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14 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
 15 FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

16
 17 **IN RE: BORDER**
INFRASTRUCTURE
 18 **ENVIRONMENTAL LITIGATION,**

Case No. 17cv1215-GPC(WVG)
 Consolidated with
 Case No. 17-cv-01873-GPC-WVG
 Case No. 17-cv-01911-GPC-WVG

19
 20 **MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF**
MOTION FOR SUMMARY
 21 **JUDGMENT BY PLAINTIFFS**
PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF
 22 **CALIFORNIA AND THE**
CALIFORNIA COASTAL
 23 **COMMISSION**

24 Date: February 9, 2018
 25 Time: 1:30 p.m.
 Courtroom: 2D
 26 Judge: The Honorable Gonzalo P.
 Curiel

27 Trial Date: None Set
 28 Action Filed: September 20, 20

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

	Page
INTRODUCTION	1
FACTUAL BACKGROUND.....	3
A. Illegal Entries Plummeted Long Ago at the Southwest Border	4
B. Personnel and Infrastructure Have Ballooned in the San Diego and El Centro Sectors	4
C. The Sites for the Border Wall Projects Are No Longer High Priority	5
1. The San Diego Sector and the San Diego Waiver	6
2. The El Centro Sector and the Calexico Waiver	8
LEGISLATIVE HISTORY OF SECTION 102 AND DHS’S USE OF WAIVERS BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2008	8
JURISDICTION OF THIS DISTRICT COURT	12
CALIFORNIA HAS ARTICLE III STANDING.....	13
ARGUMENT.....	14
I. Standard of Review on Summary Judgment	14
II. It is Undisputed That Defendants Violated NEPA, the CZMA and the APA (First and Second Claims).....	14
III. Nothing in Section 102 Authorizes the Border Wall Projects (Third Claim)	16
A. Section 102 Is Inapplicable Because the San Diego and Calexico Projects Are Not Located in “Areas of High Illegal Entry”	16
B. Section 102 Permits Only the Installation of “Additional” Barriers and Roads, Not the Replacement of Existing Fences	18
C. Defendants Exceeded Their Statutory Authority by Constructing Fencing in Areas Where the Barriers Would Not Be “Most Practical or Effective”	20
D. Because Defendants Lack Authority to Build the Border Wall Projects, the 2017 Waivers Are Invalid.....	21
IV. The 2017 Waivers Are Invalid Because the Waiver Authority Expired On December 31, 2008 (Fourth Claim)	21
V. Defendants Exceeded Their Statutory Authority in Issuing the 2017 Waivers By Making No Findings (Fifth Claim)	23
VI. The 2017 Waivers Interfere with California’s Equal Sovereignty and Police Powers In Violation of the Tenth Amendment’s Federalism Principles (Eleventh Claim).....	24

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

TABLE OF CONTENTS
(continued)

	Page
VII. Section 102(c)'s Procedural Hurdles and the Vague 2017 Waivers Violate California's Article III and Due Process Rights (Sixth Claim).....	28
VIII. The 2017 Waivers Violate the Separation of Powers Doctrine (Seventh Claim).....	30
IX. Section 102(c) and the 2017 Waivers Violate the Non-Delegation Doctrine (Eighth Claim).....	32
A. The Section 102(c) Waiver Provision Lacks a Sufficient Intelligible Principle	33
B. The Lack of Judicial Review Violates the Non-Delegation Doctrine	34
X. Section 102(c) and the 2017 Waivers Violate Article I, Section 3, of the United States Constitution (Ninth Claim).....	35
XI. Section 102(c) and the 2017 Waivers Violate the Presentment Clause (Art. I, Section 7) (Tenth Claim)	37
CONCLUSION.....	40

TABLE OF AUTHORITIES

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

Page

CASES

A.L.A. Schechter Poultry Corp. v. United States
295 U.S. 495 (1935)32, 34, 35

Am. Power & Light Co. v. SEC
329 U.S. 90, 106 (1946)34

Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen v. Connally
337 F.Supp. 737 (D.D.C. 1971)33, 34

BE & K Const. Co. v. NLRB
536 U.S. 516 (2002)30

Berger v. United States
295 U.S. 78 (1935)36

Bond v. United States
134 S. Ct. 2077 (2014)27

Bowsher v. Synar
478 U.S. 714 (1986)31

Buckley v. Valeo
424 U.S. 1 (1976)31

California v. Norton
311 F.3d 1162 (9th Cir. 2002).....15

Celotex Corp. v. Catrett
477 U.S. 317 (1986)14

City of Boerne v. Flores
521 U.S. 507 (1997)25, 27

Clinton v. New York
524 U.S. 417 (1988)31, 37, 38, 39

Commodity Futures Trading Comm. v. Schor
478 U.S. 833 (1986)30

TABLE OF AUTHORITIES
(continued)

		<u>Page</u>
1		
2		
3	<i>County of El Paso v. Chertoff</i>	
4	No. EP-08-CA-196-FM, 2008 WL 4372693 (W.D. Tex. 2008).....	33
5	<i>Defenders of Wildlife v. Chertoff</i>	
6	527 F. Supp. 2d 119 (D.D.C. 2007)	33, 34, 39
7	<i>Dennis v. Sparks</i>	
8	449 U.S. 24 (1980)	35, 36
9	<i>Dickson v. Sec’y. of Def.</i>	
10	68 F.3d 1396 (D.C. Cir. 1995)	24
11	<i>Duncan v. Walker</i>	
12	533 U.S. 167 (2001)	23
13	<i>FCC v. Fox Television Stations, Inc.</i>	
14	567 U.S. 239 (2012)	28
15	<i>Field v. Clark</i>	
16	143 U.S. 649 (1892)	31, 32, 37, 38
17	<i>Flores-Miramontes v. INS</i>	
18	212 F.3d 1133 (9th Cir. 2000).....	12, 27
19	<i>Friends of the Earth, Inc. v. Laidlaw Env’tl. Servs., Inc.</i>	
20	528 U.S. 167 (2000)	13
21	<i>Gonzales v. Oregon</i>	
22	546 U.S. 243 (2006)	23, 27
23	<i>Ex Parte Grossman</i>	
24	267 U.S. 87 (1925)	36
25	<i>Gutierrez v. Holder</i>	
26	662 F.3d 1083 (9th Cir. 2011).....	12
27	<i>Hartford Cas. Ins. Co. v. FDIC</i>	
28	21 F.3d 696 (5th Cir. 1994).....	30
	<i>Humphrey v. Baker</i>	
	848 F.2d 211 (D.D.C. 1988).....	35

