1	EUGENE S. WILSON, ESQ. (107104)					
2	Law Office of Eugene Wilson 3502 Tanager Avenue	RECK				
3	Davis, California 95616-7531 Phone: 530-756-6141	FARMO DEC & VED				
4	Facsimile: 530-756-5930	2011 12 0 1				
5	Attorney for California Clean Energy Committee	TO MONIMATION STATES				
6		RECEIVED OEC & 2011 12/8/11 EMPONISMIN COORDINATION SERVICES				
7						
8	THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA					
9	IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF PLACER					
10) CASE NUMBER				
11	CALIFORNIA CLEAN ENERGY COMMITTEE, a California nonprofit) CASE NOMBER) PROOF OF SERVICE OF NOTICE OF INTENT				
12	corporation,	TO FILE CEQA PROCEEDING				
13	Petitioner, v.))				
14	COUNTY OF PLACER, a political	,))				
15	subdivision of the State of California; and DOES 1-50, inclusive,))				
16	Respondents.	,))				
17	HOMEWOOD VILLAGE RESORTS, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company; JMA,	,))				
18	LLC, a California limited liability company; and DOES 51-100, inclusive,	,))				
19	Real Parties in Interest.))				
20						
21	I, Eugene S. Wilson, declare as follows:					
22	1. I am, and was at the time of service of the papers herein referred to, over the age of					
23	eighteen years and not a party to the within action.					
24	2. I am employed in the County of Yolo, California, in which county the within-					
25	mentioned mailing occurred. My business address is 3502 Tanager Avenue, Davis, California					
26	95616.	TO THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERT				
27	3. I served the attached NOTICE OF INTENT TO FILE CEQA ACTION by placing					
28	copy thereof in a separate envelope for each addressee named hereafter, addressed to each such					

Notice of Intent to File CEQA Proceeding - 1

1	addressee respectively as follows:
2	Mrs. Maywan Krach Community Development Resource Agency
3 4	Environmental Coordination Services 3091 County Center Drive, Suite 190
5	Auburn, California 95603
6	I then sealed each envelope and mailed each with the United States mail at Davis.
7	California, on December, 2011.
8	I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this
9	declaration was executed on December, 2011, at Davis, California.
10	
11	
12	Eugene S. Wilson
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NOTICE OF INTENT TO FILE CEQA ACTION

TO THE COUNTY OF PLACER:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, under Public Resources Code section 21167.5, that the California Clean Energy Committee intends to file an action under the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act against respondent County of Placer challenging the certification of the final environmental impact report and the adoption of the Homewood Mountain Resort Ski Area Master Plan pursuant thereto and related actions by the County of Placer on December 6, 2011. A copy of the Petition for Writ of Mandate Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

DATED: December 2011

LAW OFFICE OF EUGENE WILSON

Eugene S. Wilson, Esq.

Attorney for California Clean Energy

Committee

I

1 2 3	EUGENE S. WILSON, ESQ. (107104) Law Office of Eugene Wilson 3502 Tanager Avenue Davis, California 95616-7531 Phone: 530-756-6141					
4	Facsimile: 530-756-5930					
5	Attorney for California Clean Energy Committee					
6						
7						
8	THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA					
9	IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF PLACER					
10						
11	CALIFORNIA CLEAN ENERGY) COMMITTEE, a California nonprofit)	CASE NUMBER				
12	corporation,	PETITION FOR WRIT OF MANDATE PURSUANT TO THE CALIFORNIA				
13	Petitioner,) v.	ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT AND INJUNCTION UNDER THE PLANNING AND ZONING LAW				
14	COUNTY OF PLACER, a political	DOMINO DATA				
15	subdivision of the State of California; and DOES 1-50, inclusive,					
16	Respondents.					
17 18	HOMEWOOD VILLAGE RESORTS, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company; JMA, LLC, a California limited liability company;					
19	and DOES 51-100, inclusive,					
20	Real Parties in Interest.					
21	Petitioner California Clean Energy Committee, by and through its attorney, alleges as					
22	follows:					
23						
24	GENERAL ALLEGATIONS					
25	1. Respondent County of Placer (County) is a political subdivision of the State of					
26	California. The project described herein is located in the unincorporated area of Placer County on					
27	the West Shore of Lake Tahoe. The County is the primary agency responsible under California law					
28	for the project and as such the lead agency under	CEQA responsible for preparation of the				
	Petition for Wi	it of Mandate - 1				

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environmental impact report and for the evaluation and design of the project mitigation.

- 2. Petitioner California Clean Energy Committee (Committee) is a nonprofit corporation incorporated under the laws of the State of California maintaining its principal place of business in the City of Davis, California. The corporation advocates on behalf of the general public throughout the State of California for energy conservation, the development of clean energy resources, reduced greenhouse gas emissions, smart growth, and related issues. The Committee actively supports the application of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to energy conservation and related issues.
- 3. Homewood Village Resorts, LLC, is a Delaware limited liability company, and the project applicant for the project described herein. (DEIR at p. 2-1.) JMA, LLC is a California limited liability company, that is pursuing the project. (FEIR a p. 23-1.)
- 4. The project which is the subject of this petition is the Homewood Mountain Resort Ski Area Master Plan (Master Plan) which is comprised of a mixed use project at the North Base area of the resort, residential use projects in the South Base area, a lodge at the Mid-Mountain Base area, and support facilities in the ski area of the Homewood Mountain Resort (HMR). The project is located on 1,200 acres adjacent to State Route 89 approximately six miles south of Tahoe City in Placer County.
- 5. The project approvals requested by the applicant include adoption of amendments to the West Share Area General Plan, approval of a development agreement, approval of a conditional use permit and planned residential use permit, and approval of a subdivision map.
- 6. Over forty (40) individuals in the Lake Tahoe West Shore area have joined the Committee's request that the TRPA and Placer County require robust energy conservation and environmental stewardship in the Homewood Mountain Resort Master Plan. The Committee's supporters on the West Shore will be directly and adversely impacted by the implementation of the project and by the failure of the Homewood Mountain Resort Ski Area Master Plan EIR/EIS (EIR) to adequately evaluate the impacts of the project and to propose mitigation as required pursuant to CEQA. Petitioner brings this action as a representative of the general public who will be affected by the project.

