BEFORE THE ENVIRONMENTAL APPEALS BOARD U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY WASHINGTON, D.C.


IN THE MATTER OF:
: PSD Appeal No.
RUSSELL CITY ENERGY: 10-01, 10-02,
CENTER, LLC : 10-03, 10-04
: and 10-05
Docket No.
CWA-03-2001-0022

Thursday,
July 22, 2010

Administrative Courtroom
Room 1152, EPA East Building 1201 Constitution Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C.

The above-entitled matter came on for hearing pursuant to notice, at 1:00 p.m. BEFORE:

THE HONORABLE KATHIE A. STEIN
Environmental Appeals Judge

THE HONORABLE EDWARD E. REICH
Environmental Appeals Judge
THE HONORABLE CHARLES SHEEHAN
Environmental Appeals Judge

APPEARANCES:
On Behalf of the Petitioners: CALPILOTS: RON COZAD ANDY WILSON
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On Behalf of the Petitioners: CHABOT Las Positas Community College District:

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On Behalf of the Petitioners,
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On Behalf of the Petitioners,
CARE/Mr. Simpson:
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(1:06 p.m.)

MS. DURR: The Environmental
Appeals Board of the United States is now in session for oral argument in re: Russell City Energy Center, LLC, permit number 15487; PSD Appeal numbers 10-01, through 10-05. The Honorable Judges Charles Sheehan, Edward Reich, Kathie Stein, Presiding.

Please turn off all cell phones and no recording devices allowed. Please be seated.

JUDGE REICH: All right. Good afternoon and for those folks joining us via video in California, good morning. We are here hearing oral argument this afternoon in the matter of Russell City Energy Center, LLC, five petitions for review of a PSD permit issued by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, pursuant to a delegation of federal authority from US EPA Region IX.

Participating in this afternoon's
argument is the Bay Area Air Quality Management district, which will be referred to as "The District" for short, the permittee, Russell City Energy Center, and the five petitioners, California Pilots Association, PSD Appeal number 10-01, CHABOT Las Positas Community College District, PSD Appeal number 10-02, Citizens Against Pollution PSD Appeal number 10-03, Mr. Robert Sarvey, PSD Appeal number 10-04, and Californians for Renewable Energy/Mr. Rob Simpson PSD Appeal number 1005.

Before proceeding, since a number of parties are participating remotely, I want to make sure everyone is on the line. So I would like to have each party or counsel indicate his or her presence, starting with The District, then Russell City, then each of the petitioners in the order in which they will be arguing; that is, the California Pilots Association, CHABOT Las Positas Community College District, Citizens Against

Pollution, Mr. Robert Sarvey; and Californians for Renewable Energy/Mr. Rob Simpson.

District?
MR. CROCKETT: This is Alexander Crockett on behalf of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District.

MR. POLONCARZ: This is Kevin Poloncarz on behalf of Russell City Energy Company and with me are Holly Pearson and Rosemary Antonopoulos.

JUDGE REICH: Okay, thank you.
And then California?
MS. HARGLEROAD: Good morning,
Your Honor. This is Jewell Hargleroad for CHABOT Las Positas Community College District and I also have with us the Chancellor, Dr. Joel Kinnamon of The District and President, Dr. Celia Barberena, and also the Trustee, Carlo Vechiarelli, Dr. Susan Sperling, the Dean of Social Study or Sciences at CHABOT College, Ms. Charlotte Lofft, the President of the CHABOT Las Positas Faculty Association,
and Ms. Diane Zuliani, the Faculty Association Grievance Officer of CHABOT College.

And we would like to thank also
Region IX for hosting this for us. JUDGE REICH: Okay, is the

California Pilots Association there? MR. COZAD: Yes. Good afternoon, Your Honor. Ron Cozad, counsel for California Pilots Association. With me is presenter Andy Wilson, Director at Large of California Pilots and Carol Ford, Vice President of Region V. JUDGE REICH: Okay, Citizens

Against Pollution?
MS. KANG: Yes. This is Helen
Kang for Citizens against Pollution. I have with me, Audrey LePell, the President of Citizens Against Pollution and several other members of the group. JUDGE REICH: Okay, thank you. Mr. Sarvey?

MR. SARVEY: Yes, Your Honor, this
is Robert Sarvey, representing himself. Thank
you very much.
JUDGE REICH: Okay and finally
Californians for Renewable Energy.
MR. BOYD: Hello. My name is Mike
Boyd and I am the President of the Board of Directors of Californians for Renewable Energy. And then I also have with us Mr. Rob Simpson and Mr. Ernie Pocheco here. Ernie, raise your hand and Rob, raise your hand so they can see you.

JUDGE REICH: Okay, thank you. A couple of procedural ground rules in the beginning. As provided for in the Board's June 9, 2010 scheduling order, we will proceed as follows.

Each petitioner will be allocated ten minutes for argument and may, if it chooses, reserve up to two minutes of that time for rebuttal. If you are reserving time, please say so at the beginning of your remarks or you may forfeit that opportunity.

And The District will proceed for
up to 35 minutes and Russell City for 15 minutes. That will be followed by rebuttal, if any, by Petitioners in the same order in which they argued.

Further, as addressed in the Board's order on further briefing and oral argument dated June 14, 2010, the briefs in this case raise issues both as to whether certain issues and arguments were raised below and thus preserved for review, as well as arguments that the reply briefs impermissibly raise a number of issues not raised in the petition.

The Board has not made any determination as to these objections and thus is allowing argument on any points raised in the briefs. However, it should be understood that should the Board subsequently determine that any issue is not properly before it, it will not consider that issue, notwithstanding that it may have been discussed at this argument. The Board assumes that all The Neal R. Gross \& Co., Inc.
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Districts and Russell City's prior objections on these grounds apply equally to this oral argument and, therefore, no objections at this argument are necessary to preserve them.

I should also note that while the Board has closed briefing on this matter, we have now received three motions requesting that the Board take official notice of various documents. Therefore, I feel compelled to remind the parties that the Board's decision is largely based on the permit proceeding below and that in accordance with 40 CFR Section 124.18(c), the record closed on the date the final permit was issued.

Therefore, while the Board will in time address all of these motions, please keep in mind that it is one thing to suggest that a document was in fact considered by the permit issuer and thus should be properly have been included in the administrative record, it is something quite different to ask the Board to take official notice of something that was
not before the permit issuer or that in fact may not have even been in existence at the time the permit was issued.

And finally as those familiar with oral arguments well know, the Board is likely to ask numerous questions during the course of this afternoon's argument. The purpose in asking these questions is to fully probe the issues before it and assure the Board's full understanding of the positions of the various parties. The questions themselves should not in any way be interpreted as reflecting any particular leaning of the Board or even any particular judge at this time.

Now I would like to ask Mr. Wilson representing the California Pilots Association to reintroduce himself for the record and to begin argument.

MR. WILSON: Thank you, Your
Honor. My name is Andy Wilson and I will be representing today for California Pilots Association. And for the record with me today Neal R. Gross \& Co., Inc. 202-234-4433
are Ms. Carol Ford, Vice President of Region III and Mr. Ron Cozad, who is acting as our counsel and is Vice President of Region V.

I will try not to repeat
information that is in our brief. Put simply, we ask that you remand this matter to the Bay Area Air Quality Management District with instructions to conduct a diligent study in conjunction with the FAA as to the effects of the plumes exhaust turbulence and emission, on light aircraft engines, pilots, occupants, and to recognize the FAA is completing their process to develop criteria addressing these issues.

JUDGE REICH: Can I ask in the response filed by The District, they reference discussion in the Response to Comments talking about two studies or analyses that were done, even though they indicate that they don't believe that the issues raised in your petition are within the scope of the PSD permit issuance.

One study, which they reference at page 188 and 189 talks about a health assessment using a flagpole receptor. They calculated an acute hazard index of 0.52 based on one hour continuous exposure and they indicate any value below 1.0 means no adverse health effects.

Did you evaluate that study?
Because I do not see it addressed in your petition.

MR. WILSON: On the flagpole addressing issue, they didn't come in close proximity to the stack itself. Our argument is we fly inside the stack. What they have done is they have used distances further away and given time for the plume to disperse and mix.

JUDGE REICH: Was there anywhere in the administrative record in Response to Comments, in your petition or otherwise, an analysis of why you felt that this study was done adequate?

MR. WILSON: I would certainly, at this point in time, defer to the FAA but they are currently in the midst of their study.

JUDGE SHEEHAN: Well it seems like, as Russell City points out, it is your burden to identify some error or deficiency in The District's response. And we would appreciate it if you were a little more specific about what you think the error or deficiency is or we really, I don't see how we can go further with this.

MR. WILSON: On the deficiency being what?

JUDGE SHEEHAN: I am asking you. What did The District fail to do? What was its mistake, error, deficiency, or inadequacy?

MR. WILSON: The inadequacy is that they used standard dispersion models. And Cal Pilots does not feel that the model is appropriate with general aviation inside the cabin to the cockpit.

JUDGE REICH: Well let me ask on
page 227 of the Response to Comments, they indicate that the California Energy Commission examined the potential for aviation hazards, including vertical plume velocities during the licensing proceedings for the facility and found the risk to be "extremely remote" and within acceptable ranges.

Again, do you disagree that the California Energy Commission did such an analysis? Or if they did, is there anywhere in the record or in your petition where you address why that conclusion is not accurate?

MR. WILSON: I will again defer to the FAA study that the FAA feels that it is deficient, has not had time to respond. In my brief, I have pointed out there is an ongoing study and we will have to defer for their --

JUDGE REICH: Is the study specific to Russell City or is it relevant to aviation more generally?

MR. WILSON: It will be relative to general aviation but they are referring to Neal R. Gross \& Co., Inc.
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the documentation based on the Russell City Energy Center from both the CEC and the RCEC calculations.

As a matter of fact, in the East Shore hearing, evidentiary hearing, after the RCEC plant was approved, the FAA stepped forward and the CEC themselves began to question the accuracy and the validity of the plume calculations for both velocity and for emission content.

This is part of what has triggered further study by the FAA.

JUDGE SHEEHAN: But you refer to
it as an ongoing study. You are speaking the future. What are we to do with something that is not yet ripe that is not before us, that wasn't part of the record that is somewhere off in the next weeks or months or years.

> MR. WILSON: Put simply, Your

Honor, we ask that you remand this matter to the Bay Area Air Quality Management District with instructions to conduct a diligent study
in conjunction with the FAA, as the effects of the plume's exhaust turbulence and emission on light aircraft engines, pilots and occupants, and to recognize the FAA is completing their process to develop criteria addressing these issues.

