1	BEFORE THE CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION
2	450 N STREET
3	SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA
4	BOARD MEETING TELECONFERENCE
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9	REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT
10	DECEMBER 16, 2020
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12	
13	
14	PROPERTY TAX APPEAL HEARING
15	APPEAL OF
16	GATX CORPORATION
17	(0503)
18	NO. 1064217
19	PETITION FOR REASSESSMENT
20	OF NONUNITARY VALUE
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	REPORTED BY: Jillian M. Sumner
28	CSR NO. 13619

1	APPEARING TELEPHONICA	ALLY OR THROUGH VIDEOCONFERENCE
2	For the Board of	
3	Equalization:	Honorable Antonio Vazquez Chair
4 5		Honorable Mike Schaefer Vice Chair
6		Honorable Ted Gaines
7		First District
8		Honorable Malia Cohen Second District
9		Betty T. Yee
10	Barra Barra di Barra di Barra	State Controller
11	For Board Proceedings Staff:	Catherine Taylor
12	East Daniel to the control of the co	Chief Board Proceedings Division
13	For Department:	Richard Moon Tax Counsel
14		Legal Department
15		Mike Harris Manager, Property Tax
16		State-Assessed Properties Division
17		Vincent Gezi
18		Senior Specialist Property Auditor Appraiser
19		State-Assessed Properties Division
20		Jack McCool
21		Supervisor Property Tax, Valuation Unit
22		State-Assessed Properties Division
23		Robert Winn
24		State-Assessed Properties Division
25		Daniel Jenkinson
26		Senior Specialist Property Auditor Appraiser
27		State-Assessed Properties Division
28		

1			APPEARANCES CONTINUED	
2	For	Petitioner:	Joseph Calvanico	
3	roi	recremen.	Joseph Calvanico Representative Appraiser	
4			Robert Federico	
5			Representative Tax Consultant	
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1	STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION		
2	VIDEOCONFERENCE		
3	DECEMBER 16, 2020		
4	00		
5	MS. TAYLOR: Our first order of business		
6	will be Item B, Property Tax Hearings.		
7	Oral hearing procedures are as follows: The		
8	oral hearings will be announced in the order		
9	presented on the agenda.		
10	When I call the case to be heard,		
11	participants, please be ready to unmute and turn on		
12	your camera as requested.		
13	A Legal Appeals Division staff member will		
14	introduce your case, stating the issues for the		
15	hearing.		
16	Each person on the call will then be asked		
17	to introduce themselves, and if necessary, their		
18	affiliation with the taxpayer for the record.		
19	The Board Proceedings has received		
20	Contribution Disclosure forms for this morning's		
21	hearings from the parties, agents and participants,		
22	except for one agent for GATX, William Gannon.		
23	All other forms were properly completed and		
24	signed. No disqualifying contributions were		
25	disclosed.		
26	All parties, agents and participants are on		
27	the alpha listings provided to your office.		
28	For this morning's Board Meeting there are		

two property tax cases. The first is B1, Petition for Reassessment of Nonunitary Value, GATX Corporation (0503), 1064217.

This matter will be introduced by Ms. Garrett, who will provide a brief introduction.

Ms. Garrett.

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MS. GARRETT: Good morning, Chairman Vazquez and Honorable Members of the Board.

In the case before you, the petitioner is GATX Corporation, a railcar leasing company, the tank and railcar maintenance repair facility in Colton, California.

Petitioner has appealed its 2020
Board-adopted unitary -- nonunitary value, which was based on the January 1st, 2020 lien date.

Today the parties will present three issues for the Board's consideration.

The first issue is whether the petitioner has shown that SAPD erred in calculating the Reproduction Cost New and depreciation within respondent's Reproduction Cost Less Depreciation value indicator.

The second issue is whether petitioner has shown that the respondent failed to account for all obsolescence in petitioner's 2020 Board-adopted value.

And the third issue is whether petitioner has shown that respondent overstated and

over-assessed petitioner's reported asset costs.

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The parties have an agreed-to resolution on the fourth issue before the Board relating to penalty abatement.

The parties have asked for the Board's adoption of this agreed-to issue, and will present on the three remaining issues for the Board's consideration.

Petitioner has the burden of proof to show that the 2020 Board-adopted assessment is incorrect or illegal.

The parties are present and ready to present their cases before the Board.

MR. VAZQUEZ: I was muted here I guess.

I'm assuming the petitioner is on the line waiting to present, Ms. Taylor.

MS. TAYLOR: Yes, they are.

They -- they can unmute and turn on their cameras at your direction.

MR. VAZQUEZ: Welcome.

Well, let me welcome the petitioner here to the Board of Equalization.

You'll have 10 minutes to make your initial presentation, and you'll have an additional 5 minutes on rebuttal.

Please unmute and introduce yourselves and your affiliation for the taxpayers for the record.

MR. FEDERICO: Okay. My name is Bob

Federico. I am a tax consultant for Grant Thornton. 1 We are GATX's consultant. 2 I will not be testifying as to value, that 3 will be Joe Calvanico, who should be on the line. I 4 think he said that he was on a phone line. I don't 5 know if that's working or not. But he will be doing 6 7 the testifying. MR. VAZQUEZ: Can we check and see if Joe is 8 on the line? 9 MR. CALVANICO: Can you hear me? 10 MR. VAZQUEZ: Yes, I can hear you. 11 12 ahead. MR. CALVANICO: All right. 13 Bob, are you completed then? 14 MR. FEDERICO: Yes, I'm finished. I'm good. 15 MS. TAYLOR: Before we begin, Chair --16 17 MR. VAZQUEZ: Yes, Ms. Taylor. Go ahead. 18 MS. TAYLOR: We -- we will ask all 19 participants to be sworn before providing their 20 testimony. So we'll be providing the group oath. 21 Please raise your right hand. Do you swear to tell the truth in these 22 23 proceedings? 24 MR. CALVANICO: Yes, I do. MR. FEDERICO: I do. Yes. 25 MS. TAYLOR: Thank you. 26 MR. CALVANICO: All right. 27 Well, thank you very much, Mr. Chairman and 28

Honorable Members of the Board. Thank you very much for your time this morning. And I will keep it within the time allotted.