TABLE OF AUTHORITIES
(continued)

		<u>Page</u>
1		
2		
3	<i>In re Workers' Compensation Refund</i>	
4	46 F.3d 813 (8th Cir. 1995)	30
5	<i>INS v. Chadha</i>	
6	462 U.S. 919 (1983)	31, 37
7	<i>J.W. Hampton, Jr. & Co. v. United States</i>	
8	276 U.S. 394 (1928)	31, 32
9	<i>La. Pub. Serv. Comm'n v. FCC</i>	
10	476 U.S. 355 (1986)	12
11	<i>Leedom v. Kyne</i>	
12	358 U.S. 184 (1958)	13
13	<i>Loving v. United States</i>	
14	517 U.S. 748 (1996)	32
15	<i>Marbury v. Madison</i>	
16	5 U.S. 137 (1803)	36
17	<i>Massachusetts v. EPA</i>	
18	549 U.S. 497 (2007)	13
19	<i>McNeill v. United States</i>	
20	563 U.S. 816 (2011)	19
21	<i>Mistretta v. United States</i>	
22	488 U.S. 361 (1989)	30, 31
23	<i>O'Shea v. Littleton</i>	
24	414 U.S. 488 (1974)	35
25	<i>Organized Village of Kake v. United States Dep't of Agric.</i>	
26	795 F.3d 956 (9th Cir. 2015)	23
27	<i>Pac. Mar. Ass'n v. Nat'l Labor Relations Bd.</i>	
28	827 F.3d 1203 (9th Cir. 2016)	13
	<i>Pazcoguin v. Radcliffe</i>	
	292 F.3d 1209 (9th Cir. 2002)	12

TABLE OF AUTHORITIES
(continued)

		<u>Page</u>
1		
2		
3	<i>Robertson v. Methow Valley Citizens Council</i>	
4	490 U.S. 332 (1989)	14, 15
5	<i>Save Our Heritage Organization v. Gonzalez</i>	
6	533 F. Supp. 2d 58 (D.D.C. 2008)	33, 39
7	<i>Setser v. United States</i>	
8	566 U.S. 231 (2012)	21
9	<i>Shelby Cty., Ala. v. Holder</i>	
10	133 S. Ct. 2612 (2013)	<i>passim</i>
11	<i>Sierra Club v. Ashcroft</i>	
12	No. 04CV0272-LAB (JMA) (S.D. Cal. 2005)	33
13	<i>Sierra Forest Legacy v. Sherman</i>	
14	646 F.3d 1161 (9th Cir. 2011).....	13
15	<i>Stone v. INS</i>	
16	514 U.S. 386 (1995)	21
17	<i>Touby v. United States</i>	
18	500 U.S. 160 (1991)	35, 37
19	<i>U.S. v. Lee</i>	
20	106 U.S. 196 (1882)	36
21	<i>United States v. Nixon</i>	
22	418 U.S. 683 (1974)	36
23	<i>Whitman v. Am. Trucking Assocs.</i>	
24	531 U.S. 457 (2001)	33
25	<i>Wilson v. Iseminger</i>	
26	185 U.S. 55 (1902)	30
27	<i>Yakus v. United States</i>	
28	321 U.S. 414 (1944)	33
	<i>Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. v. Sawyer</i>	
	343 U.S. 579 (1952)	31

TABLE OF AUTHORITIES
(continued)

		<u>Page</u>
3	STATUTES	
4	5 U.S.C.	
5	§ 551 <i>et seq.</i>	1
6	§ 702	15
7	§ 704	15
8	§ 706	15
9	§ 706(1).....	15, 16
10	§ 706(2)(A).....	15, 16
11	§ 706(2)(D).....	15, 16
12	8 U.S.C.	
13	§ 1103(a).....	16
14	§ 1103(a) n.....	16, 19
15	§ 1103(a) n.....	23
16	§ 1103(b)(1)(A) n.	20, 23
17	§ 1103(b)(1) note.....	19, 20
18	§ 1103 (c)(1) note	12, 21, 23
19	§ 1103 n.	<i>passim</i>
20	10 U.S.C.	
21	§ 433	39
22	16 U.S.C.	
23	§ 1451 <i>et seq.</i>	1
24	§ 1452	15
25	§ 1456(c)(1)(A).....	15
26	22 U.S.C.	
27	§ 7207(a)(3).....	39
28	28 U.S.C.	
29	§ 1331	12
30	33 U.S.C.	
31	§ 1319(c).....	36
32	42 U.S.C. § 1983.....	36

TABLE OF AUTHORITIES
(continued)

		<u>Page</u>
1		
2		
3	§ 4321 <i>et seq.</i>	<i>passim</i>
4	§ 4332(2)(C)	14, 15
5	§ 6928	36
6	Cal. Pub. Res. Code	
7	§ 30008	15
8	§ 30210-13	15
9	§ 30220-21	15
10	§ 30223	15
11	§ 30233	15
12	§ 30236	15
13	§ 30240	15
14	§ 30244	15
15	§ 30251	15
16	§ 30330	15
17	Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996	
18	Pub. L. 104-208, Div. C, Title I, § 102(a) to (c), 110 Stat. 3009-554	
19	(Sept. 30, 1996)	4, 5, 9, 19, 32
20	Real ID Act of 2005	
21	Pub. L. 109-113, div. B, tit. I § 102(c)(1), 119 Stat. 231 (May 11,	
22	2005)	9
23	Secure Fence Act of 2006	
24	Pub. L. 109-367, § 3, 120 Stat. 2638 (Oct. 26, 2006)	9, 19
25	Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2008	
26	Pub. L. 110-161, div. E, tit. V § 564, 121 Stat. 2090 (Dec. 26,	
27	2007)	9, 10, 22
28	Pub. L. 110-161, div. E, tit. V, § 564, 121 Stat. 2090 (Dec. 26,	
	2007)	10
	Pub. L. 110-161, div. E, tit. V, § 564(a), 121 Stat. 2090 (Dec. 26,	
	2007)	19