JUDGE REICH: Can you be specific as to what specific requirement of the PSD program you find to have been violated by what was done here?

MR. WILSON: All the parts because the PSD prevents significant deterioration of the environment.

JUDGE REICH: According to some very specific sets of regulations. It is not sort of a generalized provision. I mean, it has very meticulous provisions that have to be complied with and reviewed against. And I am trying to get a sense of which of those particular provisions you feel to have been violated.

MR. WILSON: I think the listing
of the emissions themselves in an accumulated set. And also, there are no standards on how this or metrics how these exhaust gases would affect a pilot and operating an aircraft in a three-dimensional airspace.

You can talk about the flagpole effect. You can talk about somebody living on a hill. You can talk about the man painting the flagpole. You can talk about the person in the office building. But there are no metrics within the PSD that address the effect it will have on a pilot or the occupants inside the pilot, or the engine operation itself.

JUDGE REICH: Okay. I should note for the benefit of people both here in Washington and California, that we do not have visual of the folks in California. We do have the audio and to get visual, we would have to drop everybody and restore it, which I am not inclined to do.

So unfortunately, we will just
have to continue to proceed with audio only. I don't know whether you are getting your visuals at your end but we are not getting it at our end. But we are going to continue with audio.

But it would mean that if there was something you were trying to show us, obviously, we wouldn't have the capability of seeing it.

Do you have anything else, Mr. Wilson?

MR. WILSON: Yes, I do, Your
Honor.
JUDGE REICH: Okay, please proceed.

MR. WILSON: First of all, I would like to just describe briefly the environment that a pilot experiences --

JUDGE REICH: Okay, you have got about a minute and a half. So I am taking you at your word that it is brief.

MR. WILSON: It is brief.

JUDGE REICH: Okay, go ahead.
MR. WILSON: Technically, the
airport is so compressed in the usage on the left-hand side of the airport that the power plant being 1.5 miles away from the runway, we have an obstruction in front of the runway, an invisible obstruction and that is the Oakland Airport.

And when we make our left turn, we end up flying inside the plume itself. And California Pilot's Association feels this court allow the Bay Area Control District and the EPA to work with the FAA so that they can continue to research this further.

JUDGE REICH: Okay.
MR. WILSON: Again, I would just put it simply that we feel that this matter has to be remanded back to the Bay Area Air Quality Management District to be worked with the FAA and the EPA. It is for safety purposes. There is children around. There is the college around, in close proximity. It is
just too dangerous to experiment.
Thank you, Your Honor. If you have any further questions. This completes my presentation.

JUDGE REICH: Okay, thank you, Mr. Wilson. We appreciate your participation. We are now going to turn to CHABOT Las Positas Community College District. Ms. Hargleroad? And please again, if you are going to reserve time, let us know up front.

MS. HARGLEROAD: Yes, I would like to reserve the maximum two minutes and we do have your visual.

JUDGE REICH: Okay, thank you. MS. HARGLEROAD: So we can see you.

First, I would like to just point out as a housekeeping matter, we disagree with the objections of BAAQMD and RCEC. And if the Board entertains any objections barring or that would bear on any material arguments that we would be allowed or that the parties would
be allowed the opportunity to brief that issue, that the Board would inform us of that. RCEC and BAAQMD's primary argument opposing our petition, the College District, is that once an area is designated as nonattainment for a pollutant, here it is 24 -hour particulate matter 2.5, unless the stationery source is major for that pollutant, 100 tons, BAAQMD does not even have an obligation to examine whether the project for that nonattainment pollutant, would cause or contribute to an exceedance of the NAAQS.

In essence, the argument is that Appendix S trumps 42 USC subsection 7475. Not so.

JUDGE REICH: Can I ask, as I understand it, at the time at least of the additional statement of basis, The District foresaw the possibility that the area would be reclassified as non-attainment for PM 2.5 and did indicate that if that were the case and if it was reclassified prior to the permit
issuance, then the permit would not address the 24 -hour PM 2.5 standard.

And as characterized in the Response to Comments, they indicate nobody voiced a legal objection to that theory at that point. Was there an objection to the statement that they would not be proceeding because it would no longer be subject to PM 2.5?

MS. HARGLEROAD: Your Honor, I
would like to point out that basically there was a lot of confusion and ambiguity presented. Because at that point in time, The District has been relying on the surrogate test and had abandoned that and did a full impact study. And this was the first time that the full impact study was actually disclosed and then they began a discussion basically seeking an opinion stating well this might be the case.

So under those circumstances, it
wasn't like well speak your peace and hold
forever. In fact, it was this is what we think might be the case. And I think that if you look at the language of the additional statement of basis, it is sufficiently ambiguous and uncertain whether or not it is even inviting an objection.

JUDGE REICH: But if we flag the issue, given what would seem to the be the importance of the issue, if it flagged it as an issue, it is hard for me understand why you would not have said hey, wait a minute, if you thought that was not accurate, why would have needed more of an invitation than that to provide comments if you thought that the underlying legal theory was incorrect.

MS. HARGLEROAD: But we did. We did do that in our comments to that additional statement of basis by when we asked for those runs. And we presented the evidence showing that in fact there was a violation of the Clean Air Act by the exceedance of the six point micrograms per cubic meter.

JUDGE REICH: But did you, in those comments, suggest that the reclassification of the areas nonattainment would not in fact mean that the PSD permit would no longer cover?

MS. HARGLEROAD: We had always gone under the theory and our argument has been consistent throughout that this PSD permit must examine all criteria pollutants, including that which is nonattainment.

JUDGE REICH: The argument -- Let me ask. The argument that you made in the petition specific to 40 C.F.R. 51.165(b)(2), did you make that argument in your comments?

MS. HARGLEROAD: Yes. In fact, we raised that in our comments and we made that point that once you exceed the NAAQS, then the discussion is over.

JUDGE SHEEHAN: But did you say
that the PSD regime still would apply if the area went non-attainment.

MS. HARGLEROAD: Yes. That has
always been our position.
JUDGE REICH: And so if we look at those comments we are going to find that, notwithstanding the fact that The District said that there was no challenge to their legal theory in the comments.

We will check the record on this.
MS. HARGLEROAD: The District also made certain claims about the Caithness records also.

JUDGE REICH: All right. Well, we don't need to go down that track because we are capable of looking at the record.

The argument that you made in your reply brief talking about the construction moratorium seemed to me not an argument made in the petition. So wholly apart from the question of whether that was raised below, why should we not find that that is an untimely argument, given that we specifically said that you cannot raise new issues or new arguments in the reply brief that were not raised in the Neal R. Gross \& Co., Inc.
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original petition.
MS. HARGLEROAD: Because we are responding to their argument that we are not providing sufficient authority. And our whole argument has been must look at the Clean Air Act as a whole. You cannot just isolate Part D or Part C or Part A in isolation. You must construe them together. And that is why in fact if you look at Section 7475, it specifically is directing and expects that a major emitting facility on which construction is commenced -- that no major emitting facility may be constructed in any area to which this part applies, unless subpart (3), the owner or operator of such facility demonstrates that emissions from construction or operation of that facility will not cause or contribute to air pollution in excess of subpart $B$, the NAAQS in any air quality control region.

So, there is two "anys" in this
statute and further The District didn't seem
to think that they wanted more. And so part of our argument has been if you look at these other C.F.R.s, they also are providing you guidance and you have the building moratorium. What we would also like to address is the difference there also includes precursors. And if you examine 40 C.F.R. 51.002, NOx is a presumptive precursor of particulate matter and, therefore, under this record, you have over a hundred tons.

JUDGE REICH: Okay.
MS. HARGLEROAD: So basically our
reply is responding to their argument.
JUDGE REICH: Okay. And just to
make sure I understand the extent of the PM 2.524 -hour issue, the way I read it, the modeling issues that you discuss both sort of in general and specifically as to the roadways, both seem to relate specifically to the PM 2.524 -hour. Is that correct?

MS. HARGLEROAD: That is correct,
Your Honor.

JUDGE REICH: And the way The District, at least, interprets your environmental justice issue, they also see it as an offshoot of your concern about the effects of PM 2.5 24-hour. Is that an accurate statement of your environmental justice concern?

MS. HARGLEROAD: Well, I would say it is somewhat limited because part of the environmental justice argument also relies on the fact that the run, which we obtained from The District, essentially, inadvertently shows that there is a violation and that there are 2,400 additional sensitive receptors which have not been mapped out and not plotted --

JUDGE REICH: Okay.
MS. HARGLEROAD: -- and we do not know where they are located.

JUDGE REICH: Okay. But that tells me we are still talking PM 2.5 24-hour.

Okay, your time has expired. You do have a reserve two minutes for rebuttal.

I am going to turn now to the Citizens Against Pollution. Ms. Kang or is it Professor Kang?

MS. KANG: Ms. Kang is fine and I will address three issues.

JUDGE REICH: Are you reserving time?

MS. KANG: The Citizens Petition -- Yes, I am reserving two minutes, Your Honor.

JUDGE REICH: Okay, thank you.
MS. KANG: The Citizens' petition
raised three issues of importance in the Bay Area, where there is a high reserve margin with reliability and thus, it as the California Energy Commission Staff noted with concern in this case, the power plant is expected to shut down and start up frequently.

The first error The District committed is the failure to ascertain how many times the power plant would startup and shut down and to face fact on a credible operating scenario. It is undisputed that the power
plant asks for no limits on the number of startup and shut downs. And the permit, thus, has no restrictions on the number of startup and shut downs.

The plant can start, cold start, twice from the two turbines at the facility, without exceeding the daily and annual emissions limits. The District concedes this.

At bottom, there is no credible source of the assumption that there will be three cold starts, 100 warm starts, and 250 to 300 hot starts per turbine at the facility. The loading order doesn't tell you that and the power purchase agreement doesn't tell you that. The power purchase agreement, in fact, disputes or contravenes or contradicts what The District says about the number of startups. The power purchase agreement on which The District so heavily relies says the facility would operate not at least 16 hours a day as the District contends, but says up to 16 hours per day, up to five days per week,
and up to 50 weeks per year.
JUDGE REICH: Let me ask about that. I agree that the language is, as you cited, but I am trying to understand the logic of the power purchase agreement and it talks about those numbers on buyers' behalf. So obviously it is in there because it is there to satisfy the buyers' need. What I am having a hard time understanding would be the logic for the buyer putting in what would essentially by your interpretation be a maximum availability rather than a minimum availability. I would assume that what the purchaser would want would be essentially some guarantee that this source of power is going to be available for some period of time. And I don't understand why logically, even if the wording is as you say, why logically it makes sense to interpret this as saying basically you can be available as much as you want, as long as it is not more than this amount. It just doesn't seem to
make a lot of sense to me.
MS. KANG: It is true that that is the buyer's requirement and it could set the availability limit. But within that, that is what The District relied on to set three cold starts and there is nothing in that agreement, if you look at the Response to Comments, The District heavily relied on that in the loading order. And there is no document in the record that says that this facility will cold start only three times.

