

Meeting: **Sites Reservoir Project**

**2021 May 20**

Subject: **Reservoir Committee Meeting**

**1:30 PM – 4:00 PM**

Location: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Call in: **1-213-379-5743**

Code: **819 176 029#**

Chair: Jeff Davis (San Geronio Pass Water Agency)

Vice Chair: Bill Vanderwaal (Reclamation District 108 and Dunnigan Water District)

Treasurer: Jamie Traynham (Davis Water District)

## **MINUTES**

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Davis called the Reservoir Committee Meeting of May 20, 2021 to order at the hour of 1:30 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **ROLL CALL:**

Roll of the Reservoir Committee was called, which resulted in 19 eligible representatives. This equated to 89.74% of the current participation percentage being in attendance, which is greater than the 50% needed to have a quorum of the Reservoir Committee.

### **INTRODUCTIONS:**

The Sites Staff, Consultants and member of the public introduced themselves.

### **AGENDA APPROVAL:**

Chairman Davis called for approval of the Reservoir Committee Meeting Agenda of May 20, 2021.

Executive Director Brown requested Closed Session Item 5.2, be removed from the Agenda as follows:

- 5.2 Negotiations Concerning Sites Project operation terms, conditions, and agreements with the State of California, Department of Fish and Wildlife, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Govt. Code §§54956.9(c) and 54956.9(d)(4)).

**Action:** It was moved by Traynham, seconded by Tincher to approve the May 20, 2021 Reservoir Committee Agenda, as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

### **ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION:**

Chairman Davis inquired as to whether calling for roll call vote would be appropriate when holding virtual/remote meetings.

Counsel Doud recommended a roll call vote as required by the Brown Act. Brief discussion followed.

Executive Director Brown suggested continuing discussion of the roll call vote to the following month.

Counsel Doud announced the Reservoir Committee would consider Closed Session, except for Closed Session Item 5.2 as follows:

**5. Closed Session:**

- 5.1 Negotiations Concerning Sites Project operation terms, conditions, and agreements with the State of California, State Water Resources Control Board (Govt. Code §§54956.9(c) and 54956.9(d)(4)).
- 5.2 Negotiations Concerning Sites Project operation terms, conditions, and agreements with the State of California, Department of Fish and Wildlife, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Govt. Code §§54956.9(c) and 54956.9(d)(4)).

**PERIOD FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Chairman Davis called for a period for public comment. Hearing none, he closed the period for public comment.

**1. CONSENT AGENDA:** It was moved by Kunde, seconded by Marks to approve Consent Agenda Item Numbers 1.1 through 1.4 as follows:

- 1.1 Approve the April 16, 2021 Reservoir Committee Meeting Minutes. **(Attachments A & B)**
- 1.2 Accept the Sites Project Authority Treasurer's Report. **(Attachment A)**
- 1.3 Approve the Payment of Claims. **(Attachments A, B & C)**
- 1.4 Authorize the Executive Director to execute an amended Federal Financial Assistance Agreement with USBR which increases the federal assistance to the project from \$6.3M to \$13.5M.

Motion carried unanimously.

**2. Action Items:**

None.

**3. Discussion and Information Items:**

- 3.1 Review and comment on fundamental elements of the water right application being prepared for submittal to the State Water Resources Control Board.

Chairman Davis provided a brief overview of the water rights application process.

Ms. Forsythe provided an overview of the Fundamentals of the Water Rights Application to the State Board and spoke to the following:

### **Water Rights Application Update**

Since Nov 2020 key parameters briefing, team has focused on:

- Refining parameters and discussing them with State Board Staff.
- Developing approach for Water Availability Analysis.
- Establishing regular coordination meetings with State Board staff.
- Developing approach to navigating the new State Board on-line application process.
- Discussions with Reclamation and DWR through the Operations Agreement efforts.

### **Key Refinements since Nov 2020**

- Purpose of Use:
  - Added stock-watering based on discussions with Reclamation.
  - Discussed groundwater banking and undesirable effects of overdraft with State Board staff.
    - In and of itself, it's not currently a recognized purpose of use
    - Purpose of use is when water is withdrawn and subsequently used.
    - Will adjust if/when the State Board changes in the future.
- Points of Re-diversion:
  - Adding more for refuges.
  - Considering adding Freeport.
  - Survey to members to make sure we have captured all points of re-diversion.

