



1 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
2 FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
3 DEPARTMENT NO. 1 HON. JACK KOMAR, JUDGE  
4 COORDINATION PROCEEDING )  
5 SPECIAL TITLE (RULE 1550B) )  
6 ANTELOPE VALLEY GROUNDWATER CASES ) JUDICIAL COUNCIL  
7 ) COORDINATION  
8 ) NO. JCCP4408  
9 )  
10 )  
11 )  
12 )  
13 )  
14 )  
15 )  
16 )  
17 )  
18 )  
19 )  
20 )  
21 )  
22 )  
23 )  
24 )  
25 )  
26 )  
27 )  
28 )

14  
15 REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS  
16 WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2008  
17  
18

18 APPEARANCES:

19 (SEE APPEARANCE PAGES)  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26

27 GINGER WELKER, CSR #5585  
28 OFFICIAL REPORTER

9 THE COURT: GOOD MORNING. WE WILL RESUME WITH THE  
10 DOCTOR AND WE'RE STILL ON DIRECT EXAMINATION.

11 MR. DUBOIS: THANK YOU, YOUR HONOR. JIM DUBOIS  
12 FOR THE UNITED STATES.

13

14 JUNE OBERDORFOR,  
15 CALLED BY THE UNITED STATES AS A WITNESS, HAVING BEEN  
16 PREVIOUSLY SWORN, TESTIFIED FURTHER AS FOLLOWS:

17

18 DIRECT EXAMINATION (RESUMED)

19 BY MR. DUBOIS:

20 Q GOOD MORNING, DR. OBERDORFOR.

21 HOW ARE YOU?

22 A FINE, THANK YOU.

23 Q YESTERDAY WE HAD BEEN DISCUSSING WHAT WAS  
24 MARKED AS EXHIBITS 8 AND 9 WHICH WERE THE GROUNDWATER  
25 CONTOURS FROM 1915. DID YOU FOLLOW THAT?

26 A YES.

27 Q AND I HAVE GOT UP ON THE SCREEN EXHIBIT --  
28 WHAT HAS BEEN MARKED AS EXHIBIT E8 THAT SHOWS THE

0

2

1 PREDEVELOPMENT ELEVATION CONTOURS AND FLOWS IN THE  
2 PRINCIPAL AQUIFER; IS THAT CORRECT?

3 A YES, IT IS.

4 Q WHAT DOES IT SHOW ABOUT THE GENERAL  
5 DIRECTION OF FLOW IN THE 1915 PERIOD?

6 A IT SHOWS THE GENERAL DIRECTION OF FLOW IS  
7 FROM THE RECHARGE AREAS AROUND THE MARGIN OF THE VALLEY  
8 TO THE MAIN DISCHARGE AREA HERE IN THE ROSAMOND LAKE  
9 VICINITY. SO FROM THE WEST TOWARDS THE EAST FROM THE

10 SOUTH TOWARDS THE NORTH AND FROM THE SOUTHEAST UP  
11 TOWARDS THE NORTHWEST TOWARDS THE LAKE.

12 Q AND EXHIBIT 9 IS NOW ON THE SCREEN. THIS IS  
13 MARKED AS E9; IS THAT CORRECT?

14 A YES.

15 Q AND THIS IS FOR THE SAME PERIOD BUT FOR THE  
16 DEEP AQUIFER; IS THAT RIGHT?

17 A CORRECT.

18 Q AND WHAT DOES THIS DEMONSTRATE REGARDING THE  
19 FLOW OF THE DEEP AQUIFER?

20 A IN PREDEVELOPMENT TIMES, THE FLOW WAS FROM  
21 THE SOUTH TOWARDS THE NORTH HERE INTO THE NORTH MUROC  
22 AREA; AND THEN IT EXITS TO THIS RELATIVELY NARROW GAP  
23 ONTO THE FREMONT VALLEY.

24 Q I WOULD LIKE TO TURN TO EXHIBIT E11. CAN  
25 YOU TELL ME WHAT THAT IS?

26 A THOSE ARE THE WATER LEVEL CONTOURS FROM  
27 1961. IT'S FROM DURBIN 1978 REPORT BY A USGS WEBSITE  
28 AND THESE ARE THE WATER LEVEL CONTOURS AGAIN FOR THE

3

1 PRINCIPAL AQUIFER.

2 Q DOES EXHIBIT E11 SHOW ANY CHANGES IN THE  
3 LOCATION OF DISCHARGES OF THE DIRECTION OF FLOW IN THE  
4 PRINCIPAL AQUIFER IN COMPARISON TO THE 1915 CONTOURS?