In fact The District said in the reply or in the response that the fact that Palomar in San Diego started five times was indicative of how these power plants would operate. In fact, the Bay Area power plants do not operate that way because of the high grid reliability and the high reserve margin, which at CHABOT's comments in February was pointed out and nobody disputed that.

JUDGE REICH: Well, it doesn't
talk about the number of starts, I don't
think, but it does talk about them operating in a six by sixteen mode. And if a cold start is, I thought it was like 48 hours, I am having a hard time understanding how you could get that many cold starts in any given week with a six by sixteen operating mode.

MS. KANG: Well, that is the problem here, which is that the permit does not have a limit on the number of starts and shutdowns. And the NSR manual says if you don't have a power plant or if you don't have an applicant that is willing to take a limit, then the permit considerations have to be that the worst case operating scenario must be considered. In the back here for startup and shut down did not consider those scenarios.

As The District concedes, there could be two cold starts per day. And that was not the operating scenario that The District considered in setting that.

JUDGE REICH: Okay. When we get
to The District, I want to find out if they
did concede that. Because as I read what the District filed, I thought they were disputing that and saying that the reason that you were thinking there were two cold starts a day is because it talked about shutting down late evening and early morning and you were interpreting that as two separate shut downs, as opposed to one continuous shut down.

I don't see how that would be a cold start but we will get into that. MS. KANG: Well, I am glad you brought that up, Your Honor, because there are two turbines. And if you look at the daily limits for carbon monoxide, which is the limiting factor in this permit, there are potentials for two cold starts from the two turbines. And it is not just that the plant would shut down in the morning or start up in the morning and shut down at night. That is not the two starts. The two starts are from the two separate turbines.

JUDGE REICH: So it means one
start per turbine?
MS. KANG: Yes, Your Honor.
JUDGE REICH: Okay.
MS. KANG: And in the surreply at page 15, The District concedes that that is possible in the discussion of the auxiliary boiler.

Now let me move on to the second issue if the court has no questions on the first issue. The District failed to support its calculation, emissions calculation for the auxiliary boiler cost effectiveness for this reason. But not only that, it wasn't just the emissions calculations that The District did not support but The District failed to account for CHABOT's comments about the amount of emissions reductions that are possible from the use of an auxiliary boiler. The Caithness records that are at the Docket 2-09 show that there are 66 percent reductions possible for both NOx and CO from the auxiliary boiler. And The District used the numbers 38 percent
for cold and 18 percent for warm and that is a significant difference in addition to the size of the boiler that the Caithness records show, which is that it is 72 MMBTU for the Mankato records and 49 MMBTU for the Caithness records. So that is a 20 percent difference in the size of the boiler that The District did not consider. And the burden here is important which is that our burden is to show that The District did not support its cost ineffective analysis. That is our burden. And The District did not supports is cost ineffective analysis with --

JUDGE REICH: Okay, I think you are out of time. You can reserve any further discussion for your rebuttal if you would like.

MS. KANG: Your Honor, I think I will use the two minutes because there is a very important discussion about NOx and CO on the cases that the District brought up that are very distinguishable.

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The District added an unnecessary compliance margin to account for variabilities that show up in the operations when the data that The District relied on were actual operational data and thus, should have already accounted for the operational variabilities that The District says that it was adding the margin for.

And so this is very
distinguishable from the cases that the District discusses, such as Newmont where the technology was considered new and, therefore, there was discretion that The District had to add some or the permitting agency had to add some margin. And in NOF, it was the average emissions that was used, not the maximum achieved as it is here.

If we used the average here, that would be about 185 and you get from the 25 percent, you would get about 231 pounds per cold NOx startup, not 480, which is what The District did.

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JUDGE REICH: Why, given prior
Board case law, would you use the average when there are clearly Board cases that indicate that it is acceptable to look at the maximum because it is a never to exceed limit?

MS. KANG: I didn't catch that. Here it was an achieved maximum. At Palomar, the maximum is 375 . At Delta, which is supposedly exactly the same facility that RCEC will have, the maximum was 281 . We discussed rates because that is what The District discussed and they said that Mr. Sarvey's discussion of limits was inappropriate because he didn't raise it. He raised it in response to The District arguments that we inappropriately used the rates.

The rates that we used were used because that is what The District used to set the limit plus the margin.

JUDGE REICH: Okay, your time has now expired and you have used your rebuttal time. So there will be no rebuttal.

We are going to turn to Mr.
Sarvey.
MR. SARVEY: Thank you, Your Honor. I would like to reserve two minutes for rebuttal, please.

JUDGE REICH: Okay, thank you.
MR. SARVEY: The first issue I would like to address is the project's compliance with the new national one-hour NO2 standard.

On January 22, 2010, the EPA Administrator signed a final rule containing a new standard for NO2 based on a one-hour averaging time.

On February 9, 2010, the final rule was published in the Federal Register as noted on page 16 of my appeal. The February 9th Federal Register notice clearly states on page 6525 the first major new and modified sources applying for NSR/PSD permits will initially be required to demonstrate that their proposed emissions increase of NOx will
not cause or contribute to a violation of either the annual or one-hour NO2 standard. And The District does not dispute this and effectively recognizes this fact on page 35 of its response to my appeal.

The District in Russell City
argued that the RCEC permit need not contain a demonstration that the RCEC does not violate the federal one-hour NO2 standard. The District argues that since it issued the PSD permit on February 2, 2010, the new NO2 standard is not applicable, since the Federal Register notice was issued on February 9th and the new standard becomes effective on April 12th.

## As The District's public notice

 for this permit states, pursuant to 40 C.F.R. 124.15(b), this PSD permit becomes effective March 22, 2010, unless a petition for review is filed with the EPA's environmental appeals board by that date period pursuant to 40 C.F.R. Section 124.19.Under 40 C.F.R. 124.19(f)(1), a final permit that has been appealed is issued by the administrator when the Environmental Appeal Board issues notice to the parties that the review has been denied or when the Environmental Appeals Board issues a decision on the merits of the appeal and the decision does not include a remand of the proceedings or upon completion of the remand proceedings --

JUDGE REICH: Mr. Sarvey, I gather you are not disputing that the NO2 limit becomes relevant for permitting purposes, depending on when the permit is issued. And what you are essentially saying is you are disputing their characterization of when the permit is issued. Is that right? Because if that is the case, that is certainly something the Board I think has the capability of addressing without further argument.

I just want to make sure I
understand your argument correctly.

MR. SARVEY: Yes, that is my argument.

JUDGE REICH: Okay, well we will certainly take that issue under advisement. Thank you.

MR. SARVEY: Okay. The next issue I want to address is the NO2 limit for startups and shut downs.

And as I addressed in my petition, the Delta Energy System located in the Bay Area Air Quality Management District has demonstrated since 2004 that a 281 pound cold start emission limit has been achieved in practice for the same model of turbine that is being used here at the RCEC.

The District in response to this fact has defended its 480 pound limit for the RCEC by stating that it assessed other data from several other projects and they demonstrated results of 103 pounds to 499 pounds.

The District argues that the EAB
has consistently upheld the use of a
reasonable compliance margin to assure that the facility can meet its permit limit over the operating life of the facility. And as I have argued in my petition, the 40 percent compliance margin is not reasonable, and is unprecedented and unnecessary.

In my reply brief, I noted that the Delta Energy System --

JUDGE REICH: Can you speak up a little bit more? But before you do, let me stop you and ask you a couple of questions.

I think there is some dispute which we are obviously not resolve about what may or may not have been raised below relative to the Delta Energy Center. But there is some discussion about trade offs between NOx control and CO control as accounting for differences between Delta and the limits being proposed or adopted for Russell City.

Do you dispute that there is a
tradeoff there and one needs to look at the
two limits in relationship to each other to have a clear picture of what the permit is imposing?

MR. SARVEY: I don't think it is a relevant issue at this point because The District used the Delta Center warm start permit limit of 125 pounds as a starting point for setting the warm start NO2 limit for the RCEC.

So I mean, they used the permit limit on one basis to set the standard but in another standard or another determination, they ignored the limit.

JUDGE REICH: Okay.
MR. SARVEY: The don't even consider the CO2/NOx tradeoff. So I see that as being inconsistent on The District's part.

JUDGE REICH: Okay. On the compliance margin, you can go ahead. Do you agree that the Board has sanctioned a compliance margin, although you may disagree how one was determined in this case?

MR. SARVEY: The highest compliance margin that I have seen has been 25 percent, Your Honor. They are asking for like a 41 percent compliance margin.

JUDGE REICH: Forty-one percent from what?

MR. SARVEY: Forty-one percent from the Delta limit of 281 pounds per hour. JUDGE REICH: Okay. So that becomes a question of what limit you use as a starting point.

MR. SARVEY: Yes, Your Honor.
JUDGE REICH: Okay.
MR. SARVEY: And you can look at this another way. It could be a 250 percent increase if you look at it from the average emissions that Delta has emitted. So that is all I want to say about that point. JUDGE REICH: Okay. MR. SARVEY: I would like to move on if that is okay with you, sir. JUDGE REICH: Yes, sir.

MR. SARVEY: The next issue is the District elimination of the OpFlex technology in step two of the BACT analysis. The District eliminated the OpFlex technology in step two of the BACT analysis, claiming that turndown technology such as OpFlex are not technically feasible at this time for the control of startup emissions.

The 1990 NSR manual requires that a demonstration of technical infeasibility should be clearly documented and should show based on physical, chemical, and engineering principles that technical difficulties would preclude the successful use of the control option on the emissions unit under review.

The petitioner provided adequate documentation that the OpFlex technology is a feasible technology and has demonstrated great success in reducing the startup emissions at the Palomar facility in Escondido.

JUDGE SHEEHAN: How do you address
-- Pardon me. To the Palomar point, how do Neal R. Gross \& Co., Inc.
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you address The District's argument that it is not quite comparable or useful here because there was no manufacturer's guarantee you had the ammonia injection at Palomar which is different from this facility and you had limited data.

It sounds like there is a wide gap between what Palomar shows and what we need, what you would like here.

MR. SARVEY: And I finish reading where I am at, Your Honor, it will address all of those points.

Petitioner provided adequate documentation that the OpFlex technology is a feasible technology and has demonstrated great success. The OpFlex technology has been offered commercially by GE since 2005, so it is certainly a feasible technology and is commercially available.

