1	LAND USE COMMISSION
2	STATE OF HAWAI'I
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4	ACTION
5	A89-649 LANAI RESORT PARTNERS)
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9	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
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11	The above-entitled matter came on for a Public Hearing
12	at Hale Kupuna O Lana'i, 1144 Ilima Avenue, Lana'i
13	City, Hawai'i 96743 commencing at 10:30 a.m. on
14	January 8th, 2010.
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19	REPORTED BY: HOLLY M. HACKETT, CSR #130, RPR
20	Certified Shorthand Reporter
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3	LISA M. JUDGE DUANE KANUHA (Chairman)				
4	NORMAND LEZY				
5	RANSOM PILTZ REUBEN WONG				
6					
7	ACTING CHIEF CLERK: RILEY HAKOI STAFF PLANNERS: SCOTT DERR				
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11	Docket No. A89-649 Lanai Reso	rt Partners			
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- 1 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Good morning. Thank you
- 2 for coming to the meeting of the Land Use Commission
- 3 today. Today's date is January 8th, 2010. We have
- 4 one more commissioner coming. We have a quorum.
- 5 We'll get started. We have some things we have to get
- 6 started with.
- 7 We have meeting minutes of December 12. Are
- 8 there any corrections? All those in favor of
- 9 accepting?
- 10 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.
- 11 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Any no's? Thank you. We
- 12 have a tentative meeting schedule. Dan?
- MR. DAVIDSON: Thank you, Chair. You have
- 14 the tentative meeting schedule. It's filled for about
- 15 the next three months. We're going to be really busy.
- 16 Please contact Riley or me if you have any questions
- 17 or scheduling conflicts. Thank you.
- 18 COMMISSIONER KANUHA: Mr. Chairman.
- 19 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Yes.
- 20 COMMISSIONER KANUHA: Dan, I notice on the
- 21 tentative schedule it's a different format. It has
- 22 these blocks 'yes' or 'no'. Do you want us to
- 23 indicate and give it back to you? How you want us to
- 24 do that?
- MR. DAVIDSON: I think those are meant for

- 1 e-mail for return to Riley just for recordkeeping.
- 2 We're trying a new system. Is that right, Riley?
- 3 MR. HAKODA: Yes.
- 4 COMMISSIONER KANUHA: Thank you.
- 5 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: This is an action meeting
- 6 on docket No. A89-649 Lanai Resort Partners to
- 7 consider: Castle & Cooke Resorts, LLC's Motion for
- 8 Modification of Condition No. 10 and Dissolution of
- 9 1996 Cease and Desist Order.
- 10 And the Office of Planning's Motion to Amend
- 11 Findings of Facts, Conclusions of Law, Decision and
- 12 Order filed April 16, 1991 as Modified by its Revised
- 13 Motion to Amend Findings of Facts, Conclusions of Law
- 14 and Decision and Order filed on that date.
- 15 Recent filings on this docket are
- 16 December 15, 2009, the LUC received the Office of
- 17 Planning's Revised Motion to Amend Findings of Fact,
- 18 Conclusions of Law, Decision and Order dated April 16,
- 19 1991.
- 20 On December 22, 2009 the LUC received
- 21 Intervenor Lanaians for Sensible Growth Supplemental
- 22 Memorandum in Opposition to Petitioner Castle & Cooke
- 23 Resorts, LLC's Motion for Modification of Condition
- 24 No. 10 and Dissolution of 1996 Cease and Desist Order
- 25 filed on July 16, 2007.

- 1 On December 23, 2009 the LUC received
- 2 Intervenor Lanaians for Sensible Growth's Supplemental
- 3 Memorandum in Opposition to the State of Hawai'i,
- 4 Office of Planning's Revised Motion to Amend Findings
- 5 of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Decision and Order
- 6 filed April 16, 1991.
- 7 Then on January 6, 2010 the LUC received
- 8 Castle & Cooke Resort, LLC's Supplemental Memorandum
- 9 in Support of Motion for Modification of No. 10,
- 10 Dissolution of 1996 Cease and Desist Order; and
- 11 Memorandum in Support of Motion.
- 12 Let me briefly describe our procedure for
- 13 today on this docket.
- 14 First, we will have the parties identify
- 15 themselves for the record. I will then call for those
- 16 individuals desiring to provide public testimony to
- 17 identify themselves. All such individuals will be
- 18 called in turn to our witness box where they will be
- 19 sworn in prior to their testimony. And because we
- 20 have so many people and our time is short, I'm going
- 21 to limit the testimony to three minutes.
- 22 After completion of the public testimony
- 23 portion of the proceedings the parties will provide
- 24 the Commission with presentations in the following
- 25 order:

- We'll first hear from Lanai Resort Partners,
- 2 then the Office of Planning, the County of Maui and
- 3 the Intervenor Lanaians for Sensible Growth. Each
- 4 party will have 20 minutes to make their
- 5 presentations. The Commission will then conduct its
- 6 deliberations.
- 7 The Chair would also note the Commission
- 8 will take short brakes from time to time. I will also
- 9 anticipate that we will quit or the day no later than
- 10 1:45. In order to allow parties ample time to
- 11 concludes their presentations, public testifiers are
- 12 asked to avoid repetitive testimony and to be brief
- 13 and direct in their presentations.
- 14 Are there any questions on our procedures
- 15 for today? Would you identify yourselves, please.
- MR. LAMON: Yes. Good morning,
- 17 Mr. Chairman and members of the Commission, Bruce
- 18 Lamon for Castle & Cooke Resorts, LLC, the successor
- 19 to the Petitioner in the case and one of the Movants
- 20 here today. With me at counsel table is Gary
- 21 Yokoyama, attorney for Castle & Cooke Resorts, LLC.
- MR. YEE: Good morning. Deputy Attorney
- 23 General Bryan Yee on behalf of the Office of Planning.
- 24 With me today is Abbey Mayer from the Office of
- 25 Planning.

- 1 MR. MURAKAMI: Good morning, Mr. Chair.
- 2 Alan Murakami for Intervenor Lanaians for Sensible
- 3 Growth. I do have a couple concerns about the
- 4 procedure if this is appropriate to raise now.
- 5 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Go ahead.
- 6 MR. MURAKAMI: Well, first I'm sure there's
- 7 some logistical problems. But the Office of
- 8 Planning's filed a revised motion which entails some
- 9 additional and different terms that they're asking
- 10 for. As I understand our presentation is limited to
- 11 20 minutes in response?
- 12 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: That's it. We have a
- 13 limited time because of the flight getting back to
- 14 O'ahu. The flight leaves at 3:30.
- MR. MURAKAMI: I'd just like to beg leave to
- 16 be able to present some of the material that I have
- 17 presented in a PowerPoint.
- 18 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: We tried to accommodate
- 19 this meeting, come here because of the public interest
- 20 here. And we're doing the best that we can in order
- 21 to hear as many people as we can and hear their
- 22 concerns. Even with -- normally with public testimony
- 23 we let them go ahead, but because of the timing we
- 24 need to cut it short.
- 25 MR. MURAKAMI: Just for the record I'd like

- 1 to at least request 30 minutes given the new material
- 2 that has been made public since September. And the --
- 3 or October I should say with the Water Use and
- 4 Development Plan that dominated my submission as well
- 5 as the revised motion which is different from the
- 6 previous motion.
- 7 I think an additional 30 minutes for this
- 8 time, given the extent of travel that was encountered
- 9 for the Land Use Commission is warranted for the
- 10 critical nature of the resource we're talking about.
- 11 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Well, let's see how we go.
- 12 It all depends on how our public testimony goes. And
- 13 those of you know that County of Maui, their deputy
- 14 Corp. Counsel is on the way. Like I say we also have
- 15 one of our Commissioners on her way. But we are
- 16 starting as soon as we can so that we can get public
- 17 testimony going.
- 18 MR. MURAKAMI: I understand, Mr. Chair. And
- 19 with all due deference I was wondering how many people
- 20 have signed up to testify.
- 21 MR. DAVIDSON: Fifteen right now.
- MR. MURAKAMI: So I think on behalf of the
- 23 public --
- 24 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Let's go ahead. And I'll
- 25 ask when we get through let's see what we got. Okay?

- 1 MR. MURAKAMI: All right.
- 2 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: I'll give you a leeway.
- 3 Please let's get started.
- 4 MR. MURAKAMI: Thank you.
- 5 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: First person signed up
- 6 Sally Kaye.
- 7 SALLY KAYE,
- 8 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 9 and testified as follows:
- 10 THE WITNESS: Good morning. My name is
- 11 Sally Kaye. I'm a resident of Lana'i, 511 Ilima
- 12 Street. Thank you for joining us this morning. I'm
- 13 here to speak against granting either of these
- 14 motions. The Petitioner's Motion to Modify Condition
- 15 10 filed on 7-10-07 should be denied as outdated and
- 16 based on inaccurate assertions.
- 17 In support of the replacement language
- 18 amending Condition 10 Petitioner contends it will
- 19 match groundwater restrictions to those imposed by
- 20 Maui County Code. So much of the code that defined
- 21 potable using a chloride level has since been
- 22 repealed.
- 23 Section 19-7085(c) says that: "No potable
- 24 water shall be drawn from the high level aquifer" but
- 25 does not include a chloride level. So the Petitioner

- 1 can no longer rely on language in the code to support
- 2 that part of the amendment.
- 3 The motion states that the Commission on
- 4 Water Resource Management found the sustainable yield
- 5 in the high level aquifer is 6 million gallons a day.
- 6 This needs clarification. The sustainable yield is
- 7 actually 3 million gallons per day per aquifer sector
- 8 with a cap of 2.7 million gallons per sector
- 9 withdrawal permitted.
- Period 8 of 2009, 27 days, shows that
- 11 2 million gallons a day was drawn from one sector. As
- 12 the Water Use and Development Plan demonstrates all
- 13 but one well is in a single sector, the leeward.
- 14 Petitioner says it has developed a
- 15 comprehensive watershed stewardship plan. I would
- 16 submit this doesn't exist. I would ask them to
- 17 produce it. The Petitioner says it has planted a
- 18 thousand trees since 2001 which comes to about 142
- 19 trees per year.
- 20 What is the context for this? Are they
- 21 still alive? Are they healthy? Are they growing? Is
- 22 this a sufficient number?
- 23 Petitioner says it has commissioned a study
- 24 by Dr. James Juvik to conduct the Lanai Watershed Fog
- 25 Study. This study was completed in May of 2009 and

- 1 has not been publically released and doesn't address
- 2 recharge. And two years after the Petitioner relies
- 3 on seven years' worth of tree planting, Dr. Juvik
- 4 recommends at page 42 that "aggressive Cook Pine
- 5 reforestation" with sustained companion efforts for
- 6 native ecosystem restoration be conducted.
- 7 Because Petitioner can no longer rely on the
- 8 county definition I would recommend that the motion be
- 9 denied.
- 10 With respect to OP's Motion to Amend filed
- 11 on December 15 of '09 this motion should be denied on
- 12 procedural grounds as OP is not a petitioner pursuant
- 13 to 15-15-94 and can't provide adequate assurance of
- 14 satisfaction of conditions imposed by petitioner
- 15 pursuant to 15-15-90(e)(4).
- 16 Even if you reach the substance of this
- 17 motion it should be denied as irrelevant since it
- 18 suggests stalling this proceeding to gather
- 19 information already available.
- The motion at 2 acknowledges that Maui
- 21 County has now deleted any definition of non-potable
- 22 water based on chloride levels.
- 23 And after arguing its 2007 motion that this
- 24 body should defer to reasonable standards established
- 25 by the county, it proceeds to suggest that the OP

- 1 somehow now has the authority to supersede the very
- 2 government body it formerly wanted this body to defer
- 3 to. It provides no citation to any legislative or
- 4 statutory authority that grants leave to the OP to
- 5 state any standards.
- 6 The memorandum at C suggests that if
- 7 chloride levels fall far below --
- 8 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Can you wrap it up, please.
- 9 MS. KAYE: Okay. I think the three
- 10 submissions are already in the Water Use and
- 11 Development Plan. This would stall this proceeding
- 12 for two years unnecessarily so. And it should be
- 13 denied as not supported by any legal authority because
- 14 it's nothing more than a stalling tactic.
- This benefits no one but the Petitioner and
- 16 does nothing to protect our water resources, which is
- 17 the objective of this body's 1991 Decision and Order.
- 18 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you. Just a minute.
- 19 Any questions?
- MR. LAMON: No questions, Mr. Chairman.
- 21 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Questions, State?
- MR. YEE: No questions.
- 23 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Intervenor?
- MR. MURAKAMI: None.
- 25 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioners, do you have

- 1 any questions? Okay. Thank you. Winnie Basques.
- 2 And next up is Butch Gima.
- 3 WINIFRED BASQUES
- 4 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 5 and testified as follows:
- 6 Would you state your name and address for
- 7 the record and continue.
- 8 THE WITNESS: Winifred Basques. My post
- 9 office box 630521 island of Lana'i. I live 633 Lana'i
- 10 Avenue. I've been a resident here for the past 27
- 11 years. And I see a lot of people, brand new people in
- 12 the audience. Do you folks know what you folks doing?
- 13 Plenny simple.
- 14 I'm against the water on the golf course.
- 15 It's not right. It's wrong. And they talk about
- 16 affordable homes on the island. We have so much
- 17 things going on, do we have enough water? Do we have
- 18 'nough water for everybody? We can use and we cannot
- 19 go without it plain and simple.
- The thing is that -- okay, Well 14, Well 9
- 21 is pumping water like nobody else's business. But the
- 22 thing is that when you use the regular drinking water
- 23 for the golf course I don't think so, people. It's
- 24 wrong. Wrong. All the way wrong.
- 25 And the thing is that would you like to

- 1 drink recycled water? I don't think so. That's where
- 2 it cause bacteria. That's where it cause your health.
- 3 And whachu gonna do on this island? You ain't got no
- 4 choice. There is only one landowner on this island.
- 5 He wanna do whatever he want to do.
- 6 We are Native Hawaiian people on this
- 7 island. Think about that. Yeah, progress is
- 8 important. But remember the man up there He's
- 9 watching everybody. Not me, not you. He know what
- 10 you talking. He know what what's inside here. He
- 11 know what's in your po'o. Remember, what goes around
- 12 comes around. I hate to say if this goes through,
- 13 hallelujah for everybody. Thank you very much.
- 14 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Any questions?

15

- MR. LAMON: No questions, Mr. Chairman.
- 17 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State?
- MR. YEE: No questions.
- MR. MURAKAMI: None.
- 20 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioners? Thank you.
- 21 Butch Gima. And after him is Ron McOmber.
- 22 BUTCH GIMA,
- 23 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 24 and testified as follows:
- 25 THE WITNESS: Good morning. My name is

- 1 Butch Gima. I'm a resident of Lana'i. I was born and
- 2 raised here and returned back in 1990. I'm also a
- 3 member of Lana'i Water Advisory Committee, have been
- 4 participating in a number of Land Use Commission
- 5 hearings and Lana'i Planning Commission proceedings.
- 6 Of note the Lana'i Water Advisory Committee
- 7 is made up of seven Lana'i residents and one
- 8 nonresident Castle & Cooke member, county council
- 9 member, and staffed by the Department of Water Supply,
- 10 and Commission on Water Resource Management has ex
- 11 officio members.
- The seven residents comprise of residents
- 13 from the Lana'i Planning Commission, two members for
- 14 Lanaians for Sensible Growth, LSG, three at large
- 15 community members, and one resident Castle & Cooke
- 16 resident. Wanted to point this out because we feel
- 17 this is community involvement, participation is
- 18 imperative given Lana'i Water Company is a private
- 19 water company.
- 20 The existence of Lana'i Water Advisory
- 21 Committee helps to provide a checks and balances
- 22 system since the level of accountability is much less
- 23 than that of a public water system.
- 24 More important, community involvement is all
- 25 the more critical because the Department of Water

- 1 Supply, Commission on Water Resource Management and
- 2 the LUC has no on island presence. So without the
- 3 ears and eyes of the community and LWAC the water
- 4 system operations would go unnoticed. That's one of
- 5 the reason why we are moving towards
- 6 institutionalizing the Lana'i Water Advisory Committee
- 7 and its procedures.
- 8 My understanding it's the remand from the
- 9 Supreme Court was to determine whether or not you have
- 10 evidence to determine that there was a violation of
- 11 Condition 10. I feel there has been. And I'm asking
- 12 that the Land Use Commission uphold the earlier
- 13 decision.
- 14 It's important to note that your
- 15 predecessors, the county and Lanains for Sensible
- 16 Growth had a lot of foresight into protecting our
- 17 water as evidenced by the memorandum of agreement in
- 18 1987 and 1990 and in the county ordinances as noted in
- 19 the handout I have provided to you.
- 20 We need to continue to demonstrate this type
- 21 of foresight and protect the aquifer for a couple of
- 22 reasons. One, the Challenge at Manele -- the Manele
- 23 Project District is using up to 67 percent of the
- 24 water pumped daily on Lana'i. That amounts to about
- 25 one, close to a million gallons a day.