- 7. Without a representative organization such as petitioner, it would be impractical and uneconomic for individual members of the public to enforce CEQA with respect to the project discussed herein. Without a representative action such as this one, the violations of CEQA described in this petition would remain immune from judicial review. No governmental agency is prepared to evaluate these environmental issues or to enforce the public rights that are at stake.
- 8. Venue for this action is proper in this court because the environmental impacts of the actions alleged herein will cause direct and substantial impacts within Placer County and because the principal office of the respondent agency is situated within Placer County.
- 9. Concurrently herewith petitioner is filing a declaration of prior service by mail upon Placer County of written notice of intent to commence this action in compliance with the requirements of Public Resources Code section 21167.5.
- 10. Petitioner is further filing and serving herewith its notice of an election to prepare the administrative record in this matter pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21167.6.
- herein under California Code of Civil Procedure section 474 as Does 1 through 100, inclusive, are presently unknown to petitioner. Does 1 through 100 include agents of the county, state, and federal government who are responsible in some manner for the conduct described herein and real parties in interest presently unknown to the petitioner who claim some legal or equitable interest in the project who petitioner therefore sues by such fictitious names. Petitioner will amend this petition to include these Doe respondents' true names and capacities when they are ascertained. Each of the fictitiously-named respondents is responsible in some manner for the conduct alleged herein.
- 12. Petitioner's action herein will result in the enforcement of important rights affecting the public interest and confer substantial benefits on the general public. The necessity and financial burden of private enforcement justify an award of attorney fees pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 1021.5.
- 13. The draft EIR was published January 21, 2011, and the public comment period extended through April 21, 2011. The final EIR was released on October 3, 2011. Despite the extensive comments received, the County nevertheless prepared and relied on an EIR that falls well

below the minimum legal standards.

- Board of Supervisors certified the final EIR, adopted findings of fact, a mitigation and monitoring program, a statement of over-riding considerations, and approved the project. If the respondent agencies are allowed to proceed with the project, irreparable harm will result to the environment and the public. No adequate remedy, other than that prayed for herein, exists by which the rights of the petitioner and the class it represents may be protected.
- 15. Petitioner has exhausted all administrative remedies by submitting written comments on the project requesting compliance with CEQA and a full and adequate environmental review. All issues raised in this petition were raised with the respondent agencies by the Committee or by other members of the public or public agencies prior to the certification of the EIR. Respondent has made its final decision. This petition is timely filed in accordance with Public Resources Code section 21167 and CEQA Guidelines section 15112.

TRIP GENERATION

- 16. The current use of the project site is skier accommodations including food services, retail sales, ticket sales, ski school, mechanical rooms, daycare, administrative offices, etc. There are no residential, general commercial, or hotel uses on the site.
- 17. The proposed project would add 274 residential units to the site including 245 condominiums, 16 townhomes, and 13 workforce apartments. The applicant also proposes to build a 75 room hotel with about 16,000 square feet dedicated to meeting space, spa, fitness center, restaurant and bar uses. In addition the project includes 25,000 square feet of retail space, 32,000 square feet of skier services, a miniature golf course, and an outdoor amphitheater. (DEIR at p. 11-26.)
- 18. Using standard trip generation rates published by the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) for each of these uses, the EIR projects that the project will generate 3,973 vehicle trips daily in the winter. This represents a 57% increase in daily trip generation over the existing 2,535 daily trips generated by the facility. (DEIR at p. 11-41.) For summer trips the project is

expected to produce approximately 3,013 vehicle trips daily, all of which are new trips.

	Winter	Summer
Trip Generation	3,973	3,013
Existing Trip Generation	(2,535)	
Total New Trips	1,438	3,013

(DEIR at p. 11-46.) This represents a very considerable impact on the two-lane, low-speed road serving the project—State Route 89 (SR 89)—that already experiences considerable traffic congestion. Obviously this is a critical concern for residents and decisionmakers.

- EIR that the project will actually <u>reduce</u> vehicle traffic on SR 89 during the winter and will only cause an increase of 1,456 new daily trips in summer. According to the County, a large number of the anticipated vehicle trips generated by the project will actually not leave the project site because individuals at the resort will find adequate facilities on site to meet their needs and will not need to access local roads for services, i.e., trip reductions from "internal capture." Second, the County concludes that trips will be avoided because people at the resort will chose alternative modes such as a shuttle and will not use their vehicles—i.e., trip reductions from "alternative mode trips." Third, the County assumes that many trips will be avoided because people will be dropped off at the resort by someone headed to another destination—trip reductions from "pass-by trips." (DEIR at p. 11-41.)
- 20. On this analysis, 1205 trips will be avoided daily because of "internal capture," 355 trips will be avoided due to the use of alternate modes, and 205 trips will be avoided as "pass-by trips." (EIR at 11-46.) On this basis, the County has reduced daily winter trip generation by 1765 trips and consequently represents in the EIR that the project will result in a reduction in winter vehicle traffic on SR 89. (EIR at 11-41.)
- 21. The basis for these internal capture reductions is what the County characterizes as "assumptions." (DEIR at pp. 11-28, 11-38.) The EIR includes "assumptions" that 25% of work trips, 60% of recreational trips, and 40% of personal business trips form the residential units will be made internally. Similarly, there are "assumptions" that 100%, 60%, and 40% of the trips from the employee units and 70% and 40% of the trips from the lodging units will be avoided.

