
16 He was trying to decide what to do with the property.
17 He had a large bill. He was very unhappy.
18 I do believe the last my son told me was they
19 bought in Idaho, and he was selling to a solar company,
20 and they were gonna work the bill out. He was done with
21 it.
22 Q. Do you know Marygrace Santoro?
23 A. I don't think so.
24 Q. You said you don't think so.
25 Would you have ever known Marygrace Santoro?

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1 A. I don't think I know her, now or ever.
2 Doesn't ring a -- the name kind of sounds familiar, but
3 I don't think I know her.
4 Q. You would have never -- she wasn't at any of
5 the blue ribbon committee meetings or any of the other
6 committee meetings you're on?
7 A. I wouldn't be able to answer that. She could
8 have been in the Farm Bureau meeting, and I wouldn't
9 know.
10 Q. Do you know Helen Stathatos?
11 Her last name is spelled S-T-A-T-H-A-T-O-S.
12 A. Doesn't ring any bell.
13 Q. Do you know Stavos [phonetic/sic] Stathatos,
14 S-T-A-T-H-A-T-O-S?
15 A. Don't believe so.
16 Q. Do you know Dennis Groven?
17 A. Dennis Groven, like, G-R-O-V?
18 Q. E-N.
19 A. Doesn't sound familiar.
20 Q. Have you ever met Dennis Groven?
21 A. Doesn't ring a bell.
22 Q. Do you know Scott Harter, H-A-R-T-E-R?
23 A. I did know him.
24 Q. You did know him. How did you know him?
25 A. He was one of the first that custom-farmed for

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1 me.
2 Q. What does "custom-farm" mean?
3 A. They come in and help you: You want them to
4 prep, get your ground ready; you want them to plant for
5 you. If you're raising hay, they'll bale and load. If
6 you're not one to do it all or don't wanna do any of it,
7 they -- guys like him do that for other property owners.
8 Q. When did he custom-farm for you?
9 A. Oh, I'm gonna say probably the first year was
10 2010 or '11.
11 Q. And how often did he custom-farm for you? Was
12 it a yearly thing, or how did that work?
13 A. That's not a very clear question. You mean
14 did he come for each crop, or did he just come once a
15 year? What are you asking me?
16 Q. I'll ask both questions.
17 Did he come for each crop?
18 What crops did he come to custom-farm? Let's
19 start there.
20 A. He did -- cut hay.
21 Q. Okay.
22 And how often would he come cut hay for you?
23 A. Normally, every time we had a cutting ready,
24 and, in the Antelope Valley, if you do good, you can get
25 seven cuttings.

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1 Q. Seven cuttings a year?
2 A. Season.
3 Q. You said a season. What's a season?
4 A. A year.
5 Q. A year. Okay.
6 A. Jesus.
7 Q. And did he do this for you just one year, or
8 were there several years?
9 A. He did it several years.
10 Q. How many years did he provide custom-farming
11 to you?
12 A. Well, the Harter family has done it right up
13 through the time we quit. Scott had two sons, so the
14 Harter Farming Company has been somebody we've used for
15 a long time. Not always Scott.
16 Q. Not always Scott, but his family, correct?
17 A. Pardon me?
18 Q. You said not always Scott, but his family.
19 A. That is correct.
20 Q. Okay.
21 And you said you used him up until the time
22 you quit. When was that?
23 A. I quit the hay in -- turned it off the end of
24 2017.
25 Q. Did Scott Harter or his family provide any

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1 other services, other than cutting hay, to you?
2 A. Other than what I told you, which was prep and
3 all that sort of thing? So, you know, there's more to
4 it. There's planting, cutting, prepping the ground, all
5 the things that go along.
6 Q. And his family would provide those services?
7 A. All part of it.
8 Q. Okay.
9 Did they do that for any other crop on your
10 property?
11 A. Only hay crops, whether it was alfalfa, grain
12 hay, Sudan grass, whatever it was. They didn't do
13 onions. They didn't do carrots.
14 Q. Was Scott Harter at your property when he
15 would provide the farming services?
16 A. Yes, he was.
17 Q. How often did you talk to Scott Harter?
18 A. I haven't talked to him in a long time. Can't
19 talk to him anymore, of course. He passed away. Maybe,
20 in a season, I'd talk to him half dozen, dozen times.
21 We weren't mutual society friends. It was a business
22 transaction.
23 Q. Did Scott Harter ever talk to you about the
24 adjudication before 2015?
25 A. I don't believe so.

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1 Well, what kind of talk?
2 Q. Did he -- did he bring up the adjudication to
3 you?
4 A. Yes.
5 Q. What did he say?
6 A. "It sucks, and I'm getting outta here," and he
7 moved.
8 Q. Did he elaborate on why it, quote/unquote,
9 sucked?
10 A. Well, he said a few other choice things, but
11 he basically said, "I'm outta here."
12 Q. What were the other choice things that he told
13 you?
14 A. He thought it was all corrupt. He didn't
15 think there was an overdraft. He was very unhappy about
16 the whole thing, and he's getting the hell outta town.
17 Q. Did he talk to you about that you should join
18 the adjudication before 2015?
19 A. No. That I should join it? No. No.
20 Definitely not.
21 Q. Did Scott Harter own property in Antelope
22 Valley?
23 A. I believe he owned a small place, I think.
24 Yes, he did, I believe.
25 Q. How big was his place?

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1 A. I really don't know. I think it was small.
2 Q. Would you consider him a big farmer?
3 A. No, I don't think so.
4 Q. When he was harvesting the hay on your
5 property, which parcels were those?
6 A. The only one we ever grew hay on.
7 Q. Which one would that be?
8 A. The back two.
9 Q. Okay.
10 Do you recall the parcel numbers for those
11 back two?
12 A. The 80.
13 Q. 80?
14 A. 39, and the other one's 40. We call it the 80
15 acres.
16 Q. Did you talk to anyone else who was a part of
17 the Harter family about the adjudication before 2015?
18 A. Both his sons.
19 Q. What were his sons' names? Or what are his
20 sons' names?
21 A. I think Sam's the older one, and Max is the
22 younger one.
23 Q. What did Sam Harter say about the adjudication
24 to you?
25 A. He was fed up and he was gonna go with his

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1 dad.
2 Q. And what did Max Harter say about the
3 adjudication to you?
4 A. "I'm gonna stick around, and my wife doesn't
5 wanna leave. I'll continue doing whatever we can for
6 you, and I'm looking for a few more customers."
7 Q. Did Sam Harter ever talk to you about joining
8 the adjudication before 2015?
9 A. No.
10 Q. Did Max Harter ever talk to you about joining
11 the adjudication before 2015?
12 A. No, ma'am.
13 You're saying about joining.
14 Q. Correct.
15 A. Joining the adjudication.
16 Q. Mm-hmm.
17 A. No.
18 Q. Do you know Habod Javadi?
19 A. Sounds familiar.
20 Q. Why does it sound familiar?
21 A. Well, it does.
22 Q. Have you met Habod Javadi before?
23 A. Possible, but I can't tell you that. I don't
24 know.
25 Q. Would anything -- any documents you have

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1 refresh your recollection?
2 A. Well, if you had a picture of me with an arm
3 around each other, I'd say yeah, I guess I did meet him,
4 but I wouldn't know him if he walked in. I don't know
5 who he is. But if I met him somewhere? It's possible.
6 Q. Do you know Eugene Kindig?
7 A. What's the last name?
8 Q. Kindig, K-I-N-D-I-G.
9 A. Doesn't sound familiar.
10 Q. How about Beverly Kindig?
11 A. No.
12 Q. Do you know Paul Kindig?
13 A. I don't think so.
14 Q. Do you know Sharon Kindig?
15 A. I don't believe so.
16 Q. Do you know Richard Miner?
17 A. Heard the name.
18 Q. How did you hear the name?
19 A. I heard it just recently, so he's still
20 around, I guess.
21 Q. Just recently. What do you mean, "just
22 recently"?
23 A. Last couple weeks, his name come up somewhere.
24 Somebody mentioned something about Miner.
25 Q. Do you remember the context of when his name

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1 was brought up?
2 A. I think he might be selling water rights. I'm
3 not sure. Seemed like that's what it was about.
4 Q. Do you know who else was there when the
5 conversation occurred?
6 A. I don't even know if anybody was there. It
7 could have just been mentioned.
8 But I recognize the name.
9 Q. Had you heard the name before 2015?
10 A. I believe I have.
11 Q. When did you hear the name before 2015?
12 A. I don't know. I've heard the name.
13 Q. What context was it brought up before 2015?
14 A. I have no idea.
15 Q. And you don't have any recollection of how you
16 heard Richard Miner's name before --
17 A. No.
18 Q. -- 2015.
19 A. No, I don't.
20 Q. Have you ever talked to Richard Miner?
21 A. I don't think I've ever met him, but it's
22 possible.
23 Q. Do you know Jeffrey Siebert?
24 A. I do know Jeff.
25 Q. How do you know Jeffrey Siebert?

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1 A. Jeff used to go to a lot of the different
2 banquets. He and his wife had a little piece of
3 property west of me. He was in the wire business. I've
4 known him for quite a long time.
5 Q. How long had you known him?
6 A. Well, more of him. I really didn't know him
7 very well. Never even been to his property. He's never
8 been to mine. But we were at a lot of functions
9 together.
10 Q. Yeah. How long ago were those functions?
11 A. As I said, about 20 years.
12 MS. RYAN: 20 years.
13 MR. KUHS: Excuse me for interrupting. What
14 business was he in?
15 THE WITNESS: I believe he was in wire,
16 twisting or stretching some kind of wire, down near
17 Santa Clarita, somewhere down there.
18 MR. KUHS: Thank you.
19 BY MS. RYAN:
20 Q. And the various functions you saw him at over
21 20 years, what were those?
22 A. Could be fundraisers. It could be Ducks
23 Unlimited. In fact, I know Ducks Unlimited was one of
24 'em.
25 Q. Did you go on any hunting trips with Jeff

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1 Siebert?
2 A. Never with him.
3 Q. Did you ever talk to Jeff Siebert about the
4 adjudication before 2015?
5 A. Nothing that I know of directly.
6 Q. What about, before 2016, did you have any
7 communications with Jeff Siebert?
8 A. Not that I recall directly.
9 Q. Did you indirectly talk to Jeff Siebert about
10 the adjudication before 2016?
11 A. I don't know how you can talk to somebody
12 indirectly. Maybe you could rephrase that.
13 Q. Well, you said that you didn't directly talk
14 to Jeff Siebert about the adjudication, so I'm just
15 wondering is there any other way you would have talked
16 to Jeff Siebert about the adjudication before 2016.
17 A. I thought I made it clear. I never talked to
18 him about adjudication that I know of, but I saw him
19 places, and we would talk, and I knew he was trying to
20 get outta town too. He had a small place. Did the word
21 "adjudication" get mentioned? I don't know, but I don't
22 remember ever talking to him about adjudication.
23 Q. Why was he trying to get out of town?
24 A. I had heard that he had a very small piece of
25 property that -- he was looking at some water issues in

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1 the adjudication.
2 Q. You had heard.
3 A. Yes, ma'am.
4 Q. So how had you heard that?
5 A. Just general discussion.
6 Q. With who?
7 A. Gosh, I don't know. Could have been anybody.
8 Q. Did you ever talk to Nancy Siebert?
9 A. No.
10 Q. Did you ever talk to Barry Munz, M-U-N-Z?
11 A. The Munz boys? Don't think so, no.
12 Q. Do you ever recall talking to Barry Munz
13 before 2016?
14 A. I don't remember talking to Barry Munz at all.
15 Q. What about Terry Munz; have you ever --
16 A. I've talked to Terry --
17 Q. You talked to --
18 A. -- but never about water.
19 Q. When -- how -- how do you know Terry Munz?
20 A. Through his relationship at the fairgrounds.
21 Q. So what relationship is that?
22 A. I think probably animal livestock, auction
23 day, showing animals at the fair. Could've been showing
24 hay crops, getting judged. It's called the alfalfa
25 fair. People bring their alfalfa and show it for

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1 prizes. They're longtime farmers in the valley. I knew
2 who Terry was, and he worked part-time at the fair or
3 was associated with helping maybe with the livestock
4 auction.
5 Q. So being longtime farmers in the valley, had
6 you known Terry Munz for a long time?
7 A. I've known the name, but I don't think I've
8 known him a long time.
9 Q. How long have you known Terry Munz?
10 A. Known his name, or known him -- who he was?
11 Q. Just known him.
12 A. Well, the Munzes are known. I can't tell you
13 when I met Terry physically, but I'd say less than ten
14 years.
15 Q. And when you did meet Terry Munz physically,
16 did you have conversations with him?
17 A. About?
18 Q. Anything.
19 A. Normally, you met somebody, you might talk to
20 him.
21 Q. Well, for Terry Munz, what did you talk about?
22 A. I couldn't begin to tell you, but it had
23 something to do with the fair. I think he was working
24 there part-time.
25 Q. And you said he joined the fair about ten

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1 years ago. Am I remembering correctly what you said?
2 A. That's my recall.
3 Q. And you would have talked to him some time in
4 those ten years.
5 A. Maybe once, twice, yes.
6 Q. Did you ever talk to Terry Munz about the
7 adjudication before 2016?
8 A. Of course not.
9 MR. SHEPARD: Asked and answered.
10 THE WITNESS: No.
11 BY MS. RYAN:
12 Q. Did you ever talk to Kathleen Munz?
13 A. I don't even know who Kathleen is. No.
14 Q. Do you know Beverly Tobias?
15 A. Don't think so.
16 Q. Do you know Leo Simi?
17 A. I know the Simis.
18 Q. Do you know Leo Simi?
19 A. I do.
20 Q. How do you know Leo Simi?
21 A. Well, he's a long generation of the Simis and
22 Roy Simi and some of the others that go back many, many
23 years.
24 Q. How did you meet Leo Simi?
25 A. I think the first time was he took over the

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1 manufacturing of cubes at their family farm -- ranch.
2 Q. When was that?
3 A. Oh, god, I don't know. Many years ago.
4 Q. Was it 20 years ago?
5 A. Oh, yeah. Before that.
6 Q. So 30 years ago?
7 A. Probably.
8 Q. So you've known Leo Simi for 30 years?
9 A. When you say I've known him, I mean, it's not
10 like I see him or talk to him regular, but I knew who he
11 was. We bought cubes from him.
12 Q. You bought cubes. What do you mean by, "We
13 bought cubes from him"?
14 A. Alfalfa.
15 Q. Alfalfa.
16 A. They grew alfalfa. They produced alfalfa
17 cubes.
18 Q. Okay.
19 How often did you buy alfalfa cubes from him?
20 A. Well, I bought 'em from Simi brothers for
21 years. When he took over, I bought 'em till he quit.
22 Q. So did you buy them from the Simi brothers for
23 30 years?
24 A. I can't tell you. Long time.
25 Q. Was it more than 30 years, or less than 30

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1 years?
2 A. I'm not gonna guess, and that's where you're
3 putting me in a corner. I don't -- I don't know.
4 Q. I'm trying to get your best estimate and
5 helping narrow it down.
6 Have you bought alfalfa cubes from the Simi
7 brothers for 20 years -- for the past 20 years?
8 A. I hadn't bought from 'em for a long time
9 'cause they don't make 'em anymore, and I don't even
10 know that they still own the property.
11 Q. When did they stop making alfalfa cubes?
12 A. Been at least ten years.
13 Q. At least ten years.
14 A. I think.
15 Q. Okay.
16 Did you buy alfalfa cubes before they quit?
17 A. I did.
18 Q. Okay.
19 How regularly did you buy alfalfa cubes from
20 them?
21 A. Maybe every couple months. Depends on what we
22 were feeding.
23 Q. And when you bought the alfalfa cubes, did you
24 talk to Leo Simi?
25 A. Are you talking about junior, or senior?

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1 Q. Either one. Which one did you --
2 A. Both.
3 Q. You talked to both of them.
4 Did Leo Simi, Senior, ever talk to you about
5 the adjudication before 2016?
6 A. I don't think so. I'm not sure if he was
7 still alive, Senior. We're talking about Senior here.
8 Q. Senior. Correct.
9 A. I don't think -- no. My answer would be no,
10 and I'm not sure he was still alive.
11 Q. Did Leo Simi, Junior, ever talk to you about
12 the adjudication before 2016?
13 A. Don't believe so, but he could have.
14 Q. Why -- how -- would anything refresh your
15 recollection if Leo Simi, Junior, talked to you about
16 the adjudication before 2016?
17 A. No.
18 Q. If Leo Simi, Junior, said that he had talked
19 to you about the adjudication and joining the
20 adjudication before 2016, would you agree?
21 A. Absolutely not.
22 Q. Do you know William Barnes?
23 A. Don't think so.
24 Q. Do you know John Recca?
25 A. I do know John.

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1 Q. How do you know John Recca?
2 A. I've known John for years. He married
3 Adrienne, good friend of mine going back in the family,
4 the Lewis family. He's not too far away from me. John
5 has been a dear friend. One time he did landscaping and
6 yard work -- or his company did -- for some of the
7 properties that I have. He was the beholden showdown
8 rodeo chef. He did all the cooking for all my VIPs, did
9 for years.
10 Q. How long have you known John Recca?
11 A. I just saw him the other day, and his son.
12 Long, long time. 30 plus.
13 Q. How long has he been your rodeo chef for?
14 A. I'd say 25 years.
15 Q. And when he -- how often is he in there,
16 cooking in the kitchen? Is it an annual event?
17 A. There is no kitchen.
18 Q. Oh. Okay.
19 Where is he doing his chef work?
20 A. Barbecuing.
21 Q. Okay.
22 Is that an annual thing that he's done?
23 A. PBR is on the 4th of July. Rodeos were
24 recent -- October, but we also did some events in
25 August, during fair week. But whenever we did 'em, we

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1 had a VIP for sponsors, and John and Adrienne were the
2 key people that cooked the food and served our prominent
3 sponsors and guests. Great people.
4 Q. Did John Reca ever talk to you about the
5 adjudication before 2016?
6 A. No.
7 Q. If John Reca said he had talked to you about
8 the adjudication before 2016 and asked you to join,
9 would you agree with that?
10 A. No. Absolutely not. And he wouldn't have
11 done that.
12 Q. Did Adrienne Reca ever talk to you about the
13 adjudication before 2016?
14 A. No.
15 Q. And if Adrienne Reca said that she had talked
16 to you about the adjudication and asked you to join
17 before 2016, would you agree with that?
18 A. Of course not.
19 Q. Do you know Sal Cardile?
20 A. I don't believe so.
21 Q. Do you know Connie Cardile?
22 A. Sounds familiar, but I don't . . .
23 Q. I'm sorry. What was the last part?
24 A. The name sounds familiar, but I don't think I
25 know them.

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1 Q. Do you know Gene Bahlman, B-A-H-L-M-A-N?
2 A. I know the name, but I don't think I know him
3 personally.
4 Q. How do you know the name?
5 A. I don't know him.
6 Did she not read the judge's orders of what
7 we're supposed to be talking about here?
8 MR. SHEPARD: Just answer the questions.
9 BY MS. RYAN:
10 Q. So I believe we have talked about Rob Parris
11 before, but how do you know Rob Parris?
12 A. How do I know him. He's been part of the
13 community. I've known him for years.
14 Q. How long have you known him?
15 A. 35 years maybe.
16 He was the highway patrol when I first met
17 him.
18 Q. And how do you know him, if you can explain?
19 A. He's involved in the community, like I am.
20 He's involved with the fair, like I am.
21 Q. From the fair.
22 Was he part of the blue ribbon committee?
23 A. No.
24 Q. What other committees are you both on
25 together?

