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DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

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LBNL HELIOS ENERGY RESEARCH FACILITY &

6

COMPUTATIONAL RESEARCH AND THEORY (CRT) FACILITY

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SCOPING MEETING

10

FINAL TRANSCRIPT

11

Wednesday, August 8, 2007

12

North Berkeley Senior Center

13

1900 Hearst Avenue

14

6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

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REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
BY: JUDY LARRABEE, SHORTHAND REPORTER

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PROCEEDINGS

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MS. POWELL: My name is Terry Powell. I'm

3 Scoping Meeting Transcript.08-08-07FINAL.txt
4 the Community Relations Officer at Lawrence Berkeley
5 National Lab, and I'd like to welcome you here
6 tonight for this scoping meeting on the Draft EIRs
7 to be prepared for Berkeley Lab's proposed Helios
8 Energy Research Facility and for the proposed
9 Computational Research and Theory Facility.

10 First, general information. I'd like to remind
11 you that the bathrooms are down the hall on the
12 left, and there are some light refreshments on the
13 back table.

14 There are some guidelines and procedures for
15 this meeting, and I'd like to let you know them
16 briefly. The meeting is a two-hour meeting from
17 6:30 to 8:30. It looks like we will go a little
18 over, not much.

19 There were some materials on the table -- you
20 probably saw them -- including cards, speakers
21 cards, comment cards, some handouts and sign-in
22 sheets.

23 The speaker cards are light blue. Please fill
24 one out if you'd like to make comments or ask
25 questions about the preparation of the Environmental
Impact Reports. And we need to have your contact

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1 information, so please complete that card so that we
2 can notify you about the follow-on activities on
3 these projects.

4 There are also a salmon-colored card. Beverly,
5 would you hold one up please? You're welcome to
6 make your comments in writing and submit them. And
7 Jeff Philliber will discuss that in more detail.

8 We have a court reporter tonight, Judy
9 Larrabee, who is present and she will prepare a
10 transcript of this meeting. It will be available in
11 the Draft EIR.

12 She will need a five- to ten-minute break about
13 halfway through, so be prepared. We're going to
14 take a little bit of a break halfway through this
15 evening.

16 This meeting tonight gives you the opportunity
17 to ask questions and to make comments on the
18 Proposed Draft EIRs. So when you come up to make
19 your comments or questions, please give us your full
20 name for the record.

21 So that everyone who wishes to speak has the
22 opportunity, we'd like to limit your comments to
23 three minutes, so please try to keep your questions
24 or comments to that time. Beverly Harris, our
25 Community Relations office staffer, has a timer for

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1 this purpose. We'll put the microphone here and
2 we'll ask you to come forward. We'll call your
3 name. Those of you in the audience, if you cannot
4 hear the speakers, please let us know and we'll try
5 to turn up the volume.

6 A little benefit of additional information for
7 you. If there is time available after all the
8 speakers have had a chance to speak, we'll do what
9 we've done in the past which is to ask if people
10 want to make additional comments. So please know
11 that that time, if available, will be here.

12 Responses to your questions will not be given
13 tonight. Repeat, will not be given tonight. The
14 purpose of this meeting -- and Jeff Philliber, our
15 planner at the lab, will give more insight into this
16 -- the purpose is to receive your comments and your
17 ideas for consideration in preparing the Draft
18 Environmental Impact Report. Please also feel free
19 to write your comments on the salmon-colored cards
20 as I mentioned.

21 This meeting I want to point out is for the
22 environmental review, not focused so much on the
23 science, but on these facility projects. After the
24 meeting ends, there may be time and some of our
25 scientists here may be available to talk with you

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1 informally if you have some questions on the
2 science.

3 And finally if you have an interest to receive
4 future information, please sign up on our sign-up
5 sheets with that with your address or e-mail. We do
6 not hand out that sheet. We don't sell it to
7 anybody. I wanted to assure somebody who had asked
8 that question. We respect your privacy.

9 The environmental documents are available on
10 the Web site www.lbl.gov/Community. They are also
11 available in the Berkeley Public Library, Reference
12 Desk area on the second floor, and in addition the
13 Laboratory's library.

14 The agenda for tonight is very simple. This
15 brief introduction. We have some project overview
16 on both the Helios Energy Research Facility, which

17 will be given by the scientists Elaine Chandler and
18 Susan Jenkins on the Helios Facility, and on the
19 Computational Research Facility, Michael Banda.
20 Jeff Philliber will also give us some information on
21 the Environment Impact Report process. And then
22 we'll take your comments or your questions.

23 So with that we're going to begin, and we'd
24 like to begin with the Helios Energy Research
25 Facility and Elaine Chandler, who is working on the

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1 Helios Project as the project manager for the
2 Lawrence Berkeley National Lab.

3 MS. CHANDLER: Thank you. I'm really
4 happy to be here to talk about the Helios Project.
5 I live in Berkeley. I spend a lot of my free time
6 talking to my neighbors like you about the Helios
7 Project.

8 So the Helios Building, as my slide says, is
9 housing new science to ensure a carbon-neutral
10 transportation fuel. This idea came to us with the
11 appearance of Steve Chu, our LBL Laboratory
12 Director, who is very concerned about the
13 environment and has told us all that transportation
14 fuel is the biggest source of carbon dioxide in the
15 atmosphere for the United States.

16 It's a big problem. Many, many of our
17 scientists are very concerned about global warming,
18 and this is the project that we are putting together
19 to help ameliorate that issue. It might take 10
20 years. It might take 20 years. It might be, as our

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21 young colleagues say, their generation's moon shot,
22 or it might be the next generation's moon shot. I
23 think we're very committed at the Lab to get this
24 problem solved one way or the other. It might take
25 some learning before we get there. This is what

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1 we're talking about.

2 I'm going to talk about the Helios Solar Energy
3 Research Center which is a high-tech materials
4 approach to solving the problem. Dr. Susan Jenkins
5 who is here from the Energy Biosciences Institute is
6 going to talk about the biological approach to solar
7 fuels.

8 So you can see in the pictures that I've put on
9 the slide that there is a range of approaches that
10 we're taking. We don't know in the end, in 50
11 years, which approach will be the biggest payoff.
12 But we do know that as a human race we have to do
13 something if we are going to use transportation
14 fuels. Otherwise we'll be in big trouble.

15 Let me talk about the Solar Energy Research
16 Center. It uses artificial methods to capture
17 sunlight and creates solar fuels from water and
18 carbon dioxide which we imagine will be scarfed up
19 from the atmosphere that is already enriched with
20 carbon dioxide. It's a technique that requires no
21 arable land.

22 In the United States we actually have a lot of
23 arable land that isn't being used for crops because
24 we've been raising more and more improved crops.
25 And so we have cropland, 100 million acres of

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1 cropland, that is not being used for crops. So the
2 availability of arable land is not an issue in the
3 United States, but in many, many countries it is.
4 In southeast Asia, it's a big problem. In Africa
5 where there's drought, it's a big problem. So there
6 has to be more than one approach for us to solve
7 this problem.

8 So this approach uses material science and
9 physics and chemistry that was not available ten
10 years ago. We feel that we could have tried this
11 and in some ways did try this approach in the past,
12 but it never panned out because they didn't have
13 enough knowledge about how to control the generation
14 of electrical charge from light and the control of
15 the chemical reactions. But now we have learned a
16 lot in the last ten years, especially in the last
17 five years, and we think we can do it.

18 So I want to show an example of one of the
19 approaches that we're thinking of. This is an
20 example that uses nano-photovoltaics imbedded in a
21 nano-porous membrane. And nano-photovoltaics is a
22 photovoltaic cell -- and we have made many of
23 them -- that has the length that is about one-tenth
24 the thickness of your hair and the width is ten
25 times smaller.

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1 So they're tiny photovoltaic cells the size of
2 a molecule and you can connect catalytic molecules

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4 to them so they will power the catalytic molecules,
5 and the molecules will take carbon dioxide or water
6 molecules from the air and split them. And then
7 having an array of these many, many, many, many
8 billions will produce a membrane that will do the
9 job.

10 So this is one approach and I'm bringing it up
11 because using this approach you can see what kind of
12 laboratories we have to build to make it happen. So
13 in the Helios Building we are planning a
14 nano-photovoltaic synthesis facility, an area with
15 analytical instruments so they can measure the
16 properties and the performance of these things that
17 we're constructing. And I don't have an electron
18 microscope, but in the microscope you can look down
19 to the scale and see what's going on.

20 In addition, we have some catalysts. Catalysts
21 have for many years been making very efficient
22 chemical reactions. Most of the things we eat, the
23 additives and all this, are made with catalysts.
24 Our shampoos are made with catalysts. Even our
25 transportation fuels are made with catalysts to save
26 money. But we don't have a sophisticated enough

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1 knowledge of catalysts to break down carbon dioxide
2 and scarf up that carbon to make transportation
3 fuel. So we have to have a big push to get better
4 catalysts.

5 And finally, we know how to make some
6 membranes, but we don't know how to make the
7 membranes we will need. So we have a big membrane

8 synthesis lab planned.

9 So that's this part, and now Susan.

10 MS. JENKINS: Thank you. Well, thanks for
11 coming out to hear our presentation this evening.

12 I would like to start by just stating an
13 obvious problem: we need to meet the world's
14 increasing demand for energy while simultaneously
15 reducing the trend of global warming. There are
16 solutions. One solution: develop environmentally
17 sound and sustainable alternative energy sources
18 which are being developed in the programs like the
19 one Elaine just highlighted.

20 When you consider these facts, the total amount
21 of energy humans use annually is delivered to the
22 earth in one hour from the sun. Biomass serves only
23 11 percent of human energy needs, two-thirds of
24 which is gathered unsustainably. That's not good.

25 80 to 85 percent of our energy comes from

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1 fossil fuels and 70 percent of petroleum uses for
2 transportation. We think that we have one step
3 toward the solution and that's in creating the
4 Energy Biosciences Institute.

5 What is the institute? It is a partnership
6 between UC Berkeley, University of Illinois and the
7 Lawrence Berkeley Lab funded with \$500 million over
8 ten years from BP. Goals include elimination of
9 bottlenecks to biofuels, development of improved
10 biotechnologies for fuel production and education of
11 scientists and engineers across relevant

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disciplines.

I put this slide up here to illustrate the many steps that are actually involved in this process from the biomass, or the actual plants that will be used to the end product of ethanol or the biofuel of choice. Each one of these steps represents a significant research endeavor. A lot is not known in most of these steps so there's a lot to be done.

And so we've divided our scientific program into these five major areas: Feedstock Development is the first one, where the biomass engineering studies on lignin and biotic stress will be carried out predominantly here at U.C. Berkeley and LBNL with the ones highlighted in gray; the four areas

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there to be carried out predominantly at the University of Illinois.

The next three areas, Biomass Depolymerization, Fossil Fuel Bioprocessing and Carbon Sequestration and Biofuels Production, the work will predominantly take place here.

One area we're particularly excited about is the Socio-Economic Systems because we feel this is a unique opportunity -- and I don't think that this has been done much before -- where we've actually included this as a significant part of our research program. And the first three areas, the Next Generation Assessment, Biofuels Markets and Networks, and Social Interactions and Risks will predominantly take place here.

And finally, another area that I think is a

17 terrific component of our program are our Education
18 Goals. I could just read them here, but we're
19 definitely going to be developing new programs:
20 training post-docs, Ph.D, developing
21 interdisciplinary graduate programs in
22 socio-economic law, policy, material science and
23 life sciences as well as educating the public and
24 developing programs for this and K through 12 as
25 well, and providing extension activities targeting

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1 the greater agricultural community in the United
2 States and globally. Thank you.

3 MR. BANKS: We have a little tag team
4 going here. My name is Gary Banks. I'm a project
5 manager in the facilities department at the Berkeley
6 Lab, and I'm going to talk about the new building
7 that's going to house this wonderful research that's
8 being proposed here.

