# In The Matter Of: <br> Hays, Kansas \& Russell, KS v 

Edwards County, Kansas \& Kansas Water Transfer Act

> Formal Hearing
> Vol. 2
> July 20, 2023

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A This was a draft environmental report that Burns \& McDonnell did for the Corps of Engineers when the Corps was in the beginning stages of a study to determine if there was possible reallocation of water in Wilson Reservoir for municipal usage. That study was subsequently never completed.
Q That study what?
A It was never completed.
Q But at that time -- and the date is August 2010?
A Yes. At that time, the Corps was in the process of determining if there could be a reallocation completed.
Q But the rate -- the allocation was never completed, is that your testimony?
A It was not, the study was never funded formally.
Q Okay. Let's take a look at 1-127. And I guess we ought to look at the first page to get -- to identify the document first. What is this document, Mr. Dougherty?
A This is a Water Supply Alternative Review for the City of Hays and Russell performed by Bartlett \& West in, I believe, 2003.
Q And generally what -- what was the conclusion?
There is a graph in the charts -- or there's a

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graph in the document that shows -- if you could zoom in, Jami.
Q Let's zoom in to the Bates page so I can put it on the record.
A So I believe those lines are -- could you zoom in, Jami, please. I believe those lines are safe yield and water rights. The total water rights are on the top dotted line, the safe yield is the bottom dotted line, and then there are growth projections moving forward that show Hays' growth exceeding the safe yield, in this case around 2010 in the conservative estimate and then 2022 it looks like in the other estimate, and then water rights in subsequent years.
Q All right. It's Bates page 5840.
MR. TRASTER: What do we have next, Jami?

MS. BUCK: 1-144.

## BY MR. TRASTER:

Q And can you go to the first page, what is this document, Mr. Dougherty?
A This was a study from Burns \& Mac where we had looked at, or Burns \& McDonnell for the record, where we had looked at the possibility of taking
water out of Kanopolis Reservoir via the Post Rock Rural Water District, and that would be with the possibility of purchasing Post Rock Rural Water District.
Q And when -- what time frame?
A This was 2006.
Q Let's skip down to the second page of that document. In the last line -- actually, it's the third page and last line in that section, can you read that?
A It says, based on these needs, Hays has a projected water supply deficit beginning in the year 2020. Modifications to the Smoky Hill River wellfield improvement plan may result in a water supply deficit even sooner.

MR. TRASTER: What's the next document?

MS. BUCK: 135.
MR. TRASTER: 135. Why don't you
pull that up then. That's not the document
I have.
BY MR. TRASTER:
Q The point is that you had several studies that are -- that have shown that you have a need?
A Correct.

Q But you didn't need the studies to know you had a need?
A No, and it was -- it was why I was reluctant to -- first of all, I hadn't reviewed the record so I couldn't recall a specific study during my deposition, but it was why I was even reluctant to indicate that we had a study that stated we needed additional water because the need was implied, and I didn't want to get impeached if I stated that we had a study that says the words Hays needs more water if that study didn't say that.
Q When you say it's implied, it was apparent, I mean, it was not --
A When I say it's implied, we wouldn't have been looking at Kanopolis or Cedar Bluff or Wilson or any other water source if we didn't need additional water supply.
Q What factors led the governing bodies of Hays and Russell to vote to develop the R9 Ranch?
A There was a series of events that started in 2010. So we had -- we've talked earlier about the expansion of the Smoky Hill wellfield, the project that took place in 2009 , and - - and going back almost 20 years before that, there

| 1 | was a lot of faith placed in the benefit that |
| ---: | :--- |
| 2 | enlarging the Smoky Hill wellfield would |
| 3 | provide. |
| 4 | And 2009 that project was completed, and |
| 5 | 2011, '12, and '13, the drought, as we discussed |
| 6 | yesterday, really demonstrated to us that we |
| 7 | were overoptimistic in how much benefit that |
| 8 | wellfield would provide during times of drought. |
| 9 | Again, it performed better than it did in the |
| 10 | '90s, but it wasn't a matter of adding several |
| 11 | years of supply on to our -- our projections, it |
| 12 | was just a matter of a much shorter period. |
| 13 | $\quad$ When that drought happened, there was a |
| 14 | couple things, but let me go back to 2008. So |
| 15 | in 2008, we were still considering Kanopolis |
| 16 | Reservoir. Essentially we had three main |
| 17 | sources we were considering. When I say we, |
| 18 | I'm -- I'm including Russell in this because we |
| 19 | have been joined in our search for water for |
| 20 | many years. |
| 21 | Qo let me stop you there for a minute 'cause I |
| 22 | don't think we've really discussed that, you |
| 23 | know, in any detail. |
| 24 | Okay. |
| 25 | Q And I don't want -- there was a public wholesale |

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1 water supply district formed by Hays and
    Russell, correct?
A There was, Public Wholesale Water Supply
    District Number }15\mathrm{ was formed in the mid '90s, I
    believe.
Q And it had representatives from both Hays and
    Russell?
    A That's correct.
Q And they took a leading role in the search for
    water?
    A Yes. So rather than operate independently,
        there was a period of, I'm going to say ten
        years that the Cities appointed representatives
        to the public wholesale water supply district,
        the water supply district had a director and
        they had some assets. And then a lot of the
        studies and investigations were led by the water
        district, and then the water district would
        update the governing body members of both
        cities. And -- and that was in place -- I think
        technically the water district is still in
        effect, it just -- there really hasn't been any
        meetings or board members appointed for a long
        time.
25 Q Sorry to take you off track there but --
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was a lot of faith placed in the benefit that provide.

And 2009 that project was completed, and 2011, '12, and ' 13 , the drought, as we discussed yesterday, really demonstrated to us that we and welfield would provide during times of drought. Again, it performed better than it did in the os, but wasn't a matter of adding several years of supply on to our -- our projections, it as just a matter of a much shorter period. couple things, but let me go back to 2008. So in 2008, we were still considering Kanopolis Reservoir. Essentially we had three main sources we were considering. When I say we, I'm -- I'm including Russell in this because we many years.
So let me stop you there for a minute 'cause I don't think we've really discussed that, you know, in any detail.

And I don't want -- there was a public wholesale

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| 5 | District Number 15 was formed in the mid '90s, I |
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| 7 | And it had representatives from both Hays and |
| 8 | Russell? |
| 9 | Q |
| 10 | And they took a leading role in the search for |
| 11 | water? |
| 12 | Yes. So rather than operate independently, |
| 13 | there was a period of, I'm going to say ten |
| 14 | years that the Cities appointed representatives |
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| 16 | they had some assets. And then a lot of the |
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| 20 | cities. And -- and that was in place -- I think |
| 21 | technically the water district is still in |
| 22 | effect, it just -- there really hasn't been any |
| 23 | meetings or board members appointed for a long |
| 24 | time. |
| 25 | Sorry to take you off track there but -- |

1 A Okay.
Q -- I don't think we've covered that.
A So in -- in 2008 we had three main options on the table, Kanopolis, the R9 Ranch, and Wilson Lake. And we did a series of investigations in the mid '90s up until -- or mid 2000s up until 2008 that looked at the possibility of purchasing water in Kanopolis. We looked at Kanopolis on its own, building an intake, building the infrastructure; we looked at Kanopolis with buying Post Rock Rural Water District and using their right-of-way and infrastructure. Kanopolis dropped off the table when the yield estimate was halved by the -- by the -- by the Corps of Engineers.
Q What's that mean?
A All reservoirs have a yield, how many million gallons a day or acre-feet can be yielded by the reservoir. And these numbers may not be correct, but I think the yield estimate was halved, it went from $131 / 2$ million -- 13 million gallons per day to $61 / 2$ million gallons per day. And I know at the time that happened in 2008 there were more water right applications on file than water rights available, and there

So the Corps of Engineers instituted a reallocation study that began in 2009. In 2010, the study was continuing but it -- it never really got to a defined scope, the Corps was still trying to figure out what they needed to study. The Burns \& Mac report was part of that analysis of trying to determine what they needed to study.

And then in 2011, the Corps pulled the plug on the reallocation study. I actually went to Washington, D.C. and lobbied the Corps of Engineers to continue the study and was flat out told our efforts are on flood control right now, not -- not water supply.
Q So you were in Washington, D.C. at a meeting room someplace?
A I was in a conference room with several members of the Corps of Engineers headquarters advocating for them to put funds available for the study and was turned down.

So then the drought of '11, '12, and '13 hit and we quickly realized the vulnerability of the Smoky Hill wellfield. And when we came out of that in 2014, that left the R9 Ranch as the one viable option that was there and we owned

A Yes, and it was approved by the Russell City Council as well as the Hays City Commission.
Q I would direct your -- pull up 760, Jami, please, Exhibit 760.

Can you identify this document, please.
A This is the cover page of a document called The Journey, and I think this was created around 2018. This was created by the Hays Daily News staff in -- in Hays, and the reason for this is we had filed the change applications, we had gone far enough through the change application process, we had an idea of what we thought the Master Order was going to look like, the Master Order was to be coming out shortly, and Hays and Russell realized that this has been a long journey looking for an additional water source.

The actual process to develop the R9 was a long journey, and we needed a way to concisely inform our residents, as well as anybody else who wanted to know why Hays and Russell are unique and -- and what we have gone through to look for water, we could put something together in a fairly concise, glossy type document.

So we had several thousand of these printed up, they ran in two different Sunday editions of

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the water rights. And so the governing bodies of Hays and Russell in 2014 signed a joint interlocal agreement and then directed me to develop the R9 Ranch, and we have been at it ever since.
Q When you say they directed you, that was in conjunction, then, with the City of Russell, wasn't it?
A Right, there are a couple different documents that were adopted, one was the resolution by our governing body, the Hays City Commission. That was a resolution identifying the $R 9$, and $I$ believe you showed that as an exhibit yesterday, and -- and directing me to begin the process to develop it as a municipal water source. The other was a joint interlocal agreement that they adopted jointly with the City of Russell that spells out the legal arrangement between the two cities during the regulatory development and then once the water project is actually developed.
Q Is that an interlocal cooperation agreement?
Yes.
Q And it was approved by the -- by the attorney general's office?
the Hays Daily News, I know they ran in more than -- more than one Sunday edition of the Russell Record, and -- and I know they were distributed to lots of different entities around northwest Kansas, and we still -- we still hand them out once in a while.
Q So can you describe, can you tell us a little more about it, I mean, what's in this journey that's so important?
A So within The Journey, it -- it sort of spells out why -- it talks about Hays and Russell's existing sources, it -- it talks about why those sources are more susceptible to drought. We -we talk about what's going on with the regulatory process because change application processes are something that most people aren't familiar with and the water transfer process had never been undertaken. We -- we talk about why the $R 9$ is -- is our most long-term, sustainable, viable asset, and then we discuss all of the alternatives that we had looked at in the past.

And then we have sort of a little -- a
little narrative with each, and I'm not sure if we listed everything we looked at but we had a pretty decent list of what we looked at with a

geographic footprint of the collection system to try to collect these water rights and draw water would just be cost prohibitive. And, again, Hays would be forced to condemn in order to get access to the water rights. So that was explored, but it just, it never came to fruition.

Q Scrolling down, there's -- are the KU farm water rights there part of that?
A Yeah, they're part of that, they were on the Smoky Hill alluvium upstream.
Q And then the -- okay.
A So then there's a recommendation to -- to purchase rights below Cedar Bluff Reservoir and retire the rights, theoretically then we could get more flow in our wellfield; we actually did explore that possibility, the benefit is extremely small in that.
Q And some of those water rights are surface water rights, aren't they, some of the water rights in along the -- along the Smoky?
A I -- I believe they are. Those are a very low benefit because there's typically not enough flow in the -- in the Smoky to provide a surface water right with adequate water. And then
the -- there's a recommendation to develop a pipeline between Schoenchen and Pfeifer wellfield. And we discussed yesterday the release of water from Cedar Bluff and how if the alluvium is dried out it takes a lot of water to saturate the alluvium to get to Hays' wellfield, and if we have a depression in our wellfield a lot of that water will stop, so the -- the theory behind this is if there was an interconnect between the two wellfields, water could make it to our wellfield and then be transported to Russell via pipeline versus stream channel which could possibly save some water.
Q Was that done?
A It was not.
Q That would have been a Russell project if it happened, I assume?
A It -- it would have been. There would have had to have been, you know, an agreement, but I'm not sure it was viable given the cost and the uncertainty if there's going to be water available in Cedar Bluff when it is necessary to use, so I'm not sure it would be worth the investment.

Lake here in a little bit. So that 2575 is a series of alternatives that were considered and -- and many of them done, the ones that were feasible you did?
A Absolutely, absolutely.
Q Tell us about, was there a plan to do some big -- the water banking in Big Creek, and if so what is water banking?
A There was a discussion of Big Creek water banking on more than one occasion from the, possibly even the '80s, into the '90s, and then ending in 2000. Water banking is the concept of -- in Big Creek is the concept of piping some effluent upstream and discharging that effluent back into Big Creek, letting the water go back through the wellfield and then hopefully helping recharge the aquifer.

And so that was investigated several different times by a couple different engineering firms over the years, and I -- I don't remember the exact year, but it was -- it was mid 2000s when that was determined that that's probably not going to be a viable option for us.
25 Q So as I understand it, there's no new water,


A It says, The Kansas Water Office supports the proposal to create a Governor's Task Force on Cedar Bluff Reservoir. However, we strongly feel that the use of water in the reservoir for municipal water supply is not an appropriate topic for the task force to consider. The primary reason is that the reservoir will not provide a sustainable amount of water for municipal use by Hays and Russell and thus there is really no water available for such a discussion.
Q Jami, can you go down to page -- Bates page 7819?

And this graph and then the description, what does the description below indicate, Mr. Dougherty?
A This is a graph that shows the reservoir inflow from the Smoky Hill River upstream, and could you zoom in a little bit on the text, please, Jami. It says, Analysis of the hydrology of the lake shows that Cedar Bluff Reservoir cannot keep up with evaporation from the surface of the lake during extended periods of time.
Q So is that something that the City relied on in deciding not to go to Cedar Bluff?

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A Yes.
Q Let's go to Exhibit 1-164. Can you identify this document, please.
A This is a memo from Burns \& McDonnell to the public works director at the time, Brenda Herrman, regarding the evaluation of the water rights for Cedar Bluff Cattle Feeders.
Q And it's dated?
A It's dated June of 2008.
Q And what -- Cedar Bluff, where is Cedar Bluff Cattle Feeders located?
A Cedar Bluff Cattle Feeders is a small feedlot with some water right -- some irrigation and stock watering water rights immediately below Cedar Bluff Reservoir. And I believe it was late 2007 , possibly early 2008 we were -- the City was contacted by a Realtor indicating that the property may be for sale. So we contacted the State of Kansas to determine if there was any interest in pursuing the possibility of purchasing the property, and this goes back to Mr. Duffy's memo about securing water rights in the alluvium.

So there was an investigation in early 2008 that included representatives from the Kansas
purchase there has to be a -- there's an appraisal system that takes place, and I believe it's three appraisals, it may just be two; but the State had done an appraisal on the property and determined it was worth a million dollars and the owners wanted $\$ 6$ million for it. So we had to politely decline the offer, and it was never brought up again.
Q So you mentioned Kanopolis before, I think you covered that, didn't you, you covered what needed to be said about Kanopolis?
A Yeah, I think I did.
Q So the Kickapoo Indians had an option on the table at one point?
A The Kickapoo Nation had a consideration on the table, and I cannot recall the exact year, late '90s, early 2000s; actually it's probably on the chart. It would be ' 98 is when we have it on the chart, '98, '99, and it was called the Pikitanoi concept.

And so the Kickapoo Nation had access to federal funds, and there was a high-level feasibility that was conducted about the possibility of taking Missouri River water to supply the Kickapoo Nation with water. But

|  | understanding the cost of such a project, the Kickapoo Nation rightly determined that it might |  | Judy Sargent and Hannes Zacharias, who are those people? |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 3 | be better off to try to find more users for the |  | Judy Sargent was the Russell city manager at the |
| 4 | water, and they reached as far as Hays |  | time, and Hannes Zacharias was the Hays cit |
| 5 | determine if there was interest in getting | 5 | manager at the ti |
| 6 | system big enough to justify a | 6 Q | And there are several names up there that I |
| 7 | e -- the State of Kansas was actually | 7 | recognize, but what I -- I noticed |
| 8 | involved in this, and I believe probably because | 8 | present, Mr. John Bird? |
| 9 | it had the potential of significant federal |  | Yes, and John Bird was the city attorney at the |
| 10 | dollars that could be associated with such | 10 | tim |
|  | project, but the project never got beyond the |  | rn Squier's name is |
| 12 | conceptual stage. But we had expressed an | 12 | on there, who was he? |
| 13 | interest in being a part of it if it ever -- if |  | Lavern Squier was a former economic development |
| 14 | it ever moved forward. | 14 | person, and then he was also the staff person |
| 15 Q | So the Kickapoo Indian Reservation, is it close | 15 | for the wholesale water supply district when |
| 16 | to Hays? | 16 | they actually had a staff and some assets. |
| 17 A | It is not, it is in northeast Kansas. | 17 Q | He was -- he was very involved in this process |
| 18 Q | North of Topeka? | 18 | of looking for water at that time, was he not? |
| 19 A | Yes. |  | Yes, yes, he was as a -- the water district was |
| 20 Q | So then you'd of had to build a pretty long | 20 | sort of leading the efforts for both cities. |
|  | pipeline? |  | ad he was leading the water district? |
| 22 A | Correct. | 22 | nd he was leading the water district, yes. |
| 23 Q | rect your attention to Exhibit 545, | 23 Q | let's scroll down, this is Exhibit 535 and |
|  | you identify | 24 | let's scroll down to the next page, I think, and |
| 25 A | These are the minutes of the Hays City | 25 | let's get the page number here. There we go. |
|  | Page 263 |  | Page 265 |
| 1 | Commission meeting from December of 2000. |  | So can you expand that, Jami, so we can see it? |
| 2 Q | Well, scroll down, Jami, maybe I've given you | 2 | Have you reviewed this document, it's the |
|  | the wrong one. I have. Strike that. |  | page, Bates page 19354, 19354 ? |
| 4 | So why would you look for or be involved in | 4 A | Yes, I have reviewed this document. |
|  | a project that would have to bring water from | 5 Q | Without -- I mean, you can read it or summarize |
| 6 | northeast Kansas all the way to Hays? | 6 | it, either way, but the content? |
| 7 A | Because Hays needed an additional source of | 7 A | The -- the section on the page is discussing the |
| 8 | water, and knowing that, we were contacted by |  | review of the Kickapoo Tribe proposal and |
| 9 | the group that was looking to put a project |  | consider an appropriate course of action. And |
|  | together to see if we could possibly be part of | 10 | then in the second paragraph, it says, Mr. Bird |
| 11 | a larger -- larger statewide water supply |  | urged the board to carefully consider the |
| 12 | project. | 12 | Pikitanoi Rural Water Project and all proposals |
| 13 Q | You wer | 13 | that come forth as opportunities until |
| 14 | could -- that might be viable | 14 | thoroughly examined and deemed unacceptable. He |
| 15 A | In in the late '90s, there w | 15 | noted that such considerations of all projects |
| $16$ | options still on the table at the time and a lot | 16 | important in a water transfer hearing. He |
| 17 | of things being considered. | 17 | also noted that considering opportunities does |
| 18 Q | There's -- this is the document I thought I was | 18 | not mean that the board's resolve is changing |
| 19 | asking for but I -- can you identify this | 19 | direction but that the board is considering all |
| 20 | document? | 20 | options. |
| 21 A | elieve this is the minutes of the Public | 21 Q | So let's scroll down to the next page at the |
| 22 | Wholesale Water Supply District Number 15 | 22 | top. And can you either read or summarize what |
| 23 | meeting from February 25th of 1999. | 23 | happened next? |
| 24 Q | So the public wholesale water supply di | 24 A | Mr. Hammerschmidt noted that the current |
|  | had members and -- ex officio members, including | 25 | proposal has only limited exposure to the board |

and that the proposal is to study water needs in Kansas. The board further discussed the proposal. Mr. Hammerschmidt made a motion that Public Wholesale Water Supply District Number 15 participate in the special study as proposed by the Kickapoo Tribe and the Northeast Kansas Rural Water Districts.

Q And did the City of Hays or the public wholesale
water supply district and/or Russell actually participate in the study?
A Yes.
Q Or in the discussion?
A Yes.
Q There's a similar source that's an equally
distant source in southwest Kansas that was also considered even though like this one it was a long ways away, the -- there was water rights west of Garden City were proposed, can you tell us a little bit about that?
A The -- in reviewing the record, I found that the City had received contact in the $\mathbf{~} 90$ s, I forget the exact year, it's in our chart, but it would be the South Side Ditch Association, received a letter from a Realtor representing water right owners of the South Side Ditch Association,
there were several thousand acre-feet that could possibly be on the table, and I believe they were surface water rights. And I could find no further correspondence on that, but it was noteworthy enough that they kept it in the file.
Q You've already told us that Post Rock was -that Kanopolis was off the table and -- but in the course of that, there was also a discussion about actually buying, I think, buying the Post Rock Rural Water District. Is that a fair characterization?
A Correct.
Q Did you have -- what happened with that?
A So Kanopolis was evaluated two ways, one was building an intake and building a collection system, a water collection system to -- to Hays and Russell, but Post Rock Rural Water District has an intake, they have water rights, so the framework is in place to be expanded. They also have easements to almost 15 miles west of Hays -- I'm sorry, east of Hays, and -- and for a project that large, land acquisition, easement acquisition is a very strong component of that.
Post Rock Rural Water District was having some financial difficulties in the early 2000 s ,

1 the '70s up until 2011. And to characterize the Saline River, north of Hays the water quality is not too bad, north of Russell it is very salty. There are some water rights along the Saline River, but they are -- they are few and far between and they are developed. There are no new water rights being developed in that area.

So what -- what all these investigations ran into was the idea of acquiring enough water rights to make the investment necessary to create a wellfield that's going to be viable enough to satisfy the investment. I mean, you would have to acquire virtually all of the water rights, which means if there's not a willing buyer and a willing seller, then condemnation is going to be required.