- 1 We need to be prudent because we only have
- 2 one aquifer on our island as opposed to other islands
- 3 where there are more than one. We have no surface
- 4 water to capture. And based on the current
- 5 infrastructure only three to three and-a-half million
- 6 gallons a day can be pumped based on two-thirds of all
- 7 the wells operating at 16 hours a day. That's an
- 8 industry recommendation.
- 9 We have diminished recharge, as Sally
- 10 mentioned earlier, because of the diminished watershed
- 11 leading to a diminished fog drip and elimination of
- 12 recharge from pineapple irrigation. None of the water
- 13 that's being used down at the Manele Project District
- 14 is helping to recharge our aquifer.
- More importantly the system does not have
- 16 the redundancy, the number of wells needed nor spacing
- 17 of configuration of wells that the industry has
- 18 recommended. As I said I feel the Condition 10 has
- 19 been violated. And I'll summarize real quickly since
- 20 I don't have that much time.
- In your finding of facts Petitioners have
- 22 said the high-level aquifer/potable water terms were
- 23 synonymous.
- 24 2. The Petitioners represented that the
- 25 upper potable wells leak potable water into the lower

- 1 wells, Wells 1 and 9.
- 2 3. Petitioner represented that the salinity
- 3 in Wells 1 and 9 would drop due to leakage. As you
- 4 see in what I handed out to you there's a reference to
- 5 Rae Louie's letter to the Commission. And it
- 6 basically shows the drop in chloride levels from Wells
- 7 1 and 9. And you see the raw numbers and the
- 8 percentage of drop leading to a conclusion that the
- 9 wells are getting -- Wells 1 and 9 is getting sweeter
- 10 because of the potable water leaking into those wells.
- 11 4. They admit to using Wells 1 and 9 to
- 12 irrigate the Challenge at Manele.
- 13 5. They represent that the high-level
- 14 aquifer water is not considered alternative water, yet
- 15 they use it against Condition 10. And they
- 16 represented that alternative water sources are outside
- 17 of the high-level aquifer, but they continue to use
- 18 water in the high level.
- 19 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Can you conclude?
- 20 MR. GIMA: Yes. In a nutshell CCR, Castle &
- 21 Cooke Homes has failed to counter the findings of
- 22 facts, conclusions of law. I want to make it real
- 23 clear that we do not want the Challenge at Manele to
- 24 fail.
- I have -- LSG has never made these

- 1 representations. We want it to succeed for Castle &
- 2 Cooke's sake, for the employees, for golfers. I and
- 3 my brothers just golfed there last weekend. We enjoy
- 4 golfing down there. We don't want it to fail.
- 5 This is not an either/or issue meaning that
- 6 if they don't get their way Murdock will shut down the
- 7 Challenge or pull out of Lana'i or Lana'i will turn
- 8 into another Molokai. These are the type of
- 9 representations that they have made for the last 19
- 10 years.
- 11 There are ways to irrigate the Challenge at
- 12 Manele as evidenced by the representation in their
- 13 Water Use and Development Plan which shows that they
- 14 plan to develop 2 million gallons a day of alternative
- 15 sources of water.
- This is in the Water Use and Development
- 17 Plan.
- 18 2. They have done a feasibility study on
- 19 desal.
- 3. They have developed a feasibility study
- 21 on increasing the capacity of the current sewage
- 22 treatment plant in the city and transmitting that
- 23 water down to Manele. So in summary, the violation
- 24 has either occurred or not. I say it has.
- 25 No. 2. (sic) What business decisions Castle

- 1 & Cooke threatens has no merit in your decision nor
- 2 does OP and/or the County's listing of tasks in their
- 3 pleadings. They have no merit in your decision. In
- 4 fact their recommendations now and in prior settlement
- 5 agreement discussions are items that are currently
- 6 being discussed in LWAC.
- 7 With respect to some of the others LWAC is
- 8 the appropriate venue for discussions, not here. Only
- 9 the evidence and in some cases the lack of evidence
- 10 serve as the basis to uphold the LUC's earlier
- 11 decision.
- 12 It seems fairly clear that you have no
- 13 choice but to uphold your body's earlier decision.
- 14 Ultimately the stewardship of our water underscores
- 15 the importance of upholding that decision. Thank you.
- 16 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you, Butch.
- 17 Petitioner?
- 18 MR. LAMON: No questions, thank you.
- 19 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State?
- MR. YEE: When you refer to alternate water
- 21 source cited in the Water Use and Development Plan, is
- 22 that the draft Water Use and Development Plan that's
- 23 currently being considered by LWAC?
- MR. GIMA: Yes. And the representations
- 25 being made based on the July 12th, 2006 allocation

- 1 table that...
- 2 MR. YEE: That's contained in the Water Use
- 3 and Development Plan?
- 4 MR. GIMA: Yes.
- 5 MR. YEE: Thanks.
- 6 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Intervenor?
- 7 MR. MURAKAMI: No questions.
- 8 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioners, any
- 9 questions? Thanks. Next person Ron McOmber and
- 10 person following is Fairfax Reilly.
- 11 RON McOMBER
- 12 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 13 and testified as follows:
- 14 THE WITNESS: I do. I hope it's not like a
- 15 marriage "I do".
- 16 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State your name and address
- 17 for the record.
- 18 THE WITNESS: My name is Ron McOmber. I've
- 19 been a 40-year resident of Lana'i, member of LSG. And
- 20 I live at 486 Akolo Street, Lana'i City. I look
- 21 around the room, I only see a handful of people that
- 22 were here 20 years ago. And it's really strange to
- 23 look at all the new faces. You have a lot to learn.
- 24 Please take this document very serious. We
- 25 have been work on the Water Use and Development Plan

- 1 for a long time.
- We complained that the county wasn't getting
- 3 it out fast enough. We bitched and moaned and groaned
- 4 and cried and asked Alan to make sure it got out. But
- 5 in a way it helped us because in the last five years
- 6 we watched the water supply on Lana'i deteriorate
- 7 immensely. We watched wells go down. We watched
- 8 wells -- they had to drill another 80 feet. Well 8.
- 9 Why is that?
- 10 If there's plenty of water for that golf
- 11 course and the water that they're taking out for Wells
- 12 1, 9 and 14, and now they're planning another well,
- 13 Well 15, the indication that we see on monthly
- 14 reports -- and we get a water report every month as
- 15 part of the agreement with this community -- watching
- 16 those agreements, and watching those numbers, those
- 17 numbers indicate to us that the water system on this
- 18 island is failing rapidly.
- 19 The other question you need to take into
- 20 consideration is the last six years or so we have had
- 21 probably five water directors. What does that tell
- 22 you?
- 23 That tells you that people come in here with
- 24 the expectation they're going to take over this water
- 25 system; Castle & Cooke is going to hand it to them and

- 1 they're going to make changes.
- 2 When they find out that they have to deal
- 3 with the community, with the water working group, with
- 4 the community that sits there across the table and
- 5 looks, at them, they cannot lie to us. This is too
- 6 small of community to have anybody lie to us. And
- 7 that's what they have been doing. They have been
- 8 fibbing to us.
- 9 We have people that work for the company,
- 10 people that work around the area that tell us when the
- 11 pipes are leaking, where they're breaking. We had a
- 12 leak in the city the other day that took five days to
- 13 fix. Because you know why? 'Cause they didn't have
- 14 anybody that could do asbestos repair.
- 15 What kind of a company would let water,
- 16 hundreds of thousands of gallons run down the road
- 17 because they couldn't fix it? They don't care about
- 18 the water. They don't think it's an issue. It is an
- 19 issue.
- 20 Please read this Water Use and Development
- 21 Plan. And our attorney will go over later on with you
- 22 folks and explain this. But this is a fragile,
- 23 fragile system, even more fragile than we thought it
- 24 was in 1990 when we signed that MOA with the company.
- 25 I don't believe the company thought any of us would

- 1 still be here. Some of us are still here and we're
- 2 going to be here for another 20 years.
- We would like to have you folks -- this
- 4 Condition 10 has been violated, violated and violated.
- 5 When 65 to 70 percent of the water being taken off of
- 6 this aguifer is taken down to Manele and homeowners
- 7 are using water at a rate of 3,000 gallons a day
- 8 non-potable, somebody's not doing their job. It's
- 9 more than what's going up here at the city.
- 10 So we get these indica -- not all the
- 11 homeowners are doing it. You're going to get a
- 12 homeowner come up here say, "I don't do that." Well,
- 13 he doesn't. But somebody is and that's the numbers
- 14 we're getting from the company. These numbers are not
- 15 clear, folks. And we need to know why. And we know
- 16 why.
- 17 We see it right here in the Water Use and
- 18 Development Plan. Please read this understand it.
- 19 You're going to get a lesson from Alan Murakami what
- 20 our concerns are when we saw this. This is shocking.
- 21 This is shocking.
- 22 And the company does not want us at the
- 23 table. Time after time the company has challenged
- 24 this draft copy, the first draft copy and this one
- 25 saying that we have no right to be at the table.

- 1 We have at much right at this table as
- 2 anybody in this state. It's our water system. It
- 3 doesn't belong to Castle & Cooke. It belongs to the
- 4 residents of Lana'i. And we need to protect it.
- 5 We have no surface water. We have no extra
- 6 water at all. And for this community up here in the
- 7 city to use 200 gallons a day potable, and the people
- 8 down at Manele are using 900 in some cases, there's
- 9 something wrong with this.
- 10 If we had held this meeting down at Manele,
- 11 like the last Land Use Commission meeting was held,
- 12 you can go outside and look at the jungle down there.
- 13 There was never a jungle down there. It was barren.
- 14 It was kiawe. It was lantana.
- You go down there now it looks like the
- 16 Garden of Eden. Where do you think that water comes
- 17 from? It comes out of our aquifer, folks.
- 18 Condition No. 10 has been violated, thank
- 19 you very much. Again, thank you very much for coming
- 20 up here and lettin' this community -- you'd never get
- 21 this group down there if it wasn't held up here. I
- 22 appreciate the staff and everybody else for bringing
- 23 this up to the community so they could see. Much
- 24 mahalo.
- 25 (Ms. Lovell and Commissioner Judge now

- 1 present)
- 2 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you. Petitioner?
- 3 MR. LAMON: No questions, thank you.
- 4 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: County?
- 5 MS. LOVELL: No questions.
- 6 MR. McOMBER: Wait a minute. (Addressing
- 7 Ms. Lovell) You just got here. (Laughing)
- 8 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State?
- 9 MR. YEE: No questions.
- 10 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Okay. How about
- 11 Intervenor?
- MR. MURAKAMI: No questions.
- 13 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioners, any
- 14 questions? Thank you, Ron.
- MR. McOMBER: Thank you very much.
- 16 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Fairfax Reilly. The next
- 17 person is Gloria Maker.
- 18 FAIRFAX FEILLY
- 19 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 20 and testified as follows:
- THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 22 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State your name and address
- 23 for the record and continue.
- 24 THE WITNESS: My name is Fairfax Reilly. I
- 25 live at 468 A'akea Street on Lana'i. And I want to

- 1 say thank you for coming to Lana'i, I know it's
- 2 difficult, and for holding the meeting up here. I
- 3 support Ron. I've lived on Lana'i for 31 years. I
- 4 own a residence on Lana'i. I just retired from the
- 5 Department of Education after 31 years. I'm a member
- 6 of Lanains for Sensible Growth and I do sit on the
- 7 board.
- I do appreciate everybody that's here today,
- 9 members of the community. This is obviously a very
- 10 serious issue. My best recollection -- and I've sat
- 11 through many Land Use Commission meetings that were
- 12 held on Lana'i and attend the Lana'i Water Advisory
- 13 Committee, is that there was a general agreement for
- 14 Condition 10 that no water from the high level aquifer
- 15 would be used to irrigate the golf course.
- The issue was not potability. No water from
- 17 the high level aquifer would be used to irrigate the
- 18 golf course.
- 19 My latest review of the EPA Safe Water
- 20 website is that in the glossary chloride is not an
- 21 issue as a safe water. Potability is not defined.
- 22 What is defined are contaminants.
- 23 My conclusion personally is that all of our
- 24 water is potable under those criteria. Yes, we do
- 25 have variability in salinity, but that's not an issue

- 1 because, as you well know, high chloride water can be
- 2 mixed and we can drink it. The real issue for
- 3 potability is it dangerous to your health. We have
- 4 good water on Lana'i.
- 5 None of that water -- and Mr. Leppert agreed
- 6 as I recall at the meeting -- no water from the
- 7 high-level aguifer would be used to irrigate the golf
- 8 course.
- 9 I support the previous testifiers that the
- 10 Lana'i Water Use and Development Plan, we're blessed
- 11 to have had that done and completed by the county.
- 12 And I really appreciate Alan and the county for
- 13 working on that and LWAC for the years of work they
- 14 put on that.
- 15 It offers Mr. Murdock and has offered
- 16 Mr. Murdock for 20 years a way to find water to
- 17 irrigate that golf course. And my own impression is
- 18 it's been pushed down the road year after year after
- 19 year.
- 20 And I think probably the time has come to
- 21 find some alternate water, not from the high-level
- 22 aquifer, to irrigate the golf course. And we will
- 23 continue to operate the golf course.
- 24 And I agree with Butch there are other
- 25 issues that have to be worked out through the Lana'i

- 1 Water Advisory Committee as to how that water is
- 2 allocated and what the demands are. Thank you very
- 3 much. I appreciate it.
- 4 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you. Petitioner?
- 5 MR. LAMON: No questions.
- 6 MS. LOVELL: No questions, thank you, Chair.
- 7 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State?
- 8 MR. YEE: No questions.
- 9 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Intervenor?
- MR. MURAKAMI: None.
- 11 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioners? Thank you.
- 12 Next person in, is Gloria Maker. And following her
- 13 will be Jackie Haraguchi.
- 14 THE WITNESS: Yes I do.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State your name and
- 16 address.
- 17 GLORIA MAKER
- 18 THE WITNESS: My name is Gloria Maker and my
- 19 P. O. Box is 631777 Lana'i City. I currently work for
- 20 Castle & Cooke as a horticulturist at the Manele Bay
- 21 Hotel. And I've only been here a short while but I
- 22 wanted to testify because I believe that Castle &
- 23 Cooke & Cooke is very committed to being a good
- 24 steward of the land and natural resources.
- During the interview process with management

- 1 from both Castle & Cooke and Four Seasons Hotel I was
- 2 consistently asked about my views on sustainability
- 3 and conservation.
- I believe I was hired in part because these
- 5 are issues that I have strongly advocated and
- 6 practices over 30 years in the industry. We will
- 7 continue to reduce water in the future by converting
- 8 systems to drip, reducing our landscape footprint and
- 9 using plant materials such as naives that require less
- 10 water.
- 11 I would like to ask the Commission to allow
- 12 the Manele Golf Course to continue using the current
- 13 brackish water source for irrigation. The golf course
- 14 is vital to the success of the resort and both are
- 15 vital to the employment of many of the members of the
- 16 community.
- 17 Further delay could hinder future
- 18 investments and improvements. And for these reasons I
- 19 would like to encourage this Commission to support
- 20 Castle & Cooke and move this issue forward. Mahalo.
- 21 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Petitioner?
- MR. LAMON: No questions.
- 23 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: County?
- MS. LOVELL: No questions, thank you.
- 25 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State?

- 1 MR. YEE: No questions.
- 2 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Intervenor?
- 3 MR. MURAKAMI: No questions.
- 4 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioners? Okay.
- 5 Thank you. Jackie Haraguchi. The next one is Les
- 6 Jeremiah. Jackie?
- 7 JACKIE HARAGUCHI
- 8 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 9 and testified as follows:
- 10 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 11 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State your name and address
- 12 for the record.
- 13 THE WITNESS: Jackie Haraguchi, 319 Ano
- 14 Street in Kahului.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Proceed.
- 16 THE WITNESS: I'm here on behalf of the
- 17 Maui Contractors Association. I'm the executive
- 18 director. I would like to ask this Commission to
- 19 allow Castle & Castle & Cooke to continue the use of
- 20 the brackish wells to irrigate Manele Bay Golf Course.
- 21 Any mandate to change the current system will erode a
- 22 mainstay of the Island of Lana'i's economy.
- 23 Currently the golf course employs over 25
- 24 Lana'i residents. I believe that any changes to the
- 25 current system will cause a detriment to the island's

- 1 economy by having a domino effect.
- 2 We are in the business of creating jobs, not
- 3 depleting them. So I ask all of you to do the right
- 4 thing and not delay this matter anymore. We all need
- 5 to work together to save jobs for Lana'i residents
- 6 during this recession.
- 7 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Petitioner?
- 8 MR. LAMON: No questions.
- 9 MS. LOVELL: No questions, thank you.
- MR. YEE: No questions.
- 11 MR. MURAKAMI: Yes. As a representative for
- 12 the contractors have you read the draft Water Use and
- 13 Development Plan for Lana'i?
- 14 THE WITNESS: I have not but --
- MR. MURAKAMI: Thank you.
- 16 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioners? Thank you,
- 17 Jackie. Next person Les Jeremiah. Following that is
- 18 Glenn Titcomb.
- 19 LES JEREMIAH, Jr.
- 20 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 21 and testified as follows:
- THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 23 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State your name and address
- 24 for the record.
- 25 THE WITNESS: Les Jeremiah, Jr. 165 Frasier

- 1 Avenue, Apartment 10D. My name is Les Jeremiah, Jr.
- 2 as I just said, and I'm the superintendent for the two
- 3 golf courses on Lana'i.
- 4 Been here on Lana'i for the past eight years
- 5 and I've been in the golf business for over 20 years.
- 6 As a person immediately responsible for the golf
- 7 courses, water uses and efficiency are always one of
- 8 my top priorities. With daily inspections of the
- 9 courses we are constantly striving to ensure that
- 10 water is used properly and efficiently.
- 11 At Manele there are usually three to five
- 12 staff members constantly evaluating and making
- 13 necessary adjudgments and repairs to keep our watering
- 14 system properly and efficiently working.
- 15 Advances with the technology of irrigation
- 16 have allowed us to manage water even more efficiently.
- 17 Microsoft-based programming with detailed control
- 18 features help us to control each and every area of the
- 19 golf course.
- 20 Advances in sprinklers themselves have
- 21 allowed us to change trajectories, with adjustments
- 22 that require minimal efforts to combat being
- 23 distributed in windy areas and other obstructions.
- 24 Interchangeable nozzles on the sprinklers
- 25 themselves and the ability to shut off individual

- 1 heads also allow us to reduce unnecessary watering of
- 2 various areas.
- 3 The Manele's irrigation water having about
- 4 500 ppm of salinity, we have also had to change the
- 5 variety of grass that we have used at Manele in the
- 6 past. And I'm sure you guys have heard it in a lot of
- 7 meeting on O'ahu or the various islands, the seashore
- 8 paspalum.
- 9 So it's a variety that can handle salt.
- 10 It's a lot more tolerant than the conventional Bermuda
- 11 grasses that are used.
- But anyway, we invested the money. And we
- 13 felt that that grass was better for the water quality
- 14 that was -- that we use at Manele, anyway.
- 15 On average the golf courses similar to
- 16 Manele, particularly in Maui County, they use about
- 17 800,000 to about 1 million gallons a day. We have
- 18 steadily kept our average daily use at 650,000 gallons
- 19 or less a Manele. I'd like to ask the Commission to
- 20 support Castle & Cooke's position.
- 21 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you. Petitioner?
- MR. LAMON: No questions.
- 23 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: County?
- MS. LOVELL: No questions, thank you.
- MR. YEE: No questions.

- 1 MR. MURAKAMI: None.
- 2 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioners? Okay.
- 3 Thank you. Glenn Titcomb. The next one is Nestor
- 4 Riel. Glenn.
- 5 GLENN TITCOMB
- 6 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 7 and testified as follows:
- 8 THE WITNESS: Aye.
- 9 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State your name and
- 10 address.
- 11 THE WITNESS: My name's Glenn Titcomb. I
- 12 live at 1546 McCully Place. I've been a resident of
- 13 Lana'i for 23 years. I'm currently an employed
- 14 construction worker. I would like to ask this
- 15 Commission to allow Castle & Cooke to continue to use
- 16 the current irrigation system to water the Manele Bay
- 17 Golf Course.
- The jobs that would be lost would be
- 19 devastating to the residents if they were to stop. So
- 20 please support Castle & Cooke's position. Thank you.
- 21 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Let me see if there's some
- 22 questions for you.
- MR. LAMON: No questions.
- MS. LOVELL: No questions, thank you.
- MR. YEE: No questions.

- 1 MR. MURAKAMI: None.
- 2 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioners? Thank you,
- 3 Glenn. Nestor. Then the next person will be David
- 4 Green. Mr. Riel, let me swear you in.
- 5 NESTOR RIEL
- 6 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 7 and testified as follows:
- 8 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
- 9 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Would you state your name
- 10 and address and then you can continue with your
- 11 testimony.
- 12 THE WITNESS: My name is Nestor Riel. I
- 13 live at 1400 McCully Street. I've been a resident of
- 14 Lana'i since 1969. I'm currently employed by Castle &
- 15 Cooke working for Koele Golf Course. Currently I'm
- 16 union steward since 1990 for all the workers.
- 17 I would like to ask the Commission to work
- 18 for these people of Castle & Cooke using water from
- 19 the Manele Golf Course since they have employed 30
- 20 workers. Among that they have lots of multiple family
- 21 relying on there. That workers include irrigators,
- 22 salespeople, car attendant, and all golf course
- 23 workers.
- 24 Losing their jobs that will affect not only
- 25 our workers but also businesses of Lana'i. So I would

- 1 ask to please support the Castle & Cooke position.
- 2 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you. Petitioner?
- 3 MR. LAMON: No questions.
- 4 MS. LOVELL: No questions, thank you.
- 5 MR. YEE: No questions.
- 6 MR. MURAKAMI: None.
- 7 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Okay. Commissioners?
- 8 Thank you. The next person is David Green. Following
- 9 is Stephen Cheikes. David.
- 10 DAVID GREEN
- 11 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 12 and testified as follows:
- 13 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Let me swear you in please.
- 14 THE WITNESS: I do.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Would you state your name
- 16 and address for the record and continue with your
- 17 testimony.
- 18 THE WITNESS: My name is David Green. I'm a
- 19 permanent resident of Manele on Lana'i. I live at 35
- 20 Lapaiki Place. I am the president of the Manele Bay
- 21 Homeowners Association. And I'm also a member of the
- 22 Lana'i Planning Commission.
- I'd like to speak in favor of the Castle &
- 24 Cooke resolution. First of all, I think I should say
- 25 that I wish the parties to this proceeding had been

- 1 able to settle this whole issue in 2006 when I believe
- 2 you asked the parties to get together and come up with
- 3 a settlement among themselves. I think we have a lot
- 4 of time to doing important things in moving forward
- 5 the right way. And I think there's probably been a
- 6 lot of money spent on attorney's fees that could have
- 7 been used more wisely.
- I also note that despite the fact that the
- 9 majority of water, as Butch and other members have
- 10 stated, is used at Manele, there's no Manele residents
- 11 on the Lana'i Water Advisory Committee which I think
- 12 is unusual, probably inappropriate.
- 13 Residents of Manele strongly support
- 14 conservation. I think this is probably not the
- 15 impression that people have of the residents of
- 16 Manele. As I'm sure you're aware the Lana'i Company
- 17 recently -- the Lana'i Water Company has recently
- 18 started charging for non-potable water. I actually
- 19 testified at the PUC hearing when the rate case was
- 20 being discussed and I supported charging for
- 21 non-potable water because it's obvious that when
- 22 people have to pay for something they take it a little
- 23 bit more seriously than when it's free. That charging
- 24 has already started on the single-family homeowner and
- 25 I expect to get my first bill in a few weeks.