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1 A. I didn't say we were on anything together.
2 Q. What -- how -- you said you're involved in the
3 community the same way you are. Can you elaborate what
4 you mean by that?
5 A. We're in a lot of the same circles
6 politically, supporting people. He runs the Friends of
7 the Fair. He's chairman of that. He is on the joint
8 powers, where I'm at as well. He does other things at
9 the fair that I'm not involved in and he is, but we see
10 each other there all the time. I've known Rob for
11 years.
12 Q. Have you ever talked to Rob about the
13 adjudication before 2016?
14 A. Before?
15 Q. Mm-hmm.
16 A. No.
17 Q. If Rob Parris said he had talked to you about
18 the adjudication before 2016, would you agree with that?
19 A. No. He wouldn't say that.
20 Q. Do you know the company Rottman Drilling?
21 A. I do.
22 Q. How do you know Rottman Drilling?
23 A. They were one of the big ones in the valley
24 for a long time.
25 Q. Have you ever hired Rottman Drilling?

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1 A. We have.
2 Q. What have you hired Rottman Drilling to do?
3 A. They tune up my car [sic].
4 They do well drilling. They fix wells. They
5 come out and service 'em when they break down. They --
6 they're well people. They're one of the biggest ones --
7 or were -- in the Antelope Valley. In fact, probably
8 the largest, oldest ones. Very prominent.
9 Q. How often has Rottman Drilling -- have you --
10 how often have you hired Rottman Drilling?
11 A. As seldom as I could because it's very
12 expensive and it's always some kind of an issue where
13 your well's not working.
14 Q. So can you -- to answer my question, can you
15 say an estimate of how often you hired them?
16 A. No. There's records we keep track of, of our
17 well record. We have a pretty good file on testing,
18 keeping track of the evaluations, doing the service
19 repair and the maintenance and when we gotta change
20 things out.
21 Q. Who owns Rottman Drilling?
22 A. Well, they left. I'm not sure there's anybody
23 who owns it anymore. It closed up.
24 Q. When you hired Rottman Drilling to do work on
25 your property, who owned Rottman Drilling?

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1 A. Mr. Rottman.
2 Q. What's his first name?
3 A. I can't think of it at this moment.
4 Q. How long had you known Mr. Rottman for?
5 A. Well, I knew the company a lot longer than I
6 knew -- John Rottman? Anyway, I've known the Rottmans
7 for a good long time, the company. Maybe the first time
8 was -- that we actually used 'em was in last part of the
9 '90s. I'd have to look. Not something I try to make a
10 memory of. I got records of it.
11 Q. Did you hire them at all between 2000 and
12 2016?
13 A. That I could answer if I was looking at my
14 well file, but I don't know.
15 Q. Did you ever talk to Mr. Rottman or anyone at
16 Rottman Drilling about the adjudication before 2016?
17 A. Not that I recall.
18 Q. Mr. Zamrzla, you testified you are -- you've
19 been a longtime member of the Los Angeles County Farm
20 Bureau, correct?
21 A. Yes.
22 MS. RYAN: Can I have this marked as
23 Exhibit 12.
24 (Exhibit 12 marked.)
25

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1 BY MS. RYAN:
2 Q. So, Mr. Zamrzla, I put a document before you
3 that's been marked as Exhibit 12. Do you recognize this
4 document?
5 A. I do not.
6 Q. I can represent to you that this is a copy of
7 a presentation given February 17th, 2009 regarding the
8 Antelope Valley groundwater adjudication before the Farm
9 Bureau.
10 Were you -- did you attend a Farm Bureau
11 meeting on February 17, 2009?
12 A. I -- I don't remember ever seeing this before.
13 Obviously, it's the work of Gene Nebeker. It's his
14 kinda stuff. I don't even know if it was presented at
15 one of the meetings. I don't recall it. And I
16 certainly don't think I was at that meeting, but I
17 wouldn't swear to it. But I don't think I've ever seen
18 this particular document.
19 Q. What makes you say that this is the work of
20 Gene Nebeker?
21 A. Well, it's got his signature in the back and
22 everything here. This is the kinda stuff he puts
23 together, and he does a good job of it and tells you to
24 call him or -- got the roadrunner e-mail.
25 Q. Had Gene Nebeker talked to you about anything

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1 in this presentation before 2016?
2 A. He might have talked about some of the stuff
3 in here, but this particular document, I don't remember
4 this. But this is all the same kinda stuff that we've
5 talked about.
6 Q. So before 2016 -- take your time to look
7 through the document -- what would Gene Nebeker have
8 talked to you about that's in here?
9 A. In generalities, he's talked to me prior to
10 the finalization of the adjudication, in general terms,
11 as part of his displeasure.
12 Q. Did he ever talk to you about joining the
13 adjudication before 2016?
14 A. You mean the one I told you about earlier?
15 Q. The adjudication?
16 A. I told you in 2014.
17 Q. In 2014 he talked to you about joining.
18 A. That's what I told you this morning.
19 Q. Did he talk to you at any other time than 2014
20 about joining the adjudication?
21 A. I don't believe so.
22 Q. And when he talked to you in generalities
23 about the Antelope Valley adjudication, did any of it
24 cause concern for you?
25 A. What do you mean by "concern"?

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1 Some of the points he's presented, that it
2 will be affecting those that live there, those kinds of
3 things?
4 Q. Affecting those that live there, but any
5 concern that they would affect you.
6 A. Well, I live there, so if it's blowing dust,
7 I'm gonna get blowing dust, exposed to valley fever, all
8 of that.
9 Q. What about any concerns for your property
10 rights specifically?
11 A. No more than we've discussed.
12 We didn't figure we fit in here. We were not
13 a party to it, and of course we were never served, so we
14 weren't a party to it.
15 Q. So you -- we've talked about you own your
16 personal residence at 48920 80th Street West, Lancaster;
17 is that correct?
18 A. That's correct.
19 Q. And you have two parcels adjoining that
20 property; is that correct?
21 A. That's correct.
22 Q. Okay.
23 And let's start with the property that has
24 your house. It has your house on there. What else is
25 on that property?

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1 A. What else is on the property?
2 Q. That parcel. That parcel that --
3 A. It's 40 acres.
4 MS. RYAN: Right. It's 40.
5 We'll have this one marked as 13.
6 (Exhibit 13 marked.)
7 BY MS. RYAN:
8 Q. Mr. Zamrzla, do you recognize this document?
9 A. Looks like, on the left-hand corner's Avenue
10 D, 138, and then 80th Street West is shown, and then it
11 has a lot of the parcels that run east till 70th Street
12 and South to Avenue E.
13 Q. Can you identify, in Exhibit 13, your parcels?
14 A. Well, if you look at -- there's a 40 on the
15 corner of D and 80th, on the second 40, where the house
16 is, and that's the 80 in the back.
17 Q. Can you please mark, with this pen, where your
18 parcels are.
19 So I see you've marked, on Exhibit 13, Parcel
20 26, Parcel 2, and Parcel 3. Is that correct?
21 A. What it looks like.
22 Q. Yes or no, is that correct?
23 A. Yes.
24 Q. What is on Parcel 26?
25 A. That's where we live. That's where our house

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1 is at.
2 Q. What else is on parcel 26?
3 A. There's a well house. There's a pump house.
4 There's a barn. There's an arena, catch pens, bucking
5 chutes, steel fencing for animals, a stable, lot of cows
6 and calves, a few tractors, lots of hay.
7 Q. Do you have a pool on Parcel 26?
8 A. I do.
9 Q. Do you have a tennis court --
10 A. I do.
11 Q. -- on Parcel 26?
12 Do you have any trees on Parcel 26?
13 A. I do.
14 Q. How many trees do you have?
15 A. Oh, there's probably well over 150.
16 Q. What kind of trees are they?
17 A. All kinds, from poplars on up to holly oak.
18 Q. How many wells are on Parcel 26?
19 A. One.
20 Q. How many pumps are on Parcel 26?
21 A. Pumps?
22 Q. Mm-hmm.
23 A. Pressure pumps?
24 Q. How many pumps are there, any pumps?
25 A. What are you asking about?

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1 Q. I'm asking how many pumps are --
2 A. What kind of pumps? Gasoline pumps? Water
3 pumps?
4 Q. You own the property, sir, so you'll have to
5 tell me.
6 A. We have a well. The well fills tanks, and
7 there's a pressure pump, if that's what you're asking
8 about, so that you can pressure the pumper to use the
9 water.
10 Q. What other pumps are on your property?
11 A. We have air pumps. We have gas pumps. We
12 have gas tanks, diesel tanks.
13 Q. And what do you use the air pump for?
14 A. Mainly for blowing things and airing up
15 equipment.
16 Q. And what do you use the gas pump for?
17 A. Put fuel in our tractors and our equipment.
18 We use that for both diesel and the gas.
19 Q. What -- is there any other equipment housed on
20 Parcel 26?
21 A. What do you mean by "equipment"?
22 Q. Any equipment that you have.
23 A. Besides what I named?
24 Q. Mm-hmm.
25 Anything else?

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1 A. I have trailers, stock trailers. I have a
2 over-the-road livestock trailer. I got a reach machine.
3 I told you -- earlier, I mentioned tractors. Got quite
4 a few of these. We have Gators, John Deere Gators.
5 Q. So I'm looking now at what you've marked as
6 Parcel 3 here, which you've marked as one of your
7 parcels. What is on Parcel 3?
8 A. Parcel 3 has one well on it, and, right now,
9 it has the stubble grass that's left over from the last
10 farming.
11 Q. What was the last farming on Parcel 3?
12 A. 2017.
13 Q. What did you grow on Parcel 3?
14 A. Sudan grass.
15 Q. How long did you grow Sudan grass on Parcel 3?
16 A. Till the end of the season.
17 Q. When did you start growing Sudan grass?
18 A. I can't tell you off the top of my head.
19 Q. Was it -- so it ended at 2017, so did you
20 start in 2000?
21 A. You would normally plant the end of the
22 previous year, depending on weather, and then -- so
23 you'd be starting, like, the end of 2016 for 2017 year,
24 and then you'd -- depending on the weather and how much
25 rain you got, you'd probably finish by October, the last

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1 cutting.
2 Q. I understand. My question, though, was, When
3 did you start planting?
4 A. Couldn't tell you.
5 Q. Did you start planting in 2000?
6 A. I don't recall.
7 Q. Did you plant before 2000?
8 A. Don't recall.
9 Q. Did you plant after 2000?
10 A. Don't recall.
11 Q. Would -- do you have any records that would
12 refresh your recollection as to when you started
13 planting Sudan grass?
14 A. I would have.
15 Q. What records are those?
16 A. The water issue, how much water we were using,
17 and what I paid to have the ground disked, prepped,
18 planted.
19 Q. And when you said you have a water issue, what
20 do you mean by that?
21 A. When I said I had a water issue?
22 Q. You said that, when I asked if you kept
23 records of when you started planting Sudan grass, you'd
24 have a water issue. What do you mean by that?
25 A. You mean when we would plant, depending on

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1 whether we have water? You try to sometimes plant
2 towards the end of the year, when you're gonna get your
3 fall rains, so that you don't have to water. You can
4 plant, get moisture from the heavens up above, and then
5 you don't kick the water on till after it bites in and
6 starts growing. If it doesn't, then you have to water
7 sooner.
8 Q. Do you keep records of what you grow on Parcel
9 3?
10 A. Sort of.
11 Q. What do you mean by "sort of"?
12 A. I could usually tell you, more so now, because
13 I've been looking at everything, what we've had and
14 about when I'd look at the charges from the farming to
15 see when we planted, but I don't know those by heart.
16 Q. Where do you keep those records?
17 A. We keep 'em in a file cabinet.
18 Q. In your house?
19 A. Yes.
20 Q. Are there any pumps on Parcel 3?
21 A. Pumps?
22 Q. Mm-hmm.
23 A. You mean, like, a pressure pump of some sort?
24 Q. Again, you have to tell me. You own the
25 property.

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1 A. Well, I know what I own. You're asking me a
2 question. What kinda pump?
3 Q. What pumps do you have on Parcel 3?
4 A. I have a well.
5 Q. At the well, do you have a pump on Parcel 3?
6 A. There's no pump on that well for pressure.
7 It's just a well.
8 Q. So is it your testimony that you have no pumps
9 on Parcel 3?
10 A. I have no pump. Water comes out of the ground
11 on a well.
12 Q. So yes or no, do you have a pumps on Parcel 3?
13 MR. SHEPARD: Asked and answered.
14 THE WITNESS: Well, first of all, you're
15 saying "pumps." I have no pump. I'm trying to
16 understand what you're talking about, but it's
17 obviously -- I can't understand it 'cause you don't know
18 what you're talking about.
19 But there is a well. There's not a pressure
20 pump, like where you're doing domestic, where you're
21 pumping water to come out of a faucet for livestock or
22 for flushing your toilet or to wash your dishes or to do
23 your laundry. Those pressure pumps are at the house and
24 the farming area. That well out in back was strictly
25 for farming. The water comes out of the ground. It

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1 doesn't go through a pump. It goes into the sprinklers.
2 BY MS. RYAN:
3 Q. Okay.
4 So you said there are pressure pumps at the
5 house, so is there more than one pressure pump on Parcel
6 26?
7 A. I actually have two.
8 Q. And so, on Parcel 3, there are no pressure
9 pumps.
10 A. That is correct.
11 Q. On Parcel 3, are there any other types of
12 pumps?
13 A. Parcel --
14 Q. Parcel 3, are there any other types of pumps?
15 A. There's no pumps.
16 Q. What do you use Parcel 2 for?
17 A. What do we do with it?
18 Q. Mm-hmm.
19 A. Nothing right now. It was farmed.
20 Q. What have you used it for before, when -- have
21 you ever used Parcel 2?
22 A. We farmed it up until the end of 2017.
23 Q. What did you grow on Parcel 2?
24 A. We grew hay after about 2010, as I told you
25 this morning. Prior to that, we had onions and carrots

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1 on both those parcels.
2 Q. When you say "both those parcels," which
3 parcels do you mean?
4 A. The two in the farming area. One of 'em's
5 called No. 2, and one of 'em's called No. 3.
6 Q. How long did you grow onions for?
7 A. Couple, three seasons.
8 Q. And is a season one year?
9 A. In my book.
10 Q. And when did you grow onions?
11 A. '1, '2, '3, '4, maybe '5. 2001, '2, '3, '4,
12 '5.
13 Q. So 2001 to 2005, you --
14 A. Approximately.
15 Q. -- grew onions.
16 Okay.
17 A. Might have been some -- might have been some
18 carrots mixed in there.
19 Q. Well, I'll ask about the carrots.
20 How long --
21 A. Well, I'm not sure --
22 Q. -- did you grow carrots?
23 A. -- which ones which. They were -- they were
24 blended in. I -- I'm not sure which ones were which.
25 We were -- we were farming those two items from the --

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1 2000 to '10. That was a ten-year period.
2 Q. So from 2000 to 2010 you farmed both onions
3 and carrots on Parcels 2 and 3?
4 A. Yes.
5 Q. Okay.
6 A. No hay.
7 Q. No hay. You said hay was after 2010.
8 A. That's correct.
9 Q. Okay.
10 Are there any wells on Parcel 2?
11 A. No.
12 I'm saying that as usable wells. I believe,
13 at one time, there was a house there, and I believe that
14 had a domestic well, but I've never -- I don't even know
15 if it could be found. It's never been used by me, at
16 any rate, but someone might know that there was a well
17 located there.
18 Q. Are there any pumps on Parcel 2?
19 A. No.
20 You didn't believe me the first time?
21 Q. Well, sir, I'm asking you for each individual
22 parcel.
23 A. You did that one.
24 Q. We're going in order here.
25 A. Okay. You asked me 2, 3, then 2. No pumps on

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1 either property.
2 Q. Okay. Well, I asked 26, so those are the
3 three we're talking about. And, on 26, you said there
4 are two pumps, correct?
5 A. 26? That's where the house is?
6 Q. Correct.
7 A. Two pressure pumps.
8 Q. Yeah. Okay.
9 Before I get to this one, are there any
10 electrical panels on Parcel 26?
11 A. Electrical panels?
12 Q. Mm-hmm.
13 A. Well, of course.
14 Q. Okay.
15 How many electrical panels are on Parcel 26?
16 A. Since I don't know that you know what we're
17 asking, what do you mean by "electrical panels"?
18 Power comes in. They all go to different
19 panels. Residential power for a garage. Power goes to
20 a barn. Heavy-duty power goes to a well and a pressure
21 system.
22 Q. Are there any electrical panels on Parcel 3?
23 A. No. Well, it's right at the intersection
24 between 2 and 3. The power comes in from 80th, runs
25 down that line that separates 25 and 26, comes all the

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1 way to the back, and there's a power pole there. And
2 we've gone underground and into the well, so the main
3 power, heavy-duty power for the well, which is located
4 on 3, is about at that --
5 Q. Okay.
6 A. -- that corner.
7 Q. Can you mark, with a circle, where the
8 electrical panel is.
9 Thank you.
10 And can you write, off to the side there,
11 "electrical panel."
12 MR. PARTON: That's the heavy duty for the
13 well?
14 THE WITNESS: It's a well.
15 BY MS. RYAN:
16 Q. Is that the heavy-duty electrical panel for
17 the well on Parcel 26?
18 A. No, no, not for 26. It's for 3.
19 Q. It's the electrical panel for the well on
20 Parcel 3.
21 A. Yes.
22 Well, actually, for 2 and 3. It runs a well
23 that's located on 3 that irrigates 2 and 3.
24 Q. So the well on Parcel 3 irrigates Parcel 3 and
25 Parcel 2.

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1 A. That's right.

2 Q. The electrical panel that you just circled

3 there, how many -- on Parcel 26, how many power meters

4 are there?

5 A. Power meters? I believe there's only one

6 connection. It comes in from the street, drops into the

7 box, and then goes to the well. I think there's only --

8 that's a turbine out there, so I think there's only one

9 setup.

10 Q. Do you know how many meters, power meters, it

11 is -- emits?

12 A. What are you talking about, "power meters"?

13 Q. The charge, the electrical charge that it has.

14 A. The electrical charge?

15 Q. I believe it's usually expressed in kilowatts

16 per hour.

17 A. Oh, the kilowatts? We get all that from

18 Edison. I probably gave you the reports already. It

19 tells you exactly what it's got.

20 MR. KUHS: The question she's asking is, Do

21 you have electrical power meters on Parcel 26, a PG&E

22 meter or SoCal Edison meter that registers your power

23 consumption? Do you have one located on Parcel 26?

24 THE WITNESS: On 26?

25 MR. KUHS: Yeah.

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1 THE WITNESS: It's separate. The well's

2 separate from the house. Is that what you mean?

3 MR. KUHS: I'm not talking about well.

4 There is a power meter, right? There is a

5 device that measures the amount of power that you're

6 using.

7 THE WITNESS: No. I gotta call Edison to --

8 if we wanna know how much, you look at the bill. I

9 can't tell by looking at it. There's no -- there's no

10 dials.

11 MR. KUHS: You don't have a device on your

12 property that measures power consumption?