And then those water rights are subject to droughts because the Saline River does become very drought susceptible, especially the further west you get. There are minimum daily streamflow requirements that are imposed on those water rights, so even if you were to acquire those water rights, if it was a time of drought, those water rights could be shut off due to downstream minimum daily streamflow

|  | requirements. And so each time the Cities |  | system that would be required. And then |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 | looked at Smoky -- at the Saline River they | 2 | Big Creek alluvial starts drying up, they would |
| 3 | would quickly -- quickly walk away. | 3 | be subject to the same pressures as our existing |
| 4 Q | A new water right in that area would be subject | 4 | wel |
| 5 | to minimum desirable streamflow requirements? | 5 Q | Have there been any -- has there b |
| 6 A | That's correct. | 6 | investigation of using -- building pipelines or |
| 7 Q | Not -- not all existing water rights would b |  | going into the Ogallala west of Hays, in Graham, |
| 8 | subject to it; is that correct? | 8 | Trego Counties, other areas than that? |
| 9 A | Not all existing water rights but some existing | 9 A | There were several investigations that took |
| 10 | water right | 10 | he '90s. We -- we used a gentleman |
| 11 Q | kay. So tell | 11 | Vincent that had a company called |
| 12 | Round Mound Reser | 12 | oundwater Associates to do a lot of exploring |
| 13 A | Round Mound Reservoir was a conceptual reservoir | 13 | for potential water. It was noted that there |
| 14 | on Big Creek west of Ellis that was part of this | 14 | were a couple smaller water rights for sale in |
| 15 | Pick-Sloan program, which was a large federal | 15 | Graham County that appeared to be decent wate |
| 16 | program in the '60s to build impoundm | 16 | they were part of the Ogallala aquifer, but |
| 17 | reservoirs in western part of the United States. | 17 | they were small, and it was determined that the |
| 18 | this was a Bureau of Reclamation's | 18 | ability to gather enough water rights to make a |
| 19 | study. There was a feasibility report produce | 19 | viable project was going to require condemnatio |
| 20 | in 1971 that discussed the possibility of | 20 | 'cause there was no history of sale. |
| 21 | building Round Mound Reservoir for two | 21 | The same thing happened in Trego County. |
| 22 | for water supply and for flood control. And it | 22 | Trego County went a step further, and there wa |
| 23 | was a rather extensive report, an | 23 | actually some test wells drug -- dug in Trego |
| 24 | specifically mentions that Hays could benefit | 24 | County, and it was determined that in order to |
| 25 | from municipal water | 25 | gather enough water, it was going |
|  | Page 271 |  | Page 273 |
| 1 | reservoir. | 1 | condemnation to -- to do so. |
| 2 | The study never got past the feasibility | 2 | There was a discussion with Trego County |
| 3 | stage. There was no formal study after that. | 3 | Rural Water District, which right now Trego |
| 4 | So we have a study from the Bureau -- or from | 4 | County Rural Water District has infrastructure |
| 5 | the Bureau of Reclamation stating that it could | 5 | that surrounds two sides of Hays, and they |
| 6 | happen and this is what it could look like and | 6 | hadn't expanded that far to the east yet, so |
| 7 | where it could go and this is the benefit it | 7 | there was discussion in the early 2000s, I |
| 8 | could provide, but it never received any formal | 8 | believe, with Trego County Rural Water District |
| 9 | federal funding after that. | 9 | about them obtaining more supply, working on a |
| 10 Q | And for the record, that stud | 10 | joint project with Hays to provide -- to help |
| 11 | Have there been any discussions -- you've | 11 | build their infrastructure to Hays and then help |
| 12 | mentioned the Big Creek water banking but just | 12 | supply us with water. And that was quickly met |
| 13 | alluvial -- additional quantity from the Big | 13 | with some local opposition in Trego County and |
| 14 | Creek alluvium? | 14 | killed. |
| 15 A | Yes, there are -- the water rights in the Big | 15 | And I do want to add one thing about the |
| 16 | Creek alluvium are very scattered. There are | 16 | gallala investigations. The Ogallala is a |
| 17 | some privately held water rights in Big Creek. | 17 | nonrenewable resource, and so anything we would |
| 18 | They're small of quantity and they are very | 18 | have purchased out there, we would have been |
| 19 | scattered and there is really no history of them | 19 | mining groundwater. |
| 20 | coming for sale. | 20 Q | There are a number of other places that you |
| 21 | And so they kind of suffer from the s | 21 | looked, and I don't know whether to lump them |
| 22 | issue as the Smoky Hill water rights, we would | 22 | together or treat them separately, so -- because |
| 23 | be forced to condemn, it would be extremely cost | 23 | they may have some characteristics that are |
| 24 | prohibitive to build the infrastructure to | 24 | similar and they may have some distinctions so |
| 25 | gather the water due to the large collection | 25 | I'm -- you looked in Walnut Creek, Pawnee River, |

the Middle Ark River around Great Bend, are
those related in some way, or were they -- I
mean, can you cover them together, or do they
need to be separate?
A I can cover them in -- in two tranches. So
Pawnee River, Walnut Creek first, there are
irrigation rights south of Hays in the -- in the
Pawnee River, Walnut Creek area, there is an
IGUCA in the Walnut Creek area, and so those
water rights are limited by an IGUCA. We've
done a couple of investigations there, and to
summarize the investigation, there are water
rights there, there are no water rights for
sale, there is not a history of water rights for
sale, and there is definitely not a history of
enough water rights being for sale that would
justify a economically feasible project. And
so, again, we would be forced to condemn. And
the same could be said for the Pawnee River
area.
In the '90s, there was also some
exploration by Mr. Vincent and others about --
and they would refer to them either the -- the
Middle Ark subbasin or the Big Bend area, and it
was all the Arkansas River area from Great Bend
down towards the R9 Ranch. And the conclusion along that area was there are water rights available, there is good water down there, there is not a history of sales, and -- and anything that does come for sale could be very spotty. And so it kind of suffered from the same -- same fault as a lot of our others.

But I would say that there was one property that did come for sale on the open market with a lot of water rights in a contiguous area, and that was the $\mathbf{R 9} 9$ Ranch, and the City bought it in 1995 and sold Russell an 18 percent stake.

MR. TRASTER: I don't have a lot more, but I need a small -- a short break.

PRESIDING OFFICER: All right. Why
don't we take a break until 10:45.
MR. TRASTER: Thank you.
PRESIDING OFFICER: So we'll take a
short recess, we'll resume at 10:45.
(Thereupon, a recess was taken;
whereupon, the following was had.)
PRESIDING OFFICER: We should be all set now. I've got the camera mic un-muted, so I will go ahead and go back on the record and pick back up.

MR. TRASTER: Thank you, Your Honor, appreciate your indulging me. As I said, I don't think I have much more but ...

## BY MR. TRASTER:

Q So, Mr. Dougherty, you indicated -- you made several comments about Wilson Reservoir as an option that was explored, that the Cities have explored. And I would note that your time line in -- you know, on Exhibit 1343 is -- has a -you told us that the Wilson Reservoir was the last option considered, but there are a number of -- it's been looked at a number of times over the years, and we've actually seen a couple of studies, some of the earlier studies. Tell us about -- I will show you on the screen here Exhibit 1341, can you identify that document?
A Yes, this is an application for 8,000 acre-feet of water rights in Wilson Reservoir by the Cities of Hays and Russell.
Q And the date on that is what, if you know? And I think the date would be at the bottom.
There's a stamp at the bottom of the page.
A The date is 1997.
Q Actually, there's a date to the -- to the left of that that's earlier.

| 1 |  |  | all, you have to purchase enough storage to |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 |  | 2 | the water rights. And so the Cities would |
| 3 | s to the Corps of Engineers acknowledging | 3 | ad to purchase a layer in the lake |
| 4 | that there could be a feasibility study | 4 | outright, and then we would have the ability |
| 5 | conducted and Wilson could be a municipal water | 5 | theoretically to produce the water rights if the |
| 6 | pply if water was reallocated for municip | 6 | lable in that la |
| 7 | use. |  | So you had an application for 8,000 acre-feet, |
| 8 | 110 | 8 | so all you'd need is a storage of 8,000 |
| 9 | actually funded, the beginning of it. The Corps | 9 | acre-feet, right? |
| 10 | spent two years working on that. There was a -- |  | I think you need storage in excess of that |
| 11 | there was no final work product that I'm aware |  | because you have to be able to yield the |
| 12 | of of the study, but I know Burns \& Mac | 12 | 000 acre-feet. Complicating the issue -- |
| 13 | submitted a environmental assessment as part of | 13 | d -- and I want to reiterate what ended Wilso |
| 14 | that, and that was one of the exhibits we looked |  | as a possibility is there is no water available |
| 15 | at earlier. | 15 | for municipal use. |
| 16 | at then in 2011, the Corps of Engineers | 16 Q | Sur |
| 17 | indicated that there were no further fund | 17 A | So it do |
| 18 | budgeted for the reallocation study. So we | 18 | develop Wilson Lake, there's no water there. |
| 19 | lobbied the Corps of Engineers, we asked our | 19 | But complicating the evaluation of Wilson Lake |
| 20 | legislative delegation to lobby the Corps of | 20 | is two factors. You mentioned the storage. |
| 21 | engineers. I met with the Corps of Engineers | 21 | Right now the State of Kansas owns the majority |
| 22 | headquarters staff in Washington, D.C., and it | 22 | of storage in most reservoirs, it's part of |
| 23 | was made very clear | 23 | their Kansas Water Marketing Program. |
| 24 | water -- there is not going to be a reallocation | 24 | And so the Water Office director indicated |
| 25 | study because their efforts were tied up in | 25 | to me that it was their intent to purchase the |
|  | Page 279 |  | 81 |
| 1 | flood control and flood mitigation projects. | 1 | storage, and then Hays and Russell would be |
| 2 | the reallocation study, right befor | 2 | obligated to essentially lease that storage on |
| 3 | they pulled the plug on it, there was a public | 3 | an annual basis in order to yield our 8,000 |
| 4 | meeting in Russell where the Kansas Water Office | 4 | acre-feet of water rights. |
| 5 | staff and Corps of Engineer staff informed an | 5 | So we would have to pay a certain amount to |
| 6 | audience of several hundred people essentially | 6 | the Kansas Water Office every year in order to |
| 7 | what a reallocation study is, what they would be | 7 | have the privilege to pull our 8,000 acre-feet |
| 8 | looking at, what they would try to ensure | 8 | of water rights out. Now, that was going to |
| 9 | wouldn't happen if they looked at a reallocation | 9 | cost us more than purchasing storage outright, |
| 10 | study, and that was pretty much the only | 10 | but the Water Office did have the history behind |
| 11 | appreciable result from a public standpoint of | 11 | them of purchasing that storage, and we -- we |
| 12 | that | 12 | know we probably would have been forced to take |
| 13 | So as I mentioned before, the Corps of | 13 | part in the Kansas Water Marketing Program. |
| 14 | Engineers pulled the plug on funding in 2 | 14 | The second complicating issue is Wilson is |
| 15 | and then the drought hit, and then subsequently | 15 | more expensive than the R 9 when we were doing |
| 16 | the $\mathrm{R9} 9$ was identi | 16 | e direct cost comparisons. There were a |
| 17 Q | So assuming -- assume a reallocation, you have a | 17 | couple cost scenarios to where the initial |
| 18 | water right -- you have an application for | 18 | investment may have been cheaper at Wilson just |
| 19 | water right, in other words a water -- the | 19 | because the lengths of the pipeline were |
| 20 | ability to store water if you had a -- if you | 20 | shorter, but the water in Wilson Lake is highly |
| 21 | had storage, but would you have had to -- would | 21 | saline, it takes reverse osmosis right off the |
| 22 | have had to buy one of those layers that | 22 | bat or desalination to treat, and so the -- the |
| 23 | you've talked about? | 23 | ongoing costs in Wilson are significantly higher |
| 24 A | Well, there's a couple different ways you can | 24 | than the R9 Ranch. So even if water were to |
|  | acquire water rights in a reservoir. First of | 25 | become available in Wilson Lake, I -- I doubt if |


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| :---: | :---: |
| 1 it would have been the choice I would have | 1 requested upon such terms, conditions, and |
| 2 recommended simply because it would have been a | 2 limitations as the presiding officer deems |
| 3 longer -- or a higher cost, longer term. | 3 necessary for the protection of the public |
| 4 Q Would -- would it have indicated the Water | 4 interest of the State as a whole, end quote. |
| 5 Transfer Act? | 5 And I find that somewhat instructive that it's |
| 6 A It would because it's in excess of 35 miles. | 6 talking about the public interest of the State |
| 7 Q Mr. Dougherty, I don't have any further | 7 as a whole. So my question is can you think of |
| 8 questions at this time. | 8 any scenario or circumstances where the amount |
| 9 PRESIDING OFFICER: All right. | 9 of -- that should be approved for allowable as a |
| 10 Mr. Cole? | 10 transfer should be reduced to protect the public |
| 11 MR. COLE: Thank you, Your Honor. | 11 interest of the State as a whole? |
| 12 | 12 A I cannot. |
| 13 CROSS-EXAMINATION | 13 Q I have no other questions. |
| 14 BY MR. COLE: | 14 PRESIDING OFFICER: Mr. Lee? |
| 15 Q Mr. Dougherty, good morning. | 15 MR. LEE: Thank you, Your Honor. If |
| 16 A Good morning. | 16 you'll indulge us for just one moment, Your |
| 17 Q And I have very little here, but you are a | 17 Honor. |
| 18 co-applicant in this proceeding with the City of | 18 PRESIDING OFFICER: Thanks for your |
| 19 Russell seeking a transfer of water; is that | 19 assistance there. |
| 20 correct? | 20 MS. LANGWORTHY: Yeah. |
| 21 A Correct. | 21 MS. LEE: Yeah, thank you. |
| 22 Q And you testified on your direct as to the | 22 |
| 23 application itself. Just for summary purposes, | 23 CROSS-EXAMINATION |
| 24 it seeks the transfer of $6,756.8$ acre-feet per | 24 BY MR. LEE: |
| 25 year with a limitation of 48,000 over a ten-year | 25 Q Your Honor, may it please the tribunal, |
| Page 283 | Page 285 |
| 1 period, which equates to a 4800 acre-feet per | Mr. Dougherty, good morning. |
| 2 year rolling average. Is that a fairly accurate | 2 A Good morning. |
| 3 summary? | 3 Q The -- I want to review with you a number of |
| 4 A That's correct. | 4 things that you've talked about during your |
| 5 Q Okay. Did you attend the public comment hearing | 5 direct examination and correct what I suspect |
| 6 in Hays? | 6 are simply misstatements on your part during |
| 7 A I did. | 7 that process. I want to start with page 154 of |
| 8 Q And during that public comment hearing, did you | 8 your deposition. |
| 9 have opportunity to hear some commenters suggest | 9 PRESIDING OFFICER: Now, Mr. Lee, |
| 10 that perhaps they have no objections to the | 10 correct me if I'm mistaken here, I don't |
| 11 transfer, it's more the quantity that is their | 11 believe that the deposition has been filed |
| 12 concern? | 12 in this case -- |
| 13 A I did hear that. | 13 MR. LEE: You're right, Your Honor. |
| 14 Q Okay. And I don't know if you're familiar with | 14 PRESIDING OFFICER: -- is that |
| 15 this or not, but there is a Kansas statute that | 15 correct? Now, it's fine, you can still |
| 16 provides that the presiding officer has some | 16 cite to it, I just want to make sure we |
| 17 fairly limited authority to reduce the allowance | 17 don't have an exhibit to need to refer to. |
| 18 on a transfer. Have you seen that statute | 18 MR. LEE: We actually have the |
| 19 before? | 19 original here. |
| 20 A I have. | 20 PRESIDING OFFICER: Okay. |
| 21 Q And I just want to -- just want to quote it for | 21 MR. LEE: Would you like us to hold |
| 22 you here briefly, it's 82a-1504, and it provides | 22 on to it in the interim or -- |
| 23 in part that The presiding officer, this is a | 23 PRESIDING OFFICER: You can for now, |
| 24 quote, The presiding officer may order approval | 24 and if you want to admit part of that as an |
| 25 of a transfer of a smaller amount of water than | 25 exhibit -- |



| 1 | providing reports on future water needs. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | The question is, Has the City ever paid |
| 3 | anyone to provide a report about the future |
| 4 | water needs of the City of Hays? |
| 5 | And your response to that is Possibly. |
| 6 | My question is, But you don't recall? |
| 7 | The answer is, Without reviewing the |
| 8 | record, I can't recall off the top of my head. |
| 9 | And my question is, And so would you |
| 10 | consider that to be unimportant information? |
| 11 | Your answer to that is, I'm saying without |
| 12 | knowledge of the specific document you're |
| 13 | referring to, I can't make a judgment on its |
| 14 | importance. |
| 15 | My question, Well, I'm not talking about |
| 16 | the importance of a particular document, I'm |
| 17 | talking about the concept. Do you think that |
| 18 | the concept of the future water needs of the |
| 19 | City of Hays is important in conjunction with |
| 20 | the water transfer application? |
| 21 | The answer is, I think water future needs |
| 22 | is very important, especially when you take into |
| 23 | account our existing water sources are |
| 24 | inadequate to meet the demands of our residents |
| 25 | now in times of drought. |

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My question, So do you think that it's important to get professional advice on that subject?

Your answer is, On what subject?
The question is, The future water needs of the City of Hays?

Your answer is, Could you be more specific with future water needs, are you talking based off of population growth, are you talking based off of further ratcheting conservation measures in place, are you talking are residents using water in a bit more normalized manner like the rest of the State of Kansas? The water needs, I'm not sure where you're going with this future water needs.

The question is, Well, do you think that the City of Hays needs access to more water than it has presently?

Your answer is, You're talking -- okay. So I want to clarify the question. We have water rights in the Smoky Hill wellfield, we have water rights in Big Creek, and we have Dakota water rights. We also have water rights on the R9 Ranch in Edwards County. Are you talking in excess of that, or are you talking about in
of Hays needs access to more water than it
excess of the water rights that we are able to utilize for municipal purposes right now?

The question, I think my question was specifically about what is available to the City right now, and to the extent that you're talking about inaccessible water rights, then we don't need to talk about that.

Your answer is, Okay. So could you restate your question then?

The question was, Do you believe that the City of Hays requires access to more water than is available to it presently?

The answer is Yes.
My question then is, And why do you think that?

And your answer is, Because I don't feel our existing sources are adequate during times of drought.

The question is, And is that only a personal opinion?

Answer: I'm here in my personal capacity as city manager, so it's my opinion.

The question is, Have you ever received a report from any source that says that the City
presently has?
Your answer is -- or there's -- I'm responding to an objection by Mr. Buller. The question is, Since 2003?

Your answer is, We submitted a report as part of our prefiled testimony that showed during times of exceptional drought and decadal drought our existing sources are woefully inadequate --

Question: And what was -- and we talked over each other. The question is, And what was the source of that information?

The answer, Paul McCormick who is a hydrologist with Burns \& McDonnell.

The question then is, And aside from Mr. McCormick with Burns \& McDonnell --

MR. TRASTER: Your Honor, objection,
if he's going to read the transcript into
the record, then he needs to not skip past the questions and answers.

PRESIDING OFFICER: All right. Do
you have a response, Mr. Lee?
MR. LEE: Your Honor, we are not
skipping past anything other than the two
of us talking over each other and an

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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | objection that was lodged by Mr. Buller to | 1 | be offering it as an exhibit. |
| 2 | the testimony. | 2 | PRESIDING OFFICER: All right. |
| 3 | MR. TRASTER: There were a couple | 3 | BY MR. LEE: |
| 4 | lines, or a line or two that were skipped | 4 | Q So the question to you, Mr. Dougherty, is Why do |
| 5 | past, I'm sure it was inadvertent. I'm | 5 | you think that? |
| 6 | not -- | 6 | The answer is, Because I don't feel our |
| 7 | MR. LEE: We can start over. | 7 | existing sources are adequate during times of |
| 8 | MR. TRASTER: What? | 8 | drought. |
| 9 | MR. LEE: We can start over. | 9 | The question is, And is that only a |
| 10 | MR. TRASTER: I just -- it was in | 10 | personal opinion? |
| 11 | the middle of the previous page. I'm not | 11 | The answer is, I'm here in my personal |
| 12 | accusing you of skipping anything on | 12 | capacity as city manager, so it's my opinion. |
| 13 | purpose, Mr. Lee, I just noted that -- | 13 | The question is, Have you ever received a |
| 14 | MR. LEE: Well, let's go back. | 14 | report from any source that says that the City |
| 15 | MS. LEE: Yeah, I've been reading | 15 | of Hays needs access to more water than it |
| 16 | along and he's not skipped anything, but | 16 | presently has? The question responding to an |
| 17 | where do you want to -- | 17 | objection is, Since 2003? |
| 18 | MR. TRASTER: And I could be wrong, | 18 | The answer is, We submitted a report as |
| 19 | it happens. | 19 | part of our prefiled testimony that showed |
| 20 | MR. LEE: Let's go back to the | 20 | during times of exceptional drought and decadal |
| 21 | middle of the previous page. | 21 | drought our existing sources are woefully |
| 22 | MS. LEE: Okay. | 22 | inadequate -- |
| 23 | MR. LEE: And what's that? | 23 | Question: And what was -- |
| 24 | MS. LEE: And why do you think that? | 24 | The answer is, -- which would indicate that |
| 25 | PRESIDING OFFICER: Mr. Traster? | 25 | we need additional water sources. |
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| 1 | MR. TRASTER: Yes. | 1 | My question is, And what was the source of |
| 2 | PRESIDING OFFICER: If Mr. Lee | 2 | that information? |
| 3 | offers that entire deposition transcript as | 3 | The answer is, Paul McCormick who is a |
| 4 | an exhibit so that exhibit would then be in | 4 | hydrologist with Burns \& McDonnell. |
| 5 | the record -- | 5 | And the question is, Aside from |
| 6 | MR. TRASTER: Yes, I understand but | 6 | Mr. McCormick with Burns \& McDonnell, have you |
| 7 | also -- | 7 | ever received any other information that |
| 8 | PRESIDING OFFICER: -- would you -- | 8 | suggests that the City of Hays needs access to |
| 9 | MR. TRASTER: -- the transcript | 9 | more water than it has presently? |
| 10 | would be -- I could be wrong, but I -- I | 10 | I would have to review the record. I can't |
| 11 | thought there was a line or two that was | 11 | think of anything off the top of my head. |
| 12 | skipped, and if not, I'll apologize, I | 12 | Question: So you don't recall? |
| 13 | will. | 13 | Answer: I don't recall. |
| 14 | PRESIDING OFFICER: Okay. | 14 | So let's go back to page 88, if we may, to |
| 15 | MR. TRASTER: But if we're going to | 15 | the part that you were asked about yesterday. |
| 16 | read it into the record, we ought to read | 16 | The question that's asked in the deposition, |
| 17 | the whole thing. | 17 | What about the next paragraph that says the |
| 18 | PRESIDING OFFICER: I'll let him | 18 | projected water needs of the applicant and of |
| 19 | read through it, if he's going to be | 19 | any other entities to be supplied water by the |
| 20 | offering the entire thing or a portion of | 20 | applicant and the basis for those projections, |
| 21 | it as an exhibit anyway, maybe that saves | 21 | did the City of Hays get any outside advice to |
| 22 | some of your objection. | 22 | come to the conclusion about water needs? |
| 23 | MR. TRASTER: Okay, thank you, Your | 23 | Your answer is, Could you be more specific |
| 24 | Honor. | 24 | what you mean by outside advice? |
| 25 | MR. LEE: And, Your Honor, we will | 25 | The question, How did the City of Hays come |

to the conclusion that it needed more water?
And the question is, And if you have no idea, then just tell me.

And the answer is, I'm not here to speak for the City of Hays, I can speak to my role as city manager.

The question, Yes, you are, you are the city manager.

The answer is, As the city manager, the determination was already made when I arrived in 2005 that we needed more water.

Question: And so I take it from your testimony that you don't have any opinion at this point about whether the City of Hays needs more water?

The answer is, I would like to point out that I stated earlier in my testimony that our existing sources, I feel, are inadequate.

And the question is, And why do you feel they are --

The answer is, And I stand by that statement.

Question: Why do you feel they're inadequate?

Because I've seen our existing sources dry
up during times of drought in 2011, 2012, 2013, and I understand how susceptible they are to drought.

Question: And so if the water supply in the City of Hays, Mr. Dougherty, is inadequate, is the City of Hays only relying on your opinion on that?

The answer is, It's my belief that it's common knowledge in Hays that our existing sources are not adequate and we need a future supply to grow.

The question, So are you telling me that the City of Hays, in seeking to transfer water from the R9 Ranch, has not received any professional advice about the future water needs of the City?

Your answer is, Could you restate that question, I'm not sure I understand where you're going with it?

My question is, Sure. Are you telling me that your testimony is that in conjunction with the application to transfer water from R9 to the City of Hays that the City has not received any professional advice about the future needs of the City?

And the answer is, We have received reports that show with various population growth scenarios what the water demand could possibly be with those growth scenarios. But back to my original statement, our existing sources are inadequate and they are entirely inadequate during times of drought for our existing -- our existing citizens right now. So this isn't about future, this is about right now not being adequate.

Question: Well, I don't really think you want to tell me that the City of Hays has never gotten any professional advice about future needs, and my question is whether there are entities or individuals who are qualified to provide that sort of advice that have been consulted?

Answer: I think you're going to have to be more specific. If you have a specific report that you're referring to, I'd be happy to comment if I have knowledge of it.

Question: Yes, well, tell me about the specific reports that addressed the need, the future needs of the City of Hays.