9 So I want to start out with just some facts and
10 details about the project. It's about 160,000 gross
11 square foot building facility that we're proposing
12 to build. The project budget is \$160 million, and
13 that includes hard costs and soft costs. So the
14 construction budget is around \$125 million for this
15 facility. It's going to be about a five-story
16 structure.

17 We're locating -- or we're proposing to locate
18 this building in a cluster on the Berkeley Lab that
19 houses other material science research. So there
20 will be a collaboration by the vicinity of this new

21 Scoping Meeting Transcript.08-08-07FINAL.txt
22 structure.

23 We're going to access this area through an
24 existing road that will be improved, and we're
25 proposing 50 parking spots for this site, and the
primary access to this area will be through buses or

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1 mass transportation.

2 The building will support about 500 people
3 doing research and administrative work in the
4 building.

5 This is an overall site planner, site map of
6 the Berkeley Lab. This is the stadium, Greek
7 Theater for a little orientation there. This is the
8 Blackberry Gate coming off Hearst and then
9 Centennial Road on this side here. And this is the
10 cluster of the material sciences or research going
11 on, and we are proposing to put this in the midst of
12 that cluster there.

13 This is a larger site plan of this particular
14 area. This is the building here. Again Centennial,
15 existing road coming in, parking. I'll get a little
16 bit more into what this is. This is an auditorium
17 detached and these are the existing buildings in
18 that area.

19 I just want to talk about some of the features.
20 I only have a total of about five minutes and
21 briefly give you an overview of this.

22 We plan on making this a very high performing
23 building in terms of energy resources, environmental
24 energy. So it's going to be a very efficient
25 building with lots of stable design.

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1 And we're going to do that to a number of areas
2 in a number of ways. We're going to try to use
3 extensive photovoltaic panels on this building.
4 We're proposing green roofs which will not only give
5 it some thermal mass around the building but also
6 keep as much stormwater on this site without it
7 running down the hill.

8 And also the way we're designing this is to
9 build it into the hillside to reduce the visual
10 impact of the building. Also the green roofs which
11 are landscaped roofs with landscaped material on
12 them will also reduce the visual impact of the new
13 facility.

14 So this is a computer rendering, 3D rendering
15 of the building. And this is the Helios portion
16 that Elaine was talking about and the EBI portion
17 that Susan -- this is the detached auditorium with
18 the green roof, sod roof, landscape material,
19 whatever you want to call it, and an existing
20 molecular foundry facility that really looks over
21 the top of this. And between these two elements
22 there's a center core that's kind of a gathering
23 space with a cafeteria.

24 These are some building sections going through
25 here. I don't know how well you can see them from

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1 back there. There's a little footprint of the
2 building with some section lines going through, but

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4 this shows here the four-story structure of the
5 Helios section that's being sort of stepped into the
6 hillside to reduce its mass. And then here you can
7 see where we're taking earth over the top of it to
8 reduce its impact.

9 And then there's another section going through
10 the EBI portion and also through the lobby here.
11 There's going to be an entrance on the hillside into
12 the lab area and this is the Berkeley campus side.
13 There's a five-story structure here on the hillside.

14 My last slide. I just want to mention again
15 there's a lot of positive reasons why we're doing
16 this. It is to address the climate change and the
17 problems that we have. I know the Chancellor for
18 the Berkeley campus has referred to it as this
19 generation's moon shot or moon mission.

20 We're going to be trying to address clean
21 energy alternatives with the research and the
22 building, harness the sun's energy. The building,
23 this research facility, will be built to reflect
24 that mission. Now on to the CRT.

25 MS. POWELL: I notice some of you were
straining to see the slides. We will put the slides

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1 up on the Web site as soon as we can.

2 And now we're going to go on to the
3 Computational Research and Theory building with some
4 presentations of information by the scientist
5 Michael Banda.

6 MR. BANDA: Thank you. I'm Michael Banda.
7 What I'd like to tell you about is the scientific

8 efforts that will be going on in this facility.

9 This facility will house three different
10 programs. One is the National Energy Scientific
11 Computing Center. This is the hardware. It's a
12 series of large high-performance computers.

13 The second one is the Computational Research
14 Division, and these are the scientists that develop
15 the software and application tools to use in
16 scientific experiments. And thirdly is a
17 Computational Science and Engineering Program that
18 is a collaboration between UC Berkeley and LBL to
19 train the next generation of computational
20 scientists. So we have hardware, software and
21 training.

22 So a little bit more about NERSC. NERSC is one
23 of the largest computer resources for unclassified
24 basic research in the country, and indeed in the
25 world. What it specializes in are computations of

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1 scale, very large computations that could not be
2 done otherwise.

3 The types of science that go on in these are
4 the -- just as an example -- there are some climate
5 modeling, material sciences, cosmology and others.
6 But that's just an example of it. Next slide.

7 Beside serving the entire scientific community,
8 there are over 2900 users. These are remote users.
9 They don't come here. They all access over
10 high-performance networks.

11 In 2006 we had over 300 projects. And most

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important to us is what is the scientific output.

13 There were over 1400 refereed articles that were
14 published last year from efforts at NERSC.

15 This demographic shows you the types of people
16 that compute here, where they come from in a very
17 broad stroke. About half of the resource are from
18 universities, 42 percent of the resource are from
19 other DOE laboratories, and then these other labs --
20 this is typically something like NASA, would be an
21 example there -- and a very small portion of
22 industry. And that fluctuates throughout the years.

23 NERSC is not new at Berkeley. Well, it's
24 relatively new. It came here in 1996. And it was
25 located up in the hill in the Building 50 complex.

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1 In 2000, because high-performance computers grew in
2 size and requirements, we had to move, and we moved
3 to a leased facility in Oakland, the Oakland
4 Scientific Facility. And by 2010 we'll outgrow that
5 facility. We need to come back to the hill for
6 scientific collaborations but also to accommodate
7 the program.

8 One of the things that we've never had since
9 coming here is a purpose-built facility for
10 computing. We've always renovated something. We
11 renovated a room in Building 50 Complex. We
12 renovated an old bank in Oakland and now we're going
13 to put this together and try to do it in the best
14 way possible.

15 One of the other groups is the Computational
16 Research Division. As I mentioned, these are the

17 folks that do the software analysis. They are the
18 scientists who actually write the codes and do the
19 discipline-specific research. They are
20 computational scientists, computer scientists and
21 applied mathematicians.

22 The types of things they do -- this is just a
23 broad stroke example again -- but you'll notice that
24 some of these overlap with what the NERSC facility
25 is. These are common types of experimentations.

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1 What I'd really like to say, though, is what
2 the Computation Research Division folks do, and what
3 we do in high-performance computing, is provide the
4 so-called "third leg of science." We all know this
5 from school, theory and experiment and their
6 relationship to each other. But what we can do now
7 with some of these systems is actually do
8 simulations that are sufficient to inform experiment
9 and theory. And simulations allow us to do things
10 that put two words together, for example,
11 experimental cosmology. You can't experiment with
12 cosmology but you can do it by simulation. That's
13 an example of what we do.

14 The teaching component consists of, as I
15 mentioned, a joint program between LBL and UCB to
16 train these scientists and to use something called a
17 designated emphasis in a particular discipline.
18 Someone would be studying physics or chemistry and
19 they would also be trained in the computational
20 tools for that, as well as putting large teams

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22 together from Berkeley campus that would collaborate
23 with our folks on areas of common interest. Some of
24 the first possible candidates for this would be
25 climate, cosmology or computer architecture.

I have to apologize. This is not projecting

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1 very well, but bear with me. This is an outline of
2 the coast of the United States. This is Florida
3 down here, and I'm going to run a graphic in a
4 moment.

5 This is a graphic from one of our climate
6 modelers. And what happened here is that this
7 climate modeler got access to a high-performance
8 system, got many more computer processors to work
9 with. And as a result, without changing its code,
10 he ran the same code, the same computer software but
11 had much better resolution. He could look in finer
12 and finer detail on the planet in this global
13 climate model. And to his surprise, hurricanes
14 showed up. Let me show you.

15 You can see that a simulated hurricane rolls in
16 exactly the right place. It doesn't roll through
17 Kansas or Nebraska. It goes right up the coast
18 where it's supposed to. Similarly, other hurricanes
19 or typhoons showed up in the Pacific in the right
20 place. And what this did is it verified the
21 understanding of the physics and the multi-physics
22 that go on in climate modeling.

23 One last example is probably a very recognized
24 George Smoot who won the Nobel Prize last year. He
25 won the prize for work that was calculated in 1992.

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1 And what he did was calculate the cosmic microwave
2 background radiation signal, the remnant of the
3 Bang, or actually the expansion, 300,000 years after
4 the Big Bang. And this is one of its images from
5 that time. And he did this with about four
6 processors, a small computer. But the point was
7 made.

8 However, to advance this much farther by using
9 something that can take advantage of 6,000
10 processors, the granularity and the detail of the
11 cosmic background is much different now. And what
12 we can see here are temperature signatures that
13 start to mimic the clustering of galaxies in the
14 universe.

15 And so these are the kinds of science that we
16 try to do with both the high-performance computers
17 and the computational scientists.

18 Now I'll turn it over to Les Dutton who is
19 going to speak to you about the building permit.

20 MR. DUTTON: Hi. My name is Les Dutton.
21 I'm the director for CRT and I'd like to talk to you
22 really about the building and its location on the
23 site. Michael is the one that talks about all the
24 science.

25 So this is a map of the LBL, as you can see,

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1 and the Computational Research and Theory Facility
2 is located down on the left-hand side. We have

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4 Hearst Avenue, which you're all probably familiar
5 with, coming up Cyclotron Road and then here's the
6 facility. We're quite close to campus as well so
7 we've got that good interaction with campus.

8 On this diagram you can see the building is
9 located near 50, 70, and 70A Complexes and the LRDP
10 have specifically asked us to bring those facilities
11 together. So you may think it's in quite a closed
12 vicinity but this is the way we planned it.

13 We're in the schematic design phase at the
14 moment, and schematic design phase is just at the
15 beginning. So what you see here today is really an
16 early concept. We're about six weeks into that
17 process. So we can modify this.

18 The gray color here is actual space for
19 offices. We have 86,000 gross square feet with
20 housing for 300 people. Now those people are
21 actually not new to site; they're located at 50, 70
22 and 70A Complexes. So that issue with traffic won't
23 actually be there. There are some new people but
24 it's not a lot.

25 We've also got 22,000 square feet of mechanical
space which is really to keep the computers cool and

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1 32,000 of computer floor which is shown here in this
2 column.

3 This is the view looking southwest. You can
4 see the entry plaza here. Once again what we tried
5 to do is bring the buildings together in the shade.
6 We're also using the 50 complex auditorium because
7 we need an auditorium here. We're saving space.

8 We're using this one. And the entrance is close to
9 all the collaborators so it's quite easy to see.
10 There's a connection there between all the people
11 that Michael Banda explained before.

12 The east-west orientation, once again it's best
13 for solar gain. What we tried to do here is, if you
14 can see the direction of Building 70A, 70 and 50
15 Complex, ideally people would have normally turned
16 this building around the other way to get a great
17 view of Berkeley and San Francisco. We've not done
18 that. We've looked for that good orientation to
19 save energy. So we don't get a big solar gain in
20 trying to cool the building down.

21 This one is actually looking up from campus and
22 Berkeley. Let me point out on this slide that
23 there's a sloping roof here to minimize the impact,
24 the visual impact from campus in Berkeley. This is
25 the computer floor here with surfaces below it. We

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1 also have an office complex here and a building
2 here. And what we tried to do as well so we can
3 connect from campus up to the building is we have a
4 stairway here that comes up, and we have several
5 landings, and the people that work on campus can use
6 this balcony area here to come across the building,
7 go down an elevator, join with campus. So it's that
8 community feel we're trying to get.