The California Energy Commission, the lead permitting agency for this project considers OpFlex technology as feasible and
available and requires it. In case this particular project wants to start both turbines at one time, the OpFlex or some other fast art technology is required.

The District argued that it could not determine from the Palomar data what reductions were attributable to OpFlex or what emission ejections were attributable to earlier ammonia injection.

In response, $I$ have provided a breakdown to the emission reductions attributable to OpFlex and those reductions attributable to early ammonia injection as determined by the San Diego AQMD.

This information is included in my petition for review on page 10 and was included in my February 6 comments on the draft permit. The District then complained that the data was too limited so I executed a public records request and supplied The District with one year of available data. There are still several more years. The data

I provided was 2007. The District still could have accessed 2008-2009 and still evaluated that for this permit.

JUDGE REICH: Okay, Mr. Sarvey, your time has expired. Thank you. You will have two minutes for rebuttal.

And now to the CARE/Simpson
petition. I understand that you intend to have more than one person speak. I caution that you know, when the time runs out it runs out, irrespective of whether everybody has had a chance to speak.

So I don't know who is going first but please introduce yourself for the record and go ahead.

MR. BOYD: Hi. This is Mike Boyd, President of CARE and I would like to reserve two minutes for rebuttal, if we make it. And then I am going to go for three, then Rob is going to go for three, and then Ernie has got two.

Essentially CARE's issues have to
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do with the public participation process and the public commenting process. The District claims that the record shows that The District not only complied with all requirements of Part 124 but went over and above what is required to ensure the public was fully engaged in this proceeding.

The Board should, therefore, dismiss CARE's claims based on evidence in the record. The District claims that it complied with all of the requirements of Part 124, which we believe is false and is pursuant to the Notice Requirements set forth by 40 C.F.R. 124(10)(d), contents, name, address, and telephone number of the person for whom interested persons may obtain further information, including copies of the draft permit or draft general permit, as the case may be, statement of basis or fact sheet and the application.

As stated in our comments on
February 4, 2009 to the District, a notice
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that was included in the PSD permit on The District's website failed to include a copy of the application number 15487 that was originally submitted to The District in 2001. We did everything we could possibly do, Your Honors, to get a copy of that application, including Mr. Simpson traveling to the District's office and we were never provided a copy of that application.

Based on the fact that we didn't have a copy of the application when we did our comments, we asked extensive questions because of that fact. And in the response that The District provided to our comments, it wasn't possible for us to tell what, if any, comments they were responding to, since they didn't provide any reference or cross-reference to the commenter, who the commenter was, and that kind of stuff. So we had no way of knowing if they were responding to our comments and it was left up to us to dig through their responses to see if there was anything that we
even relevant.
And so we don't believe The District did the response right. We don't believe they did the notice right and we don't believe they provided us a copy of the original application, which is necessary for us to meaningfully participate.

Okay and my few minutes are up. Thank you.

MR. SIMPSON: Hello, this is Rob Simpson. Well the first remand regarding this plan could have been attributed to mere incompetence or negligence on the part of the Air District. This remand should recognize that the intent here is an applicant to circumvent the Clean Air Act by reconstructing antiquated equipment in a sensitive, yet highly impacted location. They manipulated monitoring and modeling results to fabricate a permit, a permit that the Applicant does not intend to comply with and The District does not intend to enforce. The public has been
misled in this process, undermining the opportunity for the informed participation contemplated by Congress.

Region IX disallowed media access to this proceeding, claiming that they simply could not accommodate any more people. We are broadcasting from the 19th floor of what must be a 300,000 square foot EPA facility. It is simply not plausible if this facility cannot accommodate the press. There are empty seats in this room.

The people of this Region are
interested in this action and have a right to know what goes on here. I request that we continue this proceeding until the Board determines whether interested members of the media are rightfully excluded from the proceeding.

The Air District took great
interest in attempting to prevent my participation in this proceeding, in their claim that my appeal was not timely pursuant
to East Coast time and their refusal to provide access to an administrative record or any relevant permitting documents to me during the first comment period; The District's contention that there is no reason why petitioners should not be held to the same strict procedural standards in appealing this permit that they have demanded from The District in issuing it, demonstrate the absurdity of their position.

The petitioners are not paid government regulators with delegated responsibility under the Clean Air Act attempting to permit an illegal facility that threatens public health, the environment, and the integrity of the Clean Air Act. The petitioners are unpaid members of the public seeking protection through the Environmental Appeals Board for the egregious actions of the air district in concert with the applicant. Their desire to make money should not take precedence over the compliance with the Clean

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Air Act.
The District's failure to include any representation of the project's potential effect on air quality in any of its notices should result in a remand. We have a right to this information. It is what the national Air Quality Standards were developed for.

The District's failure to correct public notice deficiencies in subsequent public notices should result in a remand. The District gives itself credit for so-called outreach, yet no person in this room and likely very few of any commenters learned of the permitting actions through The District's outreach. It is Ernest Pocheco who deserves credit for the outreach. I demonstrated that The District's outreach failed to even inform prior to participants, like the executive director of women's environmental matters, a prominent local air quality advocate.

The District and applicant have not disputed that they intend to utilize used Neal R. Gross \& Co., Inc.
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equipment that likely earned emission reduction credits in retirement for this facility. They have merely disputed the public's right to know. I demonstrated adequate reason to support the public's right to know this information and adequate basis for the contention in my comments and petition.

The District's record of never issuing a PSD permit correctly, failing to enforce permit conditions, and carte blanche modifications of permits to increase emissions demonstrates no likelihood of an enforceable permit conditions which comply with the PSD provisions of the Clean Air Act.

There is ample evidence to suggest that if a facility is built and does not contain existing permit conditions will be ignored or changed to suit the facility, especially if the developer is screaming we need the electricity and maybe flips the power off from other plants, like it did at the start of this debacle.

MR. POCHECO: Good morning, Your Honor, Ernest Pocheco of CARE. I would like to address two issues very briefly but first is the complete lack of any analysis by The District of the zero liquid discharge allvapor emission system which will produce the largest emission of this plant and will effect the production, chemical evolution, transport, and distribution, and deposition of the criteria pollutants that are regulated within the permit.

This all-vapor emission system will emit over 12 billion 180 million pounds a year of water vapor into the immediate vicinity of the stacks, thereby affecting production, chemical evolution, transport, and distribution of the criteria pollutants. This needs to be analyzed. To this date, they have not.

The second issue is the EPA and Fish and Wildlife Consultation, informal
consultation which was necessary to actually place or is necessary for the EPA concurrence, which is necessary to place the proposed permit into the applicant's hands.

In informed the EPA and Fish and Wildife about the new FAA mandate that it is going to if and only if this power plant is constructed to reroute over 560 helicopters and planes directly over our endangered species preserve and the sensitive habitat in which numerous listed species live.

I did a FOIA request to Fish and Wildlife to confirm my suspicion that no analysis was done, despite their contention that all issues have been looked at and they have seen no harm. The FOIA request demonstrates that neither EPA, as far as I can tell, where Fish and Wildlife even discussed this issue.

So the issue of whether or not if this power plant is built and 560 helicopters and planes are routed directly over the native Neal R. Gross \& Co., Inc.
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species preserve, must be analyzed before EPA can concur and actually put the permit in hand.

Thank you.
JUDGE REICH: Thank you, gentlemen. We have reserved two minutes for rebuttal.

We are going to move now to the
Bay Area Air Quality Management District here in Washington.

MR. CROCKETT: Good afternoon, Your Honors. Good afternoon Ms. Ward. I would like to begin before --

JUDGE REICH: Just reintroduce yourself for the record, please.

MR. CROCKETT: Alexander Crockett on behalf of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District.

JUDGE REICH: Thank you, Mr. Crockett.

MR. CROCKETT: Before I get to the specific issues raised by petitioners, I would
like to give the Board a little background as to what has happened over the past two years since the permit was remanded in the original proceeding here.

Over the past two years we have
taken the Board's mandate and its remand and we needed to go back and provide additional notice and comment really to heart. And we have done a great deal of work in that respect. We went back and we put together a very comprehensive list of citizens who may be interested in PSD permitting. We looked at people who have been interested in this facility. We looked at people who had asked to be on a list about PSD permits. We looked to people who had participated in other permits before The District, not just PSD permits but other major permits as well.

We put together a comprehensive
list that has approximately 1900 names on it. We mailed out notice of this permit proceeding after the remand to all the people on that
list. We provided two comment periods, both of them over the minimum 30 days required by law. We provided two public hearings in the community at Hayward City Hall, people to come and be able to express their comments orally.

And all of this public outreach generated a great deal of very informed, valuable, substitute public comment. And we took all that comment to heart. We actually improved the permit in a number of ways, based on that public comment.

We now have a permit that has
improved permit conditions. It has improved analyses on which it is based. And for the first time, we have a permit that has a substantive emissions limit on greenhouse gas emissions. To our knowledge, this is the first time ever in the history of the United States that a permit has actually had enforceable greenhouse gas emission limits in it.

So we are proud of the work that
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we have done here. We think it is a good permit. And we urge the Board, for all the reasons that we put forward, to deny these petitions for review and let this permit go forward.

With that background, let me start and address the specific issues that have been raised here. I would like to start with the startup backed determination issues. There is only two related issues here. One of them is whether The District properly decided that it was not going to require an auxiliary boiler as an additional control technology to reduce NO2 emissions and CO emissions. And then the second issue would be the actual NO2 startup emission limits that we came up with.

Let me start with the issue of whether we properly decided not to require the auxiliary boiler. There is a threshold issue which I would like to address that citizens against pollution raised, which is whether The District is even required to do an analysis of
the costs that would be involved, required in an auxiliary boiler here.

I mean, it was the cost
effectiveness that The District looked at that was the reason why The District decided not to require an auxiliary boiler.

CAP argues that The District was required to jettison the cost effectiveness analysis requirement in federal BAAQ requirement 40 C.F.R. 52.21 and just go with more stringent layer limits here, lowest available emissions rate, even though it is clear under EPA precedence that a delegated agency acts standing in the shoes of the federal EPA and is required to follow the federal requirements in 40 C.F.R. 52.21.

JUDGE SHEEHAN: What do you make of the delegation agreement that appear to take costs off the table?

MR. CROCKETT: I don't read the
delegation agreement that way. I see that the delegation agreement does make references to

PSD provisions of The District's regulation to Rule 2 but the SPD provisions go to things like conducting the air quality impact analysis and so forth. And I don't see any indication in the language of the delegation agreement that authorizes or requires The District to jettison the federal requirements in 40 C.F.R. 52.21.