- 1 I have also -- we had our annual meeting of
- 2 the Manele Bay Homeowners Association yesterday. John
- 3 Stubart (phonetic) from the Lana'i Water Company came
- 4 and talked about the efforts that have been made to
- 5 improve the metering down at Manele and to improve the
- 6 controller of the water and shared with us a number of
- 7 resources that are available to improve conservation
- 8 of water. So that is underway.
- 9 Many of the residents in what we call the
- 10 AOAOs, or the condo associations have hired irrigation
- 11 consultants to work on the effectiveness of their
- 12 irrigation systems and to further conserve water. And
- 13 we're all open to other ideas and ways to conserve
- 14 water.
- 15 So I think the bottom line is Manele is a
- 16 huge economic generator for this island. If you start
- 17 with the hotel, the hotel is dependent to a certain
- 18 extent on the golf course. The residents of Manele
- 19 they're very generous people, give generously to
- 20 support activities and charities on the island.
- I would be surprised -- I'm not an
- 22 economist -- but I would be surprised if Manele was
- 23 not responsible for 70 to 80 percent of the economic
- 24 activity on the island.
- 25 So I don't think shutting down Manele is a

- 1 viable option that does anyone any good whatsoever. I
- 2 would argue for a win/win solution rather the
- 3 adversarial approach that sometimes happens in these
- 4 long-term court cases where people have forgotten what
- 5 they're really here for and all they want to do is
- 6 win.
- 7 I think it's important that we all move
- 8 forward and look at conservation very, very actively.
- 9 And the residents at Manele are ready to do their part
- 10 to make that happen. So I'd like to see the water --
- 11 non-potable water continue to be used in accordance
- 12 with the limits that have already been set.
- 13 And I would like to see a much more active
- 14 focus on conservation all across the island and in
- 15 particular at Manele. And I'd like to see the
- 16 community step up and get more active on restoring the
- 17 watershed on the hale. Thank you.
- 18 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you. Questions?
- MR. LAMON: No questions, Mr. Chairman.
- 20 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: County?
- MS. LOVELL: The county has one question.
- 22 Good morning. Are you aware of how much the average
- 23 water use is by residents of your homeowners'
- 24 association?
- THE WITNESS: No, I'm not.

- 1 MS. LOVELL: Are you aware of how much
- 2 average use your property has?
- 3 THE WITNESS: Yes, I am, very aware.
- 4 MS. LOVELL: Could you tell us about how
- 5 much you use on a daily or monthly basis?
- 6 THE WITNESS: Right now I'm using about
- 7 1500 gallons a day of non-potable water.
- 8 MS. LOVELL: So you have dual system?
- 9 THE WITNESS: Yes. Everyone at Manele has a
- 10 freshwater and a non-potable water system.
- 11 MS. LOVELL: Do you know how much freshwater
- 12 you're using a day?
- 13 THE WITNESS: Actually, I don't, but my bill
- 14 is minimal. That's all I can tell you.
- MS. LOVELL: Are you aware how that usage
- 16 stacks up against residents of Lana'i City?
- 17 THE WITNESS: My guess, this is -- you want
- 18 a guess?
- 19 MS. LOVELL: If it's an educated one that
- 20 will be fine. But if it's just a wild guess that
- 21 probably wouldn't be helpful.
- THE WITNESS: Well, first of all there are
- 23 103 members of the Manele Bay Homeowners Association.
- 24 Of that total probably ten to 12 are full-time
- 25 residents. So most of the condos and units are empty.

- 1 So I think freshwater use would be minimal. I can't
- 2 tell you what freshwater use is at the hotel. I have
- 3 no idea whatsoever.
- 4 MS. LOVELL: Thank you. No further
- 5 questions.
- 6 MR. YEE: No questions.
- 7 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Intervenor?
- 8 MR. MURAKAMI: Mr. Green -- yes, I have a
- 9 couple questions. My name is Alan Murakami. I
- 10 represent the Lanaians for Sensible Growth with whom
- 11 you are, I guess, seeking to have an accommodation.
- 12 Are you aware that the Lana'i Water Use and
- 13 Development Plan reports that Manele Project District,
- 14 your district, which I think is inclusive of the
- 15 hotel, uses about three-quarters of the island's water
- 16 supply that's being pumped?
- 17 THE WITNESS: I have read that.
- MR. MURAKAMI: And you have right now 12
- 19 full-time residents, is that it?
- THE WITNESS: Roughly.
- MR. MURAKAMI: Are you aware that the
- 22 average --
- 23 THE WITNESS: That's just in the residences.
- 24 MR. MURAKAMI: Yes. Let me ask you. Isn't
- 25 there a CC&R requirement that you be limited to a

- 1 thousand gallons per day per month?
- THE WITNESS: Yes, there is.
- 3 MR. MURAKAMI: Per day. Sorry.
- 4 THE WITNESS: There is.
- 5 MR. MURAKAMI: And you're exceeding that
- 6 limit?
- 7 THE WITNESS: I am.
- 8 MR. MURAKAMI: So you're violating your own
- 9 CC&R's?
- 10 THE WITNESS: I am.
- MR. MURAKAMI: And you're aware --
- 12 THE WITNESS: Would you like to know why?
- 13 MR. MURAKAMI: No. I think that's fine. I
- 14 have limited to time to question you. Isn't it true
- 15 that the average household use in the Manele Project
- 16 District is reported in the Water Use and Development
- 17 Plan to be 3700 gallons per day per household?
- 18 THE WITNESS: I just heard that in the
- 19 earlier testimony. I find that incomprehensible.
- MR. MURAKAMI: If you're using three
- 21 quarters of the water pumped on the island would you
- 22 be surprised that that is true?
- 23 THE WITNESS: Yes, because the majority of
- 24 the water is used on the golf course.
- MR. MURAKAMI: Okay. But if it's averaged

- 1 over all those residents is what I'm saying.
- THE WITNESS: No. I find that
- 3 incomprehensible. I would question the accuracy of
- 4 the data.
- 5 MR. MURAKAMI: Thank you.
- 6 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioners, any
- 7 questions? Go ahead.
- 8 COMMISSIONER JUDGE: Thank you, Mr. Green,
- 9 for your testimony. In the beginning of your
- 10 testimony you have named all of the associations like
- 11 the Manele Bay Homeowners Association and the Maui
- 12 Planning Commission. I just wanted to clarify are you
- 13 speaking here on behalf of those agencies?
- 14 THE WITNESS: No.
- 15 COMMISSIONER JUDGE: Or are you speaking as
- 16 an individual?
- 17 THE WITNESS: I'm speaking as an individual
- 18 but also in my capacity as the president of the Manele
- 19 Bay Homeowners Association.
- 20 COMMISSIONER JUDGE: Thank you.
- 21 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you. Next person is
- 22 Stephen Cheikes. Following him is Tom Roelens. Let
- 23 me swear you in.
- 24 STEPHEN CHEIKES
- 25 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined

- 1 and testified as follows:
- THE WITNESS: Yes, I do.
- 3 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Would you state your name
- 4 and address for the record and you can continue.
- 5 THE WITNESS: Yes. My name is Stephen
- 6 Cheikes. I reside at the Palms units at Manele Bay.
- 7 My address 10A Uholoa Place, Lana'i City.
- 8 Interestingly what I'm intending to speak
- 9 about is really the issue of the numbers and the
- 10 correctness of the numbers with respect to use of
- 11 water by homeowners in Manele Bay.
- 12 I attended the meeting of the Lanains for
- 13 Sensible Growth, the last one that was held I believe.
- 14 And it was then that I heard that the numbers of the
- 15 use supposedly of water by the homeowners in Manele
- 16 Bay were compared to the numbers of residents in the
- 17 city.
- I heard that the numbers were something like
- 19 225 gallons of potable water that were used by
- 20 residents in Lana'i City. Supposedly the average use
- 21 by homeowners in Manele Bay was something in the area
- 22 of 3700 gallons per day.
- Now, I raised my hand at that point and
- 24 said, "Hang on a second." I am probably one of the
- 25 longest term per year residents in Manele Bay. I've

- 1 been in this last year here about ten months out of
- 2 the 12. I'm one of the very, very rare long-term
- 3 residents of the units. I and my financé live in this
- 4 residence. We have guests from time to time but we
- 5 have two people that live in this particular
- 6 residence. But yet I would say that our use compared
- 7 to any of the other residents in the Palms has to be
- 8 at least as high and probably greater because we're
- 9 there more often than anybody else.
- 10 I went back and did some checking with the
- 11 Lana'i Water Company. I found out our use of potable
- 12 water in our residence, 2400 square foot residence at
- 13 Manele Bay, is on average over the course of the last
- 14 12 months 110 gallons of potable water per month. The
- 15 metering for the landscaping, 110 gallons per month.
- 16 Again, I'm told that in town, which makes
- 17 sense, the average use of a family in the residences
- 18 up here is 225 to 250 gallons per month. That made
- 19 sense. We have two of us, as I say, at our residence
- 20 and for what we use for washing machines, and
- 21 dishwashers and showers and everything else couldn't
- 22 have been what I was told that adds up to 3750 gallons
- 23 per day.
- But in any case, then the thought was what
- 25 about non-potable water. Non-potable water is only

- 1 used at the Palms and I presume at the other
- 2 residences at Manele Bay for the landscaping.
- Now, the landscaping at Manele Bay obviously
- 4 is different from any use of landscaping water up here
- 5 because first we're a dessert down there. We have
- 6 grass and different things that are watered. Up here
- 7 we get rain that we don't get down at Manele Bay so
- 8 there's going to be a difference.
- 9 Nevertheless what I was then told is the
- 10 metering is not final but the expectation for the unit
- 11 by unit of the 16 units in the Palms is approximately
- 12 800 gallons per day. That would make the usage of
- 13 water of the units of the Palms something like 900 to
- 14 950 gallons per day. We were told at the meeting the
- 15 average use is 3750 gallons per day.
- Now, when I raised my hand and asked the
- 17 question at the meeting -- first of all, I identified
- 18 myself as a homeowner in the Manele Bay area I was
- 19 surprised, I guess, by the reaction immediately was
- 20 fingers started to get pointed at me, "It's you. You
- 21 guys are using the water. Stop using the water." I
- 22 would like to suggest that the facts have to be
- 23 understood and be correct.
- We are not monsters who live down there.
- 25 And the use of water except for landscaping, which is

- 1 often out of our control, is certainly no more than
- 2 anybody who uses potable water in town. Any
- 3 questions?
- 4 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Questions?
- 5 MR. LAMON: No, Mr. Chairman, thank you.
- 6 MS. LOVELL: I had just one clarifying
- 7 question. I thought I heard you say that you use
- 8 110 gallons per month.
- 9 THE WITNESS: Per day.
- 10 MS. LOVELL: Unit per day. Thank you.
- 11 THE WITNESS: Compared to 225 in town.
- MS. LOVELL: Thank you.
- MR. YEE: No questions.
- 14 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Intervenor?
- MR. MURAKAMI: Yes. Mr. Cheikes, you're
- 16 aware that the weather at Manele is a lot drier than
- 17 Lana'i City?
- 18 THE WITNESS: I'm very aware of that.
- MR. MURAKAMI: So landscaping of course
- 20 would demand more water.
- 21 THE WITNESS: Yes, absolutely.
- 22 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioners, any
- 23 questions? Okay. Thank you. Before we go to Tom
- 24 Roelens, we are going to take a break. And following
- 25 Tom will be Joe Felipe. So let's take a five minute

- 1 break.
- 2 (Recess was held. 11:35)
- 3 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: We are going to have Tom
- 4 Roelens. Tom, can I swear you in?
- 5 TOM ROELENS,
- 6 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 7 and testified as follows:
- 8 THE WITNESS: I do. I swear.
- 9 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Would you state your name
- 10 and address for the record and then continue with your
- 11 testimony.
- 12 THE WITNESS: Absolutely. My name is Tom
- 13 Roelens, P. O. Box 631380, 624 Pu'ulani Place in
- 14 Lanai. The Challenge at Manele Golf Course is vital
- 15 to the Four Seasons Resort here on Lana'i. I'm the
- 16 general manager of the two resorts. And the economy
- 17 of the island is very, very important. We need a
- 18 viable and sustainable economy on this island to keep
- 19 our residents employed.
- 20 Four Seasons Resorts Lana'i currently
- 21 employs over 600 Lana'i residents on this island.
- 22 Castle & Cooke Resorts, LLC Castle & Cooke, Inc. have
- 23 invested hundreds of millions of dollars in the golf
- 24 course, the resorts and in the Manele Bay Project.
- 25 Further delays in the decision-making may

- 1 prevent investments in infrastructure to improve
- 2 conservation programs, the growths of the economy and
- 3 future investments in the sustainability of the island
- 4 of Lana'i. This issue has been prolonged and is in
- 5 need of justice to the company that's highly invested
- 6 in Lana'i and its people.
- 7 I'm asking the Commission to allow the
- 8 current irrigation system to be used for the Challenge
- 9 at Manele Golf Course. Thank you.
- 10 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Petitioner, any questions?
- MR. LAMON: No questions.
- 12 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: County?
- MS. LOVELL: No questions.
- 14 MR. YEE: No questions?
- MR. MURAKAMI: None.
- 16 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Anything from the
- 17 Commissioners? Thank you. Next person up is Joe
- 18 Felipe and following him is Phoenix Dupree. Joe?
- 19 JOE FELIPE
- 20 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 21 and testified as follows:
- THE WITNESS: I do.
- 23 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Would you state your name
- 24 and address for the record.
- THE WITNESS: My name is Joe Felipe. My

- 1 address is 615 Akahi Place. I've lived there for, oh,
- 2 what is it, since 1970. Okay. I worked for Dole
- 3 Company Pineapple Plantation for 33 years. I've been
- 4 working for Koele Lodge as a bartender for the past 20
- 5 years. I think I qualify as a senior citizen which
- 6 gives me a right to testify. (Laughter). And if I
- 7 stutter a little bit, please be patient with me.
- 8 I'm here to testify for the petition by
- 9 Castle & Cooke. Would like to share also in 1987 I
- 10 did sit on the Maui County Planning Commission that
- 11 approved the Projects of both Koele and Manele. It
- 12 was through a lot of hard work, testimony and public
- 13 hearings that we came about with our decisions.
- I am surprised that all those that have
- 15 testified against the petition stated that they
- 16 represent the Lana'i community and the workers.
- 17 However, everyone that has testified against the
- 18 petition are non-Castle & Cooke employees. I don't
- 19 believe any of them have ever worked for Castle &
- 20 Cooke. So when they talk and say they represent the
- 21 workers of Koele and Manele I think this has to be
- 22 corrected.
- I serve on -- well, I worked for the --
- 24 well, let me put it this way. I represent also all
- 25 the workers of the hotels. And I will not speak as a

- 1 union official, but I am the chairman of the union
- 2 here on Lana'i. One of the main reason that I'm
- 3 testifying today, the workers, if they could have been
- 4 here would be here by numbers to express that they are
- 5 very, very concerned about the future of our island.
- 6 We have just gone through one of the worst economic
- 7 years that we have been on Lana'i. It has taken both
- 8 efforts from the workers and Castle & Cooke. We have
- 9 given concessions. We have taken cuts.
- 10 In the past seven months we froze our
- 11 contracts so that we wouldn't take the raise so that
- 12 we could continue to operate. Along with that we have
- 13 given up benefits, holidays, and taken wage cuts so
- 14 that we as workers support the efforts and position of
- 15 Castle & Cooke.
- Now, we ask that the Commission recognize
- 17 the workers, the people that have made these
- 18 concessions so that we can build a foundation so that
- 19 we can again, hopefully, within this year or the next
- 20 year see economic changes that will help us to raise
- 21 our living standards.
- 22 Every day I go to work I have workers that
- 23 approach me and say, "Joe, what can we do? I got only
- 24 two, three days scheduled today. My hours are not
- 25 even 8 hours per day." Our benefits are being

- 1 affected because within the contract your benefits are
- 2 determined by the hours that you work.
- 3 So we have worked and unfortunately have
- 4 seen some layoffs, some furloughs, but we have -- the
- 5 workers -- when I say we, the workers have taken the
- 6 position that we will share the hardship. We will
- 7 share the loss so that we will reduce as much as
- 8 possible layoffs and continue to allow as many
- 9 employees as possible to work.
- 10 Now, again, to restrict Castle & Cooke for
- 11 their use of water would definitely cause a domino
- 12 effect. Today we are one of the premier destinations.
- 13 We have been recognized in Golf Digest as one of the
- 14 top golfing destinations.
- And the golfing world has come to Lana'i to
- 16 enjoy the golf courses both at Koele and Manele. If
- 17 the golf courses weren't there the appeal would be
- 18 different, the package would be different --
- 19 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Could you wrap it up
- 20 please?
- THE WITNESS: Wrap it up?
- 22 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Yes.
- 23 THE WITNESS: (Laughter). Ah, I have just
- 24 begun but... (laughter)
- 25 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: I know you're getting ready

- 1 to go.
- 2 THE WITNESS: But members of the Land Use
- 3 Commission, your decision today will have a direct
- 4 impact of the future of Lana'i. There is no way that
- 5 we will be able to improve, sustain and build our
- 6 future if there are these restrictions. We need to
- 7 work together, yes. We need to allow that the Castle
- 8 & Cooke continue to be able to operate at 100 percent
- 9 that we are today.
- 10 To restrict Castle & Cooke would then cause
- 11 a domino effect again. And I really have, as I say,
- 12 represent the workers at the hotel. And I ask that
- 13 you bear that in mind that your decision today will
- 14 affect the lifestyle of Lana'i and the community and
- 15 either the success or the failure of our island.
- 16 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you.
- 17 THE WITNESS: But please don't let us be
- 18 another Molokai. Thank you.
- 19 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you. Questions?
- MR. LAMON: No questions.
- 21 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Maui County?
- MS. LOVELL: No questions.
- 23 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State?
- MR. YEE: No questions.
- 25 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Intervenor?