Your answer is, off the top of my head, I

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| :---: | :---: |
| then, there's not a needs statement that is included with the WTA application, correct? <br> A I believe there's several reports, several that we cited today that were attached to the water transfer application. <br> Q And you consider those to be water needs applications or water needs reports? <br> A I believe them showing reports that our existing sources are inadequate and that we need water. <br> Q Is there any report, and I'm sure you know this, Mr. Dougherty, is there any report that is included with the water transfer application that says in the future the City of Hays needs this much water? <br> A I would have to review the record. <br> Q I'm sure you do. Let's look -- you recall as part of your deposition that you were provided what's called an errata sheet, do you not? <br> A Ido. <br> Q And this is it, the court reporter sent this to you, it related to your June 8th of 2023 deposition, and you actually go through and make four corrections indicating, of course, that you have, it appears, carefully read the deposition, correct? | Q So they're part of your records for decades, but you can't tell me at the time whether there's been a water needs study when you're under oath, right? <br> A I can't tell you a specific study. <br> Q You weren't asked about a specific study, you were asked about any study? <br> A I was asked if there was a study determining that Hays needed more water, and I don't know if I had a study that made that determination. <br> Q And you still don't, do you? <br> A I can't tell you without reviewing the record. <br> Q Okay. You certainly don't have a study that says that in the future you need X amount of water, right? <br> A We have studies showing our, as we alluded to today, we have studies showing that we have future water demands, we have current water demands, we have maximum daily demands, we have population growth projections, and there are various lines that cross, meaning our water sources are inadequate. <br> Q Well, I understand what you're saying, but what you have, you've referenced reports, some of which, for example, were from the 1990s that say |
| A Correct. <br> Q And if one then scrolls down from that a little bit, you then certify under oath that you've read your deposition in the above case and request the above changes be made, none of which have anything to do with what we've just been talking about, correct? <br> A Correct. <br> Q So you had an opportunity after your deposition to go and review the records if you were unsure, right? <br> A Unsure of? <br> Q Whether there were water needs studies that had been commissioned by the City of Hays? <br> A I was corrected to review the deposition to determine if there were misstatements or things that needed to be corrected. <br> Q And did you go back after the deposition and look to see if a water needs study had been prepared on behalf of the City of Hays? <br> A I did not. <br> Q And so where did these documents today come from that you characterize as water needs studies? <br> A These documents have been part of our records for decades. | that the City of Hays will need more water, but they don't say how much more water, right? <br> A I couldn't tell you without looking at the specific study. <br> Q So you don't -- you looked at them probably last night, didn't you? <br> A I looked at a couple of them last night. <br> Q And you can't -- you know, that's escaped you? <br> A I don't have an eidetic memory. <br> Q The Cities, Mr. Dougherty, are seeking in the application to transfer 6,756.8 acre-feet annually from the R9 Ranch, right? <br> A That's correct. <br> Q And the City of Hays in -- <br> A Actually, I would like to clarify that. Up to 6,756 acre-feet. <br> Q Fair enough. If the application is approved on the face of the application, then you would have authority to do that, right? <br> A We could not transfer that much because we have a reasonable-needs determination that wouldn't allow us to transfer that much. <br> Q Okay. Well, so reasonable needs is an important consideration, then, as part of the Water Transfer Act process, right? |

A Not as part of the Water Transfer Act process, as part of the Water Appropriations Act.
Q Okay. So if it's part of the Water Appropriations Act, which it is, do you think
5 that you would be limited under the Water 6 Appropriations Act not to have any limitations 7 imposed by the Water Transfer Act?
A I'm not sure I understand your question.
Q Okay. Do you know why the Water Transfer Act regulations require you, require you to provide a reasonable-needs analysis as part of the application?

MR. TRASTER: Object, Your Honor, calls for a legal conclusion.
A I don't know the Water Transfer Act requires a reasonable needs --

MR. LEE: Hold on.
PRESIDING OFFICER: All right.
Mr. Lee, do you have a response?
MR. LEE: Well, Your Honor, if -but for the fact that -- and Mr. Dougherty has testified as a lawyer for six hours during this proceeding, I suppose one might countenance that objection, but the -- he has repeatedly said this is what this
means, this is what this regulation means, this is what this document means, and my question is only do you know why the -there is a requirement for a needs analysis as part -- as part of the WTA process.

MR. TRASTER: Calls for a legal conclusion.

PRESIDING OFFICER: All right. I'm going to sustain the objection, why don't you rephrase your question, ask him as a layperson if he knows what it means, and we'll just correct it that way.

## BY MR. LEE:

Q Mr. Dougherty, as a layperson, do you know why the Water Transfer Act regulations require that the application include a future water needs analysis?
A I would have to look at the Water Transfer Act to see if there's a requirement for future needs analysis.
Q Let me represent to you that there is.
A I would have to look at the water --
MR. TRASTER: I object, there's nothing in the Water Transfer Act about needs that I've seen.

MR. LEE: There are in the regulations which is what the question was.

MR. TRASTER: But the question was whether there's anything in the Water Transfer Act itself, and there's nothing in there about needs. There are some -- there are some regulations about what it takes to file and complete applications, but it's not a Water Transfer Act requirement.

MR. LEE: Well, Your Honor, the regulations implement the Water Transfer Act, and that's the question that's pending on the floor.

PRESIDING OFFICER: Okay. I'll sustain the objection, rephrase the question so that it accurately reflects you're asking him about the statute or regulations, which one you're asking about.
BY MR. LEE:
Q Mr. Dougherty, do you know why the Water Transfer Act implementing regulations require that the application include a future water needs analysis?
24 A I do not.
25 Q And do you know why your application did not

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1 include one?
A I would have to review my application to ...
Q To determine that?
A To determine if something was included or not that addressed that.
Q That's not my question. Let me represent to you that it was not included. So do you know why it was not included?
A I am not going to speculate on that because I would have to review the application to see if anything met that requirement.
Q No, you don't understand my question. I'm telling you that it doesn't include a water needs analysis, I'm asking you if you know why that is true?
A I do not.
Q Hays, Mr. Dougherty, in 2020 used
1792 acre-feet, am I correct about that?
A I would have to review the water use reports to determine usage.
Q If Mr. Hamilton said that, would you accept that as the right figure?
A Again, I would have to review; Hays uses approximately 2,000 acre-feet on an annual basis.

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| Q And that's been consistently the case in recent years? <br> A For the most part, yes. <br> Q So if you say that it uses in general 2,000 acre-feet per year, then the City of Russell, I think, uses about 1,000 acre-feet; is that right? <br> A I can't speak for the City of Russell's exact usage, but I do believe it's around or slightly in excess of $\mathbf{1 , 0 0 0}$ acre-feet. <br> Q So the combined application on behalf of the two Cities would be coming from Cities that in recent years cumulatively, between the two of them, have used 3,000 acre-feet per year, correct? <br> A Correct. <br> Q And so the application is for the authority to use up to 7,000 acre-feet, correct? <br> A 6,756 acre-feet. <br> Q You have a good memory about figures like that, so some things you can remember and some things you can't? <br> A Apparently. <br> Q About the application? <br> A Apparently. | entitled to the approval of $\mathbf{6 , 7 5 6}$ acre-feet of water -- <br> Q I am not. <br> A -- for municipal use? <br> Q I am not. I'm asking you whether you believe that the Cities are entitled to approval of an amount of water that exceeds the reasonable needs? <br> A I'm not going to answer that question. <br> MR. LEE: Your Honor. <br> PRESIDING OFFICER: Well, you're <br> asking him for an opinion, why don't you <br> clarify for the record if you're asking <br> him -- what capacity you're asking him to <br> offer that sort of opinion as to what his <br> belief is. <br> BY MR. LEE: <br> Q Well, I would offer -- I would ask you to offer your opinion as the city manager for the City of Hays and the person who has been presented as the witness for the City of Hays as being presumably the most knowledgeable about the application in terms of its holistic sense? <br> A You asked me about water in excess of reasonable needs. I would like to know your definition of |
| Q So that figure of 6700 acre-feet is more than twice what the Cities are presently using, right? <br> A Correct. <br> Q So it states, back to, I think, your observation, the water transfer application requires that transfers be limited to the Cities' reasonable needs. Would you agree with me? <br> A I would have to review the record, I'm not familiar with that requirement. <br> Q Have you ever reviewed the water transfer application? <br> A I have but, again, I don't have an eidetic memory. <br> Q When's the last time you reviewed it? <br> A Several weeks ago. <br> Q Not any time during this hearing or immediately before? <br> A No. <br> Q Do you as a layperson think that the Cities are entitled to more than the reasonable needs in terms of what is approved by the Water Transfer Act application? <br> A To clarify, are you asking if I think we are | reasonable needs, are you asking about the reasonable-needs limitation that was included in the Master Order issued by the chief engineer? <br> Q Well, actually, I'm not trying to use technical language, Mr. Dougherty. I'm saying do you believe in your capacity as I just framed that the Cities are entitled to more water than they reasonably need? <br> A I want to qualify my answer by stating I am basing the reasonable-needs answer off of the reasonable-needs limitation in the Master Order. Yes. <br> Q And so framed another way, you believe the Cities are entitled to more water than they need? <br> A I believe the Cities are entitled for enough water to allow us to grow into the future and make sure that the R 9 represents a viable source 50 to 75 years into the future and that that water is going to be available for use during that time frame, and I don't know what the needs are going to be $\mathbf{7 5}$ years from now. <br> Q And you don't know what the needs are going to be because you don't have a reasonable-needs analysis, correct? |

A I don't know what the needs are going to be because I can't predict the future.
Q And if you had a reasonable-needs analysis, then that would assist you, would it not?
A If the reasonable-needs analysis could predict the future, I guess, but we don't know what's going to happen in the future.
Q What do you think a reasonable-needs analysis is intended to do?
A I would like to -- I don't know what a reasonable-needs analysis is.
Q Never heard of it?
A In conjunction with the Master Order, there was a reasonable-needs limitation, but I'm not sure what you're referring to by reasonable-needs analysis.
Q Well, a reasonable-needs analysis would predict the amount of water that the applicant would need in the future. Is that understandable enough?
A Okay.
22 Q And so if you had a reasonable-needs analysis, using that definition, you would have a better idea of what your needs are in the future, correct?

1 A Does this reasonable-needs analysis take into
2 account our existing sources are inadequate now?
3 Q A reasonable-needs analysis would take into
4 account how much water the Cities would need in
5 the future.
6 A Okay.
Q And so if you had one, you would be better able
8 to predict what your needs would be; is that
9 correct?
A I'm not sure that is correct.
Q And why is it not correct?
A Because I'm not sure what you mean specifically by reasonable-needs analysis, there's a lot of factors that would go into something like that, and I'm not sure your -- your definition of reasonable-needs analysis would match up the definition of a reasonable-needs analysis of the Cities of Hays and Russell.
Q So you have a definition of a reasonable-needs analysis?
A I do not.
22 Q So how would you know that the definition that I
23 just gave you somehow conflicts with the City of
24 Hays and City of Russell?
25 A I don't know, I'm just saying I don't want to

1 speculate on your definition.
2 Q Okay. Well, let's just focus on my definition.
3 Would it not be the case that if you had a
4 reasonable-needs analysis, meaning a study to 5 predict how much water the Cities would need in the future, that you would be better able to know how much water the Cities would need in the future?
A I don't think so.
Q And do you have a reason for that?
A Again, because I think it's hard to predict the future.
Q And isn't that what a reasonable-needs analysis is designed to assist with?
A I'm not going to speculate, again, on your definition of a reasonable-needs analysis. Our needs are immediate and we have future needs that are uncertain and variable.
Q So you don't know -- pardon me. You don't know what your future needs will be?
A I can't state exactly what our future needs will be. Our existing sources are inadequate.
Q Okay. Can you state approximately what your future needs are going to be?
25 A I cannot.

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1 Q Because you don't know, right?
A Because I can't predict the future.
Q Because you don't know?
A Because I can't predict the future.
Q Because you do not know, correct?
MR. TRASTER: Asked and answered. PRESIDING OFFICER: Sustained, move on.
BY MR. LEE:
Q You testified yesterday that, and again today, that the existing sources of the City of Hays do not meet daily demands, what does that mean?
A That means during droughts they will not meet daily demands. We submitted a report, along with our prefiled expert testimony, that demonstrates how susceptible our sources are to exceptional, decadal, and multidecadal droughts.
Q So it would be true, however one defines the existing demands or daily demand, there's never been a customer in Hays that has had his or its water cut off, right?
A Not in my tenure.
23 Q You referred yesterday not by name,
Mr. Dougherty, but to your economist, is that Mr. Hamilton?

A Yes.
Q And is Mr. Hamilton someone that has been retained as an expert by the Cities?
A Yes.
Q Do you trust his analysis and judgment?
A I think you would have to be more specific on what you're asking me to trust.
Q His analysis and judgment?
A I -- again, I think you would -- ask me to -ask me a specific portion of his testimony you would like me to exhibit trust in.
Q So are there -- I take it there must be parts of Mr. Hamilton's testimony that you have reviewed and don't agree with?
A I have viewed Mr. Hamilton's testimony, I have not committed it to memory.
Q So if you have reviewed it and did not agree with some of it, do you think that would have stuck with you?
A Possibly, yes.
And possibly or yes?
Possibly, yes.
So let's look at a part of Mr. Hamilton's expert
report. We're looking at the Hamilton expert
report, a portion of it, Mr. Dougherty, that is

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1 paragraph 115 -- or, no, I'm sorry, it is part
2 of his -- part of his direct testimony -- or

4 A I don't -- I couldn't tell you our exact usage. Again, it's an approximation for me, it's around 2,000 acre-feet.
Q This is taken from the Hamilton expert report, I'll represent to you, Mr. Dougherty, and he says that the -- during a decadal drought, and what is, if you know, what is a decadal drought?
A I believe a decadal drought is a drought that persists for up to ten years.
23 Q And you used that -- that terminology in your direct testimony, did you not?
25 A Yes. rebuttal testimony. And he makes the statement that, and I'll just read it, Specifically for Hays, the initial water use is set at 1792 acre-feet in my report compared to 2009 acre-feet in the HE, which refers to the Harvey Economics report. For Russell, the initial water use is set at 974 acre-feet as compared to 1,078 acre-feet in the Harvey Economics report. So that goes back to my question about usage for the City of 1792 , he is, I assume, correct about that usage? Yes.

Q And so did you know precisely what a decadal drought meant when you were testifying?
A I know what I believe a decadal drought is.
Q Okay. So Mr. Hamilton says, During a decadal drought, for example, Hays firm water yield will decline to 800 acre-feet per year resulting in devastating losses to the City. Do you know what firm water yield is?
A I believe he is referring to the amount of water that we could actually produce in a given year.
Q And so he is -- his conclusion is 840 acre-feet per year during a decadal drought, right?
A Yes.
Q Okay. Do you agree with that number?
A That is the number that is pulled from the wellfield yield report from our --
Q Okay. -- other expert.
Q And, in fact, let's look at that, that's slide 3. This is what you just referenced, the McCormick wellfield yield report, right?
A It's part of it, correct.
Q And in the column under decadal drought, it has at the bottom a total number of 840 acre-feet per year. Did I read that correctly?

1 A Correct.
2 Q So both of these experts are -- are saying that
3 during a ten-year drought that the City of Hays
4 would have available at a minimum 840 acre-feet
5 of water, right?
A That's what they're saying.
7 Q Okay. And you don't disagree with that, do you?
A My personal opinion is I think Mr. McCormick is being optimistic.
Q And so what is your personal opinion based on?
A My personal opinion is based off of watching the water levels go down in the Smoky Hill River aquifer.
Q But these two -- two individuals, Mr. Hamilton and Mr. McCormick, are the retained experts for the City, right?
A Correct.
Q So you talked about a report or a relationship that the Cities would have had with an individual whose name was Bob Vincent?
A Correct.
Q And that was back in the '90s, I think; is that right?
4 A I believe so.
25 Q Okay. The -- Mr. Vincent prepared a report,


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| upon a 2 percent projection, right? <br> A Yes. <br> Q Okay. So we would agree that that figure is incorrect, wouldn't we, that population growth estimate? <br> A I would not. <br> Q Did you -- did you, the Cities or through your attorneys, hire a woman whose name is Ms. Haase? <br> A Ms. Haase, yes. <br> Q Okay. Let's -- let's look at her direct testimony. This is from, and I apologize for the mispronunciation of Ms. Haase's name, she is asked the question, What is the purpose of your direct testimony? <br> Her answer is, My opinions are set forth in detail in my expert report, but in general, my testimony relates to Hays' population projection. <br> The question is then, In summary, what did you conclude? <br> The answer is, I conclude within a reasonable degree of professional certainty that an estimated growth rate of 1 percent annually over the next 10 to 20 years is likely for the City of Hays. | say that it is premised in terms of population growth on a 2 percent rate? <br> A What is stated is a regurgitation of what was in the Master Order with a reasonable-needs analysis which puts a cap on Hays and Russell's water sources. <br> Q Let's go back and look at it again. So the question that's being answered here, Mr. Dougherty, is, If applicable, the population projections for any public water supply system that will be supplied by the water transfer and the basis for those projections, so would you agree that I read that correctly? <br> A Yes, sir. <br> Q And it shows below that in the highlighted part the 2010 population and the 2017 population estimates are from the U.S. Census. Population projections for 2026 and 2036 are based on 2 percent annual population growth as approved by the chief engineer. So that's using a 2 percent figure for population growth, is it not, in response to the question, If applicable, population projections for any public water supply system that will be supplied by the water transfer and the basis for those projections? |
| So I'm assuming since that's the Cities' expert that you agree with that number? <br> A I agree with Ms. Haase. <br> Q So that would then mean that the WTA application is overstated by two, right? <br> A No, there are two separate calculations. <br> Q Okay. Well, tell me how those calculations differ. <br> A The 2 percent is a calculation utilized for a reasonable-needs limitation authorized by the chief engineer which is a cap on our existing water sources. <br> Q Well, it says this is the population projection, does it not -- <br> A I believe -- <br> Q -- if you go back and look at it? <br> A I believe it is taken from the Master Order as part of the reasonable-needs limitation. <br> Ms. Haase was asked to weigh in on the potential of Hays experiencing future growth. <br> Q Well, Mr. Dougherty, are you saying that the WTA application says something other than what it's saying? <br> A I'm saying they're different endeavors. <br> Q Does it not say, does the WTA application not | A It is using a 2 percent population growth estimate as approved by the chief engineer as part of our reasonable-needs limitation as part of the Master Order development. <br> Q Well, let's -- let's go back to the question that sort of started this colloquy. Is 2 percent not twice as much as 1 percent? <br> A Yes. <br> Q And so does not the application use a population growth that is two times what your expert says is the reasonable expectation? <br> A They are different applications of population projections, meant for different outcomes. <br> Q Which one is right? <br> A I don't know. <br> Q So -- <br> A I can't predict the future. <br> Q Okay. So Ms. Haase could be wrong too, I take it? <br> A It's possible, yes. <br> Q And she could be wrong up or she could be wrong down, correct? <br> A Correct. <br> Q One of the things that you talked about, and this relates to the question of water needs, |



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| analysis? <br> A We have not because we do not have -- it's our intent to build the project without affecting rates. If there are future costs that -- O\&M costs that could affect rate, we don't know what they are yet because the project has not been designed. That would take place after the project has been designed to a point where we could determine what those costs were and how it would affect rates. <br> Q Who is Kim Rupp? <br> A Kim Rupp is the finance director. <br> Q And how long has he been the city finance director? <br> A I believe since 2007. <br> Q And you would recall, I think, that he during a city commission meeting, when the cost of the project was estimated to be $\$ 66$ million, provided an estimate that water rates would increase by 70 percent? <br> A I believe you have mentioned something before to that effect, but I would have to see the exact minutes to be specific. <br> Q Okay. But you're not disputing that? <br> A No. | that somehow what the Cities were planning to do would exhaust the resources of the R9 Ranch? <br> A We have no intention of exhausting the resources, it's a sustainable source. <br> Q And so that would be particularly true if less water was approved than the amount of water you're seeking? <br> A If less water were to be considered, we might not be following the water transfer process. <br> Q Well, but my question is if -- if at 4800 acre-feet per year you're confident that you won't exhaust the resources at the R9 Ranch, that certainly would be true if that figure was, to pick a number, 2,000 acre-feet, right? <br> A Correct. <br> Q And in terms of the financing piece of this, Mr. Dougherty, the City hasn't gone very far down the road in terms of that analysis. Is that a fair statement? <br> A Could you be more specific? <br> Q Sure. You haven't consulted bond counsel, for example, right? <br> A We have not. We have consulted with the KDHE state revolving loan fund, and we have done a consultation with the EPA through their WIFIA |
| Q Okay. So I take it sort of as an overarching matter, Mr. Dougherty, that you or perhaps the City at large thinks that if you don't get the amount of water that you're seeking here and get something less than that, or nothing at all of course, but if you get something less than that, that you can't finance it, is that a correct understanding of your opinion? <br> A I say my opinion is it would -- it could be difficult to finance the project if the source of water, the quantity of water does not exceed the life span of the infrastructure. <br> Q So what would be -- I guess you just have to elucidate for me, why is the life span of the structure contingent upon how much water is going to be approved? <br> A Because I don't think we want to build infrastructure that is not beneficial in the future, and if we don't have enough water to satisfy future needs and we have to build redundant infrastructure to another water source that's quite a distance away, that means we're going to have possibly competing payments for infrastructure. | financing program. <br> Q And do you have any commitments? <br> A We have letter -- we have actually a commitment from the state revolving loan fund, we're on their intended use plan, and we have a commitment for funding from them. <br> Q In what amount? <br> A $\mathbf{\$ 1 0 0}$ million for the wellfield and 34 million for the -- or 100 million for the wellfield, 34 for the pipeline. <br> Q And is that a document that's part of the record? <br> A It's a document we only received a couple weeks ago. <br> Q Will you produce that for your lawyers? <br> A I can. <br> Q And in terms of that document -- and what should I call it? <br> A I would call it the state revolving loan fund. <br> Q Okay. In the case of the state revolving loan fund, what sort of contingencies are entailed? <br> A I couldn't tell you because all we did is make an application for funding and were notified that we are eligible for funding. But all of the paperwork would have to be filed once the |



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1 without reviewing the records.
Q Well, will you produce those records to us so that we can review them?
A I have to consult with my attorneys first but pending their approval, yes.
6 Q When we took your deposition, Mr. Dougherty, you
made the statement that the Cities do not have
any firm plans for how the project will be
9 financed. Do you recall that testimony?
A Correct.
Q And has that changed since your deposition?
A No.
Q What percentage of the R 9 project is complete at this point?
A Of the R 9 project?
Q Yeah.
$A$ No percent of the project.
Q Zero?
A Correct.
Q Okay. Let's then look at the question of conservation and review a document. The -- this is taken, and you and I have discussed this in your deposition, but it's useful for Judge Spurgin to hear, this is a recitation, as you will recognize, about conservation measures in

1 Hays. And the statement, and it's worth reading, says, Hays currently uses a variety of methods to encourage and maintain conservation.
For example, the City has installed high-efficiency fixtures in all city-owned properties. Is that correct?

## A Yeah.

Q It uses treated effluent from its municipal
9 sewage treatment plant for irrigation purposes, allocating approximately 25 percent of the treated water to irrigate local outdoor recreational facilities. Is that correct?
A As an average, some years it can be more.
Q Okay. To discourage excessive water use, the
City has adopted increasing block water rates that penalize excessive water uses; is that correct?
A Yes.
Q Hays also offers various incentives to its residents to promote water conservation, including free low-flow showerheads and faucet aerators, rebates for high-efficiency appliances, and rebates for converting irrigated turf grass to water-efficient, drought-tolerant landscaping. Is that correct?