But notwithstanding the fact that the language, $I$ don't believe, can be read that way, even if the language can be read that way and even if it was the intention of EPA and The District to somehow deviate from the federal requirements, that is not legally permissible because when requirements are adopted in the Code of Federal Regulations, EPA is bound to follow those regulations unless and until it adopts a change after noticing comment and that certainly wasn't done here.

So to the extent that the staff at EPA Region IX or the staff at The District had
some idea that they could throw out the cost effectiveness element of the BAAQ requirement, they certainly could not do that legally.

And we are a delegated agency standing in the shoes of the EPA, which the Board has held on numerous occasions we are, we are bound to follow the same exact rules the EPA would be bound to follow and one of those is when you do a BAAQ analysis, you need to take into account economic impacts and other costs. That is part of the definition there.

JUDGE STEIN: Counsel, other than this particular case, is there any written interpretation that Bay Area has made that would show us that the interpretation that you are arguing in this case has been consistent over time or has this issue never really come up before?

MR. CROCKETT: This issue has never really come up before and I think the reason why is that this is a fairly unique
proceeding in that we don't have a district permit, a non-attainment NSR permit and a PSD permit proceeding forward together in an integrated proceeding.

Usually we have that with a major facility if it is going to be major for PSD, it will also be major for non-attainment NSR.

And so when you are plotting BAAQ, you have to apply the layer level of BAAQ that is in the District regulations as part of the non-attainment NSR review and then you also have this other BAAQ element that is out there which is less stringent. But the issue never comes up because the substantive requirement has to be the more stringent one under nonattainment NSR.

So I don't believe that this issue has ever come up before. We are working now with EPA Region IX on revisions to the delegation agreement that will clarify this. We have a draft that we have shared with EPA and we will be negotiating that going forward.

But I believe that what we will be seeing in the near future is a revised delegation agreement that makes this distinction here.

JUDGE STEIN: What you will be doing is a clarification of what you still believe the applicable requirements to be.

MR. CROCKETT: Yes, it will be a clarification in the delegation agreement that for PSD purposes, the District is bound to follow the federal requirements, which I believe is the state of the law. I think there is no dispute on that. So that will clear up the confusion that has been caused by the language in the delegation agreement -Judge Sheehan.

So I think that it is very clear that we were required to consider costs here. We looked at the costs of requiring an auxiliary boiler. We have looked at the emission reductions that would be gained by using an auxiliary boiler here for cold and warm startups because that is where it is
effective, since it keeps the equipment warm, so it doesn't have to be warmed up on startup. We have looked to other similar
facilities that use auxiliary boilers and what emissions reduction can be achieved there. We looked at how that would work here at this facility, in terms of startups at this facility. And then we looked at the costs that would be involved in implementing an auxiliary boiler system and we found that the cost of doing so would be $\$ 83,000$ approximately per ton of CO reduced. In the NOx the numbers were even higher, I think around a million dollars. The limiting factor here was the carbon monoxide. So I am going to focus my remarks primarily on the co calculation.

JUDGE REICH: What did you consider to be an acceptable cost per ton of emission reduction for NO2? Did you have a baseline number you were comparing it to and where did that number come from?

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MR. CROCKETT: We have in our districts, we have adopted a guideline for doing cost effective analyses for NOx basically, which we used here. And that is, I believe it is $\$ 25,000$ per ton. I could be mistaken. It is certainly far, far lower than the million dollars that we were looking at for the NOx reductions here.

So the answer to your question is that we do have a guideline within The District for NOx. We did not for CO and, as I said, that was the bigger issue here. So we did look around to see what other agencies have been doing by way of adopting guidelines and we looked around to see what other agencies had done in specific permits when they made a cost-effectiveness determination for CO.

And as we have explained in our papers and in the Response to Comments, we found the range to be approximately several hundred dollars to several thousand dollars
per ton of CO reduced. Obviously that is a much lower number than for NOx but that is because most areas around the country including the Bay Area are attainment for CO, whereas, they are non-attainment for ozone. And so NOx is of much more concern. So you can justify spending a lot more per ton of NOx reduction than you can for CO.

JUDGE SHEEHAN: What about the data that was proffered by CAP on the Siemens Facility and their technology? They made a strong case that that was not fairly considered by you.

MR. CROCKETT: I assume that that refers to the Caithness -JUDGE SHEEHAN: Cost
effectiveness. Right? The Siemens' data?
MR. CROCKETT: Yes, we did look at that data. The data that was submitted during the comment period apparently inadvertently included some of the incorrect data and so we looked at that in the Response to Comments.

Subsequently, in the petition, the correct data was submitted and so in our response to the petition, we have looked at that information. And even if you take that information as somehow being more preferable or trumping the information from the Mankato facility that we looked at, still you come out with a number that is nowhere near cost effective.

We looked at data from the Mankato facility in Minnesota. That was actual operating data that was showing what an auxiliary boiler system was achieving on the ground. The Siemens' vendor data was simply vendor estimates. I would submit that the Mankato data has more force to it because it comes from actual operating data.

Even if you were to take away the Mankato data and say that the only evidence in the record was the Siemens data, looking at the numbers there, we have done the calculations and we come out with
approximately $\$ 15,000$, even when you look at the correct natural gas and natural gas comparison of $\$ 15,000$ per ton.

We are still not quite clear where the CHABOT Las Positas number of $\$ 10,500$ came from. It has not been adequately explained in their comments or in their petition. But it really is a root issue because all of this is an academic exercise because even the lowest number that is out there, even the number that CHABOT Las Positas has put forward of $\$ 10,500$ approximately, that is still well above what any other agency has used or is using for a cost-effectiveness threshold, which would be somewhere below $\$ 5,000$ and maybe even to the hundreds of dollars.

So it does not appear that there really is any issue here, beyond just a sort of academic exercise about whether it is preferable to rely on the Mankato data or the Siemens' estimates because ultimately the issue is moot. Under any view of the facts
the auxiliary boiler is not going to come down into the range of cost effectiveness here that it would need to be for us to be able to require an auxiliary boiler as the BACT control technology.

So for all of these reasons we submit that there is no way that any of these petitions have shown an abuse of discretion on this issue. Certainly, there is no abuse of discretion in choosing to look at the Mankato data instead of the Siemens' data. Even if we were to look to at the Siemens' data, it does not show that the auxiliary boiler becomes cost effective.

Let me move on and address while we are on this issue of how we did the cost effectiveness calculation. Let me also look at -- Let me address the issue now that CAP has raised about whether we had an adequate basis in terms of the operating scenario here.

We have been very clear throughout that this is not going to be a peaker-type
facility with lots of startups and shut downs. This is going to operate more as a base load facility with a high capacity factor.

That was the original description that we put out there. And then we received a lot of comments asking for a much more specific analysis of the startup scenario. And this was important because the startup scenario underpins the amount of emission reductions that you will achieve from putting in the auxiliary boiler. With more startups, the more emission reductions you will achieve with the auxiliary boiler.

So we went back and took a very hard look at this issue. We looked at the power purchase agreement, which we were asked to do by some of the commenters. The power purchase agreement said that the facility was intended to operate in a six by sixteen operating scenario or operating mode, which as we have discussed already here today means six days a week of operation, sixteen hours per
day.
When you look at that mode of that profile of operation, it means that you are going to have in a week you are going to have five warm startups when the facility starts up in the morning and the demand rises, and then one warm startup because there is an idle day during the week and after that idle day, you have a warm startup.

So that gives you in a normal week, five hot startups and one warm startup, and then we assume that there may be several periods --

JUDGE REICH: I assume -- there
are a number of times actually in your response to the CAP petition where you talk about six hot starts per week, but I gather that's an error. It is actually five.

MR. CROCKETT: That is a mathematical error.

JUDGE REICH: All right.
MR. CROCKETT: Anyway, but I think
that we all understand how the calculations work based on this six by sixteen operating scenario.

JUDGE SHEEHAN: What do you make of the point that the reference to the, I believe, May of '07 letter from the California Energy Commission that there would be frequent startups and shut downs.

MR. CROCKETT: Well frequent is a relative term here. I mean, the facility is intending to startup and shut down almost every day, six days a week. I think that that can be fairly described as a frequent startup. I mean, that certainly is different than a peaker plant, for example, which may only be used during periods of peak demand in the middle of the summer when there is heavy air conditioning use.

A base load facility that is going to startup every day like this one, obviously, that is going to be more frequent. That letter was also submitted in the context of
what the maximum daily emissions could be. And it certainly is possible, as petitioners have pointed out, that you could have, on a given day, multiple startups because it is true that we did not impose a limit on the number of startups here, in order to allow this plant to have the flexibility it will need to operate.

But that does not mean that a typical day will have multiple startups per day and it does not mean that over the course of the year, which is the time frame you look at when you are doing a cost effectiveness calculation that the typical startup profile of six by sixteen, won't be the kind of thing that you would see on an annual basis.

JUDGE SHEEHAN: And is that the way you characterize your response to comment when you say that it is intended to be base load but there will be, I think the quote is "dictated by market demand and circumstances" which on its face could be taken to mean wild Neal R. Gross \& Co., Inc.
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fluctuations, more like a peaking facility than base load.

MR. CROCKETT: Yes, that is what we said in the Response to Comments. We also responded to comments that said, well you know, you say that is going to operate six by sixteen but do you have any assurances that it won't operate like a peaker, since there isn't a limit on the number of startups. So we went and looked at all the other assurances that we could find and all the other indications that were out there. And everything we could find indicated that it wouldn't operate as a peaker, that it would operate more like an intermediate to base load facility as we described it, more like the six by sixteen operating scenario.

Some of the factors that we looked at were the fact that the facility has a very low heat rate. That means it is a highly efficient facility. Those types of facilities are dispatched preferentially when there is a
demand for power. For obvious reasons, that a more efficient plant is going to be cheaper to operate, use less natural gas, run those plants more, and keep the peaker plants which cost more to operate, keep those for when you really need all your plants online at once.

PGNE has also noted that this
facility is going to have a very high demand for natural gas, which is an indication that it is going to be operating with a high capacity factor. And then we also looked to the fact that the PUC has determined that this plant will be subject to California's Emissions Performance Standard for electrical generating facilities. Now that is an emissions standard, greenhouse gas emission standard that applies only to base load facilities, those with a high capacity factor.

So, we looked at all these other
indications that would be out there beyond just the fact that the power purchase agreement says six by sixteen operation and
ever indication that we could find supported the fact that this facility will operate in this manner and certainly shows that there is really no indication at all that the facility is going to operate like a peaker with frequent, frequent is a relative term here, but with highly frequent startups and shut downs.