9 And what we've done also, as the other guys in
10 Helios have said, we've tried to bury the building
11 low so it has the least visual impacts as possible,

12 Scoping Meeting Transcript.08-08-07FINAL.txt
but not so low that it increases the cost. Once
13 again, we've followed the general theme.

14 And that's the end of my presentation. I'd
15 like to introduce Jeff Philliber.

16 MR. PHILLIBER: Let me start by saying my
17 name is Jeff Philliber. I'm the Lab's environmental
18 planner.

19 Our court reporter has graciously agreed to
20 stay an extra 15 or 20 minutes if necessary to make
21 sure that everyone's comments are heard. If you
22 don't have comments at the time the meeting is
23 scheduled to end, we'll end. So I'm going to
24 proceed with my presentation now. Thank you.

25 I'm here to discuss the CEQA process that's

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1 involved with both Environmental Impact Reports for
2 both projects. The purpose of this scoping meeting
3 is three-fold. We want to again present the basic
4 information that you've heard from our speakers. We
5 want to explain the CEQA process and that's what I'm
6 doing. And most importantly, we want to hear and
7 record your suggestions and comments and questions
8 so that we can consider those as we prepare the
9 Draft EIR.

10 What the scoping meeting is not, and the reason
11 I'm bringing this up is because this question
12 usually comes up during scoping meetings, it's not a
13 Q and A forum or a discussion type of forum.

14 There's several reasons for this. The principal
15 reasons are it detracts from the purpose of the
16 meeting of giving everyone a chance to be heard and

17 recorded. No one person from the Lab is really
18 qualified to answer all the different questions you
19 might have. And thirdly it creates a discrepancy in
20 the information that other members of the public
21 won't get if they're not at this meeting.

22 We do, however, want to answer all of your
23 questions so we will do it three ways. If you have
24 procedural or really basic questions, we are going
25 to record those tonight, and on the Web site that

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1 Terry Powell referred to earlier, we're going to
2 answer those questions on the Web so that they're
3 accessible to everyone.

4 If you have substantive questions or questions
5 about the analysis or the environmental merits of
6 the project, those will be addressed in the
7 Environmental Impact Report, the Draft EIR, for each
8 project.

9 If you have scientific questions, some of our
10 scientific folks have graciously agreed to stick
11 around after the meeting and we might be able to
12 have some very civil conversations if you have some
13 questions.

14 AUDIENCE MEMBER: That contradicts Number
15 three in the first set there.

16 MR. PHILLIBER: I'm going to just go on,
17 but Gene if you put that forward we'll answer any
18 question you may have or criticisms.

19 The CEQA process for these Environmental Impact
20 Reports follows the standard CEQA process. We start

21 Scoping Meeting Transcript.08-08-07FINAL.txt
22 with scoping, which we're in right now. We've
23 already issued our initial study along with Notices
24 of Preparation for each of the projects, and tonight
25 is the public scoping meeting. All of your comments
again will be incorporated into the analysis we do

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1 for the Draft Environmental Impact Report which will
2 be issued and will be circulated publicly for
3 comments and public review.

4 We will hold a public hearing much like this
5 forum when we have all of your comments after the
6 period is up. We will respond to each comment in
7 the Final Environmental Impact Report in a Response
8 to Comments document. Then we will circulate a
9 Final EIR to anyone who has commented on the Draft
10 EIR and then we'll go to the Regents to ask for
11 certification on the EIRs.

12 The time frames are as follows: scoping is a
13 30-day process. We're in it right now. The Draft
14 EIR is expected out probably the beginning of
15 October of 07. That's a 45-day minimum process
16 mandated by CEQA. The Final EIR will be circulated
17 from about seven to ten days, which is a requirement
18 under CEQA for agencies and the public who have
19 commented on the Draft EIR. And the Regents meeting
20 we'd like to go to for both projects is in
21 mid-January of 08.

22 A few other items about these EIRs. Again,
23 just so we're clear, this is a tandem process, two
24 separate EIRs on the same schedule. So you'll be
25 able to look at them side by side. They're both

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1 project-specific EIRs which are tiered from our
2 recently certified 2006 LRDP EIR. We'll be able to
3 incorporate all the relevant studies, analyses and
4 mitigation measures from that document into these
5 tiered documents.

6 We'll also be able to take advantage of some of
7 the sophisticated models we came up with for the
8 LRDP EIR, including our site-wide health risk
9 assessment and our site-wide environmental visual
10 models.

11 There is no NEPA as part of this project
12 because there's no federal involvement either in
13 approvals or funding. The issues that will be
14 evaluated in each of the two EIRs are the ones you
15 see here: aesthetics, air quality, biological
16 resources, geology and seismicity, hazards and
17 hazardous materials, noise, traffic, utilities, and
18 of course cumulative impacts and alternatives.

19 Issues that are focused out through the initial
20 study process -- and you can read about these in the
21 initial study -- are agricultural resources,
22 cultural resources, land use, mineral resources,
23 population and employment and public services. The
24 reason these are focused out -- and again you can
25 read the rationale for this -- is either they're

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1 adequately and fully addressed in the 2006 LRDP EIR
2 for the purposes of these projects, or there are no

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4 impacts or relevance to these projects. If you have
5 any comments on those, again, please get those in
6 during this 30-day period.

7 And I'd just like to end by pointing out that
8 we're able to carry forward many of the
9 environmental values that are expressed in the 2006
10 LRDP EIR through these tiered EIRs and in these
11 projects. For example, these projects will follow
12 UC's sustainability policies. They're going to be
13 the most energy-efficient buildings -- we're
14 striving to make these the most energy-efficient
15 buildings of their kind.

16 For the first time we have made a pledge that
17 there will be no net increase in stormwater runoff
18 from either of these projects, which is a
19 significant development.

20 Biological resource mitigations, if you're
21 familiar with the 2006 Environmental Impact LRDP
22 EIR, you know that we had a very comprehensive set
23 of biological resources mitigations that will now be
24 instituted in each of these types of large projects.

25 And we have very limited parking in tandem with
a very aggressive transportation demand management

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1 program to keep traffic impacts very minimal.

2 So that's the end of my presentation. I'm
3 going to turn it back to Terry and we'll get on with
4 your comments.

5 MS. POWELL: I'm going to call the
6 speakers in the order I received your cards, and if
7 you have cards could you bring them up.

8 The first speaker is David Chandler.

9 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Is there a time limit on
10 this?

11 MS. POWELL: As I said, we're asking you
12 to keep to three minutes, and if there's extra time
13 at the end we'll take additional comments.

14 MR. CHANDLER: I'm a resident of Berkeley.
15 I'm also a UC Berkeley faculty member in the
16 chemistry department, and I have decided to spend
17 the next several years of my life in the twilight of
18 my career trying to help the world because I have
19 two granddaughters and two daughters. I do know
20 enough about science that I could play some role in
21 addressing the energy crisis.

22 But the problem is so immense that it can't be
23 addressed with small efforts. It must be addressed
24 in a massive way. And I'm very grateful that Steve
25 Chu came to UC Berkeley to run the Laboratory and to

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1 direct us in this Helios program.

2 That's all I want to say.

3 MS. POWELL: George Oram.

4 MR. ORAM: Hi. I'll address the audience,
5 but my comments are really for the UC people.

6 I know from attending previous meetings and
7 hearing about them, of many bodies that want to do
8 projects, that you guys have no concept of how
9 insulting it is to people like us to have you lay
10 out a six-month schedule to achieve something when
11 you haven't even heard what the people here think.

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12 I cannot tell you how unbelievably deeply it angers
13 people. And it leads to projects getting turned
14 down because people have to play out their
15 unhappiness.

16 Now, we've had a very nice presentation as to
17 the science here, and I don't understand it, but I'm
18 willing to concede that it's all necessary. But why
19 can't it be in the middle of Nevada? Why can't it
20 be in Merced? Why can't PG&E can't get enough power
21 into Oakland that the computing Lab can stay where
22 it is? And I have a background in computers since
23 1957. I used to sell the sons of bitches.

24 Why have you not in your remarks talked at all
25 about why that property, why these buildings, have

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1 to be up on a hillside, and why there are not
2 alternatives? We'd like to know what the
3 alternatives are, and we'd like you to consider the
4 alternatives in this way: if we're not allowed to
5 put this stuff up on this hill, what is our next
6 best place? Because there is a next best place. And
7 it might even be better.

8 Now I know there's going to be other talk about
9 this because I know some of the people in the
10 audience, but the university is where it is because
11 that hillside was a great aquifer at one time, and
12 it still is a great aquifer. There used to be a
13 lake where the stadium is that fed all the water for
14 the university.

15 What are you going to do about that? What if
16 we need that water some day? Water is a scarcity in

17 the world. I've been studying that particular
18 issue.

19 I think this is as ill-conceived a project as
20 many that I have reviewed, including the bus rapid
21 transit, which is probably to bring people down to
22 this building which absolutely doesn't need to be
23 here.

24 Thank you very much.

25 MS. POWELL: Anne Wagley.

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1 MS. WAGLEY: It's going to be hard to
2 follow up on that one.

3 My name is Anne Wagley, and I'm a Berkeley
4 resident, and I have a few brief points to make.

5 The UC Regents have approved and will approve
6 various EIRs, including these discussed tonight,
7 which have overlapping impacts on the city of
8 Berkeley.

9 I am concerned about the lack of coordination
10 between the University and the Lab on the proposed
11 major construction projects, including the stadium
12 project, and how the construction and future
13 intensified uses affect the quality of life for
14 residents of Berkeley.

15 I urge you to take a close look at the
16 cumulative impacts of all projects approved by the
17 Regents in your analyses.

18 My second point relates to mitigation. The Lab
19 has built up quite intensely in the hills above the
20 City of Berkeley, and road access to your facilities

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21 and sewer and stormwater drains run through the City
22 of Berkeley. Our roads and our culverts are aging
23 and it is the taxpayers of Berkeley who have to pay
24 for their upkeep, not you.

25 As we have seen recently in midtown Manhattan

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1 and in Minneapolis, Minnesota, neglect of aging
2 infrastructure can have tragic consequences. Please
3 consider paying for the infrastructure impacts, even
4 the past impacts, that you impose on the City of
5 Berkeley.

6 And this brings me to my third point. While
7 residents in California may be happy with their
8 financial support for the University of California
9 and the Lab, why should we support a for-profit oil
10 company such as British Petroleum? BP should not
11 take advantage of the tax-free haven you have up on
12 the hill.

13 If they want to do business here, they can set
14 up shop somewhere in Berkeley and pay property taxes
15 and fees and assessments as do all other for-profit
16 businesses in Berkeley. By allowing them to operate
17 as proposed on the land that has been given to the
18 people of California is just ripping the taxpayers
19 off.

20 Finally, I would like you to take a good look
21 at what you are doing to the hill, the landscape on
22 which you sit and the vulnerabilities of the
23 Strawberry Creek Watershed. I do not think you are
24 being good stewards of the natural resource, and the
25 abuse of this area from the top of the hill down to

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1 the stadium is a tragedy for all.

2 There are plenty of brownfield sites in the Bay
3 Area, even some that the Regents now own in
4 Richmond, that would benefit from the intensified
5 uses you plan for Strawberry Canyon.

6 Please consider the alternatives and work to
7 preserve what remains of the Strawberry Creek
8 Watershed. Thank you.

9 MS. POWELL: Thank you. Gianna Ranuzzi.

10 MS. RANUZZI: I want to thank you for
11 giving this presentation. It's a wonderful rallying
12 point for the citizens of Berkeley, and I think this
13 is a beginning for us to get more together on this.

14 What I would like to see is an analysis of the
15 Notice of Preparation. You told us about what the
16 program was, but I agree with that gentleman that we
17 have to have alternative sites. One lady mentioned
18 another place, Mare Island.