- 22. The rates of internal capture have not been analyzed and the findings on trip generation impacts are unsupported. (Findings at p. 29.) The rates of internal capture are unsupported by data, scientific authority, or explanation of any kind. An EIR must contain facts and analysis, not just an agency's bare "assumptions." Where there is a standard, accepted methodology that can feasibly be used to assess a significant impact, the lead agency must assess the impact unless it provides a clear and supported justification for its failure to do so.
- procedures for calculating "internal capture" and provided the agency with a copy of those procedures. The ITE protocols provide (1) that the internal capture be based on either similar projects or local data, (2) that the credit for internal capture be limited by the smaller of the interacting land uses, and (3) that the analysis of internal capture use an iterative balancing process constraining the internal trip making to what is reasonable. (FEIR at Comment Letter #11 at pp. 1-2.) The agency has ignored the recognized procedures of the Institute of Traffic Engineers (ITE) for calculating internal capture and simply assumes that for each type of trip a certain percentage of vehicles will go to a destination within the resort.
- traffic numbers and to totally ignore ITE procedures used to calculate internal capture. (FEIR at p. 23-95.) The EIR failed to provide a good-faith reasoned explanation of why it failed to use the ITE procedure for estimating internal capture and failed to provide any relevant information to support the agency's "assumptions" procedure for calculating internal capture. The agency has been reckless about the huge traffic impacts to the West Short that would result if its "assumptions" were to prove inaccurate. Such practices are unlawful under CEQA and constitute an abuse of discretion.
- 25. With respect to trips made for business purposes, the EIR assumes that 40% of these will be made to the resort. However, this requires a substantial retail component at the resort. The EIR has not recognized that the resort contains only a very limited-size and vaguely-defined commercial component. What this component would be has shifted. Originally the EIR claimed this retail "will include a grocery store and potentially a hardware store." (DEIR at p. 11-48.) In comments to the Board of Supervisors on November 15, 2011, the applicant stated that the on-site

commercial would include "only" an "ice cream, hardware, and deli."

- 26. At the time of the trip generation analysis, the retail was supposed to be 25,000 square feet. The size and composition of the commercial component determines whether it will capture local trips internally or not. Yet in the applicant's November, 2011, comments to the Board of Supervisors, it was disclosed that 10,000 square feet of this retail space would actually be located at the Mid-Mountain Lodge. The Mid-Mountain Lodge has no vehicle access or parking. (DEIR at 3-25.)
- 27. Further it is quite likely that the retail shops at a resort will be tourist attractions featuring expensive and artistic items. (FEIR at p. 24-41.) Such retail uses, even if they carried appropriate goods, are still not likely to be patronized by local residents for ordinary shopping. Yet the EIR treats this project like it were the local grocery or strip center. This small and expensive commercial component is hardly a credible basis for making "assumptions" about internal capture.
- 28. The EIR misleadingly asserts the County used a "methodology [that] is consistent with the ITE Manual." (FEIR at p. 23-44.) However, the internal capture portion of the analysis clearly was not done using the Institute of Traffic Engineers (ITE) Trip Generation Handbook. The ITE provides an authoritative protocol for analyzing internal capture. Under this protocol the ability of the commercial land use to draw and serve customers must be evaluated. No such analysis was ever reported despite comments from the petitioner. The EIR simply ignores the question of whether the commercial portion of the resort is large enough and diverse enough to attract the trips generated by 274 condominiums and townhomes. (DEIR at pp. 11-28, 11-38.)
- 29. According to the ITE, "The number of trips from a land use within a multi-use development to another land use within the same multi-use development (i.e., an internal trip) is a function of the size of the 'receiving' land use and the number of trips it attracts as well as the size of the 'originating' land use and the number of trips it sends. The number of trips between a particular pair of internal land uses is limited to the smaller of these two values." (TGE at p. 82, emphasis in original.)
- 30. The ITE provides data for use in internal capture analyses. If that data is not used for any reason, the analysis must "either (1) collect local data to establish an internal capture

rate, according to the procedures described in section 7.7 of this chapter, or (2) assume no internal capture. (Note: although this assumption of no internal capture may be unrealistic, in the absence of any data it is better to overestimate off-site vehicle-trips.)" (TGE at p. 86, emphasis in original.) Clearly, the ITE provides an established protocol for calculating internal capture which does not consist in the adoption of "assumptions."

- townhouses will be to jobs at the resort. Yet the ITE Trip Generation Handbook points out that internal capture is affected by whether those who work on the site can afford to live on the site. (TGH at p. 94.) In the case of Homewood, the median asking price for a house or condominium was \$1,204,298 in 2007. (DEIR at p. 7-3.) And the resort is expected to produce "lower-income" jobs associated with leisure, retail trade, and hospitality employment. (DEIR at pp. 7-8, 7-19.) Such seasonal service workers are not likely to be living in new luxury condominiums at Lake Tahoe. Rather the vast majority of residents in Homewood fall into two categories--management, professional and related occupations first followed by sales and office occupations. (DEIR at p. 7-5.) These residents will not be working at the resort which contains no leased office space that would be a likely workplace for residents in these occupations. There is no basis to assume that 25% of the work-related trips from the housing will go to the resort.
- 32. Further, these "assumptions" about internal capture rates are improbably high. URBEMIS—a standard traffic engineering tool used specifically for making adjustments to ITE trip generation rates for developments that are located near transit or that contain a mix of uses—allows a maximum possible credit for mixed use of 9%. The EIR's guesstimates assumptions for internal capture rates are 25%, 40%, 60%, 70%, and 100%.
- applies to "a single real-estate project that consists of two or more ITE land use classifications between which trips can be made without using the off-site road system." (TGH at p. 79, emphasis added.) Picking up on this factor, the County asserts that internal capture applies here because "this trip making activity never ventures to the external roadway network." (DEIR at p. 11-28; FEIR at p. 23-44.) Yet this clearly misrepresents the case for much of the project. The retail uses are located at

the North Base. (FEIR at p. 24-42.) Consequently, residents of the 95 condos at South Base would have a half-mile drive to North Base travelling on State Route 89, the dedicated state highway which is the focus of the traffic concerns. (DEIR at p. 3-22.) The typical trip would also go on Ski Bowl Way, which is a dedicated public road. Both vehicle and pedestrian access is blocked by townhouses and commercial structures going from South Base to North Base. (DEIR at p. 3-23; Findings at p. 6; FEIR at p. 24-43.) The trip to North Base from the 16 townhomes on Tahoe Ski Bowl Way by car would be even further. Such trips clearly are not trip-making activity that "never ventures to the external roadway network."