13 THE WITNESS: Well, I thought I did. Edison.

14 They can tell me exactly what I'm using. They bill me

15 for it, and then they convert it to how many gallons I'm

16 pumping for efficiency. But I don't have any other way

17 to measure it.

18 MR. KUHS: Is there a device on your property

19 that measures power consumption?

20 THE WITNESS: Not that I know of.

21 MR. KUHS: Okay.

22 THE WITNESS: I've heard there are some, but

23 we don't have one. That was the question? Okay.

24 BY MS. RYAN:

25 Q. What homes are served by the electrical panel

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1 on your property?

2 A. What homes are served? What the hell's that

3 mean?

4 Q. What houses are served by the electrical power

5 that's provided on your property?

6 A. I have one home that gets power, and I have

7 one well there that gets power. They're separate.

8 Q. Does the electrical panel provide power to any

9 other homes on other properties?

10 A. What the hell kinda question is that? I got

11 one home. You mean I got a home somewhere else on the

12 property? What the hell.

13 Q. Any structures. Does the electrical panel

14 provide power to any other structures?

15 A. Besides what I told you earlier, that it goes

16 to a garage, it goes to the barn?

17 Q. Okay.

18 Any others?

19 A. Storage room.

20 Q. Anything else?

21 A. Goes out to the stable.

22 Q. Okay.

23 Any others?

24 A. Goes to outside lights, stand-up pole lights.

25 It's all served by electrical.

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1 MS. RYAN: This is the next exhibit, Exhibit

2 14.

3 (Exhibit 14 marked.)

4 BY MS. RYAN:

5 Q. Mr. Zamrzla, start with the image that's

6 marked "September 2018" in the upper left corner. Do

7 you see that?

8 A. Do I see it? Yeah, I see it.

9 Q. Okay.

10 Do you recognize this image?

11 A. Which part of it?

12 Q. Any part.

13 A. Yeah. I see my property, the house. I can

14 also see the back property. Can see my son's house

15 across the street and his separate piece of property.

16 Q. Can you mark, on that map, with -- well, let

17 me step back.

18 When you say your son, which son?

19 A. Johnny Lee.

20 Q. Okay.

21 Can you mark, with the pen there, on that map,

22 where is Johnny Lee's property, and mark it with a "JL."

23 A. There's a 10-acre, 10-acre and the house, J.

24 Lee.

25 Q. Okay.

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1 And where you've marked there, does J. Lee own
2 three separate parcels?
3 A. Two.
4 Q. Two.
5 So is it one 10-acre parcel?
6 A. Two.
7 Q. Two 10-acre parcels there. Okay.
8 Can you mark, on that map, where your three
9 parcels are located?
10 And are there any parcels on this map that you
11 own?
12 A. Are there any parcels --
13 Q. Any other than what you've already marked?
14 A. No. I own three.
15 Q. Okay.
16 This map was taken -- this picture was taken
17 in September 2018.
18 A. I see that.
19 Q. Is this an accurate representation of what
20 your property looked like in September 2018?
21 A. Are you kidding me? I don't have any
22 comparison. You got an EagleView or something? I've
23 got EagleViews that I brought, but, on 2018, I don't
24 know.
25 Q. Well, looking at where Parcels 2 and 3 would

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1 be, what does this image tell you about what's on those
2 parcels at this time?
3 MR. SHEPARD: Lacks foundation, calls for
4 speculation.
5 THE WITNESS: Well, I can tell you what's on
6 it. Tumble weeds.
7 BY MS. RYAN:
8 Q. Okay.
9 How -- why would there be tumble weeds on your
10 property at --
11 A. 'Cause I hired a guy to come out and look at
12 it and tell the Watermaster that I wasn't growing
13 anything.
14 Q. So in September 2018, you were not -- were you
15 growing anything on Parcels 2 and 3?
16 A. No, ma'am.
17 Q. Let's turn to the next image. Do you
18 recognize this image?
19 A. Well, it's pretty much the same thing, except
20 little darker color in 2017, which would mean, to me,
21 something's growing.
22 Q. What -- and where -- where is it darker? Is
23 that on Parcels 2 and 3?
24 A. Are we looking at the same page?
25 Q. Yeah.

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1 A. There's two parcels that don't have anything
2 on 'em there, and there are two parcels here, which are
3 2 and 3, and the house is still on the other parcel.
4 Q. Okay.
5 So where you've identified on Parcels 2 and 3
6 are darker, why is it darker?
7 A. It was being farmed.
8 Q. What's being farmed there?
9 A. Some sorta hay.
10 Q. So looking at the next page, April 2015, do
11 you -- actually, can we go back to April 2017? Is this
12 an accurate representation of your property on or about
13 April 2017?
14 A. Accurate to what level?
15 Q. Is it accurate?
16 A. Accurate for what? Size? Location?
17 Q. Representation of your property as a whole.
18 A. What the hell's that mean?
19 The location's right, but I don't know what
20 else you need from there. Is it the right color for
21 that time of year? I don't know. What the hell. What
22 do you mean by that?
23 Q. Exactly what I said, if it's an accurate
24 representation.
25 In the converse, is there anything inaccurate

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1 about that image about your property?
2 A. Well, I don't know if you shrunk it down. I
3 would assume this is the right image of the property and
4 it would be correct.
5 My son's where he's at. I'm where I'm at.
6 These properties, if they're not shrunk down for some
7 reason, that's a legitimate shot of the properties that
8 we live on and are talking about.
9 Q. So, for April 2015, do you recognize this
10 image?
11 A. It looks like more of the same.
12 Q. And Parcels 2 and 3 have coloring. How would
13 you -- why do Parcels 2 and 3 look like they do in this
14 map?
15 A. Why do they look like that? It looks like the
16 northern end has either got some planting or it's -- the
17 water hasn't been turned on yet. I'm not sure, if
18 you're talking about the Parcel 2 and 3, why they look
19 that color. I have no idea.
20 Q. Was there farming on Parcels 2 and 3 at this
21 time?
22 A. 2015?
23 Q. Mm-hmm.
24 A. Yes, there was.
25 Q. Okay.

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1 You had talked before about how you have the
2 well on Parcel 3. Where is the well on Parcel 3
3 located, and can you mark it for me on this map? Or you
4 can do it on --
5 A. I did it once. It's pretty close to that
6 corner. The power comes back. It just turns the corner
7 a little bit, going towards 3 'cause the well's down
8 here, so it's -- as I showed you on the previous one,
9 it's pretty close to that intersection.
10 Q. And that -- does the well provide water to an
11 irrigation system?
12 A. No, it doesn't.
13 Q. Okay.
14 What do you use the well for -- that well for
15 in that location?
16 A. What do you mean by "irrigation system"? You
17 mean a system we use to water the ground?
18 Q. To water your plants. Yes.
19 A. Yeah. Yeah. We have wheel lines.
20 Q. Okay.
21 And where are those -- can you please put that
22 map back before you. Where are the wheel lines located?
23 If you could draw that on there.
24 A. Well, it depends on where they happen to be at
25 the time. They roll back and forth. They run from east

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1 to west.
2 Q. And do they roll from north to south?
3 A. Depends on which way you're going with 'em.
4 If you wanna water it north, you roll 'em north.
5 Q. Okay.
6 A. If you wanna go south, you roll 'em south.
7 They're motor driven.
8 Q. Okay.
9 And is that across both Parcels 2 and 3?
10 A. Yeah. The wheel lines water that Section 2
11 and Section 3.
12 Q. And is the well that you've identified on
13 Exhibit 2 the sole source of water for the irrigation
14 system you use on Parcels --
15 A. For 2 and 3, yes, absolutely.
16 Q. So looking at the next page, May 2013, do you
17 recognize this image?
18 A. I recognize you're saying it's more of the
19 same with a different month.
20 Q. Is it an accurate representation of -- well,
21 let's start, Is this an image of your property?
22 A. Appears to be.
23 Q. Do you have any reason to think it's not your
24 property?
25 A. I believe it's the same one we've been looking

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1 at, different date.
2 Q. Is this an accurate representation of what
3 your property looked like on or about May 2013?
4 A. I don't know what you're expecting me to
5 answer on the "accurate." I mean, if I flew over it,
6 would it look like that? I don't know what it would
7 look like on May 2013. I have no idea what it looked
8 like.
9 I can tell you on the ground it looks
10 different than here, so I don't know what this looks
11 like.
12 I would say, from a representative, from an
13 overshot, from EagleView or one of the others, this is
14 showing you that there's farming going on here. In
15 fact, those are wet spots, the ends of the lines.
16 Q. Can you circle where you've identified the wet
17 spots on the ends of the lines?
18 A. Yeah. Those spots at the end of the wheel
19 lines. They're wetting the dirt.
20 Q. Right. I've asked you if you can use the pen
21 I've given you and circle where those are, please.
22 The witness is marking, on May 2013, the wet
23 lines.
24 So the next image says "August 2012."
25 A. Mm-hmm.

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1 Q. Do you recognize this image?
2 A. Appears to be more of the same, different
3 date.
4 Q. So does this appear to be your property?
5 A. It does.
6 Q. Is this your property?
7 A. It appears to be.
8 Q. If you're looking over at Parcels 2 and 3, one
9 parcel is a darker color than the other. Why is that?
10 A. Possibly it had a different growth on it. We
11 started farming it earlier, got water on it. I don't
12 know.
13 Q. Looking at Parcel 2, was Parcel 2 being
14 watered at that time?
15 A. My guess that we probably were -- in 212 [sic]
16 we were probably just getting the new sprinklers
17 operational because we quit the onions and carrots and
18 everything in about 2000, put in new lines and
19 sprinklers in about '11, so I'm saying we're probably
20 cranking up the new wheel lines on the southerly
21 portion, which is Parcel 3.
22 Q. We'll go to the next one, marked
23 "December 2011." Do you recognize this image?
24 A. It's more of the same.
25 Q. And by "more of the same," you mean a picture

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1 of your property?
2 A. Different date.
3 Q. And why does Parcel 2 appear lighter than the
4 Parcel 3?
5 A. Not really sure. It obviously had a different
6 growth than Parcel 2 on the 3 side.
7 Q. Were you growing anything on Parcel 2 at that
8 time?
9 A. I don't recall.
10 Q. Based on looking at this image, does it appear
11 you were growing anything on Parcel 2 in December 2011?
12 A. I wouldn't take -- make that determination
13 from looking at this picture.
14 It appears that whatever growth is on 3 is
15 much more predominant than what's on 2.
16 Q. And for July 2011, do you recognize this
17 image?
18 A. Well, it's the same image you've been showing
19 me, with a different date.
20 Q. Same image of your property?
21 A. Appears to be.
22 Q. We'll go to June 2009. Do you recognize this
23 image?
24 A. Looks like the same again, with "June '09" on
25 it.

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1 Q. When you look at Parcels 2 and 3 in this
2 image, is anything growing on Parcels 2 or 3?
3 A. I have no idea.
4 Q. Can you tell if anything's being watered on
5 Parcels 2 and 3?
6 A. Well, in those years, I wouldn't have had
7 sprinklers yet, so it would have been when it was being
8 farmed by people like Grimmway and Wheeler and others
9 that were doing carrots and onions. I wasn't farming it
10 myself till after 2010, but we know that it was being
11 farmed. We just -- I can't tell you what it was in
12 June.
13 Q. In June 2009, it was being farmed?
14 A. All those years, yes.
15 Q. You said "all those years," but I'm just
16 asking for June 2009. Was it being farmed?
17 A. Right at that minute -- I don't know when they
18 were planting, but, yes, it was -- it was being farmed.
19 Q. And the next one is July 2008. Do you
20 recognize this image?
21 A. Again, looks like the same thing with a
22 different date.
23 Q. And by "same thing," do you mean your
24 property?
25 A. Well, it's more than my property. It's got

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1 other properties on there. It's showing everything from
2 the corner of 138 D and 80th with both sides of the
3 street, east and west, clear down to Van Dam's, but it's
4 an overview of that area of the Antelope Valley,
5 including my house.
6 Q. Looking at Parcels 2 and 3, is anything
7 growing on Parcels 2 or 3?
8 A. We know there was, but I can't tell, from the
9 picture, what's growing there.
10 Q. So when you look at this picture, what crops
11 do you think are being grown?
12 A. Well, I don't think anybody could tell you,
13 from the picture, what's being grown. I can't.
14 Q. April 2008 is the next image. Do you
15 recognize this image?
16 A. Same one, different date.
17 Q. And "same one," you mean it has your property
18 on this image?
19 A. That's correct.
20 Q. Looking at Parcels 2 and 3, does it look like
21 any crops are being grown on 2 and 3?
22 A. My answer would be the same. I can't tell.
23 Q. And would there be any water being used on
24 Parcels 2 and 3 at this time?
25 A. Well, if they're growing something,

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1 absolutely. And I believe the water usage would tell us
2 when -- what month and how much was being used.
3 Q. What source -- what would be the water source
4 for Parcels 2 and 3 in 2008?
5 A. I paid water bills. The Edison log that tells
6 you how much Edison we were using and how many gallons
7 or acre-feet we were using.
8 Q. What would be the source of the water? A
9 well? Was it trucked in?
10 A. We going back to that again?
11 I only got one well that handles those two
12 parcels, 2 and 3. One well.
13 Q. That well provided water.
14 But I believe you told me that you didn't have
15 an irrigation system until 2009.
16 A. I didn't.
17 Q. You didn't. Okay.
18 A. That's correct.
19 Q. So what would be watering Parcels 2 and 3
20 before 2009?
21 A. The people that came and used it set their own
22 lines up.
23 Q. Okay.
24 And would they get water from your well?
25 A. Yes. They could. Yes.

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1 Q. I'm sorry. You said "yes"?

2 A. They used my well, my property. They bring
3 their own lines.

4 Q. Okay. Thank you.

5 The next one, April 2006, do you recognize
6 this image?

7 A. Same thing, different date.

8 Q. By "same thing" --

9 A. My property.

10 Q. And by looking at this, can you tell if
11 anything's growing on Parcels 2 and 3 in this image?

12 A. No, you can't.

13 Q. Can you tell if any water's being used on
14 Parcels 2 and 3 on the April 2006 image?

15 A. From the picture, I can't tell.

16 Q. January 2006 image, do you recognize this
17 image?

18 A. Same one as we've had, different date, my
19 property.

20 Q. When we're looking at Parcels 2 and 3, do you
21 see there's some green on the inner edge -- I would say
22 on the west side of Parcels 2 and 3? Do you see that?

23 A. The west side of 2 and 3?

24 Q. Mm-hmm.

25 A. You wanna show me where that is? I don't see

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1 anything green.

2 Q. Right here.

3 A. I don't see that as being green, and I don't
4 know what it is.

5 Q. Okay.

6 Does it look like any crops are growing on
7 Parcels 2 and 3 at this time?

8 A. This definitely gives you the impression there
9 might be something that's taken on some growth at the
10 far south end of Parcel 3.

11 Q. Can you circle where you're referring to.

12 Do you know what would be growing there --

13 A. No, I don't.

14 Q. -- at that time?

15 A. I'm gonna tell you one more time: It was
16 either carrots or onions until 2010. We never had any
17 hay growing out there.

18 Q. And I understand, Mr. Zamrzla, the repetition
19 may seem unnecessary, but it is in this context. It's
20 not as if we're having a normal conversation. So I'm
21 just gonna keep asking my questions, and thank you
22 for --

23 A. You do it, and I'll keep complaining.

24 Q. Thank you.

25 A. We'll get along fine.

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1 Q. So December 2005 --

2 A. Mm-hmm.

3 Q. Do you recognize this image?

4 A. Same one, more of the same, and my property
5 with "December 2005."

6 Q. And looking at Parcels 2 and 3, does it look
7 like any crops are growing on those parcels?

8 A. Couldn't tell any more than you can from the
9 others.

10 I'd like to say I'm seeing some hand lines out
11 there, but -- I don't wanna use my imagination, but that
12 looks like hand lines.

13 Q. What are hand lines?

14 A. Sprinkler hand lines. That's what they were
15 using to water prior to I brought the wheel-line
16 sprinklers in. When it was being farmed for onions and
17 carrots, it was all hand lines.

18 Q. And you said you brought in the hand lines?

19 A. I certainly never said that.

20 Q. Okay.

21 Who brought in the hand lines?

22 A. The people who were farming it.

23 Q. And so does it look like water's being used on
24 Parcels 2 and 3 in the December 2005 image?

25 A. I didn't say that. I said it looks like their

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1 hand lines could be laying out there.

2 Q. My question is, Does it look like the
3 Parcels 2 and 3 are being watered?

4 A. Well, you wouldn't be able to tell from this.

5 Q. And why not?

6 A. Well, it's an overview. How would I know if
7 it's being watered? I'd have to go to the Edison
8 company to see if we're using any water. You can't
9 tell, by looking at that, whether there's water going.

10 Q. We're on July 2003.

11 A. Okay.

12 Q. Sorry, sir. For the record, so the court
13 reporter has it accurate, can you put that one -- thank
14 you.

15 July 2003, do you recognize this image?

16 A. Same one, different date, my property.

17 Q. What can you tell me about Parcels 2 and 3 in
18 this image?

19 A. Absolutely nothing. Although, the 2 and 3 are
20 different color than the 40 on the corner and the
21 property to the east, and I look over and see Van Dam,
22 and he's got a different color too, except for where his
23 house is. I don't know what that means. Different
24 color.

25 Q. Is there any indication to you that there are

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1 crops on the property at this time?
2 A. It'd be a mystery. I wouldn't know how to
3 tell that.
4 Q. Any indication that water is being used on the
5 property at this time?
6 A. Not without going to the records and seeing.
7 Edison would tell us whether there's water being used
8 and how much, both monthly and acreage -- acre-feet in
9 July 2003. That'd be the only way I would know.
10 Q. And looking at this image dated October 1995,
11 do you recognize this image?
12 A. Well, it's the same one, different color, my
13 property.
14 Q. And what does this image tell you about
15 Parcels 2 and 3?
16 A. My guess, only because I know there was
17 nothing growing there, and it's all just the natural
18 flow of the ground.
19 Q. And how do you know that?
20 A. Well, I don't know it, but I can tell you,
21 from my experience, we weren't growing anything out
22 there.
23 I mean, you look at kind of the trails, it
24 looks like it all blends together, the way the water had
25 been running, from rainwater.

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1 Q. I'm sorry. From --
2 A. The way the water had run from rainwater and
3 the way the soil is laid out, but I know we weren't
4 farming anything in '95.
5 Q. Was -- did you have your well on the property
6 at this time?
7 A. Did I have the well on the property? The 2
8 and 3 section well?
9 Q. Yes.
10 A. I did have the well there.
11 MS. RYAN: Let's take a five-minute break.
12 (Recess taken 2:31 to 2:54 p.m.)
13 BY MS. RYAN:
14 Q. Have you ever requested any efficiency tests
15 from Southern California Edison?
16 A. Yes.
17 Q. When did you request efficiency tests?
18 A. I believe we do it every two years.
19 Q. Since -- starting from when?
20 A. Quite a while back. Probably the last 20
21 years.
22 Q. So in the last 20 years you've requested an
23 efficiency test from Southern Cal Edison every two
24 years?
25 A. I believe so.