And we put all this information
forward in the comments. We responded in the comments specifically on the issue of the auxiliary boiler and whether our emissions profile that underlay our auxiliary boiler cost-effectiveness profile was valid.

And then we also provided five pages of Response to Comments a little bit later on in the document where we specifically took up this issue of maximum number of startups, what is a realistic scenario of how many startups this facility will have and whether it will operate like a peaker or a base load facility. And we also addressed the
question there of whether we should have a maximum number of startups, a limited number of startups. And we disagreed that there should be any limit because this is a facility that does need to operate as part of its design requirements to be able to meet market demand that is out there. It needs to be able to come online when renewable and other types of resources are not available and then it needs to be able to be offline when those other resources that don't cause greenhouse gas emissions do come online.

So we submit that all of this
documentation that we looked at and we discussed in Response to Comments and we have been talking about here, clearly support The District's determination that the most credible operating scenario here is the six by sixteen operating scenario, which leads to the three cold startups per turbine, 50 warm startups per turbine and 250 hot startups per turbine operating profile that we used for the

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cost effectiveness calculations.
We put that forward in the
Response to Comments and CAP challenged it in our petition. We pointed out all the reasons in our response why we had justified the six by sixteen operating scenario. And then in the reply for the first time, CAP tried to shift gears and move to a different argument that oh no, this is not about whether the six by sixteen operating scenario is a credible operating scenario supported by all the documentation that we looked at but that the cost effectiveness calculation needs to be based on the maximum number of startups that the facility could theoretically have under its permit here. And they pointed to some language in the NSR workshop manual. But when you review the NSR workshop manual, it is clear that you don't necessarily use the maximum worst-case operating scenario fulltime throughout the year. It is clear that what you need is a realistic operating Neal R. Gross \& Co., Inc. 202-234-4433
scenario. And it is clear that the concern that the concern they expressed in the NSR workshop manual, is that if you have a facility that is not realistically going to operate at its worst case emissions condition throughout the year, that if you use worst case to do your cost effectiveness calculation, you are actually going to overstate the amount of emissions. You are going to overstate the emission reductions that could be achieved and you are going to get an unsupportable cost effectiveness calculation number. An unrealistic cost effectiveness calculation number.

So we disagree strongly that anything in the NSR workshop manual says that we would need to use the theoretical maximum number. And in fact there is a very instructive example in the NSR workshop manual which talks about a coding operation that uses a wide range of different codings that have a wide range of EOC content in them. Obviously,
unless you have a limit that says you need to use this coding at this time and this coding at that time, which would be very detrimental to the flexibility to the plant, it would not make any sense to assume that they used all the time the single highest EOC content coding there because that would obviously lead to an overestimation of the emissions and the overestimation of the emission reduction number that you put into your cost effectiveness calculation. And it is the same type of situation here. If you assume the facility will have the maximum number of startups allowed on the permit, you will get a gross overestimation of the number of startups and shut downs because that assumption would be the facility to maximize the number of startups simply starts up and as soon as it gets up to its operating
temperature and operating speed and is ready to sell power to the grid, it shuts down immediately and stays shut down for two days.

So you are going to have another cold startup and then it starts up again just to have some startup operation, and then shuts down again right away.

Theoretically, that is possible. Theoretically under the permit, the facility could operate that way but it certainly isn't a realistic operating scenario and it certainly isn't one that would be counseled, that we should use under the NSR workshop manual.

But even taking this sort of crazy hypothetical way of operating a power plant, we looked at what the numbers would be if we did assume worst case and we found that, if I can find my numbers here, we found that if you did assume that the facility was operated simply to be a startup facility and never sell any power in normal steady state operations, that under the annual limits in the permit, the facility would be allowed to startup 262 times, 262 cold startups, which is the worst
case type of startup because it has the largest emissions associated with it.

Two hundred and sixty-two cold startups per year, we looked at what the cost effectiveness would be for an auxiliary boiler there and we looked at it under the two pieces of information we had about what emission reductions an auxiliary boiler could achieve. The 31 percent reduction that we saw from the data from Mankato, the facility in Minnesota where we had actual data on what an auxiliary boiler could achieve at an operating plant, that was a 31 percent reduction

A 31 percent reduction over 262 cold startups comes out to be $\$ 10,093$ per ton and these numbers are in our brief so you can check them there.

JUDGE REICH: Are they also in the record below, as opposed to just the briefs?

MR. CROCKETT: They are not
because the issue that you need to use the maximum startup scenario here was not raised
in any of the comments. It was not until the reply came out that this issue came up.

JUDGE REICH: Okay.
MR. CROCKETT: Which is the reason why the whole issue should not be considered by the Board and why the petition should be rejected on this.

JUDGE REICH: Okay. Can I ask, I think given the limited amount of time and there is a lot to cover, I want to shift ground a little bit.

In your response to CAP, you were talking about kind of what the cold start NO2 limit should be, there is a sentence that says, "Petitioner has not pointed to a single facility with a cold start NO2 limit of less than 480 pounds either in its comments or in its petition and The District did not find any in its BACT review either."

Is that an accurate, does not Delta Energy have a number lower than 480? I understand that you tried in the surreply to
explain why that wouldn't be transferrable limit to Russell City but is that not in fact lower than the 480 ?

MR. CROCKETT: It is in fact lower than 480; 300 is lower than 480. When we were putting together the emission limits here, we were working against an emission with numbers and I think it was, apparently, an oversight that we did not find and explain this 300 pound emission limit from Delta. We were not trying to hide the ball on Delta by any means and certainly the Delta emissions data is there in the record and in the documentation. JUDGE REICH: So the discussion that, for instance, I find in the surreply brief about why one would not transfer the 300 pound limit from Delta to Russell City is not in the discussion in the record below? MR. CROCKETT: I think that is correct, Your Honor. I would have to go back and double check but I do not believe that we addressed the Delta limit. I don't believe
that the Delta limit was something that really was brought to us before --

JUDGE REICH: Okay.
MR. CROCKETT: -- and what we looked at because we were looking at emissions data there.

JUDGE REICH: Okay. To the best of your knowledge, is that the only facility that has a limit below 480?

MR. CROCKETT: I believe someone mentioned the Palomar limit but I don't have that number on the tip of my tongue. I am not aware, when I walked in here today I was not aware of other facilities with a lower limit. JUDGE REICH: Okay. On the issue of compliance margin and what I think is fairly termed a 22 percent margin, using your own way of calculating, what factors did you rely on in determining that 22 percent was reasonable? You, I know, talk a lot about variability but was there anything other than variability? Did you investigate the sources
of the variability to determine whether some of the higher numbers might be based on factors that would not be relevant for purposes of Russell City? How much sort of scrutiny into that variability did you go into for purposes of establishing a compliance margin?

MR. CROCKETT: When we looked at the sources of variability such as the temperature, the equipment maybe when it starts to start up, limitations on what you can do because of the need to ramp up to accommodate the speed that the turbine can ramp at and get it to the place where it needs to be to be able to synchronize with the grid, we also looked at sources of variability in the steam cycle side of the equipment limitations on what you can do in terms of warming up the equipment so you safely do that without harming the equipment on the steam side.

Those are factors that apply
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combined cycle power plants generally. We looked at these facilities that all have these same concerns, including Russell City and all the comparable facilities that we looked at. And we looked at data from these facilities that show that variability. And we looked at that and on the face of it, that sort of seemed to us like we have a valid reason to see variability here that we need to accommodate for and the data in the record that show startup emissions above 480 at some plants, even a few provisions there. We had some that were very low. We had, I think a range of approximately five times between the lowest and the highest. The lowest data point, I think is around 100 for the best startup. The highest emitting startup was around 500. I believe it was 490, something like that.

So we looked at the information that we had before us, which included actual emissions test data from a number of
facilities. Our engineering judgment, understanding that this is we are talking about staff here, they understand the way power plants work and they understand that there are these limitations in the way a power plant operates when they start up. All of that information seemed highly relevant and transferrable to Russell City because it was a similar type of facility.

When we look at different
facilities out there that are having startup events that are all over the map and we understand that there are technical reasons why combined cycle facilities like this have startup events that are all over the map, it seemed reasonable that we should put in a compliance margin that would allow for this level of variability. There is no reason to doubt that this level of variability was a real phenomenon that you will see with facilities starting up. You know, as I said before, we had some data points that were
actually above where we put the limit.
So when people talk about the compliance margin and they talk about one specific facility, you need to keep in mind that we were looking at a number of facilities here and based on the variability we saw the staff's technical judgment here, professional engineering judgment that it would be difficult to impose anything below 480 pounds that would be consistently achievable throughout the life of the facility, given the high degree of variability that we see and the reasons for it. And that is the basis on which a BAAQ limit must be set so that it can be achievable consistently throughout the life of the facility.

JUDGE REICH: There was a statement in your response to Mr. Sarvey that troubled me a little bit and I would like to understand what you are saying there.

Your response indicates that
petitioner "offers no basis for presuming this Neal R. Gross \& Co., Inc.
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facility will perform as well as the best performing of the similar facilities." And I would have thought that it really would have been both your burden and approach to assume that it would in fact comply with -- that it would perform comparable to the best performing similar facility, unless there was something to suggest otherwise.

So are you shifting the burden to the petitioner to make that demonstration or is that not quite the approach you took or what do I make of that statement?

MR. CROCKETT: Well first of all,
I would like to point out that there is a reason to distinguish the 300 pound limit -JUDGE REICH: Yes, I know. This isn't specific to Delta but it talks about similar facilities which is why I would have thought that for similar facilities, you would have started with the assumption that this would perform the same way, unless there was some reason to conclude otherwise.

MR. CROCKETT: All of the
facilities that we looked at are similar
facilities. For whatever reason about the way the facilities have been built or operated, you can end up with some that have higher or lower bit of range. Certainly at Delta they are optimizing their NOx emissions there at the expense of CO .

But the point about Mr. Sarvey not having brought up any technical information really goes to the fact that he really did not bring up these issues earlier because everything is focused on emission limits, which is part of the reason why we did not respond in more detail on the specific limit that is involved in Delta. And I was referring to the point that a petitioner needs to bring the issue forward so the agency can consider it and then give the agency an opportunity to respond and then come back with a reason why the Agency's response was erroneous here.

And really what Mr. Sarvey has done here has brought this issue up in a way that we haven't had a chance to come right up front and give our reasons for Delta. So that was what the sentence was referring to.

JUDGE REICH: So you are
suggesting you didn't really think you needed to look at what limits were set for comparable facilities, unless somebody asked you to look at that? I mean, that is what it sounds like and I am surprised to hear that.