- 34. The internal capture "assumptions" for hotel guests are also a conflict with ITE protocols. According to the EIR, internal capture is "someone who is staying at the hotel may go shopping at the retail use without generating an external trip." (FEIR at p. 23-44.) For this purpose, the EIR assumes 70% of recreational/social trips and 40% of personal business trips are made internally for hotel guests. However, trip generation analyses do not apply internal capture to accessory recreational and social trips connected with a hotel. According to the ITE, "A hotel with an on-site restaurant and small retail falls within Land Use Code 310 and should not be treated as a multi-use development." (TGH at p. 80, emphasis added.) Nevertheless, the EIR classifies the hotel as land use category 310 and then incorrectly attributes a 55% internal capture rate to it. (DEIR at App. K-2.) The EIR misleadingly states that "all analysis was performed using national state-of-the-practice methods for conducting traffic impact studies." (FEIR at p. 23-43.) Clearly the traffic analysis does not meet ITE standards.
- analysis, and the summer "assumptions" are unsupported for an additional reason. The internal capture rate for recreational/social trips has been assumed to be the same 60% in both winter and summer. Yet the ski facilities are closed in the summer. (DEIR at pp. 11-28, 11-38.) There is no justification for assuming an equivalent number of trips would be made to the resort in the summer. The EIR summarily concludes that in lieu of skiing, the summer "includes walking and bicycling recreational trips that occur within the Project area such as hiking or using the bicycle share program." (DEIR at p. 11-28.) Speculating that "walking and bicycling" will in the summer draw as

many trips in the summer as skiing does in the winter is completely without support.

- 36. Each of these assumptions is applied to reduce the number of trips that one would expect for a typical home based the National Household Travel Survey, which states that 18% of household trips are work-related trips, 27% are recreational/social trips, 45% are personal business trips, and 10% are school or church related trips. (DEIR at pp. 11-28, 11-38.) It is obviously unlikely that condominiums and townhouses at a ski resort will have the same mix of trips that a typical residence would have.
- 37. The EIR's reductions based on the "pass-by rate" are also at odds with ITE standards. According to the EIR "[t]he pass-by rate is applied to the shopping center use and not to any other use within the project." (DEIR at p. 11-30.) The 15,000 square feet of "an ice cream, hardware and deli" does not constitute a "shopping center" and ITE rates for shopping center pass-by trips are not applicable. There is no shopping center on the site, and the pass-by reduction attributed to a shopping center is not applicable to the project.
- 38. The EIR's assumptions about transit do not comply with current traffic analysis either. The EIR makes the unsupported assumption that for each passenger that takes transit, there will be an equivalent reduction in the number of people travelling by car. Current traffic planning clearly does not support this kind of assumption. The current literature largely debunks the ability of transit to reduce traffic congestion, and certainly does not support a one-to-one reduction of auto travel. Transit ridership to a large degree represent individuals who do not have another mode of transport and consequently would not add to the traffic count if transit were not available.
- 39. Further, the EIR has completely overlooked the impact that reduced parking at the resort will have on traffic congestion. When the parking lot is filled, more skiers are going to be dropped off at the resort because no parking is available. Consequently a trip that would have been a one-way trip to the resort becomes a two-way trip to drop off skiers which includes a return by the driver to vehicle parking in Tahoe City or elsewhere. Further, when parking facilities at the resort are full, there will still be vehicles attempting to find parking at or near the resort who will generally make several trips and turns cruising around looking for parking. These additional trips at peak hours considerably exacerbate traffic congestion.

INCREASED TOURISM TRAVEL

- 40. The Lake Tahoe Basin is traditionally a vacation or second-home area. (DEIR at p. 7-1.) The project is intended to provide "tourist recreational services and vacation homes that draw visitors to the area." (DEIR at p. 7-19.) During ski season Lake Tahoe ski resorts attract thousands of people from all over Nevada and California. A large portion of the housing stock in Homewood is used either as vacation homes or as seasonal rentals." (DEIR at 7-3.)
- 41. Largely people travel to Lake Tahoc travel by car. Long-haul visitors fly.

 According to the World Tourism Organization, the transport of tourists to and within destinations accounts for 75 percent of all carbon dioxide emissions by the tourism sector, with air travel making up about 40 percent of the total. The tourism industry requires vast amounts of energy for the production of its products, services, and visitor experiences. The National Ski Areas Association points out that travel to ski areas has unavoidable impacts and that a variety of potential mitigation measures exist such as working with travel agents to promote car-free vacations.
- 42. Increased tourist travel is a reasonably foreseeable indirect consequence of the project resulting in potentially significant impacts on the physical environment and as such must be identified and evaluated. The EIR notes that the implementation of the project "will increase tourism in the LATB," but it fails to identify or evaluate the energy and climate impacts associated with increased tourism travel. (DEIR at p. 19-20.) The County's response to petitioner's comment on travel impacts was insufficient and non-responsive. The agency simply asserted that impacts to the level of service (LOS) at intersections did not exist beyond the immediate area of the project. The agency is required to use its best efforts to find out and disclose all that it can. The EIR is incomplete and does not contain a good-faith effort at full disclosure and does not use existing data on travel impacts. The identification and evaluation of environmental impacts was inadequate as a matter of law.