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I prepared a appraisal, and I wanted to give you my -- just briefly my qualifications.

And I -- the -- I've been an appraiser, this next year will be 40 years. I have a MAI, an ASA, an FRICS and CEA designation. I also attended University of Wisconsin where I received a Bachelor's of Art in economics.

I also attended the John Marshall Law School here in Chicago, where I got an advanced degree in real estate law.

I've earned a number of the designations over the years, but as well as I've published many articles with regard to the valuation of machinery equipment, and the valuation of real estate over the years.

And so with that background and with that experience and knowledge, I've had the opportunity to work with a number of companies very similar to GATX, and I value the assets -- subject assets for a number of -- based on largely the cost approach.

We did supplement with the market data approach. And I'm going to tell you a little bit about our cost approach, and then some statistics that I think will be helpful, as well as the basis of our market data as well.

So briefly what we did is we used the assessment -- the California Assessors' manual. We used the tables from that particular handbook.

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And the reason why is that the subject assets -- the subject assets are general industrial items. There is nothing specialized equipment.

You know, if you -- the descriptions are pretty clear in so far as there's nothing specialized with respect to the machinery equipment that is actually in place.

We're talking about cranes, we're talking about containers, we're talking about tanks, waste basin, water tanks. And really that's really about the most specialized equipment that -- or the most specialized equipment that's there are really, you know, those items.

And they all kind of fit within the general industrial category. So we felt that they were -- they fit the definition as -- as articulated in the California Assessors' manual.

And just to give you a sense of, you know, where we -- or why we feel it was applicable, is that at the end of the day, our replacement cost new, using the information not only in the assessors' manual, but also Marshall Valuation Service, we found that if you -- if you compare the replacement cost new to our fair market value, that the fair market value, one of being 33 percent of the replacement

cost new, that's significant.

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Because the average age of equipment on hand is 16 years. So what -- saying that is basically 67 percent depreciated or 33 percent good, that implies a 25-year life for the equipment for all of the equipment.

So 25 years seems to be -- or is the actual -- or is the implied life based on the actual market value that we derived. And the -- that is generally a pretty generous life for most machinery equipment. Very few pieces of machinery equipment have a much longer life. In fact, really, for the all intents and purposes, there isn't many that do.

What's really significant as well is that -by the way, the oldest asset is 53 years old. Just
to kind of give you an idea of some of the age on the
equipment that's actually there. With an average age
of 16, as I mentioned.

What's also significant is that when we looked at the comparable sales to back up the manual -- the tables in the manual, our comparable sales wound up being about three to eleven percent less than the actual lives, or basically lessen the value using the tables in the assessors manual. So at the end of the day, we felt it was pretty applicable.

And just to really kind of punctuate it then is also is that when we compared the market value of

the tanks on site, that using the direct cost approach, using the size of each of the tanks, the capacity and size of the tanks, the actual replacement cost, new and resulting value based on Marshall Valuation Service, we wound up being -- that was actually 70 percent less than the tables.

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So we used the tables, and we felt that we were being generous overall with respect to the overall value. And that it seemed to corroborate what the actual Assessors' manual articulated.

We also used an amount for economic obsolescence. And the reason why we used economic obsolescence -- I'm not sure if you have my appraisal in front of you, but there's a section in there called the industry -- basically the industry overview on the company's overview.

And at the conclusion of that on page -I'll tell you that here in a second -- bear with me a
second -- on page 8 of the industry outlook, one of
the things that was significant, and this is why
we -- we use the economic obsolescence penalty, was
when the industry overview and outlook was written,
it was positive. Largely because at that point in
time there was a speculation that the U.S. Shell oil
and gas production business was going to expand in
the United States. And we all know that has not
happened.

And it started to decline as early as 2019

or late 2019. Which pretty well buckets or brackets the date of the valuation, late 2019 into early 2020.

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So they had felt it was going to increase at that point in time around two-and-a-half percent.

And really, in essence, what it did is it dropped -- it dropped actually very similar to the obsolescence percentage that we articulated that was based on a scale factor, which is a measure used by appraisers that is pretty typical and well thought of in the industry.

And our obsolescence was pretty well underscored by not only that scale factor, but seemed to compare up pretty well to the industry factors overall.

So just to reiterate, our fair market value of 8,254,000, then 59.79 percent of that to reflect the 4-R Act is \$4,662,000.

And just to point out, is that economic obsolescence, if you were to take that out, my value was still \$5,560,000, which is a fair amount less than the value of 7 point -- almost \$5 million by the State.

And here, again, I felt the factors that we used were will underscored by the overall market, and -- and -- I'm sorry -- published cost data that was available to me.

And that's it. If you have any questions for me, I'd be happy to entertain them.

MR. VAZQUEZ: Thank you.

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Let me move on then to our State-Assessed Property Division for their presentation, which is Mr. Moon.

And then we'll allow you to respond to that after his presentation.

Is Mr. Moon available --

MR. MOON: I am.

MR. VAZQUEZ: -- to give his presentation?

MR. MOON: Yes, I'm here.

Good morning. Richard Moon with the Legal
Department. And with me are Mike Harris and
Vincent Gezi, Jack McCool and Robert Winn, all of the
State-Assessed Properties Division.

In this case for GATX, what SAPD had done for their appraisal is use the Reproduction Cost Less Depreciation approach for their equipment in comparable sales for their land, then they applied appropriately the 4-R Act percentage and arrived at the 2020 Board-adopted value of about \$8.1 million.

And this is fully consistent with the Board-adopted value last year, and the fact that they added roughly 1.6 million in property this year.

I would also mention at the outset, I think
I heard petitioner state that they had also used a
comparable sales method in their appraisal. But I
think that's the first time I'm hearing it. I may
have missed it.