### **Place of Use – North of Delta and Delta (Map)**

- Will be hosting NOD Members meeting to review map in detail.

### **Place of Use – South of Delta (Map)**

Mr. Ferguson provided an overview of the State Filing and spoke to the following:

- Petition to amend and assign A025517 (Colusa Reservoir).
  - Full Application package to describe current project.
- Request release from priority.

- A025514 (Glenn Reservoir).
- A025513 (Glenn Reservoir – power).
- Key Benefit of Assignment/Release.
  - Prevents another party from assigning state-filed application in the future and directly competing with Sites in terms of priority.
- Key Risk of Only Petitioning for Assignment.
  - State Board may not grant assignment.
    - Would then need to go back through the process with new application (18-month delay).
    - Would lose application fee (\$570,000) and have to pay again.
- Team continues to assess pros and cons of assignment and backup application.

Discussion followed regarding the pros and cons of assignment and backup application.

Ms. Forsythe continued with the presentation and spoke to the following:

**Next Steps:**

- Finalize key parameters.
  - Survey on points of re-diversion.
  - North of Delta member meeting on place of use.
- Complete Water Availability Analysis.
- Begin developing application materials and navigating through the new electronic filing format.

Further discussion followed. Chairman Davis reminding the Committee Participants to complete and return the survey to Ms. Forsythe by June 4, 2021.

- 3.2 Review and comment on the approach for Project commitments, key outcomes of the construction-related chapters of the Revised Draft EIR/Supplemental Draft EIS and discuss local issues and challenges.

Ms. Forsythe provided an update regarding the Revised Draft EIR/Supplemental Draft EIS Briefing (Construction-Related) and spoke to the following:

**Agenda:**

- Project Commitments.
- Key Preliminary Finding in the Construction-Related Chapters:
  - Chapters with impacts requiring mitigation.
  - Chapters with significant and unavoidable impacts.
- Local Issues and Considerations.

**Project Commitments:**

- Part of the Project Description, important commitments.

- Must be developed and implemented.
- Will be reported on similar to reporting for mitigation measures.
- Best Management Practices (BMPs):
  - Included in an appendix to the RDEIR/SDEIS.
  - Reviewed by team to confirm reasonable, feasible, implementable
- Plans:
  - Framework provided in RDEIR/SDEIS
  - Recommend developing in Amendment 3

**Example: Reservoir Management Plan**

- Purpose:
  - Describes the management of water resources in Sites Reservoir, including monitoring water quality, fisheries management and vector management.
- Includes:
  - Metrics, standards, testing and monitoring protocols, guidelines for water quality measurements, and the frequency and location of measurements in the reservoir, the source water and the reservoir discharge.
- Constituents currently included:
  - Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs)
  - Methylmercury
  - Metals
  - Water Temperature
  - Salt and Minerals (Salt Pond)

**Preliminary Determinations:**

- Impacts Requiring Mitigation.
- Significant and Unavoidable Impacts.
- Chapters with No Impact Requiring Mitigation and No Significant and Unavoidable Impacts:
  - Fluvial Geomorphology.
  - Groundwater Resources.
  - Minerals.
  - Recreation.
  - Energy.
  - Noise.
  - Population and Housing.
  - Public Services and Utilities.
  - Public Health and Environmental Hazards.

**Construction-Related Chapters Not Yet Completed:**

- Some construction-related chapters still in development and not included today.

- Air Quality.
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions.
- Water Quality.

**Local Issues and Considerations:**

- CEQA/NEPA focused on the physical changes in the environment.
- Captures some (i.e., traffic) but not ALL local issues/considerations.
- For example:
  - Increased call volume for local fire and law enforcement due to construction and O&M (Authority safety and security needs and increased recreationist).
  - Increased students from families that move to the area for permanent O&M jobs.
- Will need to work with local agencies to address these items outside of the CEQA process.
- Re-initiate meetings with local agencies to discuss their concerns and work towards mutually agreeable solutions.

**Process for Approval of Release of the Revised Draft EIR:**

- April – Part 1 Overview
  - CEQA overview and process presentation.
- May – Part 2 Key Sections
  - Construction-Related Sections and Local Issues.
- June – Part 3 Keys Sections
  - Operations-Related Sections, Growth Inducement and Cumulative.
- July – Request approval
  - Request approval from the Reservoir Committee and Authority Board for release of the public RDEIR in August.
- August 2021 – Release of RDEIR
  - Schedule assumes parallel review and release of SDEIS as a joint document.