19 I'm worried that this is in our watershed.
20 This is above our heads. You said very
21 conservatively on the CRT Report that there's a 62
22 percent chance of an earthquake, but I read in
23 newspapers that we have to be prepared for this all
24 the time. And you said that the land was prone to
25 landslides. So this makes me feel very nervous

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1 about the health risk.

2 It's near a major population center, plus it's

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4 going to be difficult for the 3,650 people that are
5 in the Lab to get out of there.

6 I used to take classes where I went across
7 Grizzly Peak, and there's something called tule fog.
8 You have to thread through here. It's very
9 dangerous.

10 I worked on the Draft South Side Plan doing
11 research, and there is a big controversy about
12 whether Durant and Bancroft should be one-way street
13 or two-way streets. And it was suggested by the
14 fire department that you had to keep it to be a
15 one-way street because of the extreme danger of
16 getting fire trucks up there.

17 This is a bad place for it. I am worried about
18 the environment. I'm worried about our life, our
19 safety. This is going to be a terrible catastrophe
20 if you had anything happen up there.

21 Please consider having it at another place.
22 I'm worried about the Bevatron Center. If you take
23 4,600 in truckloads out of there or if you encase
24 it, either way it's wrong.

25 It was a bad program. The nano-technology
foundry should have had an EIR. We need to study

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1 all these. We need to extend the period of this
2 program because in these Notice of Preparations they
3 say that they're adequate mitigations in the
4 long-range development plan of the Lab, but they
5 don't say what it is. And so we need more time. We
6 need you to take leadership in helping us through
7 this process.

8 I'm not talking about the merits of the
9 building. It said in one place that the Regents
10 said that the benefits outweigh the risks. No,
11 we're not talking about the benefits of this
12 building. We're talking about the location. And so
13 we need to have alternatives, and it's the wrong
14 place. You're making a terrible mistake. Welcome
15 Chernobyl.

16 MS. POWELL: Martha Nicoloff.

17 MS. NICOLOFF: I wonder actually if there
18 is a more suitable site for this important and large
19 project that's being reviewed tonight. Given the
20 predictions of the Hayward Fault that's just waiting
21 for the big one and also the creek bed and drainage
22 problems, significant reduction of open space and
23 the possible damage to a mature grove of redwoods, I
24 would like to ask the question: have you considered
25 the existing and empty buildings at Mare Island

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1 Shipyard?

2 The site is not far up the East Bay coast and
3 there are comfortable looking single family and
4 duplexes being constructed there recently. It makes
5 no sense to think of cramming all the many projected
6 uses, and beyond the two we're talking tonight, in
7 the relatively tight space of Strawberry Canyon with
8 a possibility that earthquakes could release
9 hazardous materials. Thank you. Martha Nicoloff.

10 MS. POWELL: Thank you, Martha.

11 MS. NICOLOFF: I don't want to give up

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these pictures, but I'll put them someplace where
13 you can have a look at them.

14 MS. POWELL: Ayr?

15 AYR: All right. Well, first off, I also
16 very much resent this process and the way it takes
17 place. I just feel like if there's a proposal, it
18 should be actually really a proposal and people
19 should talk about it. I feel like ya'll present
20 things as a done deal far too often, and I think
21 that's one of the ways the system works to push its
22 way, is to present things like they're a done deal
23 and there's not much you can do about it.

24 And really, I think as far you're concerned,
25 that's pretty much the case. I think this is pretty

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1 much a dog and pony show. My props to Mac over
2 there on that one. Basically I mostly resent that.
3 So I just want to start off by that.

4 Now that I've said that to ya'll, let me come
5 to speak to who I really came to speak to here,
6 which is ya'll.

7 I really appreciate people's concerns for
8 Strawberry Canyon and that watershed. We should
9 treat our watersheds better, and that goes for
10 everywhere.

11 As far as the impacts on the environment of
12 this project, I think they're much bigger than any
13 one watershed. I think if you look at the
14 technology that they're talking about, particularly
15 the biofuels, which -- let's be clear -- they're
16 talking about genetically modified organisms which

17 we still don't have a really good handle on long
18 term. And when I say long term, I mean long term,
19 over the generations. We don't really know how
20 that's going to affect us.

21 I think that what we've already seen is we've
22 seen corporate agriculture and corporate science
23 solutions have the effect they've had on this
24 planet. And after the war you have these big
25 chemical companies that have all these chemicals

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1 left over that they were killing people with and
2 they worked with people at the Ford Foundation and
3 the Rockefeller Foundation, and they said, "You
4 know, let's start researching this stuff in our
5 universities. How can we use all these chemicals to
6 improve lives and better living through chemistry,"
7 and all this, you know? And if we could have
8 stopped those research facilities from being built
9 in the 40s, our world might be a little bit better
10 off today. Our soil might just have a chance. We
11 still might be able to drink the water.

12 So these are really serious things. We're
13 talking about our water, our air, and our earth, and
14 if we really want a way to impact on the
15 environment, we got to start there.

16 This project to me it's just furthering the
17 whole push toward very limited narrow thinking that
18 has basically destroyed many, many ecosystems and
19 especially negatively affected the Global South.

20 Yeah. Burning fossil fuels is not working out

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21 for us, and we do need to deal with that. But the
22 way to deal with that is not to then turn the Global
23 South from oil producing, mineral producing
24 factories into mono-crop, genetically altered food
25 farms. So if this thing goes through to the extent

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1 they want it to go through, it's going to affect
2 millions of people around the world.

3 And we have a responsibility to stop this now,
4 and I really resent that they're acting like it's a
5 done deal. They're about to sign a contract. The
6 DEIR is not even in yet. We're still supposedly
7 working on that all together, right here, right?
8 Do you know what I'm saying? So basically we need
9 to demand a one-year moratorium right now. No deal.
10 No deal.

11 MS. POWELL: Thank you. Our next speaker
12 is Merri Lee Mitchell.

13 MS. MITCHELL: I didn't want to get mad as
14 I usually do up here, and so I brought some papers
15 to hand out.

16 The first one is on the trees, 'cause the trees
17 are so important. We don't hear any mention of them
18 except if you check out every time they build a
19 building they're cutting some down.

20 So this was a very good document I got. I
21 copied it. I don't know if maybe -- I don't know.
22 If some of you could help me --

23 MS. POWELL: Why don't you put them on the
24 table?

25 MS. MITCHELL: I don't want to because
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1 then they won't get to where I want them to go.

2 Thank you very much.

3 Now basically when a tree dies, it releases the
4 carbon back into the air. The death of one
5 70-year-old tree would return over 3 tons of carbon
6 to the atmosphere.

7 I believe the University in Strawberry Canyon
8 should be doing the kind of research that
9 understands that and helps us to save these trees,
10 Because all over the world what's happening they're
11 cutting down the rainforest -- I'm going to blow it
12 and sing a song. There's a song I heard that just
13 drove me up the wall because it was a song for kids
14 that they sing when they get upset. And it was
15 called -- oh dear. It was Stand by Me. And it was,
16 "If we are wise -- if we are wise, we know that
17 there's always tomorrow." And we don't know that
18 any more because of what they're doing with our
19 trees.

20 And now they're doing this stuff, which is
21 going to get people in China and other places all
22 over the world driving cars so people in the Haas
23 Business School that have investments can make money
24 on the biodiesel. And ethanol doesn't really work
25 that good, the more we're finding out -- and we are

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1 finding out.

2 So these things on the trees here, the young

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4 trees that are being planted, they'll say they'll
5 plant three when they cut down one. Most of them
6 don't survive, and if they don't get past ten years
7 old, they're not doing what we need them to do. So
8 this article is very good.

9 Another article, this is about Lab workers
10 suffering fallout. This is the UC Berkeley labs.
11 They're not taking care of their own workers.
12 They're not cleaning up their toxins. And I want to
13 share it. If you can pass this around. I'll get
14 more copies.

15 And then I have another one here on radiation
16 and this is reconsidering nuclear power, and if you
17 look at page three, you'll see quotes from the
18 Dr. Chu that was mentioned before.

19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Who is he?

20 MS. MITCHELL: Dr. Chu is the head of the
21 Lab and the Helios Project. Helios is supposed to
22 mean sun but there's not a lot of sun. There's not
23 a lot of sunshine in this whole thing. But there is
24 radiation and it's hot. They want to bring back
25 radiation.

26 So if you read about it, they're talking about

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1 things that are going to take many, many, many years
2 and they should not be doing it in Strawberry Canyon
3 over active faults and stuff like that. For
4 example, one of his concepts is that you could
5 recycle the waste products. And ever since
6 radiation began, they've been talking about it, but
7 they haven't gotten too far. But it takes a while.

8 It's going to take years and we shouldn't have it in
9 our backyard.

10 (Timer sounds.)

11 I just want to ask one question.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: What's the question?

13 AUDIENCE MEMBER: We want the question.

14 MS. POWELL: I'm sorry. Everyone gets an
15 equal amount of time.

16 MS. MITCHELL: My question is simply that
17 I would like to know if you've gotten filters and
18 things for the nano-technology.

19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Those things don't work.

20 MS. MITCHELL: I know. But --

21 MS. POWELL: Thank you.

22 MS. MITCHELL: -- are they doing anything
23 to protect us from those nano-tech particles that
24 are going to be used in the Helios Project? And
25 they're going to be used in the EBI.

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1 MS. POWELL: Okay. That was the question.

2 Our next speaker is Francisco Ramos Stierle.

3 MR. STIERLE: I gave her 20 seconds of my
4 time.

5 As a fourth-year grad student of the
6 astrophysics program at the University of California
7 Berkeley, I would like to share with you the
8 perspective of the majority of our generation, and
9 that generation cares about our future.

10 And as a scientist, of course we are not
11 against science. We are against the unethical

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12 applications of science. We are for the
13 construction of a scientific, rational and
14 humanitarian society. That's what we are for.

15 And the problem -- I would like to point three
16 points. The problem isn't the problem. I saw that
17 we have a problem. Energy supply, yes. We have a
18 problem with global warming, yes. And you stop
19 there. That's the problem.

20 We have to see the big perspective. What is
21 going to be the social implications? What is going
22 to be the environmental implications? Slow down.
23 Slow food. Slow science.

24 We've seen it already. 20 years ago, if
25 somebody would have listened to the scientist,

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1 "Watch out with global warming" 20 years ago,
2 nothing of this would have happened. So listen to
3 the scientists now.

4 They are driven by greed and by -- that's the
5 other point. British Petroleum -- not BP --
6 British Petroleum has a dark past, but we all have
7 some problems in our lives. So that's okay. But
8 what I'm worried about is the dark present. Okay?
9 That's what this generation, and the generation of
10 the gentleman, that's what we're worried about, is
11 the dark present.

12 So we would like to give a message to the
13 society that we are different than the University of
14 California and worried about the public. Let's go
15 through action rather than words. Okay?

16 They have money. They have a \$2 billion profit
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17 in 2005 and yet they want to use \$17 million that is
18 devoted for education. That's taxpayers. Like we
19 said, why they don't put that money?

20 Well, that's not the problem. Again, my focus
21 here is as a scientist and to share with you the
22 majority -- it's a majority, okay? It's not in the
23 mass media. It's the majority of our generation are
24 worried about the big picture, the long term.

25 The earth is but one country and the humankind

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1 its citizens.

2 MS. POWELL: Jason Ahmadi.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Can you announce who
4 comes next so we can have an idea what is going on?

5 MS. POWELL: Yes. Anna Aguirre. Thank you
6 for the suggestion.

7 MR. AHMADI: Hi everybody. My name is
8 Jason Ahmadi. I'm an almost-undergraduate alumni at
9 UC Berkeley. I got a little couple of more things I
10 got to clear up. I got all my units done but, you
11 know, other stuff.