TABLE OF AUTHORITIES
(continued)

		<u>Page</u>
3	CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS	
4	United States Constitution	1, 2, 12, 24
5	article I	25, 31
6	article I, section 1	31, 32
7	article I, section 2	36
8	article I, section 3	35
9	article I, section 4, cl. 1	27
10	article I, section 7, cl. 2	37
11	article II, section 3	31
12	article III	13, 14, 28, 30
13	First Amendment	30
14	Tenth Amendment	2, 24, 26, 27
15	Fifteenth Amendment	25
16	COURT RULES	
17	Federal Rules of Civil Procedure	
18	Rule 56(c)	14
19	OTHER AUTHORITIES	
20	15 C.F.R.	
21	§ 930.32	15
22	§ 930.39	15
23	§ 9320.36	15
24	40 C.F.R.	
25	§ 1501.2	15
26	§ 1502.2(g)	15
27	§ 1502.5	15
28	§ 1508.23	15
	§ 1508.25	15
	70 Fed. Reg. 55,622-02 (Sept. 22, 2005)	11
	72 Fed. Reg. 2,535-01 (Jan. 19, 2007)	11
	72 Fed. Reg. 60,870-01 (Oct. 26, 2007)	11

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

TABLE OF AUTHORITIES
(continued)

	<u>Page</u>
73 Fed. Reg. 19,077-01 (Apr. 8, 2008)	11
73 Fed. Reg. 19078-01 (Apr. 8, 2008)	11
82 Fed. Reg. 8,793 § 4(a) (Jan. 25, 2017)	3
82 Fed. Reg. 35,984-01 (Aug. 2, 2017).....	6
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Department of Homeland Security, https://www.cbp.gov/border-security/along-us-borders/border-patrol-sectors/san-diego-sector-california (last visited November 10, 2017).....	7
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http://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/visuals/photography/sd-pg-trump-border-wall-prototypes-finished-20171025-photogallery.html (last visited November 21, 2017).....	16
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OPMt5mxyBQw , Televised Interview with Attorney General Jeff Sessions and then Homeland Security Secretary John Kelly (“Kelly TV Interview”), April, 20 2017, 2:10–2:27 (last visited Nov. 19, 2017)	6
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Webster’s Third New International Dictionary, Copyright 2002.....	20

INTRODUCTION

1
2 The Trump administration is building a “big beautiful wall” along the U.S.-
3 Mexico border without conducting any environmental review or complying with
4 any environmental protection laws despite irreparable harm to wildlife, plants, and
5 habitat. Plaintiffs, the People of the State of California and the California Coastal
6 Commission (collectively “California”), have brought this action to require the
7 Trump administration to comply with the United States Constitution and federal
8 and state laws. Defendants¹ have already violated the National Environmental
9 Policy Act² (“NEPA”), the Coastal Zone Management Act³ (“CZMA”) and the
10 Administrative Procedure Act⁴ (“APA”), but claim to have waived those statutes
11 and other laws designed to provide invaluable information to California and its
12 citizens concerning threats to their environment, health, and natural resources.

13 Defendants contend that NEPA, the CZMA, and numerous other federal and
14 state laws were waived by former and acting DHS Secretaries on August 2, 2017
15 (“San Diego Waiver”) and September 12, 2017 (“Calexico Waiver”) for the
16 planning and construction of a border wall and related border barrier projects along
17 the southwest border, including significant projects in California (“Border Wall
18 Projects”). These waivers (“2017 Waivers”) cite 8 U.S.C. § 1103 note, commonly
19 referred to as Section 102 (“Section 102”), as the source of the Secretary’s authority
20 to construct the Border Wall Projects and waive any and all laws related to the
21 them.

22 However, Defendants’ reliance on Section 102 to build the Border Wall
23 Projects and waive laws related to that construction is misplaced. Section 102

24
25 ¹ Defendants include the United States of America, the U.S. Department of
26 Homeland Security (“DHS”), former DHS Secretary John Kelly in his official
27 capacity, acting DHS Secretary Elaine Duke in her official capacity, the U.S.
28 Customs and Border Protection (“CBP”), and acting CBP Commissioner Kevin K.
McAleenan in his official capacity (collectively, “Defendants”).

² 42 U.S.C. § 4321 *et seq.*

³ 16 U.S.C. § 1451 *et seq.*

⁴ 5 U.S.C. § 551 *et seq.*

1 simply does not authorize the fence replacement and prototype projects that are at
2 the heart of the Border Wall Projects in California. Defendants are choosing to
3 ignore the threshold requirements and limitations Congress laid out in that statute.
4 Section 102, for example, limits the Secretary's authority to the installation of
5 "additional" barriers in "areas of high illegal entry" and where the barriers would be
6 "most practical and effective" in deterring illegal entries. The undisputed facts
7 establish that the Border Wall Projects at issue in the 2017 Waivers are not in areas
8 of high illegal entry or located where they would be most practical and effective,
9 despite the Secretary's conclusory statements to the contrary. Defendants are trying
10 to shoehorn these particular projects into a statute that was not drafted for these
11 purposes, simply to take advantage of the statute's waiver provision.

12 Moreover, Defendants are relying on a waiver and expedited construction
13 provision that expired nine years ago. In late 2007, Congress amended Section 102
14 by imposing a deadline for the identification and expedited construction of barriers
15 in priority areas. That deadline expired on December 31, 2008. The amendments
16 reflect that Section 102 was not intended to give the Secretary unilateral authority
17 to waive all laws along a two-thousand-mile border in perpetuity. Thus, Defendants
18 cannot now rely on the expedited construction provision nine years after the
19 deadline to expedite construction in priority areas expired.