Brief discussion followed, with no action taken.

- 3.3 Review and comment on the contents and timing for the California Water Commission (CWC) Proposition 1 Water Storage Investment Program (WSIP) Feasibility Report submittal.

Mr. Luu informed the Committee of a typo within the staff report, stating it was brought to his attention and he wanted to make the Committee aware of it.

Mr. Luu provided an update on the contents and timing for the CWC Proposition 1 WSIP Feasibility Report submittal. He noted the Final WSIP Feasibility Report would be submitted to the Commission staff, so the Commission could consider

determination of project feasibility at their meeting on December 17, 2021. Discussion followed.

Executive Director Brown stated staff plans to seek approval from the Reservoir Committee and Authority Board at the September 2021 meetings to submit the Final WSIP Feasibility Report to Commission staff.

Further discussion followed with no action taken.

### 3.4 Review and comment on the Amendment 3 work plan early budget estimates and cash flow for the 18 month and 36 month work period.

Mr. Trapasso provided an update on the Amendment 3 Work Plan High Level Cost Estimate and Cash Flow Estimate and spoke to the following:

- Draft 18 Month Cash Flow and Draft 36 Month Cash Flow (graphs) Revenue vs Expenses.
- Draft 18 Month Subject Area Pie Chart and Draft 36 Month Subject Area Pie Chart - details percentage in each subject area (e.g. Engineering, Geotech, Growth, Modeling, etc.).

He stated a “soft call” survey is going out after this meeting seeking feedback on anticipated participation levels and preference for the 18 vs 36 month work period, with results of the survey to be shared with the RC/AB at a future meeting. Brief discussion followed.

### 3.5 Review and comment on April Plan of Finance workshop follow-up activities, feedback from workshop participants, and next steps in preparation for the June Plan of Finance workshop.

Executive Director Brown stated that in the interest of time he would forego the planned presentation on this item. He further stated should anyone have questions regarding this matter they reach out to him or Mr. Robinette.

## 4. **Reports:**

### 4.1 **Member’s Reports:**

#### 4.1.1 **Chairpersons’ Report:**

This time is set aside to allow the Chair/Co-Chair an opportunity to disclose/discuss items related to the Sites Project.

Chairman Davis stated he has spoken to Executive Director Brown about resuming in-person meetings. He stated further resuming in-person meetings would probably not occur until maybe August or September.

He further congratulated Mr. Cheng on his article in the May 2021 Journal of the American Water Works Association entitled “Show Me The Money” WIFIA Success Stories.

#### 4.1.2 Workgroup Chairpersons’ Report:

This time is set aside to allow the Workgroup Chairpersons’ an opportunity to disclose/discuss items related to the Sites Project.

##### Reservoir Ops and Engineering Work Group:

Mr. Kunde provided an update on a meeting held on May 12, 2021 regarding the following items:

- Modeling status on yield storage in the Reservoir
- Updates on conveyance modeling
- Update by Mr. Luu regarding cost estimates.

#### 4.1.3 Reservoir Committee Participant Reports:

This time is set aside to allow Representatives or their Alternates an opportunity to disclose/discuss items related to the Sites Project.

None.

#### 4.2 Executive Director’s Reports:

Executive Director Brown provided a brief update on the following:

- Monthly status report. **(Attachment A)**
- Work Plan Key Deliverables Report. **(Attachment B)**
- Meetings Action Items Summary. **(Attachment C)**

He also spoke to the following:

- “Soft call” survey.
- WIFIA loan letter of interest.
- RD108 provided a drone video of the Colusa Basin Drain.
- Reminder to pay Cash Call invoices.

Chairman Davis declared a recess at 3:10 p.m. to convene into Closed Session as follows:

#### 5. Closed Session:



Counsel Doud stated the Reservoir Committee would only be considering Closed Session item 5.1 and 5.2 was pulled from the Agenda.

