TELECONFERENCE MEETING

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

AIR RESOURCES BOARD

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY AIR RESOURCES BOARD BYRON SHER AUDITORIUM 1001 I STREET SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

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THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2016 9:03 A.M.

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

A P P E A R A N C E S

BOARD MEMBERS:

Ms. Mary Nichols, Chair

Ms. Sandra Berg, Vice Chair

Dr. John Balmes

Mr. Hector De La Torre

Supervisor John Gioia

Mr. John Eisenhut

Senator Dean Florez

Mrs. Barbara Riordan

Supervisor Phil Serna

Professor Daniel Sperling

Ms. Diane Takvorian

STAFF:

Mr. Richard Corey, Executive Officer

Ms. Edie Chang, Deputy Executive Officer

Ms. La Ronda Bowen, Ombudsman

Ms. Christina Morkner-Brown, Assistant Chief Counsel

Ms. Emily Wimberger, Chief Economist

Ms. Deidre Cyprian, Space Acquisition Manager, Space Acquisition Unit, Administrative Services Division(ASD)

Mr. Bob Fletcher, Project Manager, ASD

Mr. Mark Fuentes, Assistant Chief, Emissions Compliance, Automotive Regulations, and Science Branch

A P P E A R A N C E S C O N T I N U E D

STAFF:

Ms. April Molinelli, Senior Attorney, Legal Office Ms. Alice Stebbins, Chief, ASD

ALSO PRESENT:

Mr. Joel Griffith, Project Director III, Department of General Services

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PROCEEDINGS

1 CHAIR NICHOLS: Good morning. The March 24th, 2 3 2016 public meeting of the Air Resources Board will come 4 to order. Before we begin, I want to say a word though 5 about the sound system, because we do have members calling б in from locations that were previously noticed. Board 7 members who are calling in on the phones, I would 8 appreciate it if when you're not speaking, you would mute 9 your phones, because we get the background noise, and all 10 of the conversations that you may be having in your office 11 broadcast over the sound system here. 12 So if you can please mute your conversation, 13 except when you want to speak obviously, then we want to 14 hear from you. 15 At this point then, we will resume our Okay. 16 normal order of business, which is to begin with the 17 Pledge after Allegiance. So would everyone please rise. 18 (Thereupon the Pledge of Allegiance was 19 recited in unison.) 20 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay. Madam Clerk, would you 21 please call the roll. 22 BOARD CLERK JENSEN: Dr. Balmes? 23 BOARD MEMBER BALMES: Here. 24 BOARD CLERK JENSEN: Mr. De La Torre? 25 BOARD MEMBER DE LA TORRE: Here.

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1 BOARD CLERK JENSEN: Mr. Eisenhut? 2 BOARD MEMBER EISENHUT: Here. 3 BOARD CLERK JENSEN: Senator Florez? 4 BOARD MEMBER FLOREZ: Here. BOARD CLERK JENSEN: Supervisor Gioia? 5 6 BOARD MEMBER GIOIA: Here. 7 BOARD CLERK JENSEN: Ms. Mitchell? 8 Mrs. Riordan? 9 BOARD MEMBER RIORDAN: Here. 10 BOARD CLERK JENSEN: Supervisor Roberts? 11 Supervisor Serna? BOARD MEMBER SERNA: 12 Here. Dr. Sherriffs? 13 BOARD CLERK JENSEN: 14 Professor Sperling? 15 BOARD MEMBER SPERLING: Here. 16 BOARD CLERK JENSEN: Ms. Takvorian? 17 Ms. Takvorian? 18 Vice Chair Berg? VICE CHAIR BERG: Here. 19 20 BOARD CLERK JENSEN: Chair Nichols? CHAIR NICHOLS: Here. 21 22 BOARD CLERK JENSEN: Madam Chair, we have a 23 quorum. 24 CHAIR NICHOLS: Thank you. 25 Can we adjust the sound system, so that those who

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are calling in can be heard more clearly in the room?

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Okay. We could barely hear. We could hear, but it was difficult.

Okay. So just couple of opening comments. As was noticed in the public agenda, this Board meeting is available by teleconference in El Cerrito, National City, and Redlands, California, and also in Dublin, Ireland, where Mr. De La Torre is currently. I would have to say that the rest of us wish we were there with him, but we haven't yet figured out how to extend our jurisdiction quite that far.

So, for today, this is a vote only matter. 12 We 13 are not taking testimony on this item. But because of the 14 far-flung nature, I am going to be calling for a roll call 15 voice vote to make sure that everyone's votes are 16 recorded. And for those calling in from the remote 17 locations, if when you speak you would identify yourself 18 also, just so we're sure to get the record correct. That 19 would be much appreciated.

Now, for those who are in the auditorium here, in Sacramento, I need to remind you that there are Emergency exits at the side, and in the back of the room. And in the event of a fire alarm, we're required to evacuate the room immediately and go out of the building, until we hear the all-clear signal when we're allowed to return. And I

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think that is all for general preliminary comments. 1 (Thereupon interference occurred in the 2 3 sound system.) BOARD CLERK JENSEN: Could you repeat that? 4 5 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay. Chair Nichols? 6 BOARD MEMBER SERNA: 7 CHAIR NICHOLS: Yes, Supervisor Serna 8 BOARD MEMBER SERNA: Sorry for the interruption. 9 I just wanted to state for the record that I was not at 10 the March 17th meeting in Southern California. However, I 11 have had an opportunity to review the transcripts. 12 CHAIR NICHOLS: Great. Thank you for that. 13 So as I indicated, we're here today to Okay. 14 consider the Board recommending a site for the proposed 15 new motor vehicle and engine emissions testing and 16 research facility in Southern California, otherwise known 17 as a consolidated site. And as we indicated when we were 18 together before, and I know all the Board members have had 19 an opportunity to spend quite a lot of time getting 20 briefed and thinking about these issues, this is a decision that's going to impact ARB's operations, both 21 22 today and for decades into the future. 23 The staff conducted a thorough evaluation of

The staff conducted a thorough evaluation of three sites and determined that two of the sites are suitable for development. These are Pomona Boulevard and

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Iowa Avenue -- Pomona Boulevard in Pomona, and Riverside, Iowa Avenue sites. And there's a great deal of information that's contained within the staff report, as well as a large volume of supporting documentation regarding the evaluation of those sites.