MR. CROCKETT: That was not the way we looked at this and we did look at the emission limits. I mean, we started with a 480 pound limit from Metcalf. It appears that in the record we did not focus on the 300 pound limit at Delta for whatever reason. We looked at an awful lot of information. Obviously, we didn't focus clearly on this issue and we are looking more at whether we could justify this based on the emissions data that we were looking at, the actual emissions
data.
But that is really what the notice and comment process is for is that when the Agency has looked at a whole bunch of information but maybe not looked at everything squarely the way that they should have, a common trick would be to come forward and correct the agency's oversight to the extent it may be an oversight and that is not what Mr. Sarvey did here.

JUDGE REICH: The limits that were set here would have been the limits irrespective of whether they used current but upgraded turbines or new turbines. Is that correct?

MR. CROCKETT: That is right. The BAAQ emission limit is not necessarily a controlled technology per say. It is based on a controlled technology demonstration.

JUDGE REICH: So the existence of
the turbines and the costs associated with replacing or disposing of them played no part

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in your analysis.
MR. CROCKETT: No. And that is clear from the record.

JUDGE STEIN: I guess what I am struggling with is in the effort not to set the compliance margin too high so that you are setting a limit that really can't, you know, realistically be consistently achieved, what measures are there to assure that you are not in fact setting it too low?

You know, particularly in a program like BACT where you are, as a general proposition, trying to be looking at really what is the best achievable for these kinds of facilities. So is there anything else you want to add in response to this question in addition to what you have already shared with Judge Reich?

MR. CROCKETT: About who we were concerned about not setting the BAAQ limits too low?

> JUDGE STEIN: Uh-huh.

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MR. CROCKETT: Well, it is a very good point. I mean, we need to make sure that the limits are achievable and when we see a great deal of variability in the record, we need to be very careful that we don't set a limit that is too low, that would not be achievable.

And we have had arguments from some sides that we have set BAAQ limits that are too low. In fact CHABOT Las Positas is arguing that we should have sent a nine pound per hour BAAQ limit for particulate matter emissions because they are saying that that is realistically the number that needs to be used. We disagree with that. We think that 7.5 is a good number. We actually had comments that we should go below 7.5.

But so I think it is a good observation that we need to, as a regulatory agency, draw a balance here between people who want to have a limit set as high as possible and to give them as much compliance leeway and
to have people who want lower limits to ensure the emissions are limited as much as possible. And it is a difficult job for an agency to understand where to draw that line as a technical matter.

We believe that our staff have exercised our professional judgment in a very sound way and have done this in a way that was defensible and consistent with all the evidence that we looked at and so forth.

So we would submit that there is no reason for this Board to grant review of that technical determination.

JUDGE REICH: Just to make sure I understand on a totally different issue. You have some discussion relative to the issue of dry cooling that suggests that had you done a BACT analysis that included dry cooling, you would have opted for wet cooling at step four, rather than dry cooling. But it is my understanding you did not in fact do a BACT analysis that included dry cooling. Is that correct?

MR. CROCKETT: Well, there are two reasons why we decided not to require dry cooling. One is that it appears that it would be impermissibly redefining the source in order to require the facility design to use a wet cooling system for very good reasons to require them to jettison that design and use to use dry cooling instead.

But then we also did look at the substance of the BACT analysis would be there. And we looked at all of the adverse ancillary environmental and energy impacts that would be associated with dry cooling.

JUDGE REICH: And when you say you looked at it, you looked at it while you were considering what BACT for the cooling tower would be?

MR. CROCKETT: Yes, we did. We did it in Response to Comments and the comment was raised about dry cooling and we looked at that and potential technology that was out
there. And we found two reasons why we disagreed that dry cooling should be required as a BACT control technology. One was a legal reason redefining the source doctrine and the second was looking at all of the ancillary, environmental, and energy impacts that will be associated with, that would offset the benefits of going to dry cooling in this particular case.

JUDGE REICH: Okay, thank you.
MR. CROCKETT: Thank you, Your Honors.

JUDGE REICH: Russell City.
MR. POLONCARZ: Your Honors, thank you for allowing us to appear before you today. We would also like to thank the Board for rescheduling oral argument from next month in recognition of the time constraints the project is facing.

Next week will mark two years since the Board issued the remand order as a result of the first appeal filed by Mr.

Simpson. In response to the Board's first remand order, the District has done a significant amount of work to correct the error it made when it failed to assure adherence with Part 124's notice requirements. As the District indicated, these efforts amounted to more than just additional process.

In response to public comments, The District strengthened the permit and analyses in many respects. It reduced emissions limits for startup, shut down and steady state operations. It also produced a 235 page responses to public comments document that goes far beyond the minimum requirements established by Part 124.

The District's development of the permit also had to respond to significant changes in the PSD program. For PM 2.5, EPA issued a stay of the surrogate policy and proposed to repeal it, which required the District to conduct a cumulative impacts
analysis for compliance with PM 2.5. This needed to be done, even though the Bay Area had recently been re-designated non-attainment for PM 2.5. That designation remains in regulatory limbo, due to the change in administration. It was signed but never published in the Federal Register at the time that the administration changed.

For greenhouse gases, we worked with the District to propose a greenhouse gas BACT analysis soon after the Board issued its decision In Re Deseret and just days before Administrator Johnson issued his December 18, 2008 memorandum on whether certain pollutants were subject to regulation under the Clean Air Act.

Although issuance of that memo meant that greenhouse gases would not be considered subject to regulations for the time being, we nevertheless decided to proceed with establishing what amounted to the first BACT limitations on greenhouse gas emissions ever
included in a federal PSD permit.
In sum, since the time when the Board remanded the original PSD permit, the District has scrupulously adhered to public participation requirements, responded to an evolving regulatory landscape and produced a permit that the District's executive officer has described as "the most stringent the air district has ever issued."

All these efforts aside, the petitioners remained dissatisfied with the District's decision. Their dissatisfaction takes the form of on the one hand lengthy arguments challenging The District's technical analyses and on the other, inflammatory accusations of wrongdoing on the part of The District.

In all cases, however, petitioners have failed to raise any issue that demonstrates error or otherwise warrants review. Nothing petitioners have said today changes this fact. I would like to address a
number of points that were raised in these proceedings.

First, there is absolutely no basis for CHABOT's claim that The District erred in facing its modeling analysis on the federally enforceable permit limit of 7.5 pounds per hour, rather than the higher rate that appeared in the initial draft permit. Simply put, CHABOT has absolutely no support in law, regulation, guidance, or in fact to assert that the permitted emissions limit does not constitute the worst case emissions for modeling.

In Prairie State, the Board dismissed arguments similar to CHABOT's here that the permitting agency had used the wrong emissions rate in its modeling analysis. The Board dismissed those arguments because as the district did here, the Agency used the federally enforceable limit as required by Appendix W.

Moreover, CHABOT provides no
credible evidence to dispute The District's determination that 7.5 pounds per hour is in fact achievable. The District had a solid basis for setting back with a level existing equipment had demonstrated it could achieve in more than 95 percent of source tests.

The remaining five percent test results could be attributed to anomalies in the test methods which can be controlled through the application of proper quality assurance and quality control procedures.

In the late comments submitted by other power plant developers saying vendors will only guarantee a higher rate demonstrates no error on The District's part. Both the NSR manual and decisions of this Board made clear that BACT is based not on a guarantee but on multiple sources of information, including manufacturer's data, engineering estimates, and the experience of other sources.

In fact, when Calpine was first willing to accept nine pounds per hour as a

BACT limit for similar facilities, vendors were only willing to guarantee an emissions rate that was as much as twice that amount but the data indicated to Calpine, just as they do here, that it could better.

Over time, as Calpine demonstrated compliance with this limit, vendors were willing to guarantee it as well. Ironically, CHABOT had previously argued in favor of an even lower limit. In comments it submitted to The District, CHABOT argued BACT should be based on a permit that imposes a six pound per hour limit instead. For CHABOT to now say that 7.5 pounds is too low, based on nothing more than late filed comments from other power plant developers would amount to a bait and switch that should not be allowed on appeal.

Even if 7.5 pounds per hour were lower than the level that would have otherwise been found to BACT PM, there is absolutely nothing wrong with imposing a lower limit at the results of modeling analysis. That is the
way permitting agencies have written permits since the beginning of the PSD program. Both the NSR manual and EPA guidance issued as recently as last month support this fact. The NSR manual expressly acknowledges that lower limits than would otherwise result from the top down method may be necessary to avoid air quality impacts. But "in all cases, regardless of the rationale for the permit requiring a more stringent emissions limit than would have otherwise been chosen as a result of the BACT selection process, the emissions limit in the final permit and corresponding control alternative represents BACT.

In light of this, CHABOT's suggestion of any wrongdoing on the part of The District in setting a limit based on the modeling analysis simply falls flat.

Moving on to CHABOT's arguments concerning environmental justice, CHABOT does little more than rehash its arguments about
defects in the PM 2.5 model. The District gave due consideration to environmental justice and found there would be no significant adverse impacts on any community, regardless of its makeup. Although CHABOT focuses solely on the 24 -hour PM 2.5 max, The District also conducted a health risk assessment and considered carcinogenic risk, as well as acute and chronic non-cancer risks and found them all to be less than significant.

Moreover, the facilities emissions of PM 2.5 were found to have a de minimis impact on air quality. At all times and locations where there were predicted exceedances of the 24 -hour standard, the facility's contribution was always less than significant. In Prairie State, the Board specifically held that where a facility's contribution model exceedances was less than the sill, its impact was appropriately considered de minimis or trivial. In claiming
that the project's impacts would not be de minimis, CHABOT essentially argues any model concentration above the sill in an environmental justice community is grounds for denying a PSD permit, even when the source has been demonstrated not to cause or contribute to a violation of the next.

First, aside from its bald assertion that Russell City would have significant impacts on the identified priority environmental justice community, CHABOT has presented no credible evidence that the project's emissions will have greater than a de minimis impact upon that community.

As we demonstrated in our
response, all of Russell City's significant impacts for either the 24 -hour or the annual max fall outside of the boundaries of the identified community.

Second, there is no basis in EPA guidance or Board precedent for CHABOT's suggestion that a model concentration in
excess of a sill in an environmental justice community would constitute grounds for denying a PSD permit. Rather, just as the petitioner did in Prairie State, CHABOT has failed to show "that there is a potential nontrivial impact that would have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on its environmental justice population.

Accordingly, its claims that The District failed to appropriately consider environmental justice must fail.

Moving on to CAP's argument concerning the daily limit, what CAP argued was that the daily limit allowed for two cold startups of an individual turbine per day. What we heard today was a bit different. That, as a matter of fact, is plainly false. A cold startup only occurs after 48 hours when a turbine has been shut down. And therefore, by definition, if one cold start would have occurred during the day, the next cold start would be either warm or hot, depending on
whether eight or more hours had elapsed since the shut down.

