

SITES
RESERVOIR
PROJECT

**CERTIFIED
ORIGINAL**

**RDEIR/SDEIS
VIRTUAL
PUBLIC MEETING**

Wednesday, December 15, 2021

6:00 P.M.

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A P P E A R A N C E S

Sara Katz,
Meeting Moderator

Aly Forsythe,
Sites Environmental Planning and Permitting
Manager

Vanessa King,
Bureau of Reclamation

Sarah Rossetto,
Q&A Monitor

Mike Hendrick,
Fisheries Biologist

1 the flows will go way down through other months when
2 it's critical for fish to have -- have that water,
3 including spring salmon. So, I really feel like the EIS
4 and EIR is trying to put lipstick on a pig or, you know,
5 it's trying to make it sound like building dams and
6 reservoirs is good for fish and good for the
7 environment, but it's not. It's a water grab, and it's
8 a -- largely gonna go out of the area, and it's gonna
9 take much more water from our rivers. And I also think
10 that we have --

11 SARA KATZ: Thank you, Regina, for your
12 comment. The --

13 REGINA CHICHIZOLA: I would --

14 SARA KATZ: The -- the next speaker is Ashley
15 Overhouse.

16 Ashley, if you could please unmute yourself.

17 ASHLEY OVERHOUSE: Thank you. If you can hear
18 me?

19 SARA KATZ: Yes, we can.

20 ASHLEY OVERHOUSE: Thank you. This is Ashley
21 Overhouse. I'm the Resilient Rivers Director with
22 Friends of the River, and on Monday, December 13th,
23 Friends of the River Pacific Coast of Federation
24 Fishermen's Association, Institute for Fisheries
25 Resources, California Native Plant Society, and Sierra

1 Club California submitted a letter to Sites Authority
2 requesting an extension of time to provide public
3 comments on the RDEIR and SDEIS. The cir -- the
4 documents, we understand, thousands of pages, including
5 appendices was circulated for review on November 12th,
6 making the deadline for public comment January 11th.
7 We're requesting, respectfully, an additional 31 days,
8 making the comment deadline February 11th, 2022.

9 We expect this will not impact the overall
10 project deadlines. As said earlier today at the
11 California Water Commission Meeting and on your website,
12 the expected completion for the finalized documents is
13 not until late summer or early fall. There's a
14 discrepancy there, but I understand that this is going
15 to take quite a bit of time to go over, review, and time
16 to finalize the documents, so we respectfully request
17 additional time to provide you that substantive feedback
18 that will help you do so.

19 We understand the alternatives include
20 reservoir sizes, from 1.3 to 1.5 million acre feet.
21 And, of course, with those alternatives comes a variety
22 of different as -- you know, impacts, as well as
23 technical material to review. And as you've heard from
24 others, today we share some of those concerns about
25 those impacts. FOR and others need to have the time to

1 provide that meaningful feedback, and we would like to
2 be able to do so. So, respectfully, especially with the
3 holidays and the other projects that are happening, as
4 well as the fact that there was a commission meeting
5 today, on the same day of this public comment period --
6 no rest for the wicked. We would just really appreciate
7 an extension of time.

8 Thank you so much, again, for holding this
9 public comment workshop and the opportunity to comment.
10 Thank you for your time.

11 SARA KATZ: Thanks -- thank you, Ashley.

12 I would like to remind the speakers that we
13 have a two-minute limit per individual, and then also to
14 spell your name, and if you are representing any
15 organization.

16 Our next speaker will be Grant.

17 Grant, if you could please unmute yourself.

18 GRANT PREHEIM: Hi. My name is Grant,
19 spelled, G-r-a-n-t, last name's, P-r-e-h-e-i-m.

20 I'm currently a California resident, and I'm
21 concerned about having safe drinking water for myself
22 and my kids one day. Mostly, I would like to thank
23 Isaac and our other speakers for standing up for
24 ourselves, our rights, and what we believe in.

25 I would like to say, think about what we are