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1 Q. Why do you request these efficiency tests?
2 A. I wanted to see how efficient we're doing with
3 our pumping versus electricity.
4 Number two, to try to analyze what the costs
5 are versus what you buy a product for.
6 Number of reasons, but mainly to check the
7 usage as the water table comes up and also how well the
8 well's doing 'cause when they get old they cost you more
9 money to run 'em and you do your upgrades.
10 Q. Have you performed any upgrades to your wells
11 based on these efficiency tests?
12 A. Yes.
13 Q. What upgrades?
14 A. I don't know off the top of my head, but,
15 every time they recommend it, I do it.
16 Q. What kind of upgrades do they ask you to do or
17 have you done? Excuse me. What kind of upgrades have
18 you done?
19 A. I'd have to look at -- I don't remember. If
20 they say you gotta do certain things and it's gonna save
21 so much money, we'd say, "Okay. How do we do it?
22 What's it cost?" and we do it. We're business people.
23 We do that.
24 Q. Do you host large events or functions at your
25 house?

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1 A. What's "large"?
2 Q. Events where over 50 people attend.
3 A. Yes.
4 Q. Do you host events where over a hundred people
5 attend?
6 A. Yes.
7 Q. Do you host events where over a thousand
8 people attend?
9 A. Not that I recall.
10 Q. So do you host events where 500 people attend?
11 A. Not normally.
12 Q. So we're looking at between a hundred and 400
13 people would come to your property?
14 A. Could be.
15 Q. When do you normally -- when do you have those
16 events?
17 A. Whenever I want. I own the property.
18 Q. So when have you had them in the past -- how
19 often?
20 A. Every two or three weeks when we have junior
21 high school and high school rodeo.
22 Q. And is that every two or three weeks
23 throughout the year, or is it just during a certain time
24 period in a year?
25 A. It normally starts in the early part of the

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1 year, April, and runs towards -- before Thanksgiving it
2 gets done. Depends on which district and how many --
3 how many events they got lined up and whether or not
4 they're traveling. When they get it free at my house,
5 it sometimes pays 'em not to travel.
6 Q. Going back to your property and Parcels 2 and
7 3, when did you first start agricultural operations on
8 Parcels 2 and 3?
9 A. About 2001, 2000.
10 Q. And is that the first time you started using
11 water on Parcels 2 and 3?
12 A. That's my recollection.
13 Q. Can you take water from another source and use
14 it on your property?
15 MR. SHEPARD: Vague and ambiguous.
16 THE WITNESS: When it rains, God gives it to
17 me, I take that every day.
18 BY MS. RYAN:
19 Q. Any other source?
20 A. You mean, like, somebody gives it to me, or
21 what?
22 Q. Yeah. Purchasing water from another source.
23 A. I don't know what you do with it. I mean, if
24 your well broke down, you had to get a tank of water to
25 fill your tank, but you mean to farm with?

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1 Q. Correct.
2 For example, the scenario you just explained,
3 has that ever happened?
4 A. Say that again.
5 Q. Have you purchased water from another source
6 to use on your property?
7 A. For what? Farming?
8 Q. For anything. Yeah. For farming, for --
9 A. Of course. You can't farm -- how would you
10 get it, and what would you do with it?
11 Q. Well, I'm just trying to get --
12 A. I mean, if I ran out of drinking water, I'd go
13 get a water truck and bring some water over.
14 Q. Have you done that? Have you had to do
15 that --
16 A. I don't believe so.
17 Q. -- at your property?
18 Okay.
19 Have you had to do that for the farming
20 operations on your property?
21 A. Well, you couldn't farm -- no way you could do
22 that.
23 Q. So I just wanna make sure we're both
24 understanding your answer.
25 A. Gotta understand --

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1 Q. To farm on your property --
2 A. -- your question first of all.
3 Q. -- I understand you need to use water,
4 correct?
5 A. To farm, you gotta water.
6 Q. Correct.
7 A. You gotta have water.
8 Q. Have you purchased --
9 A. Well, unless you're dry-farming. Some places
10 out around us, they dry-farm.
11 Q. Okay.
12 Do you dry-farm?
13 A. No.
14 Q. Okay.
15 Do you -- have you ever purchased water from
16 another source to farm on your property?
17 A. Absolutely not.
18 Q. When we were looking at the parcel maps and
19 the maps of your property, you identified the property
20 for your son Johnny Lee, correct?
21 A. I did.
22 Q. And he has two 10-acre parcels, correct?
23 A. Correct.
24 Q. How did he obtain both parcels?
25 A. He bought 'em.

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1 Q. Who did he buy one of the 10-acre parcels
2 from?
3 A. Me.
4 Q. Who did he buy the other 10-acre parcel from?
5 A. The seller.
6 Q. Who was the seller?
7 A. I have no idea.
8 Q. When did he buy the 10-acre parcel from you?
9 A. I think it's all in the record, but don't know
10 off the top of my head. It seems like it's -- 2006 or
11 '7 sounds about right.
12 Q. And did you -- when did you take ownership of
13 that parcel?
14 A. I don't remember.
15 We've turned all that in. We've sent it to
16 Watermaster, everything, how long we've owned it,
17 everything. I don't know off the top of my head.
18 Q. From the time you took ownership of the parcel
19 you sold to Johnny Lee till the time you sold it to him,
20 what can you tell me about the water use on that parcel?
21 A. What do you wanna know about it?
22 Q. What can you tell me about it?
23 A. Can't tell you anything. There was no water
24 used.
25 Q. Was there a well on the parcel between when

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1 you owned and it and when you sold it to Johnny Lee?
2 A. Absolutely.
3 Q. How many wells?
4 A. One.
5 Q. And were there any pumps on the property
6 between when you owned it and when you sold it to Johnny
7 Lee?
8 A. Pumps were gone. Just the well.
9 Q. Okay.
10 So in that whole time frame, there was only
11 the well, between when you owned the property and when
12 you sold it to Johnny Lee?
13 A. That's correct.
14 Q. Okay.
15 Did you use the well to water the property?
16 A. The well was not operational.
17 Q. Okay.
18 Did you grow any crops on the property between
19 when you owned it and when you sold it to Johnny Lee?
20 A. No.
21 Q. After Johnny Lee bought the property from you,
22 what did he do with it?
23 A. That's a long answer. What do you wanna know?
24 Q. I would like to know what he did with the
25 property after he bought it from you.

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1 A. He built a house, moved in it.
2 Q. Did you help him build the house?
3 A. Help him? You mean did I physically do
4 something?
5 Q. Did you physically or financially help him
6 build the house?
7 A. No.
8 Plus, it's none of your damn business.
9 Q. It's a deposition. We can --
10 A. Well, Section 5 on that.
11 Q. Just to be clear, have you answered my
12 question, or are you withholding an answer to my
13 question?
14 A. I'm not gonna say anything. I sold him the
15 property. What he did with it is his business.
16 Q. So you did not help him physically build the
17 house?
18 A. Physically, no.
19 Q. Okay.
20 Did you financially help him?
21 A. Well, my -- our company did. We put the
22 standing seam metal roof on it. We helped him with
23 that.
24 Q. Did you help him with any other part of the
25 house, physically?

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1 Did you help him with any plumbing of the
2 house? any water lines of the house?
3 THE WITNESS: Do you wanna object to this?
4 I'm not gonna get any further with this. It's gonna be
5 time to go home. It's getting ridiculous. What the
6 hell's it have --
7 You never served my papers. I shouldn't even
8 be in this thing. Why are you asking me about my son's
9 house? It has nothing to do with this.
10 MS. RYAN: Sir, we can -- as we've agreed with
11 counsel, there's a stipulation to ask about everything
12 you've raised in your motion.
13 THE WITNESS: Why don't you go to the judge.
14 Tell him I won't answer that.
15 MR. SHEPARD: Can we go off the record for a
16 moment?
17 MS. RYAN: Sure.
18 (Recess taken 3:05 to 3:21 p.m.)
19 BY MS. RYAN:
20 Q. Mr. Zamrzla, you said you helped build the
21 roof for your son's house; is that correct?
22 A. Correct.
23 Q. Okay.
24 Did you help with any well-drilling on your
25 son's property?

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1 A. No.
2 Q. Did you help with any plumbing for your son's
3 property?
4 A. No.
5 We're still physical?
6 Q. Still physical, yeah, mm-hmm.
7 So back to your property. Did you deepen the
8 wells on your property at any time?
9 A. Deepen them?
10 Q. Mm-hmm.
11 A. No.
12 Q. Have you noticed any decline in the water
13 levels on your property since you've owned it?
14 A. Decline?
15 Q. Mm-hmm.
16 A. You mean the distance got shorter, by
17 "decline," or the water table has risen?
18 Q. The -- decline in the water table.
19 A. It's gone the other way. The water table's
20 up.
21 Q. And has it gone up continually since you've
22 owned the property?
23 A. That's correct.
24 If you read the Edison reports, it'll tell you
25 that. We furnished 'em all, on both wells, by the way.

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1 MR. KUHS: Well, I'm gonna object. I don't
2 think you did. Your testimony was you had efficiency
3 tests done every two years. We don't have efficiency
4 tests for every two years, so if you have those tests,
5 you haven't produced 'em.
6 MR. SHEPARD: Let's not argue with the
7 witness. If you have a request, a further request, you
8 can make it to me, and we'll talk about it and look for
9 documents.
10 MR. KUHS: I just don't wanna let that --
11 MR. SHEPARD: Please don't argue with the
12 witness.
13 BY MS. RYAN:
14 Q. When it comes to running matters of your
15 household, how do you and your wife manage those
16 matters?
17 MR. SHEPARD: What do you mean by that?
18 BY MS. RYAN:
19 Q. Do you divide up some chores or activities and
20 does she take on others?
21 And, for example, we can start with the power
22 records. Who would usually be reviewing your
23 power-record bills and responding to any concerns with
24 them?
25 A. Who pays for 'em?

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1 Q. Sure. We can start with who pays for them.
2 A. Pam writes all the checks.
3 Q. Okay.
4 And if there's any disputes with the
5 power-record bills, who handles that?
6 A. She'd bring it to our attention. We'd talk it
7 over. But we have very few disputes with Edison. They
8 pretty much know what they're doing.
9 Q. Okay.
10 And if you did have any --
11 A. We'd go direct and work it out.
12 Q. And would it be either you or Pam, or you
13 together?
14 A. That's exactly right. Either one of us.
15 Q. And if --
16 A. Well, let me back up. She has a much better
17 relationship with Rick and a couple of the Edison people
18 'cause she talks to 'em more regular, so we'd start off
19 with her. We've never had a problem with Edison where
20 it didn't get resolved with her, so I've never had to
21 get involved with anything.
22 Q. And is that same kind of dynamic, with Pam
23 working with bills and handling any disputes, does she
24 do that with other bills that you receive and other
25 companies you work with?

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1 A. You still talking personal?
2 Q. Yeah. Still personal.
3 A. For the most part, she handles 'em.
4 Q. Okay.
5 Do you have any legal interest in an entity
6 called Antelope Valley Cattle Incorporated?
7 A. No.
8 Q. Do you have any interest in a company called
9 Antelope Valley Cattle?
10 A. No.
11 Q. And you mentioned the roofing company. What's
12 the name of the roofing company you own?
13 A. Which one?
14 Q. Good question.
15 How many roofing companies do you own?
16 A. Several.
17 Q. Can you give me a number? 1? 10? 12?
18 A. We have multiple names. We have four offices.
19 We do business as Stone Roofing Company Incorporated.
20 One's in Hayward; the other one's in Azusa. Western
21 Pacific is in Palm Springs and Palmdale.
22 Q. So I heard you have Stone Company and Western
23 Pacific. Are those the two business names that you own?
24 A. We've changed one and incorporated Stone into
25 one that we shut down.

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1 Q. What was the name of the one you shut down?
2 A. ASKE, American Standard, in Hayward.
3 Q. And you said "ASKE." Is that an acronym?
4 A. Yeah.
5 Q. Is it A-S-K-E?
6 A. Yes.
7 Q. And then any other businesses that you own or
8 have a controlling interest in?
9 A. Well, we talked about several things this
10 morning. Business Properties, Liberated Land and
11 Equipment. We gonna go through all this again?
12 Q. I'm asking for any others, so anything else
13 you haven't told me today.
14 A. No.
15 Q. No? Was that a "no"?
16 A. "No."
17 Q. Do you keep a journal or log of important
18 meetings or events or appointments?
19 A. No.
20 Q. Do you keep a calendar for any important
21 meetings, events, or appointments?
22 A. No.
23 Q. You understand that there's the Antelope
24 Valley groundwater adjudication that was pending between
25 approximately 2000 to 2016, correct?

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1 MR. SHEPARD: Are you talking about his
2 current understanding?
3 MS. RYAN: We'll start with your current
4 understanding.
5 THE WITNESS: What do you wanna know? If I
6 understand there was such a company?
7 BY MS. RYAN:
8 Q. So your current understanding is that there
9 was an Antelope Valley groundwater adjudication that
10 lasted from approximately 2000 to 2016, correct?
11 A. Right.
12 Q. Before 2016, did you understand that -- you
13 understood that there was an adjudication for a
14 comprehensive action to determine all water rights in
15 the Antelope Valley?
16 A. I don't think so.
17 Q. So, yes or no, before 2016, did you understand
18 that there was a comprehensive adjudication to determine
19 all water rights in the Antelope Valley?
20 A. No.
21 Q. When did you first retain counsel with regard
22 to the adjudication?
23 A. Well, I retained counsel when I got a letter
24 telling me that I was illegally pumping. I didn't do
25 that because of adjudication. I got a letter.

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1 Q. Did you ever retain counsel because of the
2 adjudication?
3 A. I would have had to have been served, and then
4 I would have got counsel, but no. Of course not.
5 Q. And before 2016, what is your general -- what
6 was your general understanding of the adjudication?
7 A. As I said earlier, that it was involving most
8 of the farmers who I understood were in a battle over
9 their water rights, and there was gonna be cutbacks
10 because of more water being used than was coming in,
11 basically.
12 Q. And that understanding didn't give you cause
13 for concern about the adjudication before 2016?
14 MR. SHEPARD: Incomplete hypothetical, calls
15 for speculation.
16 THE WITNESS: Cause for concern?
17 BY MS. RYAN:
18 Q. That -- I'll reword the question.
19 That -- your general understanding of the
20 adjudication before 2016 didn't cause you to have any
21 concern about your property rights.
22 MR. SHEPARD: Same objections.
23 THE WITNESS: No. I thought I had property
24 rights with overlying water rights, as has always been
25 my knowledge on water.

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1 And I told you earlier about my conversation
2 with Delmar Van Dam that it was the big players that
3 spent a lot of money and I should just keep doing what
4 I'm doing and probably wouldn't have enough to farm and
5 I'd be cut back, but since that wasn't my livelihood and
6 my business, which it wasn't, I'd be -- I'd probably be
7 all right. Choose your battles.
8 MS. RYAN: Have this marked Exhibit 15.
9 (Exhibit 15 marked.)
10 BY MS. RYAN:
11 Q. Mr. Zamrzla, I put before you Exhibit 15. Do
12 you recognize Exhibit 15?
13 A. Yep.
14 Q. What is Exhibit 15?
15 A. It's my declaration.
16 Q. Your declaration to what?
17 A. It's a declaration of Johnny Zamrzla in the --
18 regarding opposition by the Zamrzlas to the Watermaster
19 motion.
20 MR. SHEPARD: Counsel, do you have copies?
21 MS. RYAN: I do.
22 BY MS. RYAN:
23 Q. Are there any errors or mistakes in your
24 declaration in Exhibit 15?
25 A. No. We put it together. I would be telling

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1 the truth and a hundred percent truth.
2 The only thing that was mentioned -- I brought
3 up to counsel yesterday, in going through papers of
4 recent, at one point -- and I'm not sure if it was in
5 the Brumfield declaration or mine. I said I'd never
6 sold any hay that I raised, and I found that to be
7 incorrect. A small amount was sold.
8 Q. And is this a fair representation of your
9 declaration?
10 A. Well, if you copied it exactly the way I sent
11 it.
12 Q. Yeah. I represent to you that this is --
13 A. Then it's more than a fair -- I probably
14 should have said a few more things.
15 Q. Well, for the record, I represent to you this
16 is the declaration submitted in the compendium of
17 evidence filed with your motion to set aside the
18 judgment.
19 A. And it's a good one.
20 MS. RYAN: Mr. Zamrzla, I believe my
21 co-counsel Mr. Kuhs will now ask you some questions.
22 THE WITNESS: Wonderful.
23 EXAMINATION
24 BY MR. KUHS:
25 Q. All right. Mr. Zamrzla, my name's Robert

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1 Kuhs.
2 Turning to Exhibit 15, turn to page 4 of that
3 document, please. You see the footnote at the bottom,
4 Footnote No. 1?
5 A. Yes.
6 Q. It says:
7 "We pumped more than 25 acre-feet
8 every year from 1970 to 2018 on our
9 property."
10 And by "your property," do you mean the three
11 parcels that you identified on the previous page?
12 A. Yes. I understood that, when you talk about
13 your property, it's not separated. It's collectively.
14 So yes.
15 Q. You didn't acquire Parcels 2 and 3 until 1986,
16 correct?
17 A. That's correct.
18 Q. So you wouldn't have pumped any water on those
19 parcels in 1970 or 1980, up until --
20 A. Not -- not before I bought it, no.
21 Q. And the first time you irrigated those two
22 parcels, by your testimony, was 2001, correct?
23 A. That's correct.
24 Q. So at least as to Parcels 2 and 3, that
25 statement is not correct, right?

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1 A. I'd have to look at the usage again.
2 You're talking about, taking 2 and 3 out, that
3 the ranch property we didn't pump enough to qualify?
4 Q. Between 1970 and 2001, you didn't pump any
5 water on Parcels 2 and 3, correct?
6 A. Correct.
7 Q. Okay.
8 So any water use between 1970 and 2001 would
9 have occurred on Parcel 26, your home.
10 A. That's right.
11 Q. Did you build the home?
12 A. I did.
13 Q. When did you build it?
14 A. 35 years ago.
15 Actually, it was a remodel, so -- I think it
16 was '80-something. I can't tell off the top of my head.
17 Q. My question is, How do you know you pumped 25
18 acre-feet or more every year from 1970 to 1986?
19 A. I've been using the time frame that we got
20 Edison reports, and, looking at where everybody else
21 was, looking at their water usage, we fit into that same
22 category. Our usage was consistent with the
23 requirements that were being asked of other people that
24 I found out, so I thought we were being consistent.
25 Q. What other people are you referring to?

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1 A. All the folks that had to show what water they
2 were using and when.
3 Q. You're talking about in the adjudication?
4 A. I guess it would include those.
5 Q. Was there another group of people you're
6 referring to?
7 A. I think that's probably it.
8 Q. What -- what information did you have about
9 your water use from 1970 to 1986 to support this
10 statement?
11 A. I think we were estimating what we were using
12 currently as being consistent with the previous years.
13 Obviously, we could not go back that far with Edison. I
14 think they could only go back to about 2000. So when we
15 were estimating usage, it would be based on what we're
16 currently using. And, because we were farming it with
17 alfalfa originally, we knew that the numbers were higher
18 starting in the '70s than it was now.
19 Q. You're saying that part of the -- part of the
20 parcel, Parcel 26, where you have your home --
21 A. Yes.
22 Q. -- you were growing alfalfa on that parcel?
23 A. We were.
24 Q. During what period of time?
25 A. From the time we bought it till -- probably

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1 for at least 10 or 15 years.
2 Q. During what period of time?
3 A. '80 to '85 maybe.
4 Q. So from 1970 to 1985 --
5 A. It had alfalfa when I moved there. We
6 continued to grow the alfalfa.
7 Q. Okay.
8 And so how -- describe for me how you
9 estimated your water use at 25 acre-feet or more.
10 MR. SHEPARD: Asked and answered.
11 THE WITNESS: Well, if you take out the
12 section of the house and said you were at least growing
13 30 acres of alfalfa, it would be a fairly round number
14 to say how much water you'd be using on 30 acres for
15 alfalfa. I think that's how we backed into the number.
16 BY MR. KUHS:
17 Q. You didn't have any data from Southern
18 California Edison to support those numbers, correct?
19 A. We had some old bills, but I don't think we
20 actually had Rick convert those, but I could be
21 incorrect on that.
22 Q. Well, as you sit here today, do you know of
23 any data that you would have reviewed and relied upon
24 before making this statement in Footnote 1 of your
25 declaration?