12 So this is a nice little California
13 presentation we got here. It's pretty informative,
14 but it's kind of pointless because British Petroleum
15 isn't going to come here. It's not going to happen.
16 So thank you for telling me about your imaginary
17 building and your imaginary research project, but
18 it's a little waste of time. But it's okay. It's
19 okay.

20 It's kind of funny also how you mentioned in

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21 the beginning. I was taking notes so I can say some
22 stuff. This meeting is not about the science of
23 what you guys are doing, and then half the things
24 that you guys yourselves talked about was about the
25 science. It's kind of funny that you can talk about

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1 it but we can't.

2 So basically the problem with British
3 Petroleum, BP, or the other names that it's had
4 throughout the generations since it's started, is
5 that it's all about profit. It's always trying to
6 mine the most profit and not caring about anything
7 else.

8 I'm not saying that, you know, BP wouldn't do
9 something good. No. BP would do something really
10 good if there was money in it. If they say, "We can
11 do the moral thing and we can get the money," then
12 BP will be right there.

13 So it's all about profit. That's what this
14 meeting is about too. We're having this meeting
15 right now so they can figure out all the things that
16 they can fix. You know, get the community's --
17 let's just see what they think. Because in their
18 minds, they're really the community. They're really
19 sorry. They're building their building here, and
20 really, they just want to see the most information
21 they can get to get the most profit.

22 Now, this isn't surprising to me at all. I'm
23 going to talk a little bit about before they were
24 even British Petroleum. There's this oil company
25 who had interest in Iranian oil. They actually had

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1 the rights to this oil of Iran. And so this
2 democratically elected guy Mohammed Mossadeq -- I
3 don't know if you've ever heard of this man -- he
4 came up he says, "No. We've going to nationalize
5 this Iranian oil. This is our soil. The oil is
6 under our soil. It's our soil. You give us some
7 money for this oil." So British Petroleum, unable
8 to get any get response from their own government,
9 come to the United States. And what do they do?
10 They use the CIA to do a coup d'état and oust
11 Mohammed Mossadeq for their profit.

12 I just don't think that we can -- maybe they're
13 trying to do something environmental, but I don't
14 think we can trust them. This is my university. I
15 went to school here for four years to this great
16 university that loves to do things like this. Four
17 years of my life. You know what? I don't want it
18 in my university and I don't want it in the world.
19 Thank you.

20 MS. POWELL: Anna Aguirre. And the next
21 speaker is Peter Ralph.

22 MS. AGUIRRE: My name is Anna Aguirre.
23 And I'm entitling this particular presentation the
24 Arrogance of UC.

25 I'm only going by what I've seen today. I

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1 haven't been involved in anything at UC for a long
2 time.

3 Let's start with the fact that the agenda for
4 the scoping meeting had no time written in there as
5 to when the meeting was going to begin. That's
6 number one.

7 Number two. I have attended many scoping
8 meetings because I am 74, but I've been attending a
9 lot of meetings that have to do with energy plants
10 and those are put on by the State Energy Commission.

11 UC's arrogance is such that they didn't even
12 bring any copies to this meeting. They assume that
13 all of us had computers. Well, I don't have a
14 computer. It's not that -- computers are not good
15 for my eyes. They're not good for the cancer that I
16 just went through. It's not good for my open heart
17 surgery. It's not good for a lot of things. So
18 that's part of the arrogance of UC.

19 And I have no idea until I moved to Berkeley
20 the control that UC exercises over the lives of
21 those of us who happen to reside in Berkeley.

22 I bought my house in November and I just moved
23 in like three months ago. But it's just
24 overwhelming when you think about it. It's very,
25 very difficult to really follow and see exactly how

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1 many projects they're really involved in.

2 But continuing with the arrogance, it has to do
3 with the documents not being available.

4 Number two. One of my biggest concerns that I
5 have is according to what I have read, British
6 Petroleum is going to put something like 200 of
7 their employees right into the faculty at UC. Now,

8 you know, they don't have to go through what
9 everybody else has to go through to get a job at UC.
10 They're just being plopped in there.

11 That to me is again -- I'm just going by what I
12 have read, and I do read at least six papers a day
13 after going to Berkeley and going to Stanford and a
14 couple of other places. I read English pretty well,
15 even though English is not my native tongue.

16 So as residents, I also worry about the fact
17 that even though people don't like to talk about it,
18 everybody who is here involved in this, making the
19 presentations, they're all Anglo. There are no
20 Latinos. There are no African Americans. There are
21 no Asians. Nobody. Everybody is an Anglo, and
22 that worries me because it tells me that [against]
23 the arrogance of UC is that we do not have to worry
24 about anybody. We are UC and we do things our way
25 and forget about the residents of Berkeley. We don't

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1 even need to think about them or take them into
2 consideration.

3 The last thing that I have in here is that I
4 don't believe that whatever they are trying to do
5 can be as confusing as trying to read an energy
6 plant information. I think all of us here are able
7 to understand and read, and I worry about when an
8 organization does not give us the documents of the
9 meeting. It's not clear at all. It's not
10 transparent at all. Thank you.

11 MS. POWELL: Thank you.

12

Lehr.

13

14

MR. RALPH: Hi. Thanks to everybody for

15

giving background and context on this whole thing.

16

In the presentation that the Helios and EBI

17

folks made, they referred several times to this

18

project as being the next generation's moon shot.

19

Another metaphor that they've used several times,

20

like in the proposal and in the celebration for

21

signing the deal, they compared it to the Manhattan

22

Project which is I think really appropriate for

23

reasons that -- symbolizing the ways that people are

24

worried about it.

25

They're entering into this project by saying

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how we're in this time of crisis and we need to act

2

really quick and do this really big science thing

3

really fast. We're not really thinking about what

4

the longer term implications of that are going to

5

be.

6

How this specifically affects the building that

7

they're proposing to make is that in the EBI and

8

Helios facilities they're going to be doing lots of

9

genetic engineering, but specifically synthetic

10

biology which is not just genetic engineering but

11

it's this entirely new thing where one of the aims

12

is to construct entirely new organisms from scratch

13

which haven't existed before. Needless to say,

14

there hasn't been any research on the potential

15

effects of this sort of thing, partly because they

16

don't exist. But also partly because they don't

17 seem to be worried about it.

18 We don't know hardly anything about what the
19 potential health or environmental hazards of all
20 these things, specifically synthetic biology and
21 also, I gather, nano-technology, could be.

22 So when they build this building, when they
23 look at the environmental impacts of this building,
24 I think they really need to address that
25 specifically, like outline things like the

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1 containment, and these things with unknown effects.

2 I hear that the biohazards safety level or
3 whatever it's called that they're proposing to have
4 at this building is the same as what the genetic
5 researchers working on corn have at Berkeley. It's
6 just not the same thing. I think that we really
7 need to look at that.

8 MS. POWELL: Thank you.

9 Hillary Lehr and the next speaker would be Gene
10 Bernardi.

11 MS. LEHR: Hi. I'd like to thank
12 everybody for being here tonight, but I have some
13 really serious concerns that there's a really
14 serious communication problem happening between what
15 the University of California thinks they need to do
16 and thinks their accountability is to the public and
17 what your responsibilities actually are. So I'm
18 going to try to fill in some of those.

19 I just graduated from UC Berkeley and spent
20 five years dealing with the university telling me

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21 that they knew what the answers were going to be for
22 all of the problems in the world, while we were
23 learning in our classrooms that solving the problems
24 that our entire globe is facing today are incredibly
25 complex issues that involve engaging and listening

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1 to a wide range of voices from around the world.

2 That's still not happening. And elite groups
3 of people who are not experiencing the worst
4 problems in the world are the people that are
5 continuing to say what the problems are, as you said
6 on your site so clearly, and what the solutions are.

7 I'm sorry, but that just doesn't add up. The
8 solutions are not that simple. They're not that
9 technological, and if they're not democratically
10 decided, then there's a very small likelihood that
11 they're actually going to be solutions and it's much
12 more probable that the problems are actually going
13 to be worse.

14 There is no global Environmental Impact Report
15 for the impacts of the EBI. There is no global
16 justice policy that UC is employing when they're
17 making these decisions. Instead they will build
18 another corporate-controlled facility, and under the
19 UC sustainability policy, because it has a green
20 roof, say that it's a great solution for the future.

21 It's not. I want a global Environmental Impact
22 Report on the products produced by the EBI because
23 this Environmental Impact Report is a way that the
24 university can say that they held their
25 responsibilities to the public when the truth is

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1 that they haven't even begun.

2 Lastly, I'm really tired of people saying that
3 because it's Berkeley -- I think the CEO of BP said
4 that it was no mistake that they chose Berkeley
5 because they have the inkling that dealing with
6 biofuels is going to engage social issues, and
7 somehow having a lab where people thought about what
8 might happen, what social and environmental risks
9 and mitigations, said that because it's happening in
10 the Bay Area, because the research is happening at
11 Berkeley, that somehow that will lessen the impact
12 of these devastating GMO biofuels. It's just really
13 insulting.

14 Lockheed Martin is in the Bay Area. Bechtel is
15 in the Bay Area. They're building bombs and
16 missiles that are killing innocent civilians in
17 Iraq. The fact that they're in the Bay Area doesn't
18 have anything to do with the fact that they're
19 reeking havoc on the rest of the globe. And UC
20 Berkeley really should examine their laurels and
21 what they're using them for instead of imagining
22 that somehow developing biofuels that corporations
23 are going to distribute around the rest of the
24 world, because they're doing it at Berkeley, that
25 somehow it's going to be okay. It's not.

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1 There's no public forum. There's no place to
2 engage voices from the Global South. There's no way

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4 that UC is actually capable of listening other than
5 having a three-minute time period when there's a
6 huge timer that's going off when there's still so
7 much more to be said and so much more listening that
8 you need to do. I really want a one-year
9 moratorium.

10 MS. POWELL: Gene Bernardi and then Nathan
11 Murthy.

12 MS. BERNARDI: Hi. Well, some of the
13 points I was going to cover have already been
14 covered but I'll rub them in. I also wanted to
15 point out. I was very interested in Anna's comment
16 that UC is arrogant. And I must say that there's
17 another institution involved here, the Department of
18 Energy, that's also very arrogant.

19 Let's not forget the Department of Energy used
20 to be the Atomic Energy Commission. That's the one
21 that had the Manhattan Project that was mentioned.
22 So think about what whether you can trust such an
23 agency.

24 Speaking of honesty, the scoping report
25 announcement that came out, the announcement of this
26 session, didn't say a word about the involvement of

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1 British Petroleum. Did anybody notice that? It
2 seems that most of the audience here knows that the
3 research that's going to be in this building is
4 going to be funded by British Petroleum. As someone
5 else said, how is that we're here having a scoping
6 session about this building, this facility, to house
7 this research, when I understand the Regents haven't

8 yet signed the contract with British Petroleum,
9 spending all our tax money on all these studies, all
10 these scientists? They're already working on their
11 Draft EIR and everything. And the Regents haven't
12 even signed the contract yet.

13 And also in the presentation, there's all this
14 emphasis, this is the Helios Project, you know.
15 There's only one of the speakers that I heard drop
16 BP very softly and quickly.

17 It kind of reminds me I think it was the novel
18 1984, wasn't it, that talked about double speak?
19 War is peace. Here we have Helios Project. It's
20 actually British Petroleum.

21 What is the involvement of the sun here? We
22 all know that it takes solar power or sunshine to
23 grow plants and that they're going to be working
24 with plants, but when I think if I put solar panels
25 on my roof, I'm not dealing with plants. I just

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1 don't see that they're going to be working with what
2 we call solar energy. They're trying to develop
3 solar energy. It seems all the emphasis on these
4 plants and there's been a lot of talk that is
5 actually going to use up more energy to produce than
6 it's going to save in the end.