20 Finally, Section 102 and DHS's application of that provision through the 2017
21 Waivers violate several provisions of the United States Constitution and long-
22 standing constitutional doctrines. By burdening some geographic regions but not
23 others and invading California's traditional police powers, in the absence of
24 evidence justifying the targeted application of the waiver in particular areas of San
25 Diego and Imperial Counties, the 2017 Waivers fly in the face of the federalism
26 principles embodied in the Tenth Amendment. Moreover, the vagueness of the
27 2017 Waivers, combined with Section 102(c)'s unreasonable procedural hurdles,
28 contravene the due process rights of all Californians to petition their government

1 and receive a fair hearing. Section 102 also unconstitutionally effects a wholesale
2 transfer of legislative duties to the executive by empowering the Secretary with
3 unchecked discretion to pick and choose which laws to obey or ignore without any
4 meaningful guidance on how to exercise that discretion, in violation of the
5 Separation of Powers Doctrine, the Non-Delegation Doctrine, and the Presentment
6 Clause. Finally, in permitting the Secretary to waive all criminal laws, Section 102
7 exceeds constitutional limits on the ability of the Executive Branch to immunize
8 criminal acts.

9 Defendants are exploiting these constitutional deficiencies through the 2017
10 Waivers, which waive a myriad of federal and unidentified state laws, including
11 criminal laws, in order to construct various projects in areas where fencing already
12 exists and the rates of illegal entries are the lowest. Section 102 and the 2017
13 Waivers cannot be used to trample on the rights of the sovereign State of California
14 and the rights of its residents. Plaintiffs are therefore entitled to summary judgment.

15 **FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

16 On January 25, 2017, President Donald J. Trump issued an Executive Order
17 directing the DHS Secretary to take steps toward planning and constructing a
18 “physical wall along the southern border.” (Ex. 7, Exec. Order No. 13767, 82 Fed.
19 Reg. 8,793 § 4(a) (Jan. 25, 2017).)⁵ President Trump referenced a purported “recent
20 surge in illegal immigration” and mandated that DHS “[p]roduce a comprehensive
21 study of the security of the southern border, to be completed within 180 days of this
22 order, that shall include the current state of southern border security.” *Id.* §§ 1, 4(a),
23 (d). The Secretary never produced the study mandated by the Executive Order.
24 However, DHS has issued reports and statements showing that existing
25 infrastructure, along with staffing and other border technology, has curtailed illegal
26 crossings at the southwest border, which plummeted years ago. These reports also

27 _____
28 ⁵ Each exhibit referenced in this memorandum is attached to and described in
the Declaration of Michael Cayaban, filed herewith in support of Plaintiffs’ motion.

1 establish that over the past two decades there have been dramatic reductions in the
 2 number of illegal crossings in the particular areas where DHS is now choosing to
 3 replace existing fencing and, thus, that DHS's targeted application of Section 102's
 4 waiver provision in California is unwarranted.

5 **A. Illegal Entries Plummeted Long Ago at the Southwest**
 6 **Border**

7 In DHS's own words, illegal entries along the southwest border are at their
 8 lowest levels "since 2000, and likely since the early 1970s." (Ex. 8, "Efforts by
 9 DHS to Estimate Southwest Border Security Between Ports of Entry," Dep't of
 10 Homeland Sec., Office of Immigration Statistics, Sept. 2017, pp. 19.) In the
 11 September 2017 report supporting that assessment, DHS estimated that the number
 12 of successful illegal entries at the southern border has declined by 91% since 2000.
 13 *Id.* pp. 17-18. DHS's assessment is consistent with data published by CBP, which
 14 show that the number of migrants apprehended by CBP while illegally crossing the
 15 southwest border has fallen sharply since 2000, and particularly since 2006. (Ex. 2,
 16 USBP Total Illegal Alien Apprehensions by Month, 2000-2016.)⁶ According to
 17 DHS, illegal border crossings have declined because "the southwest land border is
 18 more difficult to illegally cross today than ever before." (Ex. 8, p. 19.)

19 **B. Personnel and Infrastructure Have Ballooned in the**
 20 **San Diego and El Centro Sectors**

21 Since Congress passed the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant
 22 Responsibility Act of 1996 ("IIRIRA"), the federal government has spent billions
 23 of dollars on personnel and other resources along the southwest border, especially
 24 in the San Diego and El Centro sectors affected by the Border Wall Projects. (Ex. 3,
 25 Congressional Research Service, Border Security: Barriers Along the U.S.

26 ⁶ The CBP and its enforcement arm, the United States Border Patrol
 27 ("USBP"), maintain data on the number of illegal entrants apprehended crossing
 28 within each CBP sector of the southwest border. (Ex. 1, excerpts from Government
 Accountability Office Report, February 2017, GAO-17-331, pp. 1, 46-56, Ex. 2.)
 The southwest border is divided into nine sectors. (Ex. 1, pp. 45-46; Ex. 2.)

1 International Border, September 21, 2006, pp. 3-4.) Between 1995 and 2016, the
2 number of border patrol agents assigned to the southwest border nearly quadrupled
3 from 4,388 to 17,026 agents. During that same time, El Centro patrol agent staffing
4 levels increased by nearly 500%. By 2016, nearly 900 more patrol agents were
5 assigned to the San Diego sector than in 1995. (Ex. 4, USBP Border Patrol Agent
6 Staffing by Fiscal Year (as of Oct. 1, 2016), pp. 1-4.)

7 CBP has also installed hundreds of miles of additional barriers along the
8 southwest border pursuant to Congressional mandates, including an amendment to
9 Section 102 requiring expedited construction in priority areas before the end of
10 2008. CBP installed 143 miles of fencing along the southwest border before late
11 2005. By the middle of 2009, CBP had installed an additional 490 miles of fencing.
12 (Ex. 5, U.S. Government Accountability Office, GAO-09-896, Sept. 2009.)

13 Currently, there are 705 miles of fencing along 654 miles of the U.S.-Mexico
14 border. (Ex. 6, USBP, Mileage of Pedestrian and Vehicle Fencing, August 2, 2017.)
15 This includes CBP's installation of 37 miles of secondary fencing and 14 miles of
16 tertiary fencing, completing the goal of 700 miles as contemplated in Section 102.