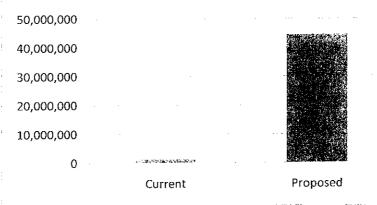
ENERGY IMPACTS

43. The EIR does not consider the project's impacts on energy or reach a conclusion on

whether energy impacts of the project are significant or not. It considers whether the project will have an impact on local utilities. The EIR considers whether the project will increase electric or natural gas demand "to such a degree that service standards and objectives cannot be maintained or new facilities are needed that could cause significant environmental effects." (DEIR at p. 16-13.) This is not an analysis of energy impacts under CEQA.

44. The EIR notes that the resort currently consumes 1.3 million kilowatt-hours per year. It states that project energy usage for new resort will be approximately 44.5 million kilowatt-hours per year. Under the proposed plan, electrical usage at the site will increase by 3,150%.

Annual Electrical Usage in kWh



(DEIR at p. 16-24.) On its face this is a serious adverse impact to energy and requires full evaluation and mitigation. Yet the EIR fails to identify this jump in energy use as a potential impact or to evaluate it. This constitutes a prejudicial abuse of discretion under CEQA.

- 45. The EIR fails to evaluate energy conservation and design features for the project and fails to evaluate what energy savings could feasibly be achieved. The EIR only states that a portion of the project known as "North Base" will incorporate LEED energy savings features and that Title 24 will be complied with in other areas of the project. There is a total lack of discussion what energy efficiency measures were considered for the project, which ones were selected, and why others were not adopted.
- 46. The EIR fails to evaluate energy use in various sectors of the project such as lifts, lighting, heating, air conditioning, snowmaking, snow grooming, and pumping. (DEIR at 16-24.)

The EIR fails to use the Snowmaking Energy Index (SEI) that measures and compares the energy efficiency of snowmaking systems. Proposed upgrades to the site include installation of a high-speed gondola. (EIR at 3-30.) Energy conservation has not been discussed for this equipment. It fails to discuss on-site, petroleum-based fuel use. The project is planning to install 40,000 gallons of diesel fuel storage on site. (EIR at 3-29.)

- 47. The project involves a substantial increase in the snow-making capacity. The snowmaking system will provide for greater snowmaking in the early and late season. Snowmaking coverage will be expanded from 23 acres to 102 acres. 20.8 million gallons of water will be required for opening day. (EIR at 3-29.) The considerable energy requirements connected with this expansion have not be analyzed or mitigated. Snowmaking involves pumping large quantities of water and very high energy demands. A Snowmaking Energy Index (SEI) has been developed and tested to measure and compare the energy efficiency of snowmaking systems. An average SEI value can be used to estimate seasonal energy costs and for expansion and planning purposes. No SEI analysis has been done. No analysis has been done on how to reduce energy consumption connected with snow-making.
- 48. No consideration has been given to the increase in snow-making that will be required as Sierra snowpack is reduced due to climate change. Sierra snowpack is projected to reduced by 60 to 80 percent of current levels by 2070-2099. The Homewood base is 6240 feet making it quite subject to warming trends. Snow-making is highly energy-intensive and water resource intensive. The EIR estimates an energy load of 3,145 horsepower and pumping capacity of 3,400 gallons per minute to generate adequate snow. (EIR at 19-37.) The EIR estimates 818,543 kilowatt hours per year. (EIR at 19-38.) The environmental analysis must consider how climate change will increase the energy and water consumption resulting from snow-making operations in a warming climate.
- 49. The EIR fails to identify the energy supplies that would serve the project. Instead it identifies the utility companies that would provide electricity and natural gas during site operation.

 The EIR does not disclose whether the electrical energy used will be derived from coal-based power plants in Nevada or other resources. The draft EIR stated that electrical energy would be supplied by

NV Energy. (DEIR at 16-24.) In the response to comments, the applicant asserted without explanation that "Liberty Energy provides electric service to the Project area." (FEIR at p. 23-96.) The EIR does not specify whether Liberty Energy is a direct access provider or what energy supplies would be used to serve the project. NV Energy operates coal-fired power plants at Valmy, Nevada. Valmy produces four million tons of CO2 pollution annually along with sulfur dioxide and mercury emissions. The failure to identify the energy supplies that would serve the project constitutes an abuse of discretion under CEQA.

- 50. The EIR does not consider potential renewable energy resources such as wind, geothermal, small-scale hydro, geo-thermal heat pump, cogeneration, solar, on-site biogas cell for organic waste, and biomass on site or in the region. There is no discussion of the impact of the project on energy resources. The environmental setting contains no discussion of energy use patterns in the region. There is no discussion of peak and base period demand or of energy storage strategies such as pumped hydro. The cooling tower located in the new snowmaking pumphouse has an obvious potential for cogeneration that should be evaluated. (EIR at 3-29.) Geothermal heat pumps could be used for space heating.
- 51. The EIR states that the project proponent plans to explore the site for renewable resources such as micro-hydro, solar, geothermal, biomass, and wind. It references as "most promising" the potential for micro-hydro on Madden Creak and the Quail Lake outlet stream. (EIR at 3-26.) Mitigation must be evaluated before project approval.
- 52. The EIR fails to consider energy consuming equipment and processes which will be required during construction of the project. It fails to discuss the energy impacts of vehicle trips that would be generated by the project and the energy that would be consumed per trip by mode. There is no discussion of projected transportation energy use or overall use of efficient transportation alternatives.
- 53. Natural gas (NG) consumption will also rise dramatically. The project proponent reported current NG usage of 11,000 therms per year while the EIR projects 1,064,000 therms per year. The increase appears to be attributable to the commercial portions of the project but this is unclear. (EIR at 19-34.) There is no explanation of the increase, no threshold, no significance

CLIMATE DISRUPTION

54. The EIR reports that annual GHG emissions will increase from a total of 2,220 metric tons to 45,064 metric tons per year. (DEIR at p. 19-41.) This amounts to almost a 20-fold increase in GHG emissions from the project site. The following chart illustrates the emissions data in the EIR.