1 A Yes.
2 Q In addition, Hays has the only cash-for-grass
3 program east of the Rocky Mountains and north of
4 Texas. Is that right?
5 A At the time, it was correct.
6 Q Other cities, I take it, have now done something 7 along those lines?
8 A I don't know but I know at the time that was 9 correct.
10 Q Okay. And it goes on to say, Hays also uses compulsory measures to ensure conservation. During summer months, the City prohibits outdoor water use from noon to 7:00 p.m., and it has year-round water restrictions including
forbidding washing down hard surfaces like driveways or windows. Is that right?
A That's correct.
Q Today, Hays is currently the only city in Kansas that has adopted the green plumbing code, which requires reduced-flow appliances and fixtures to encourage water conservation. So, finally, is that correct?
A At the time it was correct.
Q Okay. Meaning that as far as you know it's still correct?

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| ```A Meaning at the time it was. I don't know what other codes cities have adopted since then. Q Okay. MR. TRASTER: Can we have -- can we have some identification what document that is being referred to, is this -- is it an exhibit, what is this? MR. LEE: This is the Hamilton report. MR. TRASTER: Thank you. BY MR. LEE: Q So it's true we just reviewed these conservation measures, and it's the City's intent to keep those conservation measures in place whether the water transfer application is approved or not, right? A Correct. Q And along those lines, it's also true that the City is not looking to dramatically increase the City's water usage, right? A I can't answer that. Q Well, let's look at Exhibit 11. And if we can make that just a little larger. You're quoted here, Mr. Dougherty, saying that we're not looking to dramatically increase our water use.``` | anything in the future. <br> Q So as an example, a meatpacking plant is probably not on the list. Is that -- is that fair? <br> A I think that depends on the conservation measures they could put in place. <br> Q Okay. Well, you at least have been quoted as saying you're not looking to recruit water intensive industries, so is that -- is that -I'm not looking for you to have a global -- a globe to look forward to make that determination, I'm talking about right now? <br> A I have stated that that is not our intent by developing the $R 9$ as a project. <br> Q So if this project is -- is approved, then the engineering fees that will accrue to Burns \& McDonnell are in the neighborhood of $\$ 8$ million; is that right? <br> A Burns \& McDonnell was awarded a $\$ 8$ million design contract for the wellfield and pipeline project. <br> Q Which that, of course, is contingent upon whether the R9 project moves forward, right? <br> A The contracts? <br> Q Yes. |
| So actual quote? <br> A Could you give me the context of this document, please. <br> Q Sure, go back up to the top. <br> A Can you tell me the publication and the year? <br> Q Well, I think that the publication is The Climatewire, and the publication date is July 15th, 2022 at 7:04 a.m. <br> A Thank you. <br> Q So is the City looking to dramatically increase water use? <br> A Dramatically is a subjective statement. I am not looking to dramatically increase the City's water usage, and I don't believe any city commission currently or staff is looking to dramatically increase the City's water usage. <br> Q And it is also true, I think, Mr. Dougherty, that even if the project is approved, the City is -- is not looking to recruit a water intensive industry? <br> A I can't tell you what future city commissions or economic development may recruit. I can just tell you the temperament is that we have avoided water excessive industries in the past, and so there would have to be a value judgment made on | A They are not. <br> Q So they may be paid even if the project doesn't move forward? <br> A They are paid to design a project. <br> Q And so if it's not approved, do you plan to go ahead and design the project? <br> A Design is being -- taking place right now. <br> Q Okay. So the -- would the -- is that to any degree contingent upon approval of the water transfer? <br> A You mean the contracts themselves? <br> Q Do you have any ability to say to Burns \& McDonnell, you need to stop because we can't transfer any water? <br> A I would have to look at the contracts, I'm not -- <br> Q Do you think that you do? <br> A I would have to look at the contracts, I'm not speculating on that. <br> Q Would you have gone into negotiation with them typically and said, we don't care whether we get the Water Transfer Act application approved, we will have you design the project? <br> A It was assumed we were doing the project, and we wanted to make sure that we had the project |

ready to bid when we finished the water transfer process.
Q So I guess -- I guess it's conceivable, then, the City is on the hook one way or the other whether the transfer application is approved or not?
A Burns \& Mac is being paid on a contract, but the contract is for services performed. So, theoretically, if we ask them to stop performing services, then we could stop. But, again, I would have to review the contract for a specific answer to that.
Q The information we have seen, Mr. Dougherty, would suggest that there's insufficient workforce in Hays as we speak to even provide current job requirements. Is that a fair statement?
A It's a fair statement we have low unemployment.
Q Okay. And the -- in fact, and I can show this to you but I can also just quote it to you, the City contracted with RDG Planning \& Design for a 2022 housing study. Do you recall that?
3 A Ido.
24 Q And that was with Ms. Haase, correct?
25 A That was correct.

Q And she has a statement in that report that says, the City has experienced a significant labor shortage and a slow construction market since 2013 resulting in a significant pent-up demand. So that's consistent with your observation that there's -- there's not enough workers as it is in the City of Hays?
A I think the construction demand was -- or the construction market was more related to housing. We -- we know we're not building enough houses and we've tried to put tactics in place to build enough houses for our current population and for future populations at different income ranges.
Q Okay. Well, that's fair. But it's -- but it is the case that the City needs more people, more workers, right?
A Correct.
Q Okay. How long have you lived in -- in Hays?
A I moved to Hays in 2005.
20 Q It's a good place to live?
21 A Yes.
MR. LEE: Thank you. Nothing else, Your Honor.

PRESIDING OFFICER: All right.
Ms. Langworthy, do you have any questions?

MS. LANGWORTHY: I have nothing, Your Honor.

PRESIDING OFFICER: Do you have any redirect for your witness?

MR. TRASTER: I will have some redirect, Your Honor.

PRESIDING OFFICER: Okay.
MR. TRASTER: Should we take a break for some lunch?

PRESIDING OFFICER: Well, I guess my next question was how much redirect do you have? If you've got five or ten minutes, let's just get it done and then Mr. Dougherty is done, he doesn't have to worry about coming back to the witness stand after lunch. If it's going to be more than that, this is a good time to go ahead and take a break then.

MR. TRASTER: I actually need a little time, I don't know exactly how much time it's going to take. I would imagine it would take 10 or 15 minutes, maybe longer.

PRESIDING OFFICER: Okay. All right. We'll give you a little bit of time
to get your questions ready, we'll go ahead and take a break. Why don't we come back at $1: 30$ and pick up the hearing at that point, then.

MR. TRASTER: Thank you, Your Honor.
PRESIDING OFFICER: Thank you.
(Thereupon, a lunch recess was taken; whereupon the following was had.)
PRESIDING OFFICER: We'll go ahead and go back on the record now so we can resume our afternoon hearing for July 20th.

MR. LEE: Your Honor, could we just address two quick preliminary issues before we do that?

PRESIDING OFFICER: All right. Go ahead.

MR. LEE: One is we had talked about the deposition exhibit that we would propose to offer which I think would be Exhibit 2091.

PRESIDING OFFICER: Okay.
MR. TRASTER: Is it the entire deposition?

MR. LEE: Yes.


A Correct. Consumptive use regulations are put in place to ensure that future use of the water rights do not potentially consume more water than there is existing use.
Q Okay.
A They are put in place to protect adjacent water rights. So we did not feel that the chief engineer had the legal authority to impose the ten-year rolling average on us.
Q A further reduction from what you knew was coming. Okay, go ahead.
A Correct. So the second item -- and in the end, we gave up on that, we agreed to it because we wanted to use the property sustainably and had no intention of using it in an unsustainable manner.

But the second reason why we were opposed to it is because we assumed that would then be the starting point for somebody else to further reduce what we could utilize from the property. And -- and we felt like we were making a huge concession by agreeing to the ten-year rolling average. It's my understanding there are not water right owners lining up willing to reduce their water rights by 28 percent voluntarily,

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and -- and -- and we knew that there would be people that would use that as a starting point to ratchet our rights down further.
Q You knew that, you predicted that?
A We did -- we did predict that, and we told the chief engineer that was likely to happen, and it did.
Q So if you are planning for a drought that you don't know -- you don't know when they start, do you?
A You do not.
Q And you don't know when they're over, right?
A Correct.
Q It rains a little bit, I mean, we saw a -- an exhibit where it rained 7 inches during a drought and the Smoky didn't recover very quickly even then?
A That's correct.
Q In fact, we're looking at it here, it's Exhibit 255, figure 3 where in July, June or July of 2013 you had like a 7-inch rain and it helped for a day or a few -- a week or two or a short period of time and then the decline continued on down, correct?
25 A That's correct.
1 Q So when you -- when you are planning for a drought, you -- you need to know how much -your need is based on the quantity you're going to need in this future unknown drought, and in Kansas typically you're -- you're aware that KDHE -- excuse me, DWR looks about 20 years out for municipal planning, correct?
A Correct.
Q And has that -- does that -- is 20 years a
reasonable time limit for Hays and Russell?
A Not for this project.
Q For any project?
A Theoretically, I think 20 years could be a decent planning horizon if an entity had very rapid access to available water that they could incrementally increase without lengthy legal delays and significant cost, then 20 years could be an adequate planning horizon.
Q Well, but I guess what I'm asking is whether 20 years is a reasonable planning horizon for the City of Hays and the City of Russell?
A It is not.
3 Q Because?
24 A Because we -- our existing water sources are not adequate. We are spending a lot of money on

5 Q Okay. Mr. Dougherty, I'm showing -- we've got
6 Exhibit 2659 on the screen, and we've -- you've

1 Q So if you're -- if you're Garden City or Ulysses or Colby and you've got access to irrigation rights close by, it doesn't take 20 years?
A Theoretically not, those cities could increase their overall water rights in smaller amounts


A I don't believe so. The Hays and Russell governing bodies made the decision to move forward, so I think they determined the need based off of their citizenry.
Q But they based it on more than just that, they based it on studies of the aquifer, the studies of their -- of their current -- of engineering and hydrological studies of the current -- your current sources?
A Of course. I want to clarify my citizenry comment, they did it with the consent of the citizenry.
Q Sure.
A They did it based off of the fact that they have been living through our water issues for decades.
Q And it's not based on just some guess, I mean, you have -- you have a Aquifer Health Index that tells you about the ability of your current sources to produce water, I mean, you know a lot about your existing sources, don't you?
A Correct.
Q Jami, can you play that video?
Mr. Dougherty, I'm going to represent to
you that this -- we're going to play a short

Page 363
video. It's of a city commission meeting in which you and the former mayor, Mr. Schwaller, spoke, and can you set the stage for us here a little bit?
A This appears to be the April 8th, 2019 Ellis County Commission meeting, and Mayor Schwaller and I gave the county commissioners an update on the $\mathbf{R 9}$ project. This would have been shortly after the Master Order had -- Master Order had been issued.
Q Do we know that the sound can play in the system? And we're not -- Jami, this is at what time? Okay. Beginning at $20-$ - about 20 minutes and 20 seconds into the meeting so you don't have -- we're not going to make you listen to an hour's worth of meeting.
(Video playing.)
BY MR. TRASTER:
Q Thank you, Jami.
So in your deposition and in your responses to request for admission you -- you corrected the newspaper report that -- that eliminated that word "now"?
A Correct.
25 Q And so Mayor Schwaller -- Mayor Schwaller's

1 statement, his actual statement, it was
correctly reported in the newspaper except when they cut it, comma, Mayor Schwaller said, or something to that effect, comma, and then went on with the quote, that "now" got dropped?
A It did.
Q So is it -- in fact, in your deposition, you
said, yes, I agree with the statement that we don't need the full amount now?
A Correct.
Q And you still agree with that?
A Correct.
Q Jami, can you pull up -- well, let me -- well, yeah, can you pull up the application, please, the Exhibit 1.0, the amended water transfer application, and go to Bates page 11. I hope I can find my notes here.

So, Mr. Dougherty, this -- this is the first amended change application -- or first amended water transfer application that was filed shortly after the Master Order was issued?
A Correct.
3 Q And you've reviewed it before?
24 A Ihave.
25 Q I'm going to direct your attention to the Bates

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21 Q Scroll down to the next page, please, Jami.
page 11, and there's a reasonable needs -- it's under the heading Reasonable-Needs Limitation, will you read that into the record, please.
A The Kansas Water Appropriation Act limits appropriation rights to the reasonable needs of the appropriators. DWR regulations reflect that requirement when changing irrigation water rights to municipal use.

Pursuant to these requirements, the chief engineer has imposed the reasonable-needs limitation on each of the Cities. These limitations cap the total quantity of water that can be diverted from the $\mathbf{R 9}$ Ranch for municipal use by each of the Cities, when combined with all other water rights owned by each City.

The project will provide a long-term supply of water to the Cities and to other communities in the region and is expected to have a design life of at least 50 years and to be productive even longer.

Why don't you go ahead and continue to read on Bates page 11 -- 12.
A DWR's traditional method to establish reasonable needs of municipal users uses 20- to 40-year

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1 time frames, which is appropriate for most
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time frames, which is appropriate for most growing municipalities, principally because most are close to alternative sources that can meet their short-, medium-, and long-term needs.
Unlike most other cities, the Hays and Russell must look far afield to find reliable water sources.
Because obtaining long-term financing for the project is unlikely if the \(\mathbf{6 , 7 5 6}\) acre-feet of water for municipal use that is available from the R9 Ranch could not be accessed without the chief engineer's approval, he indicated -included an objective method to increase the quantity of water that could be used as needs increase based on actual and projected population changes, the reasonable needs of additional users, and other measurable indices.
The reasonable-need limitations are set out in the Master Order and discussed in more detail in paragraphs (s) and (z).
Q In your discussions -- well, strike that. The chief engineer ultimately issued a Master Order that had -- that dealt with this whole issue of reasonable projected needs capping the quantities that could be used based on Water
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1 Appropriation Act requirements, correct?
2 A Correct, and the reasonable-needs cap, again, it 3 is a ceiling that the Cities have to adhere to. It is a limitation on the Cities' sources combined, but it is a hard ceiling that gives the Cities room to grow into before they have to ask to modify that reasonable-needs number.
Q And it's based on 2 percent growth, right?
A It is.
Q And that's -- you would agree that's pretty aggressive?
A That is very aggressive, but I would also add that we have been at this process now for almost ten years, and we need wiggle room in order to know that we don't get just enough water to get by for possibly a year or two and then have to spend ten years and millions of dollars in regulatory costs in order to pursue another just-in-time source of water.
Q Okay. Jami, can you go to page 48, Bates page 48 of the -- of Exhibit 1? And scroll up, I think.
So this is -- I'm showing you the -that -- the page I mentioned, and it -- this is the portion of the mas -- of the transfer
4
application that Mr. Lee provided you that shows the projections into the future, correct?
A Correct.
Q The next section, it talks about projected water needs, I mean, that's the subject of the next section?

A It is.
Q Would you read that next section, please.
A The chief engineer has found that the project will provide a long-term supply of water to the Cities, is expected to have a design life of at least 50 years, and to be productive even longer. While it is likely the Cities will provide municipal water to other communities, the Cities do not have commitments to or from the owners of the other public water supply systems at this time.
Q Let's scroll up a little bit here.
MS. BUCK: UP or down?

\section*{BY MR. TRASTER:}

Q Down, I'm sorry. Go ahead.
A The Kansas Water Appropriation Act limits appropriation rights to the reasonable needs of the appropriators. DWR regulations reflect that requirement when changing irrigation water

Page 369
that DWR's traditional method to determine reasonable needs of municipal users is not appropriate in this case and that a longer planning horizon is necessary.
Q And it goes on to talk about that he put in reasonable-need limitations that are based on objective standards, right?
A Correct.
Q Please go to 40 -- is this -- where did I -- 48
is where I want to be, I think. Get to the public health section, please, if that helps you. Sorry, Jami, I thought I had it written down. There we go, thank you. What page is this? 42.
Do you see the section here with the title Public Health and Welfare Impacts?
A Ido.
Q Can you read that, please.
Approving the proposed transfer will have obvious and significant positive impacts on the public health and welfare of the Cities, their surrounding areas, and on the State as a whole, and no negative impacts.

Kansas law does not directly define the phrase public health and welfare. Use of the

\section*{Page 371}
phrase throughout the state and federal law indicate that the term has broad applicability and general meaning, but at a minimum the term refers to conditions that impact human, animal, and plant health.

Kansas public policy favors ensuring that individuals and communities have an adequate water supply in order to maintain and improve the public health and welfare.

The legislature has stated that proper utilization and control of the water resources of the state requires comprehensive planning. The State's long-range objectives for management, conservation, and development of the waters of the state include development of sufficient supplies of water to meet the anticipated future needs of the people of the state, including specifically the public health and general welfare.
Q Scroll on, I'm not sure -- go ahead.
A The legislature requires that water resources planning include design and -- the legislature requires that water resource planning include designing municipal water systems to provide an adequate water supply to meet the needs during a
drought having a 2 percent chance of occurrence.
The legislature has recognized the importance of an adequate water supply of potable water in numerous provisions, including those dealing with rural water supply districts, rural water districts, water supply and distribution districts, public wholesale water supply districts, the State Water Plan Storage Act, and the extensive authorities and powers conferred on the Cities to develop and operate public water supply systems.
Q I think that's fine. You said that this is an existential issue for Hays and Russell?
A Correct.
Q And is that, at least, part of the reason why, what we just read?
A It is.
Q Is -- is your request for 6756.8 acre-feet,
limited to 4800 acre-feet on a rolling average
basis, is that a reasonable request in your mind?
A Yes, it is a very reasonable request.
Is it unreasonable?
A No, it is a reasonable request. The Cities of
Hays and Russell bought an asset on the open

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market, and those asset -- that asset contains water rights which are governed by ownership rights. The City of Hays and Russell have the right to put those water rights to use like every other water right owner. The Cities of Hays and Russell need to know that those water rights are going to be available for future generations when they are needed when the investment is made.

The Cities of Hays and Russell have the right to utilize water like every other city in the State of Kansas does. There seems to be this idea that we should only be able to use a little bit of our water rights because we don't need more water. That flies in the face of Kansas water law. If an irrigator buys a water right, an irrigation water right, they have the right to use that water right any way they so choose. If they want to grow alfalfa, if they want to grow corn, if they want to grow soybeans, they have the right to do that; they don't have an entity chattering in the background saying, you don't need to grow corn, you should just grow wheat because you could use less water or you should irrigate grass because

\begin{tabular}{ll} 
& \\
1 & question was about whether or not the \\
2 & quantity could be reduced based on the \\
3 & interest of the State as a whole, and these \\
4 & questions we've established that -- that -- \\
5 & I mean, that is the statute. And it seems \\
6 & to me that this discussion about need and \\
7 & how much is needed is not really relevant \\
8 & given the fact that the statute says -- I \\
9 & mean, none of these questions go to the \\
10 & interest of the State as a whole, at least \\
11 & as I'm understanding them. And I want to \\
12 & just interpose that objection for the \\
13 & record. \\
14 & PRESIDING OFFICER: So your \\
15 & objection is that the -- \\
16 & \(\quad\) MR. TRASTER: Relevance. \\
17 & PRESIDING OFFICER: Relevance for \\
18 & the need, okay. Do you have a response to \\
19 & that, Mr. Lee? \\
20 & MR. LEE: Well, Your Honor, there \\
21 & will be certainly information that will be \\
22 & provided to you on this issue of the \\
23 & relative balance of interest to the State, \\
24 & but part of that obviously is is there a \\
25 & need, I mean, that's what the regulations
\end{tabular}
talk about, that there is a requirement to show what the projected need is, so to say it's not relevant, I think, is more than a stretch.

MR. TRASTER: And I would just add that the regulations that he's referring to are requirements for a complete transfer application, but they do not -- they're not specifically requirements that are imposed by the Water Transfer Act, and, in fact, to the extent that they implement the Water Transfer Act and violate the -- the limitation on the panel's ability to reduce the quantity for some reason other than the interest of the State as a whole, they're not -- they're not valid. I mean, so -which they can, of course, make, but if that's the purpose, then they -- the regulations can't change the limitation in the statute is my point.

PRESIDING OFFICER: The statutes and regulations are what they are, I don't have any authority to alter or amend any sort of regulation or statute that's in place. Now, for purposes of the record, I'll give

\begin{tabular}{|c|c|}
\hline 1 & would like to clarify, do you work with \\
\hline 2 & governing bodies? Is that true? \\
\hline 3 A & We do. \\
\hline 4 Q & Okay. Explain that, please. \\
\hline 5 A & Well, we receive about 60 percent of our funding \\
\hline 6 & from governing bodies, primarily the City of \\
\hline 7 & Hays and the County of Ellis, also the -- and \\
\hline 8 & also the City of Ellis, as well as City of \\
\hline 9 & Victoria. The other 40 percent of our funding \\
\hline 10 & comes from the private sector. But in our \\
\hline 11 & normal day-to-day capacity we work extensively \\
\hline 12 & with the local governments implementing programs \\
\hline 13 & that are -- whether it be for housing or for \\
\hline 14 & industrial revenue bonds, for manufacturers, or \\
\hline 15 & whatever the case might be. \\
\hline 16 Q & Okay. And we asked you to come and testify \\
\hline 17 & today in support of this water transfer, \\
\hline 18 & correct? \\
\hline 19 A & You did. \\
\hline 20 Q & Okay. And the basis of your testimony is to \\
\hline 21 & kind of give an account from a local, \\
\hline 22 & on-the-ground resident of -- long-term resident \\
\hline 23 & of Hays, is that roughly -- \\
\hline 24 A & That's true -- \\
\hline 25 Q & Yeah. \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
A -- very long-term.
Q And you came today of your own choice, right?
A I did.
Q Not being paid anything, correct?
A No.
Q Okay. You mentioned this, but how long have you
    been a Hays resident?
A Well, I'm 66 years old, I was born in Hays, had
    a couple years as an infant where my parents
    relocated but moved back when I was 3 years old,
    and I've been there ever since. So since about
    1960, I believe, is when we moved back to Hays,
    and I've been a resident since that time.
Q And you've been a resident continuously since
    about 1960 ; is that right?

A That's correct.
Q And in your professional career in Hays -- as a Hays resident, it mostly sounds like it's been in the real estate business; is that --
A Lots and lots of real estate activity in one form or another, either ownership or brokerage, that -- those type of things, been involved in both construction, new construction, lots of different aspects of it, but very -- a strong emphasis in real estate, as well as some

1 technology.
Q What did your dad do for a living?
A My dad was a real estate broker and later a real estate appraiser.
Q And was he a real estate broker and appraiser in the City of Hays?
A Yes.
Q What about your mom?
A My mom was a travel agent.
Q Also in the City of Hays?
A Also in the City of Hays.
Q Let's talk about your education just briefly.
A Okay.
Q I assume you weren't in -- you weren't being educated or a student when you were an infant not in Hays, so is it correct to say that all of your education experience has been in the City of Hays?
A It has been, I attended kindergarten through high school, graduated from Hays High School in 1975, attended Fort Hays State for a couple years, and determined that that was not for me and entered the real estate business.
Q When you were at Fort Hays State, did you have a point of emphasis in schooling, or was it

Page 389
1 general ed?
A Just business primarily --
Q Okay.
A -- general ed and business.
Q And you've worked in the real estate business
roughly since 1977 ?
\(A\) Off and on, yes.
Q Did you work with your dad?
A Initially I did.
Q How did you like having your dad as a boss?
A We got along pretty well surprisingly, we really didn't have many clashes so it went fine.
Q And as a real estate agent, did you work in
real -- I'm sorry, residential, commercial, or both, explain that, please.
A Worked in both. Initially, it was just primarily residential, but then later on and in later years I had a heavy emphasis on commercial as well, I found that more interesting. But always did some residential and then the emphasis did move to commercial later in my real estate career.
Q Talk, if you would, about any experience that you have in public service, service on boards, committees, things of that nature.