17 *Id.*

18 **C. The Sites for the Border Wall Projects Are No 19 Longer High Priority**

20 Citing the decline in illegal crossings and adequacy of existing barriers, the
21 federal government and the Secretary have concluded that areas with existing
22 fencing—such as the San Diego and El Centro sectors—are no longer areas of high
23 illegal entry and that the San Diego and El Centro areas are DHS's *lowest* priority
24 for replacing existing fencing. In a March 27, 2017, infrastructure planning
25 document relating to the Border Wall Project, CBP divided the southwest border
26 into nine sectors and assessed the infrastructure needs within each sector. (Ex. 9,
27 Dep't of Homeland Security, Building the Wall, Strategy & Way Forward, March
28 27, 2017, p. 15.) Each sector was rated as "Very High," "High," and "Moderate."
Id. CBP used its lowest priority rating, "moderate," to describe its infrastructure

1 needs within the San Diego and El Centro sectors affected by the 2017 Waivers. *Id.*
2 In a televised interview a month later, then Secretary Kelly confirmed this
3 assessment, explaining that existing fencing is “very, very effective” and
4 “remarkably effective in keeping down the amount of illegal movement across” the
5 border.⁷ Notably, most of California’s 140-mile border with Mexico already has
6 fencing, including the areas covered by the 2017 Waivers. (Ex. 1, pp. 46-50; Ex. 10,
7 U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Border Fencing as of June 2011.) Despite the
8 admitted adequacy of existing barriers and sharp decrease in illegal crossings, DHS
9 is attempting to expedite the replacement of existing fencing in the San Diego and
10 El Centro sectors.

11 **1. The San Diego Sector and the San Diego Waiver**

12 On August 2, 2017, former DHS Secretary Kelly issued the San Diego Waiver
13 by publishing a Notice of Determination in the Federal Register. (Ex. 11, 82 Fed.
14 Reg. 35,984-01 (Aug. 2, 2017).) The San Diego Waiver purports to waive 37
15 federal laws—including NEPA, the Endangered Species Act (“ESA”), the CZMA,
16 and the APA—as well as “all federal, state, or other laws . . . related to” the same
17 “subject matter.” *Id.* The ostensible purpose of the San Diego Waiver is to expedite
18 the construction of infrastructure projects within a 15-mile segment of the border
19 described as the “project area,” beginning at the Pacific Ocean and extending
20 eastward. *Id.*

21 The San Diego Waiver states that DHS will “immediately implement various
22 border infrastructure projects” within the project area, but only identifies two
23 projects expressly: the replacement of the 14-mile primary fence and the
24 construction of prototype barriers. *Id.* DHS and Trump Administration officials
25 have stated they intend to also begin projects that are not specifically mentioned in

26
27 ⁷ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OPMt5mxyBQw>, Televised Interview
28 with Attorney General Jeff Sessions and then Homeland Security Secretary John
Kelly (“Kelly TV Interview”), April, 20 2017, 2:10–2:27 (last viewed Nov. 19,
2017).

1 the San Diego Waiver, such as replacing the existing 14-mile secondary fence
2 (which was completed less than nine years ago) with a solid wall. (Ex. 9, p. 18.)

3 The various infrastructure projects referenced in the San Diego Waiver, both
4 disclosed and undisclosed, are referenced collectively herein as the San Diego
5 Project.

6 The San Diego sector is located entirely within California and extends 60
7 miles east from the Pacific Ocean along the southwest border. (Ex. 1, pp. 46-48.)

8 The San Diego sector includes several land ports of entry, several inland
9 checkpoints, and hundreds of miles of coastline.⁸ The San Diego sector has about
10 46 miles of existing primary fencing along its 60-mile border with Mexico. (Ex. 1,
11 p. 48; Ex. 6, Ex. 10.) Multiple layers of fencing (primary, secondary, and tertiary)
12 span the western-most segment of the border at the site of the San Diego Project.
13 (Ex. 1, p. 48; Exs. 23 and 24, Photographs of the San Diego Triple Fence;
14 Declaration of M. Cayaban, ¶¶ 24-26; Ex. 22, Appendix D.)

15 The number of illegal entries in the San Diego sector has fallen significantly
16 over the last two decades and at a steeper rate than in other sectors. (Ex. 1, pp. 46-
17 47; Ex. 2; Ex. 8, pp. 18-19.)⁹ CBP's apprehension data indicates there were 483,815
18 in 1996 compared to 31,891 in 2016, a reduction of over 93%. (Ex. 2, pp. 1, 17; Ex.
19 22, pp. 12-15 and appendix G.) San Diego sector apprehensions fell to just 7% of
20 the total number of apprehensions along the entire southwest border between 2013
21 and 2015, far less than sectors in other states. (Ex. 1, pp. 45-46, 48; Ex. 2; Ex. 6, p.
22 19; Ex. 20, p. 19-20.) Additionally, personnel from the Imperial Beach and Chula
23 Vista patrol stations, which have had the lowest rates of illegal entry within the San
24 Diego Sector for several years, patrol the San Diego Project Area. (Ex. 22,

25 _____
26 ⁸ Official website of the Department of Homeland Security,
[https://www.cbp.gov/border-security/along-us-borders/border-patrol-sectors/san-](https://www.cbp.gov/border-security/along-us-borders/border-patrol-sectors/san-diego-sector-california)
27 [diego-sector-california](https://www.cbp.gov/border-security/along-us-borders/border-patrol-sectors/san-diego-sector-california) (last visited November 10, 2017).

28 ⁹ See also, Official website of the Department of Homeland Security,
[https://www.cbp.gov/border-security/along-us-borders/border-patrol-sectors/san-](https://www.cbp.gov/border-security/along-us-borders/border-patrol-sectors/san-diego-sector-california)
[diego-sector-california](https://www.cbp.gov/border-security/along-us-borders/border-patrol-sectors/san-diego-sector-california) (last visited November 10, 2017).

1 Congressional Research Service, Border Security: Barriers Along the U.S.
2 International Border, March 16, 2009, pp. 11-15.)