- 5.1 Negotiations Concerning Sites Project operation terms, conditions, and agreements with the State of California, State Water Resources Control Board (Govt. Code §§54956.9(c) and 54956.9(d)(4))
- 5.2 Negotiations Concerning Sites Project operation terms, conditions, and agreements with the State of California, Department of Fish and Wildlife, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Govt. Code §§54956.9(c) and 54956.9(d)(4))

Chairman Davis adjourned Closed Session at 4:04 p.m. and reconvened into Open Session.

**6. Report from Closed Session**

Counsel Doud stated there was no reportable action taken on the following Closed Session matter:

- 5.1. Negotiations concerning Sites Project operation terms, conditions, and agreements with the State of California, State Water Resources Control Board (Govt. Code Section 54956.9 (c) and 54956.9(d)(4)).

**7. Recap:**

- 7.1 Suggested Future Agenda Items.

Discussion on returning to in-person vs virtual meetings.

- 7.2 Upcoming Meetings:

**Authority Board:**

Wednesday, May 26, 2021 – 1:30 to 4:00 PM

**Successor Agreement & Governance Joint Workshop:**

Friday, June 18, 2021, 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM

**Joint Authority Board & Reservoir Committee:**

Wednesday, June 23, 2021, 1:30 PM – 4:00 PM

Chairman Davis adjourned the Reservoir Committee meeting at 4:05 p.m.

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Jeff Davis, Chairman

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Jerry Brown, Executive Director

**Current Voting Committee Participants (23):**

	<i>Pct</i>	<i>Participant</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	3.37	American Canyon, City
<input type="checkbox"/>	2.32	Antelope Valley-East Kern WA
<input type="checkbox"/>	2.26	Carter MWC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	5.16	Coachella Valley WD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	5.16	Colusa County
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	5.18	Colusa Co. WD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2.31	Cortina WD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2.77	Davis WD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	0.00	Department of Water Resources (non-voting)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4.11	Desert WA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3.06	Dunnigan WD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3.67	Glenn-Colusa ID
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2.47	Irvine Ranch WD

	<i>Pct</i>	<i>Participant</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2.47	LaGrande WD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	17.09	Metropolitan WD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3.37	Reclamation District 108
<input type="checkbox"/>	2.32	Rosedale-Rio Bravo WSD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	8.56	San Bernardino Valley MWD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	6.35	San Gorgonio Pass WA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2.32	Santa Clara Valley WD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3.67	Santa Clarita Valley WA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3.78	Westside WD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3.08	Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa WSD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	.00	US Bureau of Reclamation (non-voting)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	5.16	Zone 7 WA
	100.00	Total

**19 Voting members represented at Meeting start**

**89.74%** Represented participation percentage

Representation has been delegated as follows:

(1) To Jamie Traynham, Davis WD

(≠) Not present after \_\_\_\_\_

**Current Voting Reservoir Committee Participants (23):**

<i>Participant</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Representative</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Alternate</i>	<i>Others</i>
American Canyon, City	<input type="checkbox"/> Felix Hernandez III	<input type="checkbox"/> Jason Holley	
AVEK WA	<input type="checkbox"/> Dwayne Chisam	<input type="checkbox"/> Dan Flory	
Carter MWC	<input type="checkbox"/> Ben Carter	<input type="checkbox"/> Ann Carter <input type="checkbox"/> Charlie Palmer <input type="checkbox"/> Kendra Carter	
Coachella Valley WD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robert Cheng	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Petya Vasileva	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ivory Reyburn
Colusa County.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Azevedo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gary Evans	
Colusa Co. WD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shelley Murphy	<input type="checkbox"/> Joe Marsh	
Cortina WD	<input type="checkbox"/> Jim Peterson	<input type="checkbox"/> Chuck Grimmer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jamie Traynham
Davis WD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jamie Traynham	<input type="checkbox"/> Tom Charter	
Desert WA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Krause	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Johnson	
Dunnigan WD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bill Vanderwaal	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Glenn-Colusa ID	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thad Bettner	<input type="checkbox"/> Holley Dawley	
Irvine Ranch WD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paul Weghorst	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kellie Welch	
LaGrande WD	<input type="checkbox"/> Zach Dennis	<input type="checkbox"/> Ken LaGrande	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jaime Traynham
Metropolitan WD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Randall Neudeck	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nina Hawk	
RD 108	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bill Vanderwaal	<input type="checkbox"/> Blair Lewis	
Rosedale-Rio Bravo WD	<input type="checkbox"/> Dan Bartel	<input type="checkbox"/>	
San Bernardino V MWD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bob Tincher	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heather Dyer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cindy Saks
San Geronio Pass WA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeff Davis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lance Eckhart	
Santa Clara Valley WD	<input type="checkbox"/> Cindy Kao	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eric Leitterman	<input type="checkbox"/> Katrina Jessop
Santa Clarita Valley WA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dirk Marks	<input type="checkbox"/> Steve Cole	
Westside WD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Allan Myers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dan Ruiz	