Annual GHG Emissions in Metric Tons

rransportation	0	5,000	10,000	15,000	20,000	25,000	
Transportation							
Area Sources				·			
Refrigeration/AC							
Electricity Usage	ii e						Existing Proposed
	M			;			ru Evisting
Natural Gas				:			
Water Supply	1			· · ·			
Wasterwater Treatment	er S		·				

55. The EIR fails to explain the dramatic increase in GHG emissions beyond what the current resort produces making it impossible for the public or decisionmakers to understand why the increase would be required or to suggest ways that it might be mitigated. The actual increase in project emissions are greater than is shown in this chart because the EIR does not contain quantitative projections for emissions from forest removal, waste generation, or construction materials. (DEIR at 19-19.) Due to reliance on erroneous assumptions for internal capture, pass-by trips, and transit use (discussed above), transportation emissions are understated. (DEIR at p. 19-23.)

And increased tourist travel, which may be the largest GHG impact of the project, has been entirely omitted from the analysis. Consequently, the GHG emissions of the resort are going to increase considerably more than 20-fold.

- 56. The EIR concludes that the project would have a significant and unavoidable cumulative impact on climate change because it "would result in substantial net increases of GHG [emissions] and vehicle trips." (EIR at p. 19-49.) Further, it concludes that the project "may conflict with State goals listed in AB 32 [Global Warming Solutions Act of 2008] and policies outlined in the 2008 RTP [TRPA Regional Transportation Plan]." (EIR at 19-56.) The Lake Tahoe Regional Transportation Plan calls for reducing VMT in the Lake Tahoe Basis to 1981 levels. (LTRTP at p. 71.) And the California Air Resources Board has set targets under SB 375 to reduce per capita GHG emissions by 2020 in the area 7% below the 2005 baseline year. (DEIR at p. 19-16.) The Homewood project acknowledges an 8,433 miles per day increase in vehicle miles traveled (VMT) (EIR at 11-57, 11-58) and an increase summer season daily trip generation of 1466. (EIR at p. 11-59)
- 57. The County cannot approve a project with substantial impacts when feasible mitigation for the impacts exists. As was pointed out in the comment letters, feasible mitigation for the GHG impacts of the project can includes carbon credits, forest conservation projects, increased funding for transit service, increased funding for biking and pedestrian infrastructure, marketing for rail packages, subsidies for sustainable energy projects, increased development of on-site energy and storage resources, employee transit incentives, parking pricing, on-site public education, transit fare subsidies, new transit service, car-sharing programs, SOV reduction programs, support for electric vehicles, on-line ride matching, etc.
- 58. The agency did not provide a good faith, detailed, and reasoned response to petitioner's comments suggesting this mitigation. In response to the suggestion that the agency consider "marketing for rail packages," the agency made the absurd response that "construction of a rail system may cause secondary impacts." (FEIR at p. 23-97.) VisitRenoTahoe.com already does some joint marketing with Amtrak.
- 59. The response to the comment letter concludes that carbon credits are unlawful because offsets "must be consistent with an approved and valid protocol" and that they may "require

the Project Applicant to pay hundreds of thousands of dollars over the Project lifetime." (FEIR at p. 23-94; Findings at p. 135.) This is incorrect. Only market-based compliance mechanisms under the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 must be governed by protocols. No requirement for "an approved and valid protocol" exists under CEQA. Further, mitigation is not limited to those measures that can feasibly reduce the impacts to a level that is less than significant.

- 60. The agency concluded that "no new or different proposals to address GHG emissions were provided." (Findings at p. 73.) This was clearly in error. The climate change mitigation never considered carbon credits, never considered reforestation projects outside of the project site, never considered the potential for transit and biking improvements in the Basin beyond those that serve Homewood, never considered subsidizing sustainable energy projects in the Basin, never considered increased development of on-site clean energy production and storage, never considered parking pricing, never considered car-sharing programs, never considered any form of support for electrical vehicles, and never considered on-line ride matching.
- 61. The agency erroneously failed to consider whether full mitigation would be possible. The EIR concluded that "because it is impossible to allow new development without GHG emissions, mitigation of this impact to a less-than-significant level would be facially infeasible and this impact is significant and unavoidable." (Findings at p. 134.) The agency was in error to view mitigation to a less than significant level as "impossible" because all new development produces GHG emissions. Mitigation under CEQA includes measures that do not avoid or reduce the impact directly but that compensate for an impact.
- 62. An adequate EIR must respond to specific suggestions for mitigating a significant environmental impact unless the suggest mitigation is facially infeasible. Each of limited number of ideas proposed constituted a reasonable and recognized tool for climate impact mitigation aimed at this specific project. The agency had a responsibility under CEQA to consider each proposal and to provide a good-faith response. The agency's summary dismissal of these proposals makes it impossible to understand whether it considered them or what its reasoning might have been. This process was unlawful under CEQA and constituted a prejudicial abuse of discretion.
 - 63. Further no findings were made concerning whether it would have been feasible or

infeasible to implement the mitigation, except for unsupported findings as to carbon credits and constructing a new railroad, which was not suggested. (Findings at pp. 134-35.) No economic, legal, social, technological or other considerations were provided showing any reason to reject the proposed mitigation. The only finding was that no new or different mitigation for GHG impacts had been proposed. This was clearly unsupported and a prejudicial abuse of discretion.