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1 A. I guess the only answer to that question I can
2 give you as I sit here today would be, if we're growing
3 alfalfa back in the '70s and '80s on, let's say,
4 30 acres, it would be more than 25 acre-feet. Common
5 sense would tell you that.
6 Q. What were you doing with the alfalfa you were
7 growing between 1970 and 1985?
8 A. What we were doing with it?
9 Q. Yes.
10 A. We had a herd of Charolais cattle.
11 Q. Where were those cattle located?
12 A. Originally, they were on the east side. Then
13 I brought 'em home to the home ranch.
14 Q. When did you do that?
15 A. Shortly after I bought it.
16 Q. So your testimony is from about 1970 to about
17 1985 you had a herd of cattle on Parcel 26?
18 A. We did, and we raised alfalfa, which -- the
19 main point I'm answering is we were raising alfalfa from
20 the day we bought the property, consistently with cattle
21 there as well.
22 Q. When did you stop growing alfalfa on
23 Parcel 26?
24 A. I don't wanna guess. I'm thinking that it's
25 some time in the '80s, but I can't tell you.

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1 Q. Are there any records you could refer to that
2 would refresh your recollection?
3 A. Yeah. My wife would probably have a pretty
4 good idea. Johnny Lee would because he and his brother
5 were helping with the irrigation, and they have a bad
6 taste in their mouth still 'cause those days it was
7 flood irrigation. Scary to go out there at night and
8 change the water. I'm sure they could probably almost
9 tell you pinpoint.
10 Q. Do you have a recollection?
11 A. No more than I told you.
12 Q. Okay.
13 A. That's my recollection.
14 Q. How long have you lived in the Antelope
15 Valley?
16 A. Over 50 years.
17 Q. Do you remember when you first moved to the
18 Antelope Valley?
19 A. 1970.
20 Q. Where did you move from?
21 A. Lynwood.
22 Q. Is that where you started your roofing
23 business?
24 A. You asked me where I live. What's that have
25 to do with where I had a roofing business?

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1 MR. KUHS: Let me have this picture marked as
2 Exhibit 16.
3 (Exhibit 16 marked.)
4 BY MR. KUHS:
5 Q. We've marked, as Exhibit 16, a building
6 labeled "Stone Roofing." Does that building look
7 familiar to you?
8 A. Yeah. Stone Roofing.
9 Q. What is that building?
10 A. Pardon me?
11 Q. What building is this?
12 A. Stone Roofing.
13 Q. That's a building you own?
14 A. Yeah.
15 Q. How long have you operated at this location?
16 A. Close to 40 years, I'd say. 35.
17 Q. And are you able to tell, from this picture,
18 the approximate year in which this picture was taken?
19 A. I'd say it's pretty recent. It's not too
20 awfully old. Couple years maybe.
21 Q. Do you see the newspaper in the foreground?
22 A. Yeah.
23 Q. Which newspaper do you receive there at Stone
24 Roofing?
25 A. I don't receive any. I'm not there very

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1 often.
2 Q. What -- who runs Stone Roofing?
3 A. Joe Zamrzla.
4 Q. Is that -- what's his relation to you?
5 A. Son.
6 Q. What paper is delivered to Stone Roofing at
7 the Azusa location?
8 A. Wouldn't have any idea.
9 Q. Do you know if it's the Los Angeles Times?
10 A. I'm sure it's not.
11 MR. SHEPARD: Asked and answered.
12 BY MR. KUHS:
13 Q. Why are you sure it's not?
14 A. We're not Times people.
15 Q. What's that mean, you're not Times people?
16 A. We're politically not associated with the
17 beliefs of the Times newspaper.
18 Q. So your testimony is you don't read it at all?
19 A. The Times?
20 Q. Yeah.
21 A. Don't read it at all.
22 Q. Okay.
23 How long did Johnny Junior live at your house
24 on Parcel 26?
25 A. Where?

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1 Q. How long did your son Johnny Junior live at
2 your home on Parcel 26?
3 A. I think he was already grown up before we
4 finished the remodel.
5 Q. So about what period of time?
6 What I'm after is, What period of time would
7 he have been present at your home on Parcel 26?
8 A. I think he was gone before we finished the
9 remodel.
10 Q. So you're saying he never lived there?
11 A. In the current house, I don't believe so.
12 Q. We talked earlier about all of the
13 improvements on Parcel 26, including the booster pumps,
14 the barn, the stables, the tennis court, pool, the pole
15 lights, all these things which require electricity,
16 right? Is all of that electricity included on the same
17 bill for the well that's on Parcel 26?
18 A. No, it's not.
19 Q. You have two separate bills?
20 A. Yes.
21 Q. And what -- how do you know that to be true?
22 A. Because they're separate because there's a
23 different rate, almost like a commercial rate, for the
24 well and the pump, and the residential, everything's on
25 another -- and it's different, of course, much higher

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1 power than you need for lighting in your house, so
2 they're two separate setups.
3 Q. And have you seen the setups with your own
4 eyes?
5 A. What setups?
6 Q. The setups you just mentioned, two separate
7 setups.
8 A. Well, they're two separate electrical
9 systems --
10 Q. Okay.
11 A. -- that come in. We get two bills.
12 So have I seen the bills, or seen the wires,
13 or what do you wanna know?
14 Q. Yeah. I'm interested in what you know about
15 these two different electrical systems.
16 A. I know that we were told we should have 'em
17 separate, and we do have 'em separate.
18 Q. So it's your testimony that, other -- other
19 than the well, there is no other electrical draw on the
20 system that provides power to the well.
21 A. That's right.
22 Q. So the booster pumps are on your home bill.
23 A. My belief.
24 Q. Do you know that to be true?
25 A. My understanding. I'd have to double-check

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1 it. I don't wanna say I know for a hundred percent, but
2 that's my understanding.
3 Q. Do you have any as-built plans that would show
4 how your electrical systems were constructed?
5 A. Oh, I'm sure we have a copy of the as-builts.
6 Q. Did you have a hand in constructing -- doing
7 the remodeling for your house?
8 A. What do you mean, a hand in it?
9 Q. Did you act as the contractor?
10 A. Yes, we did.
11 Q. You were responsible for the design and
12 construction, correct?
13 A. Well, ultimately, I was responsible for it,
14 but I had people that were doing -- I didn't do the
15 architectural. I didn't go down and get the permits. I
16 had people doing that. I didn't do the framing. I had
17 people doing it. But, yeah, we were overseeing it. We
18 were paying for it. It was for us. So, yeah, we're in
19 charge. You know how that works.
20 Q. I do. Yeah. Thank you. All right.
21 So the -- insofar as you're aware, the pump on
22 Parcel 26 is completely isolated from any other
23 electrical draw.
24 A. That's my understanding.
25 Q. Do you have a business attorney?

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1 A. What?
2 Q. Do you have a business attorney, an attorney
3 that you use for business?
4 A. I do.
5 Q. What's his name?
6 A. Steve Atkinson.
7 Q. How long have you used Steve Atkinson?
8 A. I was probably one of his first customers. He
9 was the first partner of a fairly good-size firm. I've
10 used a couple others, depending upon what the matter
11 happens to be, whether it's labor related, construction
12 related, what it is.
13 Q. How long have you used Steve?
14 A. We were just talking about that. I think it's
15 40-some years.
16 Q. Where is his office located?
17 A. He's throughout California. Main office in
18 Cerritos.
19 Q. Do you -- have you used any attorneys in
20 Antelope Valley?
21 A. For some small things, Walsh & Delaney. I've
22 used them.
23 Q. What do you mean by "small things"?
24 A. They do -- they'll check a contract. They may
25 help us if we need to nudge somebody that's a little

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1 slow.

2 And one other firm is Abdulaziz & Grossbart

3 Rudman. I use them because they're probably one of the

4 most knowledgeable about license law.

5 So it depends on what the nature of the

6 disagreement might be or object of the pursuit you need

7 an attorney.

8 Q. Now, you're -- you've got a main office in

9 Palmdale.

10 A. Corporate office.

11 Q. You call it the corporate office.

12 What businesses do you run out of that

13 location?

14 A. We're general contractors. We do roofing and

15 sheet metal. We build metal buildings. And I have one

16 girl that is my assistant that helps with the rodeos and

17 the fair, PBR, all that stuff.

18 Q. And what's the address for that?

19 A. 2229 East Avenue Q, Palmdale.

20 Q. And what's the source of water for that

21 office?

22 A. It's right next door to Palmdale Water

23 District.

24 Q. Are they your water provider?

25 A. I believe so.

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1 Q. Do you have a relationship with any of the

2 employees over at Palmdale Water?

3 A. Relationship? I know some of 'em.

4 Q. Do you ever talk to 'em about the

5 adjudication?

6 A. No.

7 Q. Never?

8 A. Never.

9 Q. Do you know who Norm Hickling is?

10 A. Norm? Yeah. He used to work for the

11 supervisor.

12 Q. How long have you known Norm?

13 A. He's been gone quite a while, so -- I knew him

14 at least ten years, maybe longer.

15 Q. What conversations have you had with Norm

16 about the adjudication?

17 A. You know, I asked him a little bit about what

18 was going on. He wasn't real helpful. That was towards

19 the end of his career with Antonovich. He did put me a

20 whole stack of papers together that was -- that he gave

21 to me and said he couldn't help me much. It was out of

22 his pay scale.

23 Q. When did you have these conversations with

24 Norm?

25 A. Way back.

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1 Q. Way back --

2 A. Before he left.

3 Kathryn Barger's been there.

4 I'm telling you, it was during the blue

5 ribbon. That's when it was. 'Cause we were -- he was

6 involved with the blue ribbon, of course, because he was

7 a staffer for Antonovich.

8 Q. What were the papers he put together for you?

9 A. I don't even know that I ever really got

10 through 'em. He just basically said, "This is over my

11 head. I don't think I can help you." Okay.

12 Q. What was the subject matter? What was over

13 his head?

14 A. Filling me in on what was going on and what I

15 should maybe know.

16 Q. About the adjudication?

17 A. Yeah, sort of.

18 Q. Okay.

19 A. Just kind of a generality, I believe.

20 Q. How big of a stack of papers did he give you?

21 A. It had a paper clip on it. Maybe like that.

22 Q. Maybe a half inch thick?

23 A. Or less.

24 Q. Three eighths?

25 A. Maybe.

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1 Q. Do you still have those records?

2 A. I don't know.

3 Q. Did you read 'em at the time?

4 A. Yeah. I kinda looked through 'em. I can't

5 even remember what it was.

6 When he said there wasn't much he could tell

7 me, I think I kinda went on to the next step.

8 It was part of being in other meetings anyway,

9 where we were with the blue ribbon, and I don't -- I

10 don't recall getting into much depth.

11 Q. Is this a request you'd made of Norm: "Hey,

12 what -- what can you tell me about the adjudication?"

13 A. I think I kind of -- I'm not sure how I asked

14 it, but, yeah, I must have asked him something. I can't

15 tell you that. I don't know. I don't think he asked

16 me. I think I asked him.

17 Q. And then he came back to a meeting, a

18 subsequent meeting, and handed you a stack of records,

19 documents. He said he couldn't help you, but you might

20 wanna read these documents. Essentially what you

21 recall?

22 A. I remember that he said, "There's not much we

23 can -- I can do." I really can't tell you.

24 Q. Were you asking him for a favor?

25 A. A favor?

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1 Q. Yeah.
2 What did you ask him to do?
3 A. Just tell me what he knew and what advice they
4 might give us. And -- and he said, "Well, I'll talk to
5 the supervisor." I don't know that he ever talked to
6 the supervisor. I never heard from Mike. So I don't
7 know where it went, but it was sort of, like, "This is
8 outta my pay scale, and I can't help you."
9 Q. And you think this was somewhere in the
10 2011-to-2016 time frame?
11 A. It was right around the blue ribbon time, I
12 think.
13 Q. Can you narrow it down any more than that?
14 Was it at the front end, or do you think it was at the
15 tail end?
16 A. I think it was in the early -- the early part
17 of the blue ribbon meetings because we started meeting
18 at his office, which, of course, was Mike's office, off
19 of 10th Street, while we were getting organized, and
20 then, of course, once we got a few people on the
21 committee, we had to find bigger quarters, which was a
22 couple blocks away, with the real estate folks, who had
23 a conference room.
24 Q. Did the documents that he give you, did they
25 look legal in nature, like a pleading, with numbers down

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1 the side?
2 A. Oh, no. No, no.
3 Q. Was it more technical information? Do you
4 have any recollection of what kind of information he had
5 provided you?
6 A. I just remember thumbing through it, and there
7 was nothing that was directly personal to me. It was
8 kinda general information about it, as I recall.
9 Q. About the adjudication?
10 A. That's my recollection.
11 Q. Do you know who John Ukkestad is?
12 A. John --
13 Q. Ukkestad.
14 A. I saw his name up there this morning -- he was
15 on the phone -- but I don't think I know who he is.
16 Q. So do you remember when you first contacted
17 Bob Brumfield?
18 A. I would say July sometime of 2018, when we got
19 the first letter.
20 Q. How did you find Mr. Brumfield?
21 A. I was kind of lost on what to do, and I -- I
22 was talking to a hay-dealer friend of mine, and he said,
23 "I hear you may have something going on with this water
24 thing."
25 And I said, "Yeah. How'd you hear?"

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1 And he said, "Well, you're probably gonna be
2 asking for somebody to help you, and I know an
3 attorney."
4 I said, "Really?"
5 He said, "Yeah. He's -- he's helping a couple
6 of other hay growers that I know."
7 And I took a picture of the business card, and
8 he held it in his hand. And that was Bob Brumfield.
9 Q. And that would have been in about July of
10 2018?
11 A. It was in -- well, whatever the date of the
12 letter. The letter was dated June, if I recall. I got
13 it, like, a month later.
14 Within a matter of a few days, I made the
15 call.
16 Q. And, prior to talking to Mr. Brumfield, you'd
17 never reached out to another attorney to talk about the
18 adjudication?
19 A. I don't believe so.
20 Q. One of the questions Ms. Ryan had asked you
21 earlier was about other sources or potential sources of
22 water.
23 You're familiar with AVEK, are you not?
24 A. Am I familiar with 'em?
25 Q. Yeah.

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1 A. Sure.
2 Q. Okay.
3 You know that they provide imported water
4 supply to the valley, correct?
5 A. Yeah. I have a vague idea about them.
6 Q. You ever attended an AVEK meeting?
7 A. I don't believe so.
8 Q. Do you know anybody that serves on the AVEK
9 board?
10 A. I've known several people. Of course George
11 has been there forever, and his son was till he died.
12 Known George for years.
13 The other one was Sorsabel, I believe.
14 Shelley.
15 Q. So do any of the AVEK distribution lines reach
16 your property or close proximity to your property?
17 A. You mean where they dug it up and put it in
18 the ground?
19 Q. Yes.
20 A. Yeah.
21 Q. What's the -- what's the closest AVEK water
22 line to your property?
23 A. It was pretty close to getting in my driveway.
24 It was right -- it goes from the south, right past the
25 front of my property, towards 138.

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1 Q. So looking at --
2 A. It runs north and south on 80th.
3 Q. Looking at Exhibit 13, which is the assessor's
4 plat --
5 A. Okay.
6 Q. -- the AVEK water line runs up 80th Street.
7 A. Yeah. It would be coming -- for me, down at
8 the bottom, where it says Aviden [phonetic], it would be
9 running right up 80th, on the east side of 80th, which
10 is my front yard.
11 Q. Okay.
12 A. And it runs right down the shoulder, past our
13 place, and onto 138.
14 Q. And have you ever talked to AVEK about taking
15 water from their pipeline?
16 A. Only time we talked to 'em is they put one o'
17 those goddamn big ugly concrete things right in our
18 driveway. It blocked -- you couldn't see to back in or
19 out. And they came out and took it out, moved it. And
20 they were friendly about it.
21 Q. But no. Using their water -- I thought it was
22 some kinda gray water, but I may be wrong.
23 Q. Did -- I may have stepped out of the room, so
24 I apologize if I'm covering prior ground. Your friend
25 George Lane, did you and him ever talk about the

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1 adjudication?
2 A. No, not at all.
3 Q. Who would you consider to be your five closest
4 friends in the Antelope Valley?
5 A. Well, my wife is number one, my two sons, and
6 I would probably say my best friend Delmar, till he
7 passed away, and then I guess we're close with a couple
8 of other Van Dams, fairly close. Craig was pretty close
9 till he moved. But most of our connections are -- if
10 they're not with our rodeo clientele, it's with our
11 business, so I mentioned earlier George Lane is a good
12 friend 'cause we do a lot of work together.
13 Q. Anybody else that you would consider to be
14 close friends in the agricultural community?
15 A. Close. I can't say "close." I mean, people I
16 know, am friendly with, but can't say any that I'm -- I
17 can't think of anybody I'm close with.
18 Q. Folks that you go out and just have dinner
19 with --
20 A. No.
21 Q. -- couples?
22 A. No. Then the only one would be the Van Dams.
23 We've been closer friends for -- I mean, we go to a lot
24 of events together, boys did, the Mr. and Mrs. Annual
25 trips, hunting trips, that thing.

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1 Q. Now, Van Dam had some agricultural property
2 right next to yours, correct?
3 A. He did.
4 Q. Did he ever irrigate his property with water
5 from your well?
6 A. Not that I know of.
7 Q. I saw some invoices in some records that were
8 produced last night where Rottman and some other vendors
9 had invoiced Van Dam and then --
10 A. He invoiced him by mistake for, like, 10 or 15
11 grand to his new house he built on D8, and the reason
12 probably for that was we were getting that well rebuilt
13 in about 2010 or '11, when you probably saw those, for
14 that year.
15 Q. Right.
16 A. And Craig volunteered -- well, he didn't
17 volunteer, do it for free, but he volunteered to help me
18 get hooked up for the sprinklers, the wheel lines. In
19 fact, he actually had a guy put the riser line in, do
20 the trenching, make sure it all got hooked up and
21 running and all that. And he oversaw what Rottman
22 needed to do. You know, he's a savvy guy. He
23 understands farming, and he said, "Hey, I'm your
24 neighbor, and my dad said help you out if I can." And
25 so then he got the bill, and I had to -- he sent it over

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1 to me, and I paid it, but it did show up as a Craig
2 Van Dam bill on my well.
3 Q. So you've never -- as far as you're aware,
4 your water for from your well has never been used to
5 irrigate Van Dam property.
6 A. I don't believe so.
7 Q. You mentioned earlier that you had sold your
8 wheel lines.
9 A. Sold?
10 Q. Yeah.
11 A. I brought 'em brand-new.
12 Q. Do you still have 'em?
13 A. Yeah.
14 Q. Okay. I thought I heard you say --
15 A. I mentioned to George Lane that -- he wanted
16 to buy a half dozen sections, and I said I'd had a
17 couple of offers and I think I got 'em sold.
18 Q. And by "sections," what are you referring to?
19 A. Well, they got five lines that are, you know,
20 1500-foot worth with movers, so enough you can do with a
21 hundred acres pretty easily.
22 Q. So I'm unclear as to your testimony. Did you
23 sell some?
24 A. No. I got 'em.
25 Q. George was looking for some.