A Well, I was -- I'm a two-time president of the Hays Board of Realtors, recipient of the Realtor of the Year award two times; if you stay around long enough, that -- that happens, they rotate you through again. And received a public service award from the Board of Realtors. Haven't had a whole lot of other civic activity and that type of thing. Long-time member of the Chamber of Commerce and those type of things but not a whole lot of other civic activity.
Q Okay, thanks. Talk briefly, if you would, about conservation measures that are in place, water conservation measures that are in place from the perspective of a resident, a long-term resident of the city.
A Well, you know, there are a lot of water conservation efforts that the City of Hays has put forth, whether it be for proactive use of low-flow toilets, low-flow showerheads, those type of things, or punitive things like fining you if you're letting the water run down the gutter during the wrong time of day and that kind of thing.

And so -- and also another way is in the -the billing system with which the City has in

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place. If you -- if you're an excessive user, the cost gets more -- higher and higher progressively, and it does discourage excess water usage. So have a lot of experience with the -- with the City's policies and quite familiar with getting the knock on the door and finding out that there's water running down the gutter and it's not supposed to be.
Q Have you ever received a ticket for --
A Just warnings so far.
Okay. Is it your experience, and talk about, if you can, conservation measures in place before 1991 versus after 1991, if you have a specific understanding or recollection.
A Well, certainly, you know, I was -- I was in the real estate before and after 1991, and -- in the real estate business, and, you know, it became much more, oh, in the forefront, I mean, we became much more aware, people became much more conscious of water usage and water conservation.

Prior to that, it -- I don't recall there being a lot of emphasis on that, with the exception of maybe the -- in the late ' 80 s when we had a economic, kind of a meltdown in our community. Part of that was driven by a
drought, you know, the farm economy was really bad and there was kind of an ag crisis in western Kansas, and some of that, at least in our county, was driven by poor crops due to drought.

But after 1990 or '91 when those measures were put in place, it becomes very top of mind when you live there as to the conservation efforts that exist. And as a Realtor, many times, you know, new people move to town, you have to kind of condition them on what the -what the rules are because they may come from a place where there aren't those types of conservation methods in place, and you've got to make sure they understand or they're going to get the knock on the door. But also understand there are things they can -- if they got a leaky toilet or something like that, they can put a new one in and get a nice portion of it paid for by the City because of some of these -- these conservation methods.
Q As a real estate agent, I imagine you've had an opportunity to show properties to prospective purchasers. Is that fair?
A Absolutely.

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Q And have, over the course of your career, have you had occasion, mainly after 1991 when the conservation practices were implemented, did you have an opportunity to show prospective purchasers properties when those purchasers were from outside of Hays that you had to educate?
A Many times, many times.
Q And walk us through that -- that conversation, you know, just in general terms. I know each one is unique, but in general what would the conversation go like?
A In general, you know, you have to make sure they understand that it's a different set of rules in our community and that -- that we take conservation very seriously in Hays and in our county as a whole. And so you would -- you would want to make sure they understood the limitations on when they could water their lawn, you want to make sure that they understood that there were low-flow showerheads and low-flow toilet rebates and those type of things available, that if they're going to put in a new yard that they have to put in warm-season -- you know, low water usage grasses, those type of things.

\section*{Page 395}

So in -- in as positive a way as possible, you just have to explain that in the summertime we have some rules that we have to follow and that, you know, they've got to be cautious about when they water, make sure that if they have a sprinkler head or something like that that is not draining properly that they don't have water running down the gutter because there could be consequences.

And we have a pretty good neighborhood police force all over the community that's more than happy to call you in if you got water running down the gutter because they can't do it and they figure that you shouldn't be able to either. And so -- but that's the -- that's the balance that you -- you try and put together is promoting your community, yes, but making sure they understand there are rules they have to follow.
Q Have you ever as a resident of Hays received a call from the city water utility advising you that you have particularly high water use that month?
4 A I have.
25 Q What are -- what is the scenario, what's the

1 Q Based on your description of your discussions with tenants and prospective purchasers, it sounds like you, at least, and, if you know, the residents of Hays do a lot of educating each other when it comes to water use. Is that fair?
A I think that's fair, I think we have a very strong conservation mindset in the community, and -- with a few exceptions, and there's always going to be exceptions. But by and large, I think people realize that -- that we have a challenge in the area of water and that we're good stewards of the water that we do have.
Q You mentioned water rates, explain the water rate structure of Hays and the escalating costs that you can incur from the perspective of somebody who has to pay those bills.
A Well, I don't understand it completely, I understand the consequences; I don't understand exactly, but I do know it's based on usage. And a household is -- has base use of \(X\) amount of gallons per month, and then when you go over that, you pay a little bit higher rate; and when you go over that, you pay a little bit higher, and it escalates fairly rapidly. And if you get into high, high usage, it can -- it can get

1 triggering event for something like that?
A Well, I think it's obviously the meter reading and the usage that has occurred. I've owned rental properties and that type of thing where I'll get a call and they'll say, you know, your water usage tripled or quadrupled last month and you're going to get a bill for 300 bucks, or something like that.

And you -- it's great to get the call 'cause you know you've got a problem, but you go down and you find out that a tenant maybe had a stool that was running and they paid no attention to it because they weren't paying the water bill, they didn't understand how much water can run through a stool in a month's time.

And so -- but I found the City to be
very -- that they're very accommodating in that, they -- they are proactive in that, they call you, they tell you about it. Doesn't mean your bill is going to be any less necessarily because you did use that amount of water, but they -they've been very proactive in doing that. And I think as technology has improved, they have a greater ability to know when something like that is going on.

but you couple a downturn ag with a downturn oil industry, because Ellis County is very -- we're the number one oil-producing county in the state, and then with the closing of the Baxter Travenol plant, all of those together kind of created that perfect storm, but the drought played a role.
Q Sure. And then, you know, moving forward it looks like there's slightly more mild but still down here exceptional drought in the early 1990s. Do you recall that?
A Ido.
Q And you mentioned earlier that the conservation program in the City of Hays really started around that time. Was that conservation program a result of that early '90s drought?
A In part, yes, based on my recollection.
Q Sure. So if you know, in the late '80s and really in the early '90s, right before the conservation program was enacted, what was the feeling in Hays, what was the -- what was the general sentiment, if you can --
A Well, it was, in my 66 years, it was as bad a time as I've ever seen, you know, it was a bad, bad time. The -- most of the financial

Q There were a myriad number of factors that resulted in that perfect storm as you -- as you've said, right?
A That's correct.
Q The drought was part of it?
A It -- it played a role, certainly in the ag business, and I think probably in people's attitudes.
Q Jami, if you would go back to the website. And just for the record, that URL is
https://www.growhays.com/about-us/.
In the late '80s and early '90s, can you recall Hays losing out on any commercial opportunities, business opportunities?
A Well, in that time frame, Cessna was looking at an expansion, and Hays was one of the finalists in that expansion that they were going to do. And they ultimately chose Independence, Kansas as the recipient of that. I don't know what the exact reasons were that they chose Independence, but we always wonder, you know, did water play a role in that because it's always that cloud over our head and many times you don't know.

You know, we talk about the opportunities we lose because of our water situation. I worry
institutions failed, lots and lots of real estate was foreclosed upon and liquidated through the Resolution Trust Corporation. And you've got to be old enough to even remember what the Resolution Trust Corporation was, but it was a government agency that took over the assets of banks and then liquidated those assets; and there was lots and lots of that going on in our community, and it was -- it was just a really bleak time.

And that's when this group of local businesspeople got together, the heads of hospital and the local utility and the banks that were still left, and formed -- recognized that we needed more diversity in our local economy, that we -- we had to do something, we couldn't be this vulnerable. Even though this was kind of a perfect storm, we were still not as diversified as we needed to be, and they formed the Ellis County Coalition for Economic Development as an organization to promote economic development in the county.
Q Now, you're not testifying that that was all because of drought, right?
25 A No.