- 1 MR. MURAKAMI: No questions.
- 2 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioners? Okay.
- 3 Thank you very much. Phoenix Dupree followed by
- 4 Donavan Kealoha.
- 5 MICHAEL PHOENIX DUPREE,
- 6 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 7 and testified as follows:
- 8 THE WITNESS: I do.
- 9 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Would you state your name
- 10 and address for the record and continue.
- 11 THE WITNESS: My name is Michael Phoenix
- 12 Duupree. I live at 421 Lama Street. I've been a
- 13 resident of Lana'i for 20 years. And I'm very
- 14 grateful to have the opportunity to live here and
- 15 appreciate the opportunity to speak to you today and
- 16 to offer my testimony.
- I know this is a very serious issue. And
- 18 although I am manager of the Blue Ginger Cafe here on
- 19 Lana'i I would like to tell you that my views in no
- 20 way express the views of the ownership of the Blue
- 21 Ginger Cafe, my parents.
- They're hard working people and they don't
- 23 come to community meetings and open their mouth.
- 24 They're smart business people, not like me. I want to
- 25 let the members of the community of Lana'i know that I

- 1 respect the Native Hawaiian community here. I
- 2 express -- I respect their concerns. And that their
- 3 fear that we could run out of water on this island,
- 4 that is a real concern. And I appreciate their
- 5 concern.
- 6 I also have a lot of respect for the members
- 7 of Lanains for Sensible Growth and the work, the
- 8 important work that they have done on this island:
- 9 Butch, Pat and Ron that have spoken here today, I
- 10 respect them for what they do here.
- 11 You know I think in many ways the Lanains
- 12 for Sensible Growth has been a successful organization
- 13 because I think that, I think that Lana'i has grown
- 14 sensibly in the 20 years I've resided here.
- 15 I lived on Maui for about ten years in the
- 16 '80s. And in the ten years that I lived there it
- 17 changed drastically. Although the island has changed
- 18 in 20 years we still don't have a traffic light.
- 19 People still wave to each other as they drive around
- 20 town. I don't believe that the island has changed
- 21 radically. So in many ways I believe that Lanains for
- 22 Sensible Growth has helped to -- has really helped to
- 23 accomplish their mission on the island.
- 24 But I look at this and check and think we
- 25 have to look at the bigger picture. Unlike Butch I

- 1 don't agree that this case should be considered only
- 2 on the merits alone. I believe it has to be taken
- 3 into perspective.
- I don't downplay the issue or the
- 5 disagreements that Lanains for Sensible Growth has
- 6 with Castle & Cooke, but I just think it has to be
- 7 weighed against other economic and social factors.
- 8 I agree with the previous speaker that I
- 9 believe that there are many people here today -- there
- 10 are many people here on the island that are not here
- 11 today, many young families who work for the resort.
- 12 Why are they not here? Because they don't respect you
- 13 or what you're doing here but because they're working
- 14 and the hotels are not going to let them off.
- 15 My concern is how do -- how will young
- 16 people support their families? How will they make
- 17 their car payments? How will they be able to afford a
- 18 home on the island or to be able to pay for a
- 19 mortgage? How will they be able to pay for their
- 20 child's education?
- I know that the company would make an
- 22 argument that if the golf course -- if the water is
- 23 not used for the golf course it would close. I don't
- 24 know that that would happen. But I think there's a
- 25 possibility that could happen, that it could be a

- 1 trigger. I'm not saying it would. But it could
- 2 trigger that. And if it did it would be catastrophic
- 3 for the island.
- I know as manager of the restaurant I
- 5 receive more applications for work in one month that I
- 6 received in 12 months. And it hurts me because we are
- 7 a small business and we cannot employ the people on
- 8 this island. And people need jobs here.
- 9 Most of you come from O'ahu. You have so
- 10 many economic engines that drive your island:
- 11 Military, federal, state, county, law, education,
- 12 technology. Look what we have? We have very little.
- 13 And so that's something that is scary to me that if we
- 14 lost that many people would leave the island.
- I don't think that that's -- I think that's
- 16 a fair concern in light of the fact that at one point
- 17 this last year there were 57 homes that were for sale
- 18 on this island.
- 19 When I first came you didn't see a for sale
- 20 sign on this island. I heard that realtors would keep
- 21 their sales in their pocket.
- 22 So there are many people that are leaving
- 23 the island. Tom Burke, who runs the exercise center,
- 24 told me in October he lost 50 customers who moved off
- 25 the island. If there's no jobs here people are going

- 1 to be leaving the island.
- I love the water here and I love this
- 3 island, but I love the people here also. I want the
- 4 people to be able to have the opportunity to make a
- 5 living here. And although Castle & Cooke is not a
- 6 perfect company, it's like the old saying of democracy
- 7 is the worst form of government until you've tried
- 8 every other form of government. Castle & Cooke has
- 9 been my employer for 10 years. They've been my
- 10 landlord. So it's certainly a love/hate relationship.
- But overall I agree with Mr. Green, one of
- 12 the previous speakers, that we need to be less
- 13 contentious and find a way to work together in support
- 14 of this island and all work to try to achieve
- 15 conservation. I know from -- I'm not an economist,
- 16 but I know that --
- 17 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Can you wrap it up?
- 18 THE WITNESS: -- that economics are down on
- 19 this island; that we're in the second and third year
- 20 of a hotel downturn, the second and third year of a
- 21 construction downturn, a second and third year of a
- 22 real estate downturn.
- I think if we stopped watering the golf
- 24 course right now that if it were to trigger the
- 25 closure of the hotel and people think that couldn't

- 1 happen.
- 2 But to be honest with you we live on Fantasy
- 3 Island with Mr. Murdock here. How many of you would
- 4 operate a business for 20 years and lose money and
- 5 still keep doing what you're doing? There's no way.
- 6 I don't think there's anybody that would do that.
- 7 In conclusion, keep in mind that, you know,
- 8 Bill Gates got married here on this island, the
- 9 wealthiest man in the world. Why would he get married
- 10 on a golf course? You have to wonder. He chose what
- 11 he thought at the time was the most beautiful spot in
- 12 the whole world to get married. And that's here on
- 13 our island.
- In a way that golf course is the trigger.
- 15 It represents our island for the rest of the world.
- 16 And so I hope that we can work things out together.
- 17 And I ask you to support the company and their
- 18 continuing use of the irrigation system on this
- 19 island. Thank you.
- 20 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you. Petitioner?
- 21 MR. LAMON: I have no questions.
- 22 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: County?
- MS. LOVELL: No questions.
- 24 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State?
- MR. YEE: No questions.

- 1 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Intervenor?
- 2 MR. MURAKAMI: No questions.
- 3 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Anything from the
- 4 Commissioners? Thank you. Donavan Kealoha followed
- 5 by Kainoa Kanno. (Not sworn in)
- 6 THE WITNESS: Aloha. My name is Donavan
- 7 Kealoha. I live at 98-1344 Ho'ohonua Street which is
- 8 on the island of O'ahu. That said, I am from Lana'i,
- 9 I was raised on Lana'i, I am the current president of
- 10 Lanains for Sensible Growth. But I'm not here
- 11 representing them in that capacity.
- 12 Who I am representing is all those guys over
- 13 there wearing the red shirts and their kids and their
- 14 kids' future. With that said, I grew up about a block
- 15 down from this building right here raised by my
- 16 grandparents Charles Kealoha and Mable Kealoha. They
- 17 taught me one thing that is real important that I
- 18 carry to this day. The idea of accountability and
- 19 responsibility in things that I have tried to do in my
- 20 life. I tried to live up to their mantra.
- 21 Now it seems to me LSG's position is to just
- 22 make sure the company accepts responsibility for the
- 23 words and actions that they had done. Seems to me that
- 24 they're trying to shirk that responsibility focusing
- 25 on the short-term which is sort of a misguided

- 1 attempt.
- 2 It speaks to the corporate nature of America
- 3 nowadays. Focus on the short term without a view to
- 4 the long term. That's the perspective that I want to
- 5 bring.
- 6 Sure, jobs are important. What about the
- 7 future? What about all those guys' kids? No more
- 8 water, water runs out, then what about that, you know?
- 9 So that's what I want to bring up.
- 10 Now, again, as I understand it this is not
- 11 about shutting down the golf course but developing
- 12 alternatives. As Butch said, and I echo that
- 13 sentiment, we're not about shutting the golf course --
- 14 Nestor's my friend. I know Nestor. I know, have
- 15 relationships with a lot of people in this room. It's
- 16 not about kicking them out of their job. It's about
- 17 making the company accept responsibility for what they
- 18 have done.
- 19 So with that said I want to ask you guys to
- 20 do the right thing. Do the pono thing. Take a
- 21 long-term view of this situation and what this means
- 22 for our island, given what Alan is going to show you
- 23 and what's in that Water Development Plan. Mahalo.
- 24 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you.
- MR. LAMON: No questions.

- 1 MS. LOVELL: No questions.
- 2 MR. YEE: No questions.
- 3 MR. MURAKAMI: None.
- 4 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioners? Donavan,
- 5 thank you. Kainoa Kanno.
- 6 KATNOA KANNO
- 7 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 8 and testified as follows:
- 9 THE WITNESS: I do.
- 10 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Please state your name and
- 11 address.
- 12 THE WITNESS: Kainoa Kanno. 181 Lana'i Ave.
- 13 Iwiole Hale. First of all, I'd like to say mahalo for
- 14 coming, sharing, listening to what we got to say. To
- 15 me it's bottom line the water, yeah, the water. It is
- 16 about the water. You know, people talk about jobs.
- 17 But we had the opportunity, the handful of people out
- 18 there never had jobs. It's still about the jobs.
- 19 It's about the water. It's the kuleana, the
- 20 responsibility between the company and the community
- 21 for take care our own watershed, take care of the
- 22 water issue. Bottom line we had one agreement. We
- 23 had one agreements, you know. So you take away the
- 24 wai, everybody going have to move anyway.
- 25 Company going to have to shut down, not

- 1 going have water anyway because we took away the
- 2 water, misused the water. That's all I get to say.
- 3 Mahalo.
- 4 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you. Just a minute,
- 5 let's see if there's questions.
- 6 MR. LAMON: No questions, Mr. Chair.
- 7 MS. LOVELL: No questions.
- 8 MR. YEE: No questions.
- 9 MR. MURAKAMI: No questions.
- 10 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioners? Thank you.
- 11 Is there anyone else in the audience that would like
- 12 to speak? Sir, would you come up.
- 13 Let me swear you in.
- 14 GARY SUZUKI
- 15 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 16 and testified as follows:
- 17 THE WITNESS: Yes, I do.
- 18 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Would you state your name
- 19 and address for the record.
- 20 THE WITNESS: My name is Gary Suzuki. I
- 21 live at 503 Lana'i Avenue, Lana'i City, Hawai'i,
- 22 96763.
- 23 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Go ahead.
- 24 THE WITNESS: First of all, I'd like to
- 25 thank everybody, the Commission, the Board, everybody

- 1 showing up. Um, the last meeting that was held I
- 2 attended. And then you guys all, everybody, the facts
- 3 and this and that, kinda learned, like, a few things
- 4 about it like the potable, non-potable, the pumps, the
- 5 wells how, you know. Okay. Then the fact that 250
- 6 something parts per non-potable; Lahaina 400 potable.
- 7 Okay. We all know that.
- 8 Then, like you guys all familiar with what's
- 9 going on on Maui. The kala, taro, no more water. So
- 10 are we headed towards that? We no more kalo but we
- 11 all need the water. It's life. Like they're saying
- 12 the children.
- 13 Then Mr. Green was saying something about
- 14 oh, this, that, you know, the community, you guys
- 15 making decision, the company, um, if we can all work
- 16 together to solve this or do something pono for the
- 17 future of Lana'i. And, like, he was saying, oh, we,
- 18 like, work together, all you guys communicated involve
- 19 maybe do this. Maybe that can happen one day. Maybe
- 20 get funding from those guys or the company, grant
- 21 money. Everybody need job. That's one job.
- We can all work together, try help the 'aina
- 23 and then for the long term of Lana'i. How we going
- 24 keep building it if no more water? So we all gotta
- 25 play one part and try preserve what we get, try

- 1 utilize it correctly, try something like that. Sorry
- 2 for the language.
- 3 Thank you very much for letting me share.
- 4 And I hopefully you guys sitting on the seat with the
- 5 da kine can make a difference, do the right thing,
- 6 yeah, so we no end up like no more kalo. "Oh, no more
- 7 water the kalo. Auwe." And guys like fight and this
- 8 and 'dat and blah, blah, blah. We no like end up
- 9 la'dat? You know what I mean? Thank you very much.
- 10 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Any questions.
- MR. LAMON: No questions.
- MS. LOVELL: No questions.
- MR. YEE: No questions.
- MR. MURAKAMI: No questions.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: We have somebody else?
- 16 Okay. Go ahead.
- 17 KELSEY TSUCHIYAMA,
- 18 THE WITNESS: Aye.
- 19 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Would you state your name
- 20 and address for the Commission.
- 21 THE WITNESS: Aloha. Kelsey Uka Tuschiyama.
- 22 Originally from Hawai'i 'aina, Big Island, but I live
- 23 165 Fraser Avenue now. Mahalo for the shirts,
- 24 bruddah, right on. The boys come out.
- I not going to come here pretend like I'm

- 1 from Lana'i. You know what I mean? I'm a Big Island
- 2 boy but I appreciate everybody's aloha la'dat, but I
- 3 come here fo' work the 'aina fo' malama 'aina.
- 4 I get this one but we actually came with the
- 5 Native Species Recovery Project. I don't know if you
- 6 guys know the Owau, one endangered bird we get up on
- 7 the hale.
- 8 You know, I'm not one real politicaller. I
- 9 go school and stuff but you know, all the attorneys,
- 10 but all I says, you guys get plenny money and you guys
- 11 like talk about conservation.
- Me and a couple of the bruddahs outside
- 13 Monday through Friday we cutting waivi cause waivi
- 14 doesn't hold the water that Ohi'a Lehua holds or
- 15 doesn't return the water that Ohi'a Lehua does to the
- 16 watershed.
- 17 You guys talking about the watershed. We
- 18 got one bench out there. You guys can come, volunteer
- 19 with us. My boss is Aunty Cristo Stallis. She's
- 20 sitting in the back. She get the lavender shirt. You
- 21 guys like come talk about conservation, come check us
- 22 out. We get the office we share with the Quonset hut
- 23 by the Jehovah church. You can see her if you like
- 24 volunteer.
- 25 If you no like volunteer, you like just give

- 1 us money, that's good because-- (audience laughing) --
- 2 no, it's true, though. Because we get one small crew
- 3 and we doing the waiwi eradication that the native
- 4 ones can come back.
- 5 But Castle & Cooke they been giving us some
- 6 monies. I not from Lana'i so I don't know the whole
- 7 situation. But from what I see they going take back
- 8 the chipper we using for bus' up all the waiwi and
- 9 they going take back the excavator.
- 10 If you know some -- you get plenny money, we
- 11 could use one new chipper. We could use one
- 12 excavator. Even if you no more money, just come out
- 13 and we can use some extra hands any time. We up there
- 14 every day except Saturday and Sunday. But if you like
- 15 come Saturday, Sunday, hey, if you get couple guys we
- 16 go come, you know. Maybe the boss give us overtime
- 17 but we be there Saturday/Sunday if that's when you
- 18 guys can come and volunteer.
- 19 If you not going make the water, go come up
- 20 there, go talk to Aunty Chris and then we can go and
- 21 save the water la'dat, if you guys like.
- But I think the dirty water, they can use
- 23 dirty water for the grass. We need the drinking water
- 24 for us for all the bruddahs who going raise their
- 25 keiki over there. That's who need the drinking water,

- 1 not the guys who go, "I stay here ten months out of
- 2 the year."
- 3 The guys go who stay here from generations,
- 4 from generations from generations, ten generations,
- 5 not ten months. Hey, mahalo and right on for the
- 6 community coming out. That's what we need. Mahalo.
- 7 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Just a minute. Any
- 8 questions?
- 9 MR. LAMON: I have no questions.
- 10 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: County?
- MS. LOVELL: No questions.
- MR. YEE: No questions.
- 13 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: How about you, Alan?
- 14 MR. MURAKAMI: No questions. But I want to
- 15 thank Kelsey because he's doing the most important
- 16 work on the island.
- 17 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Okay. Great.
- 18 Commissioners? Okay. Thank you.
- 19 COMMISSIONER WONG: Mr. Chairman, if there's
- 20 no more witnesses I'd like to make a motion.
- 21 Mr. Chairman, be that this matter --
- 22 (Mr. Kahoohalahala approaching the witness
- 23 chair)
- 24 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Okay.
- 25 SOL KAHOOHALAHALA,

- 1 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 2 and testified as follows:
- 3 THE WITNESS: Yes, I do.
- 4 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Go ahead.
- 5 THE WITNESS: Aloha, Commissioners. My name
- 6 is Sol Kahoohalahala. I reside at 444 Fraser Avenue
- 7 Lana'i City, Lana'i. I'm a seventh generation
- 8 Lahainan. I just wanted to be sure that in light of
- 9 all of the testimony that's been given today that I
- 10 wanted to just set it all in a perspective.
- 11 I don't think that this hearing was intended
- 12 to bring the issue of whether or not you're a Castle &
- 13 Cooke employee versus a non-Castle & Cooke employee
- 14 giving weight more to one or less than the other
- 15 branch.
- I don't think that today's hearing is
- 17 something that should weigh whether or not you are a
- 18 resident of the Manele Project District and that
- 19 resort development community versus being a resident
- 20 here of Lana'i City.
- I don't think that this hearing today is
- 22 simply a petition between Castle & Cooke versus
- 23 Lanains for Sensible Growth.
- I don't think that why we're here is to
- 25 raise the issue of whether or not we will have jobs

- 1 versus having no jobs.
- 2 I don't think that we're here to talk about
- 3 whether or not development should continue or that
- 4 conservation should be the highest concern.
- 5 And I don't think that we're here to pit our
- 6 community as those who are for this issue and those
- 7 who are against the issue.
- 8 But what I would like to talk about is --
- 9 you know, the bruddah that just left here? He's
- 10 probably the one that's more on key here today. He's
- 11 talking about really what we should be doing and what
- 12 I think the underlying issue is here.
- Many years ago I wrote a chant for this
- 14 island: "Eo mai ke kaunoa o lana imua." It says, "At
- 15 last the flower of Lana'i comes forth." And in that
- 16 chant I would like to share with you is that there are
- 17 two plants on this island, the põhuehue, which you may
- 18 be familiar with, is the beach morning Glory. And
- 19 other is kaunaoa which is our island flower. They
- 20 have a real interesting relationship. And I think
- 21 that's what we are here today to come to acknowledge.
- They are symbiotic. The pohuehue will
- 23 always start with the first rains of Lana'i to cover
- 24 the shorelines. And only after the pohuehue has
- 25 flowered and then beginning to seed will the kaunaoa,

- 1 whose seeds are already in the sand, will sprout and
- 2 attach herself to the poehuehue from which the kaunaoa
- 3 gets her own nourishment.
- 4 And in the process the morning glory dies
- 5 back only after giving all of her nourishment to the
- 6 kaunaoa, allowing the kaunaoa to now flower and seed.
- 7 After the kaunaoa's has flowered and seeded they both
- 8 die back.
- 9 For a time the ocean shorelines will be
- 10 covered with neither of these plants until the rains
- 11 come back again and the pohuehue sprouts first.
- 12 It reminds me of the fact that we all live
- 13 on an island that's very, very challenging. We live
- 14 on an island that's very, very sensitive to the things
- 15 that we conduct here on land.
- 16 If we don't malama Lana'i like the kaunaoa
- 17 will malama the pohuehue, if we reverse that process
- 18 just imagine if the kaunaoa sprouted before the
- 19 pohuehue blossomed, there would be no continuum.
- 20 So I think the lesson for us today and for
- 21 you as Commissioners is to be reminded of the fact
- 22 that Lana'i has always been a real critical place in
- 23 terms of water. Even the ancient Hawaiians on this
- 24 island acknowledged that. That to live on Lana'i
- 25 meant you had to understand the secrets of this

- 1 island.
- 2 And few people understand the secrets of
- 3 this island. So let's learn from the fact that if we
- 4 are truly wanting to have an island that's
- 5 sustainable, then we must begin to take a look at the
- 6 most critical things of Lanaians and that's whether or
- 7 not we also sustain the ability to live on this
- 8 island. That should be the underlying foundation.
- 9 From that practice perhaps all things are
- 10 possible. But unless we acknowledge that and unless
- 11 we pay attention to that, then we're bickering about
- 12 all these sidebars. That's what I would like to put
- 13 before you in your consideration.
- 14 Let's think about what's most important.
- 15 And the balance of this island is most important. Our
- 16 sustainability is most important. And perhaps
- 17 allowing the kaunaoa to flower after the pohuehue is
- 18 important. Thank you.
- 19 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you. Questions?
- MR. LAMON: No questions, Mr. Chairman.
- 21 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: County?
- MS. LOVELL: No questions, thank you.
- MR. YEE: No questions.
- MR. MURAKAMI: None, thank you.
- 25 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioners? Sol, thank

- 1 you very much. You have a motion?
- 2 COMMISSIONER WONG: Yes. Mr. Chairman, I
- 3 think this matter before us is primarily because of
- 4 the reversal of the Supreme Court's decision on a
- 5 previous Cease and Desist Order. That together with a
- 6 number of the other issues which have been raised in
- 7 this hearing and prior hearings, I'd like to move that
- 8 this body go into executive session so that we may
- 9 consult with our counsel on our duties and obligations
- 10 as Commissioners.
- 11 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: We have a motion on the
- 12 floor for executive session.
- 13 COMMISSIONER JUDGE: Second.
- 14 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: We have a second. All
- 15 those in favor show by hands. Okay. It's unanimous
- 16 that we will go into executive session. We will just
- 17 go nextdoor. You can stay here.
- 18 (Executive session held 12:15 to 12:40)
- 19 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: We're back on the record.
- 20 Petitioner.
- 21 MR. LAMON: Thank you very much,
- 22 Mr. Chairman. My name is Bruce Lamon representing
- 23 Castle & Cooke Resorts as you know, actually
- 24 Petitioner, yes, but in this particular instance
- 25 Movant. I do like to make the distinction because I

- 1 think part of the challenge here is for us to really
- 2 focus on exactly what it is that we are doing at this
- 3 particular hearing and what the procedural posture
- 4 that we're in is.
- 5 But before I talk about that I just wanted
- 6 to make sort of a general comment with respect to
- 7 some of the testimony this morning because I think
- 8 that there may be an impression left from it that we
- 9 have on the one side doing something that makes
- 10 economic sense for the island as opposed to, but maybe
- 11 having the drawback of having some kind of negative
- 12 environmental effect. That's the dichotomy I think
- 13 you guys probably deal with all the time.
- I want to say that's not the dichotomy in
- 15 this case. That's not a choice that has to be made in
- 16 this case. The reason I say that is although it's
- 17 plain that the Lana'i economy is fragile, the evidence
- 18 before you is that the Lana'i aguifer is not fragile.
- 19 And the reason that I say that -- and this
- 20 is not a -- this is not me talking, Castle & Cooke
- 21 talking, this is the CWRM, the Water Commission
- 22 talking. I wanted to particularly point out the
- 23 CWRM's December 4th, 2009 letter which is included in
- 24 the materials that we submitted recently as
- 25 Exhibit 10.