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б In addition, the Board heard testimony last week 7 from a broad range of representatives of both communities 8 and campuses, and also from elected officials 9 representatives of the universities themselves, city and 10 county personnel, business organizations, our own staff, 11 the Union that represents many of our employees and even a 12 bicycle advocacy group. These commenters presented 13 contrasting views, but they all made compelling cases 14 about where to cite the proposed new facility.

15 The ARB's staff's preference for Pomona presents 16 an important factor for us to consider, and it cannot be 17 taken lightly, because we all know that the heart and soul 18 of any operation is the people who do the work. But in the end, the decision needs to be made to choose a cite 19 20 that the Board members themselves believe provides the 21 greatest benefits to the State, while exercising our 22 responsibility to be good stewards of State funds.

That said, regardless of the decision that we make today, the Board needs to be very active in addressing the concerns of our staff, if the Board selects

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the Riverside site, our challenges to address staff issues will obviously be important and will need to begin right away.

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While the Board is not accepting any public testimony, I want to appreciate the time and energy that people took to come and speak to us last week at our hearing in El Monte, and to assure you that your concerns and your comments have been taken into consideration.

9 I think I also -- well, I'll let it go at that. 10 I would note that this is just a step in a long process 11 for completing this project. Moving forward with a recommendation from this Board certainly brings us closer 12 13 to making the project more of a reality. And we look 14 forward to continuing to work with the Department of 15 General Services and others on the next phase of this 16 vitally important project for the State and for our 17 mission.

18 So, in a moment, I'm going to open this up to my fellow board members. But I do want to take the 19 20 opportunity to say a few words about my own perspective on 21 this, because I have been thinking about the need for a 22 new facility for Southern California ever since I got back 23 to the Air Resources Board in 2007. And I realized that this is really a tremendous opportunity, which we have 24 25 been afforded to continue to lead our State and our

1 country, and I would say the world in developing motor 2 vehicle standards, implementing them, and enforcing them, 3 as well as in providing state-of-the-art thinking and 4 science to support this mission.

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So it's a transition that we will be working through. I personally will be voting for the resolution that will be coming forth in a few minutes, but I want to hear from all the Board members and to give them an opportunity to speak and make sure that everybody's voice is heard.

So I would like to start by recognizing SenatorFlorez.

13 BOARD MEMBER FLOREZ: Thank you, Madam Chair. 14 I'll be brief. Just -- you know, obviously had a great 15 hearing, lots of input. I appreciate the employees at El 16 Monte. There was some very poignant testimony. I thought 17 it was very heartfelt. I think overall I agree with you 18 that as we move in a certain direction today that we ought to make the staff needs and concerns front and center. 19 So 20 I very much appreciate that. And I think I believe we 21 ought to move in a direction that continues to be focused on what is the best transition as we move forward. 22

I would also like to say -- I don't know if -it's on and off.

I'd also like to say that I really would like to

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1 thank the cities of each of the entities, both Riverside and Pomona, for their testimony last week. And I look 2 3 forward to hearing other comments from other Board 4 members. 5 Okay. Is this on? б Can everybody hear? 7 Okay. Great. I look forward to hearing from 8 other members of the Panel. But, however, Madam Chair, I 9 would like to move that the site known as Riverside Site 2 10 be selected as the location for the Southern California 11 consolidation project. CHAIR NICHOLS: Did you make a motion? 12 13 BOARD MEMBER FLOREZ: I did Madam Chair, let me 14 reread that. 15 CHAIR NICHOLS: Thank you. I was being whispered 16 to about the sound system. I apologize. 17 BOARD MEMBER FLOREZ: And the sound was on and 18 off, so let me say it again. I would like to move that the site known as Riverside Site 2 be selected as the 19 location for the Southern California consolidation 20 21 project. 22 CHAIR NICHOLS: Thank you. 23 Do I have a second for that motion? 24 VICE CHAIR BERG: And I'll second that motion. 25 CHAIR NICHOLS: Ms. Berg.

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Okay. We can now open this then for discussion 1 on the motion. And, at this point, I think in addition to 2 3 stating their reasoning or asking questions, it would also 4 be appropriate for Board members to articulate 5 instructions that they would like to make sure that the б staff hear from us moving forward with the site, because 7 it's clear that there's a lot of work left to be done, a 8 lot of interest on the part of the Board in watching this 9 project as it goes forward to make sure that commitments 10 that were made at the front end are followed through on by 11 our partners in the process. And so I think we can have both of those elements under discussion. And I think I'll 12 13 start by recognizing Dr. Sperling.

14 BOARD MEMBER SPERLING: So it is a really tough 15 decision and, you know, clearly the -- you know, I've seen 16 the Riverside site. I've heard others that have seen the 17 Pomona that in many ways the sites are comparable -- not 18 comparable, but equally attractive. And it's really 19 impressive what both campuses have done in providing, you 20 know, really good spaces near the campuses, near areas 21 that are very attractive.

When I look at it, I say, okay, what is good -to kind of play off of what Chairwoman Nichols just said, what's good for ARB, what's good for this State, what's good for the country, and even the world? We've seen how

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important ARB is, for instance, with the VW issue. And, of course, many of the things we do, our OBD work, and a lot of other technical work that's been done really is instrumental internationally as well.

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So when I look at it, I see that kind of in the most conservative case the two campuses are roughly, you know, comparable. The -- there's the downside of -- you know, Riverside would be a little more problematic -would be more problematic for staff. On the other hand, UC Riverside provides a lot of opportunities to really meet that goal, that mission of providing high value to ARB, the State, and the country.