7 So in this article that our reporter here
8 Mr. Brenneman wrote in the July 22/23rd issue of
9 The Planet, he says that BP-funded research programs
10 is designed to turn crops and coal into fuel for
11 internal combustion engines. I'd like to know what

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12 kind of research is going to be done on coal in the
13 Strawberry Canyon. That should be very interesting.

14 I wish that the scientists could answer that
15 question later for all of the audience to hear the
16 answer. They said that they couldn't answer our
17 questions because people who aren't here wouldn't
18 have the benefit of the answers. Well, let's have
19 the scientists answer the questions later in front
20 of all of us.

21 MS. POWELL: Nathan Murphy and after
22 Nathan is Doug Buckwald.

23 MR. MURPHY: I have two sets of concerns.
24 First directed at the people giving the
25 presentation, the second set of concerns directed to

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1 the public.

2 First set of concerns is I really do want all
3 of you people, all the people working on this Draft
4 EIR to consider, as most people have already stated,
5 the broader implications and some of the broader
6 problems of some of these projects.

7 I do want to say first of all that I am really
8 sick of hearing a lot of these thrown-out western
9 assumptions about the application of science,
10 especially in this corporatized context.

11 I'm also sick and tired of hearing some of the
12 rhetoric that some of you are putting forth. I do
13 also want the people drafting the EIR to be aware of
14 -- I believe that Steven Chu once said in the
15 interview with the Chancellor that this will be our
16 mission to save the world. I'm tired of that

17 Messianic rhetoric. It's the colonists who wanted
18 to save the savages and the Americas and in Asia and
19 in Africa. That didn't turn out too well.

20 My more material set of concerns. I do also
21 want those people who work on the Draft EIR proposal
22 to understand those are my cultural concerns, some
23 of the cultural effects of this proposal under the
24 EIR, within the EIR.

25 Material concerns. First of all, there's only

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1 255,000 square miles of land in the United States
2 and I believe that it would require over 1 million
3 square miles of land in order to supplant our entire
4 gasoline supply.

5 I'm also concerned about some of the fossil
6 fuel extraction processes that will be going on. I
7 still want the people working on the draft proposal
8 to be aware of some of those concerns and also be
9 aware of some of the potential hazards that there
10 could be with GMOs and with nano-technology.

11 I am also concerned by the fact that there are
12 earthquakes under these buildings. That's highly
13 unsafe for some of these projects for GMOs and
14 nano-technology.

15 I do also want the people working on this
16 project to take into consideration what was done
17 under the deal with the Novartis Project because
18 obviously part of the EIR, part of the environment,
19 is the academic environment and that seems to be
20 also under current threat.

21 And I do also want the people working on the
22 Draft EIR to revisit some of the concerns that were
23 not addressed during the development of the
24 nano-tech building.

25 My second set of concerns is directed to the

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1 public. I do want all of you to realize that we can
2 stop this thing. These same kinds of dialogues were
3 able to stop the construction of the Novartis
4 Building. Under CEQA, through the injunction that
5 we have imposed on the university, we were able to
6 stop, delay for months, the destruction of all those
7 oaks at the oak grove. We can stop this thing.

8 And I do want all of us to understand just like
9 Prime Minister Mossadeq of Iran understood that this
10 was his country, this is not British Petroleum's
11 university. This is not your university. This is
12 not the White Anglo Saxon elite's. This is not the
13 colonialist's university. This is our university.
14 Please take it back. Go for it.

15 MS. POWELL: Doug Buckwald and then
16 Zachary Runnigwolf.

17 MR. BUCKWALD: My name is Doug Buckwald. I
18 have lived in Berkeley since 1979. That's about 28
19 years now. I used to go hiking in Strawberry Canyon
20 all the time, sometimes as many as five times a
21 week, early morning, late evening. I loved it,
22 going up by the Bergland River, through the redwood
23 groves, up the upper fire trail. It was a gorgeous
24 place to be.

25 As the years have gone by, I have seen more and
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1 more buildings going up, more and more fences, more
2 and more roads. It's becoming the kind of thing
3 that I wanted to avoid down in the city when I went
4 up there now.

5 It's terrible. It is a tragedy what they've
6 done up there. They are fewer trees and less green
7 space. And now I hate to say I hardly go anymore
8 because it is very upsetting to me. In fact, I
9 think it's obscene what UC has done in that
10 watershed.

11 In fact, it's a perfect example of poor
12 environmental stewardship, and it is hypocritical of
13 these UC representatives here standing before us
14 claiming they're the ones who are going to save the
15 planet when they can't even acknowledge the damage
16 they're doing every single day in that watershed, in
17 that beautiful canyon, that belongs to all of us who
18 live here.

19 And what they've told us tonight is, "Hi.
20 We're glad to talk with you. We're going to
21 increase the damage now." I think that's a very bad
22 idea and I want to say to the UC staff here, if you
23 are allowed to go ahead and build all these massive
24 new buildings and laboratories and other facilities,
25 you're going to have to change the motto of UC

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1 Berkeley. We know now their motto is, "Let there be
2 light." You're going to have to change that to "Let

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3 there be corporate delight" because that is
4 increasingly how you operate here.

5 Corporate funding, corporate partnerships,
6 corporate models for decision making. But the only
7 problem is you are a public educational institution,
8 so you have to pretend that there is adequate public
9 involvement in your planning process.

10 And that's where we all come in. Yay for us.
11 Just like tonight. We get to make little
12 three-minute speeches, and my little buzzer's going
13 to happen pretty soon here, as they sit stone-faced
14 as the statues on Easter Island, not responding at
15 all.

16 And actually these guys haven't been very
17 stone-faced. Usually they are. There's been a lot
18 more smirking and snickering here than I have ever
19 seen before at a UC meeting. I know many of you
20 have noticed that.

21 I've lost count of the number of these kind of
22 meetings I have gone to. I have come in earnest and
23 made requests for mitigations, better understanding
24 of projects, clear information about what the plans
25 were, begged and begged and begged as if I was on my

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1 knees, and UC has not ever done one single thing
2 I've asked for. And that's exactly the same as for
3 many other people I've spoken with.

4 There is nothing like adequate public process
5 here. It's only decide, announce, defend, DAD.
6 That's what they're doing here. They've decided,
7 they've announced and now they're defending it, and

8 you don't matter at all. That's UC's attitude and
9 it is the definition of arrogance.

10 MS. POWELL: Following Zachary Runningwolf
11 is Heloise Lamplighter.

12 MR. RUNNINGWOLF: Hello. My name is
13 Zachary Runningwolf. I'm a mayoral candidate for
14 your city. I'm also a Native American leader and
15 I'm also the one who spearheaded the current tree
16 sit which is in its 248th day. We're standing
17 strong against this democratic university.

18 First point that I want to say about the EIR
19 was the oak grove. You're proposing to put a sports
20 facility on top of my ancestors. We're not down,
21 and yet your university is continuing on.

22 Your university is denying that there is a
23 fault line, active fault line. They dug a 12-foot
24 trench on both sides of the stadium. Earthquakes go
25 all the way down, mile and a half underneath the

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1 earth's crust, yet the university is excusing it.

2 Trust you. Yeah. You're violating a federal
3 law by digging up my ancestors. You're violating
4 the state law because that's a World War I war
5 memorial. You're violating a city law which is a
6 tree ordinance. So you say trust you? Oh, hell no.
7 No. No way.

8 And then there's other problems. You're
9 talking about -- which is -- this is Indian country,
10 and it's from Alaska all the way to the Tapachula.
11 Everybody's welcome here. Everybody is welcome

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here. But you need to stop abusing mother earth.

13 We need not to seek it in technology but in a
14 lifestyle change. We need to not trust British
15 Petroleum which has taken away our mass transits in
16 every single city. We need to build our mass
17 transportation instead of trusting UC.

18 So there is so much wrong with this, but I only
19 have three minutes and I don't want to see that
20 buzzer. Anyway, you won't get this done.

21 MS. POWELL: Helloise Lamplighter and then
22 Mark McDonald.

23 MS. LAMPLIGHTER: Thank you, thank you all
24 very much for all of your very much wisdom tonight
25 because this is a very important issue. And I want

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1 to speak for the living things for now and for in
2 the future because this is a very, very bad idea.
3 What you talking of we have a bigger problem and now
4 you go in the wrong direction as fast as you can in
5 the wrong direction because it's a very bad idea.

6 So I have some questions. The first question I
7 have for the university is could you please clean up
8 the messes you made first before you going to make
9 more messes. You got a big uranium plume is coming
10 down in our canyon. You got a big mess over there
11 in Richmond. You got a lot of big messes from the
12 last time you tried this technology. So maybe you
13 like clean that up first before you go on and make a
14 new mess.

15 How can you think we can trust you? With the
16 nano-technology, genetically engineered plants that

17 you let grow. I mean, I weed in my garden in front
18 of the (INAUDIBLE) the grass that escapes by a UC
19 professor, you know.

20 It's already destroying ecosystems. You may
21 have not noticed up there in the canyon, but it's
22 growing where the native plants used to be because
23 it's a little "whoopsie" from the last time we
24 tried. So it's very dangerous, the nano-technology,
25 and your genetically engi -- it's not a funny thing.

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1 We hear those people very smart about that, you
2 know. it's very dangerous. So that's my question.
3 How do you think we can trust you? Really, you
4 know?

5 Another thing is what in the heck are you
6 thinking with this like we're going to grow our
7 gasoline and then also that we can all keep driving
8 our SUVs? That's not a good solution.

9 Where you gonna grow it? Like they say, these
10 nice people here say, you want to be growing it on
11 the natural land? You going to be growing it where
12 they're growing food for people right now? Look at
13 how things get grown right now, industrial
14 agricultural. It's not a pretty sight. It's very,
15 very damaging. It is not something going to help
16 the planet to be growing industrial agriculture so
17 we can keep driving our SUVs.

18 Now why you not do some research and make a
19 nice magnetic model rail public transit. We'll
20 figure out how to make it free, get some real

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21 solutions. But people driving all those cars? Why
22 don't you do that research? You don't do that
23 research because British Petroleum they don't want
24 you to be doing that research. They want to keep
25 making the money so they got you all a'working now

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1 for them to keep a'selling us so we drive the stupid
2 cars more and more.

3 So it's a big problem really all the way
4 around. So I can take a breath. Okay. So I call
5 on the Helios, the sun, come down and bless these
6 people. They be the smartest people in our
7 community up there in the university, that they see
8 folly of their way and we start to notice the
9 natural systems of things, and we honor -- that be
10 our watershed, our land, right above us, and we
11 treat it with some respect and we start working with
12 nature and not in this very, very destructive idea.

13 So let's switch it around everybody. All
14 right. Thank you very much.

15 MS. POWELL: Mark McDonald and then Janice
16 Thomas.

17 MR. McDONALD: Hi. Boy that is a tough
18 act to come after. My name is Mark McDonald and
19 I've lived here since 1975 and I've worked here.

20 I have a lot of problems that I haven't totally
21 figured out, so I'm not going to comment on them
22 tonight, with this new project. And I don't really
23 see the point of really bringing them up.

24 I too wish they would clean up a lot of the
25 plumes that are still at the hill, the VOCs, the

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1 tritium, all the stuff that's coming down the hill
2 toward me and my neighbors who live in Berkeley.

3 That's really what I want to talk about. It's
4 like I don't really see the point of going after the
5 LBNL folks here because they know like I know like
6 you really know, they really have nothing to do with
7 it. This is the Department of Energy.

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: They're right back here.

9 MR. McDONALD: Right. But we're talking
10 about a political issue here, and that's what I want
11 to talk about.

12 I live in Berkeley, and I want to defend my
13 town against a national laboratory. And a national
14 laboratory is just doing what they do. They expand
15 and they pollute and then they try to con the people
16 that everything is okay, and that's really just
17 what's going on. But you're not going to recognize
18 this town in 20 years if these people keep building
19 these things.