- 1 And the significance of this is that CWRM
- 2 found that after reviewing the record of CWRM's
- 3 decisions -- and, by the way, let me back up because
- 4 the significance on the CWRM to this if you look at
- 5 the poster of Condition 10 that is over there, in
- 6 addition to the meaty part that we're here to talk
- 7 about today, there is the reference to the
- 8 Petitioner's requirement to comply with the
- 9 requirements of the re-submittal petition of the Water
- 10 Commission.
- 11 The Water Commission in its December 4th,
- 12 2009 letter, now that I'm just referring to, had under
- 13 consideration a request to essentially reconsider the
- 14 prior conditions that they laid down that we have been
- 15 complying with since 1981. They declined to do so.
- 16 What they said was: After reviewing the
- 17 record of CWRM decisions, the previous findings of
- 18 fact on the criteria for designation of current data
- 19 plans and studies, CWRM did not see a justification
- 20 for reopening designation proceedings at this time.
- 21 Why?
- "Potable wells of the high-level aquifer
- 23 compartments are not showing any long-term negative
- 24 trends. There is a very gradual," and I'm continuing
- 25 to quote here, "there is a very gradual downward trend

- 1 in the brackish wells and in one or two of the potable
- 2 wells but these do not precipitate serious concern."
- 3 So I have no doubt that Mr. Murakami, after
- 4 I have sat down, is going to talk to you about the
- 5 information in the Water Use and Development Plan, the
- 6 draft that came out in October. But the bottom line
- 7 from all of this is the analysis that CWRM has done
- 8 and the conclusions that they have drawn.
- 9 And to the extent that after I have sat down
- 10 you hear Mr. Murakami arguing that to the contrary,
- 11 that actually that there is a negative long-term trend
- 12 in the potable wells or that there is a concern as a
- 13 result of the very gradual downward trend in the
- 14 brackish wells, that that is not an argument that has
- 15 passed muster with the agency that has primary
- 16 jurisdiction for the monitoring of the Lana'i water
- 17 resource.
- But let me get back to the precise question
- 19 that we're here for today. And what I want to do is
- 20 talk about why we filed the motion, what the reasons
- 21 are that the motion should be granted, and then
- 22 finally why what we have proposed is better than the
- 23 alternatives that have been proposed by Office of
- 24 Planning and Lanaians for Sensible Growth.
- 25 Right now we are at a -- procedurally we're

- 1 at a stage in a piece of pending litigation. I think
- 2 there's a chronology here up on the board. In 2004
- 3 the Supreme Court remanded ongoing litigation with
- 4 respect to the Cease and Desist Order to the Land Use
- 5 Commission so that the Commission could make -- could
- 6 clarify in its findings whether Castle & Cooke had
- 7 used potable water from the high-level aguifer in
- 8 order to irrigate the Manele Golf Course.
- 9 And I emphasize potable water because the
- 10 Hawai'i Supreme Court specifically rejected the
- 11 arguments that are made by LSG in its memoranda and
- 12 have been repeated by some of the LSG's witnesses
- 13 today to the effect that there was a prohibition
- 14 against using any water from the high-level aquifer;
- 15 that Castle & Cooke promised or represented that it
- 16 wouldn't use any water from the high-level aquifer.
- 17 Those were specifically rejected by the Hawai'i
- 18 Supreme Court in its decision.
- 19 So, once again, after I sit down I expect
- 20 you're going to hear that. But we have attached the
- 21 Hawai'i Supreme Court's decision. We have cited the
- 22 pertinent provisions. And it's something that can
- 23 be -- you folks can verify without taking my word for
- 24 it.
- Now, the remand decision was that the Land

- 1 Use Commission needed to clarify whether Castle &
- 2 Cooke was using potable water from the high-level
- 3 aquifer. Then once the Commission answers that
- 4 question then the Hawai'i Supreme Court will proceed
- 5 on to resolve the rest of the appeal.
- 6 There's some issues that they have
- 7 identified they didn't resolve in their prior opinion
- 8 such as, for example, does the Water Commission have
- 9 exclusive jurisdiction over this dispute.
- 10 And such as, for example when the Land Use
- 11 Commission issued the Cease and Desist Order and
- 12 essentially called for or required that the Manele Bay
- 13 Golf Course be shut down for lack of irrigation,
- 14 whether that had the affect of destroying what the
- 15 Commission had found was a vital amenity to the Manele
- 16 Bay Hotel and thereby violate the Hawai'i State Plan.
- 17 Those are the issues that remain to be
- 18 resolved by the Hawai'i Supreme Court after the
- 19 Commission decides this remand question.
- 20 So as you can see from the timeline we had
- 21 hearings, and I go over this -- I know that some of
- 22 you were on the Commission then, but some not, so I
- 23 just want to recap it briefly.
- We had hearings in 2006 and 2007 going to
- 25 that question -- going to the question of having the

- 1 Commission clarify its findings as to whether it was
- 2 finding that Castle & Cooke was using potable water
- 3 from the high-level aquifer. Those hearings dragged
- 4 on inconclusively.
- 5 Eventually the Commission appointed a
- 6 hearings officer to conduct further hearings in that
- 7 respect. But then after that the Commission decided
- 8 to give us all an opportunity to see if there were
- 9 motions that we could file that could bring the matter
- 10 to a head in a fair and equitable way, and avoid the
- 11 need for further hearings and resolve the issues that
- 12 were in the litigation. That's why we filed the
- 13 motion that we have filed before you. Okay. That's
- 14 why we filed it.
- Now, what are the reasons it should be
- 16 granted? Our motion is in two parts. The first part
- 17 of it asks for Condition No. 10 to be modified to
- 18 incorporate a definition of potability which is
- 19 200 million grams per liter which is same as 250 parts
- 20 per million of chlorides in water.
- 21 The second part of the motion is to dissolve
- 22 the Cease and Desist Order. The purpose of both parts
- 23 of the motion is to essentially moot out this
- 24 litigation. The reason that defining potability in
- 25 that way would moot the litigation that there is no

- 1 controversy.
- 2 There's no dispute that all of the brackish
- 3 wells that are being used to irrigate the Manele Golf
- 4 Course have chlorides in excess of 250 parts per
- 5 million, 150 milligrams per liter. So the entire
- 6 dispute in that sense goes away once the Commission
- 7 adopts that definition.
- 8 The second reason is once the Cease and
- 9 Desist Order is dissolved the dispute goes away. The
- 10 reason is the Cease and Desist Order is what started
- 11 the litigation in the first place. When that was
- 12 imposed we went to the Second Court.
- 13 We showed the Second Circuit Court the
- 14 effect of it would have been to destroy the Manele Bay
- 15 Golf Course because there was no other source of
- 16 irrigation water for it other than the brackish water
- 17 from the high-level aquifer.
- 18 That is what eventually got appealed up and
- 19 down with the Hawai'i Supreme Court twice and is now
- 20 back before you folks.
- 21 But, if the Cease in Desist Order is
- 22 dissolved our appeal becomes moot and there's no
- 23 longer any question that needs to be resolved by the
- 24 Hawai'i Supreme Court.
- So why is it a good idea to set that

- 1 definition of potability? Well, there are several
- 2 reasons. And the last one I'm going to mention is the
- 3 most important one. The first one is that 250
- 4 milligrams per liter is an accepted standard. It's
- 5 actually higher than the standards used for potability
- 6 of other golf courses around the state.
- 7 And in our memorandum we talk about some of
- 8 those other levels which are in the 150 to 250
- 9 milligram range. But for 15 years from 1995 -- excuse
- 10 me, 14 years from 1995 until just September of 2009,
- 11 250 milligrams per liter was the specific definition
- 12 of potability that was used by the county of Maui by
- 13 ordinance.
- 14 It is a secondary standard for water under
- 15 the EPA's Code of Federal Regulations for Drinking
- 16 Water. That's something that the EPA deems
- 17 significant for the aesthetic quality of the water
- 18 that's being drunk.
- 19 So we have these various objective frames of
- 20 reference for it. But even that is not the most, the
- 21 most significant reason that it should be adopted.
- The Hawai'i Supreme Court has instructed in
- 23 its remand motion, in its remand decision that the
- 24 Land Use Commission has the obligation to make clear
- 25 to Castle & Cooke what specifically it is that we are

- 1 required to comply with when a condition is imposed
- 2 like this.
- 3 They're saying that a word like "potable"
- 4 which has caused us the last three years of dispute
- 5 and argument is insufficient. If you are going to try
- 6 to -- if you're going to try to enforce a condition
- 7 against a petitioner you have the obligation to make
- 8 it reasonably clear what it is that's being said.
- 9 Now, on the LSG side, I haven't heard -- I
- 10 don't think I've seen anything from the county, but at
- 11 least in terms of what the county previously filed in
- 12 terms of what the Office of Planning had previously
- 13 submitted, all of us are in agreement that potability
- 14 should be defined in terms of 250 milligrams per
- 15 liter.
- 16 LSG, I can't figure out what their
- 17 definition is. It seems as though their definition of
- 18 potability goes clear back to the very beginning of
- 19 the case, clear back to before when the Hawai'i
- 20 Supreme Court rejected the argument that any, any
- 21 water from the high-level aquifer is potable.
- 22 And then, finally, with respect to why this
- 23 should be done in terms of adopting this definition.
- 24 When you take a look at the prior decisions of the LUC
- 25 it is apparent, and the Hawai'i Supreme Court even

- 1 remarked on it, that the basis for the decision, the
- 2 basis for the Cease and Desist Order was that the Land
- 3 Use Commission interpreted Condition No. 10 to
- 4 prohibit any use of water from the high-level aquifer.
- 5 That was the part that was specifically reversed.
- 6 The Land Use Commission findings, and we
- 7 have cited them all in our papers, set up a clear, a
- 8 clear distinction in terms of distinguishing potable
- 9 water from brackish. The findings of fact refer to
- 10 brackish as non-potable water.
- 11 And they specifically contemplate,
- 12 specifically approve, I would say, the use of brackish
- 13 Wells 1, 9, and 14 that are currently being used to
- 14 irrigate the golf course for the irrigation of the
- 15 golf course.
- So putting a bright line on it: Discharges
- 17 the Commission's obligation, and it is consistent with
- 18 what the Commission understood was going to happen
- 19 both in 1991 and in 1996.
- Now, why is what we had proposed better than
- 21 what the Office of Planning proposed on better than
- 22 what LSG has proposed? I would say the key to the
- 23 answer of that question lies in the continued
- 24 existence of the Cease and Desist Order.
- 25 That's why all of the -- that's why all of

- 1 the discussion that you heard this morning about the
- 2 fragile economy here, the difficulties -- I think all
- 3 the neighbor islands are suffering even worse than we
- 4 are on O'ahu -- is that right now there is still a
- 5 chance that on account of the Commission having issued
- 6 a Cease and Desist Order that golf course could be
- 7 shut down. That's what the ongoing litigation is all
- 8 about with the Hawai'i Supreme Court.
- 9 The Cease and Desist Order needs to be
- 10 dissolved. That's one thing that the Office of
- 11 Planning does not do. And that's something that in
- 12 our view has to be done.
- 13 Second. With respect to the Office of
- 14 Planning's motion ours is better because the Office of
- 15 Planning proposes a procedure where we have two years
- 16 of further studies with respect to auditing the
- 17 transmission system and redoing or updating, rather,
- 18 the water model that was done in 1994, and analyzing
- 19 the efficiency of the wells.
- 20 And then when that is done to come back
- 21 before you and then see if the parties have any
- 22 further modifications to Condition No. 10 to propose.
- Our feeling is that we have had 16 years, 16
- 24 years of hearings to discuss this issue and it has not
- 25 been productively resolved yet by this Commission.

- 1 Now, we've got the County of Maui. We have the Water
- 2 Use Development Protection Plan in which the parties
- 3 are in good faith wrestling with all of these issues
- 4 and wrestling with the details that I'm sure
- 5 Mr. Murakami will try to focus on.
- 6 But in terms of this Commission being able
- 7 to micro-manage the details of how much potable water
- 8 should they be allowed to use in Manele or how
- 9 efficiently is Well No. 9 operating, should they be
- 10 working on having a more aggressive plan to repair
- 11 leaks in the system? This is not something that the
- 12 Commission can productively address.
- 13 I think the last 16 years have demonstrated
- 14 that. And OP's invitation to continue that after two
- 15 years of more studies is not, is not something that
- 16 the Commission should adopt.
- Now, with respect to LSG, LSG basically
- 18 says, "Let's just have more hearings on this question
- 19 of what the Commission's findings meant in 1991 and
- 20 1996 when they issued Condition 10."
- 21 And in our view, to repeat, 16 years of
- 22 hearings have not led to any kind of productive
- 23 resolution of the matter. But I guess, more
- 24 importantly, this is something that you can all tell
- 25 from looking at the decisions of the Land Use

- 1 Commission itself previously how they talk about the
- 2 permission for us to use brackish water, how they talk
- 3 about non-potable water being the equivalent of
- 4 brackish water, how the brackish wells are
- 5 particularly identified that we are planning to use
- 6 and we're still using to irrigate it.
- 7 This Commission has everything it needs in
- 8 order to be able to decide right now without any
- 9 further hearings whether, as we argue, that the whole
- 10 basis for the prior Cease and Desist Order was the
- 11 idea that Condition 10 prevented any use of high-level
- 12 aguifer water or whether the intent of it was only to
- 13 prohibit the use of potable water from the high-level
- 14 aquifer.
- So to repeat and sum up, we have a situation
- 16 where we have the county is all over this. CWRM just
- 17 recently is all over this. The Commission in 16 years
- 18 has not been able to get to the bottom of it.
- But we have a situation where we know from
- 20 the people who are in charge of the situation who are
- 21 working on the problem that there are no negative
- 22 long-term trends and that there are no serious
- 23 concerns.
- So we basically ask for relief from the
- 25 Commission. Dissolve the Cease and Desist Order at

- 1 least so that we don't have a situation hanging over
- 2 the company where it may be that at any point in time
- 3 this vital amenity goes away as a result of something
- 4 this Commission I can't believe actually intends to
- 5 have happen. Thank you.
- 6 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you. Commissioners,
- 7 questions? Commissioner Wong.
- 8 COMMISSIONER WONG: Mr. Lamon, since the
- 9 Supreme Court reversed the Order of the Land Use
- 10 Commission to revert the land based upon its
- 11 violation, isn't it in effect that that Order has been
- 12 set aside and vacated so that Condition No. 10 is
- 13 still the same Condition No. 10 without modification
- 14 as interpreted by the Land Use Commission?
- MR. LAMON: Well, if I could just first,
- 16 before I answer the question, comment on the point
- 17 about reverting. The Commission didn't order the
- 18 classification revert. It ordered that we cease
- 19 using.
- 20 COMMISSIONER WONG: Right.
- MR. LAMON: Then the answer to your
- 22 question, Commissioner, is that if this Commission
- 23 goes ahead and finds, say it adopts the LSG definition
- 24 of potability, basically anything in the high-level
- 25 aquifer is potable water. And as a result of that

- 1 being convinced by that it goes ahead and finds that,
- 2 yes, Castle & Cooke is using potable water from the
- 3 high-level aquifer, then we go back to the Hawai'i
- 4 Supreme Court.
- 5 The Hawai'i Supreme Court may look at that
- 6 and they may say -- I'll be arguing against it, of
- 7 course -- they may say, "Oh, well, they found that you
- 8 were using potable water. That's the end of the
- 9 story. Cease and Desist Order is affirmed."
- 10 So I, I don't agree that we are out of the
- 11 woods on the Cease and Desist Order. That's the
- 12 reason we wanted to have it dissolved.
- 13 COMMISSIONER WONG: So it'll just make it
- 14 clear with respect to the fact that no Cease and
- 15 Desist Order is on the books, so to speak.
- MR. LAMON: Well, no, I don't -- it also
- 17 eliminates the potential for the Hawai'i Supreme Court
- 18 affirming the requirement that we stop using brackish
- 19 water to irrigate the golf course.
- 20 Because if you do find that we're using
- 21 potable water, then that would be the next question
- 22 the Hawai'i Supreme Court would have to address
- 23 because that would then be a violation of Condition
- 24 10.
- 25 COMMISSIONER WONG: Thank you.