3 **2. The El Centro Sector and the Calexico Waiver**

4 On September 12, 2017, acting Secretary Duke issued the Calexico Waiver by
5 publishing a Notice of Determination in the Federal Register. (Ex. 12, 82 Fed. Reg.
6 42,829-01 (Sept. 12, 2017).) The Calexico waiver purports to waive the application
7 of 27 federal laws, and all state laws related to the same subject matter, in order to
8 expedite the construction of infrastructure projects in the El Centro sector. As with
9 the San Diego Waiver, the Calexico Waiver purports to waive NEPA, the CZMA,
10 and the APA. *Id.* The ostensible purpose of the Calexico Waiver is to expedite the
11 replacement of three miles of existing primary fence near the Calexico port of entry
12 in the El Centro sector, referred to herein as the Calexico Project.

13 CBP's El Centro sector covers areas within Imperial County and Riverside
14 County, California.¹⁰ The sector is comprised of a land border that is 70 miles in
15 length with 59 miles of existing primary fencing along its border with Mexico. *Id.*

16 Just as in the San Diego sector, there have also been significant declines in the
17 number of undocumented entries in the El Centro sector over the last two decades.
18 The USBP apprehended 238,126 deportable migrants in the El Centro sector in
19 2000 compared to just 19,448 in 2016, a reduction of nearly 92%. (Ex. 2, pp. 1, 17.)
20 Between 2013 and 2015, apprehensions in the El Centro sector represented just 4%
21 of the total number of apprehensions along the entire southwest border. (Ex. 1, p.
22 49.)

23
24
25
26
27 ¹⁰ Official website of the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Customs and
28 Border Protection, <https://www.cbp.gov/border-security/along-us-borders/border-patrol-sectors/el-centro-sector-california> (last visited 10/31/2017).

1 **LEGISLATIVE HISTORY OF SECTION 102 AND DHS'S USE OF**
2 **WAIVERS BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2008**

3 Before 1996, there was no express statutory authority regarding construction
4 of barriers along the southwest border. That changed when Congress passed the
5 first iteration of Section 102. See IIRIRA, Pub. L. 104-208, div. C., tit. I § 102, 110
6 Stat. 3009, 3009-554 (Sept. 30, 2006). The first iteration of Section 102 authorized
7 the U.S. Attorney General, in consultation with the Commissioner of Immigration
8 and Naturalization, to “take such actions as may be necessary to install additional
9 physical barriers and roads . . . in the vicinity of the United States border to deter
10 illegal crossings in areas of high illegal entry into the United States.” *Id.* Section
11 102(a). It also required construction of second and third fences parallel to a 14-mile
12 segment of primary fencing installed a few years earlier along the border near San
13 Diego. That 14-mile segment starts at the Pacific Ocean and extends 14 miles east.
14 *Id.* § 102(b). Further, the first iteration of Section 102 contained a provision that
15 permitted the Attorney General to waive application of the ESA and NEPA “to the
16 extent the Attorney General determines necessary to ensure expeditious
17 construction of the barriers and roads under this section.” *Id.* § 102(c).

18 The Real ID Act of 2005 amended Section 102 by transferring the waiver
19 authority from the Attorney General to the Secretary of Homeland Security, and
20 expanding the waiver authority to include “all legal requirements such Secretary, in
21 such Secretary’s sole discretion, determines necessary to ensure expeditious
22 construction of the barriers and roads under this section.” Pub. L. 109-113, div. B,
23 tit. I § 102(c)(1), 119 Stat. 231 (May 11, 2005). That version of Section 102 did not
24 specify the laws that Congress authorized the Secretary to waive. It also purported
25 to limit legal challenges concerning any waiver decision to constitutional claims
26 and eliminated appellate court review. *Id.*

27 The Secure Fence Act of 2006 (Pub. L. 109-367) amended Section 102 again
28 by removing the provisions referring specifically to the 14-miles of fencing in San

1 Diego, and instead directed DHS to construct two layers of reinforced fencing along
2 five separate segments of the border, totaling more than 800 miles. Pub. L. 109-
3 367, §§ 2-3, 120 Stat. 2638 (Oct. 26, 2006).

4 The Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2008 (“2008
5 Amendment”) amended Section 102 a third and final time by removing
6 requirements for doubled-layered fencing in specific locations, and by providing the
7 Secretary with specific direction in “carrying out subsection (a)” of Section 102.
8 Pub. L. 110-161, div E, tit. V, § 564, 121 Stat. 2090 (Dec. 26, 2007). The 2008
9 Amendment directs the Secretary of Homeland Security to construct reinforced
10 fencing along not less than 700 miles along the southern border where it would be
11 “most practical and effective.” The 2008 Amendment also amended the statute by
12 compelling the Secretary of Homeland Security to designate “Priority Areas” for
13 370 miles of additional fencing by not later than December 31, 2008, and by
14 obligating the Secretary to expedite the construction of fencing in these “priority
15 areas,” requiring the completion of construction by not later than December 31,
16 2008. *Id.* Thus, Congress imposed a December 31, 2008, deadline for the
17 designation and expedited construction of additional barriers and roads in priority
18 areas under Section 102.

19 There have been no amendments to Section 102 since the 2008 Amendment
20 was signed into law. Subsections (a) and (b) of Section 102 currently state that:

21 (a) In General. — The Secretary of Homeland Security shall
22 take such actions as may be necessary to install additional physical
23 barriers and roads (including the removal of obstacles to detection of
24 illegal entrants) in the vicinity of the United States border to deter
25 illegal crossings in areas of high illegal entry into the United States.

26 (b) Construction of Fencing and Road Improvements Along the
27 Border.—

28 (1) Additional fencing along southwest border.—

(A) Reinforced fencing.— In carrying out subsection (a), the
Secretary of Homeland Security shall construct reinforced fencing along
not less than 700 miles of the southwest border where fencing would be
most practical and effective and provide for the installation of additional

1 physical barriers, roads, lighting, cameras, and sensors to gain
2 operational control of the southwest border.

3 (B) Priority areas. — In carrying out this section, the Secretary
4 of Homeland Security shall —

5 (i) identify the 370 miles, or other mileage determined
6 by the Secretary, whose authority to determine other mileage
7 shall expire on December 31, 2008, along the southwest border
8 where fencing would be most practical and effective in deterring
9 smugglers and aliens attempting to gain illegal entry into the
10 United States; and

11 (ii) not later than December 31, 2008, complete
12 construction of reinforced fencing along the miles identified
13 under clause (i).