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1 A. A few pieces.
2 Q. To buy?
3 A. Well, that's what he said. Knowing George --
4 George is pretty slim with the pickins, and he was
5 looking to replace something for one of his places, and
6 mine's all, you know, almost like new.
7 Q. He wanted something for cheap.
8 A. Well, I don't wanna say that bad about George,
9 but George is economical kinda of guy.
10 Q. Okay.
11 A. And that's okay. I like the guy. Chip off
12 the old block. But when he called, I -- I knew that he
13 would be looking for something that was maybe bent up a
14 little bit, and I just said, "George, I'll have to call
15 you back. I think I got it all sold. Did you wanna buy
16 it all?" "Oh, no. I only need a couple pieces." We
17 left it at that.
18 Q. So let's go back to 2001. You've got
19 80 acres, nominal, Parcels 2 and 3, and did you lease
20 ground out to Grimmway or some other grower?
21 A. Yes.
22 Q. Describe for me those transactions or series
23 of transactions as you best recall.
24 A. Which one? The Grimmway one?
25 Q. Well, what I wanna know is I wanna know the

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1 history of your leasing arrangements from 2000 to 2010,
2 however you wanna tell that story.
3 A. Not very clear in my head how that worked. I
4 think from -- referrals came my way from either Harter
5 or Van Dam. We know that Phil Giba farmed in there. We
6 know that Wheeler was probably involved -- that's Eugene
7 Wheeler -- because they were -- that's before Gene had
8 built his new facility. We know Grimmway was in there
9 'cause we got a copy of the Grimmway agreement, which I
10 believe was the end of '05 going into '06, if I remember
11 right.
12 MR. SHEPARD: I'd have to double-check.
13 THE WITNESS: I think that's right. That was
14 carrots. I know that one because not too many people
15 have those carrot-picking machines. But there was --
16 right up till 2010 it was all other people. The other
17 one was Ridgeway, which I had heard was a division of
18 you guys, Grimmway.
19 BY MR. KUHS:
20 Q. Okay.
21 So who did you lease -- was there a lease in
22 2000, year 2000?
23 A. I'm embarrassed to say we haven't been able to
24 find it. In fact, I just found the Grimmway one the
25 last couple days, and I haven't been able to find

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1 pictures. I found a few pictures, just recently, of the
2 onions. Haven't found the carrots nor the agreements,
3 but I had money coming in each year, and I do know
4 Ridgeway, Grimmway, Phil Giba, and I believe the other
5 one, most likely or very probably, was Wheeler.
6 Q. How do you spell Phil's last name?
7 A. Who?
8 Q. Phil Giba. Is that what you said?
9 A. G-I-B-A.
10 Q. What does he typically grow?
11 A. Typically?
12 Q. What he was growing --
13 A. I thought he was pretty much onion guy.
14 Q. Growing onions on your property?
15 A. Well, he had one of the only onion-storage
16 places in the valley, other than Calandri, where they
17 process 'em, cool 'em, bag 'em and all that, and that
18 facility is still there.
19 Q. Let's -- let's focus on what you know.
20 A. Okay.
21 Q. How do you know you received -- well, let's go
22 back.
23 Did you start leasing ground in year 2000, or
24 year 2001?
25 A. I'm not quite sure of that yet, but I believe

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1 it was '01.
2 Q. Okay.
3 And what crop was grown in '01?
4 A. Unfortunately, I can't tell you. I don't
5 know.
6 Q. Who was the tenant?
7 A. We're not sure which one was the tenant.
8 Q. Did you receive income?
9 A. I haven't structured that answer to that
10 question either. All I can see was the years of the
11 water usage prior to us buying the sprinkler lines and
12 know that there were hand lines in one or two of the
13 pictures, and we recall the onions and the carrots. I
14 haven't been able to structure, legitimately without any
15 question, who did what what year, other than we found,
16 just in the last couple days, the Grimmway, which was
17 pretty clear one, but . . .
18 Q. Where did you find those records?
19 A. I think it might have been in a unusual place,
20 like in maybe a well file or something. We were going
21 through all kinds of files.
22 Q. Have you now searched all of your records to
23 see if you can find any records relating to water use?
24 A. We thought we had, but I guess we're gonna be
25 looking further.

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1 Q. Where do you plan to look that you haven't
2 looked?

3 A. Look more at the house, where we put storage
4 outside, and probably do more at my office as well.

5 Q. Do you have an archive for old records on
6 site, record storage on site?

7 A. At my office?

8 Q. At -- let's start with at your home parcel.

9 A. We don't have an actual spot. We've stored
10 stuff going back a number of years. At the office, we
11 have a separate area that is locked up separately where
12 we keep files until they reach their duration by the --
13 either state or federal.

14 Q. So which -- which records do you still need to
15 search?

16 A. Well, we'd like to know clearly who was
17 actually farming those during that ten-year period.

18 Q. So which records do you think hold that
19 information?

20 A. You mean where -- where it would be?

21 Q. Yeah. Where would it be? What would the file
22 name be?

23 Do you have a filing system?

24 A. Filing system. Going back that far, we're
25 just going through boxes of records.

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1 Q. How are they organized?

2 A. Not very good, obviously. It's not electronic
3 like they are today.

4 Q. Was there any organization to your records
5 during this time frame of 2000 to 2010?

6 A. Well, there's some organization.
7 Unfortunately, what we're looking for, we haven't found
8 the page yet, so I can't imagine -- I shouldn't say
9 that, but we don't -- we can't imagine that we don't
10 have 'em. It would be unlike us to not have a record
11 somewhere that we put 'em away of who was doing each
12 year.

13 Q. So how were the records organized during this
14 period of 2000 to 2010?

15 A. Well, there's not a lotta records. I mean, if
16 we got some from Grimmway, it's a few pages. Tells you
17 what they're gonna do. They're gonna pay the water
18 bill. It stays in our name.

19 Q. My question is about organization.
20 Are your files organized?

21 A. There are really not much files. You got --
22 you get a check from somebody, and you got an agreement.

23 Q. Let's just take that agreement, okay? You
24 sign it, and then what do you do with it?

25 A. One copy goes back normally, and the other one

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1 goes in manila folder or whatever.

2 Q. Okay. And what's on that manila folder? What
3 do you write on it?

4 A. Sometimes you write the year. Sometimes you
5 write the people you're doing business with, what have
6 you.

7 Q. You don't have a regular system of labeling
8 files?

9 A. At that time, probably wasn't done very well.

10 Q. Well, was it done at all? That's what I'm
11 getting at.

12 A. Well, I don't know what part you're talking
13 about. Obviously, we paid our bills. We collected.

14 Q. Not my question. My question is --

15 A. How you filed 'em.

16 Q. -- did you organize your files? If so, how
17 did you organize 'em?

18 A. Not much more I can tell you than what I just
19 did.

20 Q. You haven't -- so your testimony is that you
21 haven't organized 'em. You put 'em in a folder, and
22 then, from there, you're unclear what happens to 'em.

23 A. That's --

24 Q. Is that the extent of your organization?

25 A. Well, it wasn't posted on electronic, so --

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1 yeah. It was -- it was a manual thing, and we filed 'em
2 away. Put in enough to give to the accountant for tax
3 purposes, that sort of thing, but I haven't found
4 anything else that -- nor has my wife -- that was any
5 better appointed on the filing. Just we're going
6 through boxes of lots of stuff that had to do with
7 livestock and farming.

8 Q. Do you sort your records by year?

9 A. Certainly with the well. The well file was --
10 anything to do with the well was all kept in a couple of
11 pretty good-size folders. When you get into it,
12 obviously, you can see the dates on it. But it was not
13 separated other than all well stuff was in well files.

14 Q. Where was that well file kept?

15 A. It was in a box, storage box.

16 Q. At which location?

17 A. Always at the house.

18 Q. So, for year 2001, you think you leased out
19 the ground, but you don't know who, and you don't know
20 for what purpose, and you don't know what crop was
21 grown, correct?

22 A. I'm not for sure on those. That's right.

23 Q. 2002, who did you lease the ground to?

24 A. Same thing.

25 Q. You don't know who. You don't know on what

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1 terms. You don't know whether there is a written lease.
2 A. Correct.
3 Q. 2003, who did you lease the ground to?
4 A. Can't tell you.
5 Q. Do you know what crops were grown in 2003?
6 A. Do not.
7 Q. And do you know how much acreage was leased?
8 A. Not exactly, no, but whatever -- all this was
9 on the back 80 acres, whether they used all of it or
10 part of it.
11 Q. That's what I'm getting at. I'm trying to
12 understand whether they leased all of it or part of it.
13 A. I don't even know that I can tell you from
14 your Grimmway. It doesn't say how much -- you're just
15 talking about the water usage. Doesn't say anything
16 about how much property you're using. So, if you look
17 at that, it doesn't help you much. Just tells you about
18 the water.
19 Q. Right.
20 So, for 2003, you don't know who leased, you
21 don't know how much ground they leased, and you don't
22 know what crop was grown, correct?
23 A. That's correct.
24 Q. 2004, do you know who leased the ground?
25 A. Do not.

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1 Q. Do you know what acreage?
2 A. Do not.
3 Q. Do you know what crop was grown?
4 A. Do not.
5 Q. 2005, do you know who leased the ground?
6 A. I was thinking that that's -- the end of 2005
7 was where we saw Grimmway's activity, and into 2006.
8 Q. And that's a lease of your well, correct?
9 A. That's right.
10 Q. And they were taking that water off your
11 property and delivering it to their property, correct?
12 A. No. They were farming our property.
13 Q. You're certain of that?
14 A. Well, that's where they were picking the
15 carrots. They didn't bring the carrots back from
16 somewhere else. They were farming 'em right there and
17 growing 'em.
18 Q. On your ground?
19 A. Of course, yeah.
20 Q. The 80 acres?
21 A. On the two parcels, yeah, the one we've been
22 talking about, 80 acres.
23 Q. And you think that was in 2005?
24 A. That's my recollection.
25 Q. How many years did Grimmway lease the ground

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1 from you?
2 A. I'm not sure.
3 Q. Do you know who you dealt with at Grimmway?
4 A. There's a couple names. Seems like one of 'em
5 was Vose.
6 Q. Carl Vose?
7 A. Vose. I wouldn't have known that if I hadn't
8 just found the document. Wouldn't have a clue.
9 Q. In 2006, who leased your ground, if anybody?
10 A. I think it was Grimmway.
11 Q. And do you know what was grown?
12 A. I believe that was carrots.
13 Q. In 2007, who leased your property?
14 A. Can't tell you.
15 Q. Do you know how many acres?
16 A. No, sir.
17 Q. Do you know what crop was grown?
18 A. I do not.
19 Q. 2008, do you know who leased your property?
20 A. No.
21 Q. Do you know how many acres?
22 A. No.
23 Q. Do you know what crop was grown?
24 A. No.
25 Q. 2009, do you know who leased the property?

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1 A. I do not.
2 Q. Do you know what crop was grown?
3 A. No, sir.
4 Q. And do you know how many acres?
5 A. I do not.
6 Q. No?
7 A. Do not.
8 Q. 2000 --
9 A. I can go back and tell you when those -- I
10 just saw the -- within the last few days, in 2003, sacks
11 of onions. So when I said I didn't know the crop, I
12 couldn't have remembered it, but the pictures are pretty
13 clear. They're not carrots. They're sacks of onions.
14 Q. Who took the pictures?
15 A. The pictures were on -- looked like they were
16 on one of my cameras.
17 Q. Where did you find the pictures?
18 A. I found them in a picture file, strangely
19 enough, that I happened to be looking through. When my
20 wife couldn't find any at home, I found those pictures
21 in my office.
22 Q. 2010, do you recall who you leased your ground
23 to?
24 A. My recollection, at that point I think we were
25 getting ready to make the switch. I think the Van Dams

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1 had talked to me about, "If you're gonna start farming
2 it yourself, now's the time to do it, and we'll help get
3 the wheel lines," and that's when we started doing that.
4 I believe that'll show up in the Rottman and the
5 irrigation, wheel lines.
6 Q. And what's the first year that you grew a
7 crop?
8 A. I believe '11 was the first year.
9 Q. So no crop in 2010?
10 A. That's my recollection.
11 Q. What was your first crop in 2011?
12 A. Alfalfa.
13 Q. And what made you wanna grow alfalfa?
14 A. Well, that seemed to be something we could
15 use, obviously, we had help available, and it's pretty
16 popular in the Antelope Valley.
17 Q. Did you have any discussion with Van Dam about
18 selecting a crop which maximized your water use?
19 A. I don't remember it being about maximizing
20 water use. I kinda remember the recommendation that we
21 should go with hay.
22 Q. Because that was a high-water-use crop?
23 A. No. Because that was something we could do on
24 that 80 acres. We could get the farming done. We
25 wouldn't have to buy equipment. I mean, we can pick up

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1 somebody like Harter or one of them, one of the
2 Van Dams, would do it. There was available folks to do
3 it.
4 Q. So your testimony is that moving to farm your
5 own crops had nothing to do with maximizing your water
6 production on your land?
7 A. Maximizing it?
8 Q. Yeah.
9 You weren't interested in showing a water-use
10 history at that time?
11 A. I think we wanted to continue using water,
12 obviously, but I think I said that there was a clear
13 indication from Van Dam that I should keep doing what
14 I'm doing, but I believe, because we could feed it, it
15 made some sense.
16 Q. I understood you to say earlier that you
17 received the Antelope Valley Press, or whatever its
18 former name was, you received that newspaper at your
19 home address, correct?
20 A. No, I didn't.
21 Q. Where did you receive it?
22 A. Never received it at home. They have never,
23 to my knowledge, delivered out there.
24 Q. Where did you --
25 A. But I did say that I got it at the office.

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1 Q. Okay.
2 And that would be the corporate office on East
3 Avenue Q?
4 A. Yes.
5 Q. Okay. Gotcha.
6 Did your wife ever work with you at the
7 corporate office?
8 A. She's worked with me there all her life.
9 Yeah.
10 Q. One of the questions Ms. Ryan asked earlier
11 was -- I think she was trying to get at, Do you and your
12 wife have sort of a clear division of responsibilities
13 in things that you deal with versus the things that she
14 deals with, whether personal or business?
15 A. Ultimately, we deal with things together, but
16 if she's running something, I don't get into that
17 argument.
18 Q. Stay out of the way?
19 A. She pays the bills, does a good job with it.
20 She handles a lot of our investments. When it comes to
21 running my company, I do a lot of that, but she's still
22 the CFO. She didn't bid any work. So, you know, we --
23 we break it up. She does what she's good at. I do what
24 I'm half-assed worth at.
25 Q. Did -- during this period of 2000 to 2016, did

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1 she have a regular work schedule where she would come
2 into the home corporate office?
3 A. Well, we -- I'd be stretching my imagination
4 if I said it was a regular work schedule. She got the
5 work done. She went with her own schedule. She has a
6 permanent office in the home. She has a permanent
7 office, actually larger than mine, at the company.
8 Q. Would she come into the corporate office
9 generally four to five days a week?
10 A. At one time, she was in there every day.
11 Yeah.
12 Q. Okay.
13 During this period of 2000 to 2016, was she
14 coming into the corporate office on a regular basis?
15 A. I -- you'll have your chance to ask her. I
16 don't remember. You're not gonna get a chance to ask it
17 today, though.
18 Q. Did you -- strike that.
19 Since 2016, have you pulled any building
20 permits in the Antelope Valley?
21 A. I'm sure we have. We pull permits almost
22 daily from Palmdale and Lancaster.
23 Q. For building within city limits.
24 Have you pulled any permits from L.A. County?
25 A. I have people that do that. I can't tell you

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1 for sure. But we're buying permits every day. Wherever
2 the work's at.
3 Q. I'm sorry?
4 A. Wherever the work's at.
5 We wouldn't buy a permit in L.A. County if I
6 got a job in Fresno. I'd go to Fresno and buy it.
7 Q. Understand.
8 Do you do any general building construction?
9 A. We do.
10 Q. Have you ever had occasion where you tried to
11 pull a building permit in L.A. County and were asked to
12 prove a right to produce water in the Antelope Valley?
13 A. We're talking about permits for my company.
14 These are not permits for me. These are permits --
15 we're doing work for customers.
16 Q. Right.
17 A. And now you're asking me if they ever asked us
18 for something to do with water?
19 Q. Correct.
20 As a condition of issuing the permit, has L.A.
21 County ever told you that you need to establish a water
22 supply for the building before they'll issue the permit?
23 A. That would be a general permit. I don't think
24 that would have anything to do with our portion of the
25 construction. So the owner or whoever's gonna buy the

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1 permit -- no. The primary answer is no. I don't think
2 I'm familiar with that. But I'd have to check. We have
3 people who do it. Occasionally they won't take
4 anybody's signature, and I have to sign it, 'cause of
5 the license, but, you know, we're getting permits --
6 we're working all over the western United States. We're
7 licensed in lot of places, and so I can't tell you where
8 all we're buying permits, but most cities require a
9 permit. If you're working in Arizona, you gotta get a
10 permit.
11 Q. Understand.
12 Just wondering whether you're aware, since the
13 adjudication, that L.A. County has required proof of
14 water supply before they issue a building permit.
15 A. For a new building?
16 Q. Yeah.
17 A. For a new building.
18 No, but I wouldn't doubt that.
19 But, see, that's not the -- that's not the
20 kind of permits we're normally getting.
21 Q. I thought you said you did general
22 construction.
23 A. We do, but the majority of our work -- it is a
24 portion of it. We're not starting from the ground up.
25 Q. You're not acting as a general?

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1 A. In some cases, we're building a metal building
2 or what have you, but it normally has to do with
3 specialty work. The big volume of our work is sheet
4 metal and roofing.
5 Q. But just so we're clear, there have been times
6 when you have pulled what you call a general permit in
7 L.A. County post 2015, correct?
8 A. I don't think so. I don't think we've had
9 that L.A. County situation on a new-construction
10 building.
11 You're talking about after the adjudication?
12 Q. Yes.
13 A. I don't believe so.
14 Q. Other than the lease itself, do you recall
15 anything in particular about your relationship with
16 Grimmway Enterprises?
17 A. Other than I still remember that machine.
18 Could hardly pull a carrot out of the ground by hand,
19 and that machine was picking 'em. That was amazing. I
20 remember that. But I'm not even sure how I got hooked
21 up with 'em. I'm thinking one of my colleagues was
22 either doing business somewhere else with 'em and they
23 were looking for a few more acres and sent 'em my way.
24 I'm not sure. I mean, I saw the name on the contract,
25 but I don't even know that I ever met the guy.