- 64. The GHG mitigation as described in the EIR is so vague and undefined that it is impossible to gauge the effectiveness of it or for the agency to enforce it. The EIR lists project features designed to reduce GHG emissions such as solar or wind power systems, educating consumers, installing solar panels on carports, education and publicity about reducing waste, imposing tolls and parking fees, a low-carbon fuel vehicle incentive program, and providing information on options to reduce transportation-related emissions. (DEIR at p. 19-48.) The South base will be constructed "using LEED criteria as a template." (DEIR at 19-44.) It is impossible for the public or decisionmakers judge the effect of this mitigation. The terms are so broadly written that they could not be enforced. The UGBC certification described as mitigation should be required to be provided to the permitting agency, i.e., Placer County, prior to issuance of a certificate of occupancy.
- 65. Comprehensive on-going management of the GHG reduction programs is required for the programs to be effective. Aspen-Snowmass and Jackson Hole have achieved ISO 14001 certification which means that their on-going environmental management meets ISO's strict standards. Squaw Valley conducts environmental audits each ski season using an independent third party firm to audit heating and energy use in all the resort facilities including base and on-mountain. Without assurance that compliance will be carried on long-term, the proposed mitigation programs are not realistic.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION

66. The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFire) has designated the area where the Homewood Mountain Resort is located as a Very High fire hazard area. (DEIR at p. 17-4.) According to the Emergency California-Nevada Tahoe Basin Fire Commission Report—

which was prepared as a consequence of the Angora Fire that burned 3,100 acres and destroyed 254 homes—"The risk of wildfire in the Tahoe Basis is extremely high and the probability of catastrophic fire occurrence is increasing." And according to the EIR, "Wildfires are a substantial threat to the HMR Project area and vicinity due to location of people and structures in a WUI [wildland-urban interface] setting with heavy fuel loads, steep terrain, summer dry conditions, and multiple ignition sources." (DEIR at p. 17-13.) And further according to the EIR, "Wildfire frequency and intensity is expected to increase as temperatures increase, vegetation dries, and soil moisture evaporates." (FEIR at p. 24-286.)

- 67. Yet the EIR contains no evaluation of emergency evacuation risks that would be connected with placing 274 residential units, a 75 room hotel, 25,000 square feet of retail space, 32,000 square feet of skier services, a miniature golf course, and an outdoor amphitheater in a very high-risk fire hazard area with no evacuation route other than a two-lane, low-speed road. The EIR raises the question of whether the project "would result in an interference with emergency response plans or emergency evacuation plans." Yet there is no analysis of the evacuation issue. The EIR summarily concluded that major buildings would be located next to SR 89 and are therefore expected to have adequate evacuation routes and consequently concluded that there was no significant impact for evacuation in the event of wildfire. (DEIR at p. 17-15.) There is no evaluation of the total number of residents, businesses and tourists that could safely be evacuated from the West Shore, without impeding emergency vehicle access, in the event of wildfire and no evaluation of the cumulative impact of the project on evacuation safety.
- 68. Substantial evidence in the record points to a potentially significant impact to public safety as a result of locating a large resort in a Very High fire hazard area with the sole emergency evacuation route being State Route 89, a two-lane roadway with speed limits between 25 and 40 mph. (DEIR at p. 11-1.)
- 69. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) maintains standards for land development relating to emergency ingress and egress. NFPA standard 1141 call for at least two access routes for areas with 100 to 600 households. Areas with more than 600 households require three emergency access routes. The two-lane width of SR 89 further degrades its capacity to serve

as an emergency route. The EIR should evaluate the number of households in the area that would depend on SR 89 for emergency evacuation in the event of wildfire.

70. The objective of ensuring the public safety from natural hazards requires the maintenance of emergency evacuation routes for populated areas during wildfire events. The West Shore Area General Plan does not comply with Government Code section 65302(g)(1), which requires that the general plan safety element address evacuation routes related to identified fire hazards. The West Shore has been identified by Cal Fire as a Very High wildland fire hazard area. The West Shore Area General Plan safety element does not address wildfire evacuation routes and consequently the County has failed to adopt a general plan compliant with the State Planning and Zoning Law. The Board of Supervisors could therefore not find that the proposed project was consistent with the general plan.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

(Failure to Comply with CEQA)

- 71. Petitioner hereby incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth above.
- 72. CEQA requires that the lead agency for a project prepare an EIR that complies with the requirements of the statute. The lead agency must also provide for public review and comment on the project and associated environmental documentation. An EIR must provide sufficient environmental analysis such that decision-makers can intelligently consider environmental consequences when acting on the proposed project.
- 73. Respondents violated CEQA by certifying an EIR for the project that is inadequate and fails to comply with CEQA and approving the project on that basis. Among other things, respondents:
 - Failed to adequately disclose or analyze the project's significant environmental impacts including but not limited to the project's impacts on transportation, energy, air quality, energy, climate disruption, and emergency evacuation;
 - b. Failed to provide a consistent and appropriate environmental baseline for

analysis of the project's environmental impacts;

- c. Failed to adequately analyze the significant cumulative and growth-inducing impacts of the project;
- d. Improperly deferred impact analysis and mitigation measures;
- e. Failed to adequately mitigate project impacts; and
- f. Failed to consider a reasonable range of alternatives.
- 74. As a result of the foregoing defects, respondents prejudicially abused their discretion by certifying an EIR that does not comply with CEQA and by approving the project in reliance thereon. Accordingly, respondent's certification of the EIR and approval of the project must be set aside.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

(Inadequate Findings)

- 75. Petitioner hereby incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth above.
- 76. CEQA requires that a lead agency's findings for the approval of a project be supported by substantial evidence in the administrative record. CEQA further requires that a lead agency provide an explanation of how evidence in the record supports the conclusions the agency has reached.
- 77. Respondents violated CEQA by adopting findings that are inadequate as a matter of law in that they are not supported by substantial evidence in the record, including, but not limited to the following:
 - a. The determination that certain impacts would be less than significant and/or that adopted mitigation measures would avoid or lessen the project's significant effects on the environment;
 - b. The determination that alternatives to the project and proposed mitigation measures that would have avoided or lessened the significant impacts of the project were infeasible;

c. The determination that overriding economic, legal, social, technological, or other benefits of the project outweighed its significant impacts on the environment.