But I will point you to his own appraisal, which on page 11 says, We did not employ a market data approach to the valuation of the subject. There is little data that could be utilized to identify the tangible asset portion of each market transaction.

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And so if he does have -- in fact have data, that's something, of course, that we could look at, but not at this point. Certainly for next year if they'd like to pursue it. I'm sure SAPD would be more than happy to look at that.

The initial petition originally requested a \$3.4 million reduction. But they changed that request to 4.62 million without really explaining the cause.

But this would represent about a \$2.8 million decrease from last year, even though they added about 1.6 million in property this year.

GATX, as you know, did provide an appraisal report that's the basis for their reduction request. However, there were a number of issues with the report, such that we cannot recommend any reduction in value based on it.

And so I'll go through some of the issues that we had with that report. And they should cover the issues that were mentioned by the appeals attorney at the outset of this hearing.

For that appraisal, the first issue that we had was that the appraisal used index factors, as

petitioner had stated, that are contained in our Assessors' Handbook 581, and that are also reflected in a CAA, California Assessors' Association issue paper that publishes business assessment factors every single year.

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The only problem is these are the wrong factors to use for state-assessed properties. And SAPD calculates its own factors that are more specific for state-assessed properties.

The index factor table used by GATX are for commercial, industrial, and agricultural and construction equipment, which does not fit into the factors that SAPD had developed.

But we should also point out the GATX California location does not match the industry company type categories that are listed in the Assessors' Handbook.

But in any case, those factors, as the Assessors' Handbook says itself, are for locally assessed, county-assessed properties, and not for state-assessed properties.

The second issue that we had was that the appraisal applied a 125 percent maximum trend factor that's recommended guidance, again, for locally-assessed properties.

And further, this factor is used in conjunction with a minimum percent good factor, but the appraisal used the maximum factor, but not the

minimum percent good factor with no explanation.

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The SAPD's factor, on the other hand, that should have been used and that apply to this property do not apply maximum trend factor, and they do not cap a minimum percent good factor.

The third issue that we had was with the obsolescence adjustment. They used an inutility adjustment. And that's for a reduced utilization of the property. But the calculation was largely unsubstantiated. And specifically no detail was really provided for two major components of the formula, which are capacity and scale.

So for capacity, petitioner used a table produced by the federal reserve, even though that table is not appropriate for use to determine petitioner's specific capacity.

And for the scale factor, the precise scale factor used was not even stated in the report. SAPD had to reverse engineer what scale factor was used, and then asked petitioner to confirm that at the appeals conference.

Thus petitioner is requesting about an 18 percent reduction to its property for inutility, without explaining why the numbers used to calculate that reduction are appropriate for this property, and particularly for property -- some of this property that's already valued at salvage value.

The Board has published guidance as to how

to properly demonstrate utility, and petitioner has not followed that guidance.

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And then finally, SAPD discovered that about half of the listed property had lower useful lives than what SAPD uses. And of course lower lives are going to reduce the value of the property.

But petitioner has not explained why the lives and why the factors that are used are incorrect, and why the ones that they have used are correct.

And for these reasons, we recommend no value reduction for this substantive appraisal reasons or issues that are raised here.

However, SAPD did apply a penalty for late filing. But due to a processing error, reported it incorrectly, depriving petitioner an opportunity to request abatement of that penalty.

And for that reason, SAPD is recommending removal of that penalty amount, and no other change to the Board-adopted value.

Thank you very much. And we'd be happy to take any questions.

MR. VAZQUEZ: Okay.

MR. GAINES: I've got a question if I could, Chair.

MR. VAZQUEZ: Thank you, Mr. Moon.

Members, I have several questions myself. I was wondering if we can just hold our questions until

after we allow the petitioner to -- his five minutes 1 for rebuttal. If we can hold that. 2 MR. GAINES: Yeah. Great. 3 MR. VAZOUEZ: Okav. 4 Is it Mr. Federico or is it Joe? 5 going to do the rebuttal? 6 7 MR. CALVANICO: This is Joe Calvanico. I'll follow up on that. 8 MR. VAZQUEZ: Okay. You have five minutes. 9 MR. CALVANICO: Thank you, sir. Thank you, 10 Mr. Chairman. I appreciate it. And Honorable 11 12 Members of the Board. I -- and the one thing I'm going to -- I 13 agree with one thing that the State said, in that I 14 did not follow their guidance. 15 16 I'm a professional appraiser using --17 appraising one particular set group of assets. And, 18 you know, using mass appraisal advice doesn't 19 necessarily always lead to the most accurate value. 20 As the assess -- or as the State pointed 21 out, that they say there's a state -- state-assessed 22 property, which is true. But it's a nonunitary 23 asset. So nonunitary assets are assets that are not 24 included in the entire approach, and can be, you 2.5 know -- are classified that way, because they don't necessarily fit the entire business model. 2.6

most of this was fairly standard industrial equipment

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In this particular case, as I mentioned,

that is found on site.

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And, in fact, the state assess manuals reflect that definition in terms of -- in terms of the assets that are overall covered by all the tables within the context of the, guote/unquote, locally-assessed property, including manufacturing machinery equipment.

The -- and as I pointed out at the outset of my presentation, that our value implies a 25-year life. And as I mentioned, that's probably a -- that's probably higher than most of the lives even within state-assessed area. So overall we think it reflects value.

The other thing that -- that I wanted to mention from that perspective is that within the context of the market data, absolutely true in the report that we said that there was no market data for an entire facility, such as the subject. And that's what that -- that was necessarily articulating. Essentially, it would be -- it would be prudent as an appraiser just to trust tables overall.

So of course I have market data that I use to substantiate what I have. And I'm articulating that now because obviously it's called into question in the fact that the assets that we used for market data definitely underscore and -- and agree with the factors that we use that were from the state overall manual.

With regard to the second item that they mentioned with regard to the 125 percent rule, you know, there's generally guidance in there for locally-assessed properties. It's absolutely true.