But then I look -- the more I think about it and the more I've talked to people is I just see the potential -- the upside potential is so huge at Riverside. There's so many opportunities to really enhance the ARB labs and the ARB. And it will take work on both sides, both the Riverside campus and ARB to really realize those upside potentials. But to, me they're large.

It's -- there's so -- and I trust that there's a -- I believe that those upside potentials will be realized because when I talk to the Riverside campus, the community, the leaders there, over and over again, I hear about all the things that they plan to and could do, everything from extension programs for workers,

apprenticeship internship programs, hiring new faculty, tailoring their research programs more.

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And the Riverside is attractive to me, because Riverside is kind of like the ideal campus to be associated with, in the sense that it's not like Caltech that already has its reputation, its high quality research. It's not like UCLA which is a big huge campus. Riverside is a growing campus. It already has a focus on environment, but it's really expanding. And there's a real opportunity there for to create really strong synergies.

12 And so that's what's compelling to me. And you 13 look through the statistics, you know, how much research. 14 Obviously, UC Riverside is far superior as a research 15 campus, but it goes well beyond that. So I've --16 actually, the more I've thought about it, and the more I 17 talk to -- when I talk to even the university leaders at 18 Pomona, they don't come forward with a lot of these ideas 19 about how to create these synergies with ARB. And we 20 talked to Riverside and they do. It comes just flowing 21 out of them. Everyone we talk to they have how to set up 22 these different programs, how to create these synergies, 23 working with the staff, working in terms of training, in terms of creating a pipeline of employees that are 24 targeted for Riverside for -- excuse me, for the ARB labs. 25

So at the end of the day, we're putting something 1 in place here for many, many decades and something that's 2 really very important to all of us. And so at the end of 3 4 the day, I've come to feel strongly that Riverside is not 5 only a better choice, a far better choice. And I б understand it's going to be a difficult transition. We do 7 want to worry about the morale of the staff and how to 8 transition. But this is a long-term thing, and I think we 9 need to be thinking about that in terms of the greater 10 benefits. 11 Thank you. I'd like to go to the CHAIR NICHOLS: phone so we don't leave them dangling till the last. 12 And 13 I'll try to do this in alphabetical order, if I can. So 14 I'll start with John Balmes. Dr. Balmes. 15 BOARD MEMBER BALMES: Hi, Chair Nichols. So I 16 won't be long. I think I outlined a framework for my 17 decision making at the Board meeting last week. I agree 18 that both universities have made -- presented very compelling cases. It's a difficult decision, and I have 19 20 to say that scientifically the potential synergies with 21 the Riverside atmospheric chemistry and environmental 22 engineering groups with our own laboratory that potential 23 synergy is really great. And going through the points 24 that the staff had in their presentation last week to try 25 to create a world class facility -- I would say maintain

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the world class facility, because I think we already have that, and push it to either -- even greater heights, and to have an international impact, national/international impact, and to do the best for the State of California that we can, that the Riverside location looks somewhat better than the very good Cal Poly Pomona site.

7 That said, I'm very mindful of the impact on 8 staff. So it's -- like I said last week, it's a hard decision for me, because we already have a world class 10 laboratory, and the Cal Poly proposal is not a bad one. Ι 11 just think that for the long term, the investment in the 12 Riverside location provides more bang for the buck. And I 13 think as stewards -- good stewards of California taxpayer 14 dollars, that it's the better investment.

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CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay. Thank you.

16 BOARD MEMBER BALMES: I just would also say, we 17 really have to work hard to try to mitigate the negative impact on staff from a move to Riverside. So I am 18 19 supportive of whatever we can do to provide help to the 20 staff.

CHAIR NICHOLS: So before we leave here this 21 22 morning, I do want to have a discussion with Mr. Corey 23 about some of the specifics of what the staff will be 24 working on going forward here. But I also feel a need to, 25 before I go to Mr. De La Torre just to make one point,

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because when we talk about synergies, I want to be clear to everyone, our staff, our stakeholders, the public that 3 we are not becoming a unit of either campus. We are going 4 to be receiving free land to build a free-standing 5 laboratory. And there are opportunities for synergy and б they are certainly important to consider, but I think it's 7 also important to understand and to reiterate that Air 8 Resources Board is not giving up its independence or its authority.

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10 This is going to be a laboratory that's going to 11 be created and operated by the Air Resources Board to support our mission. So it's a great advantage, not only 12 13 because we've been given the opportunity to do this with 14 free land, but also to consider ways in which we can 15 enhance and expand our work and our access to research and 16 to students and faculty and so forth. But there shouldn't 17 be any confusion that we're somehow becoming an arm of the 18 university.

19 With that, I will go to Mr. De La Torre. 20 BOARD MEMBER DE LA TORRE: Thank you. I said a 21 lot last week, and I have a little bit more to say today. I think that staff's -- and again, it's not just our 22 23 staff. It's DGS and others who have worked on this 24 recommendation based it on knowable facts, and based on those knowable facts, made a recommendation. 25

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I appreciate the comments that have been made so 1 far by my colleagues, but many of those things that have 2 3 been cited are future hypotheticals, not known facts. They are parts of a pitch that was made to us to have this 4 5 facility located at one or the other place. And so, yes, б maybe one of the two campuses is better at their pitch 7 than the other. We're not here to buy a car or a house. We're not dealing with a real estate broker or a car 8 9 salesman. We are dealing with analysis from our own staff 10 of which would be the better location for our employees. 11 I think the recommendation speaks for itself, that we 12 should go with Cal Poly Pomona.

So what are some of the facts that we know? We know that significant numbers of our staff, over 80 percent, are going to have to drive further to get to Riverside. So that is increased emissions, that is increased greenhouse gases, and that is increased cap -increased cost for the movement of those employees, if they decide to move out there.

That's not a hypothetical. That's not a maybe. That's not possible synergies. That's real. Those -- we're going to have to figure out significant issues with that with each of those points.