1 as much about the opportunities that we didn't ever know we had a chance to play in because they just don't -- we don't even get the opportunity because they look at our situation and say, that -- that isn't going to fit for us or we're not going to take that risk. But Cessna was one of those that looked at our community seriously and then opted to go elsewhere.
Q And they went to Independence, you say?
A They did.
Q Did that -- did that -- was that an airplane manufacturing plant?
A Yes.
Q How many jobs approximately?
A I think it was -- I think it was 4 or 500 jobs.
Q And a -- and a construction project, I presume, of some kind?
A Yeah, I think they were making small aircraft. They later closed that plant because of some of the liability laws with small aircraft, or something like that, I can't remember for sure 'cause it was in Independence, I didn't pay that much attention, but I don't think the plant exists anymore.
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Q They should have chose Hays?
A Exactly.
Q And I understand you're not testifying that you
lost the Cessna opportunity solely because of
water, right?
A No.
Q But it was the feeling in the community that
water played -- could have played a role or did
play -- do you remember having any conversations
at the time about whether water played a role in
the loss, you know, in that?
A You know, I was somewhat removed from that
process so I don't know. Had I been in the role
I'm in today, I would have been very much
involved in that. But at that point in time I
was fighting for my own life in the local
economy that we had, and so I don't know if --
if anybody ever mentioned water or if that was a
consideration. Somebody would know but it
wouldn't be me.
Q But it was hot at the time, right?
It was.
In the summers?
It was miserable.
And it was dry?

```
        A Yes.
    Q Well, moving beyond Cessna, do you have any
        knowledge or experience with other commercial
        opportunities that Hays lost because of water?
    A Certainly in the job I have now, I have talked
    to various companies who have expressed an
    interest or we have attempted to recruit to our
    community, and one of the first things we have
    to ask is what's your water usage, because
        that's a significant factor in their ability
        to -- or our ability to service them.
            And in particular, one western Kansas
        feedlot owner wanted to put a relatively small
        packing plant, was interested in locating in
        Hays, was a Fort Hays graduate and wanted to
        come back, he loves our community, and, you
        know, the first question I asked him was, well,
        what's your water usage, and he told me, about
        350,000 gallons a day, and this is a small
        packing plant.
            Well, I wasn't 100 percent sure, but I
        called, I believe, Toby and I called Jeff
        Crispin, and they quickly informed me that that
        just isn't going to work in the environment we
        have now, with the water resources we have

A Yes.
Q Well, moving beyond Cessna, do you have any knowledge or experience with other commercial opportunities that Hays lost because of water?
A Certainly in the job I have now, I have talked to various companies who have expressed an interest or we have attempted to recruit to our community, and one of the first things we have to ask is what's your water usage, because that's a significant factor in their ability to -- or our ability to service them.

And in particular, one western Kansas feedlot owner wanted to put a relatively small packing plant, was interested in locating in Hays, was a Fort Hays graduate and wanted to cme back, he loves our commanity, and, you what's your water usage, and he told me, about 350,000 gallons a day, and this is a small packing plant.

Well, I wasn't 100 percent sure, but I called, I believe, Toby and I called Jeff Crispin, and they quickly informed me that that just inn't going to work in the environment we have now, with the water resources we have
available to us. And so they, I think, have either relocated either in Salina or Colby, I'm not sure what they've done yet, but that would be one. We also have this discussion with others who are looking at expansion and things, and, you know, water is always a consideration.
Q It sounds like the lack of an adequate water supply has inhibited the economic opportunities that Hays has had?
A I believe it has. I have direct evidence of it, and then as I said I believe we are overlooked in some cases simply because we don't have adequate water supply. When I look at -- I get the comparison all the time, why can't we be more like Kearney, Nebraska? Well, if you look at it, they're both located on an interstate, they're college towns, college about the same size, regional hub, that kind of thing. What's the biggest difference? They got a river that runs through there, they've got water, which allows them to raise corn and that kind of thing, and it just changes the economic picture. And \(I\) believe if we had an adequate water supply and it wasn't a huge issue, we would have experienced a lot more growth than we have.

Q And you may not know, but I take it -- I mean, 'cause Hays has a river that flows through it, Big Creek.
A Yeah.
Q But -- but I -- if you know, I mean, is Kearney -- is the river that runs through Kearney susceptible to drought the same way that the Smoky Hill and Big Creek are at Hays?
A Not at the same level, based on my understanding of it. You know, they have -- they have the Ogallala beneath them and the river and they have irrigated corn and things that we just cannot do in our community. So a difference there. And there's others, I don't want to blame it all on water that we haven't grown at the same rate that Kearney has, but at the root of things, it's a -- it's a big difference maker.
Q Do you know whether the City of Russell has similar initiatives relating to conservation?
A I am not familiar with Russell's conservation efforts. I am going to assume that they do because I -- their water issues are the same as ours for the most part, but I'm not familiar with them specifically.

Q And in some ways, at least, Russell being downstream is even in a little rougher spot than Hays --
A Yes.
Q -- is that what you would think too?
A That would be my observation, but I'm -- I'm not sure how that works.
Q What is life like in Hays during serious drought? Think back to --

Jami, could you pull up Exhibit 2679?
Think back to the drought of 2011, 2012, 2013, do you recall that drought?
A I do. I do.
Q What was life like in Hays during the peak of that drought?
A Well, it was pretty challenging, lots of dead yards, lots of heat. I mentioned it before and I would be -- I wouldn't be doing my duty if I didn't say that our slogan at that time was if it's yellow, let it mellow, if it's brown, flush it down.
Q Okay.
A And that's really not the recruiting slogan we're going to put on our Grow Hays recruiting brochure, but it -- it's a challenging time.
community for the next 50 to 100 years, I really do.

We have -- we have such a good story to tell in our community, we've got a four-year university, we got a interstate highway that goes right by, we've got a great regional medical center, we're the number one oil-producing county in the State of Kansas, and yet that one thing that always hangs over our head is that water issue. And this could -this could alleviate that, and I think it makes a huge difference.
Q Did the drought of 2011, '12, '13 cause stress in your personal life?
A You know, not so much my personal life as the one in 1988 and ' 89 , ' 90 , but it -- it does -you know, the whole outside lawn, plants and trees that die and that type of thing, there's always a little bit of stress associated with that. I don't want to act like that's life and death, but it just contributes to the overall stress of an already hot summer.
Q What if the fear of no water coming out when you turn the spigot came true, would that be life and death?

Page 413
And there are times when you think how bad could it really get? You know, they're putting out announcements about how bad the wellfield down in the Smoky is and that it continues to drop, and you wonder, is there going to come a time when I turn on the spigot and nothing comes out?
Q Did you have conversations with other folks around Hays about the water issue?
A Oh, yes.
Q And was it on the minds of other people?
A Very much so.
Q And were they concerned about it as you were, in your -- in your recollection?
A Very much so.
Q How do you perceive the ranch playing into Hays' story?
A Well, I -- I think, and, you know, this has obviously been going on a long, long time, I can remember back in the early ' 90 s when they were talking about different things that might be done for water, Toby alluded to some of them, water banking and all this kind of stuff that was different sources, but \(I\) think the ranch is a game changer for our community. I think it opens up all kinds of opportunities for our

1 A That would be a bad day, I mean, that -- that's a serious problem and it would cause, I don't know if irreparable is the right word, but \(I\) just think of any business or any person -- you know, so many people can choose where they live now because of remote work and that type of thing, and an event like that or just a continued drought where you can't have plants outside or what have you, it gets you to the point where is this really where I want to live, and we don't want to get to that point.
Q You probably don't put those kinds of stories up on the Grow Hays website, do you?
A No, we try and focus on the positive. And there's lots of -- plenty of positive to focus on so we focus on that.
Q Would you call the issue of obtaining an adequate water supply for Hays an existential issue for the City?
A I would, absolutely.
Q What do you expect to happen -- what do you
expect to happen to water rates in the City of Hays if this water transfer goes through and the ranch comes online?
25 A Well, I know that the City has been putting

plays an important role in keeping western
Kansas kids at home?
A Yes, they do.
Q Why do you say that?
A Well, I think it -- for one they offer the most cost-effective education you can get and so -and it's -- it's away from home but it's close to home for kids to be able to go to. We're in a good, safe community that parents don't have to worry too much about what their kids are doing, and they get a great education for a great price. So I think Fort Hays plays a critical role, and they're just a very valuable resource to our community.
Q How would quality of life in Hays change when the ranch is brought online?
A Well, I think it -- I think it takes that cloud away that -- that kind of hangs over us all the time. I don't know that -- that our community will change their habits that much, but it -- it does allow us to recruit other businesses that might have a hesitation otherwise. It allows maybe people to plant maybe a little bit more yard, just to have a better overall attitude about things, so I think -- I think there's some
real positives from that standpoint just with -with attitude and perception of the community.
Q Mr. Williams, I'm not going to keep you on the stand very much longer, I want to ask you about two more things.
A Okay.
Q Jami, pull up the 2023 Grow Hays operations plan.

Mr. Williams, do you recognize this document?
A Ido.
Q Did you write this document?
A Most of it.
Q Okay. Jami, if you would -- can you describe this document, please.
A Well, this is our -- this is primarily our operations plan which we present to the governing bodies each year, as well as our investors, just to tell them what we're going -what we're doing and what our projects are and where our focus is. It's also a little bit of a marketing document -- it's a marketing document for us to those entities because they fund us, and we want to make sure they understand that they're getting their money's worth but also to
the community that they know what's going on and that they know what projects we're working on.
Q Jami, if you could turn to page 9 of that
document. And zoom in on the paragraph, that
top paragraph, the business recruitment paragraph, if you would.

Mr. Williams, I'm going to read this to you.
A Okay.
Q Business recruitment remains the single-most challenging objective for Grow Hays, with workforce shortages, high land and housing costs, regional depopulation, and in the recent pandemic, recruitment of large employers or retail establishments is challenging. That being said, Grow Hays is actively engaged in several projects that address the recruitment challenge. Does that sound familiar?
A Sounds very familiar.
20 Q Did you write that?
21 A I did.
22 Q Water PACK's expert quotes that paragraph in his report --
24 A Okay.
25 Q -- in arguing that lack of an adequate water

Page 421
1 supply really has nothing to do with Hays'

5 Q Is the lack of a water supply, the lack of a
6 sufficient water supply relevant to the business

0 Q But you don't mention the lack of a water supply there, do you?
A I don't.
Q Why not?
A Well, primarily because this is a one-year report, you know, it's over a one-year period of time basically; it says ' 23 and ' 24 , but it's -it's designed to cover the ' 24 budget year, and we're not going to address our water challenge in 2024. We can address -- we are addressing housing and we will address housing, and we can address workforce when you address housing, the ability to recruit people. And so that's one reason why it's not in there is because it's -it's a longer, broader issue than just a one-year problem.
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The other reason is that we don't want to brag about the fact that we have a water challenge when other people are seeing this and that type of thing. I think -- I think an employer can come into a community and recruit people, even if it's from other businesses, but if we give them a sense of fear because we may not have adequate water, that means we may not even get to engage with them. So that would be the other reason that it's not mentioned in there. \\
Q Do you agree with Water PACK's expert's contention that water has nothing to do with those business recruitment challenges? \\
MR. LEE: Your Honor, I would object to that characterization, that's not what the report says; it says water is not the only challenge, not that it's not a challenge. \\
PRESIDING OFFICER: Response? \\
MR. BULLER: Yeah, he will have an opportunity to address that with his expert report. I disagree with that characterization completely. \\
PRESIDING OFFICER: Okay. I'll
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And really, you know, I know we're here about water, and that's really the only thing -not the only thing, but it's the main thing that stands in the way of us and -- and a lot more growth than we've been able to experience thus far. \\
Q Mr. Williams, thanks for coming down and taking time out of your day to help us. I have no further questions at this time. \\
PRESIDING OFFICER: All right. \\
Mr. Cole? \\
MR. COLE: Yes, thank you. \\
CROSS-EXAMINATION \\
BY MR. COLE: \\
Q Mr. Williams, my name is Ken Cole, and I represent the City of Russell, and I just have a few questions. \\
A Okay. \\
Q You indicated in your direct testimony that you were active in residential sales as a Realtor? \\
A Yes. \\
Q Are you still active in that area? \\
A Well, I'm active in a different way. I no longer have a real estate license, an active
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overrule the objection, allow the witness to testify to what his understanding is, and then you can address that on either your cross-examination or with the witnesses, Mr. Lee. \\
MR. LEE: Thank you, Your Honor. \\
A Could you repeat that question? \\
BY MR. BULLER: \\
Q Do you agree with Water PACK's expert? \\
A I don't agree with him that water is not a problem. I know better. \\
Q Last thing, Mr. Williams, give us your elevator speech for Hays, what makes Hays a great place to live, work, and grow up? \\
A Well, I think Hays is the gem of the high plains. We're -- we're located right on I-70 halfway between Kansas City and Denver, we have a great four-year university that I would put up against any university in the country. We have a tremendous regional medical center. We have great cultural activities because of the university and sporting events, and we have a great culture, it's a safe community. I just can't say enough that we -- we have a terrific community.
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real estate license; it was a conflict of interest for me to have one in the role I'm in so I went inactive with it. But Grow Hays is involved in several residential developments, two where we are -- with a not-for-profit organization, our community developing lots and getting houses, homes built, and ... \\
Q I'm assuming that you have friends and acquaintances that are Realtors? \\
A That I do. \\
Q Do you think you have a general idea of what the demand is for residential housing in Hays? \\
A Ido. \\
Q Can you -- does -- how does the demand compare to the supply? \\
A Well, we have a lot more demand than we have supply, in particular in certain price ranges, but there's -- there's definitely more demand than there is supply, and it's resulted in a very, very tight real estate market. \\
Q So you got more people looking to purchase residential housing in Hays than you have housing units available? \\
A Wedo. \\
Q Do some of those folks looking to purchase, do
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they -- are they from communities other than Hays?
A They are.
Q If -- if you could get to the point where you could grow that housing stock enough, would you see an influx of people?
A I believe we would.
Q So do you believe that the rate of growth of the
population of Hays is actually being depressed, not because people don't want to live there but because construction has not kept up?
A That's part of it, yes.
Q The folks that are building housing, the things that you've talked about, the limitations that are created because they -- of the limitations of water, the uncertainty of water, do you know, having been in the construction business, if that affects someone's decision to build residential housing?
A I can't speak to any particular situation where somebody has questioned building residential housing because of the water situation. We're in a market right now where in a particular development on the east side of Hays, we've had 54 lots, 30 -- two phases, one with 36 lots, the

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other with 18. The first 36 is about to build out in the last couple years, and the next 18, there's nine of them under construction, all have sold well before they were done. Really the ones that are in the new 18 lots, they're sold before they even break ground. So we have strong, strong demand for housing, particularly that type of housing.
Q And, again, that's from nonresidents or at least a portion of it is?
A A portion of it is.
Q It interests me a little bit you having lived through this. We talk about the effects of droughts, unavailability of water, and perhaps -- I know the question was asked of you about stress and your personal experience with that. In -- in these periods of rather severe drought that you've experienced, is it your observation that the attitude of the community, the way people interact with one another, the attitudes people have change because of that drought?
A To some extent, yes.
24 Q Okay. And you've testified that Hays has regulations dealing with the use of water and
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the reason that they're comparing Hays to \\
Kearney in a negative respect because Hays \\
doesn't have water? \\
PRESIDING OFFICER: I'll overrule \\
the objection, allow the question. \\
A That's certainly part of it. \\
BY MR. COLE: \\
Q Do you know whether Kearney has more industrial -- \\
A They definitely have more industrial companies and -- and a greater industrial community than -- than we do. \\
Q And do you know whether that relies more heavily upon the use of water than Hays does? \\
A I don't know that for a fact, I just make an assumption. \\
Q Okay. I don't have any other questions, thank you. \\
PRESIDING OFFICER: All right. \\
Mr. Lee? \\
MR. LEE: Thank you, Your Honor. \\
PRESIDING OFFICER: I guess before \\
we start in with another -- another attorney's questions, does anybody need a break before we start this?
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Q -- about your testimony. Just to make sure that you're not left with the wrong impression, I \\
want to show you a part of the direct testimony of one of our experts that was referred to by the City's counsel. That's on the screen now. I can read it for you -- \\
A Okay. \\
Q -- I can see you're squinting. But the question that's asked, and this is direct, written testimony, the question's asked, What are the actual growth rates of the Cities of Hays and Russell? \\
And the answer is, Over the last four decades growth for Hays has averaged about 0.65 percent per year with slower growth, 0.29 percent per year, between 2010 and 2020. Russell has experienced a continuously declining population since 1980. This slower declining growth is unlikely attributed to water availability solely but most likely influenced by various factors. So to the point of my objection -- \\
A Right. \\
Q -- they don't blame that all on something else. Do you know who Mason Ruder is?
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MR. LEE: Actually we've got to take a couple minutes to set this up so that would work. \\
PRESIDING OFFICER: Okay. Why don't we take five minutes and just start back up in five minutes, then. \\
(Thereupon, a recess was taken; whereupon, the following was had.) \\
PRESIDING OFFICER: I think we have everybody back. Mr. Lee, if you are ready? \\
MR. LEE: I am ready, Your Honor, thanks. \\
PRESIDING OFFICER: All right. \\
We'll go ahead and let you begin with your cross-examination of Mr. Williams. \\
CROSS-EXAMINATION \\
BY MR. LEE: \\
Q Mr. Williams, good afternoon. \\
A Good afternoon to you. \\
Q My name's Charles Lee, I'm one of the lawyers for Water PACK and Edwards County. I don't have a lot of questions for you, but I do want to talk a little bit -- \\
A Okay.
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A I do. \\
Q And he is either the mayor or former mayor of Hays? \\
A Former mayor. \\
Q Okay. Let me show you a letter, if I may, that Mr. Ruder wrote to the Kansas Senate Ways and Means Committee, and it's fairly recent, it's March 9th of 2023. And the -- he is writing to support the House Bill 2290, which I would guess you probably know what that is? \\
A Refresh my memory. \\
Q Okay. Well, it is actually a way to encourage economic development in -- \\
A Okay. \\
Q -- in your part of the world. He goes on to say that Please accept this letter as written testimony of my support for House Bill 2290. Fort Hays State University and so on have long been beacons of opportunity and drivers of economic prosperity in rural Kansas. Today and in the days ahead our communities face significant demographic and economic challenges including, and he lists three things, a shrinking rural population, an aging workforce, a decline in the number of college-bound
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\(\mathbf{1}\) & students in rural Kansas. And then he says, \\
2 & Economic impact of these demographic changes is \\
3 & nothing less than devastating to our rural \\
\(\mathbf{4}\) & Kansas economy. \\
5 & So as to those three bullet points, those \\
6 & are probably things you agree with, it sounds \\
7 & like, from your testimony? \\
8 & A \\
9 & Q \\
10 & Okay, we suffer from all of those, yes. \\
11 & have read, and there's some -- some document to \\
12 & support that, but we think that Hays is somewhat \\
13 & has for commercial development. Would that be \\
14 & fair? \\
15 & A -- I don't know that I would agree with that; \\
16 & I'd have to know in what context somebody was \\
17 & saying that. \\
18 & Well, we can -- we can show a document, and if \\
19 & you don't agree with it, I promise I won't hit \\
20 & you. So this is, as you can see, a memo, it's \\
21 & from Mr. Dougherty and it's dated April 5th of \\
22 & 2018 and he says, under the heading of \\
23 & background, There's a limited amount of \\
24 & developable land in and adjacent to the City of \\
25 & Hays that is conducive for retail, commercial,
\end{tabular}
and business part to use. The property near Commerce is for sale at an asking price of \(\$ 800,000\), infrastructure is nearby and the land is poised for development. So he's talking about a recommendation, I believe, but also saying there's a limited amount of land. Is that -- is that consistent with your understanding?
A Not really consistent with my understanding of limited amount of land. I think limited amount of price -- properly priced land --
Q Okay.
A -- is more what I think that was driving that.
Q And is -- we've also read that land in Hays and the Hays community is relatively high priced; is that right?
A That is right.
Q Okay. And I assume that that is somewhat of a drag on development?
A It can slow things down, yes.
Q Okay. The -- I think you alluded to, sort of in passing, but it was of interest to us, the role of agriculture in -- in and around the City of Hays, and I would assume that agriculture plays a significant role in the economy of Ellis

1 County; is that right?
A That's correct.
3 Q Okay. Let me show you some data, if I may.
4 This is from the Kansas Department of
5 Agriculture, and I know that's really hard for 6 you to see, but the -- it shows that -- and this 7 is 2017 data, it shows 603 farms accounting for 8501,699 acres, \(\$ 65\) million and change in crop 9 and livestock sales in 2017. So would I be 10 correct that probably cumulatively is the 11 largest industry in Ellis County?
2 A I would have to look at the oil industry and compare those two because \(I\)-- that may be, but I think the oil industry would be right there with it.
Q Okay. But at least in comparison to any stand-alone business in Hays that would be significantly larger; is that right?
A What was that top number?
Q 65 million.
21 A Well, the hospital, I think, is about a \$250 million operation and --
Q Okay, fair enough, fair enough. The -- you mentioned the concept of pull factor during 25 your -- your testimony. My understanding of

Page 437
1 pull factor, and you're the expert here, but my 2 understanding of pull factor is that is a 3 percentage based metric that -- that shows as 4 a -- in relation to the number of full-time 5 residents how many folks from out of town come 6 to the community for various reasons, shop, 7 hospital, so on; is that right?
8 A Yes.
9 Q So in other words, and ultimately my question,

13 Q Okay. So is it shown as dollars --
4 A I believe it's revenue based.
Q Okay. Okay. So if you are talking about a county the size of Ellis as opposed to, to pick something near and dear, Johnson County, then a much smaller percentage in Johnson County as far as pull factor creates a lot more dollars; is that right?
A Well, a lot more -- a lot more of the money comes from within Sedgwick County than from outside of Sedgwick County, so they don't have as big a pull factor, or they may have a bigger pull factor but it's -- it's based on dollars

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Hays, they buy groceries from the City of Hays, they buy cars, they buy trucks, they send their kids to school, so they ... \\
Q Groceries? \\
A Yes. \\
Q Gasoline? \\
A Yes. \\
Q Restaurants? \\
A All of the above. \\
Q And if this water transfer doesn't go through and the Cities don't get the water, you mentioned that it could represent an existential crisis in the event of a significant drought, remember that? \\
A I do. \\
Q And those farming families and -- that are surrounding Hays, north of Hays, the folks who are competing -- who -- that Kearney is competing with -- \\
A Uh-huh. \\
Q -- if Hays goes away, are more of those folks liable to go to Kearney for their groceries or their shopping, for their dining, for their cars, for everything that they rely on Hays for, are they more likely to go to Kearney for those
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MR. COLE: Yes, as we discussed before. So there will be more Hays witnesses to be called -- \\
PRESIDING OFFICER: That's fine. \\
MR. COLE: Okay. Call Brad Wagner. \\
PRESIDING OFFICER: All right. And, \\
Mr. Wagner, I'll swear you in, but just for our court reporter need to make sure we have you spell your name so she can get that correct. \\
THE WITNESS: Okay. \\
PRESIDING OFFICER: Can you please \\
raise your right hand, your testimony will be under oath subject to the perjury laws in the State of Kansas. \\
BRAD WAGNER, \\
having first duly sworn or affirmed, was examined and testified as follows: \\
PRESIDING OFFICER: All right. Go ahead and spell your name for the court reporter. \\
THE WITNESS: It's Brad, B-R-A-D, Wagner, W-A-G-N-E-R.
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1 & things if Hays goes away? \\
2 & A \\
3 & In some cases, yes. \\
4 & That would represent dollars going out of the \\
5 & State of Kansas, wouldn't it? \\
6 Q & It would. \\
7 & That would be a net detriment to this state, \\
8 & A \\
It would it not? \\
9 & MR. BULLER: No further questions. \\
10 & PRESIDING OFFICER: Mr. Cole, \\
11 & anything? \\
12 & MR. COLE: No. \\
13 & PRESIDING OFFICER: Mr. Lee, \\
14 & anything further? \\
15 & MR. LEE: No, Your Honor, thank you. \\
16 & PRESIDING OFFICER: Ms. Langworthy? \\
17 & MS. LANGWORTHY: No questions, Your \\
18 & Honor. \\
19 & PRESIDING OFFICER: Thank you. All \\
20 & right. Thank you, Mr. Williams. \\
21 & Mr. Traster, Mr. Buller, who would you \\
22 & like to call as your next witness? \\
23 & MR. TRASTER: I believe that the \\
24 & City of Russell would -- \\
25 & PRESIDING OFFICER: Okay.
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DIRECT EXAMINATION \\
BY MR. COLE: \\
Q And, Brad -- is it all right if I call you Brad? \\
A Sure. \\
Q Yeah. We've known each other for some years, correct? \\
A We have. \\
Q Where do you reside? \\
A I reside in Russell. \\
Q Okay. And how long have you lived in Russell? \\
A I'm a lifetime resident. \\
Q Okay. Are you employed? \\
A I just recently retired, my career was as a financial adviser; the last 20 years I spent with Edward Jones. \\
Q In Russell? \\
A In Russell. \\
Q And prior to that, where did you work? \\
A Prior to that I was also a financial adviser for UMB Bank for about 15 years prior to that, also in Russell. \\
Q Okay. Any employment prior to that? \\
A I worked at UMB Bank prior to that as a loan officer so always some type of financial type business.
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Q So I'm assuming you graduated from Russell High?
A I graduated from Russell High, went to college at Fort Hays State.
Q In Hays?
A In Hays.
Q And did you receive a degree there?
A I have a bachelor's in finance.
Q And you indicated that you lived in Russell for sometime, is that all your life?
A All my life.
Q So your parents, are they from Russell?
A My -- my mother grew up in Russell, my father grew up in Otis, Kansas, not too far away, but they both spent their adult lives in Russell.
Q Okay. And did any of your mother's family have family from Russell?
A My mother -- my mother grew up in Russell, her parents lived there for an extensive period of time.
Q Okay. So having been in Russell for all of your life and probably knowing the history of Russell for generations before that, what can you tell me about the subject we're here about, and that's water, availability of water for the City of Russell?

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A Yeah, sometimes it's talked about this being a crisis that's developed more recently, but my experience is from my youngest memories, you know, Russell was frequently under water restrictions during the summertime. My -- my dad worked in the oil field, he was gone from 7:00 in the morning till 7:00 at night, so I took care of the yard, I was the one that mowed the grass, and I was the one that would usually water it. And I know that there were many times that we could only water on our trash days, and that was -- that was true when I was young.
Q So that was a limitation on watering, and now you're talking about before you even graduated from high school?
A That's correct.
Q And you graduated when?
A In '78.
Q Okay. Go on.
A So, I mean, I do remember times that outdoor watering was banned at that time also, I remember not being able to wash the car.
Q Okay.
And at that time, I don't even think Russell had a commercial car wash; I mean, if you wanted to
wash your car, you washed it at home, there were times we could not do that.
Q Did your family take pride in its yard as you were growing up?
A They did. It was important to my dad, we had bluegrass, we fertilized it and we watered it when we were able to.
Q Okay. And were you able to do that throughout your youth?
A We really, for the most part, we were. Again, there were -- there were a couple of times that I remember not being able to water, but somehow we were able to put enough water on the grass that we were able to sustain it. They -- they had that type of lawn until probably the last ten years or so before it finally went to native grass.
Q Okay. Other than that, the lawn-scaping, is there other things that come to your mind as far as what your experiences are with respect to the use of water?
A Yeah, there's -- you know, we talked about the drought that occurred around 2011, '12, '13, in through there. Russell has been under continuous water restrictions for more than ten

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years, and we have different levels, and I can't tell you exactly what the levels are and what the restrictions are, but I do know the most restrictive one bans any outdoor use of water, and Russell has been under that numerous times.

And I think a lot of people around Kansas would be shocked to know that there are times it's unlawful to use a faucet on the outside of your house to water a plant or a garden, I think that would come as a shock to a lot of people, but it's reality in Russell. Again, not all the time; when we are at that level of restriction, you cannot water anything outside.
Q And do the citizens of Russell generally accept these limitations and restrictions?