78. As a result of the forgoing defects, respondents prejudicially abused their discretion by adopting findings that do not comply with the requirements of CEQA and approving the project in reliance thereon. Accordingly, the agency's certification of the EIR and approval of the project must be set aside.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

(Failure to Recirculate the EIR)

- 79. Petitioner hereby incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth above.
- 80. CEQA requires that if significant new information is added to an EIR after a draft EIR is prepared, but before certification of the final EIR, the EIR must be recirculated for public review and comment.
- 81. Comments submitted to respondents after the draft EIR was circulated provided significant new information within the meaning of Public Resources Code section 21092.1 and CEQA Guidelines section 15088.5 including, but not limited to, information about transportation impacts, greenhouse gas emissions, energy conservation, and emergency evacuation.
- 82. Despite the availability of this significant new information, including a changed project, respondents failed to recirculate the EIR, or any portion of the EIR. As a result of respondent's failure to recirculate the EIR, the public and other public agencies were deprived of any meaningful opportunity to review and comment on the project, its substantial adverse environmental consequences, and the new information regarding other unanalyzed environmental effects of the project.
- 83. Respondents' failure to recirculate the EIR is not supported by substantial evidence and represents a failure to proceed in the manner required by law.

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FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(Declaratory and Injunctive Relief)

- 84. Petitioner hereby incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth above.
- 85. The West Shore Area General Plan does not reflect substantial compliance with the requirements of Government Code section 65302(g)(1), which requires that the general plan safety element address evacuation routes related to identified fire hazards areas. The West Shore, including the project site, has been identified by Cal Fire as a Very High wildland fire hazard area. The Safety Element is further fails to substantially comply with section 65302 due to the failure to address peakload water supply requirements, minimum road widths, and clearances around structures as those items relate to identified fire hazards. Due to the location of the proposed project within a very high risk fire zone, these general plan defects are implicated in the project approval.
- 86. Placer County has failed to adopt a general plan compliant with the State Planning and Zoning Law. The Board of Supervisors could not lawfully find that the proposed project was consistent with the general plan and lacked the authority to approve the project.
- 87. An actual controversy has arisen and now exists between petitioner and respondent. Petitioner and the class it represents require a judicial determination of the rights and duties of the parties and a declaration that the West Shore Area General Plan is invalid for non-compliance with Government Code section 65302. A judicial determination is necessary and appropriate at this time and under these circumstances in order that the parties may ascertain their rights and duties under the law and know the extent to which respondent's general plan is lawful.
- 88. Petitioner is informed and believes, and on that basis alleges, that unless the County is restrained and enjoined by order of this court, it will continue to engage in the above-described acts and omissions constituting a violation of the CEQA and the Planning and Zoning Law.
- 89. Petitioner and the class it represents have no adequate remedy at law to compel the County to comply with Government Code section 65302 or CEQA, nor can the class be compensated adequately for the losses alleged herein by an award of damages in that petitioner will not be able to determine the precise amount of damage the class will suffer if respondent's conduct

is not restrained.

- 90. Such conduct will result in irreparable harm to petitioner and the class it represents. The threat of such irreparable and permanent damage justifies the issuance by this court of an injunction.
- 91. Petitioner seeks preliminary and permanent injunctions restraining respondent, its agents, employees, contractors, consultants and all persons acting in concert with them, from undertaking any construction or development, issuing any approvals or permits, or taking any other action to implement in any way the approval of the project without full compliance with California Planning and Zoning Law section 65302 and CEQA.

WHEREFORE, petitioner respectfully requests the following relief:

- 1. A peremptory writ of mandate commanding that:
 - a. Respondent vacate and set aside its certification of the EIR, approval of the project and the related approval of the mitigation monitoring and reporting plan, statement of overriding considerations and findings;
 - b. Respondent withdraw the notice of determination;
 - c. Respondent prepare and circulate a revised EIR for public review and comment that is in compliance with the requirements of CEQA; and
 - d. Respondent suspend all activity pursuant to the certification of the EIR and the related approvals that could result in any change or alteration to the physical environment until it has taken all actions necessary to comply with CEQA.
- 2. A declaratory judgment that the County's general plan is invalid for failure to comply with Government Code section 65302 and for the issuance of preliminary and permanent injunctions restraining the Board from approving and processing tentative maps or general plan amendments until such time as the Placer County General Plan Safety Element shall comply with the provisions of section 65302;
- 3. Preliminary and permanent injunctions restraining respondent, its agents, employees, contractors, consultants and all persons acting in concert with them, from undertaking

1	any construction or development, issuing any approvals or permits, or taking any other action to				
2	implement in any way the approval of the project without full compliance with California law;				
3	4. A declaration of the rights and duties of the parties hereto, including but not limited				
4	to a declaratory judgment that prior to undertaking any action to carry out any aspect of the project,				
5	respondent must prepare, circulate, and adopt a revised EIR in accordance with the requirements of				
6	CEQA;				
7	5. Petitioner's costs of suit and reasonable attorney fees; and				
8	6. Such other relief as the court deems just and proper.				
9	Dated: December, 2011				
10	LAW OFFICE OF EUGENE WILSON				
11	EAW OFFICE OF EGGENTS WILLSON				
12					
13	Eugene S. Wilson, Esq. Attorney for the California Clean Energy				
14	Committee				
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VERIFICATION

I am an officer of petitioner, California Clean Energy Committee, and I am authorized to execute this verification on behalf of petitioner. I have read the foregoing petition and am familiar with its contents. The facts recited in the petition are true of my personal knowledge except as to

matters stated on information and belief and as to those matters I believe them to be true.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct and that this verification was signed on December ______, 2011, at Davis, California.

Eugene S. Wilson