24 One thing that we learned last week is, in 25 addition to the relocation costs, our employees have

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1 bumping rights. Because of the distance -- the additional distance that they are going to have to move, they will 2 3 now have bumping rights at all State agencies in the Los 4 Angeles area to move and leave CARB. Because there's 5 another opportunity in another agency that they can go б work in, they will have better quality of life, because 7 they won't have to commute as far. That's significant. 8 That's real. That's tangible.

9 In terms of diversity, last week we had the 10 presentations. And there was, I think, a few people spoke 11 about the diversity in Riverside. Well, Pomona's economic and ethnic diversity is every bit as much as Riverside. 12 13 There's not very much difference at all there. We're not 14 talking about Beverly Hills versus Riverside side. We're 15 talking about Pomona versus Riverside, so there is no tangible difference there. 16

17 And I think we kind of oversold what we were 18 offering. Maybe it was to get that really good deal from 19 one of these universities way back in the beginning when 20 this proposal was put together, but this is, and will 21 continue to be, fundamentally a vehicle lab. Sixty-six 22 percent of our employees at the Haagen-Smit laboratory are 23 directly involved in motor vehicle testing. Another 13 percent are not involved in the testing, but are directly 24 25 involved in the data analysis from the vehicle testing.

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That's 79 percent of the employees who are doing 1 vehicle -- direct vehicle testing work, another 12 percent 2 3 are doing enforcement, and nine percent are doing general admin work. There are no non-vehicle related researchers 4 5 at the Haagen-Smit Laboratory. Let me repeat that. There б are no non-vehicle laboratory workers or research workers at El Monte. That is -- that's a fact. That's real. 7 8 That's what this lab is.

9 I understand about all of the potential research 10 possibilities, but we have those no matter where it is 11 located, because we have those today. We already farm out 12 all of this wonderful research to these fantastic 13 universities we have in the State of California.

14 And as I pointed out as the employees who came up and spoke last week pointed out in terms of how many Cal 15 16 Poly graduates we have already working for us just in the 17 lab, we have about 50 Cal Poly Pomona employees. They are 18 already producing the kind of workers that we use, not the 19 ones we'd like to use, not the ones that we potentially 20 could use in the future, 20, 30 years down the road, but 21 the ones we already use. That's not going to change.

22 So if I look at this, I appreciate my colleagues 23 being inspired by the possibilities, but we have an 24 obligation to the realities. And the realities are that 25 this is a vehicle lab. It's been in an industrial park in

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El Monte for decades. And it's going to be in a better place, with better possible possibilities attached to a university in the great State of California, regardless of which we choose. It will be a step up.

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I believe that fundamentally what this -- what this has turned into is a bias towards UC, and against the Cal State, in this case the Cal Poly campus, which is no regular Cal State campus.

9 I think that we have a recommendation from our staff that tells us which is the better -- not the best, 10 11 the better, most cost effective choice, and we know, as I 12 said last week, 85 percent of our employees want to move 13 to Pomona. And as I pointed out just right now, the facts 14 are very clear about what this lab is. Unless, we are 15 going to completely restructure CARB to move significant 16 portions of what we do from Sacramento down to Riverside, 17 and maybe we should have that conversation, then we are 18 talking about two different things. We should be talking 19 about this lab moving to the best place for what it does 20 in these next few years, because in the long term, 21 everything can change.

So by putting -- making references to things 20, 30 years down the road, none of us knows. I'm not going to be on this Board, chances are no one of us is going to be on this Board. Therefore, we should stick with what we

know, we should stick with the recommendation that's before us, and we should keep face with our employees who 3 have made their views clear on something that's not outrageous. All they're asking for us to do is to follow 4 5 staff's recommendation to us, of which is the better site, б and that is Cal Poly Pomona.

Thank you.

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8 CHAIR NICHOLS: Thank you very much, Hector and 9 thank you for all the time that you put in during the 10 earlier stages of this process, where we were out visiting 11 the campuses and meeting with faculty and students, et 12 cetera, as well as your work with the staff.

13 I would like to hear next -- I guess I'm going to 14 trying to be in alphabetical order here, to Mr. Eisenhut.

15 BOARD MEMBER EISENHUT: Thank you, Chair Nichols. 16 I raised last week questions regarding the impact of the 17 site on the potential effectiveness of folks doing their 18 job, specifically with regard to Enforcement Division. And since I raised the issue, and had a chance to become 19 20 more informed in some of the details the work that the 21 staff had done, I want to report back the results of that 22 conversation.

23 That impact would accrue specifically on enforcement folks, about half of whom already work 24 remotely, either from their homes or from a remote 25

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location, and their interaction with the lab is sporadic, maybe every other week or once a month. There are half a dozen, approximately, folks whose daily task includes sampling of fuels and return of those samples back to the lab. It's judged that given the traffic complexities that already exist, that there will need to be some arrangements made, pooling of those samples.

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And so the impact operationally -- this was not the term that the staff used, but I would say it's a manageable impact, and has a pretty limited impact in terms of the number of employees whose daily task would be affected. So I need to raise the issue and I wanted to share that information.

14 I am -- my decision process. We have a 15 committee, and I haven't heard yet from Barbara, but 16 assuming that she is consistent with her position of last 17 week, the recommendation of the Committee is bifurcated. We have a staff recommendation which is clear. 18 And in 19 that regard, I disagree with my friend Hector. It's our 20 responsibility to study and honor that recommendation, but 21 not necessarily to adopt it. The adoption is our 22 responsibility.

Having said that, for a variety of reasons, and including the one I think best just articulated by Hector, I am in opposition to the motion.

CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay. We will now hear from --1 2 BOARD MEMBER BALMES: Mary? Mary, sorry, we 3 got -- we didn't hear the end of John's testimony -- or 4 his comments. 5 CHAIR NICHOLS: John, you want to repeat what you б said? 7 BOARD MEMBER EISENHUT: Did I pull away from the 8 mic. I'm sorry, that I am in opposition to the motion. 9 BOARD MEMBER GIOIA: Make sure you stay close to 10 the mic. 11 BOARD MEMBER EISENHUT: I'm in opposition to the 12 motion. Sorry, I had to say that three times. 13 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay. We heard you. I think we 14 heard you now. 15 I think actually I was going to call on you next, 16 Supervisor Gioia. 17 BOARD MEMBER GIOIA: Thank you. And first, let 18 me start by again acknowledging the really heartfelt 19 testimony by the supporters of both Pomona and Riverside. 20 It's clear to me that those committees really think highly 21 of their advantages and the benefits that they would offer 22 to ARB's consolidation efforts, and I appreciate that. 23 I'm not going to be long. I want to also say 24 that it is a difficult decision. I think there's some short-term, medium-term, and long-term issues here at 25

stake.

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So my final analysis is to think about the 2 3 long-term implications of the decision. And in that 4 regard, I essentially agree with the comments that have 5 been made by my colleagues who agree with the selection of б Riverside. So I will state it that way, because I don't 7 want to repeat the comments that they made. And in saying 8 that, that there really needs to be, I think, a lot of 9 work with employees to understand their needs as this goes 10 forward, so we could assist them and maintain the high 11 quality employees that we've had.

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CHAIR NICHOLS: Thank you very much.

I think it's next -- excuse me?

14 I'm skipping over the maker and seconder of the 15 motion for the moment, and I will turn now to Mrs. 16 Riordan.

17 BOARD MEMBER RIORDAN: Thank you very much. Ι 18 have continued and thought about what I heard from the speakers of our last meeting, as well as my opportunities 19 to be able to visit both sites and to hear very personal 20 pleas to locate in either Pomona or Riverside. 21 But as I 22 had said at our last meeting, I feel that the 23 opportunities that are in Riverside for the future, the 24 long-term future of our operation, of our laboratory, clearly, in my opinion, Riverside is the site that I would 25

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And so, Madam Chair, I would support the motion that is on the floor. And having said that, would recognize clearly that the responsibility for mitigating some of the impact of that choice for our current staff will be our responsibility. And I will pledge myself to do that, along, I'm sure, with everyone else that is supporting this particular motion.

> And so with that, I will conclude. CHAIR NICHOLS: Thank you very much. Supervisor Serna.

BOARD MEMBER SERNA: Thank you, Chair Nichols. So as I stated earlier, I was -- I did not have an opportunity to attend in person the hearing last week in El Monte. So I want to preface my comments with the fact that I did do my best to glean from the transcript some of nuanced consideration of this important decision, as it was discussed then.

And I certainly have had an opportunity to be briefed by staff, even on the latest developments of the subject.

I guess I would start from a place of reflecting on the fact that we have an extraordinary army of staff here that do incredible work on all the subjects that come before this Board, and do very, very detailed analysis to

1 make sure that we are making the most informed decisions we can. And this is -- this is no different for me. 2 Ι 3 guess what I'm struggling with is I am hearing from the 4 maker of the motion and the seconder and those that are supportive of thus far, and I understand some of the 5 б rationale that they've explained here today, and again, 7 I've been able to try and read for myself earlier comments 8 last week in the same vein from those supporters of the 9 Riverside site. But for me I guess I would say that 10 Member De La Torre has really articulated very well the 11 fact that we have some very good facts in front of us that 12 are presented to us no differently than other very 13 detailed facts that staff routinely present this Board 14 again to make informed decisions is it's difficult for me 15 to try and reconcile and interest in looking at the long 16 term, which I certainly appreciate the long term as it 17 relates to the opportunities presented at the Riverside 18 site.

But I guess, you know, given the facts that are presented by staff and the fact that I think that because we're talking about the long term, and, for me, that's measured not in years but decades, I've yet to hear a good reason why the Pomona site can't offer the same opportunities? I mean, there's a lot that can happen in the course of decades. There's a lot that can change in

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terms of curricula that's offered. There's a lot that can 1 be offered at both sites, in terms of grooming a 2 3 partnership with ARB, a research partnership. And so the argument that we ought to stay focused on the long term, 4 5 and, in fact, for some perhaps that's what tips them to б the site of supporting the motion, I would respectfully 7 say that, for me, that doesn't negate the same opportunity 8 as present for the Pomona site.

9 That combined with what I'm understanding would be a tremendous burden on our staff to consider relocation 10 11 in many cases, combined with some of the extraordinary differences -- side-by-side differences that have been 12 13 presented in the staff report and recommendation, most 14 notably for me that nearly 80 percent of staff would have 15 a round trip commute in excess of 90 minutes for the 16 Riverside site is very compelling, and that our employees, 17 if the Riverside site were selected, would incur an additional \$6,400 a year in their annual driving costs. 18 19 These are very compelling points for me.

So if we're looking, as Supervisor Gioia mentioned, at the short, medium, and long term, for me, the short and medium term is -- it's pretty obvious that there would be much less impact, much less disruption for our employees if the Pomona site is selected. And again, I will -- and by again referencing the fact that I don't

1 think that the selection of the Pomona site somehow negates the -- some of the same opportunities that we 2 3 would have for long-term enhancement of our research 4 capabilities there as opposed to Riverside. 5 And so for these reasons, I will not be able to б support the resolution. 7 CHAIR NICHOLS: Thank you. We'll turn now to Ms. 8 Takvorian, if you wish to make any comments. You're not 9 required to, but if you would like to, please do. 10 I thought she was on the line, no? 11 Apparently not. All right. We'll check and we'll move on. 12 13 BOARD MEMBER TAKVORIAN: I am on the line. Can 14 you hear me? 15 Oh, there you are. Okay. CHAIR NICHOLS: Good. 16 BOARD MEMBER TAKVORIAN: Can you hear me? 17 You were on mute before. Hi. Go ahead. 18 BOARD MEMBER TAKVORIAN: Hi. Thank you very 19 much. Sorry about the difficulty with that. I have been 20 able to hear -- I have been able to hear everything that's 21 been said, so thanks so much. I wanted to say that I 22 really appreciate everyone's comments, and appreciate, 23 particularly Mr. De La Torre's comments and his hard work 24 on the Committee. I think very good points have been made regarding the lab, and the enforcement functions. 25 I want

to say that I want to reiterate my concerns that I expressed last week about the decision being continued only one week to this meeting, with, for me anyway, 4 virtually no time to talk to staff, or respond, get responses to questions. And that's not staff's fault. It's just the matter of scheduling. It just wasn't enough time. And it certainly wasn't enough time to explore alternatives that I think a number of Board members, including myself, raised at the last meeting.