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But the interesting thing is, is that there's actually no rule or statement stating that it's not recommended for state-assessed nonunitary property. So it would be -- it would be inaccurate to say that you shouldn't use it.

And, in fact, these assets, because many of them are older, this absolutely applies to each and every one of those assets as a result of that.

And as I pointed out, our overall market value with obsolescence using that scale factor, which was really based on the -- the reduction in the industry, or the -- the decline in the industry is well -- is well articulated.

And as I mentioned before, even if you take that out, if you take that inutility factor out, our value would be 5.56 million, which would still be less than the \$7.6 million that the State assessed.

So that's that.

MR. VAZQUEZ: Thank you.

I think it was Member Gaines had a question, right? We'll open it up to the Members.

MR. GAINES: Thank you very much, Chair Vazquez.

I just was curious, because Mr. Moon had

mentioned that the penalty was waived. So I was just 1 curious as to how much that penalty was. 2 MR. MOON: Yeah. So the penalty is not 3 waived. What we're asking the Board, or recommending 4 that the Board do is abate that penalty. 5 MR. GAINES: Oh, okay. 6 7 MR. MOON: We, as staff, of course can't -can't remove that. 8 MR. GAINES: Okay. 9 MR. MOON: And so that would be -- yeah. 10 And so that would be up to you to approve that. 11 12 The amount of the penalty -- I'll get that in a second -- is 683,000, roughly. 13 MR. GAINES: Okay. Very well. Thank you. 14 I appreciate that. 15 16 And then I'm just curious as to this 17 argument in reference to a 25-year depreciation 18 table. 19 And I believe it was -- it was Joe Calvanico 20 that had expressed that he thought that that was 21 the -- the proper timeframe of depreciation. And I was just wondering if, Mr. Moon, could 22 23 you respond to that in terms of his logic and thought 24 process? MR. MOON: Well, I -- I certainly don't want 25 to speak for his logic and his thought process. 2.6 27 In terms of the 25-year lives, what -- what I will say -- I'm actually not exactly sure what he's 28

saying. 1 But, again, the lives and the factors that 2 are required to be used are the ones that the SAPD 3 produces. 4 And perhaps one of our appraisers, Vincent 5 Gezi or Mike Harris, would like to chime in. 6 7 MR. GAINES: Sure. Okay. MR. VAZQUEZ: Are they on the line? 8 MR. GEZI: Yes. Hi. This is Vincent Gezi. 9 Good morning. 10 MR. VAZQUEZ: Good morning. 11 12 MR. GEZI: Yes. I believe the 25 years may be an average that he -- that they came up with. 13 14 don't know how he came up with it. We used a lot of different lives for different categories of property. 15 16 I will mention that the facility is 72 years 17 old, and it was built in 1948. So many of the assets 18 are -- are older than 25 years. MR. GAINES: Okay. 19 20 And could you speak to the Marshall 21 Valuation technique? MR. GEZI: Well --22 23 MR. GAINES: Are they -- are they just using 24 a different model for valuation of property than the State -- the State uses? 25 MR. GEZI: Well, he didn't use the Marshall 26 2.7 Valuation for index factors or percent good in his appraisal. 28

MR. GAINES: Okay. Okay.

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So maybe he could -- maybe if I could get that clarification then from Mr. Calvanico in terms of -- can you clarify how the Marshall Valuation was used in this?

MR. GEZI: Yes, sir, I can.

So Marshall Valuation Service Center -- I don't know how familiar you are with it, and if you want me to explain it a little bit more. But it's published cost data that most appraisers rely on.

What we -- when we --

MR. GAINES: We use it in the insurance business. So that -- that's the reason I'm familiar -- a little bit familiar with it.

MR. GEZI: Okay. Very well, sir. Then you're very familiar with it.

So the reality is that, as you know, is that the published cost data is pretty accurate.

And one of the things we did was we, in using the factors that we used, the factors in the lifing, we corroborated that with Marshall data -- you know, with the Marshall Valuation data.

And it was consistent with that for this specific equipment, including what I mentioned earlier, the tanks and some of the specific assets for which we found market comparables for. So they reflected the lifing that we used overall.

And as was said is that -- so the 25-year

life is certainly the average for -- well, not even 1 an average. What it does is it -- the value -- the 2 fair market value that we derived using the lifing, 3 if you would compare it to the replacement cost new, 4 then that would imply a 25-year life. 5 And so obviously within the context of --6 7 even though it's a -- as I mentioned, that there's 53 -- 53 is the oldest asset that's on site still. 8 The average age is about 16. 9 So that would definitely -- and that was 10 reflected in the Marshall Valuation service as well. 11 12 MR. GAINES: Okay. And then I'm wondering -- thank you. 13 Mr. Moon, can you help me a little bit on 14 this valuation in terms of the depreciation? 15 How -- how is the State depreciating it 16 17 versus this proposal coming forward in this Marshall 18 Valuation? 19 MR. MOON: Yeah. I don't know what the 20 difference between our depreciation factors that we 21 use in the Marshall factors are. I think Vincent Gezi would be a better person to answer that 22 23 question. 24 MR. GAINES: Oh, okay. Yeah. Great. Thank 25 you. MR. GEZI: Yes, Mr. Gaines. Vince Gezi 26 2.7 here. I believe our -- our appraisal --28

State-Assessed Properties Division appraisal, we used different life tables than the petitioner.

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And it was based on our -- what we use for railroad maintenance facilities in the state of California. And also based on the age of equipment, and age of the facility.

MR. GAINES: Okay. All right. So it's not a -- there's not a specific table out there? You're looking --

MR. GEZI: No. We used, you know, different life -- life average service lives for different property that they owned.

Also, I might mention that they do own quite a bit of buildings and paving out there, not just equipment. So --

MR. GAINES: Okay. And so your -- the tables that the State is using are specific to that particular type of property?

MR. GEZI: Yes. We used 12 different index factors for different categories that we saw.

MR. GAINES: Okay.

MR. GEZI: That they owned and used and possessed.