5 A THE PRIMARY CHANGES HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN THIS  
6 CENTRAL LANCASTER REGION AND SO THE MAIN REASONS OF  
7 DISCHARGE HAVE SHIFTED FROM THE ROSAMOND LAKE AREA TO A  
8 REGION JUST SOUTH OF ROSAMOND LAKE. YOU CAN SEE A CONE  
9 OF DEPRESSION HAS FORMED HERE AND FLOW IS NOW GOING  
10 TOWARDS THAT CONE OF DEPRESSION.

11           THERE'S A SECOND CONE OF DEPRESSION JUST TO  
12 THE EAST OF LITTLE BUTTES AND SO FLOW NOW IS COMING OUT  
13 THROUGH THIS AREA AND INTO THAT CONE OF DEPRESSION  
14 LIKEWISE FROM THE SOUTH.

15           Q       DR. OBERDORFER, JUST REMEMBER WE ARE TALKING  
16 FOR THE RECORD SO "THIS AREA" HAS NO MEANING. SO BACK  
17 UP AND START WITH THE FLOW IS COMING FROM?

18           A       THE FLOW IS COMING FROM THE REGION OF  
19 TEHACHAPI MOUNTAINS ALONG THE WESTERN PART OF THE BASIN  
20 AND THIS PORTION -- THE SOUTH WESTERN PORTION OF THE SAN  
21 GABRIELS FLOWING THROUGH THE WEST HERE PRIMARILY THROUGH  
22 THIS REGION AND --

23           Q       WHAT REGION?

24           A       BETWEEN LITTLE BUTTES AND THE WILLOW SPRING  
25 AREA AND TO THE CONE OF DEPRESSION JUST TO THE EAST OF  
26 LITTLE BUTTES.

27           Q       THANK YOU.

28                   COULD YOU GIVE ME EXHIBIT E12.

4

1           THIS HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN MARKED AS EXHIBIT  
2 E12; IS THAT CORRECT? I'LL REPRESENT THIS IS E12.

3                   CAN YOU REMIND THE COURT WHAT THIS EXHIBIT  
4 DISPLAYS?

5           A       THIS IS FROM ANOTHER PLATE IN DURBIN 1978  
6 REPORT, AND THESE ARE THE CONTOURS FROM THAT PLATE JUST  
7 FOR THE DEEP AQUIFER REGION. SO AGAIN WE ARE LOOKING AT  
8 NORTHERN PART OF THE LANCASTER REGION UP TOWARDS NORTH  
9 MUROC.

10           Q       AND DOES THIS PLATE ALSO SHOW CHANGES IN  
11 GROUNDWATER FLOW IN COMPARISON TO THE 1915 PLATE?

12           A       WELL, AGAIN, BECAUSE PUMPING HAS BEEN GOING  
13 ON NOW IN THIS AREA FOR PROBABLY A DECADE OR SO,  
14 SLIGHTLY OVER A DECADE, WE DO SEE SHIFTS IN THE CONTOURS  
15 AND, THEREFORE, ALSO IN FLOW DIRECTIONS. FLOW IN THE  
16 VERY NORTHERN PART OF THIS -- OF THE DEEP AQUIFERS STILL  
17 TOWARDS THE NORTH AND OUT TO THE FREMONT VALLEY. BUT  
18 NOW WE SEE THE CHANGE HERE, FLOW IS COMING TOWARDS A  
19 PUMPING CENTER AT EDWARDS AIRFORCE BASE, AND WE ALSO SEE  
20 A SHIFT OF CONTOURS HERE IN THE SOUTH PRESUMABLY PUMPING  
21 FURTHER FROM THE SOUTH.

22           Q       SO THE CHANGES BETWEEN THE 1915 TO 1961  
23 CONTOURS IS THE RESULT OF PUMPING?

24           A       THE RESULT OF PUMPING AND LARGELY THE  
25 CESSATION OF NATURAL DISCHARGE THAT USED TO TAKE PLACE  
26 AROUND THE AQUIFER.

27           Q       SO THE CHANGES IN THE STRESS FROM THE  
28 PUMPING CHANGED THE GRADENCE IN THE FLOWS OF DIRECTION?

□

5

1           A       YES.

2           Q       I WOULD LIKE TO SHOW YOU WHAT I WOULD LIKE  
3 TO HAVE MARKED AS EXHIBIT E13.

4                   AND FOR EVERYONE ELSE, IT IS BEHIND THE TAB  
5 THAT WAS EXHIBIT 15 OF THE PACKAGE THAT EVERYBODY HAS  
6 GOT.

7           THE COURT: ALL RIGHT. MARK THAT.

8

9                   (EXHIBIT E13 IS MARKED.)