- 1 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Okay. Movant No. 2.
- 2 MR. YEE: Yes. Good afternoon. Deputy
- 3 Attorney General Bryan Yee on behalf of the Office of
- 4 Planning. Before I get into my argument let me just
- 5 briefly respond to the issue of the Cease and Desist
- 6 Order while it's on all of our minds.
- 7 Petitioner suggested that the problem with
- 8 OP's motion is that it didn't address the Cease and
- 9 Desist Order. Let me just be clear the Office of
- 10 Planning is not opposed to the request to dissolve the
- 11 Cease and Desist Order filed by Petitioner.
- 12 Commissioner Wong also asked: Well, didn't
- 13 the Cease and Desist Order get dissolved pursuant to
- 14 the reversal by the Supreme Court. While I think that
- 15 could be argued to be the effect, I think normally
- 16 when the appellate courts make a decision and then
- 17 remand it back, there still needs to be some decision
- 18 from the lower court that initially made the decision
- 19 that effectuates the appellate court Order.
- 20 So I think we'd be entirely consistent with
- 21 the Hawai'i Supreme Court remand to dissolve it. But
- 22 that Order has never been issued by the LUC that
- 23 actually effectuates that dissolution.
- 24 Let me go into our argument. The Office of
- 25 Planning is proposing that the Land Use Commission

- 1 essentially look forward, not back and that you try as
- 2 best we can to balance the valid interest of all the
- 3 parties. That was the point and the purpose of our
- 4 motion.
- 5 And in trying to figure out how to present
- 6 this mass of information to you the best way I could
- 7 come up with was to try to go through the highlights
- 8 of this case chronologically. Because I think as we
- 9 go through each step as it came out I think that's the
- 10 best way to look at it.
- 11 Let me start -- and we do have a timeline of
- 12 some of these important events. I won't go through
- 13 all of them, but I will go through some of the ones
- 14 that we consider to be most important.
- 15 At the beginning in 1989 there was a request
- 16 to redistrict 138 acres. And of this 110 acres was
- 17 rural, about 28 acres was ag. That's important
- 18 because if you revert it, if you actually move
- 19 forward, came to the final end the only power you
- 20 really have to enforce is to revert property.
- 21 And if you actually do go to that final
- 22 step, from the Office of Planning's viewpoint that
- 23 really doesn't solve anything, really doesn't result
- 24 in any better condition for anybody because the
- 25 Petitioner is allowed to operate a golf course on

- 1 rural land. It might impact, as we've demonstrated in
- 2 our motion, a couple of holes. They may have to
- 3 reconfigure, if that's what they're required to do.
- I don't know whether they would be
- 5 grandfathered in because golf courses that were on
- 6 agricultural lands that existed prior to the law
- 7 change are allowed to continue.
- 8 And perhaps even worse if you revert it to
- 9 rural, technically with county approvals the
- 10 Petitioner would be allowed to put on half-acre homes
- 11 which is not, in our minds, a better use of this
- 12 property.
- 13 And you would basically remove any of the
- 14 protections, any of the constraints or restrictions
- 15 that were put on this property. For example, one of
- 16 the requirements in the 1991 Order is that the only
- 17 use of this property may be for golf course and golf
- 18 course-related activities including the clubhouse.
- 19 Consequently, this is particularly important
- 20 to us that a way has to be found through the LUC
- 21 process to accommodate the needs of the golf course
- 22 while ensuring the protection of the aquifer and the
- 23 concerns of the community.
- 24 We note that in 1990 the Water Commission
- 25 found no basis for recommending Lana'i as a Water

- 1 Management Area. But they set forth a particular --
- 2 they required, for example, measurements for water
- 3 pumpage and chloride levels to be made and reported.
- 4 They also said that if water use on Lana'i ever
- 5 reached 4.3 that this would trigger a new review and
- 6 investigation to determine whether or not Lana'i
- 7 should be a Water Management Area. So in addition to
- 8 the Land Use Commission there's an existing trigger
- 9 for further review when water usage increases.
- 10 In 1991 Dole Plantation closes. That's
- 11 important from the water perspective because the
- 12 pineapple plantation used a lot of water. It may have
- 13 impacted recharge as well but they also used a lot of
- 14 water.
- So usage of water on the island fell from
- 16 around 3 million gallons a day to around 2 million
- 17 gallons per day. My latest review currently it's
- 18 around 2.2. So water usage actually fell when Dole
- 19 Pineapple closed.
- Then in 1990-1991 the Land Use Commission
- 21 held a series of hearings. And the record of those,
- 22 of that hearing, as I've reviewed the transcripts,
- 23 indicate the participants used the term "non-potable"
- 24 and the term "brackish" interchangeably. For example,
- 25 Tom Leppert -- and we cite this in our original

- 1 motion -- Tom Leppert of Lana'i Resort Partners, said
- 2 it was their intention to utilize brackish water and
- 3 not potable water. He made the distinction between
- 4 brackish on the one hand and potable on the other.
- 5 The LUC Chair stated, "With respect to the
- 6 potential for using non-potable sources or brackish
- 7 water, easier put, where else do they use brackish
- 8 water and to what success?" So he's using the term
- 9 brackish water as if that meant non-potable water.
- 10 And counsel for LSG at the time repeated the
- 11 term as if they were interchangeable when he asked the
- 12 statement that in response to his question was
- 13 something to the effect, statement by Dr. Kumugai,
- 14 "That with extraordinary effort it would be possible
- 15 to obtain a non-potable or brackish water source for
- 16 the golf course in time to use that water for the golf
- 17 course when it's built."
- 18 So, again, he's using the term non-potable
- 19 and brackish as if they mean the same thing.
- 20 And in 1991 the Land Use Commission issued
- 21 its Order. We put a copy of the Order up there. We
- 22 often focus on that first statement, "Petitioner shall
- 23 not utilize the potable water from the high-level
- 24 aquifer."
- 25 That was important because it was at the

- 1 Supreme Court level. It's not just any water from the
- 2 high-level aguifer. It's the potable water from the
- 3 high-level aguifer.
- But you really need to go down to the next
- 5 line. "And shall instead develop and utilize only
- 6 alternative non-potable sources of water. Example,
- 7 brackish water, and reclaimed sewage effluent for golf
- 8 course requirements."
- 9 So your Condition 10 in 1991 says that your
- 10 alternate non-potable source -- an example of an
- 11 alternate non-potable source is brackish water. I
- 12 understand that LSG has come and said: Here are all
- 13 the reasons why brackish water does not mean it's
- 14 non-potable that you could have potable brackish
- 15 water. But the point is in 1991 with the testimony
- 16 that was given and with the condition that you
- 17 adopted, the term "brackish water" and the term
- 18 "non-potable water" appeared to mean the same thing.
- In fact, if you look further at your
- 20 findings of fact in 1991 in paragraph 46 it talks
- 21 about the proposed golf course is to be irrigated with
- 22 non-potable water.
- 23 Then paragraph 48 of the findings of fact it
- 24 talks about how the Petitioner proposes to use
- 25 alternate sources of water for golf course irrigation

- 1 by developing the brackish water supply. And it goes
- 2 on to talk about Wells 1, 9, 10, 12 that these are the
- 3 wells that are going to be developed.
- 4 Paragraph 89 says, "The Petitioner is now in
- 5 the process of developing the brackish water supply
- 6 for irrigation of the proposed golf course." And
- 7 again refers to Wells 1, 9, 10, and 12 and then in
- 8 Paragraph 91 it says "Petitioner intends to irrigate
- 9 the golf course with non-potable water leaving only
- 10 the clubhouse which will use potable water, the
- 11 requirement of which should be insignificant."
- In 1991 the Petitioner came and told you,
- 13 "We're using Wells 1, 9, 10 and 12. and these are
- 14 brackish water sources." Everyone knew where the
- 15 location of those wells were, that they were within
- 16 the high-level aguifer. And yet they also made a
- 17 finding that they're going to be using non-potable
- 18 water to irrigate the golf course.
- 19 So, in other words, I guess I'm just saying
- 20 all of this leads to the conclusion that brackish
- 21 water and non-potable water, while maybe if you had to
- 22 look a dictionary you might come to a different
- 23 conclusion, if you look at your record and if you look
- 24 at your Order they were intended to be the same.
- In 1993 the LUC issued the Order to Show

- 1 Cause and that began this whole process. And in 1996
- 2 the LUC issued the finding that Petitioner had
- 3 violated Condition 10 and had denied the motions to
- 4 modify.
- 5 And let me just briefly mention that in the
- 6 1996 Order, quite frankly, it's unclear about what
- 7 they did with this term. On the one hand they had
- 8 finding of fact 16 in the 1996 Order which said,
- 9 "Petitioner's completed an extended pump test of Wells
- 10 1 and 9 which are within the high-level aquifer and
- 11 provide non-potable brackish water." So they said
- 12 Wells 1 and 9 provides non-potable brackish water.
- On the other hand, on paragraph 28 it then
- 14 says, "The potability of any water source does not
- 15 depend on any particular level of chloride
- 16 concentration."
- 17 So the LUC then, after saying that Wells 1
- 18 and 9 provide non-potable brackish water, said well,
- 19 chloride concentrations don't determine potability and
- 20 don't address all the findings that were set out in
- 21 1991.
- I won't go through the whole process. But
- 23 basically it went to the courts and it came back to
- 24 you in 2004. We held a series of hearings as
- 25 described by Mr. Lamon and all those things we have

- 1 discussed on the sheet on the side.
- 2 Let me just briefly touch on 2009 because
- 3 that is of some relevance to our current revised
- 4 motion. In September 21, 2009 the County of Maui
- 5 repealed Chapter 20.24 of the County of Maui
- 6 Ordinances. That's important because, quite frankly,
- 7 our prior motion relied on Chapter 20.24. Because in
- 8 that situation the County of Maui set forth a specific
- 9 definition of potable water. The current requirements
- 10 by the County of Maui wouldn't apply to the Manele
- 11 Golf Course.
- 12 So if we had used our old prior proposed
- 13 language, there'd be no restriction on the kind of
- 14 water that the Manele Golf Course could use. And that
- 15 was not -- and that would have happened where the
- 16 County of Maui was not aware or wouldn't necessarily
- 17 have been aware that it would have impacted the LUC
- 18 decision.
- 19 So it's not as if the County of Maui knew
- 20 that their decision would impact the requirements set
- 21 forth by the LUC 'cause that matter was still pending.
- 22 So we don't think we can ascribe a motive to
- 23 the County of Maui as having deliberately done to -- I
- 24 don't think the Manele Golf Course had anything to do
- 25 with that repeal.

- 1 Consequently -- we didn't discover this
- 2 until December 2nd, 2009. So on December 15, 2009 we
- 3 filed a revised Motion to Amend in which we set forth
- 4 a chloride standard as well as a process what do you
- 5 do if the chloride levels change, if they temporarily
- 6 fall below 250 milligrams per liter. Let me just stop
- 7 here. Again, the justification for this is that, one,
- 8 reversion provides no relief.
- 9 So putting in a requirement that would
- 10 effectively cause the Petitioner to ask for a
- 11 reversion because they couldn't operate the golf
- 12 course under the conditions is not going to be useful.
- We also think it's important to look
- 14 forward, not back. We think that particular standard,
- 15 it's a reasonable one. As mentioned before, the EPA
- 16 has a standard. It's not purely picked from the
- 17 number of the air. There's still a volume restriction
- 18 which is perhaps even more important than the chloride
- 19 restriction. And this is probably of primary
- 20 importance.
- 21 The Office of Planning does not believe that
- 22 this, based upon the current information we have, that
- 23 this will harm the aquifer. Current usage is 2.2
- 24 roughly. The sustainable level is 6.0.
- We have had the Water Use and Development

- 1 Plan Draft reviewed. We believe that the information,
- 2 the current information available from all the wells
- 3 do not necessarily ascribe any impacts to the Manele
- 4 Golf Course which could not be explained away by
- 5 pumpage levels generally or drought conditions.
- 6 So we don't believe that there is sufficient
- 7 information in the record trude to conclude that the
- 8 use of 650,000 gallons per day for the Manele Golf
- 9 Course is harming the aquifer today or that it is
- 10 preventing domestic use by anyone on Lana'i, whether
- 11 it's Lana'i City or Manele.
- 12 So because we don't think there's currently
- 13 any harm we don't think that this condition is a
- 14 problem. That's just a basic disagreement, I think,
- 15 between Intervenors and the Office of Planning. And
- 16 it is justified, I think, if you had read the letter
- 17 from CWRM.
- 18 We also note that there are other, as we had
- 19 mentioned, other triggers by CWRM which measures well
- 20 head levels and chloride levels. And we also think
- 21 that a brackish -- I'm sorry, that a chloride-specific
- 22 numerical limit provides the fair notice required by
- 23 the Supreme Court.
- One of the concerns we had when we looked at
- 25 this if you define potable water as brackish you still

- 1 don't know how salty is too salty. You still don't
- 2 know what brackish means. So a chloride limit is
- 3 really a numerical way to measure that characteristic.
- 4 And as we said it's consistent with the prior LUC
- 5 findings.
- 6 Let me briefly touch on the issue of -- I'm
- 7 sorry. The other issue is that it's consistent with
- 8 the Hawai'i Supreme Court which specifically found
- 9 that you don't -- you are not prohibiting all water
- 10 from the high-level aquifer from being used to water
- 11 the golf course.
- 12 We also included to the objection of the
- 13 Petitioner a requirement to analyze the efficiency of
- 14 each well, to conduct an audit of the transmission
- 15 system efficiency to determine groundwater loss, and
- 16 to update the Roy Hardy study.
- We did this because -- well, first the Roy
- 18 Hardy study was relied upon in the 1991 decision. And
- 19 the Roy Hardy study specifically found that there
- 20 would be some reduction in well head levels but said
- 21 that the change wouldn't be significant.
- It would be within the normal range of
- 23 seasonable variations that you will find. So they
- 24 didn't consider the use of wells, I think, at the time
- 25 Wells 1 and 9, to be of significant problem to the

- 1 aquifer.
- 2 But if there's going to be -- if there's
- 3 some concern that the Roy Hardy study or the CWRM
- 4 conclusion is incorrect, update the study. Let's find
- 5 out, let's make sure the aquifer is being protected.
- And if there are other ways to resolve the
- 7 problem whether by being more efficient with the wells
- 8 or by reducing the water transmission losses, then
- 9 there may be some provisions other than the closure of
- 10 the golf course or the elimination of Wells 1 and 9
- 11 that could be done.
- We, frankly, based on the record before you
- 13 we could not make that conclusion. So the additional
- 14 request for information is intended to ensure that any
- 15 decision by this body balances out the needs of the
- 16 environment, balances out the concerns of the
- 17 community and provides a result that we think is one
- 18 which is fair and equitable considering all parties.
- 19 Finally, there are two other particular
- 20 legal issues that I just wanted -- I'm sorry, before I
- 21 go there we also specifically stated that any party
- 22 may move to amend the condition.
- 23 We understand that Petitioner's desire for
- 24 finality. But from the Office of Planning's viewpoint
- 25 we think we could move to amend the condition anyway,

- 1 as we have today. Whether you include the condition
- 2 or not we think that any party may move to modify the
- 3 decision under the appropriate circumstances.
- 4 For example, if a condition is deemed to be
- 5 unclear and fails to give fair warning, I think any
- 6 party should be allowed to ask that the condition be
- 7 modified.
- 8 And if a condition is interim, and more
- 9 information will determine whether the health of the
- 10 aquifer is being threatened, we again think the
- 11 parties should be allowed to modify that condition as
- 12 well.
- We have set forth in our prior documents
- 14 some of our legal arguments. We certainly acknowledge
- 15 that Section 15-15-94 does not specifically include
- 16 OP, but it doesn't specifically exclude OP as well.
- 17 And Section 15-15-70 allows any party to file any
- 18 motion and does not list what motions are allowed or
- 19 what motions are not allowed.
- 20 So there's no specific provision in your
- 21 rules that says OP -- that say any party's restricted
- 22 to certain types of motions. Even if that's not true,
- 23 however, the Land Use Commission can clearly amend the
- 24 Order on its own.
- 25 And that counsel's motion, now that it's --

- 1 counsel's motion can be granted in part with the
- 2 Office of Planning's language inserted instead.
- From a procedural standpoint these arguments
- 4 really have no impact. There was the issue of the law
- 5 of the case. But that really applies to appeals and
- 6 doesn't prevent the same body from changing its Order.
- 7 OP never filed a Motion to Modify. And the LUC has
- 8 never considered a motion from the Office of Planning.
- 9 In fact if the law in this case applies to
- 10 anyone, quite frankly, it should apply to the
- 11 Intervenor's argument that any water from the
- 12 high-level aguifer is banned. That position was
- 13 considered and rejected by the Hawai'i Supreme Court.
- 14 Let me deal with the issue of whether this
- 15 is consistent with the Hawai'i Supreme Court remand
- 16 and I will finish with that last issue. In our minds
- 17 this is not an injunctive Order issued by a court
- 18 telling some state agency: You must provide health
- 19 benefits, for example. This is an appeal from an
- 20 administrative hearing.
- 21 So when it came back to you on remand you
- 22 still have the full power and authority of the Land
- 23 Use Commission. At the time you originally considered
- 24 the motion -- still considered the Cease and Desist
- 25 Motion.

- 1 So whether you decide to change your mind or
- 2 whether you decide to amend the Order, all these
- 3 authorities still exist because you are the body that
- 4 makes that decision initially.
- 5 Putting it differently, if you were to, for
- 6 example, to go through the entire process, hold a
- 7 series of hearings, make a decision about what the
- 8 definition of potable is, do the full nine yards of
- 9 whether or not Petitioner has or has not violated --
- 10 or has or has not used potable water for the golf
- 11 course, how much and when and what's the appropriate
- 12 sanction, if any, that should be imposed, you could
- 13 then, pursuant to your general authority, amend the
- 14 Decision and Order to impose a chloride standard and
- 15 say: This is the new condition. And therefore all the
- 16 other findings that I have made are now moot.
- 17 Well, why do that? You cannot -- I think at
- 18 some point a certain level of common sense has to come
- 19 in. That if you know that it's appropriate to change
- 20 its Order now, do it now and declare the rest of that
- 21 process moot. There's no requirement to waste
- 22 government time and energy.
- 23 So essentially we are hoping that the Office
- 24 of Planning's proposal provides a balanced approach,
- 25 will accommodate the needs of both parties. We hope

- 1 you see fit to grant our motion. And we have no
- 2 opposition to the Cease and Desist Order. Thank you.
- 3 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you, Mr. Yee.
- 4 Questions for Mr. Yee?
- 5 COMMISSIONER WONG: Mr. Chairman, I would
- 6 like to ask Mr. Yee: In your proposed motion you
- 7 suggest that we mandate the Petitioner to submit
- 8 certain documents to the Water Commission. Is that
- 9 what you're saying as part of the audit?
- 10 MR. YEE: That, it's not that the LUC has to
- 11 submit, but that before the Petitioner completes the
- 12 study and the audit that that's been reviewed by CWRM
- 13 to determine that they did it correctly.
- 14 COMMISSIONER WONG: And suppose CWRM is not
- 15 interested in reviewing it? Is that the function of
- 16 the Land Use Commission to say to CWRM, "I'm going to
- 17 ask a party to submit documents to you for your
- 18 review"? CWRM says, "Why are you imposing that burden
- 19 upon me?" So all I'm saying is that this does not
- 20 appear to me to be a reasonable mandate to be imposed
- 21 upon the Land Use Commission to force you to go to
- 22 CWRM and ask them to approve certain documents.
- 23 MR. YEE: This is not a model that's unknown
- 24 to other Land Use Commission orders. So for example,
- 25 TIARs are all approved by DOT. And the DOE

- 1 conditions, you know, for schools we look for an
- 2 agreement with DOE. If it's concern for the
- 3 Commission I suppose you could eliminate CWRM, but
- 4 it's not unusual for a state agency with technical
- 5 expertise review a document and give their approval
- 6 before coming to you.
- 7 COMMISSIONER WONG: Then, Mr. Chairman, if
- 8 that's so it appears that this is a special area of
- 9 water that should be reserved for the Water Commission
- 10 to decide and look at and audit and analyze rather
- 11 than being a function on the part of the Land Use
- 12 Commission to micromanage and analyze water.
- 13 What do we know about all aspects of water?
- 14 So in that sense using your argument it appears to me,
- 15 Mr. Chairman, that's beyond the scope of our
- 16 jurisdiction.
- 17 MR. YEE: Could I briefly respond to the
- 18 concern?
- 19 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: We really need to move on.
- 20 We have a couple of others that need to testify.
- 21 County, sorry to cut you off.
- MS. LOVELL: Thank you. For the record my
- 23 name is Jane Lovell. I'm a deputy corporation
- 24 counsel. I'm here today representing the County's
- 25 Planning Department. I'll try to be very brief.