For example -- I'll give you an example. We used index for buildings and steel buildings and wood, building and improvement, paving asphalt, paving concrete, tanks, water wells, and railroad freight cars. But were very specific in our trend

factors that we used for their property. 1 MR. GAINES: And I'm just curious as to how 2 Marshall does it. Are they asked specific --3 MR. GEZI: Well, I don't think they used the 4 Marshall & Swift for their index factors. 5 used -- they used the Assessors' Handbook 581, which 6 is for county-assessed properties. 7 MR. GAINES: Okay. 8 MR. GEZI: And they used a very generic for 9 commercial and industrial, agriculture and 10 construction property. 11 12 MR. HARRIS: This is Mike Harris. Can I step in here? 13 MR. GAINES: Yes, please do. 14 MR. HARRIS: I -- I -- I want to clear up 15 16 something. We also incorporate Marshall in our 17 development of our index factors; however, we -- we 18 narrow our focus on the specific type of equipment that you would find in this facility and railroad 19 20 property. 21 So while we both -- I think, from what I 22 understand of the petitioner's use of the county 23 factors, they're a little more broad in how they 24 apply it. Because they're covering more property, 25 more -- different pieces of equipment are incorporated in their -- in their factors. 2.6 Wherein our use of Marshall Swift, we're --27 or Marshall Valuation, we're more focused on the 28

1 railroad property. MR. GAINES: Okay. Now you're speaking to 2 the petitioner, or are you speaking to Marshall 3 Valuation? 4 MR. HARRIS: Well, I'm talking about how --5 how Marshall Valuation is used. 6 7 MR. GAINES: Yes. Okay. Okay. So the petitioner is using it on a 8 more extensive basis than -- than we would? 9 MR. HARRIS: Right. Well, the petitioner 10 has taken county factors that are much broader in use 11 12 covering different -- much broader categories of 13 equipment. MR. GAINES: Okay. 14 MR. HARRIS: Where the State-Assessed 15 Properties Division is using a more focused, narrow 16 17 category for just railroad type property and specific 18 property that's found at this facility. 19 MR. GAINES: Okay. That's -- that's 20 helpful. Thank you. 21 And just, in closing, if I could have Joseph Calvanico, if he could just respond to that. 22 23 MR. CALVANICO: Certainly. 24 MR. GAINES: Thank you. 25 MR. CALVANICO: Just to give you an idea. So I heard that there were a number of different 2.6 2.7 categories that the State used. And just to let you know, we used about 30 different categories. 28

And we were very specific about the particular items of equipment, because, as I mentioned, we're using the valuation of one particular taxpayer and one facility.

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And so when we went to corroborate the actual factors and the lifing used is, is that we were specific to the actual equipment and use within the context of the subject property.

And so that when we -- when we went to the California Assessors' Manual to use the particular lifing for the particular broader category, we went to Marshall to see within the context of the 30 categories we had, how they -- how they translate it to that.

So the 30 categories that we did have, actually, in terms of -- and I'm happy to articulate each and every one of them to you, if you'd like in terms of --

MR. GAINES: No, no. So 30 -- how about just -- okay, 30 categories versus how many used by the State?

MR. CALVANICO: Vince, do you have that?

MR. GEZI: Well, I believe he might be referring to the percent for life to use for percent good. But that's not the case for trend factors.

And also the information he just presented, it's not in his appraisal.

MR. GAINES: Okay. Okay. So that's not

clarified in the appraisal? 1 MR. GEZI: No, it's not. 2 MR. GAINES: Okay. All right. Thank you 3 very much. I appreciate it. It's clear as mud. 4 5 MR. GEZI: Yes, thank you. MR. SCHAEFER: Chair Vazquez, Vice Chair 6 Schaefer here. 7 MR. VAZQUEZ: Yes. Vice Chair Schaefer, go 8 ahead. 9 MR. SCHAEFER: I have a question to the 10 petitioner. 11 12 The respondent alleges that you used the wrong factors, agricultural factors or county 13 property assessment factors in calculating the value 14 of the state-assessed property. 15 I'm not sure what you're talking about 16 17 there. Is that true? And please explain. 18 MR. CALVANICO: It's actually not true, and 19 there are several tables that we used overall just in 20 general. 21 And in the appraisal -- and each of those categories that I talked about are articulated in the 22 23 appraisal. In fact, if you look at pages of the 24 appraisal, which included each of the equipment 25 tables that we did use. If you start on page 13 and go through -- bear with me a second. I apologize --2.6

34. So 13 to 34, each and every specialized listing

or the asset listing is there, along with the actual

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tables and the commercial percent good.

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And for each of the different factors that we use -- not factors, but the depreciation schedules, we used it for -- for the appropriate equipment overall, including industrial, commercial. We applied them directly to the correct items, including -- agricultural is -- is a misnomer, because it's also construction equipment that's looped into there. And there are things that are construction equipment on site, so we've included those as well.

MR. SCHAEFER: Thank you.

I also would like to ask our staff, we all agree on abatement of the penalty here?

MR. MOON: I'm sorry, Mr. Schaefer, are you asking that of staff or are you asking that of your fellow Board Members?

MR. SCHAEFER: I'm asking that of staff.

MR. MOON: Yes. Yes, staff is recommending that the Board abate that penalty.

MR. SCHAEFER: All right. I'd like to ask, are we pretty quick to assess a penalty? I would be happier if we didn't have to abate it, because we never tagged it into the valuation.

I think we are admitting some negligence on our part in giving the penalty in the first place, and that's why we are abating it.

It costs the public and it costs the

petitioners a lot of time and money to go in and ask for an abatement of it when they have pretty good reason for it. And when they have pretty good reason for it, it just raises my mind, I guess maybe I'm pro-business here, is that we should have been a little slower to assess a penalty that we can't defend.

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MR. MOON: Mr. Schaefer, if I can respond.

We're statutorily required to assess this penalty if the filing is late. And so what we do, the mechanism that the Board has, is that because we're statutorily required, we -- we put the penalty on if they're late.