A They do most -- you hear very little complaints about water restrictions as far as like when it's not so strict that you just have to water on a certain day and that you can only water early in the morning or late at night, we accept that. But when you get to the point where you can't water a tree or you can't water a garden, that really hits home, that -- that to me is a definition of a water crisis.

Everybody has a different definition, but

I'll give you an example. A couple years ago, I have a shed that I put up that's kind of a man cave, a place to hang out in retirement, and \(I\) wanted to plant some trees. And I'm 63 years old, so I wasn't going to buy a little sapling, I bought the biggest trees you can buy because I want to get some shade from these trees during my lifetime. And so that's a couple thousand dollars. And I had to have a plan in place for how am I going to water these trees if we go on level 4 water restriction.
And so my plan is, you know, I've got rain barrels at my house where you can actually capture the water that comes out of the downspout in these tanks, and you have that and then I'd have to have a way to transport those from where I live, where I capture the water to my shed so I can hook up a garden hose and water the tree. But you have to have a plan like that in place or you can potentially lose your trees.
Q So the shed that you have, is it located at your residence?
A It's not at my residence, no, that's correct.
And do you know folks that have had to just sit and watch during these times of drought and let

\section*{Page 451}
things die?
A Yes, if you don't have a plan -- we talked about this in Hays, but it is legal to use gray water.
And so for people that don't know what that is, it's okay to capture bath water or to have some container in the shower with you and capture water like that, and that water could be used outside. That'll work for some potted plants, but it's not a viable option for watering a large tree or, you know, some bigger use like watering a large garden.
Q And have you done that at times?
A I have done that at times.
Q Now, the home you live at now, how long have you lived at that home?
A We moved in in 2000.
Q Okay. And you lived somewhere else in Russell for several years prior to that?
A That's correct.
Q While you have a shed at a different location that you talked about what you had to do for watering there, the place that you live, like there are a few places in Russell that have private wells; is that correct?
25 A That's correct.

Q And you have at least access to a private well; is that correct?
A Yes, that was one of the appeals when I bought the property was that those properties in our little neighborhood actually do have fescue grass and it's green, and it was something that was a source of pride for me when we first bought the home.
Q Okay. The well that you're talking about, does it serve more than one house?
A There are -- there are four different households that use that well.
Q And are you limited on its use?
A We have certain days that we can each use it.
Q Okay. Its quality, what can you use it for?
A It's okay for irrigating grass. It contains a lot of dissolved solids. I mean, if you get it on the window of your residence, you have to -the only way to get it off is with a razor blade. And you have to be very careful. If you water a plant and get it on the leaves, you can actually kill a plant. But if you put it directly on the ground and it soaks in, it's usable for watering a lawn or something like that.

Q Okay. Now, since your retirement, have you got involved in some of the local activities?
A I actually ran for city council, and I started my term in just this last January.
Q Okay.
A I serve on the hospital board, and I'm on the board of directors of the local community theater.
Q Okay. And being on that -- well, aside from your recent activity with the city council, do you have any prior experience with the City as it relates to its water issues?
A I'm not sure if I understand your question.
Q Did you once serve on the public --
A Oh, yes, I'm sorry. Russell and Hays had a public wholesale water district, I believe it was number 15, and I was asked to serve on that board in the '90s. And the board was -- we met regularly through the early 2000 s , and it was our responsibility to research other possible water sources for Russell and Hays.

And I believe it was an organization that even had some -- had their own assets, had some money, and I believe even had a director at one time that was paid. And we did spend


A That's true, that's true.
Q Are you generally familiar with what the demands are from those industries?
A I know that our wheat gluten facility and our ethanol facility use large quantities of water, but I also know that they provide, I believe in the area of \(\mathbf{1 0 0}\) jobs, and for a community of 4,500 people a business that provides 100 jobs is a big deal.
Q And you're getting ahead of me, but that was my next question, so any community, anybody has to look at something when they're looking at this as a cost versus benefit kind of analysis?
A Right.
Q So the critics would stand out there and say the cost is too great; if you're on water restrictions, that's 'cause you let that factory in, right?
A Yes, and I'm sure there are people that feel that way, but you really don't hear -- you don't hear a lot of grumblings about that. I think we all realize that if you want our community to survive and thrive, economically we've got that business, we're committed to it.
Q The boom and bust economy that Russell had for

Page 459
so many years, is that still the case?
A I don't believe it is. I mean, we've experienced numerous big drops in oil since then, you know, there was a big oil drop in 2014, and, you know, I remember back in the ' 80 s Russell probably had 300 houses for sale, and we've never seen anything like that since then. And \(I\) have to attribute a big part of that to the ethanol and wheat gluten facility. I really believe that that has added a level of economic stability that we wouldn't have otherwise. And so I think we realize that because that's so important economically for the jobs they provide, we have to find a way to give them the water that they need.
Q You were in the financial industry, I assume you had clients that worked there?
A Most definitely. And the nice thing is they're good paying jobs that offer retirement benefits and health insurance, which is something that is difficult to find in the oil industry or the ag industry.
Q So cost of water they require and the benefits from what they provide, how would that scale look to you?

A To me the benefits far outweigh the cost. I realize it's difficult to provide the water they need, but they provide such a great economic benefit to us.
Q Do you know -- do you know if they have a business plan to expand?
A I do know that they would very much like to expand, but we can't responsibly commit to them that we can give them the water that they would need to do that, and so I feel quite certain that their expansion hinges on whether or not we're allowed to transfer water from the \(\mathbf{R 9}\) to Russell.
Q So you're saying it's your understanding that that expansion is dependent upon Russell being able to provide additional water?
A It's my belief that that is true.
Q Okay.
A And -- and it's rare that in Russell you would have such a clear business opportunity and an opportunity to expand and offer more jobs. Excuse me. And so for us to see the opportunity that's there and know that we may or may not be able to make good on it is very difficult.
Q So if that were to occur and if Russell then got

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1 a stable, reliable water source that it could 2 count on, aside from the industry, do you see 3 that as a benefit to the State as a whole?
4 A How can it not be? Not only do we have the

20 A I would be puzzled as to how you could think that that would be the case.
Q Thank you.
MR. TRASTER: I have no questions. PRESIDING OFFICER: All right.
Mr. Lee --
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\hline Page 462 & Page 464 \\
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MR. LEE: Thank you, Your Honor. \\
PRESIDING OFFICER: -- do you have \\
some questions? \\
MR. LEE: Yes. \\
PRESIDING OFFICER: Okay. \\
CROSS-EXAMINATION \\
BY MR. LEE: \\
Q Mr. Wagner, good afternoon. \\
A Good afternoon. \\
Q I'm Charles Lee, I'm one of the lawyers with Lee Schwalb that represents Water PACK and Edwards County, and I've got a few questions for you in light of your testimony. \\
A Okay. \\
Q And I sort of, I guess, want to start at the back end. You were talking about the ethanol plant and expansion, right? \\
A Correct. \\
Q Who's the -- who's the president or president, slash, owner of the ethanol plant? \\
A It's -- it's a company called PureField Ingredients, I believe. \\
Q Okay. And is that someone who is local to Russell?
\end{tabular} & \begin{tabular}{l}
Q And it's remained that way 'cause you have stayed? \\
A Correct. \\
Q And you indicate it's no longer a boom and bust economy, I think? \\
A I believe it's much more stable. \\
Q Okay. Thank you, no other questions. \\
A Thank you. \\
PRESIDING OFFICER: All right. \\
Ms. Langworthy, anything? \\
MS. LANGWORTHY: No questions, Your Honor. \\
PRESIDING OFFICER: All right. \\
Mr. Cole? \\
MR. COLE: Nothing further. \\
PRESIDING OFFICER: All right. \\
Thank you, Mr. Wagner. \\
THE WITNESS: Thanks for the opportunity. \\
PRESIDING OFFICER: I think the \\
other witnesses that you indicated potentially testifying today were \\
Mr. Quinday and Randy Baker? \\
MR. COLE: Yes, he's not here, he won't be testifying.
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A It is not. \\
Q Okay. Has the ethanol plant previously expanded? \\
A I believe it has. \\
Q And it did that despite what you characterize as a lack of water, correct? \\
A Yes, however, I also am aware that they have -they have led the industry in looking for ways to conserve water and to do more with less. So I'm not sure that over the years they have actually used more water despite their expansion. \\
Q Which is to be commended. \\
A Right, I agree. \\
Q Okay. So you are a lifelong resident of Russell? \\
A Correct. \\
Q When you went to Fort Hays, did you leave Russell and live on campus, or did you -- \\
A I did, I did live in Hays for four years. \\
Q So why'd you come back? \\
22 A Quality of life, it's just a good place to live. \\
23 Q Okay. \\
24 A It's a small enough community, it's safe, it's \\
25 quiet, we have great recreational facilities.
\end{tabular} & \begin{tabular}{l}
PRESIDING OFFICER: Okay. Do you intend to have Mr. Quinday testify? \\
MR. COLE: Yes. \\
PRESIDING OFFICER: Okay. Will he be the next witness? \\
MR. COLE: Yes. \\
PRESIDING OFFICER: All right. \\
MR. COLE: Call Jon Quinday. \\
JON QUINDAY, \\
having first duly sworn or affirmed, was examined and testified as follows: \\
PRESIDING OFFICER: All right, thank you. \\
DIRECT EXAMINATION \\
BY MR. COLE: \\
Q Would you state your name for the record, please. \\
A Jon Quinday. \\
Q And, Jon, how are you employed? \\
A City manager for the City of Russell. \\
Q How long have you been in that position? \\
A Since September of 2012.
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\hline 1 Q & And prior to that time, how were you employed? \\
\hline 2 A & I was the chief of police. \\
\hline 3 Q & At the City of Russell? \\
\hline 4 A & In the City of Russell. \\
\hline 5 Q & And do you recall how long you were employed there? \\
\hline 7 A & From 1997 until 2012. \\
\hline 8 Q & Okay. So did you move to Russell in 1997? \\
\hline 9 A & Yes. \\
\hline 10 Q & And just briefly summarize what you had done \\
\hline 11 & prior to that time. \\
\hline 12 A & I was in the United States Army for eight years, \\
\hline 13 & and then before that I was in college for a \\
\hline 14 & while and then worked on a ranch. \\
\hline 15 Q & During your time in the Army were you deployed? \\
\hline 16 A & Yes. \\
\hline 17 Q & And where were you deployed? \\
\hline 18 A & In 1990 and '91 for Desert Storm and Desert \\
\hline 19 & Shield -- in 1990 and 1991 I was in Desert Storm \\
\hline 20 & and then in 1995 in Operation Enduring Democracy \\
\hline 21 & in Haiti as a United Nations international \\
\hline 22 & police monitor. \\
\hline 23 Q & And what is your educational background? \\
\hline 24 A & I have a undergraduate degree in leadership at \\
\hline 25 & Fort Hays State University and currently \\
\hline
\end{tabular}

Page 467
1 pursuing a master's in organizational
2 leadership.
Q At Fort Hays?
A Yes.
Q Do you have family?
\(A\) Yes.
Q And what family do you have?
A I've been married for, better get this right, 33 years, I have three daughters, two of them are married, and I have five grandchildren and one on the way.
Q Okay. And your daughters, where do they live?
A In the City of Russell.
Q Okay. You've had an opportunity here to listen to testimony over the last couple days; is that correct?
A Yes.
Q And a large part of that was the testimony of Toby Dougherty --
A Correct.
21 Q -- the city manager of Hays?
22 A Yes.
23 Q Okay. During that testimony, he provided a lot
24 of historical information regarding droughts,
25 studies, joint activities between the Cities of

1 Russell and Hays, a little bit on the public
2 wholesale district -- water wholesale district
3 that the Cities had. Do you recall that
4 testimony?
5 A Yes.
Q And in listening to that testimony, was there anything there that -- that you found that you might disagree with?
A No.
0 Q Okay. You might speak up a little bit still.
Okay. So with that, we're probably going -- I'm not going to spend a lot of time on the things that he talked about but we will some, and one of those is, you know, this -- the reason we're here is water and the water availability to the City of Russell and to the City of Hays.
Mr. Dougherty had testified in detail on at least three sources that Russell has that are somewhat in common with Hays, and that would be Cedar Bluff?
A Uh-huh.
Q And can you just for the record briefly describe what Russell's rights there are?
A We have 2,000 acre-feet of water --
2700 acre-feet of storage but up to

1 2,000 acre-feet a year that we can ask to be 2 released from Cedar Bluff.

Q And when you say released from Cedar Bluff, that means it's just naturally released into the riverbed --
A Correct.
Q -- correct? Do you know approximately how far that is from the dam to Russell's wellfield in the Smoky?
A Not off the top of my head.
Q Okay. It's some distance, is it not?
A Yes.
Q And as Mr. Dougherty testified, that water, if it were to get to the Russell wellfield, which is in Pfeifer?
A Yes.
Q In the area of Pfeifer -- what we refer to as
Pfeifer would have to first go through the Hays wellfield?
A Correct.
Q Now, is that water something that's always available for release?
3 A No.
24 Q Can you tell us what your understanding is with 25 respect to that?
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|}
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A There's a monthly accounting based on the available water in Cedar Bluff, and there are priorities for who can use the water and when. And in times of drought, that number is reduced proportionately by those water rights, so we don't always have 2,000 acre-feet of water available. \\
Q And actually if there's not precipitation or rain, is there a reduction on -- just by shear evaporation? \\
A Correct. \\
Q Do you know how many times Russell has called for a release of the water? \\
A Since I've been there at least twice. \\
Q And do you know whether that was a rather controversial matter with respect to the people that use the lake and live in that area? \\
A Yes. \\
Q The testimony from Mr. Dougherty was that by and large, while Russell may own that right, it effectively can't benefit from that. Would that be a fair characterization of his testimony? \\
A Yes. \\
Q And do you agree with that? \\
25 A Yes.
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PRESIDING OFFICER: You may. \\
BY MR. COLE: \\
Q I thought my eyesight was better. So we're looking at Cities' Exhibit 2619, are you familiar with that? \\
A Yes. \\
Q Can you describe -- I don't know if you folks can see that, can you describe what that depicts? \\
A It's the rural water transmission lines that runs from the Pfeifer wellfield in the lower left-hand corner up to the City of Russell in the upper right-hand corner, and about two-thirds of the way along the yellow line as you're moving from left to right is the Big Creek intake. \\
Q Now, co-counsel is more technologically advanced than I, so I will just go here and show -- down here, is this the Pfeifer area? \\
A Yes, that's the Pfeifer wellfield. \\
Q Okay. And there's red dots here that show the wells in Pfeifer? \\
A Correct. \\
Q And those are collection wells? \\
A Well --
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\hline \begin{tabular}{l}
Q Given that, does that play into Russell's stewardship of this water right in the sense that it doesn't just use it or waste it? \\
A Correct. We don't just release it every year when we have an opportunity because it would be wasteful, the City of Russell wellfield would not benefit from it unless the conditions were just right. \\
Q And is that the approach that generally the City of Russell takes in managing all of its water resources? \\
A Yes. \\
Q R9 Ranch, do you have any reason to believe that would be any different? \\
A No. \\
Q Another common water source with the City of Hays is Big Creek? \\
A Yes. \\
Q Okay. \\
MR. COLE: And, actually, Your \\
Honor, I'm going to go get a couple exhibits here, if I may. \\
PRESIDING OFFICER: All right. \\
MR. COLE: May I approach with the exhibits, Your Honor?
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Q You've got -- they're a group of wells that collect -- \\
A Yes. \\
Q And then we have a transmission line, which is depicted in yellow? \\
A Yes. \\
Q And it says it's an 18-inch line? \\
A Yes. \\
Q Okay. And that line as depicted in the exhibit shows that it goes all the way from Pfeifer to the City of Russell? \\
A Correct. \\
Q Do you know how far that is? \\
A 23 miles of pipeline. \\
Q And then the second source along here is Big Creek? \\
A Correct. \\
Q And it shows here Big Creek pump station? \\
A Yes. \\
Q And then again, I think it shows the green line from Big Creek into the City of Russell? \\
A Correct. \\
Q So from Big Creek, while those lines come almost 24 together, they're actually separate lines into \\
25 town?
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Page 475
1 A Yes.
Q Can you tell -- can you tell us what that is, what that depicts?
A We refer to that as the low head dam, which is to the north of our intake, and we also use it
to cross the creek to get to the pump house.
Q And that's in Big Creek?
A Correct.
Q So that would be in the location that's closest to the City of Russell?
\(A\) Yes.
Q And you said it's the low head dam, can you tell -- what purpose does that serve?
A To impound water or keep it there so we can use Big Creek longer.
Q Okay. This is a surface right, correct?
A Correct.
Q And how is -- how is that collected so it can be used?
A There's an intake on the other side of the dam as you're looking at the photograph to the left that will capture the water and then goes to a pump house which pumps it to Russell through the pipeline.
25 Q Okay. And that intake, do you know, since it's

1 a surface water right, I'm assuming that it doesn't get clear down to the bottom of the river?
A No, it does not.
Q Do you know approximately how high it is off the bottom of the river?
A Not how high but at this level of Big Creek, we cannot use the intake.
Q So what's being depicted here with that pool of water at the low head dam, it's your testimony that at that point, that's not a usable source?
A Correct.
Q Exhibit 806, please. Is that the intake?
A Yes, on the left is the intake structure.
Q Okay. And, again, what's depicted there, would the City be able to produce that?
A No.
Q Let's go to Exhibit 800. Are you familiar with this exhibit?
0 A Yes, that's what we refer to as the Pfeifer wellfield, and that's the Smoky Hill River. And if you look off in the distance, you can see a white line; that is actually the bridge that we cross coming from Pfeifer -- correction, from Victoria into Pfeifer.

1 Q This might have come up during Mr. Dougherty's
2 testimony and he may have testified that --
3 yeah, this photograph or exhibit may have come
4 up during Mr. Dougherty's testimony.
A Okay.
Q And it may have been indicated that this was --
I don't think he was sure where it was at, but it was around their wellfield in Schoenchen?
A No, that photograph is at our wellfield at Pfeifer, I took the photograph.
Q I understand that. How far is that from Schoenchen?
A Oh, I'd have to guess, probably 9, 10 miles.
Q Yeah, and the conditions, though, or the way the river appears, is it similar all along that riverbed?
A Yes.
Q I forgot to ask you back on our other exhibits in Big Creek, do you know when those photographs were taken?
A In Big Creek, I believe I took those in June of 2015.

23 Q Okay. When was this taken?
24 A This would have been taken in October of 2012.
25 Q Okay. And Exhibit 801. And can you tell us


1 unable to use it. And then the Smoky Hill
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|}
\hline 1 A & Yes. \\
\hline 2 Q & And there is production all along the Smoky \\
\hline 3 & River, is there not? \\
\hline 4 A & Yes. \\
\hline 5 Q & So when you talk about a threat of contamination \\
\hline 6 & from that industry, in what way would it be a \\
\hline 7 & threat, what is the threat? \\
\hline 8 A & If there was contamination from an oil well or a \\
\hline 9 & saltwater disposal well, we would not be able to \\
\hline 10 & use the water, we couldn't treat it. \\
\hline 11 Q & Okay. Has that happened to date? \\
\hline 12 A & No. \\
\hline 13 Q & You had indicated just a moment ago, though, \\
\hline 14 & that there was a close call? \\
\hline 15 A & Yes. \\
\hline 16 Q & Can you describe for the record what that was? \\
\hline 17 A & Just on the opposite side of that low head dam \\
\hline 18 & that you -- was one of the exhibits, there was a \\
\hline 19 & lead line from a -- an oil well that broke and \\
\hline 20 & was leaking into Big Creek. \\
\hline 21 Q & Okay. And it went downstream? \\
\hline 22 A & Yes. \\
\hline 23 Q & And while by and large Hays has been a good \\
\hline 24 & neighbor, there is always the threat that \\
\hline 25 & something could happen there that could \\
\hline
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1 contaminate this source?
2 Correct.
Q And that has happened on at least one occasion, has it not?
A Yes.
Q Can you tell me just briefly what that was?
A Discharge from, I believe, their wastewater facility of high ammonia into the Big Creek,
9 which made it unusable until that was cleared up.
Q Was there a period of time when that source for
Russell, you said unusable, did we -- had we been producing that source at the time?
A I don't recall.
Q Do you recall how long a period of time it was we could not use it?
A It was several weeks.
Q Do you consider these sources as being viable, reliable long-term water sources for the City of Russell?
A No.
Q And why is that?
A Big Creek is unreliable because of either drought where it dries up and aren't able to use it or because of contamination where we're also

2
3

10 Q And it is owned jointly with the City of Hays?
1 A Yes.
Q Do you know whether the City's plans at the time of purchase and continue to date is to use that as a water source for the City?
A Yes.
Q And is part of the reason for that or the reason
for that because our existing water sources are not as reliable as we need?
A Correct.
Q You -- or recently, actually, the City of
Russell experienced some stress and concerns with respect to its water source because one of its plants was being worked on; is that correct?
A Correct.
25 Q Can you tell -- tell us, just summarize what

Page 485
wellfield or the Pfeifer wellfield is
susceptible to drought where the wells do not recharge as quickly during a drought as they do during a normal time of precipitation.
Q So the City of Russell, as previously has been
testified to, purchased an interest in the R9
Ranch some years ago?
A Yes.

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14
16
17
18
19

2 A Well, we were unable to use the plant, I

6 Q Which plant is that?
A That's the water softening plant.
Q Okay.
A The EDR plant or plant \(B\) is not able to treat Big Creek. So during the time when the water softening plant was down and we were unable to use Big Creek, we relied solely on the Pfeifer wellfield and the EDR plant. And then in January, the operators noticed an issue with the quality of Big Creek water and conferred with KDHE and we had an algae bloom in January.
Q Do you know what kind of an algae bloom that was?
A No, we sent numerous samples into KDHE and separate labs just to determine that it was not a harmful algae bloom or blue-green algae, but we still had to, regardless, take down the plant again, completely clean everything, the media, and we were not authorized to use Big Creek until KDHE gave permission. That was in May.
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\hline Page 486 & Page 488 \\
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So for six months, from September of '22 until \\
May of '23, during that time frame we were able \\
to use Big Creek for about two weeks and two days. \\
Q Okay. Is that unusual to have an algae bloom at that time of the year? \\
A Yes. \\
Q Has it -- to your knowledge, had it ever happened before? \\
A We've had algae blooms before but only in the summer, never in the winter, to my knowledge. \\
Q And what is the significance in using the City of Russell's water sources efficiently to production during the fall and winter months? \\
A Well, we use Big Creek as often as we can to limit the use of the wells, but we have to manage those based on whether we're in drought or not. We have 820 acre-feet of water rights at Pfeifer, and then in, I believe in 2013 or ' 14 , we are leasing a well, so we have 862 acre-feet of water rights. But that alone is not enough to meet our current demands, so we have to use both -- manage them so we can have enough water. \\
Q And you typically use the Big Creek supply when
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A January. \\
Q During the time that generally you would be producing Big Creek? \\
A Correct. \\
Q So you were required to go to the Smoky? \\
A Correct. \\
Q And that was a period of time of some five months that ordinarily you would have used Big Creek? \\
A Yes. \\
Q What challenge did that create? \\
A Just using our wellfield, trying to meet demand, also not having plant A available because of the cleaning that was necessary because of the algae, and there was a period there that the EDR plant went down, that we had to shut down our industrial customers, and it was a critical 24 hours until we could get it back up. \\
Q When you say shut down, do you mean completely shut down? \\
A Turn off the water, yes. \\
Q And did they cooperate with that? \\
A Yes, they always have, yeah. We -- during this period that we were unable to use Big Creek and were relying solely on our wellfield, we asked
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it's obviously flowing? \\
A Correct. \\
Q 'Cause that's the only time it's available? \\
A Correct. \\
Q And, historically, if there is a issue with being able to produce from Big Creek, that is when? \\
A Usually from Mother's Day to Labor Day. If we can get water past Mother's Day it's a good sign. \\
Q Okay. So the risk for the City's water department is to try to use as much as it can from Big Creek prior to Mother's Day because you may lose it -- \\
A Correct. \\
Q -- after that? \\
A We may rely on the wellfield for the entire summer when demand is the highest. \\
Q Right. And if you're using Big Creek, then you can reserve the Smoky -- \\
A Correct. \\
Q -- wellfield? \\
A Correct. \\
Q So the algae -- or so the algae bloom occurred when?
\end{tabular} & \begin{tabular}{l}
our industrial customers to limit their consumption to no more than 400,000 gallons a day, which they did voluntarily, which helped us significantly. \\
Q Right. And the concern with the Smoky River is that you -- I mean, your rights there -- not only is the water supply limited but the rights are limited, correct? \\
A Correct. \\
Q As you were producing there early in the year, was there the chance that you may run out of water rights at Smoky? \\
A Yeah, we projected that we could run out as early as June, but with the industrial customers' reduction, we projected we'd run out of water rights by August. \\
Q By August? \\
A Yes. \\
Q And were you able to work through this problem? \\
A We submitted term permits to the Division of Water Resources to transfer 500 acre-feet of water rights from Big Creek to five wells on the Smoky Hill River. Our intent, even though we applied for these five term permits, our intent is still to use Big Creek as much as possible,
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\hline 1 & but if something were to happen to Big Creek & & growth. And a town of 44, 4500, when you get 30 \\
\hline 2 & where it becomes unreliable, whether it dries up & & people to move in, that's quite a bit. We're \\
\hline 3 & or contamination, then we can -- we have that & 3 & getting a lot of young people move back, to the \\
\hline 4 & buffer for 2023 to use Pfeifer. & 4 & point that housing is very limited and rentals \\
\hline 5 Q & Was there a period of time for you as city & 5 & are -- there's a wait list. \\
\hline 6 & manager that this caused a substantial amount of & 6 Q & Waiting list for rentals? \\
\hline 7 & heartburn 'cause you weren't sure how you were & 7 A & Yes. \\
\hline 8 & going to cover -- & 8 Q & You had indicated earlier that you have three \\
\hline 9 A & Yes, yeah. & 9 & children, are they all adults? \\
\hline 10 Q & -- the production? & 10 A & Yes. \\
\hline 11 A & Yes. Yeah, a lot of planning, what can we do & 11 Q & Did they move away? \\
\hline 12 & and how can we do it. & 12 A & No, they all live in Russell. \\
\hline 13 Q & So this is just one example of what can happen & 13 Q & And so far as you know, are they wanting to \\
\hline \[
14
\] & with your existing sources? & & continue to make their home there? \\
\hline 15 A & Yes. & 15 A & Yes. \\
\hline 16 Q & If you had had access to production from the & 16 Q & Has there been any local activities or action \\
\hline 17 & R9 Ranch, would this have been a problem? & 17 & taken to try to address the housing issues in \\
\hline 18 A & No. & 18 & Russell? \\
\hline 19 Q & Would you have had to ask the industries to & 19 A & Yes, there's -- the City was working with a \\
\hline 20 & reduce their operations? & 20 & developer on a, trying to think, a 30-unit \\
\hline 21 A & No, with the exception of the day that the plant & 21 & development which would be in the center part of \\
\hline 22 & was down, but, no, we would not. & 22 & town. There's also the rehabilitation of a \\
\hline 23 Q & Kind of skipped ahead to our water sources & 23 & historic hotel downtown into seven loft style \\
\hline 24 & because they are in common with Hays, but I want & 24 & apartments, and quite a few of the downtown \\
\hline 25 & you to tell -- tell us a little bit about & 25 & businesses have converted their upstairs into \\
\hline & Page 491 & & Page 493 \\
\hline 1 & Russell and as far as the municipal utilities of & & apartments which are being rented out. \\
\hline 2 & the City of Russell. & & That's a relatively new thing, is it not, \\
\hline 3 A & We have a full-service municipality, the City & & renovating all the uptown -- or downtown \\
\hline 4 & owns and operates the electric utility, which & 4 & apartments? \\
\hline 5 & includes the city proper and 50 square miles. & 5 A & Yes, when I first moved here, I remember having \\
\hline 6 & We also operate a water utility, wastewater and & & one apartment downtown on the second floor, and \\
\hline 7 & sanitation. & & there's quite a few now. \\
\hline 8 Q & And your water utility, is that a public water & 8 Q & And I know we have -- and we'll have expert \\
\hline 9 & supply system? & & testimony on population trends and those types \\
\hline 10 A & Yes. & 10 & of things, but you're the city manager of the \\
\hline 11 Q & With -- do you know how many customers you have? & 11 & City of Russell, what is -- what's your take on \\
\hline 12 A & I think we have around 24 to 2500 customers with & 12 & what's happening with the population in Russell? \\
\hline 13 & meters, but customers, yeah. & 13 A & I think it's -- we're starting to see growth. \\
\hline 14 Q & Do you know how many miles of line is involved & 14 Q & Tell us about some of the major employers or \\
\hline 15 & in that? & 15 & industries that exist in Russell. \\
\hline 16 A & In the city, we have 92 miles of distribution & 16 A & We have an industrial park that has three \\
\hline 17 & line. & 17 & tenants, one of those is Purina, the other \\
\hline 18 Q & The City, and I know we've already had some & 18 & one -- there's two, it's PureField Ingredients, \\
\hline 19 & testimony and there's reports on file, but & 19 & which has a wheat gluten facility and then it's \\
\hline 20 & what's your understanding as to the population & 20 & a separate facility, an ethanol facility. \\
\hline 21 & of the City of Russell? & 21 Q & Okay. And we'll get back to that, but you do \\
\hline 22 A & What I've seen in the last couple of years is & 22 & have this industrial complex, what else is it \\
\hline 23 & we're actually having an influx of young people & & that's the economic engine for Russell or \\
\hline 24 & who used to live in Russell who are moving back, & 24 & Russell County? \\
\hline 25 & so I think we're actually seeing a population & 25 A & The oil industry, the folks that support the oil \\
\hline
\end{tabular}

\begin{tabular}{|c|c|}
\hline A & respect to your rate schedules?
Yes. \\
\hline Q & Okay. And in review -- did you review those here in the last day or so? \\
\hline A & Yes. \\
\hline Q & Okay. And from those that are filed, do you recall whether that was the most recent copy of our rate schedule? \\
\hline A & The one that was filed with the applications was from 2014. We've updated the rate schedule for water in 2021. \\
\hline Q & Okay. And the rate schedule, does it -- there we go. Oh, okay. So this is a portion of our city code that deals with the water utility, right? \\