- 1 Generally speaking the county supports the Office of
- 2 Planning's proposal that this Commission adopt its own
- 3 definition of the word "potable". We believe that if
- 4 the Commission does that you will be complying with
- 5 the mandate from the Supreme Court.
- 6 The suggestion has been to take the
- 7 definition from the former county ordinance which
- 8 defined the word potable as it applies to golf courses
- 9 in terms of chlorides, namely 250 milligrams per liter
- 10 of chlorides or more. So that in a nutshell is the
- 11 County's position.
- I would like to say, however, three things.
- 13 One. The county did not intend when it amended its
- 14 definition of potable to remove any restrictions from
- 15 the Manele Golf Course. Those restrictions are still
- 16 there. They're found in our zoning ordinance which is
- 17 Chapter 19.70.085 of the Maui County Code which
- 18 provides that, "No potable water drawn from the high
- 19 level aquifer may be used for irrigation of the golf
- 20 course."
- It goes on to say that, "In terms of
- 22 non-potable water no more than 650,000 gallons per day
- 23 on an annual moving average may be used on the Manele
- 24 Golf Course." So there's still restrictions.
- 25 However, because of the way that the state

- 1 is reading our new ordinance, I have asked our water
- 2 resources committee to look at potential technical
- 3 amendments to the new definition to make sure that the
- 4 way that OP is reading our ordinance is corrected if
- 5 correction is needed. There was no intent whatsoever
- 6 to remove any restrictions from the County's point of
- 7 view on this golf course.
- Next I would like to respond to Mr. Lehman's
- 9 statement that the Lana'i aquifer is not fragile. That
- 10 is certainly not the County's view. And I don't
- 11 believe that is a fair reading of the Commission on
- 12 Water Resource Management's letter dated December 10,
- 13 2009 which is attached to the Petitioner's filing of
- 14 January 6th as Exhibit 10.
- 15 The Water Commission indicated in that
- 16 letter that it is prepared to reopen the designation
- 17 process, if warranted, once the Water Use and
- 18 Development Plan is adopted by ordinance.
- 19 The Water Commission notes in that letter
- 20 that water levels in Wells 16, 9, 14 are approaching
- 21 quote, unquote "action levels." The letter from the
- 22 Commission recognized high levels of system loss and
- 23 indicated that a number of these issues continue to be
- 24 of concern to the Water Commission.
- Neither, however, does the county agree that

- 1 the situation is quite as dire as the Intervenor
- 2 paints it to be. In any event we believe that the
- 3 people who should be managing the aguifer at the end
- 4 of the day are the people with the specific expertise
- 5 and jurisdiction to do that. And that is the Water
- 6 Commission.
- 7 There's a mechanism for that. It's a
- 8 petition to designate the aquifer as a groundwater
- 9 Management Area. The commission has indicated it
- 10 would reconsider its earlier decision not to
- 11 designate. I think for this Commission staying within
- 12 this Commission's kuleana and jurisdiction what you
- 13 should be doing is focusing on the mandate from the
- 14 Supreme Court.
- I think that by revising or coming up with a
- 16 definition of potable you can do that. Take the
- 17 definition that OP has proposed or some other
- 18 definition that has some rational basis. Use that.
- 19 And if the aquifer -- if any of the other conditions
- 20 change, then any part, can come in and ask you to make
- 21 further changes.
- 22 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you. Commissioner
- 23 Lezy.
- 24 COMMISSIONER LEZY: Thank you, Chair.
- 25 Ms. Lovell, if possible I'd just like to have you

- 1 emphasize something principally if I'm understanding
- 2 you correctly, principally for the benefit of quite a
- 3 few of the folks that testified here today from the
- 4 public. Clearly there's a concern amongst the
- 5 citizens of Lana'i regarding usage and allocation of
- 6 the water resources on this island.
- If I can get you just to agree with me that
- 8 the closing comments that you just made are that the
- 9 County of Maui, I assume in coordination with the
- 10 state Commission on Water Resource Management, the
- 11 county sees as their obligation to govern the
- 12 allocation and usage of water on the island of Lana'i.
- 13 Is that correct?
- 14 MS. LOVELL: I'm not sure I would phrase it
- 15 quite that broadly. But the county does have, just as
- 16 the state does, has a public trust duty when it comes
- 17 to public trust resources such as water. The county
- 18 certainly has a duty with respect to its own
- 19 ordinances.
- 20 And there is a very specific ordinance that
- 21 governs the use of both potable and non-potable water
- 22 for the Manele Golf Course. So certainly the county
- 23 has that duty.
- 24 And the county also has the duty to consider
- 25 water use and allocation through the process known as

- 1 the Water Use and Development plan. After many years
- 2 of struggling with that we now have a draft that's
- 3 out, it's published. It's on our county website.
- 4 That will be taken up first by the Board of Water
- 5 Supply and thereafter by the county council and will
- 6 be adopted possibly with changes as an ordinance.
- 7 And we're looking at a timeline from today
- 8 of about a year to get those two reviews done. We are
- 9 hopeful that our county council will adopt it as an
- 10 ordinance.
- 11 The Water Use and Development Plan has an
- 12 allocation scheme. It has limitations on uses of
- 13 water and so forth. So I think if you put it in that
- 14 framework those are the county's duties and
- 15 responsibilities.
- 16 COMMISSIONER LEZY: And I think to take it a
- 17 step further the suggestion of the county is that
- 18 concerns concerning usage and allocation should be
- 19 brought to the appropriate county agencies to be
- 20 addressed.
- 21 And I think your final comment to us was the
- 22 county does not believe that those are issues that
- 23 should be taken up and decided by this Commission. Is
- 24 that accurate?
- MS. LOVELL: Not quite. I think this

- 1 Commission also has to keep its eye on water and does
- 2 so in every district boundary amendment that you
- 3 consider. It's certainly an important issue. But I
- 4 think it's important that this Commission not try to
- 5 micromanage the aquifer because I don't think you have
- 6 the appropriate expertise.
- 7 I think that if there were a petition to
- 8 designate the aquifer there certainly would be support
- 9 from within the county for that petition to put the
- 10 management of the aquifer in the hands of the state
- 11 but through the Water Commission and not this
- 12 Commission.
- 13 COMMISSIONER LEZY: Thank you.
- 14 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you. Go ahead.
- 15 COMMISSIONER WONG: Mr. Chair, my question
- 16 is you indicated there is the zoning ordinance which
- 17 provides in substance that no groundwater, no potable
- 18 groundwater may be used for the irrigation of the golf
- 19 course, right?
- MS. LOVELL: (Nodding)
- 21 COMMISSIONER WONG: Now, in that same
- 22 ordinance or any other ordinance of Maui is there a
- 23 definition of what is potable and not potable?
- 24 MS. LOVELL: Yes. The current definition is
- 25 found in Chapter 14.08 of the Maui County Code. And I

- 1 can't quote it for you precisely. I believe it's in
- 2 the amended motion of State OP. But it's basically
- 3 that "potable" means water that is considered
- 4 drinkable by the State Department of Health.
- 5 However, when it comes to the Manele Golf
- 6 Course it's the County's position that our old
- 7 definition of potability applies. And that is because
- 8 that was the definition that was in effect at the time
- 9 that the golf course was approved.
- 10 And there is a savings clause in the county
- 11 ordinance which indicates that if a law changes it
- 12 doesn't go back and undue previous permits or previous
- 13 approvals. It would apply.
- 14 But because there's some controversy on this
- 15 I'm going to ask our water resources committee of the
- 16 county council to take a look and see if any technical
- 17 amendments to the new definition are required.
- 18 COMMISSIONER WONG: Mr. Chairman, the reason
- 19 for the question is that counsel is urging us to adopt
- 20 a standard for potable water. But if there is already
- 21 a definition, why would we adopt a different
- 22 definition? In other words, could we not use the
- 23 definition as you've indicated, Chapter 14.04?
- MS. LOVELL: I think actually.
- 25 COMMISSIONER WONG: Zero eight.

- 1 MS. LOVELL: Actually, Commissioner Wong, it
- 2 would make more sense to use the previous definition
- 3 which was in terms of a chloride standard because the
- 4 new definition talks generally in terms of the
- 5 Department of Health contaminant levels and so forth.
- 6 But the old definition had a specific chloride
- 7 standard.
- 8 And I believe, first of all, that is the
- 9 definition that applies to this particular golf
- 10 course. Secondly, I believe that it is more in line
- 11 with the Commission's original Condition 10.
- 12 COMMISSIONER WONG: Okay. One more
- 13 question, Mr. Chairman. Counsel is urging that we
- 14 adopt the amended motion, modified motion by State
- 15 Office of Planning. My question is that Office of
- 16 Planning is also suggesting a certain amount of usage
- 17 in terms of the amount of water. I think he's talking
- 18 about 650 gallons per day.
- 19 Now, you earlier indicated that that kind of
- 20 thing dealing with usage would be a matter for the
- 21 Water Commission in that the Land Use Commission
- 22 should not be micromanaging the aquifer.
- 23 So would you think that the motion should
- 24 not refer to the amount of water?
- MS. LOVELL: No, Commissioner Wong, that's

- 1 not what I believe. I believe that the
- 2 650,000 gallons is a very useful term to put in there
- 3 because that is the amount of water that is allowed
- 4 under the county zoning ordinance. Our zoning
- 5 ordinance 19.70.085 specifically says 650,000. So
- 6 that I do not believe is micromanaging or stepping
- 7 into what the Water Commission's jurisdiction is.
- 8 I'm think more in terms of studies, action
- 9 levels, trying to figure out whether certain wells are
- 10 declining rapidly or things of that nature. Those are
- 11 the technical things that I think should be left to
- 12 the Water Commission. But the county itself has a
- 13 650,000 gallon restriction on the Manele Golf Course.
- 14 COMMISSIONER WONG: Thank you.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you. Yeah, go ahead,
- 16 Mr. Murakami. You know we're approaching time. And
- 17 we have to go. But go ahead. You've got 20 minutes.
- 18 MR. MURAKAMI: First, I didn't imagine --
- 19 that's kind of unfair to the Intervenor.
- 20 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Would you use the mic,
- 21 please.
- MR. MURAKAMI: First of all, I want to
- 23 hopefully dispel some notions about what is going on
- 24 with respect to some of the questions raised by
- 25 Commissioner Wong. The cease and desist is vacated.

- 1 It's clear. You can read it in their Supreme Court
- 2 decision. It says so: "Vacated in all other
- 3 respects."
- 4 As to jurisdictional questions that seems to
- 5 be arising now, it was LSG that petitioned for
- 6 designation over ten years ago. The Commission in all
- 7 its wisdom decided not to at that time. Now, many of
- 8 the issues that seem to be raised today which were
- 9 relevant then, relevant now, appear to be in the
- 10 forefront now that the company has been found to
- 11 violate this condition.
- 12 Secondly, we ask for a summary affirmance at
- 13 the time of the remand because we believe the record
- 14 was replete with a basis for your Order to be revised
- 15 according to the remand and affirmed.
- The Order that your predecessor body, the
- 17 LUC adopted, is 99 percent in agreement with LSG's
- 18 position. It agrees that, there not a potability
- 19 standard alone for -- chloride standard alone for
- 20 potability.
- It agrees that's there's leakage from the
- 22 upper level wells to the lower level wells. It agrees
- 23 that there was a contribution of potable water to the
- 24 water taken out of Wells 1, 9, 14. It agrees with all
- 25 of that.

- 1 What the court said wasn't done is that
- 2 there wasn't a specific sentence that says: Therefore
- 3 potable water was used in violation of this condition.
- 4 That's all. So despite all that's been said about the
- 5 viability of a chloride-only standard, or whether or
- 6 not there should be a Water Commission issue or any of
- 7 these secondary concerns now being raised ten years
- 8 later, it is very clear that this Commission should be
- 9 razor focused on the remand Order and get back to the
- 10 central issue of whether or not there's been a
- 11 violation of Condition 10.
- 12 And to be very, very clear the company back
- 13 then, way back in 1990 according to this Lana'i Times
- 14 article that they published, we attached as Exhibit C
- 15 to our Response to the Office of Planning's Revised
- 16 Motion, let me read that. This is Mr. Leppert
- 17 answering this question:
- 18 "Water has been raised as an issue related
- 19 to Manele. How will the golf course at Manele affect
- 20 water supply?
- 21 "Answer: We have very specifically stated
- 22 in all of our applications and in public testimony
- 23 that water irrigation for the Manele Golf Course will
- 24 not be from the high-level aquifer."
- I mean that's in black and white, potability

- 1 standards aside, everything aside. They were going to
- 2 stay out of the high-level aquifer. Now, they're
- 3 raising argument now, oh, he didn't know what he was
- 4 talking about. We didn't know where the high-level
- 5 aquifer was. Well, their own expert says that Wells
- 6 1, 9, 14 were in the high-level aquifer. You can
- 7 check the records. And I think we have cited to those
- 8 records. So it's very clear.
- 9 And the county on top of that understood
- 10 what we understood. Mr. Miske in a letter that I
- 11 attached as Exhibit E says here in his letter to
- 12 Mr. Leppert, after they reacted to the initial opening
- 13 of the golf course, "It has been our understanding
- 14 from early representations of the company that the
- 15 golf course and resort residential irrigation would
- 16 not draw from the island's limited high-level
- 17 aquifer." So even the county agreed with us.
- 18 Now because the Commission unfortunately
- 19 used the word "potable" in its condition, they're
- 20 banking on that issue, which is really a side issue,
- 21 with respect to their representations to you and the
- 22 county and to LSG which withdrew its intervention
- 23 requested under the reliance on these specific
- 24 statements that they would not use the high-level
- 25 aquifer, withdrew its intervention and allowed that

- 1 approval to go through.
- 2 And there's a written agreement of that
- 3 form. The county, in fact, in 1992 passed Ordinance
- 4 2132, and I'll cover that, that specifically adopts
- 5 this specific standard: No use of the high-level
- 6 aquifer. The county was in agreement back then.
- 7 One last preliminary point before I get to
- 8 this presentation. There seems to be a notion that
- 9 somehow we have changed standards, applicable
- 10 standards over the years that where the potability
- 11 standard was different before. And that's not true.
- 12 The potability standards in effect at the time of the,
- 13 I believe it was, April 1991 approval of the Manele
- 14 Golf Course, was the EPA standard.
- The very first change to the potability
- 16 standard occurred seven or eight months later in
- 17 December of that same year with the adoption of now
- 18 repealed Maui County Code 2024.020. That changed the
- 19 potability standards to a chloride-only standard.
- 20 So at the time of the approval of this
- 21 decision there was no dispute as to what potability
- 22 was. It was the EPA standard which has both primary
- 23 and secondary standards of which chloride is only a
- 24 secondary standard, an aesthetic standard. It does
- 25 not compel a finding of non-potability simply because

- 1 chlorides are above 250 parts per million. And the
- 2 Land Use Commission, your predecessor, agreed with
- 3 that.
- 4 So it is going to be incredible if this
- 5 Commission now sitting does a 180 degree turnaround on
- 6 all these points on the simple remand Order to ask you
- 7 to find whether or not under the potability standards
- 8 at the time of your Order, which was very clear,
- 9 fairly little dispute if you look at it legally,
- 10 there's probably three dozen contaminant levels any
- 11 one of which, if exceeded, could possibly threaten the
- 12 potability of this water none of which has been shown
- 13 in, what is it, eighteen years having occurred.
- 14 Never, not one finding that potability standard under
- 15 the EPA then in existence at the time of your approval
- 16 of the Manele Golf Course has been violated.
- 17 The only thing we have been talking about is
- 18 brackish water which is a secondary non-binding
- 19 standard for potability. That's where all this
- 20 confusion is about. I want to make it very clear.
- 21 First of all, I'm going to make sure that we
- 22 talk about the right wells here. We're really talking
- 23 about Well 6 and 8 being the primary potable wells
- 24 that are in the upper level, and 2 and 4 serving
- 25 Manele. The brackish wells are Well, 1, 9, 14

- 1 primarily now, although there is some suggestion there
- 2 might be a 15.
- 3 The aquifers are located basically in the
- 4 upper level are of Lana'i, the Lana'i Hale. This
- 5 colored area you see. It's been split between
- 6 windward and leeward. And that's very critical
- 7 because there's been 6 million MGD being tossed
- 8 around -- I think Mr. Yee mentioned that -- as being
- 9 the sustainable yield.
- 10 The current Water Commission view of this is
- 11 there is a 3 million sustainable yield, million
- 12 gallons sustainable yield for both aquifers.
- 13 Therefore six. But you cannot equate the two together
- 14 because there is a geographical separation that causes
- 15 concentration of wells particularly in the leeward
- 16 sector to cause some real problems as you'll see later
- 17 on. If you start approaching the three, in other
- 18 words, then you're in trouble.
- Now, the wells, as I said, Well 6 is just
- 20 beyond the aquifer at the very crest of this line of
- 21 separation. And the rest of the wells, Well 6 and 8
- 22 which are the potable sources for wells, Lana'i City.
- 23 Potable sources 2 and 4 for Manele District and the
- 24 brackish sources 1, 9 and 14 are all in the leeward
- 25 aquifer.

- 1 There's the city wells. Here's the Manele
- 2 potable wells. And here's the irrigation wells.
- 3 Okay. Basically what you see is that the potable
- 4 wells are on the upper levels.
- 5 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Take your mic with you,
- 6 would you please?
- 7 MR. MURAKAMI: Sorry. 6 and 8 are at the
- 8 top, at a very high level. Little lower are Wells 2
- 9 and 4. Then 1, 9, 14 are in the Palawai Basin. So
- 10 what you see here basically water follows gravity and
- 11 flows down and out towards the sea. That's what this
- 12 Commission agreed was happening that causes leakage
- 13 from the upper level Wells 6 and 8 wells, for example
- 14 to be flowing in as water is displaced from Wells 1, 9
- 15 and 14. And they found under their own standards that
- 16 their potable water was infiltrating the lower level
- 17 1, 9, 14 wells. That's in your decision in 1996.
- 18 This is the current usage. And I'm trying
- 19 to use as much facts as I can because that's all we
- 20 got to fight this issue. This is the Water Use and
- 21 Development Plan's depiction of the water use on the
- 22 island. As you can see here the city level is at that
- 23 level. Manele Project district is here. The total is
- 24 here.
- 25 Collectively Manele is using three quarters

- 1 of the water of the island being pumped. That's very
- 2 important to understand because No. 1 there's very few
- 3 residents down there. No. 2 we believe that's
- 4 excessive waste. Even the president has admitted he's
- 5 violating his own CC&R's by using more than a thousand
- 6 gallons per day.
- 7 And if you just go down there you can see
- 8 the lush vegetation there that is benefiting from this
- 9 excessive usage in a dry area.
- 10 Here's month by month. The green is the
- 11 Manele Project District, the blue the next lower level
- 12 about half to -- well, sometimes a third of that usage
- 13 is Lana'i City. There is excessive use in these, in
- 14 the Manele Project Districts collectively. And worse,
- 15 if you try to account for that water the islandwide
- 16 pumpage you'll see in the bars the line represents
- 17 what they can account for by billing. So that gap
- 18 above the line they can't account for. It's waste or
- 19 some other leakage or whatever it might be. And they
- 20 don't know enough about that.
- 21 The Manele district in particular is
- 22 using -- has a 29 percent unaccountability percentage
- 23 while Lana'i City is less than half of that at about
- 24 13.52. All that I'm quoting here is in the Water Use
- 25 and Development Plan which I provided the Commission

- 1 full with the CD's you should have.
- 2 Here is a comparison that's very
- 3 interesting. This is the Lana'i City accountability.
- 4 The line represents, again, the accountable billing.
- 5 You can see the level there. In contrast the Manele
- 6 potable loss is 44 percent, almost 45. Almost half of
- 7 the water being used down there is not accounted for.
- 8 And this is the representation on the graph.
- 9 In general you can see the difference
- 10 between Manele before and Lana'i City here. There's a
- 11 huge gap in accountability between the two areas.
- 12 These are the two graphs that represent that.
- 13 The brackish water loss is unaccounted for,
- 14 18 percent, almost 19 percent. This is the
- 15 landscaping and the golf course. This is the
- 16 depiction of their use month by month last year. If
- 17 you take the comparative use, and this is where
- 18 Mr. Chiekes took some exception to this, it is clear
- 19 that while individual homeowners are not potentially
- 20 using all this water, if you basically do the
- 21 division, total water use in this district, total
- 22 numbers of subscribers, this is what you get, 221 in
- 23 Lana'i City/3,700 in Manele district.
- 24 The important thing about this is not that
- 25 any individual homeowner might be using excessive