10

11 BY MR. DUBOIS:

12           Q       AND IT IS THE DOCUMENT WITH THE TITLE ACROSS  
Page 13

13 THE TOP, "1996 GROUNDWATER ELEVATION CONTOURS." DO YOU  
14 HAVE THAT?

15 A I DO HAVE THAT.

16 Q ALL RIGHT. CAN YOU IDENTIFY THIS DOCUMENT  
17 FOR ME, PLEASE?

18 A THIS IS A FIGURE TAKEN FROM THE REPORT.  
19 ACTUALLY, A LARGE PLATE BY CARLSON ET AL IN 1998; AND  
20 THEY ARE THE GROUNDWATER ELEVATION CONTOURS FOR 1996.  
21 THIS PARTICULAR FE -- OR PLOT BOTH THE PRINCIPAL AQUIFER  
22 AND DEEP AQUIFER CONTOURS ON THE SAME MAP.

23 Q AND DOES EXHIBIT 13 SHOW CHANGES IN THE  
24 CONTOURS FROM THE 1961 CONTOURS IN EXHIBITS 11 AND 12?

25 A YES, IT DOES. THE CONE OF DEPRESSION THAT  
26 USED TO EXIST JUST SOUTH OF ROSAMOND LAKE HAS FILLED IN  
27 SOMEWHAT AND THAT CONE OF DEPRESSION HAS SHIFTED FURTHER  
28 TO THE SOUTH AND PARTICULARLY INCREASED HERE IN THE

6

1 VICINITY OF PALMDALE.

2 THE CONE OF DEPRESSION OR THAT DEPRESSION,  
3 THE WATER LEVEL THAT USED TO BE FOCUSED HERE JUST EAST  
4 OF LITTLE BUTTES HAS SHIFTED NORTHWARD INTO THIS GENERAL  
5 REGION. AND, AGAIN, THAT HAS SHIFTED THE DIRECTION OF  
6 FLOW.

7 Q WHAT IS THE GENERAL DIRECT OF FLOW FROM THE  
8 NATURAL RECHARGE AREAS?

9 A FOR THE WESTERN PART OF THE BASIN. SO ALONG  
10 TEHACHAPIS AND THIS WESTERN PART OF THE SAN GABRIELS,  
11 THE FLOW IS STILL PRIMARILY TOWARDS THIS REGION SO  
12 TOWARDS THIS CONE OF DEPRESSION CENTERED NORTH NOW OF  
13 LITTLE BUTTES.

14 IN THE SOUTHEASTERN DIRECTION, IT IS STILL  
15 PRIMARILY TOWARDS THE NORTHWEST TOWARDS THESE CONES OF  
16 DEPRESSION IN THE LANCASTER BASIN. IT HAS GOTTEN A BIT  
17 MORE COMPLICATED THROUGH HERE, FLOW RECHARGE COMING OFF  
18 THIS AREA INTO THIS LARGE CONE OF DEPRESSION HERE.

19 Q USE -- WHEN YOU SAY "HERE" --

20 A I'M SORRY. OFF OF THE CONSIDERED CENTRAL  
21 PART OF THE SAN GABRIELS TOWARDS THIS CONE OF DEPRESSION  
22 NORTH OF PALMDALE.

23 Q THANK YOU.

24 NOW, DO THESE CHANGES IN FLOW DIRECTION,  
25 DOES THIS ALL RELATE TO OUR DISCUSSION OF CONSERVATION  
26 OF MASS YESTERDAY?

27 A WELL, IT DOES STILL SAY WATER HAS TO FLOW  
28 WHERE IT IS BEING RECHARGED TO WHERE IT IS BEING

7

1 DISCHARGED. AGAIN, THE DISTINCTION BEING THAT WE ARE  
2 NOT IN STEADY STATE SYSTEM NOW. WE HAVE HAD WATER  
3 REMOVED FROM STORAGE. AND SO AS THAT REMOVABLE OCCURS  
4 IN DIFFERENT PLACES, THIS PUMPING CENTER SHIFT, YOU WILL  
5 HAVE THOSE FLOW DIRECTIONS WILL ALSO BE SHIFTED.