14 Subsection (c) of Section 102 further states “[n]otwithstanding any other
15 provision of law, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall have the authority to
16 waive all legal requirements such Secretary, in such Secretary’s sole discretion,
17 determines necessary to ensure expeditious construction of the barriers and roads
18 under this section.” Subsection (c) is limited to the installation of “additional
19 barriers and roads . . . in areas of high illegal entry.” *Id.* § 1103 note.

20 During the period of September 2005 through October 2007, former Secretary
21 Chertoff initiated three waivers to expedite the construction of additional fencing in
22 different project areas. (Ex. 13, 70 Fed. Reg. 55,622-02 (Sept. 22, 2005); Ex. 14, 72
23 Fed. Reg. 2,535-01 (Jan. 19, 2007); Ex. 15, 72 Fed. Reg. 60,870-01 (Oct. 26,
24 2007).) This resulted in the completion of the 14-mile, multi-layered fencing project
25 in San Diego and the completion of additional fencing in two project areas in
26 Arizona. In April 2008, following the 2008 Amendment to Section 102, former
27 Secretary Chertoff initiated two more waivers in an effort to construct the
28 additional fencing before the December 31, 2008 deadline. (Ex. 16, 73 Fed. Reg.
19,077-01 (Apr. 8, 2008); Ex. 17, 73 Fed. Reg. 19078-01 (Apr. 8, 2008).) As
justification for the April 2008 waivers, which called for the expedited construction
of hundreds of miles of fencing in the four southern border states, former Secretary
Chertoff cited Congressional mandates articulated under subsection (b) of Section

1 102, “including priority miles of fencing that must be completed by December of
2 2008.” (Ex. 17.)

3 JURISDICTION OF THIS DISTRICT COURT

4 “The district courts shall have original jurisdiction of all civil actions arising
5 under the Constitution, laws, or treaties of the United States.” 28 U.S.C. § 1331.
6 This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action because Plaintiffs’ claims
7 arise under the United States Constitution and several federal statutes. Plaintiffs’
8 statutory claims include claims for relief under NEPA, the CZMA, and the APA.

9 In defense of their failure to comply with these and other federal and state
10 laws, Defendants assert that these laws were waived by the DHS Secretary in the
11 2017 Waivers pursuant to Section 102(c). 8 U.S.C. § 1103 note (c)(1). Defendants
12 also contend that this Court is barred from hearing statutory and other non-
13 constitutional challenges to the 2017 Waivers, citing language in 102 (c) that
14 appears to limit the district court’s jurisdiction to claims asserting constitutional
15 violations. *Id.*

16 Defendants’ position, however, conflicts with Supreme Court and Ninth
17 Circuit precedent. Federal courts clearly retain jurisdiction to review threshold
18 issues such as whether underlying factual findings would trigger the purported
19 jurisdictional bar. *Pazcoguin v. Radcliffe*, 292 F.3d 1209, 1212 (9th Cir. 2002);
20 *Flores-Miramontes v. INS*, 212 F.3d 1133, 1135 (9th Cir. 2000). In other words, the
21 federal courts “have jurisdiction to determine whether jurisdiction exists.”
22 *Gutierrez v. Holder*, 662 F.3d 1083, 1086 (9th Cir. 2011) (quoting *Flores-*
23 *Miramontes*, 212 F.3d at 1135). Here, Plaintiffs assert that Section 102 does not
24 authorize Defendants’ proposed projects and thus that the entire statute, including
25 the waiver provision, is inapplicable. These claims require this Court to examine
26 these threshold issues before it reaches questions such as whether the 2017 Waivers
27 comply with the Constitution.

28

1 Federal courts also retain jurisdiction to determine whether a federal agency is
2 acting within the scope of its congressionally delegated authority. *La. Pub. Serv.*
3 *Comm'n v. FCC*, 476 U.S. 355, 374 (1986). Even where Congress has limited
4 courts' jurisdiction to review an agency's actions, federal courts retain jurisdiction
5 where: (1) an agency's action is ultra vires in that it contravenes clear statutory
6 language; and (2) absent district court jurisdiction, the party seeking review would
7 be wholly deprived of "a meaningful and adequate means of vindicating its
8 statutory rights." *Pac. Mar. Ass'n v. Nat'l Labor Relations Bd.*, 827 F.3d 1203,
9 1208 (9th Cir. 2016) (quoting *Bd. of Governors of Fed. Reserve Sys. v. MCorp Fin.,*
10 *Inc.*, 502 U.S. 32, 43 (1991)); *Leedom v. Kyne*, 358 U.S. 184, 188–90 (1958). Here,
11 Plaintiffs assert Defendants are acting outside the scope of their authority granted
12 by Section 102, as defined by clear statutory language, and, the absence of district
13 court jurisdiction will wholly deprive Plaintiffs of adequate means to vindicate their
14 statutory rights.

15 CALIFORNIA HAS ARTICLE III STANDING

16 "[T]o satisfy Article III's standing requirements, a plaintiff must show (1) it
17 has suffered an 'injury in fact' that is (a) concrete and particularized and (b) actual
18 or imminent, not conjectural or hypothetical; (2) the injury is fairly traceable to the
19 challenged action of the defendant; and (3) it is likely, as opposed to merely
20 speculative, that the injury will be redressed by a favorable decision." *Friends of*
21 *the Earth, Inc. v. Laidlaw Envtl. Servs., Inc.*, 528 U.S. 167, 180–81 (2000) (citing
22 *Lujan v. Defenders of Wildlife*, 504 U.S. 555, 560–61 (1992)). Here, California has
23 met all Article III standing requirements. California will suffer injury to its real
24 property that it owns and manages adjacent to DHS's Border Wall Projects.
25 California also has concrete and particularized interests in protecting its natural,
26 recreational, agricultural, historical and cultural resources for the use, enjoyment
27 and benefit of California's residents. *Massachusetts v. EPA*, 549 U.S. 497, 518
28 (2007); *Sierra Forest Legacy v. Sherman*, 646 F.3d 1161, 1178 (9th Cir. 2011). In

1 addition, the Border Wall Projects have caused injury to California's tourism
 2 economy from the "chilling effect" on California tourism from Mexico. Finally, the
 3 waivers infringe upon California's procedural and sovereign rights in creating and
 4 enforcing its own laws and receiving the benefits afforded to it under NEPA and the
 5 CZMA. California therefore has Article III standing to bring this case.