And then if there are circumstances that make it reasonable that it was late, then staff will recommend abatement to the Board.

And in this case, we believe that it is reasonable that the penalty be abated, because of the processing error that staff had made.

MR. SCHAEFER: All right. Thank you.

I would like to be considered as favorable. And on us abating penalties or not assessing penalties, I think we have to realize that any business interest, from the little guys to the big guys, is having a much tougher time this year than they've had before. And we should help them out whenever we can legally do so.

Thank you.

MS. YEE: Mr. Chairman.

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MR. VAZQUEZ: Yes. I think I hear -- you know, Controller Yee, I can't see you, but I think I hear you.

MS. YEE: Okay. I'm on.

MR. VAZQUEZ: Go ahead.

MS. YEE: Good morning, Members.

I just wanted to make an observation about this appeals case. It is one that I have some concern about with respect to what the petitioners are relying on with respect to the guidance on valuation.

And I appreciate Board Member Gaines' questions about, you know, just what all was incorporated into some of the calculations.

You know, a really threshold issue here, and I want to be sure that petitioners understand this, and that is, you know, what application of guidance is actually being conducted here.

And it looks like a lot of the guidance petitioners relied on are -- are standards that have been established for county-assessed properties.

And even though they are standards in guidance for county-assessed properties, that's not to say that even counties are going to be mandated to look at applying those at every turn. There are going to be unique situations where they're going to have to apply that appropriately.

But I'm just concerned that, year after year, when we do the valuation for this particular petitioner, that we understand that the guidance that should be relied upon is, first of all, Property Tax Rule 6, which this Board adopts, that relies on essentially the reproduction or replacement cost approach to value. That is the preference when either reliable sales data or reliable income data are available.

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And then just taking it from that particular threshold guidance, to then apply more specific factors that are adopted by this Board for state-assessed properties.

So I'm just a little concerned that I don't want petitioner to be repeating, I guess, this reliance on county-assessed properties guidance documents that are -- include the Assessors' Handbook, as well as, you know, the California Assessors' Association guidance as well.

So I just wanted to point that out. Because to Mr. Schaefer's point, I mean, I think our time is all valuable, but I want to be sure at the very least that the threshold level that we're applying be appropriate guidance for the properties that are rightfully before this Board.

So I just wanted to make that observation.

And believe that the State-Assessed Properties has appropriately determined the valuation for this

petitioner. 1 MR. CALVANICO: I'm Joe Calvanico. 2 Am I allowed to respond to that? 3 MR. VAZOUEZ: Sure. Go ahead. 4 MR. CALVANICO: Okay. The way I understand, 5 and -- and correct me if I'm wrong, but the mandate 6 7 in the state of California for assessed property is market value. 8 What I provided to you as an appraiser is my 9 opinion of fair market value of this equipment. It 10 doesn't really matter how -- well, it does matter how 11 12 I came up with it. And I explained how I did. The reason why I gave it to you in the terms 13 that I did was largely because of the fact that the 14 California Assessors' manual has particular tables. 15 16 And whether or not they're mandated, if they reflect 17 market value and they are consistent with things like 18 Marshall Valuation Service, which is a service that 19 most appraisers rely on to help provide market value, 20 in addition to comparable sales and the like, that's 21 what comes up with market value. So it's not a matter of using incorrect 22 23 guidance or anything like that. What it is is it's 24 coming up with market value, and that's what I did. 25 MS. YEE: All right. MR. MOON: May -- may I respond briefly? 2.6 MS. YEE: Yeah. Thank you, Mr. Moon. 27

MR. MOON: I -- I would just say, it's -- of

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course they're absolutely right that what we're mandated to assess is market value, but we have standards and guidance that help us to get there.

And it sounds like -- and quite honestly,

I'm a little bit confused. But it almost sounds like
what the petitioner is saying is that they came up
with a study, or they did a study of their own trend
factors and index factors.

And if that's the case, and if that fits better than our factors, then we're more than happy to look at it. But I don't believe that was in the appraisal.

What was in the appraisal was just that they used the age 581 factors. And based on that, we would not recommend any kind of reduction.

Thank you.

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 $$\operatorname{MR}.$$ VAZQUEZ: Thank you for that clarification.

Controller Yee, did you have more questions, or is that --

MS. YEE: No, I was just -- thank you, Mr. Moon, for that clarification.

I mean, this is not by any means a strict formulaic, you know, method of how we get to the valuation. But we're certainly happy to look at methods that were employed that are consistent with, you know, how we look at state-assessed properties generally.

But what I am saying is that I hope the petitioner understands that this Board actually does adopt factors that are more specific. And I just really am perplexed as to why kind of the more generalized factor tables were employed here on the part of the petitioners that are more appropriately for county-assessed properties.

Thank you.

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 $$\operatorname{MR.}$$ GAINES: Could I do a follow-up question if there --

MR. VAZQUEZ: Sure. We have two. I guess we'll go with Member Gaines, and then we'll go to Vice Chair Schaefer.

Go ahead, Member Gaines.

 $$\operatorname{MR}.$$ GAINES: I just wanted to follow up with ${\operatorname{Mr}}.$ Moon in terms of the factors that we are using.

Are they -- I mean, the argument by Joe Calvanico is that -- that they don't reflect the market.

So, you know, then the question is, do we need to adjust our factors?

And I don't know the process for doing that. But I just thought I'd ask the question.

MR. MOON: Yeah. If that's his argument -and, again, I'm a little bit confused as to if that's
the argument at all. But if that's the argument,
then I think what -- what it would behoove him to do
is to give us his reasons prior to this hearing, you

know, along with his actual appraisal.

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If he has reasons why he thinks his factors are more appropriate than our SAPD-adopted factors, then we'll be more than happy to listen to his reasonings, and to make a determination as to whether that's the case.

And then we would also look to see if that applied only to this specific property, or to all kinds of this general type of property as well to see if an overall adjustment would need to be made to our factors.