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1 Q. If I understand your prior testimony, about
2 the first time that you recall becoming aware of the
3 groundwater adjudication would have been around the
4 early formation of the blue ribbon committee in 2011; is
5 that accurate?
6 A. No. I think I probably heard about it before
7 that, but . . .
8 Q. From Delmar?
9 A. No. I don't remember him saying anything till
10 closer to the 2000 area because his son was gonna build
11 a house out by me. That's kind of what I recall of that
12 conversation.
13 Q. Around year 2000 you became aware that there
14 was a -- somebody started an adjudication with water?
15 A. Actually, maybe it was a little later than
16 that. I can't recall exactly, but I'm thinking it was
17 actually -- the adjudication was going on a while, and
18 maybe closer to 2010, when we decided to put the
19 sprinklers in. That's probably closer to it.
20 Q. When you became aware of the adjudication and
21 had these conversations --
22 A. Well, I was --
23 Q. -- with Gene about --
24 A. I was aware of it, sir, because of talking to
25 Gene occasionally, but not into the detail, and never

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1 anything personally, not about my property or his
2 property.
3 And really not much detail with the Van Dams.
4 Q. And you never were concerned that maybe this
5 was something you oughtta look into or have a lawyer
6 look into?
7 A. No.
8 From what we knew, obviously, we took it to be
9 it was the bigger guys that were in a battle, and that
10 was not us.
11 Q. How do you spell Delmar's first name?
12 A. D-E-L-M-A-R.
13 Q. And about when did he pass?
14 A. '14.
15 Q. 2014?
16 A. Yeah.
17 Q. So to sort of sum things up, you lived and
18 worked in the Antelope Valley for more than 50 years,
19 true?
20 A. Yes.
21 Q. You served on the fair JPA from 2000 to at
22 least 2015.
23 A. No. It wasn't started in 2000.
24 Q. When did it start?
25 A. Fair wasn't built till 2002 or '3, and it was

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1 a state fair. And I said, I think, guessing, this
2 morning -- not guessing, but my estimate was about eight
3 years ago. The lease agreement was legislated, put
4 together -- well, I don't know the exact year, but
5 Schwarzenegger was governor.
6 Q. When you started serving on the JPA?
7 A. Well, when it was formed.
8 Q. Okay.
9 A. Couldn't serve on it till it was there. It
10 had to go legislatively, get approved by the
11 legislature, signed by the governor, took effect.
12 Q. So what's your best estimate of when you
13 started serving?
14 A. About eight years ago.
15 Q. Eight?
16 A. I think that's what I said to Ms. Ryan this
17 morning. I believe it was eight years.
18 Q. You received the Antelope Valley Press during
19 the period of 2000 through 2015, correct?
20 A. I think we went into quite a dissertation, and
21 I've been thinking the local newspaper at the offices
22 was Antelope Valley Gazette, and as it shrunk into one
23 current newspaper, it's now the AV Press.
24 Q. You received that paper from at least 2000
25 through 2015 and, I think you said, considerably longer,

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1 correct?
2 A. When you say "receive it," we subscribe to the
3 Antelope Valley Press for our office.
4 Q. Yeah. And they deliver it to your office,
5 correct?
6 A. Most of the time.
7 Q. So you receive that paper at your office.
8 A. Well, sounds like I receive it. No. One of
9 the ladies brings it in in the morning. One of the guys
10 may read it all day. Sometimes I may not even look at
11 it.
12 Q. Is it accurate to say you subscribe to the
13 Antelope Valley --
14 A. The company subscribes to the newspaper.
15 Q. During this period of 2000 to 2015, you were
16 friends with Supervisor Antonovich, correct?
17 A. I think I did [sic].
18 Q. Gene Nebeker, correct?
19 A. I referred to him.
20 Q. Delmar Van Dam and Craig Van Dam?
21 A. Okay.
22 Q. Yes? You were friends with them during this
23 time period?
24 A. Yes.
25 Q. John Calandri -- you were friends with him

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1 during 2000-2015 time frame?
2 A. I've known John, but I don't know that --
3 we've probably been -- our relationship's probably been
4 closer since the formation of the joint powers 'cause
5 we've been on that particular board together.
6 Q. You would not consider him a friend during
7 this 2000 to 2015 time frame?
8 A. I don't know where you're going with "friend."
9 I know who he is. We would be cordial to each other. I
10 mean, we don't go places together or anything like that.
11 Q. But you were friends with George Lane during
12 this 2000 to 2015 time frame?
13 A. Different kind of relationship. We do
14 business together.
15 Q. You were friends with Robert Parris during
16 this time frame, 2000 to 2015?
17 A. Yeah. I know who they [sic] are.
18 Q. You knew, as early as 2009, that there was a
19 groundwater adjudication, correct?
20 MR. SHEPARD: Misstates prior testimony.
21 THE WITNESS: As early as 2009?
22 MR. KUHS: Yes.
23 THE WITNESS: Yeah. I was talking to Gene,
24 I'm sure, for that period of time, off and on.
25

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1 BY MR. KUHS:
2 Q. And you knew that, as a result of the
3 adjudication, that people were going to lose their water
4 rights through the adjudication, correct?
5 MR. SHEPARD: Calls for speculation, lacks
6 foundation.
7 THE WITNESS: No. I'd say that's more than --
8 more than I would agree to. I knew there was
9 adjudication going on. There was gonna be some
10 resolution and probably a cutback, depending on how it
11 worked out, but . . .
12 BY MR. KUHS:
13 Q. Mr. Nebeker told you that people were gonna
14 lose their water rights as a result of the adjudication,
15 correct?
16 A. He said there's gonna be some cutback
17 definitely. Yeah.
18 Q. But the word you used earlier was people are
19 going to lose --
20 A. Some people are gonna be --
21 Q. -- their water rights.
22 A. Yeah.
23 Q. Correct?
24 A. Some water rights. Yeah.
25 Q. I just wanna be clear that was your testimony

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1 earlier.
2 A. Yeah.
3 Q. People are going to lose their water rights as
4 a result of the adjudication.
5 A. Well, now you're saying "water rights."
6 They're gonna lose some of their water rights. Isn't
7 that what I said earlier?
8 Q. No. Your testimony was that Gene had told you
9 that people were going to lose water rights as a result
10 of this adjudication.
11 A. I wouldn't doubt he said both. Yeah.
12 Q. Delmar Van Dam advised you not to participate
13 in the adjudication because it was too costly and
14 farming was not your livelihood, correct?
15 A. I think it was mainly that the farming was not
16 our livelihood, and it was a costly ordeal to get into,
17 and, "You'll get some water rights no matter what."
18 Q. He told you that?
19 A. Delmar did.
20 Q. He said, "No matter what, you'll get water
21 rights." Did he say how that would happen?
22 A. No.
23 Q. And you didn't investigate -- other than to
24 ask Mr. Hickling for some information, you didn't
25 investigate further whether you should participate in

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1 the adjudication, correct?
2 A. I don't think I ever talked to Hickling again
3 about it. No.
4 Q. You didn't talk to a lawyer about it till you
5 will hired Mr. Brumfield, correct?
6 A. Never talked to an attorney. No.
7 MR. KUHS: I don't have any more questions.
8 Thank you.
9 THE WITNESS: You're welcome.
10 (Recess taken 4:52 to 4:56 p.m.)
11 BY MR. KUHS:
12 Q. Mr. Zamrzla, have you ever reported your water
13 production to a public agency?
14 A. No.
15 Q. Were you aware that, if you were pumping in
16 L.A. County, that you were required to file, with the
17 state agency, notices of groundwater extraction?
18 A. We did not report.
19 Q. Were you aware that you were required,
20 legally, to report?
21 A. I've since found out that there was a
22 requirement, but we never were sent a notice by anybody,
23 or no request, and, no, we did not.
24 Q. And as you sit here today, do you have an
25 absolute certain, absolute hundred-percent-certain

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1 recollection that you could not have ever received a
2 class notice relating to the adjudication?
3 A. If we had, we'd have reacted.
4 Q. You'd have read that notice and done what?
5 MR. SHEPARD: Calls for speculation, lacks
6 foundation, incomplete hypothetical.
7 Go ahead.
8 THE WITNESS: Well, if we'd been notified,
9 which we weren't, we'd have, obviously, taken it to an
10 attorney, like when we got the letter, and we would have
11 avoided conversations that we'd had with -- in general,
12 conversations about, "Don't worry about this," and
13 probably found out a few things a little bit differently
14 because we really knew nothing about -- didn't even know
15 there was such a thing as a small pumper till after we
16 got the invoice and it was mentioned. I never heard of
17 such a thing. No conversation did it ever come up. And
18 then, of course, you know, we learned more as we read.
19 But if we'd have got something, we know how to handle
20 business transactions, and we'd have been on top of it.
21 BY MR. KUHS:
22 Q. But hadn't you already made a business
23 decision not to participate in the adjudication when you
24 learned about it in 2009?
25 A. Based on the way I understood it was going to

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1 go, but I also believe it didn't go the way even Delmar
2 would've thought it was gonna go 'cause I do believe
3 now, talking to him and to Gene, that the changes that
4 were made were not like any other adjudication.
5 Q. Right.
6 So -- so it's your position in this case that
7 you're not a small pumper, correct?
8 A. No question about it.
9 Q. So what difference would it have made if you'd
10 have received a small-pumper-class notice?
11 A. We'd have called it to somebody's attention
12 and say that, "You can't put us into a category when you
13 never personally served us," because, as we know now, it
14 says you gotta have a personal service if you have a
15 hundred acres or do more than 25 acre-feet per year
16 since 1946. So that was -- that was never done. So you
17 gotta go with the whole picture, not just pick out the
18 part you like best.
19 Q. So if you'd have -- if you'd have gotten this
20 small-pumper-class notice and seen it and saw that you
21 didn't fit the category, you think, nonetheless, that
22 that would have prompted -- that would have prompted you
23 to go get a lawyer and appear in the case?
24 MR. SHEPARD: Asked and answered, incomplete
25 hypothetical, calls for speculation.

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1 Go ahead.
2 MR. KUHS: I didn't hear your answer, sir.
3 THE WITNESS: I believe if we'd been notified
4 and looked at what small pumper was, we'd have taken
5 some different approach to it.
6 BY MR. KUHS:
7 Q. Do you ever recall having a problem with
8 receiving mail at your address, your home address?
9 A. Yeah.
10 We had one letter the December before we got
11 the letter about -- from the Watermaster that they
12 missed us. I signed a card to bring it back, and it was
13 in December, 'cause I was in Vegas, and it never came
14 back. That was the only time I remember not getting the
15 delivery that I knew of.
16 Q. You don't have a history of mail theft on your
17 block, for example.
18 A. We're really not on a block, but no.
19 Q. Is your mailbox on the street, or is it set
20 back off the street?
21 A. It's outside the gate.
22 Q. Okay.
23 And do you know your mailman personally?
24 A. Used to. Don't think we do currently.
25 Q. If there was testimony in this case that not

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1 one, but three, separate notices had been sent to your
2 address on behalf of the small-pumper class, would that
3 surprise you?
4 A. No because I've heard from others that there
5 were lots of mistakes made.
6 Q. What sort of mistakes have you heard about?
7 A. People like us that are put into the small
8 pumper that weren't small pumpers. There were people
9 that were out of classification. But I heard, when I
10 listened to some of the people talking, that it was
11 supposedly very important, specifically, I guess,
12 addressed by BB&K, that people got personal
13 notifications.
14 MR. KUHS: That's all the questions I have.
15 Thank you.
16 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
17 MR. PARTON: Good afternoon, Mr. Zamrzla.
18 THE WITNESS: Parton, how are you?
19 MR. PARTON: Glad to see you, finally get a
20 chance to say hello for a moment.
21 EXAMINATION
22 BY MR. PARTON:
23 Q. Few questions for you.
24 You know John Calandri, right?
25 A. Yes.

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1 Q. Have you discussed the adjudication with
2 Mr. Calandri?
3 MR. SHEPARD: Asked and answered.
4 THE WITNESS: Well, if you consider -- I had a
5 phone call from him, as a board member, telling me I
6 better get fired up. That was after he got a call from
7 Gene, saying, "You guys need to look at that bill and
8 talk Watermasters," who said he was growing stuff, and
9 the pump wasn't even on.
10 BY MR. PARTON:
11 Q. When did that discussion take place?
12 A. Year ago maybe.
13 Q. Before that discussion, did you ever have a
14 conversation with Mr. Calandri about the adjudication?
15 A. No.
16 Q. You understand Mr. Calandri's an overlying
17 right holder, right?
18 A. We all are.
19 Q. You are, like Mr. Calandri, an overlying right
20 holder, like Mr. Van Dam, correct?
21 A. Constitutionally, we're an overlying
22 landowner. That's correct.
23 Q. Mr. Calandri, did he ever, before 2016, come
24 to you and ask you to consider joining the
25 overlying-right group?

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1 A. No.
2 Q. If Mr. Calandri says he asked you, before
3 2016, to join the overlying-right group, he would not be
4 telling the truth; is that your testimony?
5 A. Well, I'd say a little bit more if he was here
6 and claimed he said it, 'cause, no, he wouldn't. He's
7 never said that.
8 Q. So he would not be telling the truth.
9 A. It'd be a lie.
10 Q. Okay.
11 You mentioned in 20 -- 2017 was when you
12 stopped farming the two parcels; is that correct?
13 A. Yes, that's correct.
14 Q. You continued to farm the residential parcel;
15 is that right?
16 A. "Farm"?
17 Q. Yes.
18 A. No. We haven't farmed that.
19 We had one pasture that somebody saw us
20 watering when you sent the letter. I don't know whether
21 somebody saw it or what, but we did have a wheel line on
22 about 5 acres where I calve.
23 Q. In 2017?
24 A. Well, I've been doing it for years. Yeah.
25 Q. Okay.

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1 A. And was still doing it when you -- whenever
2 you saw and took note and sent the letter, we had the
3 water on.
4 Q. There's been no groundwater production on the
5 two parcels since 2017; is that right?
6 A. That is correct.
7 Q. To this day; is that right?
8 A. Never.
9 Q. Okay.
10 A. And we answered your question where we had
11 some people out there pedaling, trying to use alternate
12 power.
13 Q. But you had been using groundwater at the
14 residential parcel, correct?
15 A. Yes. Of course. That's all we have.
16 Q. Do you recall estimating your annual water use
17 in -- strike that.
18 Do you ever recall providing to the
19 Watermaster an estimate of the annual historic average
20 water use on the two parcels, the two farming parcels, 2
21 and 3?
22 A. Not specifically.
23 Q. You don't recall giving me an average annual
24 use -- historic average annual use for Parcels 2 and 3?
25 You don't recall giving me that in writing?

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1 MR. SHEPARD: Asked and answered.
2 THE WITNESS: I know we gave you a list of
3 what we hoped to get, and I think we gave you -- we may
4 have even given you some pretty accurate information
5 what we were using, but we wouldn't have given you a
6 guess, I don't believe.
7 BY MR. PARTON:
8 Q. So whatever number is there for historical
9 usage for Parcels 2 and 3 is -- to the best of your
10 knowledge would be accurate; is that correct?
11 MR. SHEPARD: Lacks foundation, calls for
12 speculation.
13 THE WITNESS: I'd have to look at what we're
14 talking about. I don't wanna say something that's
15 incorrect.
16 BY MR. PARTON:
17 Q. Do you recall giving me information that you
18 produced historically on Parcels 2 and 3, 5 to 600
19 acre-feet a year?
20 A. All I would have given you what the Edison
21 company gave me, so if there was something that we were
22 asking to get in the future -- you're talking about
23 something that Bob gave you -- Bob Brumfield?
24 Q. I'm asking whether you remember giving to me,
25 in writing, your annual historical average, for Parcels

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1 2 and 3, of 500 to 600 acre-feet a year.
2 MR. SHEPARD: Asked and answered.
3 BY MR. PARTON:
4 Q. Do you recall giving me that?
5 A. I think I gave you what we were using,
6 actually, based on what Edison gave me, which was pretty
7 heavy acre-foot per year with alfalfa from the time we
8 started in about 2001 or '2. I may have given you that.
9 Q. Okay.
10 If -- if -- if you were to see the writing
11 that you gave to me and it says 500 to 600 acre-feet a
12 year historical usage on Parcels 2 and 3, you believe
13 that's accurate, correct?
14 MR. SHEPARD: Lacks foundation, calls for
15 speculation.
16 Go ahead.
17 THE WITNESS: I -- I think we gave you the
18 exact amount we were using, but . . .
19 BY MR. PARTON:
20 Q. You gave me accurate numbers to the best of
21 your knowledge, correct?
22 A. No. I woulda given you what Edison told me we
23 were using. That's what I thought we gave you through
24 Bob. I didn't give you anything, quite frankly.
25 Anything that you were given would have been from Bob,

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1 and we would have got those numbers from Rick Koch from
2 Edison.
3 Q. You saw what Bob, your attorney Bob Brumfield,
4 gave me, didn't you?
5 A. Usually did, far as I know, yeah.
6 Q. So do you have any reason to doubt the numbers
7 that you gave to me, through your attorney, for
8 historical usage on Parcels 2 and 3?
9 To the best of your knowledge, it's accurate
10 information, correct? You wouldn't mislead me, would
11 you?
12 MR. SHEPARD: Lacks foundation, calls for
13 speculation.
14 THE WITNESS: I wouldn't think I'd be
15 misleading you. I would've told you what Edison gave me
16 and what I knew we were using. I wouldn't have guessed
17 at it.
18 BY MR. PARTON:
19 Q. Do you remember what you estimated your future
20 use on Parcels 2 and 3 to be in that written information
21 to me?
22 A. I think we did ask for a number of what we
23 would like to get if we can negotiate because, you know,
24 we were told a couple times we should go negotiate, and
25 then you said you can't negotiate; that's not your

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1 jurisdiction.
2 Q. Do you remember how much acre-feet per year
3 you estimated you wanted from Parcels 2 and 3 going
4 forward?
5 A. No, but you if you got it, I'll look at it and
6 say, "Yes, I gave that to you."
7 Q. Who -- who developed the information in the
8 communications that your attorney gave to me in March of
9 2019?
10 A. Between Johnny, Jeanette, Pam, and I.
11 Q. Anyone take the lead in it, or all four of you
12 worked on it?
13 A. Johnny did more of his own. Pam and I did
14 most of ours.
15 Q. You saw what your attorney communicated to me
16 in March of 2019, didn't you?
17 A. I'm sure I did before it went out. I can't
18 recall exactly.
19 Q. You didn't object to it as inaccurate for any
20 reason, did you?
21 MR. SHEPARD: Calls for speculation, lacks
22 foundation.
23 THE WITNESS: I'd have to look at to tell you.
24 I don't know.
25

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1 BY MR. PARTON:
2 Q. To the best of your knowledge, the information
3 you communicated to the Watermaster was accurate, right?
4 A. Shoulda been.
5 Q. Did you provide information to me, in March of
6 2019, that the groundwater production in 2017 for
7 Parcel 26 was 47.7 acre-feet?
8 MR. SHEPARD: Lacks foundation, calls for
9 speculation.
10 MR. PARTON: If you know.
11 THE WITNESS: Well, if I gave it to you and
12 it's on a written document, then I gave it to you.
13 BY MR. PARTON:
14 Q. And, in the written document, you gave me
15 information that, in 2018, groundwater production for
16 that Parcel 26 was 75.29 acre-feet, to the --
17 A. That sounds right.
18 Q. To the best of your knowledge, that's
19 accurate, right?
20 A. That sounds right.
21 Q. And that information was gathered by you,
22 Pamela, Jeanette, and Johnny Lee; is that right?
23 A. That would have been, for the most part, Pam
24 and I.
25 Q. And what is the source of that information?