10 I'm sure that I'm at more of a disadvantage as a 11 new member, but I just want to say that I would have 12 appreciated more time to process some of that and to 13 explore some of the alternatives.

But we're here today, and I wanted to say that I 14 really appreciated the staff's work to develop the report, 15 16 and also particularly the staff testimony, which I thought 17 was compelling and very heartfelt. Staff morale and satisfaction is critically important to me. And I think 18 that if this were a decision that impacted the next five 19 20 or 10 years, I would be fine with the Pomona site, because I think it would just affect those staff that are 21 22 currently in place.

23 But it's not a decision for just the next five to 10 years, and I think it is multiple decades. And I do 24 25 believe that the site at UCR, the attributes are more

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clearly relevant, given the historical relationship CE-CERT, the new medical school, and the fact that the university has been on the edge of cutting -- the cutting edge of air quality research. And I also think that there's a point to be made that Riverside is more of an environmental justice community. And investment in a disadvantaged community, I think is something that we, as a Board, should think about in terms of allocation of State resources.

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10 So that is compelling to me, as well as what I think the university's benefits are. This is one of the 11 most transportation emission polluted areas of California. 12 13 And I think it would be compelling to have the Air Resources Board there. And as a resident of San Diego, I 14 15 have to say that having most State and other kinds of 16 resources centered in Los Angeles doesn't really speak to 17 Southern California, and doesn't provide access to San 18 Diego, Orange, Imperial Counties. So I think there's that 19 kind of proximity as well.

20 So for those reasons, as well as many that have 21 been cited by fellow Board members, I'm -- I will support 22 the motion. I do hope, however, that we can explore 23 alternatives for staff transition for a period after the 24 facility is built. I've been told that that isn't 25 practical, but I want to -- I hope we can explore whether

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1 it's possible to have some of those transitions, so that 2 potentially may have staff in two locations. So I 3 appreciate everyone's consideration and I'll support the 4 motion.

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CHAIR NICHOLS: Thank you for those comments.

I will now return to the maker and seconder of the motion to see if they have any additional comments that they would like to make, at this time.

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Ms. Berg, go ahead.

10 BOARD MEMBER FLOREZ: We're going to twist the 11 Chair's neck.

12 Thank you. Actually, Madam Chair, I'm just 13 anxious to hear your direction and conversation with Mr. 14 Corey in terms of how that might work. So I will hold my 15 comments, if I have any comment at all after that.

CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay. Thanks. Ms. Berg.

17 Thank you. This has been quite VICE CHAIR BERG: 18 a journey. And as I thought about this on my plane ride 19 up this morning, I thought about the fact that it started 20 out with a vision, and the vision from Chair Nichols, 21 really to create an opportunity to catapult ARB's world 22 class intellectual expertise with building an equally 23 impressive world class facility. And over this last week, 24 I, too, have been struggling between the impacts of staff 25 and making this decision.

In looking at making change, we do know that our current facility we've outgrown it. It will not take us into the next decade, much less several decades. And so in feeling that discomfort, exchanging the current frustration of not having a world class facility, with the disruption that any change would make, whether it was Pomona or Riverside, understanding that the Riverside site will have more disruption on staff and understanding, too, that we, as decision makers, can appreciate that on paper, but we won't live through that personally, and I'm very mindful of that as I make that decision.

12 To that end, I personally went and visited both sites again last week, and had a long conversation with 14 staff, and I wish I could tell you that that really cleared things up for me. Actually, it just, depending on who I was leaving, made it even more apparent how we had 17 two good choices.

After all of that, the tipping point for me is 18 19 towards the vision, and is towards the possibility. And I 20 will commit myself, along with the other Board members that I have heard from, to help staff, because I will 21 22 support the resolution for Riverside, and I will be part 23 of the solution to try to find every possible way to not only mitigate, but also to encourage. 24

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I go back to my commute this morning. I live in

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Long Beach and only had to go to the Orange County Airport in bumper-to-bumper traffic wondering if I would make my flight. And maybe this is an opportunity that in 20 or 30 years we will address the transportation issues that we have in Southern California that are clearly keeping us gridlocked. And so I will hold on to that as part of our vision as well.

8 So there's no question, if the vote is upheld for 9 Riverside, I personally want to challenge Riverside, 10 because we have a lot of work in front of us, and we expect more than business as usual, and -- both for our 11 employees, for ARB, for the State of California, and of 12 13 all the UCs, as well as our partners -- to reach out to our partners of our State universities. And I think it's 14 15 going to be incumbent on UCR to really help us make this a 16 tremendous reality.

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Thank you.

18 CHAIR NICHOLS: Thank you very much. So I guess 19 it's back to me, and -- unless you want to make a comment. 20 BOARD MEMBER FLOREZ: No.

21 CHAIR NICHOLS: You're going to wait anyway. So 22 here's the -- here's what I think, at this point. First 23 of all, this is a very major investment on the part of the 24 State of California in Southern California. And it's 25 great to have an opportunity to be part of making that

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1 happen.