20 I've been coming up here for many of these
21 sessions, and I've asked for overall truck trips,
22 but it looks like when it comes to my taxes, we are
23 building for their trucks. There's no limit. Our
24 tax money is no object.

25 The thing is we really need to defend the town,

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1 so I'm talking politics here. You need to talk to
2 your neighbors. You need to write letters. You

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3 need to start pressuring the Berkeley city

4 government who is on board with a lot of these
5 things or they're out to lunch.

6 You've got a mayor who is holding the door
7 open. He'll tell you there's no point in fighting
8 them. He's wrong. Take a walk down People's Park.
9 I've been fighting that for decades. It's still
10 ours. Do you know what I mean? So there is a point
11 in fighting this thing. We closed the tritium lab,
12 a disaster, and it's still being cleaned up.

13 So the thing is you really need to reach out to
14 your neighbors. Write letters. Pressure your city
15 officials. We need to get Berkeley to defend itself
16 from the federal government here. Absolutely. It's
17 what's going on in here.

18 In 20 years this place will be a university lab
19 complex. Most of us will have left because we won't
20 be able to stand it any more. Now maybe that's just
21 a natural sacrifice, but I don't want it.

22 I'm trying to raise a kid here and it's getting
23 harder and harder with all these truck trips.
24 They've got the northeast quadrant. They've got all
25 these ten buildings they want to build. They've got

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1 the Bevatron 4600 truck trips. I mean, come on.
2 This place is getting nuts. Two people were killed
3 last summer with runaway trucks on the steep hills.

4 There's lot of other places to build these
5 things. There's the Alameda Air Base. They can't
6 even find people to go out there. There's Hunter's
7 Point. Mare Island was mentioned.

8 They don't need to be up on this hill. It's a
9 very ecologically sensitive place. If you want to
10 stay here, if you like something about the place,
11 you've got to defend it against these kinds of
12 projects because if you don't like this there will
13 be more. So that's all I've got to say.

14 MS. POWELL: Janice Thomas and then AG.

15 MS. THOMAS: Good evening. My name is
16 Janice Thomas. I hope people have seen this
17 photograph. It's in the initial study for one of
18 the buildings. It is a scorched earth that is up
19 there. You didn't see that tonight in the
20 PowerPoint presentation. But this is what we're
21 working with. This is what we're up against.

22 I'm not going to speak about the type of
23 research per se. That's a whole other subject. But
24 I'm going to focus just for tonight on where it's
25 going to be done.

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1 100,000 thousand gallons of water a day used to
2 be produced by Strawberry Canyon. This was in the
3 1800s. There were salmon in the upper reaches,
4 trout in the upper reaches. It was not just
5 seasonal. It was all through the year. We don't
6 have that anymore because of this.

7 Now this development up in the canyon could
8 stop, and we are going to stop it. We are going to
9 stop it. And we have to stop it. We have to be a
10 model to the people all through the Bay Area because
11 there is a Chancellor's Task Force that is

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12 organizing mayors throughout the Bay Area for this
13 very growth industry, this very corporate money
14 making industry. And we are going to be the model
15 citizens.

16 So we've got to stop it, and one of the
17 assumptions that the university and LBL is working
18 on is the contiguity myth. They are arguing -- and
19 this is a question for you guys -- they are arguing
20 that they have to be next door to each other to do
21 their collaborative research. They have to build
22 right there so they can like picnic together or
23 something.

24 Well, I'm a community activist and I do most
25 things by e-mail. My next-door neighbor, we do

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1 e-mail. Okay, we talk and we play and other things
2 too, but we do most of our work by e-mail. People
3 are communicating all over the globe but these
4 people have to be like right next door in the same
5 building. No, they don't. And they need to do
6 cultural landscape research. They haven't done
7 that, and that is really offensive.

8 Tomorrow night at Dwight and Dana. Show up.
9 There's a nationally renowned expert who is going to
10 talk about the cultural landscape at Strawberry
11 Canyon. Please show up because we're going to
12 videotape and we'll submit it within our 30 days and
13 in fact that will be a cultural resource.

14 Suburban sprawl. Right up there. I want to
15 know about health risk assessment that they're going
16 to tier off of, a site-wide health risk assessment

17 when we don't even know what the health effects are
18 of nano particles and GMOs. So this offends me.

19 This is bogus.

20 Vegetation management. If they have to scorch
21 the earth to locate up there to be fire safe then
22 no, they shouldn't be up there. They need to
23 restore this environment. This is so clear. We
24 have downstream flooding in our yards, in our
25 basements, because of surfaces right here.

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1 What else do I have to say? I think that's
2 enough. Thank you.

3 MS. POWELL: Our last card, AG. Can you
4 state your full name for the record, please?

5 AG: I think the presentations have given
6 us a clear example of why the process is going to
7 fail and they've provided a really bad example for
8 the rest of the world. The project, if you listen
9 to justifications carefully, is premised on the
10 notion that Berkeley needs BP; that in order to do
11 this great job, they need a worldwide company to
12 bridge what they call the "lab to market gap."

13 This presentation is a clear example of why
14 that effort is going to fail because one of the
15 clearest lessons of the green revolution is about
16 the need for transparency, accountability,
17 decentralization, participation. That comes out in
18 study after study about the adoption of crops around
19 the world.

20 This presentation shows why this administration

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21 is funding that. The idea that the buildings are
22 going to be environmental because they have grass on
23 their roofs or that an adequate public consultation
24 can involve an hour and a half meeting where each
25 get three minutes or condescending presentations

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1 that follow contradictory rules, these are all
2 examples of the ineptness of the process.

3 From the six months between June to February,
4 last year, when Berkeley was formulating its
5 proposal to BP, there was not one public meeting.
6 This is a bad example to the rest of the world who
7 are going to be dealing with these effects of
8 biofuel crops.

9 So we should be clear that this does not
10 constitute an adequate consultation and let no one
11 say that it does. Let no one use these crisis
12 narratives and claims to act in the public good to
13 save the world for us, to ride roughshod over our
14 concerns and try to silence critics.

15 And I just want to say it's really important
16 for us to make connections because this project is
17 going to have connections around the world. It's
18 going to have field stations in Africa and Asia and
19 Latin America. And we need to be involved. If it
20 does go through, we need to be involved in
21 connecting with those people, connecting with the
22 people in West Berkeley that are going to be
23 affected by the JBEI.

24 And so this struggle is important not just for
25 Strawberry Canyon, not just for Berkeley, but for

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1 peoples around the world. We need to be making
2 those connections and bringing in more people of
3 color and more people from low-income areas, people
4 from around the world. It's really important, not
5 just for us, but for everybody. Thanks.

6 MS. POWELL: I have two other cards.

7 Pamela Sihvola and Barbara Robben.

8 MS. SIHVOLA: My name is Pamela Sihvola
9 and I have participated with many neighborhood
10 groups in Berkeley for the past decade, over a
11 decade, trying to encourage the Laboratory to clean
12 up their act in the Strawberry Creek watershed.

13 The LBNL proposed expansion in the watershed is
14 absolutely utterly ill-advised. The seismically
15 active Strawberry Canyon site was never intended to
16 permanently house a nuclear nano-tech industrial
17 complex when the construction of the Cyclotron
18 started in the 1940s during the Second World War as
19 part of the Manhattan Project to develop the world's
20 first nuclear bomb.

21 The primary direction of the long-range
22 development plan for the Laboratory should have been
23 to off-load the development from the main hillside
24 to other alternative locations. And the current
25 LRDP never adequately addressed alternatives.

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1 Most of the proposed buildings, which include
2 the Helios as well as the CRT, are located in

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4 deep-seated landslide areas that are intersected by
5 dozens of named and not unnamed earthquake faults
6 within a complex network of historic modern streams
7 and stormdrains and large groundwater plumes of
8 chemical and radioactive contamination.

9 This map here is basically -- the black dots
10 indicate all of the buildings that are proposed in
11 the long-range development plan. The brown areas
12 are the known landslide areas. All of the red lines
13 indicate earthquake faults in the canyon, and these
14 red squares are locations of epicenters of seismic
15 activity in the last 40 years. The Laboratory has
16 never acknowledged that the canyon indeed has active
17 faults, but how is it possible that there are at
18 least 40 known epicenters per USGS that have taken
19 place -- earthquakes that have taken place in the
20 canyon, including two earthquakes last March which
21 was still included in our map.

22 Of special concern is the proposed location of
23 the massive CRT building right in the middle of
24 Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone. The Hayward
25 fault is right here, and here is the CRT building.
This planning clearly defies the very purpose of the

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1 Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act.

2 In addition, the Lab fails to consider the
3 protection of Cafeteria Creek next to the CRT
4 building. It also fails to describe a
5 comprehensive watershed management plan, its
6 implementation for the protection of the many named
7 tributaries of Strawberry Creek.

8 Another hazard location is designated for the
9 British Petroleum Funded Biofuels Institute to be
10 built next to the nano-tech facility, found in the
11 Chicken Creek Subbasin. The area is a location of a
12 large radioactive tritium groundwater plume where
13 seepage from the groundwater surface water has been
14 detected but the laboratory refuses to acknowledge
15 it.

16 MS. POWELL: Your time is up. Can we have
17 you come back --

18 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No. Let her speak.

19 MS. POWELL: Excuse me. We have one more
20 speaker and we'll let someone come back after that
21 speaker.

22 Barbara Robben.

23 MS. ROBBEN: My name is Barbara Robben.
24 I'm a graduate of UC in geology and soil science.

25 One of the things we had to do was go up and

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1 map Strawberry Canyon. It's full of fissures. It's
2 got slumping, landslides, and of course when you get
3 that kind of an environment then you're talking
4 about the no-neg surface water discharge or
5 something like that. But when you build a hardscape
6 and you don't have the water, you have to do
7 something with it, so I don't know if it's injection
8 wells they're talking about or something.

9 But anyway, when water goes down the slope, it
10 goes into Strawberry Creek. Then it gets into the
11 food chain. And so if there's fish or whatever it

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13 is, it could go through the whole food chain and it
14 gets spread around. So it wouldn't be just in the
15 creek. It might go quite a bit farther as the
16 animals that are drinking the water go off and die
or something like that.

17 Then you get the Hayward fault, and when that
18 rips, which it will, it's going to really -- the
19 buildings aren't going to be standing anymore.
20 They're going to be all over. And so whatever is in
21 those buildings is going to be spread all around so
22 we get sparkle dust in the creek and in the air and
23 everywhere else.

24 So, the soil. If you start using the soil to
25 create fuel, then you're going to be basically

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1 depleting the soil, and soil -- we don't really have
2 that much of it on the planet if you'll notice. If
3 you start burning that up, it's going to be serious
4 trouble. And so people's short-term solution is to
5 put fossil-fuels-generated fertilizers on it and
6 things like that, pesticides so that you can grow --
7 but I don't really think that's what's going to be
8 working.

9 And the example that we said affecting other
10 nations too, other people will be watching what
11 we're doing.

12 And really a bad example. In a way
13 particularly bad to have this thing situated up on
14 the hill is because Berkeley -- this university is
15 expanding to the north, especially to the south, all
16 the way over to the School for the Blind over in

17 that direction. And now they're trying to expand
18 into downtown Berkeley and then up into the hills.

19 Don't get me started on the oaks and so forth,
20 and Maxwell Family Field and Haas Business School.
21 It's way, way too much construction in that area.
22 And the technology that they're striving for, it's
23 just plain scary. It needs to be really thought out.

24 So I think what we all need to do is to
25 simplify our lives. Start thinking about 100 years

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1 ago and how people were able to survive. Grow your
2 own food, walk or use a horse and like that.

3 We can do that, and that's what people are
4 doing in a great part of the world. I think
5 that's -- at least we can take a breath and do that
6 for a while and see what happens while the people
7 are working on their formulas over there. I think
8 that's the way.