- 1 water, but because you're including the hotel, the
- 2 landscape, irrigation of the roadways and the golf
- 3 course you get this high figure, 2800 of which is
- 4 irrigation, 900 of which is potable wherever they're
- 5 using it.
- But the three quarters of this island's use
- 7 is broken down this way. This is the graphic
- 8 representation of the difference between the lowest in
- 9 Lana'i City, the 900 that's the potable water use in
- 10 Manele District and the 2800 in the same district.
- 11 It's a huge disparity.
- 12 The county standard is 600 gallons per day
- 13 per household. So whether it's the potable water use
- 14 by 50 percent or the brackish water use by five times
- 15 that amount it is excessive. Some of the conclusions
- 16 are very alarming.
- 17 They say here, for example, "Absent measures
- 18 to mitigate withdrawals, existing partial entitlements
- 19 in the form of project district approvals could cause
- 20 demands to meet or exceed the sustainable yield of one
- 21 or both aquifers."
- They're talking about exceeding 3.0 in each
- 23 aguifer possibly. And this is what they're projecting
- 24 out. So while there may not be some -- some people
- 25 are characterizing this as not meaning this to be

- 1 concerned about, I'm just going to leave you with the
- 2 conclusions of this Water Use and Development Plan and
- 3 you can make your own minds up.
- 4 "At the current islandwide accounted for
- 5 water rates buildout of the Phase II entitled portions
- 6 of the Project districts without additional
- 7 development in the windward aguifer could lead to
- 8 exceedence of sustainable yield."
- 9 In other words, the 3.0 is in jeopardy of
- 10 being exceeded. Again, buildout approvals could
- 11 create demands exceeding sustainable yields. You can
- 12 find this in three places in the Water Use and
- 13 Development Plan. Here are some of the numbers. The
- 14 2006 proposal that was issued by the company 2009 I
- 15 believe were in the range of 4.1 to 4.2 MGD. And this
- 16 is beyond the 3.0. You cannot look upon this as a 6.0
- 17 sustainable yield. You must view this as separate
- 18 aquifers.
- 19 Basically the model that they relied upon to
- 20 project some of the potential changes to the water
- 21 levels that the Water Commission did, had assumed that
- 22 they were going to spread wells over 13 sources.
- 23 There are only six in effect being pumped right now.
- 24 That's bad because you're focusing the
- 25 pumping in a concentrated area which affects your

- 1 viability of your pumping. And 85 percent of the
- 2 withdrawals came from the leeward sector.
- 3 As I said Well 6 is up in the very cusp of
- 4 the boundary but the rest are all in the leeward
- 5 sector. So there's an overdrawing of the leeward
- 6 sector relative to the whole.
- 7 Then the problem there is that it is
- 8 unlikely Well 6 can pump more because water levels are
- 9 declining as they are in Wells 8, 1, 9 and 14. Those
- 10 are the levels that are being affected at 2008 pumpage
- 11 rates.
- 12 In the Well 9 alone there's been a 442-foot
- 13 decline since 2003 in the last six years. These are
- 14 not our conclusions. These are the county's
- 15 conclusions. Well 8 went down by 80 feet, I don't
- 16 know since when. By that lowering occurred in
- 17 September of this year. So I must assume that this
- 18 occurred over at least the last two to six years.
- 19 Maybe somebody can actually inform me on that.
- There were some graphs in there that shows
- 21 declines. The yellow as you can see there is the
- 22 action level set by the Water Commission to start
- 23 looking at this issue again.
- There's been basically drops in the water
- 25 level, 200-foot decline from the green to the current

- 1 where the graph is. The green is the top dark line in
- 2 this screen.
- 3 There's been a 230-foot decline from what I
- 4 can tell interpreting this Well 9 graph.
- 5 Well 6 has shown a hundred foot decline.
- 6 Well 8 about a hundred foot decline. If you
- 7 use the green level as the original water level in the
- 8 wells as the Water Use and Development Plan depicts.
- 9 So, again, this thing about the sustainable
- 10 yield, nobody, not even the developer's hydrologists
- 11 have said that it is, that they can theoretically -- I
- 12 mean they can achieve the theoretical 6 MGD figure
- 13 because of this separation between leeward and
- 14 windward and because of the concentration of wells in
- 15 windward.
- 16 Unless massive infrastructure improvement is
- 17 done to tap the windward sources and to lay all the
- 18 pipelines to the leeward side, the 6 MGD is really a
- 19 phantom number.
- 20 And the modeling that would predict some of
- 21 the changes that might occur is assuming basically
- 22 that the conditions for recharge that were in
- 23 existence at the time the model was done in the 1990s
- 24 remain the same. But, in fact, what they found, for
- 25 example, is that the fog drip even if the reduction of

- 1 forest cover up in the Mahaolu Hale could drastically
- 2 affect recharge. Fog drip accounts for over
- 3 65 percent of the recharge. The forest cover that
- 4 captures that recharge is very critical. The loss of
- 5 fog drip even with zero pumpage, if all wells stop,
- 6 would still result in a drop of water levels of 25 to
- 7 30 percent if there was no fog drip.
- 8 If you start pumping at the 6 MGD
- 9 theoretical sustainable yield, the water levels would
- 10 drop to 50 percent. However, the mauka watershed
- 11 forest is exceedingly compromised. These are not my
- 12 words. This is in the Water Use and Development Plan,
- 13 a very critical source of water to recharge the
- 14 aguifer.
- 15 If that recharge changes, then all
- 16 assumptions about what is safe in terms of declining
- 17 water levels are completely changed. And that's why
- 18 we are so concerned about this because we know that
- 19 the watershed is compromised. There seems to be a
- 20 very half-hearted attempt to restore it.
- 21 There's a declining level of water in the
- 22 wells that seems to indicate that the recharge is not
- 23 occurring as it has historically. So the plan says
- 24 that they urge new source development before you reach
- 25 3 MGD in leeward aquifer. But at the current pumping

- 1 rates at Well 6, the potable water level up in Lana'i
- 2 City, you achieve a 2.7 MGD in the leeward aquifer
- 3 alone very shortly. So you're getting very close to
- 4 the 3. And this is a national level that the
- 5 Commission has set as being one they'll come back and
- 6 relook at things. And you already know that we're at
- 7 about 2.2, as Bryan has said.
- 8 Project buildout could take place at a pace
- 9 that enables continued monitoring, the status of the
- 10 aquifer and the watershed. So they're urging the
- 11 County's using continuing monitoring of the aquifer
- 12 and the watershed because these are very critical
- 13 elements of what happens to the aquifer.
- 14 There's a vital need for continued official
- 15 community involvement. The community wants to see a
- 16 half million gallon per day agriculture reserve out of
- 17 the 3 million, so that's a very important thing to
- 18 keep in mind. That lowers it already to 2.5 million.
- 19 You're already at 2.2.
- There's only 300,000 gallons per day margin
- 21 there between now and what could possibly lead to a
- 22 point where you might be in trouble if you account for
- 23 that reserve.
- One of the recommendations that the
- 25 development -- recognizes that the development of

- 1 windward well sources is recommended but considered
- 2 expensive. You can tell that from just the distances
- 3 involved.
- 4 They ask that you consider Native Hawaiian
- 5 rights. They leave you with this extreme caution that
- 6 despite whatever the petitioner has said or the
- 7 movant -- this is the language of the County Water Use
- 8 and Development Plan, "Lana'i is uniquely vulnerable
- 9 to negative impacts from climate change due to the
- 10 position in the rain shadow of Maui, its low
- 11 elevation, the potential rise of the inversion layer
- 12 due to climate change. These factors argue in favor
- 13 of a cautious allocation policy for Lana'i." And
- 14 that's how we're urging you to approach this motion.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: You have five more minutes.
- MR. MURAKAMI: Okay. Already we know that
- 17 this is becoming a real problem because of the decline
- 18 of the recharge area in the Lana'i Hale. So in
- 19 summary, Manele is using the Project District, is
- 20 using most of the island's water supply, by three
- 21 quarters. It's accounted for the highest percentage
- 22 of unaccounted for water, 29 percent for the entire
- 23 Project District, 44 for just potable water alone.
- 24 Lana'i City is just at 13.52. Which is even
- 25 excessive.

- 1 And it has the highest average household
- 2 water use just doing the division, not to point
- 3 fingers at any particular resident: 3700 gallons per
- 4 day versus 221 gallons per day in Lana'i City whereas
- 5 the county averages 600.
- 6 Again, warnings about exceeding sustainable
- 7 yield. Remember it's a 3.0 not the 6.0. The declines
- 8 in the water wells are very troublesome, given the
- 9 pace of decline. And the very fact that this is the
- 10 premise that even the Petitioner said is what should
- 11 be happening in a statement where they say there
- 12 should be no concern about the aguifer so long as
- 13 there's no decline in the water wells.
- 14 Well, there have been declines in the water
- 15 wells. I think that's unrefuted. Even with the
- 16 increased distribution infrastructure you can't
- 17 achieve the 6.0 MGD. So that, again, you got to
- 18 remember is kind of a fictional figure to use for
- 19 planning.
- There have been -- all the planning is
- 21 assuming recharge is going to stay the same at Lana'i
- 22 Hale and they haven't. It's been extremely
- 23 compromised, continues to decline.
- Reminder again about the 2.70 that they
- 25 project will happen at the current pumping rates for

- 1 Well 6 and that these buildouts will, it should
- 2 mandate continued monitoring on the status of the
- 3 aquifer and the watershed.
- We think that as a result -- I'm going to
- 5 try to rush through this -- that the Castle & Cooke's
- 6 motion is really unwarranted. It does not exercise
- 7 caution. It basically throws it to the wind and says,
- 8 "Okay, despite all of this give us all the water we
- 9 need for the golf course because of economics."
- 10 And I heard the general manager say he's in
- 11 support of sustainable economics for the island.
- 12 Well, this is not sustainable if this continued
- 13 deterioration proceeds. Until that is short circuited
- 14 we all have to face the prospect that the lack of
- 15 recharge is going to affect us all.
- I don't care what station of life we come
- 17 from, in favor of this motion, against this motion.
- 18 If the recharge, which fog drips accounts for
- 19 65 percent, does not yet sustain, all bets are off on
- 20 all of these projections.
- 21 The State's Motion to Amend the Findings of
- 22 Fact really asks for going back to old standards. And
- 23 there's no basis for that from all I've said. You
- 24 have agreed that chloride is not, should not be the
- 25 standard for potability. You have agreed that there's

- 1 leakage from the upper level through the lower level
- 2 that is contributing potable water to the removal of
- 3 water from Wells 1, 9 and 14.
- 4 You have agreed that we should be using the
- 5 EPA standard which was in effect at the time of
- 6 approval of the condition, not MCC 20.24.020 which is
- 7 what everybody seems to be injecting as the
- 8 chloride-only potability standard that was in effect.
- 9 It was not in effect. It came seven or
- 10 eight months later. We have no dispute, really, to
- 11 any of these other information gathering except that
- 12 they should be monitored more closely by the
- 13 Department of Water Supply, not the Planning
- 14 Department so much because they have more expertise as
- 15 I say here.
- 16 I'm going to skip over most of this because
- 17 that's pretty much the theme of what we have, our
- 18 position is with respect to this continued agreement.
- 19 In short it should be -- I'm sorry.
- 20 What I meant to leave up there is the
- 21 caution about continued need for caution and planning
- 22 for the future of Lana'i. I think with that it's
- 23 important that you understand that it's been a long
- 24 drawn out process.
- 25 LSG has not been responsible for a lot of

- 1 it. This proceeding alone just for this motion
- 2 there's been a two-year hiatus. It wasn't our fault.
- 3 The Commission just didn't put it on its agenda.
- 4 Hopefully the public as well as you will not hold that
- 5 against LSG.
- 6 Sixteen years, a lot of that was because of
- 7 a lot of delay in the proceedings, yes, but very
- 8 little of it because -- none of it was really because
- 9 of LSG trying to delay the proceedings. If anything
- 10 we have tried to accelerate it.
- 11 We moved for affirmance earlier so that you
- 12 wouldn't have to go through these hearings. We moved
- 13 for water designation 10 years ago. And that was
- 14 denied.
- 15 The standards that the Water Commission
- 16 wants to use for designation are extremely high. But
- 17 because of the cautionary note that is important to be
- 18 exercised here, this Land Use Commission has a public
- 19 trust duty to step in, especially since Lana'i is only
- 20 about 1/30th -- I'm sorry, 1/20th of the size of the
- 21 O'ahu aquifer.
- 22 So it is even more important to be cautious
- 23 and careful now because you're dealing with a much
- 24 smaller water supply. There's really very little room
- 25 for error in terms of what's happening right now.

- 1 So for that reason I believe unless there's
- 2 a question I'm going to close. I think I made my time
- 3 limit. And I wish I could answer any of your
- 4 questions, I'll be here.
- 5 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you. Commissioners,
- 6 any questions? Thank you, Mr. Murakami.
- 7 At this juncture, Commissioners, let me
- 8 again confirm that each of you have been provided and
- 9 reviewed the copies of the Supreme Court's decisions,
- 10 all pleadings filed by all the parties relating to the
- 11 hearing on remand and Motion to Amend the Record and
- 12 the copies and the transcripts of these proceedings
- 13 and you're prepared to deliberate on this subject.
- 14 After I call your name would you please
- 15 signify by either an aye or nay that you are prepared
- 16 to deliberate on this matter. Commissioner Chock?
- 17 COMMISSIONER CHOCK: Aye.
- 18 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioner Judge?
- 19 COMMISSIONER JUDGE: Aye.
- 20 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioner Kanuha?
- 21 COMMISSIONER KANUHA: Aye.
- 22 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioner Lezy?
- 23 COMMISSIONER LEZY: Aye.
- 24 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioner Wong?
- 25 COMMISSIONER WONG: Aye.

- 1 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: And the Chair has
- 2 deliberated and has been prepared for this matter.
- 3 Commissioners, what is your pleasure? Commissioner
- 4 Judge.
- 5 COMMISSIONER JUDGE: Thank you, Chair Piltz.
- 6 I know this water issue is a very important issue.
- 7 And I thank the community for coming out today and
- 8 sharing its views with us.
- 9 I'd like to encourage you all to continue to
- 10 discuss your concerns and perhaps bring them to the
- 11 agency that has the jurisdiction over the groundwater
- 12 and the groundwater disputes which the County of Maui,
- 13 Jane Lovell, explained which is really the Commission
- 14 on Water Resources Management.
- And our issue today is really a very narrow
- 16 one. We're here because of, as Mr. Lamon explained,
- 17 the remand from the Hawai'i Supreme Court and really
- 18 this Condition No. 10.
- 19 That said, based upon the record and the
- 20 prior hearings that we have had on this docket since
- 21 the remand from the Hawai'i Supreme Court, I believe
- 22 it's impossible for this Commission to determine what
- 23 the Land Use Commission 19 years ago intended in 1991
- 24 in Condition No. 10.
- 25 As the Hawai'i Supreme Court noted the

- 1 record is not clear and it contains many
- 2 discrepancies. For example, in some places Well No.
- 3 9, and Well No. 1 are identified as being outside the
- 4 high-level aquifer. And in other places in the record
- 5 they're identified as being part of the high level
- 6 aquifer.
- 7 I also believe that the record is
- 8 inconclusive as to what the Commission considered to
- 9 be potable water. Therefore, there's no basis to
- 10 conclude that there was a violation of Condition No.
- 11 10.
- 12 However, the new information and the new
- 13 evidence provided at the hearings conducted pursuant
- 14 to the remand showed that more precise standards for
- 15 water quality have been developed and will more
- 16 accurately establish the parameters for an appropriate
- 17 groundwater use condition for this petition.
- In addition, the changes in the
- 19 circumstances at the county regulatory level also
- 20 indicate that Condition No. 10 can and should be
- 21 clarified.
- 22 Based upon the pleadings from the Office of
- 23 Planning, the Petitioner and the County of Maui they
- 24 all appear to agree that prohibiting use of water
- 25 containing 250 milligrams per liter of chlorids for

- 1 golf course irrigation is reasonable.
- 2 Therefore, I would like to offer a two-part
- 3 motion to my fellow commissioners. Firstly, I move
- 4 that the Commission find that there was insufficient
- 5 evidence to support the Commission's 1996 Order
- 6 finding of violation of Condition No. 10 and that the
- 7 1996 Order should be vacated.
- 8 Secondly, I move to deny OP's Motion to
- 9 Amend Condition No. 10 and its revised Motion to Amend
- 10 Condition No. 10. Further move to grant Petitioner's
- 11 Motion to Amend Condition No. 10 with Condition No. 10
- 12 to read with the following modifications:
- 13 A. "The Petitioner shall not use
- 14 groundwater to irrigate the Manele Golf Course driving
- 15 range and other associated landscaping if the chloride
- 16 concentration measured at the wellhead is
- 17 250 milligrams per liter or less."
- 18 B. "In the event the chloride concentration
- 19 measurement of groundwater to irrigate the Manele Golf
- 20 Cour driving range and associated landscaping falls
- 21 below 250 milligrams per liter, the Petitioner shall
- 22 cease use of the affected well or wells producing such
- 23 groundwater for irrigation purposes until such time as
- 24 the chloride concentrations of the water drawn from
- 25 such well rises above the 200 milligrams per liter."

- 1 C. "The total amount of groundwater used to
- 2 irrigate the Manele Golf Course driving range and
- 3 other associated landscaping shall be consistent with
- 4 Maui County Code Chapter 19.70.85C Manele Project
- 5 District 1. I believe that is irrigation is what the
- 6 county said."
- 7 And D. "As used herein the term
- 8 'groundwater' shall have the meaning as set forth in
- 9 section 17 -- I'm sorry 174C-3 Hawai'i Revised
- 10 Statutes which is the State Water Code."
- 11 Then E. "Nothing in this condition shall
- 12 limit the imposition of other restrictions by
- 13 appropriate governmental agencies having jurisdiction
- 14 or affect the interpretation or enforcement of any
- 15 private agreements between Petitioner and Intervenor
- 16 Lanains for Sensible Growth."
- 17 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioners, we have a
- 18 motion on the floor. Do we have a second?
- 19 COMMISSIONER WONG: Second.
- 20 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Second by Commissioner
- 21 Wong. Any other comments? Executive director, could
- 22 you call the roll.
- MR. DAVIDSON: Motion as just stated by
- 24 Commissioner Judge, seconded by Commissioner Wong.
- 25 Commissioner Judge?

1		COMMISSIONER JUDGE: Yes.
2		MR. DAVIDSON: Commissioner Wong?
3		COMMISSIONER WONG: Yes.
4		MR. DAVIDSON: Commissioner Chock?
5		COMMISSIONER CHOCK: Yes.
6		MR. DAVIDSON: Commissioner Kanuha?
7		COMMISSIONER KANUHA: Yes.
8		MR. DAVIDSON: Commissioner Lezy?
9		COMMISSIONER LEZY: Yes.
10		MR. DAVIDSON: Chair Piltz?
11		CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Yes.
12		MR. DAVIDSON: Motion passes six/zero,
13	Chair.	
14		CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Okay. We're adjourned
15	Thank you	for coming.
16	(The	proceedings were adjourned at 2:15 p.m.
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4	CERTIFICATE						
5							
6	I, HOLLY HACKETT, CSR, RPR, in and for the State						
7	of Hawai'i, do hereby certify;						
8	That I was acting as court reporter in the						
9	foregoing LUC matter on the 8th day of January 2010;						
10	That the proceedings were taken down in						
11	computerized machine shorthand by me and were						
12	thereafter reduced to print by me;						
13	That the foregoing represents, to the best						
14	of my ability, a true and correct transcript of the						
15	proceedings had in the foregoing matter.						
16							
17	DATED: This day of2010						
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22	HOLLY M. HACKETT, CSR #130, RPR Certified Shorthand Reporter						
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