# Reservoir Committee Meeting

2021 May 20

<i>Participant</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Representative</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Alternate</i>	<i>Others</i>
Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa WSD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rob Kunde	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Zone 7 WA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amparo Flores	<input type="checkbox"/> Carol Mahoney <input type="checkbox"/> Jarnail Chahal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Valerie Pryor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dee Bradshaw <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lillian Xie

## Non-Voting Committee Participants (2):

<i>Participant</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Representative/Other</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Alternate/Other</i>	
Dept of Water Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rob Cooke	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Sandino	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alex Vdovichenko
	<input type="checkbox"/> Ajay Goyal	<input type="checkbox"/> Jim Wieking	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jessica Boyt
Bureau of Reclamation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Welsh	<input type="checkbox"/> Don Bader	<input type="checkbox"/> Chris Duke
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vanessa King	<input type="checkbox"/> Derya Sumer	<input type="checkbox"/> Shana Kaplan
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Natalie Wolder	<input type="checkbox"/> Mike Mosley	

## Authority, Non-Signatory (6):

<i>Participant</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Representative</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Alternate</i>
Glenn County	<input type="checkbox"/> Ken Hahn	<input type="checkbox"/> Grant Carmon
PCWA	<input type="checkbox"/> Ed Horton	<input type="checkbox"/> Ben Barker
Roseville	<input type="checkbox"/> Sean Bigley	<input type="checkbox"/> Darin Reintjes
Sacramento, City of	<input type="checkbox"/> Jeff Harris	<input type="checkbox"/> Trevor Joseph
Sacramento County WA	<input type="checkbox"/> Kerry Schmitz	<input type="checkbox"/> Jason Marks
Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority	<input type="checkbox"/> Jeff Sutton	<input type="checkbox"/> Anne Sanger
		<input type="checkbox"/> Michael Peterson
		<input type="checkbox"/> Halbert Charter

## Staff:

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Name</i>	<i>Representing</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Name</i>	<i>Representing</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jerry Brown	Executive Director	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joe Trapasso	Sites Project Authority
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ali Forsythe	Sites Project Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yolanda Tirado	Board Clerk
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kevin Spesert	Sites Project Authority	<input type="checkbox"/> Marcia Kivett	Admin

## Consultants:

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Name</i>	<i>Representing</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Name</i>	<i>Representing</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeriann Alexander	Fugro	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeff Herrin	AECOM
<input type="checkbox"/> Robert Boling	HDR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Erin Heydinger	HDR
<input type="checkbox"/> Monique Briard	ICF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sara Katz	Katz & Associates
<input type="checkbox"/> Kim Floyd	Floyd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott Kuney	Young Wooldridge

## Reservoir Committee Meeting

2021 May 20

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name	Representing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Name	Representing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Henry Luu	HDR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	John Spranza	HDR
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Connor McDonald	CMD West	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hailey Traynham	Brown & Caldwell
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JP Robinette	Brown & Caldwell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Laurie Warner Herson	Phenix
<input type="checkbox"/>	Peter Rude	Ch2m			

### Other Attendees:

Name	Representing	Contact (Phone & E-mail)
Laura Nicholson	Office of Senator Nielsen	
Juleah Cordi	Office of Assemblyman Gallagher	
Cheyenne Harris	Brown & Caldwell	
Marcus Maltby	Brown & Caldwell	
Jarnail Chahal	Zone 7	
Emily Otis	Katz	
Steven Sanders	Gannett Fleming	
Alan Doud	Young Wooldridge	
Charles Gardner	The Catalyst Group	
Aaron Ferguson	Somach Simmons & Dunn	
Andy Hitchings	Somach Simmons & Dunn	
Marc VanCamp	MBK Engineers	
Grace Lui	Fugro	