9 MS. POWELL: Our court reporter needs a
10 five-minute break.

11 (Short recess.)

12 MS. SIHVOLA: Pamela Sihvola with the
13 Committee to Minimize Toxic Wastes continuing
14 comments.

15 Going back to the location of the proposed
16 British Petroleum Funded Biofuels Institute, which
17 is to be built next to the molecular foundry, the
18 last nano-tech facility in the Chicken Creek
19 Subbasin.

20 The map here and this particular plume is a

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21 radioactive tritium plume and the orange areas are
22 the ones that are the projected pathway, all the
23 contamination to flow into the Strawberry Creek
24 which is at the base of the canyon.

25 The Chicken Creek basin is contaminated not

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1 only with tritium in the soil because it has been a
2 dumping ground for various other areas where
3 tritiated soil has been put to aerate. This was the
4 Laboratory's method of cleanup, to aerate the soil,
5 dumping it in here. So this very issue has to be
6 addressed in a most detailed way in the EIR.

7 I also wanted to point out that the Laboratory
8 has failed to address the significance of the
9 Lennert Aquifer which is located in the northeastern
10 portion of the Laboratory and the university land.
11 There was a major landslide in 1974 which took a lab
12 building in half, destroyed roads, and since then
13 the aquifer has been pumped by the Shively Well at
14 the UC Space Sciences Building preventing further
15 damage to that building and the Lawrence Hall of
16 Science.

17 I'm asking the Lab to evaluate the extent of
18 the Lennert Aquifer at LBNL, how many gallons are
19 currently pumped annually and where does the water
20 go, and why.

21 These two long pipes here indicate hydraugers.
22 This is the Shively Well here. This is a hydrauger.
23 This is a hydrauger, and they are dewatering the
24 hillside to prevent further sliding in this area.

25 The British Petroleum facility is going to be

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1 right here, so the question is what is going to
2 happen to the hydraugers and the water that's coming
3 from the aquifer to this area? And indeed, the
4 dewatering devices are the main source of water for
5 No-name Creek, which is the next one to the Chicken
6 Creek. So these are very important questions that
7 need to be addressed in the EIR.

8 And again, going back to this previous map, the
9 Laboratory insists that there are no active faults
10 in the canyon. We can sort of follow the fault
11 lines and we can follow the contamination plumes,
12 and it looks like the contamination kind of follows
13 the fault lines.

14 I would also ask the Laboratory to do a
15 comprehensive analysis of the geologic and
16 geomorphologic mapping all of the facilities' site
17 and characterize the physical parameters of the
18 watershed that influence the ground and surface
19 water transport of the existing legacy
20 contamination.

21 Lastly, since Jeff asked -- is Jeff here still?
22 Okay. So Jeff, our report from which this map is
23 from, the report is called The Contaminant Plumes of
24 the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and their
25 Interrelation to Faults, Landslides and Streams in

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1 Strawberry Canyon, Berkeley, and Oakland,
2 California. These can be found on our Web site

5 MR. BUCKWALD: I'm Doug Buckwald again.

6 I ended my talk by describing this process as a
7 classic example of decide, announce, defend which is
8 a totally illegitimate public process.

9 But other people don't think that is a good way
10 to do things. They think there are better ways to
11 do city planning. In fact, the American Planning
12 Association has come up with a list of ten basic
13 principles that you ought to follow. They're very
14 good principles. Let's compare those to what's
15 happened here tonight.

16 Number one. Involve all interested groups and
17 individuals as early in the planning process as
18 possible. Gee, that would have been months or years
19 ago for this project. How many people were involved
20 months or years ago? Raise your hands. Nobody.

21 Make sure that the first several meetings are
22 focused on sharing information and ideas rather than
23 narrowing options. Raise your hand if you got to be
24 part of that. Nobody.

25 Number three. Be inclusive, making sure to
conduct sufficient outreach efforts to reach

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1 individuals that may not be aware of the project
2 being considered or may not understand how it may
3 impact them.

4 This outreach question is very curious. Why
5 are we having this meeting in the first few days of
6 August when many people in Berkeley are on vacation,
7 the Council has gone on their break, and no students

8 are here except a few that are staying here in the
9 summer. I think it's a coincidence. That's the
10 only thing I can think of. It's a coincidence.
11 Yeah, it's a coincidence that happens with great
12 regularity. So anyway, that's principle Number
13 three.

14 Number four. Tailor the process so it's
15 appropriate for the people involved and the project
16 being considered. How many people appreciated the
17 presentation here tonight which were about science
18 which they said right up front, "We're not here to
19 talk about the science. Everyone needs to
20 understand that." It was just so bizarre right
21 away. Everything they're talking about is just the
22 science and how great it is, very little about the
23 actual building, the impacts that people will
24 suffer, any of those things.

25 It's so funny. They made the rules for this

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1 meeting. And like the first thing, "Oh, we don't
2 have to obey that rule." They don't even
3 acknowledge that they're disobeying it. It's just
4 bizarre.

5 Number five. Provide leadership that is
6 collaborative and fairly represents all interested
7 parties. How many people have been in a position of
8 leadership on this project that are here tonight?
9 Raise your hands.

10 (Mr. Chandler responds from audience.)

11 You might have been. Very good. Collaborative

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12 Leadership involves all the different interest
13 groups in a community.

14 Number six. Identify and nurture mutual
15 interests. God, that sounds good. And you know
16 what? That language should sound familiar because
17 UC Berkeley uses it all the time when they talk
18 about their activities. "We only want to do things
19 that have mutual benefits for the community, and we
20 care about the community, and we make sure
21 everything is done in the right way." My God, the
22 day they do that the first time there will be shock
23 waves that reverberate through the whole city. It
24 would be a great thing. That's why this is a good
25 model of principles.

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1 Number seven. Share accurate and complete
2 information with all participants. That would be a
3 wonderful thing to do. So many of these cases, I've
4 sat through these presentations and I've heard
5 things and then I've heard later, oh yeah, there's
6 25 things they didn't tell us that are really the
7 most important things of all, and too bad. It's too
8 late now. It's standard process for them. It would
9 certainly be helpful for our mental and physical
10 well-being if they would do that.

11 Number eight. Make sure all discussions and
12 deliberations are handled in an open and fair way.
13 It is often helpful for professional mediators to
14 facilitate meetings to ensure the process is
15 equitable and all involved feel that the outcome
16 reflects their interests and concerns.

17 Again, that's a wonderful principle. I don't
18 think that's ever happened in a UC project, and it
19 should happen with every UC project.

20 Number nine. Validate results to make sure that
21 any decision reached will conform to the relevant,
22 legal and financial constraints. This also makes me
23 laugh a little bit because they love to say that.
24 We're certain we're obeying all the legal
25 constraints we have because we don't have to obey

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1 any of your laws.

2 They don't have to obey our land use laws, our
3 zoning laws, our construction regulations. It's
4 amazing they have carte blanche to decide -- to do
5 something however they want and the heck with any of
6 the laws in this host city, such as Berkeley, that
7 they operate in. That needs to be changed too.

8 Number ten. Use the media throughout the
9 process to keep the entire community informed about
10 the options being considered and the decisions
11 reached. And, of course, with decide, announce,
12 defend, you don't want that to happen at all.

13 That's one reason there are so few people here
14 tonight. There should have been hundreds of people.
15 This is a massive set of projects. But there aren't
16 because they have been very crafty to make sure,
17 "Yeah, we got the notice out, but by gosh we did a
18 great job because not too many people found out
19 about it and this will be perfect. We'll have
20 another small turnout in the middle of the summer;

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21 we'll say 'Great, we did it, ' and we'll go ahead on
22 our merry way and do everything we want to do."

23 We have to do better in Berkeley. We have to
24 do better with our lives. We have to do better with
25 the lives of UC students and UC professors and UC

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1 staff and faculty. They as well are affected by
2 these bad decisions.

3 This is getting worse and we have to stop it,
4 and we have to stop it now. And thank you all for
5 coming tonight too.

6 MS. POWELL: I have one more person who
7 would like to speak again. Merrilee Mitchell.

8 MS. MITCHELL: I have a question for the
9 record, and this is what is the relationship with
10 the Berkeley mayor's office and the Department of
11 Energy? That's the question for you to answer.

12 But what I know is just a little bit. What I
13 know is that the Mayor's chief of staff, Cisco
14 DeVries, he's also the energy -- half time as the
15 energy, this Measure G and a lot of stuff they're
16 doing in Berkeley. It kind of relates to the
17 university many times.

18 Okay. The mayor's chief of staff was secretary
19 to the secretary of energy. Now that was back in
20 the Clinton Administration, and all I know is that
21 he did fly around a presidential jet and visited
22 countries all over the world.

23 And what I am picking up from talks to people
24 in the community is there is a relationship. When I
25 read that article about the nano-tech facility that

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1 went up and no CEQA, no EIR, I noticed that they
2 were doing something called tiering. They didn't do
3 a CEQA EIR because they tiered off other EIRs, and
4 one went back to 1987.

5 So without me going on and on about it, it
6 seems to me from what I was reading there and the
7 other things we're talking about is that there is a
8 relationship that goes back to 1987 with planning
9 this facility, but you notice it didn't come in
10 until Tom Bates came in. The nano-tech facility
11 came in in 2003 and Bates got in in 2002.

12 I have one more thing. The no net stormwater
13 sounded very interesting to me because I would like
14 to know for the record where will the stormwater go?
15 So, well, it's going to have to go in the ground.
16 So are you going to clean it up first because you
17 don't have a record on cleaning up anything. So
18 what's going to be in this new stuff, new stuff that
19 we don't even know what it is with the GMOs and the
20 nano-techs and everything?

21 But then we've been hearing about this
22 wonderful aquifer up in the canyon. And so you're
23 going to put that in there. So that is one thing I
24 know.

25 I give you the question but I did know this

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1 that they were talking at the LBL -- they were
2 having some lectures. They were talking about using

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4 coal and the problems -- coal is very dirty. That's
5 why they said they want to bring back nuclear.

6 But what they want to do with the coal, they
7 said -- I don't know what it means -- but sequester
8 the CO2 in the ground. But they really don't know
9 how to do it. So I hope they're not planning to do
10 that in Strawberry Canyon, but it seems like they'd
11 do anything in Strawberry Canyon. And they
12 shouldn't be allowed. So that's it.

13 There's one more thing. Some people I notice
14 out here have been telling me about high-tech all
15 around the Bay here. And we see it coming in. And
16 you go to the DAPAC and they're talking about point
17 towers. These are office buildings for the
18 university. This is downtown. We're not even
19 talking about Strawberry Canyon.

20 And then somebody mentioned something about
21 conferences with mayors, the folks from the labs
22 talking to the mayors all around. And so what it is
23 is they're planning to get them, and say, "Oh, we
24 got jobs. Oh, we got -- " all these different
25 things that involve money, and a lot of people
really don't know what's coming with it because they

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1 don't have much biology background.

2 So we got a big job because it's bigger in
3 Berkeley. Thank you very much.

4 MS. POWELL: That concludes the formal
5 part of our meeting tonight. Thank you.

6 (The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.)

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1 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

2

3 I, JUDITH L. LARRABEE, a Hearing Shorthand
4 Reporter in the State of California duly authorized
5 to administer oaths, hereby certify:

6 That the proceedings therein were taken down in
7 shorthand by me, a disinterested person, at the time
8 and place therein stated, that the proceedings were
9 thereafter reduced to typewriting, by computer,
10 under my direction and supervision, and that the
11 foregoing is a full, true and correct transcript of

12 Scoping Meeting Transcript.08-08-07FINAL.txt
13 the proceedings therein to the best of my ability.

14 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand
15 on this twenty-seventh day of August, 2007.

16

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Judi th Larrabee, Shorthand Reporter

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