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1 How did you generate those numbers? What did you do?
2 A. We don't give numbers out by doing the
3 mathematics. We ask Rick to take our power bill and
4 tell us how many acre-foot we're using.
5 Q. So this was based on the efforts of Mr. Koch.
6 Is that his last name? Rick Koch?
7 A. Koch.
8 Q. Koch.
9 Mr. Koch from SC --
10 A. Edison.
11 Q. From Edison, right?
12 A. Yeah.
13 Q. So you asked Mr. Koch to do the technical work
14 of figuring out what the acre-foot usage on the property
15 was based on the energy or the electrical information in
16 bills; is that right?
17 A. That's the only way he can do it, I believe,
18 is he takes the power usage and does his magic and comes
19 up with how many, based on the efficiency that he knows
20 of your well, and tells you how many acre-foot that
21 produced.
22 Q. Do you know who put together the
23 communications you gave to the Watermaster in March of
24 2019? Who did the actual putting it on paper? Did
25 Pamella do that?

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1 A. I think Pam typed it up.
2 MR. SHEPARD: Calls for speculation, lacks
3 foundation.
4 BY MR. PARTON:
5 Q. You think Pamella did it?
6 A. I'm sure she did. Yeah.
7 Q. To the best of your knowledge, she did it.
8 Okay.
9 A. She woulda typed it up.
10 Q. Yeah.
11 But not Johnny Lee or Jeanette or you, right?
12 A. They woulda done theirs probably.
13 Q. But the information that came concerning the
14 property that you're title -- record title owner to,
15 that information was put on the paper by Pamella,
16 correct?
17 A. If it's our property --
18 Q. Yeah.
19 A. -- the ones we're talking about --
20 Q. Yeah.
21 A. -- yes.
22 Q. Okay.
23 You said that -- is it Delmar Van Dam? The
24 father of Craig Van Dam is Delmar, right?
25 A. Delmar Van Dam.

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1 Q. That he didn't think you had to worry about
2 the adjudication because you weren't a big player. Do
3 you remember that testimony?
4 A. Sure.
5 Q. Is that what he said to you?
6 A. That's what he said.
7 Q. Did you form in your mind what was meant by
8 being a big player in groundwater production in the
9 Antelope Valley?
10 A. Yeah. I thought it was probably the guys that
11 I knew who were like him, that were like Kyle and some
12 of the others that were doing a lotta farming, certainly
13 were much more than 80 acres.
14 Q. Is 500 acre-feet a year a big player in the
15 Antelope Valley?
16 A. It now looks like it was bigger than I thought
17 it was, but it's certainly not what Gene was or what
18 Delmar was or Kyle and Kyle.
19 Q. Do you have an understanding that the
20 overlying-right holders in the adjudication, the
21 Exhibit 4 right holders, have a certain threshold of
22 water use they have to meet to become part of the
23 overlying-right group?
24 MR. SHEPARD: Calls for a legal --
25

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1 BY MR. PARTON:
2 Q. Do you have an understanding of that?
3 MR. SHEPARD: Calls for a legal conclusion,
4 lacks foundation, and also vague as to time.
5 Do you mean now?
6 THE WITNESS: I don't have right now.
7 BY MR. PARTON:
8 Q. You don't -- you're not aware of some
9 threshold that has to be met in order to join the
10 overlying-right group, are you?
11 MR. SHEPARD: Are you asking about now, today?
12 BY MR. PARTON:
13 Q. I'm asking, Did you ever think that?
14 A. That there was some sort of a rule or law that
15 you had to be a certain size to join?
16 Q. Is there some threshold in order to be an
17 overlying-right holder in the adjudication? Did you
18 ever hold that view?
19 A. Well, we're talking about two different
20 things. I figure anybody that has over -- property --
21 overlying rights goes with every property, no matter how
22 much you use.
23 Q. You were using 5 to 600 acre-feet a year on
24 Parcels 2 and 3 up to 2017, right?
25 MR. SHEPARD: Lacks foundation, calls for

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1 speculation.
2 THE WITNESS: Not every year, but some years
3 we were.
4 BY MR. PARTON:
5 Q. That's a big player, isn't it, as you think
6 about it now?
7 MR. SHEPARD: Argumentative.
8 MR. PARTON: I'm using his words.
9 BY MR. PARTON:
10 Q. You said Delmar thought you had to be a big
11 player, and you weren't a big player.
12 Well, I'm asking you whether, now you think
13 about it in retrospect, whether you're a big player in
14 water usage in the Antelope Valley.
15 MR. SHEPARD: Argumentative.
16 THE WITNESS: No. How would you compare that
17 to the guy using 10,000? No. Of course not.
18 BY MR. PARTON:
19 Q. Have you looked at the Exhibit 4 parties to
20 see what their production rights are and where you stack
21 up, in terms of your water usage, to other people in
22 Exhibit 4?
23 MR. SHEPARD: Lacks foundation, calls --
24 BY MR. PARTON:
25 Q. Have you done that?

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1 MR. SHEPARD: -- for speculation,
2 argumentative.
3 THE WITNESS: I've looked at the list of what
4 people were using and what they've been rolled back to.
5 BY MR. PARTON:
6 Q. All right.
7 Have you found people pumping less than 500
8 acre-feet a year on that list?
9 A. Yeah, I believe we have.
10 Q. None of your -- of the wells that you own on
11 your property, on Parcel 26 and 2 and 3, have meters,
12 right?
13 A. No.
14 Q. Do you plan to put them on?
15 A. When we were to work out the entire matter,
16 yes, we thought that would be part of our agreement when
17 we completed arrangements.
18 Q. Do you know how long it's been that you've
19 been requested to put meters on your wells?
20 A. It's been about as long as I've been
21 requesting you to withdraw the phony bill.
22 Q. Do you know how long it's been?
23 A. Four years.
24 Q. Four years.
25 And no meters have been installed in four

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1 years; is that correct?
2 A. That's correct.
3 Q. And there's been no payment of administrative
4 assessments ever to the Watermaster, correct?
5 MR. SHEPARD: Outside the scope.
6 THE WITNESS: No, there has not.
7 BY MR. PARTON:
8 Q. And no replacement water assessments paid,
9 right?
10 MR. SHEPARD: Outside the scope.
11 THE WITNESS: No.
12 BY MR. PARTON:
13 Q. Is that right?
14 Have you ever had mail forwarded to a
15 P.O. Box 2468 in Lancaster?
16 A. Doesn't ring a bell.
17 Q. You don't recall owning a -- leasing a
18 post-office box with those numbers ever in the past,
19 right?
20 A. Not that I know of.
21 MR. PARTON: That's all I have. Thank you.
22 THE WITNESS: You're welcome.
23 EXAMINATION
24 BY MR. SANDERS:
25 Q. Do you know how many Southern Cal Edison

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1 accounts you have for your properties?
2 A. You mean where I live?
3 Q. Yes.
4 A. I believe it's two.
5 Q. Two.
6 And is one for the -- identified as the farm
7 well?
8 A. Oh, that's three. Farm well's one.
9 Q. Okay.
10 A. The house is two. The domestic well, we call
11 it, at the ranch is three.
12 Q. Would it be correct that the way it was
13 defined in your information that you provided to be the
14 farm well, the domestic well, and the pasture well?
15 A. That would be three wells.
16 Q. Correct.
17 Is the pasture well associated with your
18 property, or is it associated with your son's property?
19 A. We have two wells. Pam and Johnny Zamrzla
20 have two wells. One's the farm well that's on the 80
21 acres, and one's the well that's on the ranch and the
22 40 acres where the pasture's at. There's no well in the
23 pasture.
24 Q. Okay. So I'm just trying to understand.
25 So you have three Southern Cal Edison

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1 accounts. I'm just trying to understand here. There
2 are three Southern Cal Edison accounts; is that correct?
3 A. I have one for the residential use, one for
4 the well, and one for the farm well.
5 Q. The residential use, is the domestic well on
6 that same account?
7 A. It's on the well account.
8 MR. SANDERS: Let me -- can I have the plat
9 map real quick?
10 MS. RYAN: Yeah.
11 BY MR. SANDERS:
12 Q. You own Parcel 2, 3, and 26, correct?
13 A. Yes, sir.
14 Q. And you have a domestic well on Parcel 26.
15 A. Well, it's used for domestic purposes, but it
16 had a wheel line on it too, for pasture.
17 Q. Okay.
18 So it's used for both pasture as well as your
19 home.
20 A. That's right.
21 Q. And that domestic -- that well is on one
22 account for Southern Cal Edison; is that correct?
23 A. The well is, yes.
24 Q. And your house is on the same account?
25 A. Separate.

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1 Q. Have you provided those separate accounts to
2 us, pursuant to the document production?
3 A. I think we gave you -- I think we gave you all
4 accounts: The farm well on Parcel 2 and 3 --
5 Q. Farm well is --
6 A. -- the well at the ranch, which is a separate
7 well, and then --
8 Q. When you -- when you say "the well at the
9 ranch" --
10 A. That's the 40-acre where we live.
11 Q. Okay. Okay.
12 And then what's the third one?
13 A. There's a bill comes separately between the
14 pump or the -- excuse me -- the well and the house.
15 Q. Okay.
16 So the -- you -- you provided us three
17 accounts, and they were identified as the farm well, the
18 domestic well, and the pasture well. Is that -- is that
19 not accurate?
20 A. There is no pasture well.
21 I'm not sure what you're talking about we
22 provided you.
23 Q. So there are -- let me -- you have the one
24 well on Parcel 2 and 3, correct?
25 A. Correct.

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1 Q. And you have the one domestic well that's on
2 Parcel 26.
3 A. If you wanna call it domestic. It serves the
4 house.
5 Q. And also the adjacent -- for the remainder of
6 the 40 acres.
7 A. Everything.
8 Q. Okay. And then --
9 A. Water tanks, pasture, whatever.
10 Q. Okay.
11 And the electrical service that's provided for
12 that well, is it the same account that also serves the
13 house?
14 A. Separate.
15 MR. SHEPARD: Asked and answered.
16 BY MR. SANDERS:
17 Q. Separate account.
18 So did you provide us a Southern Cal Edison
19 record for your house?
20 A. You should be able to tell. I don't have it
21 in front of me. I thought we gave you three different
22 sets: One for the house --
23 Q. Okay.
24 A. -- one for the back well, what we call the
25 farm well, and one for the home well.

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1 Q. Does -- does -- Johnny your son and his wife,
2 do they have a separate well on their property?
3 A. Of course they do. Where do you think they
4 get their water?
5 Q. Okay.
6 A. We've been talking about that all day.
7 Yes, they have a well.
8 Q. Okay.
9 And did you provide that information pursuant
10 to your document production? Did you provide the
11 information for their well?
12 A. No. They provided their own information.
13 They have one well.
14 Q. When Mr. Koch from Southern Cal Edison did the
15 well tests on your property, do you know how he defined
16 each of the wells in terms of nomenclature?
17 A. I think he calls the farm well the 75th farm
18 well 'cause that is about 75th Street, but I'm not sure.
19 Q. And then does he also define one as the
20 domestic well?
21 A. I don't know that he calls it domestic or
22 ranch well. I'm not sure.
23 Q. And then there's a -- third well, then, is
24 defined as the --
25 A. Third well? We only have two wells. Where

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1 are you getting the third one?
2 Q. Okay. Mr. Koch provided a well-efficiency
3 test for what he referred to as the pasture well. Are
4 you aware of that?
5 A. A pasture well. Doesn't ring a bell with me.
6 Q. The well-efficiency test that was provided by
7 Southern Cal Edison and was dated January 25th, 2013 was
8 addressed to Johnny Zamrzla at 80th Street West in
9 Lancaster, California. Is that you?
10 A. Yes.
11 Q. And so when he defined it as a pasture well,
12 you don't know what well he's referring to?
13 MR. SHEPARD: Asked and answered.
14 THE WITNESS: I've never heard him use
15 "pasture well." I must've missed that. But there's
16 only two wells, so it's one or the other.
17 BY MR. SANDERS:
18 Q. So you provided pumping from -- so if you
19 provided pumping from three different wells, is that
20 information that was submitted erroneously?
21 MR. SHEPARD: Calls for speculation, lacks
22 foundation.
23 BY MR. SANDERS:
24 Q. Was that submitted erroneously, then, if there
25 were wells -- if there were production from three

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1 different wells provided?
2 A. Well, there could have been production from my
3 son's well across the street. I don't know what he
4 calls that. I thought he called it by their address,
5 but -- there's three wells if you count my son. There's
6 two wells if you count Pam and I.
7 Q. Okay.
8 A. There's no third well for us.
9 Q. Just two wells for you.
10 A. And whatever you said he's calling it, I've
11 never noticed any wells on my property that are called
12 "pasture."
13 Q. Okay.
14 Do you have two Southern Cal Edison records in
15 your name?
16 A. I thought we had one for the back well, one
17 for the residence, and one for the front well. I
18 thought there was separate billings on each one.
19 Q. And if Southern Cal Edison only provided two
20 records for your property, would that surprise you?
21 A. Only billed us twice per month?
22 Well, right now, there is no well in the back.
23 We shut that off. So, yeah, we would be getting just
24 two. But, back in 2013, you said, there had been -- the
25 back well had been on too.

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1 But I don't -- the pasture well does not ring
2 a bell. I don't know where that terminology would have
3 developed from.
4 But we would not provide anything on purpose
5 or erroneously. We would provide you what he gave us.
6 And if you're looking at what was provided by Edison, we
7 didn't make those up. Those came from them.
8 Q. Okay. So --
9 A. Are you looking at his --
10 Q. Yes.
11 A. -- his documents?
12 Q. Yes.
13 A. Well, I can't tell you, then, what that is.
14 When they send 'em to us, I suspect, over the years,
15 what we got from Edison is always legit and correct.
16 Q. Do you know the size of the pumps that you
17 have, the three groundwater pumps, between your property
18 and your son's property?
19 A. Do I know the size of the pump well between my
20 son's and mine?
21 Q. Do you know how big the -- how many horsepower
22 the pump is on -- on your farm well?
23 A. 30.
24 Oh, farm. That's a turbine.
25 The front well --

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1 Q. Go ahead. I'm still listening.
2 A. Front well is 30 horse. The back well's a
3 turbine.
4 Q. And do you know how big the turbine well is?
5 A. I submitted it. I don't remember off the top
6 of my head.
7 Q. Would it surprise you if it was 125
8 horsepower?
9 A. No. I think that's about it.
10 Q. And the well of your son, is that
11 approximately 15 horsepower?
12 A. I believe it's smaller than mine. Yes.
13 Submergible. 15 would ring a bell, but I'm not
14 positive.
15 Q. Did you close your farm-well account in 2018?
16 A. I think that's what I said. I don't know that
17 I gave you the date, but yes.
18 Q. So is it your understanding that you have a
19 separate meter just for the groundwater pumps and that
20 there is no other electrical draw -- no other electrical
21 components that are on that meter?
22 MR. SHEPARD: Asked and answered.
23 THE WITNESS: It's my understanding we have
24 three incoming sources of power that go to three
25 individual places, and there are three bills.

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1 BY MR. SANDERS:
2 Q. Okay. And when you say "for us" --
3 A. Me.
4 Q. -- just you and your wife, correct?
5 A. That's all I'm here to talk about.
6 Q. Okay. I just wanna make clear.
7 A. I've tried to.
8 I have nothing to do with Johnny Lee. You
9 brought him up about how big's his horsepower. I think
10 it's 15, but I have nothing to do with his. It just
11 gets billed to me.
12 I have two wells. One of 'em's shut off, and
13 there's no account any longer. It's dead. I didn't
14 even pay the backup to be prepared to turn it on. We
15 cut it off after we got the billing.
16 Q. So you currently only receive one Southern Cal
17 Edison bill per month?
18 MR. SHEPARD: Misstates testimony.
19 THE WITNESS: No. We get one for the
20 residential use and one for what you're calling domestic
21 well --
22 MR. SANDERS: Okay.
23 THE WITNESS: -- or pasture well or whatever
24 you've been calling it. I don't know what you're --
25 I've never heard of pasture well.

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1 BY MR. SANDERS:
2 Q. And you provided both of those sets of
3 information to -- to your counsel to provide them to us?
4 A. It's my understanding.
5 MR. SANDERS: That's okay. I'll stop my
6 questioning now. We'll clean it up later.
7 Thank you.
8 MR. SHEPARD: Anyone else?
9 THE REPORTER: Mr. Shepard, do you want a copy
10 of this transcript?
11 MR. SHEPARD: Yes, please.
12 MS. RYAN: I'd like an expedited.
13 THE REPORTER: Mr. Parton, copy of the
14 transcript?
15 MR. PARTON: Yes.
16 (Deposition concluded at 5:43 p.m.)
17 --oOo--
18
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25

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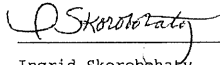
1 DECLARATION UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY
2
3 I, Johnny Zamrzla, do hereby certify under
4 penalty of perjury that I have read the foregoing
5 transcript of my deposition taken on June 3, 2022; that
6 I have made such corrections as appear noted on the
7 Deposition Errata Page, attached hereto, signed by me;
8 that my testimony as contained herein, as corrected, is
9 true and correct.
10
11 Dated this _____ day of _____,
12 20____, at _____, California.
13
14
15
16 _____
17 Johnny Zamrzla
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

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DEPOSITION ERRATA SHEET

1
2 Page No. ____ Line No. ____
3 Change: _____
4 Reason for change: _____
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21 Change: _____
22 Reason for change: _____
23
24
25 Johnny Zamrzla _____ Dated _____

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1 STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
2)
3 COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO)
4
5 I, Ingrid Skorobohaty, a Certified Shorthand
6 Reporter, do hereby certify:
7 That prior to being examined, the witness in
8 the foregoing proceedings was by me duly sworn to
9 testify to the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but
10 the truth;
11 That said proceedings were taken before me at
12 the time and place therein set forth and were taken down
13 by me in shorthand and thereafter transcribed into
14 typewriting under my direction and supervision;
15 I further certify that I am neither counsel
16 for, nor related to, any party to said proceedings, nor
17 in anyway interested in the outcome thereof.
18 In witness whereof, I have hereunto subscribed
19 my name.
20 Dated: June 10, 2022
21 
22 Ingrid Skorobohaty
23 CSR No. 11669
24
25

1 U.S. Legal Support, Inc.
1215 K Street, 17th Floor
2 Sacramento, California 95814

3
JOHNNY ZAMRZLA
4 C/O NICHOLAS R. SHEPARD, ESQ.
3638 American River Drive
5 Sacramento, California 95864-5901

6
Re: Antelope Valle Groundwater
7 Date of Deposition: June 3, 2022

8 Dear Mr. Zamrzla:
9 The original transcript of your deposition taken in the
above-referenced matter is available at this office for
10 your review. If it is more convenient to read a copy of
the transcript and waive signature of the original
11 transcript, please notify our office by letter sent
certified or registered mail of any changes made, with
12 copies sent to all counsel.
13 In the event you have not read, corrected, and signed
your deposition transcript within thirty (30) days of
14 receipt of this letter, it may be used with the full
force and effect as though it had been read, corrected,
15 and signed.
16 If you wish to arrange an appointment to review the
original transcript, please contact this office at (916)
17 248-5608.
18

19
20 Sincerely,
21 U.S. Legal Support
Production Department

22
23 cc: All counsel
The deponent

24
25 Original: Original transcript

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