\hline A & Correct. \\
\hline Q & \begin{tabular}{l}
And then if we can scroll down more, there will be some rate schedules. There we go. \\
Can you just summarize for the record what those rate schedules do?
\end{tabular} \\
\hline A & We have rate schedules for residential, commercial, and industrial customers. For residential and commercial customers, they have a customer charge, and then they are charged more as they consume more water. So for \\
\hline
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\section*{Page 499}

1 Q And we'll probably talk a little more about this, but at this point do you have anything to add as far as those types of conservation measures that were taken?
A They've just been -- for many years, the residents of Russell have had mandatory conservation measures that they've been subject to, and I can relate to Mr. Wagner's testimony that -- having rain barrels at my house, two of them, trying to keep a tree alive; and the house we currently live in, we lost three trees, full-grown trees because we weren't able to water them enough.

And I think the -- the one that I notice is that in times of drought and when those mandatory restrictions are in place that the -the mood of the community changes, it's a little bit angry because -- they understand conservation, they've lived that for as long as they've lived there, but when you tell them they just can't use water at all or they can't wash their vehicle, even on their own driveway or -they start to get a little angry. They understand but they ...
25 Q During times of drought, '12, '14, whatever it

Page 501
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with effluent from our wastewater system. We also load a water tank up with effluent and use it to trickle to trees on the city right-of-way \\
to try to keep those alive, especially on Main Street, so they've done a lot. \\
Q Okay. Is there -- we've heard about the City of Hays' programs on low-flow showerheads, does the City of Russell have any programs like that? \\
A Yes, we borrowed from the City of Hays and give away low-flow showerheads to customers. We also will give a rebate to customers who replace an old water hog toilet with one that uses a WaterSense label, which used to be \(\mathbf{1 . 6}\) gallons a flush but is now 1.28 gallons a flush. But we will give them a \(\mathbf{\$ 5 0}\) rebate to encourage them to change. \\
Q Has there been anything at city hall that you've done to try to conserve water? \\
A As far as the usage at city hall, no, but we do have a policy where during the billing system when the meters are read, the billing clerk and the city clerk go through every bill and will look for any abnormal usage, and if they find any abnormal usage, they will call that customer and say, hey, you know, you used \(X\) amount when
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invest in an AMI system for water meters just for that case, to reduce lost water. \\
Q On average, do you know approximately how many calls the clerk's office will make to customers a month? \\
A On average, they make 150 calls a month to customers. \\
MR. COLE: I've been handed a note that says it's 5:00, I don't know if you want to -- us to continue or -- I know your question is probably how long do I got? I don't -- I have some more, I would say I'm about half through. \\
PRESIDING OFFICER: Okay. Well, we can go ahead and go off the record, we don't need to have all of this transcribed here. \\
(Thereupon, a recess was taken; \\
whereupon, the following was had.) \\
PRESIDING OFFICER: All right. I \\
think we have everybody back here, so we can go ahead and go back on the record, we'll let Mr. Cole continue with his questioning. \\
MR. COLE: Thank you.
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you normally use this and there might be a problem. And we have discovered quite a few leaking toilets or water lines. Our system also will alarm if a water meter has water running through it for seven continuous days. \\
Q You say your system will alarm, what system is that? \\
A We have an automated meter reading system, so we don't have to have a meter reader go out and read each meter. It comes in by signal and 15-minute increments we're getting updates on what that is. And if you have the two net system up, which the billing clerk does, also the cashier and the city clerk, you'll see a flashing red alarm, and that could be a leak alarm, which is the one \(I\) just explained, it could be tied to our electrical utility or it can actually be a theft or tamper alarm. \\
Q Were these programs put in place in the last few years? \\
A Yes. \\
Q Were they, in part, in response to the droughts that the City has went through? \\
A Yes. We had AMI for our electric utility for quite a few years. The city council decided to
\end{tabular} & \begin{tabular}{l}
BY MR. COLE: \\
Q I want to pull up Cities' Exhibit 1-54. And, Jon, are you familiar with this, it says it's a water supply study? \\
A Yes, can you tell me the date? \\
Q It is December of 2014. \\
A Yes. \\
Q And were you city manager at that time? \\
A Yes. \\
Q Okay. And this, actually this -- this water supply report was referenced in the intervenor's trial brief, I believe; is that correct? \\
A Correct. \\
Q Yeah. Well, I just want to go through it a little bit. Do you recall what the purpose of this study was? \\
A To review water source options for the City. \\
Q Okay. And if we go to page 1 of the report. I don't know if you can see that, but it lists eight different items. There we go. Can you see that? \\
A Yeah. \\
Q Okay. And is it your understanding that this study reviewed those different projects? \\
A Correct.
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Q Okay. And with the -- with the exception of one that it noted, this number 3, the Saline River alluvial water and desalination project, the other seven, are you familiar with those?
A Yes.
Q And are those projects that had been undertaken in previous years?
A Yes, with the exception of 7 and 8, and those were projects that were brought forth by a local resident.
Q Okay. And this report summarized, is it your understanding this report summarized these various alternatives and options?
A Yes.
Q Okay. Are you able to go through there by line item and tell us, you know, what your take was on each of those projects?
A 1 and 2 are the use of the Cedar Bluff Reservoir, the difference is is where the water would be transferred to. The Cedar Bluff is determined not to be a reliable source because it's not drought proof, has a lot of evaporation, so at times of drought and lack of rain its levels drop quickly.
Q And -- and actually Mr. Dougherty testified to

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those also, did he not?
A Yes.
Q And then number 4 and 5?
A The Smoky Hill River alluvial near Pfeifer wellfield and the alluvial southeast of Russell, the one southeast of Russell is a water quality issue, and the, if I remember correctly, the Smoky Hill River near the Pfeifer wellfield, I believe that's closed to more appropriations.
Q Okay. Okay. And then 6, 7, and 8?
A Number 6 was a wellfield in the Big Creek alluvial. We have a water intake and there is regulations as to how close a well can be to surface water, so that was determined not to be a viable source. And then there was a local resident who proposed the City building a reservoir to the northwest part of the city, it has some natural canyons, and then also to extend Fossil Lake, which is south of the interstate and south of the City.
Q And this report discarded all of those except one, did it not?
A Yes.
Q And the one that it said might have some potential is which one?

A The Saline River alluvial water and desalination.
Q Okay. So this report was done in 2014?
A Correct.
Q And have you reviewed that report as relates to that project?
A Yes.
Q Okay. And what generally was the suggested project there?
A To build a wellfield along the Saline River alluvial. They used some test well data from 2006 --
Q When you say they used, that would be Bartlett \& West?
A Bartlett \& West. We received some test well data from U.S. Energy Partners, which was the name of PureField at that time. They had drilled test wells in 2006 due to a lack of water and us not being able to supply what they needed.
Q So they went out trying to find water on their own?
A Correct.
Q And the Saline River, where does it run in relation to the City of Russell?

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1 A It's north of the city about 8 -- 8 to 10 miles, depending on where you're at.
Q Okay.
A So the report took well 10 from our Pfeifer wellfield and took its water characteristics and used that to compare the 2006 U.S. Energy test well reports from the Saline River alluvial. The reason they chose well 10 from the Pfeifer wellfield is that is the well with the poorest water quality and the one that the EDR plant was -- the specs were drawn from.

But looking at the characteristics of the water, the water was in worse condition or worse shape, and then -- so we did not go with that. They did say that, in the report, that we should be able to get 1,075 acre-feet of water if we found the right place and we could find sufficient quantity. But they did also say that that \(\mathbf{1 , 0 7 5}\) acre-feet, if we could find it, would most likely require desalination, which would require a class 1 injection well to dispose of the wastewater.

They estimated that cost at \(\$ 7.6\) million, and the class 1 injection well is -- there'd be no place in the City of Russell we could put one
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so we would have to put one wherever KDHE would allow us to. And desalination, our EDR plant can take a lot of solids but it's not set up for desalination. Desalination is more for a RO system. \\
Q Now, you did actually follow up with some wells; is that correct? \\
A Yes. \\
Q Test wells? \\
A Some test wells. In 2018, I believe, we went to some areas along the Saline River, it was not the areas that were recommended by Bartlett \& West but were some areas that were recommended by RMA Engineering, a geologist that they had hired, and we drilled some test wells. We were able to find pockets of large volumes of water, but the chlorides were 12 to 30,000 , and where we could find good water, there was no quantity. The numbers of chlorides don't mean too much to me, but when you compare that to your well 12 that you're able to treat, what's the comparison there? \\
A I believe it's 700s, which is still considered to be brackish, anything above 400 is, but anything above \(\mathbf{7}\) to 800 is just -- it's
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us for the next year because as the drought continues, those wells on the alluvium don't recharge as quickly. \\
Q So the Smoky is limited to what your rights are there, and Big Creek, while you have a lot of rights, it may or may not be producible -- \\
A Correct. \\
Q -- is that correct? \\
A Yeah, it's frequently un -- frequently unreliable. \\
Q And together as combined, that equals how many acre-feet a year? \\
A 25, 2600 acre-feet combined. \\
Q And you can produce how much? Allowable, 18? \\
A Oh, the most we can -- the most we can divert from all sources is \(\mathbf{1 , 8 4 1 . 3 3}\) acre-feet a year. \\
Q And both Mr. Dougherty and you have testified how both of these sources can be unreliable at times, correct? \\
A Yes. Yes. \\
Q Subject not only to drought but to other things -- \\
A Correct. \\
Q -- conditions? As a city manager and in a sense in charge of helping provide the City of Russell
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\hline \begin{tabular}{l}
terrible, terrible water. \\
Q This was what? \\
A Some of them were \(12,000,14,000\), one was 32,000. \\
Q So did that basically conclude that search as well? \\
A Yes. Yes. \\
Q What generally is the City of Russell's water rights in the sense that we, you know, can produce so many acre-feet at our two sources? \\
A We can -- we have water rights that far exceed what we can produce. On the Smoky Hill wellfield, we can produce 820 acre-feet a year with those wells combined. We also have the well that we are leasing that adds an additional 61.99 acre-feet. And then we have 1767 acre-feet of surface water rights on Big Creek. That's what we have that we can use now. \\
Q As a usable resource what can -- what can be produced? \\
A Depends on Big Creek. In times of exceptional drought, we can count on the Pfeifer wellfield giving us about 820 acre-feet, but if we took all 820 acre-feet during an exceptional drought from the Pfeifer wellfield, that's going to harm
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with a secure water source, do you feel \\
obligated to find a -- some type of a -- an \\
additional or supplemental or redundant source \\
for these -- these water sources because they are so unreliable? \\
A Yes, because they're unreliable and they're not sufficient for our needs now. \\
Q Okay. And when you say they're not sufficient for our needs now, what do you mean by that? \\
A Well, if you look at that report, in 2004, we used, I believe it says 1434 or 35 acre-feet of water, and that was before the restrictions started in 2006, that drought period. And then the restrictions that we've been through since then up until now, that dropped our water consumption down to an average of 1,000 , maybe 1,050 acre-feet a year. But when we're -- so if we were not in restrictions because we have an adequate source of water, then we could provide our customers -- not restrict our customers and they can use water to make sure their trees don't die or we can allow our industrial customers to not be restricted. \\
Q And we'll get into this a little more later, but actually you have a customer now that you've had
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\hline 1 & to allow another water supply company come in to & & months. \\
\hline 2 & be able to support their business -- & 2 Q & And, again, it's talking about some history of \\
\hline 3 A & Correct. & 3 & the City, history of the water service, and \\
\hline 4 Q & -- is that correct? & & would you agree with that? \\
\hline 5 A & Yes. & 5 A & Yes. \\
\hline 6 Q & And who is that? & 6 Q & If we could go to page 8. It's the third -- \\
\hline 7 A & PureField Energy. & 7 & it's right above the bold print there, that \\
\hline 8 Q & Yeah. & 8 & is -- if you can read that first sentence of \\
\hline 9 A & We -- we've allowed Post Rock Rural Water & 9 & that paragraph? \\
\hline 10 & District to supply PureField with water, I & 10 A & No, I can't see it. \\
\hline 11 & believe they can supply them up to & 11 Q & Okay. Be all right if -- there we go. \\
\hline 12 & 200,000 gallons per day, and that helps us allow & 12 A & Because the purpose of this study is to help \\
\hline 13 & them to stay in business while we're still & & identify a water source adequate to keep the \\
\hline 14 & protecting what we do have. & 14 & City out of water conservation measures, the \\
\hline 15 Q & And do you know at present whether, if need be, & & focus needs to be in the peak year of water \\
\hline 16 & whether Post Rock could supply any more than & & consumption, which was 2004. \\
\hline 17 & that? & 17 Q & Right, stop there. Okay. So what do you \\
\hline 18 A & No, they could not. & & understand from Bartlett \& West's water supply \\
\hline 19 Q & Okay. And are you able to see that, Jon? & & study that they were making through that \\
\hline 20 A & Yes. & 20 & statement there? \\
\hline 21 Q & Okay. Would you be able to read that first & 21 A & That years after 2004 when the City customers \\
\hline 22 & paragraph? & 22 & were highly restricted to their use that you \\
\hline 23 A & The City also faces another critical issue with & 23 & should not use that data to base future needs \\
\hline 24 & their water supply. Even if the water rights & \[
24
\] & because of the restrictions that were put in \\
\hline 25 & were not restricted by DWR, the City would & \[
25
\] & place. So they're suggesting that you use the \\
\hline & Page 515 & & Page 517 \\
\hline 1 & struggle supplying water for an extended time & & data pre all the restrictions being put in \\
\hline 2 & during hot summer months because of a lack of & 2 & place, which would be 2004. \\
\hline 3 & water in the region. The Big Creek intake & 3 Q & Right. And from that, I think they reached a \\
\hline 4 & typically has little water available because the & & conclusion which is on page 10. Test you again \\
\hline 5 & Big Creek frequently runs dry. The Pfeifer & 5 & if you can read that? \\
\hline 6 & wellfield is capable of supplying the water & 6 A & Can you zoom in just a little bit more, please. \\
\hline 7 & demand for a short duration but could be & 7 & Okay. Assuming the water usage returns to the \\
\hline 8 & permanently damaged if the demand increases too & 8 & average demand of 1.3 million gallons a day \\
\hline 9 & much. & 9 & established in 2004 and assuming a linear growth \\
\hline 10 Q & So that's talking about your existing supply or & 10 & of 378,000 gallons every ten years for 30 years, \\
\hline 11 & summarizing some of the concerns? & 11 & the average day demand in 2045 would be \\
\hline 12 A & Correct. & 12 & 2.5 million gallons a day. The 2.5 million \\
\hline 13 Q & Would you agree with that? & 13 & gallons a day average water usage would produce \\
\hline 14 A & Yes. & 14 & a total annual water demand of 895 million \\
\hline 15 Q & Okay. And then I think the second paragraph & 15 & gallons a year, 2,748 acre-feet. \\
\hline 16 & talks about some restrictions, could you read & 16 Q & Let me stop you there. So the projection -- \\
\hline 17 & that? & 17 & there's been testimony earlier today about \\
\hline 18 A & The City's been able to manage the two main & 18 & studies projecting future water use, future \\
\hline 19 & water sources effectively, but they have also & 19 & water needs. Is that what you understand this \\
\hline 20 & been highly restricted over the last 12 years as & 20 & report here is doing? \\
\hline 21 & the City has endured several water warnings and & 21 A & Yes. \\
\hline 22 & water emergencies. The ability to develop a new & 22 Q & And correct me if I'm wrong, what they're saying \\
\hline 23 & water supply would increase the City's & 23 & is if you've paid for a population and project a \\
\hline 24 & capability of being able to sustainably supply & 24 & future water need, and particularly if it's a \\
\hline 25 & all customers with water even during the summer & & population that has experienced water shortages \\
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Q So that was the water warning.
A Water watch.
Q Okay. Tell me about the other stages.
A The next stage is a water warning, and that is
50 percent of production capability for a
6 specified period of time and the shorter distance between the drawdown level and the well.
Q Okay. And the next one?
A Then you have a water emergency, and that is also when -- it has several benchmarks, one of those is \(\mathbf{1 0 0}\) percent production capability for a specified amount of time and even closer to the well screen or if Big Creek quits running over the low head dam.
Q Are there progressive restrictions placed on the consumer?
A Yes. In stage 1, which is the water watch, those are voluntary conservation matters, although we do have two mandatory conservation measures in place year-round, which is you cannot waste water regardless of what stance we're in, and you can only water your yard between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 -- you cannot water your yard between 10:00 a.m. and

Q So this one would indicate that it was passed in 2006 and it was the ninth resolution?
A Correct.
Q Now, our resolutions aren't all on water, we have all kinds of resolutions dealing with different subjects; is that --
A Correct, yes.
Q The reason I was pointing this one out is this is one of the earlier ones so if we can go down to the date of this one. So this was back in 2006?
A Yes.
Q Okay. And, I'm sorry, Jami, back to the front page now.

And down in the middle where those numbers, those are -- those are the restrictions, are they not?
A Those are the mandatory restrictions.
Q Okay. And when you say mandatory, is there also a system set up to enforce these restrictions?
A Yes, the police department is advised of violations, and their first is to educate them, warn them, and then repeat offenders are cited.
Q And can you go through and just generally summarize each of those items?

7:00 p.m. each day, that's year-round.
Stage 2 during the water warning, the council has the option of imposing mandatory restrictions, and one of those restrictions is that industrial customers will be limited to 85 percent of their normal usage. That is over a five-year period, so you take five years for each month, average it, and they can use only 85 percent of that.

Then in the water emergency, they are restricted to 75 percent of usage, and people are not allowed to use water outside, you can't wash your car, commercial businesses cannot spray down their parking lots, you can't fill private swimming pools. There's a whole list of them that can be imposed.
Q Let's see, let's pull up 2245. And what we have on the screen is Cities' Exhibit 2245 which is resolution 9-06.
A Uh-huh.
Q The numbering system for the City of Russell's resolutions, how is that done?
A The last two numbers are the year, and the first two numbers are in the order that they're approved.

1 A The first one is waste of water is prohibited. This resolution is from 2006. Since then, number 1 is a year-round prohibition. Number 2 is the outdoor watering of residential and public grounds, gardens, lawns, trees, shrubs, water gardens, plants and playing fields is prohibited except for one day each week and that is on your sanitation day. And you can only water between 10:00 a.m. -- you can only water before 10:00 a.m. or after 9:00 p.m.

The -- we're not allowed to water the parks, the golf course, you can't fill or refill a residential above-ground or below-ground pool. You can't wash motor vehicles, boats, trailers on residential or public property. You can't wash a building or any other structure. And then the industrial and contractual customers are reduced to 75 percent of their average monthly consumption.
Q Explain a little more how that works with the industrial customers and who those industrial customers are.
A Industrial customers, there's three at the industrial park, and that is Purina and then PureField's gluten and ethanol facility. So
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during 2006, we would take three years' average and -- of the preceding three years, take that average of what they used, and then multiply that times the 75 percent, and that's all they would be allowed to use for the month. \\
Q Okay. \\
MR. BULLER: Your Honor, the Zoom appears to have crashed. \\
PRESIDING OFFICER: Looks like Zoom is still up, just the camera here on this one is -- we can go off the record. Sorry. \\
(Discussion held off the record.) \\
PRESIDING OFFICER: All right. We \\
can go back on the record now. \\
BY MR. COLE: \\
Q Okay. And I think when we went off we were talking about some city resolutions restricting water usage, and the next one I want to go to is Exhibit 2602. And, again, the resolution number would indicate what to you, Jon? \\
A It was the 23rd resolution adopted in 2012. \\
Q Okay. And the format of these, at least at the beginning, is just a summary of prior resolutions, is it not? \\
A Correct.
\end{tabular} & \begin{tabular}{l}
are reduced to 75 percent of their average monthly consumption. \\
Q And, again, the City does the calculation and provides those numbers to the industries? \\
A Yes. \\
Q And the industries are the ethanol plant? \\
A Ethanol plant and the wheat gluten plant. \\
Purina is also an industry, but their water consumption is very minor. \\
Q Okay. And we haven't talked much about Purina, but what do they do? \\
A They make animal feed ingredients. They don't make the final product but the ingredients that go into it. \\
Q But they are part of that industrial complex out there? \\
A Correct. \\
Q And is -- when these are in effect, does the City have a means by which to monitor that consumption? \\
A For the industrial customers? \\
Q Yes. \\
A Yes, the meters are checked every day. \\
Q And by and large do you get compliance? \\
A Oh, yes.
\end{tabular} \\
\hline \begin{tabular}{l}
Q So we go down to the heart of the resolution and let's see what that -- the significance of this. \\
Can you go through those restrictions? \\
A Again, the waste of water is prohibited. The outdoor watering of private/public grounds is prohibited. \\
Q Okay. I want to stop you a second. That was what Brad Wagner testified to earlier, was it not? \\
A Yes. \\
Q And that is a complete prohibition? \\
A Yes. \\
Q There's no exceptions? \\
A No exception. Well, there's exception for commercial growers in the -- on their commercial premises. \\
Q All right. And the next one? \\
A Outdoor watering for filling or refilling residential above- and below-ground swimming pools is prohibited. \\
Q Okay. \\
A Can't wash your vehicles, boats, or trailers on residential or public property or the washing of the exterior of the building or structure is prohibited. And the industrial customers again
\end{tabular} & \begin{tabular}{l}
Q Now, I think as I suggested earlier there are several resolutions in the record, and rather than go through all of those, I would just note the exhibit numbers as 2245 , which I think we looked at, 2600, 2602, 2611, 2613, 2617, 2623, 2626 , and 2650 . In addition to those, as I noted earlier, we discovered there were some resolutions that were not included in the exhibit packet. \\
A Yes. \\
Q And those generally covered the years 2006 and 2007? \\
A Yes. \\
Q And 2011? \\
A Yes. \\
Q Okay. And those, should anyone want them to be produced, we would happily do so. \\
A Yes. \\
Q Okay. Let's talk about these industrial customers. You've indicated that the Land O'Lakes is not a -- or is that Purina? \\
A Purina is part of Land \(O^{\prime}\) Lakes, yeah. \\
23 Q Okay. It's not a major user? \\
24 A Of water, no. \\
25 Q But the other plants do?
\end{tabular} \\
\hline
\end{tabular}

\section*{A Yes.}

Q Do you know -- so there are two separate plants --
A Yes
Q -- is that correct?
A Correct.
Q Can you tell us about, a little bit about what each of them produces?
A The wheat gluten facility takes wheat and produces into wheat protein, referred to as gluten. Then the starch that is -- starch water, which is a by-product of that, is sent over to the ethanol plant which uses it to produce ethanol.
Q Okay. Let me stop you there. So the wheat gluten plant, was that -- of these two plants, was that the first plant that was built?
A Yes.
Q Do you know when that was built?
1994.

Q Okay. And so it takes in wheat to be processed --
A Yes.
Q -- is that correct?
25 A Yes.

Q Do you know if it processes any other grain?
A I'm sure it takes in milo, but I don't know what percentage of each.
Q Okay. And you've described that it breaks down the wheat gluten from the starch; is that correct?
A The starch is a by-product of their wheat gluten process.
Q Do you know what the wheat gluten is, do you know what that's used for?
A It's used for food -- food products.
Q Okay.
A I'm sure there's other reasons, but PureField goes into the brand of Heartland, and they are the largest producer of wheat gluten in North America.
Q At this plant?
A Yes.
Q Do you know what percentage of wheat gluten is produced in this plant --
A Of the total --
Q -- in North America?
A Of the total wheat gluten produced in the United States, this plant accounts for 44 percent of that.

Q All the wheat -- do you know how much wheat they use?
A 23 million bushels a year.
Q Okay. Now, is that both wheat and grain used in the ethanol plant?
A It's in the wheat gluten facility.
Q Just the wheat gluten?
A Yes.
Q 23 million bushels?
A Yes.
Q Where does that come from?
A According to PureField, all Kansas farmers.
Q Any from Edwards County?
A They have a co-op that they purchase from there; I don't know if it's an actual Edwards County farmer, but, yes, they purchase from the co-op.
Q Is the wheat gluten plant, is it a big water user?
A Of the two combined, it only uses 5 percent of the water. The ethanol uses 95 percent.
Q Tell us about the ethanol plant, when was it built?
3 A In 2006, I believe.
24 Q And what does it do?
25 A It produces ethanol, which is a grain alcohol,

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1 it is used -- it's mixed with gasoline to improve -- I guess reduce the amount of gasoline that goes into an automobile.
Q Do you know where PureField sells most of its ethanol?
A Most of its ethanol is sold in California because this facility has the lowest carbon footprint for its ethanol product, which is in high demand on the West Coast.
Q So the ethanol plant, you have indicated it must use approximately 95 percent of the demand from those --
A From the two combined, yes.
Q So how much generally, and I understand that it probably varies, does it not?
A Yes, on average, they would use 700,000 gallons of water a day, but that's not what we provide them because we don't have the capability -- or the source. Post Rock will provide them between \(100,200,000\) gallons a day.
Q Did there come a point in time when they were wanting to expand their production and the City just simply couldn't supply it?
A Yes.
25 Q Then do you remember approximately when that
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|}
\hline Page 534 & Page 536 \\
\hline \begin{tabular}{l}
was? \\
A Well, I don't remember that time, but they have a planned expansion that having the availability of water now is a major factor. \\
Q Right. The previous one when they wanted to do some renovations and expansion, we couldn't supply them, what came out of -- from that? \\
A They were still able to expand, and what they did is invested in process changes and technology to reduce the amount of water consumed. For the wheat gluten side, they reduced their water need 24 percent per pound of product. So when they did expand, we saw a negligible increase in their water demand from us. \\
Q Is it your understanding that these two facilities are, if not the most efficient facilities in the United States, at the top? \\
A Yes. \\
Q And I know it's because I don't ask the question very well, but at some point we had to go outside of the city to provide a supplemental water source to the industries? \\
A Correct. \\
Q And who is that supplemental source?
\end{tabular} & \begin{tabular}{l}
Q And their source is Kanopolis Lake? \\
A Yes. \\
Q And, in fact, this was one of the potential alternative options that Mr. Dougherty testified to? \\
A Yes. \\
Q And concluded it was not a viable option, correct? \\
A Correct, yes. \\
Q The infrastructure that they have to provide PureField its water, do you know whether they can provide any greater volume than that? \\
A No, they cannot. \\
Q And why is that? \\
A They're restricted by the size of their transmission line and their treatment capacity. There were times that we would have authorized them to provide more, but Post Rock said, we can't, we just can't produce and deliver that much. \\
Q Well, we're a water supplier, we want to sell water, why would we say, you guys go ahead and supply it? \\
A To allow the industry to continue to invest in the community and contribute to the State's
\end{tabular} \\
\hline \begin{tabular}{l}
A Post Rock Rural Water. \\
Q And -- now this -- those industries are within the city limits, are they not? \\
A Correct. \\
Q And because of that, the City of Russell has the right to be the sole supplier of water to those industries? \\
A Correct. \\
Q But you couldn't meet their needs? \\
A Correct. \\
Q So what'd you do? \\
A The city council authorized an agreement that allows Post Rock to provide the industrial customers, or PureField, with up to, I can't remember the exact number, but \(I\) believe \(\mathbf{2 0 0 , 0 0 0}\) gallons of water per day. \\
Q We've heard the word Post Rock before here? \\
A Uh-huh. \\
Q And what is Post Rock? \\
A It's a rural water district that is headquartered out of Ellsworth. Post Rock Rural Water District is not their formal name, it's Ellsworth Rural Water District, some number, but they supply water to Ellsworth and a huge area, all the way to, as far as I know, to Gorham.
\end{tabular} & \begin{tabular}{l}
economy but also to protect our water sources that we have 'cause they're fragile and unreliable. \\
Q We didn't have it to give, we didn't have it to provide, right? \\
A What's that, the water? \\
Q The water? \\
A When they asked for that, no, we did not. \\
Q The -- I think it was the president of PureField actually appeared at the public comments hearing? \\
A Yes. \\
Q And do you recall his statement there? \\
A Yes. \\
Q Are you familiar with a proposed expansion of these plants? \\
A Yes. \\
Q Does it include both the gluten plant and the ethanol plant? \\
A No, just the gluten facility. \\
Q Before I get away and forget about it, though, the ethanol plant uses grain also? \\
A Yes. \\
Q What kind of grain does it use? \\
A I couldn't tell you, I don't know.
\end{tabular} \\
\hline
\end{tabular}



which has allowed our community to -- we're not growing up until recently, but we have not declined as much as other communities.
Q Other than economic conditions, would you expect the quality of life to improve if we had a secure, reliable water source?
A Yes, the -- the community has been placed through restrictions on and off for -- since 2006 and the community is not going to, with this additional water, forget to be good stewards of the resource they have, but you will have people that will be able to do things as simple as planting a garden, which may seem simple but when you're going outside and planting a garden, you're outside, you're being healthy, and that's quality of life.

MR. COLE: I don't have any other questions.

PRESIDING OFFICER: All right.
Well, we will take this, then, as our time to break for the day, and when we resume in the morning, we'll come back at 9:00 and we'll pick up with the other parties' questioning of Mr. Quinday. All right. So we're adjourned for the

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day then.
(Whereupon, the proceedings were adjourned at 6:20 p.m.)

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NANCY L. RAMBO, R.P.R., C.S.R.
Registered Professional Reporter Certified Shorthand Reporter
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