To my colleagues who don't come from the region, 2 3 I feel a little bit like I'm in the decision making that 4 sometimes the local officials are on a land-use decision, 5 you know, looking at the traffic impacts, looking at the б jobs impacts, looking at other kind of synergies in the 7 community. And frankly, it was the advantages of Riverside more as a community which came together to make 8 9 the very strong presentation and commitments that they did 10 that swayed me more than the benefits of the university. Not that I'm unmindful of, you know, the benefits of being 11 with the University of California, but that we had our 12 13 former Board Member Ron Loveridge who I see is in the 14 audience today, who spent so many years both as Mayor and 15 as a South Coast Board member working on air quality 16 issues, the reality that Riverside is the epicenter 17 historically of the air in California, not a distinction 18 that I'm sure they wish to be reminded of, but it is a 19 part of the reality, and that the community, as a whole, 20 is a place that has done so much to try and address its 21 own problems as well makes this an appealing opportunity 22 to be a strategic partner for Riverside in this effort.

23 Clearly, however, the success of ARB's motor 24 vehicle program is a direct result of the work that's done 25 at the Haagen-Smit Laboratory. And while observing that 1 we have many graduates of UC Riverside and Cal Poly, I
2 don't think either one of them is going to stop sending us
3 very fine graduates or providing opportunities to work
4 with.

5 So I think we have to recognize that a move is б going to have a serious impact on our programs from the 7 moment we start seriously working on it. And we have to 8 make sure that whatever we're doing in furtherance of this 9 project does not jeopardize our hard earned respect and 10 our reputation with the industries that we regulate or 11 cost us in any way that we can possibly avoid the 12 retention of our expert staff, because they are at the core of our work. 13

I have a list of ideas and suggestions, which I have -- which actually are in writing. I'm just going to read them, because I think it's important for everybody to hear, but I assure you that I will give it to Richard to have in writing as well, because I think they could become part of our direction to the Executive Officer as part of our action here today.

So clearly, we've heard that we need to move quickly on assuring our employees that we're hearing them, and that we're going to work with them as they consider their options for moving, flexible schedules, tele-working, working non-standard hours, mobile work

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stations. All of those are issues that they all have challenges, but they all are things that we have to give serious consideration to, given the horrific traffic that we already deal with. But now that we're thinking about the move, it becomes very timely to start working on them now.

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7 The transportation options needs of our current 8 employees, what we can do as citizens of Southern 9 California to be working with the transit agencies, but 10 also to be working with our employees, in terms of helping to overcome additional costs of commuting for them is 11 12 going to have to be a part of the consideration here, as 13 well as the possibility for the enforcement and field 14 staff to be able to work, not only from home, as many of 15 them do, but also to be able to have access to vehicles 16 there, and whether there could be courier options, as Mr. 17 Eisenhut mentioned, for fuels and samples and so forth.

We already do this between our heavy-duty testing facility and the main laboratory. We have a shuttle going back and forth with samples. It's not ideal, but given the challenges of getting around, it's -- it may be that we should be doing more of that on a regular basis.

Looking at reimbursable expenses in connection with relocating, as well as temporary living expenses and moving, options for reimbursing relocation for staff that

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are not covered by the professional engineers in California government contract, because that unit has authorization to receive relocation costs, but the others do not. So we're going to have to figure out what we do for the non-represented employees as well.

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б Looking to our new partners with the University 7 of California as well as the City and County of Riverside 8 to look at what the amenities are. We heard mention of 9 many of these things at the hearing, but we have to try to 10 put meat on the bones in terms of help and attention for 11 relocation of spousal jobs, the amenities that Chancellor Wilcox mentioned in his handout that included access to 12 child care facilities, adjunct faculty positions. 13 I mean, 14 these are all things that are hypothetical now. And 15 obviously it depends on individuals and their interests 16 and choices, but we need to start figuring out how we're 17 going to make those things real opportunities, as Ms. Berg 18 has stated before.

We know that employees are, in some cases, apprehensive about moving from their relatively safe area where they are comfortable now to the big City of Riverside. And there may be some issues there about security. And I think also looking ahead, as has been mentioned before, this move is going to take place in roughly five years. Not everybody will make the move,

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either because they were already planning to retire or because their career choices focus them in other areas.

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But in every instance, we need to be enhancing our succession planning, recruiting, things that have come up really through the ARB staff surveys. And again, using ARB staff as a focus group to help develop these ideas as was done during the earlier stages of this process is going to be very important, I think.

9 I also want to say, and I've aye already been contacted by the Chamber of Commerce in Riverside offering 10 11 to do this, but plans to acquaint the staff early with opportunities that exist for them in the Riverside area, 12 13 including schools, housing, et cetera, entertainment opportunities and so forth, we should really be starting 14 15 that soon, even if we're not going to be moving right 16 away, just so people have a better idea of what their 17 future opportunities might be.

Lastly, in order that this not just languish, I want to say staff reporting back within 60 days about what they've done to implement these suggestions, and to put together a real plan for transition. I expect we're going to want to be hearing at least quarterly reports on the progress of this project anyhow, given its importance to ARB.

But I think on this particular issue of outreach

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to the employees, mobilizing whatever staff resources we need from Sacramento to assist in this effort, as well as seeking additional resources, if you need them, as part of the budget process to not just do designing and building, but also to look at the employee side of this, those are all going to be important concerns.

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So I have this all down in writing. You do, too, I think. So I don't have to ask you to recite it all back to me, but I think I would appreciate some comments from you, Mr. Corey.

11 EXECUTIVE OFFICER COREY: Yes. Thank you, Chair. 12 And the theme that came through, and is coming through 13 loud and clear from the Board, is the respect of the and 14 appreciation of the extraordinary staff, I mean, that is 15 crystal clear. And you all know it's the life-blood of 16 the effectiveness of this organization. I heard, you 17 know, significant concerns about the need to mitigate and 18 really minimize disruption. And you called out, Chair, 19 just a few examples, in terms of the impact and 20 opportunities, options for dealing with the transportation 21 the -- the very real transportation issue. I mean, I 22 won't sugarcoat it. It's an issue we're going to have to 23 deal with and take head on and work through.

The relocation related issues, the comment that was made about enforcement and how we can effectively

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continue to operate that element of the program, which may mean some additional satellite related activities. And looking at exploring flexible work schedules, that's something that we're going to need to look at as well.