MR. GAINES: Okay. So what is the process for that? You said it should have been done earlier. So what -- what is that --

MR. MOON: Typically, the -- typically it would be done around the March/April/May timeframe. The property statement is due March 1st. I think that's also true for railroad property. Although I could be mistaken on the date.

But typically about that timeframe an assessee would present whatever information that they have to support a different value than what the SAPD had -- had come up with. And then there would be back and forth from there.

MR. GAINES: All right. Is the petitioner -- was there -- were they aware of that -- of that procedure?

MR. MOON: I'm not sure if they were aware

of that. 1 MR. GAINES: Or should they be aware of it? 2 I'm just trying to --3 MR. MOON: They should be aware of that. 4 MR. GAINES: -- what's going on. 5 Maybe I could get a response from 6 7 Joe Calvanico. MR. CALVANICO: So I'm the appraiser. I 8 think I -- I'll turn that over to Bob, who is the 9 10 consultant -- you know, the consultant, and the company hired me. 11 12 MR. GAINES: Okay. Then I'd like to hear from Bob. 13 MR. FEDERICO: Yeah. Yeah. If I understand 14 you, I think what you're saying, Mr. Moon, is that 15 16 that type of information maybe would be more useful 17 sometime after the return is filed. 18 Is that what you're getting at in terms 19 of --20 MR. MOON: Well, I -- I think what I'm 21 saying is that type of information would be more 22 useful when our appraisers have time to look at it 23 and give it the --24 MR. FEDERICO: Right. 25 MR. MOON: -- give it the attention that it deserves. 2.6 27 MR. FEDERICO: Understood. Understood. MR. GAINES: Wonderful. Great. Thank you. 28

MR. VAZQUEZ: Vice Chair Schaefer, I believe 1 you had a question. 2 MR. SCHAEFER: I wanted to ask Bob Federico, 3 if we applied the factors that you used in your 4 petition, how much of a difference would this make in 5 the valuation? 6 7 In other words, is there a dollar figure of how much lower your valuation would be? 8 MR. FEDERICO: I would have to defer to our 9 appraiser Mr. Calvanico. 10 MR. CALVANICO: Sure. So without the 11 12 inutility factors, sir, what we would wind up with is a value of \$5.56 million versus a value of \$7.46 13 14 million. MR. SCHAEFER: But you're more or less happy 15 16 with -- with our stipulation here? Well, that's all 17 been figured into the stipulation you have with 18 Mr. Moon? Hello? Okay. MR. CALVANICO: That would be for Bob to 19 20 address. 21 MR. FEDERICO: Yeah, I'm not -- yeah, I'm not sure of the question, Mr. Schaefer. Could you 22 23 repeat that? 24 MR. SCHAEFER: Oh. Well, he gave me a 25 figure that was, I think, granting you more relief than you're agreeing to here. But all figures --2.6 27 MR. FEDERICO: Then we were -- then we were asking, yes. Yes. 28

MR. SCHAEFER: Okay. Well, I'm content with 1 that. Thank you. 2 MR. VAZQUEZ: Any other questions from any 3 of the Members? 4 MS. COHEN: Yes, I have a question. 5 MR. VAZQUEZ: I don't see you on the screen 6 7 here, but I'm assuming you're here somewhere. MS. COHEN: That's true, I'm not on the 8 screen. But can you hear me? 9 MR. VAZQUEZ: I can hear you. Go ahead. 10 MS. COHEN: Okay. 11 12 So Controller Yee kind of started down this road, and I just wanted to ask, is there -- is there 13 any direct evidence of retired assets, Mr. Federico? 14 MR. FEDERICO: Uh, Joe, I think you can 15 answer that one, too. I know that was part of one of 16 17 the issues. 18 MR. CALVANICO: I think there were a grouping of assets that both the State and I valued 19 20 at -- at zero. MR. FEDERICO: And if that's -- I'm not sure 21 22 if that's a reporting issue where assets that were 23 retired were not reported or removed from the books. 24 I'm not sure. We'd have to get with our client on that one. 2.5 MR. VAZQUEZ: Member Cohen, are you still 2.6 there? Maybe you're muted. 2.7 If you're speaking, Member Cohen, I can't 28

1 hear you.

I'm not hearing Member Cohen. So is there
any other --

MR. JENKINSON: Mr. Vazquez, I'm sorry.

This is Dan Jenkinson with the Board. I'm just observing. But I was just kicked off, so she might have been kicked off as well. I had to sign back in, just so you know.

MR. VAZQUEZ: Thank you.

Well, let me ask a quick question.

Actually, most of my questions were answered. The only thing I have is I guess more of a clarification from the petitioner. And it -- and it sounded like you kind of addressed it, but I just want to be clear on this.

So are you saying that your calculations specifically requested by, you know, the factor of your tables are more accurate than the calculations by our staff?

MR. CALVANICO: That is correct, yes.

MR. VAZQUEZ: Okay.

And then the other -- and then I guess we touched on it a little bit when we were getting into the explanation about the 125 percent, I guess, across the Board.

Could you explain that relation between the technology advances in the communal value of his assets?

MR. CALVANICO: Yes.

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So, I mean, basically the -- the rule is, it's basically -- the idea behind that particular application, or -- it's not a rule, but let's call it an application -- is that as an asset gets older, that the -- basically that the -- as you trend it forward to the present date, that going beyond 125 percent of the original cost would not necessarily be reflective of the actual market.

That's really what it means. And we agreed with that.

MR. VAZQUEZ: Thank you. Okay.

With that, I'm looking at my notes. I think I'm pretty good here.

Let me just check, is Member Cohen back on the line? I'm not seeing or hearing her.

While we're waiting for that, let me ask Ms. Taylor, do we have any public comment on this item?

MS. TAYLOR: We do -- we don't have any written comments, but I can ask AT&T moderator to let us know if there's anyone on the line who would like to make a public comment regarding this matter.

MR. VAZQUEZ: Please.

MS. TAYLOR: AT&T moderator, can you please let us know if there's anyone on the line who would like to make a public comment?