6 Q SO THE NATURAL RECHARGE HAS DISAPPEARED FROM  
7 OUR FIRST 1915 PLATE THAT THE --

8 A NO, THE NATURAL RECHARGE.

9 Q EXCUSE ME, NATURAL DISCHARGE HAS CHANGED?

10 A NATURAL DISCHARGE HAS ESSENTIALLY BEEN  
11 STOPPED.

12 Q AND THE NATURAL RECHARGE IS ALL COMING FROM  
13 THE SAME AREAS?

14 A ESSENTIALLY FROM THE SAME AREAS, THE



15 NATURAL, YES.

16 Q SO IF YOU ARE LOOKING AT THIS SYSTEM AS A  
17 MASS BALANCE ISSUE, YOU STILL HAVE YOUR NATURAL  
18 RECHARGE. YOU NO LONGER HAVE YOUR NATURAL DISCHARGE AND  
19 YOU ARE AT LEAST IN SOME AREAS TAKING WATER FROM STORAGE  
20 AND THOSE BECOME DISCHARGE POINTS FOR PURPOSES OF FLOW?

21 A YES.

22 Q AND IT MOVES WHEREVER THE RECHARGE IS TO  
23 WHERE THE DISCHARGE IS?

24 A CORRECT.

25 Q IF THE DISCHARGE POINT SHIFTS TO NEW CHANGED  
26 PUMPING PATTERNS, WHAT WOULD BE THE EFFECT OF WATER FLOW  
27 IN THE AQUIFER?

28 A WELL, WHEREVER THOSE NEW PUMPING STRESSES

8

1 OCCUR, THEN THE -- OF COURSE, DEPENDING ON THE GRADIENT  
2 AND THE MAGNITUDE OF THOSE STRESSES, THE CONES OF  
3 DEPRESSION COULD THEN SHIFT TO NEW LOCATIONS AND YOU  
4 COULD HAVE ALTERED FLOW DIRECTIONS.

5 Q IF PUMPING DECREASES IN AN AREA OVER TIME?

6 A WATER LEVELS PRESUMABLY WOULD RISE IF THEY  
7 WOULD INFLOW WITH SUFFICIENT WATER TO THAT AREA AND THAT  
8 WOULD ALSO ALTER FLOW OF DIRECTIONS.

9 Q NOW, ARE THERE EXAMPLES OF THIS KIND OF  
10 CHANGE IN WATER LEVELS IN RESPONSE TO EITHER PUMPING OR  
11 DECREASE IN PUMPING SHOWN ON EXHIBIT 13?

12 A WELL, CERTAINLY THE DECREASE IN PUMPING  
13 BEFORE WE HAD A CONE OF DEPRESSION CENTERED UP HERE; AND  
14 I THINK THERE HAS BEEN RECOVERY IN THAT AREA. HERE WE  
15 HAVE HAD INCREASED PUMPING PRESUMABLY CREATING THIS CONE

16 OF DEPRESSION.

17 Q THIS --

18 A I'M SORRY, JUST NORTH OF PALMDALE.

19 Q THANK YOU.

20 LET'S TURN OUR ATTENTION BACK TO BEDROCK

21 RIDGE WHICH WE WERE GETTING INTO YESTERDAY AFTERNOON. I

22 THINK YOU STATED THAT YOU WERE FAMILIAR WITH THE GENERAL

23 LOCATION OF THAT RIDGE?

24 A YES, I AM.

25 Q AND DID -- ARE YOU AWARE OF MY IMPEDIMENTS

26 TO FLOW IN THE SEDIMENTS OVERLYING THE RIDGE?

27 A NO, I DON'T BELIEVE THERE ARE ANY.

28 Q ARE THE SEDIMENTS OVERLYING THE BEDROCK

9

1 RIDGE SATURATED?

2 A THEY'RE ON THE ORDER OF SEVERAL HUNDRED FEET  
3 OF SATURATED SEDIMENTS.

4 Q IS THAT OVER THE ENTIRE LENGTH OF THE RIDGE?

5 A NO. THE RIDGE BECOMES SHALLOW IN SOME  
6 AREAS. IN FACT, IT DAY LIGHTS ABOVE THE GROUND SURFACE  
7 SO IT IS -- ONLY A PORTION OF THAT RIDGE HAS SATURATED  
8 SEGMENTS ON THE ORDER OF SEVERAL HUNDRED FEET.

9 Q IN LENGTH OF IT BEING IN FEET, MILES?

10 A MILES. ON THE ORDER OF SIX TO EIGHT MILES  
11 IN SATURATED SEDIMENTS.

12 Q WOULD WATER FLOW THROUGH THOSE SEDIMENTS IN  
13 RESPONSE TO CHANGES IN HEAD ON EITHER SIDE OF THE RIDGE?

14 A AS LONG AS YOU HAVE A WATER LEVEL DIFFERENCE  
15 ACROSS THE RIDGE, YOU WILL HAVE FLOW ACROSS THAT RIDGE.

16 Q ALL RIGHT. AND HOW WILL PUMPING ON THE  
Page 17