5 But to kind of -- to get to the heart of the б point that you just made, which was although breaking 7 ground is still a few years out, there's a lot to do. And although occupancy is targeted for 2020, we'll get to work 8 9 on this now. And the way we're going to do this is go 10 right back to the amazing team that we have, sit down with them, and their creativity, as well as that of this Board, 11 12 Riverside, and a range of other partners, in terms of 13 walking through each of these issues, calling them out, 14 and really beginning to dive in in terms of what are our 15 opportunities, what are the options, what the trade-offs, 16 and develop a plan.

17 And, Chair, we'll report back in 60 days the 18 progress on that plan. And as you requested, because I'll 19 need, as the Executive Officer of this organization, 20 continued interaction and assistance from this Board, as issues are identified, as also as opportunities. 21 You'll 22 get quarterly reports, how's it going, are the problems, 23 are there issues, areas where I need help or the team needs help. 24

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I'll also be reaching out very quickly to

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Riverside and UCR and following up on Chancellor Wilcox's commitment last -- at last week's Board hearing in terms of number of opportunities that were on the table to fully 4 explore those and work with them, because I think that's part of the overall strategy.

So at this point, providing, you know, the direction as I understand it going, it's going to be get to work, get to work with the team, get to work on an overall timetable while we're working on the facility plan as well.

11 Thank you. Just as a practical CHAIR NICHOLS: 12 matter, once this Board votes, our recommendation, along 13 with all the other materials, are due to the Joint 14 Legislative Budget Committee. That's our next step in 15 this process, correct?

16 EXECUTIVE OFFICER COREY: It's correct. It's 17 actually is submitted to Department of Finance, Department 18 of Finance will transmit it to the Joint Legislative 19 Budget Committee, which will have 30 days to provide 20 comments. We'll be responding to those comments. Ιf 21 there's any issues, I'll be reporting back to the Board on 22 that as well. And then the next stop would be back to 23 Department of General Services to begin the site prep and 24 associated transfer -- land transfer.

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CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay. Do we have any additional

1 comments before we proceed to a roll call?

Mr. Corey.

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3 EXECUTIVE OFFICER COREY: Chair, I wanted to add, 4 my colleagues here pointed out two additional areas that 5 we will need to follow up on as well. In terms of the follow up on the site, it will include a full CEQA б 7 evaluation. And we also want to work with Riverside and 8 the commitment in terms of zero net energy and how that 9 could potentially factor into the project.

10 CHAIR NICHOLS: Yes, the need to acquire 11 sufficient land, so that we can actually generate our own 12 electricity on site is one of the factors that we've been 13 looking at.

All right. Seeing no additional -BOARD MEMBER DE LA TORRE: Yes. This is -CHAIR NICHOLS: Yes, excuse me?
BOARD MEMBER DE LA TORRE: Yes, this is Hector.
CHAIR NICHOLS: Hector, yes, go ahead.

BOARD MEMBER DE LA TORRE: One more data point as this moves forward, which is I'm sure we are going to be losing employees, I'd like to have a running count of how much employees we lose who, in their exit interviews or in other ways, let us know that they are leaving because of this move.

CHAIR NICHOLS: You know, I'm sure we can keep

1 track of what's going on with our staffing in El Monte. You are perhaps deliberately doing your best to send a 2 message. I would like to say that I hope that that is not 3 4 the way it's heard, because I realize, having met with the 5 employees, with the group, including the leaders of the б laboratory day before yesterday, that while their 7 feelings, you know, ranged from concern to, in a few 8 cases, support, but in many, many cases opposition to the 9 decision, that, you know, our job is to reach out to them 10 and talk to them about the Board's thinking. 11 And I think driving a wedge between the staff and 12 the Board is the opposite of what we should be trying to 13 But we will certainly be keeping track of what's do. 14 going on with employment in El Monte, and, you know, 15 you'll have access to that information, absolutely. 16 BOARD MEMBER DE LA TORRE: Thank you. 17 CHAIR NICHOLS: All right. Madam Clerk, would 18 you please call the roll. 19 BOARD CLERK JENSEN: Dr. Balmes? 20 BOARD MEMBER BALMES: Aye. 21 BOARD CLERK JENSEN: Mr. De La Torre? 22 BOARD MEMBER DE LA TORRE: No. 23 BOARD CLERK JENSEN: Mr. Eisenhut? BOARD MEMBER EISENHUT: 24 No. 25 BOARD CLERK JENSEN: Senator Florez?

BOARD MEMBER FLOREZ: Aye. 1 BOARD CLERK JENSEN: Supervisor Gioia? 2 3 BOARD MEMBER GIOIA: Aye. 4 BOARD CLERK JENSEN: Mrs. Riordan? 5 BOARD MEMBER RIORDAN: Aye. 6 BOARD CLERK JENSEN: Supervisor Serna? 7 BOARD MEMBER SERNA: No. 8 BOARD CLERK JENSEN: Professor Sperling? 9 BOARD MEMBER SPERLING: Aye. 10 BOARD CLERK JENSEN: Ms. Takvorian? 11 BOARD MEMBER TAKVORIAN: Aye. 12 BOARD CLERK JENSEN: Vice Chair Berg? 13 VICE CHAIR BERG: Aye. 14 BOARD CLERK JENSEN: Chair Nichols? 15 CHAIR NICHOLS: Aye. 16 BOARD CLERK JENSEN: The motion passes 8 to 3. 17 Thank you, and thanks to all for an extremely 18 cordial and high level discussion. 19 And we'll now move on to the next stages. And I 20 think -- did anyone sign up for general public comment? 21 BOARD CLERK JENSEN: (Shakes head.) 22 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay. Then we can be adjourned. 23 All right. 24 (Thereupon the Air Resources Board 25 adjourned at 11:15 a.m.)

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10	I further certify that I am not of counsel or
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12	way interested in the outcome of said meeting.
13	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand
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