AT&T MODERATOR: Okay.

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Ladies and gentlemen, if you would like to 1 make a public comment, please press one, then zero at 2 this time. 3 Once again, if you'd like to make a public 4 comment, please press one, then zero. 5 I'm allowing a few moments for anyone to 6 7 queue up. So far we have no one in queue. 8 MR. VAZQUEZ: Thank you. 9 Do we have Member Cohen back on? 10 I think she might have fell off our line 11 12 here, because I don't see or hear her. MS. COHEN: Yes, I'm here. I'm back. 13 MR. VAZQUEZ: Oh, I'm sorry. 14 MS. COHEN: Thank you. 15 MR. VAZQUEZ: I was just checking in. I --16 17 I think -- I wasn't sure if you were finished with 18 your questions. 19 MS. COHEN: I -- I'm finished. Thank you. 20 MR. VAZQUEZ: Okay. 21 With that, Members, this item is now before 22 us. 23 MS. YEE: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to make a 24 motion. 25 MR. VAZQUEZ: Sure. Go ahead, Controller Yee. 2.6 MS. YEE: I'll move that we grant the 27 petition for reassessment in part, consistent with 28

1 the recommendation as to their agreed-to penalty abatement issue, and to deny the petition as to all 2 other issues. 3 MR. SCHAEFER: Vice Chair, I would second 4 that. 5 MR. VAZQUEZ: It's been moved, and it's been 6 7 second by our Vice Chair Schaefer. Any comments or questions from any of the 8 Members? 9 MR. GAINES: If I could. 10 MS. COHEN: Yes. 11 MR. VAZQUEZ: Yes. Member Gaines, go ahead. 12 MR. GAINES: Malia, did you want to speak 13 14 first? MS. COHEN: Actually, thank you very much. 15 I just -- Mr. Chair, I just wanted to say 16 17 that in abundance of caution and to avoid any 18 appearance of conflict, I'm going to recuse myself 19 from this vote. 20 MR. VAZQUEZ: Okay. 21 MS. COHEN: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Gaines. 22 23 MR. VAZQUEZ: Thank you. 24 MR. GAINES: Thank you, Member Cohen. 25 It just seems to me that this process, while I'm sympathetic to businesses and how difficult it is 2.6 2.7 to do business in the state of California, that, you know, we have a process through the BOE. 28

And I would think the petitioner would have an opportunity, even next year, to ask these questions, and -- and do it in a little different timeframe. Ask those questions upfront in terms of whether it's accurate to what's occurring within the marketplace. Do that within the March timeframe.

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And if we adjust accordingly, then we would have a more accurate valuation method at the BOE.

If -- if there's still disagreement, then that could come forward. But we as Members would know that that was challenged earlier on in the process.

And I just think that, you know, I want to make sure that our standards are accurate, but I think that process didn't occur in this case. So I cannot support it.

Thank you. I would -- I would agree -- actually, I would agree with Member Yee's motion.

Thank you.

MR. VAZQUEZ: Controller Yee, yes, go ahead.

MS. YEE: Thank you.

I appreciate Board Member Gaines' comment, particularly directed to the petitioners.

I will say that, you know, this is a process where there can be quite a bit of give and take, if petitioners come forward with documentation of their analyses, and certainly how they've arrived at certain factors to be considered.

And so -- but the burden of proof is on the petitioner. And I -- maybe this is a good reminder to all petitioners during the state-assessed valuation process, that, you know, after the property statements are due, there is just this ongoing -- I think from the State-Assessed Properties Division staff of wanting to engage to get to the right valuation.

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I mean, this is -- we're really trying to do that. And I know the staff there really do try to help petitioners do that. They will welcome any analyses, studies, appraisals, to help get to that point.

And, you know, our goal here is just to get to the right valuation given the guidance that we rely on.

But I will say, too, that -- and I'm not -this is not directed to the petitioner. But
oftentimes, I think without understanding the
guidance and standards that are available to be
applied here, that the tendency is for those who come
before the Board to get to the -- frankly, the best
valuation they can using all different methods,
whether -- without regard to whether they are
applicable for county-assessed properties as compared
to state-assessed properties.

So I think we have a mismatch here. And that's, to me, the threshold issue. Which is why I

made the motion that I did. 1 But I think your comment is well taken, 2 Member Gaines. And that is start that engagement 3 much earlier in the process. 4 MR. VAZQUEZ: Thank you. 5 Any other comments or questions? 6 7 Seeing and hearing none, let me ask Ms. Taylor to call the roll on the motion. 8 MS. TAYLOR: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. 9 Chairman Vazquez. 10 MR. VAZQUEZ: Aye. 11 12 MS. COHEN: Pardon me --MS. TAYLOR: Vice Chair Schaefer. 13 MR. SCHAEFER: Aye. 14 MS. TAYLOR: Member Gaines. 15 MR. GAINES: Aye. 16 17 MS. TAYLOR: Member Cohen is not 18 participating. 19 MS. COHEN: Actually, Ms. Taylor, I 20 misspoke. I got ahead of myself. I will be voting, 21 and I'm voting in support of the motion on the table. 22 Thank you. Aye. MS. TAYLOR: Controller Yee. 23 24 MS. YEE: Aye. 25 MR. VAZQUEZ: So that's unanimous of all those present and voting. 26 27 Thank you. With that, let me have Ms. Taylor please 28

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1	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE
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3	State of California)
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7	I, Jillian Sumner, Hearing Reporter for
8	the California State Board of Equalization, certify
9	that from December 16, 2020 videoconference, I
10	recorded verbatim, in shorthand, to the best of my
11	ability, the proceedings in the above-entitled
12	hearing; that I transcribed the shorthand writing
13	into typewriting; and that the preceding pages 1
14	through 49 constitute a complete and accurate
15	transcription of the shorthand writing.
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17	Dated: December 31, 2020
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20	Jillian Sumner
21	JILLIAN SUMNER, CSR #13619
22	Hearing Reporter
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