In fact, the daily emissions limit was set upon the assumption that there could be one cold start and one hot start per day per turbine, upon the assumption that if, during a cold start, which is a complex process, the turbine should trip, they would need to restart it again.

At bottom, CAP contends that to rely upon the six by sixteen operating scenario to eliminate either flex plant technology or an auxiliary boiler is BACT, The District should have imposed permit conditions that limited the number of cold and warm startups. However, CAP fails to identify any error in The District's explanation that it was not imposing limits on the number of startup events because power plants need flexibility to be dispatched to assure a reliable grid.

CAP also does not refute The

District's conclusion that the number of startups and shut downs are limited indirectly by the annual limits.

CAP's central contention that the
NSR manual requires use of the worst case emissions, rather than a reasonable scenario, such as assumed by The District is immaterial. As The District pointed out, one could assume that as an absolute theoretical worst case, the project would always only be operated in a startup mode. That is, it would only ever start up and then immediately shut back down. Such a dispatch scenario is wholly unrealistic, since a facility would not be dispatched just to start up and shut back down. Doing so would waste both PGNE's gas supply and rate payer's dollars. However, as pointed out by both the District and Russell City in their surreplies, even under this wholly unrealistic dispatch scenario, the resulting reductions achieved through use of an auxiliary boiler still would cost more than
required to meet BACT.
Further, to limit the number of cold and warm startup events as CAP's logic suggests, while still allowing the facility to be dispatched for intermediate to base load service, would essentially require imposition of a condition mandating operation for at least six days a week for at least 16 hours per day, even when the power is not required and the plant has not been dispatched by the grid operator. Such a permit condition would completely ignore the realities of how power plants are dispatched to meet instantaneous demand. And CAP can point to no guidance or precedent that would require of imposition of such a condition to satisfy the federal BACT requirement.

On CAP's argument on the delegation agreement, the delegation agreement in no way incorporates the Air District's SIP approved role, as CAP argues. Rather, it merely provides that The District shall issue

PSD permits under this partial delegation in accordance with the PSD requirements of Reg 2 Rule 2 and 52.21, which allows The District to issue PSD permits along with permits satisfying its own SIP approved rules in an integrated fashion and is no different then the terms of the delegation agreement at issue in West Suburban Recycling.

CAP's argument would essentially conflate issuance of a PSD permit under delegation from EPA with issuance of a PSD permit under a SIP approved permitting program, which is exactly what the Board said could not be done in West Suburban Recycling.

Further, CAP's contention that The District impose an unprecedented compliance margin is plainly false. The Board has upheld compliance margins of 25 percent or more in other cases. In Newmont, it upheld margins of 17 to 26 percent and in Kendall and in Kinnock II, it upheld margins of 25 percent. Compared to the maximum startup events observed a the

Palomar facility, the compliance margins for Russell City are 9 to 22 percent for cold starts and 21 percent for hot startup events.

In sum, the overwhelming weight of Board precedent supports the appropriateness of The District's methods in establishing BACT and CAP has failed to meet its heavy burden in challenging The District's technical determinations in this regard.

Mr. Sarvey has similarly failed to demonstrate any error in The District's establishment of startup and shutdown limits. His arguments suffer from the same error as CAP in failing to recognize the Distinction between observed emissions rates and enforceable limits. Mr. Sarvey should be barred from raising the Delta Energy Center's 300 pound per hour NOx limit during cold startup events as he attempted in reply. No one ever, during the course of these proceedings raised this limit as an appropriate basis for establishing BACT. Had
anyone raised this limit, The District could have explained why, as indicated by an analysis Russell City submitted very early on in these proceedings and which is part of the administrative record. The Delta was not an appropriate BACT limit, since it came at a considerable cost in terms of higher CO emissions. However, the issue was never raised and certainly cannot be raised now by way of reply.

JUDGE REICH: Can I ask the same question I asked of Mr. Crockett? Are you aware of any other facility that has a lower limit than the 480?

MR. POLONCARZ: I believe the Caithness facility has a lower limit for when it is using the auxiliary boiler but a higher limit for when it is not. But most notably, the Caithness permit does not require them to use the auxiliary boiler during startup. It merely provides that if they should use it at their option, depending on whether they are
operating the auxiliary boiler, as these are primarily operated for freeze protection, that if they should use it, the limit is lower. But if they decide not to use it because if it were backed, they would have had to use it. It is as simple as that. So I am not aware of any other permit like that is lower.

JUDGE REICH: Okay, thank you. MR. POLONCARZ: Regarding Mr. Sarvey's cooling tower BACT analysis, The District found that the facility was specifically designed from the very beginning to make use of recycled water from the City of Hayward's adjacent wastewater treatment plant. The District noted that the initial 2002 energy commission decision explicitly identified the ability to use recycled water is one of the primary objectives of the project. Accordingly, The District concluded that use of a wet cooling system taking advantage of the City's Waste Water "is thus clearly an integral design element of the
project that had clear environmental benefits." Mr. Sarvey's bare assertion that with dry cooling, "the source would still be a combined cycle natural gas electricalgenerating facility amounts to an overly broad characterization of the source that would run contrary to Board precedent.

In this case, The District did exactly as required by Board precedent. It took a hard look at the facility's basic design and concluded that a wet cooling system was an inherent design element of the project.

In conclusion, we have heard from petitioners on many different issues today but none of these issues warrants review of any permit condition or remanded the permit to The District. In all instances, petitioners have failed to meet their burden in challenging The District's technical determinations and have failed to demonstrate clear error in The District's decision.

The PSD permit issued to Russell

City Energy Company is procedurally correct and technically sound and well reasoned. Accordingly, Russell City Energy Company respectfully requests that the Board dismiss all of petitioner's claims as expeditiously as possible.

JUDGE REICH: Okay, thank you. Okay, we had three petitioners who reserved two minutes each. So we will go back to them for rebuttal, the first one being CHABOT Las Positas Community College District. Ms. Hargleroad.

MS. HARGLEROAD: Thank you, Your Honor. To put the BAAQMD's argument in perspective that somehow CHABOT should have been objecting, we refer the Board to pages 52 to 53 of the additional statement of basis. We also refer the Board to our September 16, 2009 letter to BAAQMD. Some pages relevant are pages eight to nine, citing and referring to Volume 72 of the Federal Register. And we can also provide other references, if the

Board wishes.
We also object to Mr. Crockett's
and Mr. Poloncarz's misconstruction of our argument on the nine pounds emission rate. This goes to The District's failure to properly model the worst case scenario, which is distinguishable from the requirements of BACT. And we refer the Board to In Re Northern Michigan, the Board's recent case decided February 2010 at Volume 14.

Also we disagree or we object to The District's prejudicial failure to address the Caithness records upon which they now are heavily relying on the cost effectiveness. We did not agree to Calpine's, the Applicant's estimated cost for the auxiliary boiler. We simply took that number and stated if you apply the Caithness records, which the District had or had access to, that it is about six times less or reduced than what The District was estimating. And in fact, given Mr. Crockett's discussion here at oral
argument, we would like to make an offer of proof that the cost could be less, as low as less than $\$ 2,000$ per ton or we remain ready and willing to make that offer upon remand.

Also --
JUDGE REICH: Okay, I think we
have heard that argument, Ms. Hargleroad.
Thank you. We are going to turn to Mr. Sarvey.

MS. HARGLEROAD: Thank you.
MR. SARVEY: I just wanted to
address a question that was asked to me earlier that I didn't get an opportunity to address. And one was that the OpFlex technology did not provide a manufacturer's guarantee. And as the Russell City attorney so eloquently explained, a manufacturer's guarantee is not necessary in the BACT determination.

So the other issue was ammonia, or excuse me, the early ammonia ejection at the Palomar facility using the OpFlex technology.

That is going to be a similar process with RCEC and Palomar. They are both going to use some form of ammonia injection to control NOx. So the facilities are very similar in that respect.

One thing that distinguishes the Delta project CO emissions is the fact that the Delta project does not have a CO catalyst. And in fact, the Russell City has a CO catalyst and so do the other projects that The District compared Russell City to. So the CO catalyst is an important factor.

Earlier, it was mentioned that Delta, they could have looked to other permit limits besides Delta and they could have looked at other emission rates, besides what Delta had and the Metcalf project had a 335 pound maximum emissions rate, which was 30 percent compliance margin over the 480 that The District ultimately set. The Palomar facility had a 375 pound emission rate and that was 22 percent more or 22 percent less
than the emission rate of 480 pounds that the District ultimately adopted. And that is all I have. Thank you.

JUDGE REICH: Okay. Petitioner CARE.

MR. BOYD: CARE gives its two minutes to Helen Kang.

MS. KANG: If the Board would allow this --

JUDGE REICH: Excuse me. No, that is not permissible. Either one of the people who already spoke should speak on rebuttal or waive your two minutes. I don't want a fourth party participating at this stage.

MS. KANG: Your Honor, this is
Citizens Against Pollution. CARE is ceding its time to Citizens Against Pollution, rather than speaking on its own behalf.

JUDGE REICH: No, we are not doing
that. Each petitioner is a separate entity.
Unless I hear something otherwise, I am assuming CARE has no rebuttal.

MR. SIMPSON:We have rebuttal, sir. JUDGE REICH: All right then you have got your two minutes. Go ahead.

MR. SIMPSON: Thank you. This is Rob Simpson speaking.

The Court's effort to impose logic on the potential minimum and maximum availability of this facility doesn't examine the regulatory process environment here that allows a developer to profit from captive rate fares regardless of its energy production and environmental impact.

The developer makes more on a rate through their PPA the less they operate. So these frequent startups and shut downs are a benefit to this developer and this six hundred million dollar price tag is only supported by that regulatory environment.

The very basis of all these modeling scenarios should be based on monitoring that never occurred in the City of Hayward. From where I live, I can see

Oakland, Hayward, Fremont, and I can see the diminished air quality traveling from Oakland to Hayward. If the Oakland station was used, which wasn't even built seven, ten years ago when the Fremont Station was proposed for monitoring for this facility, then there would be an entirely different set of modeling for this facility and that is what needs to happen, is the closer more representative open station should be utilized before all this conversation of monitoring. Thank you. JUDGE REICH: Thank you, Mr. Simpson.

That concludes argument this afternoon. I would like to thank all the participants for participating and for their level of information they provided to the Board. I am sure it is going to be helpful to the Board in its deliberations and this matter stands adjourned.
(Whereupon, at 3:06 p.m., the foregoing hearing was adjourned.)

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