6 ARGUMENT

7 I. STANDARD OF REVIEW ON SUMMARY JUDGMENT

8 Under Rule 56(c) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, summary judgment
 9 is proper "if the pleadings, depositions, answers to interrogatories, and admissions
 10 on file, together with the affidavits, if any, show that there is no genuine issue as to
 11 any material fact and that the moving party is entitled to a judgment as a matter of
 12 law." Summary judgment "may, and should, be granted so long as whatever is
 13 before the district court demonstrates that the standard for the entry of summary
 14 judgment, as set forth in Rule 56(c), is satisfied." *Celotex Corp. v. Catrett*, 477
 15 U.S. 317, 322-323 (1986).

16 II. IT IS UNDISPUTED THAT DEFENDANTS VIOLATED NEPA, THE CZMA 17 AND THE APA (FIRST AND SECOND CLAIMS)

18 The area where Defendants are constructing the Border Wall Projects is rich in
 19 biodiversity and includes multiple fragile and sensitive habitats, in particular the
 20 Tijuana Estuary which is a "Wetland of International Importance." Decl. of M.
 21 Delaplaine ¶ 6; Decl. of S. Vanderplank ¶¶ 23-25, 40-54. It also includes 33 plant
 22 varieties that are rare, threatened, or endangered in California, and numerous
 23 endangered and threatened wildlife species such as the least Bell's vireo that are
 24 protected by federal and state law. Delaplaine Decl. ¶¶ 6, 9; Vanderplank Decl. ¶ 8;
 25 Decl. of K. Clark ¶¶ 8-31.

26 To protect the environment, NEPA mandates environmental review
 27 procedures that ensure informed agency decision-making and facilitate public
 28 participation. *Robertson v. Methow Valley Citizens Council*, 490 U.S. 332, 348-49

1 (1989). To comply with NEPA, federal agencies must prepare an environmental
2 impact statement to evaluate the environmental effects of major federal actions,
3 such as the Border Wall Projects, before the action is undertaken. 42 U.S.C. §
4 4332(2)(C); *Robertson*, 490 U.S. at 348-49; *see also* 40 C.F.R. §§ 1501.2,
5 1502.2(g), 1502.5, 1508.23, 1508.25. Claims asserting NEPA and CZMA
6 noncompliance are reviewed under the APA. 5 U.S.C. §§ 702, 704, 706; *California*
7 *v. Norton*, 311 F.3d 1162, 1170 (9th Cir. 2002). Defendants violated NEPA and the
8 APA by conducting no public environmental review of the Border Wall Projects,
9 including the San Diego and Calexico Projects, which will cause significant harm
10 to the environment. Clark Decl. ¶¶ 8-31; Vanderplank Decl. ¶¶ 8, 11, 20-61; 5
11 U.S.C. §§ 702, 704, 706(1), 706(2)(A) & (D); 42 U.S.C. § 4332(2)(C).

12 The CZMA is meant to “preserve, protect, develop and where possible, to
13 restore and enhance the resources of the nation’s coastal zone.” 16 U.S.C. § 1452.
14 The California Coastal Commission (“Commission”) implements the CZMA in
15 California. Cal. Pub. Res. Code §§ 30008, 30330. When a federal agency
16 undertakes an activity that affects any land, water uses, or natural resources of the
17 coastal zone, the CZMA requires that agency to provide a “consistency
18 determination” to the Commission that confirms the activity is consistent to the
19 maximum extent practicable with the California Coastal Management Program. 16
20 U.S.C. §§ 1456(c)(1)(A); 15 C.F.R. §§ 930.32, 9320.36, 930.39.

21 For the San Diego Project, a consistency determination is required because it
22 will affect numerous resources in the coastal zone, including endangered species,
23 water quality, public recreation and access to open space, the coast’s scenic and
24 visual quality, and archaeological resources. Delaplaine Decl. ¶¶ 4-10; Ex. 18, Map
25 Depicting Coastal Zone Boundaries, Cal. Pub. Res. Code §§ 30210-13, 30220-21,
26 30223, 30233, 30236, 30240, 30244, 30251. To date, Defendants have not
27 submitted a consistency determination to the Commission for the San Diego
28 Project, or even contacted the Commission about it. Delaplaine Decl. ¶ 10.

1 Accordingly, the Court should find that Defendants violated NEPA and the CZMA,
 2 grant summary judgment to Plaintiffs and enjoin them from proceeding with the
 3 Border Wall Projects. *See Norton*, 311 F.3d at 1169-70, 1178 (setting aside
 4 approval of offshore lease suspensions because federal government failed to
 5 undertake consistency review of the suspensions pursuant to the CZMA); 5 U.S.C.
 6 §§ 706(1), 706(2)(A) & (D).

7 **III. NOTHING IN SECTION 102 AUTHORIZES THE BORDER WALL PROJECTS**
 8 **(THIRD CLAIM)**

9 The 2017 Waivers seek to waive laws for projects that are not authorized by
 10 Section 102. In relying on the waiver provision in Section 102(c), Defendants put
 11 the cart before the horse; because the Border Wall Projects are not authorized by
 12 Section 102(a) or (b), DHS has no authority to build the projects, and any waiver
 13 under Section 102(c) cannot save the Defendants' illegal activity. Here, the Border
 14 Wall Projects fail to satisfy three requirements in Section 102(a) and (b), namely,
 15 that projects be built: (1) in areas of high illegal entry; (2) as additional barriers, not
 16 as replacements for existing fencing; and (3) where the barriers are most practical
 17 and effective. Defendants' failure to satisfy any one of these requirements renders
 18 their actions unlawful and is a basis for summary judgment.¹¹

19 **A. Section 102 Is Inapplicable Because the San Diego**
 20 **and Calexico Projects Are Not Located in "Areas of**
 21 **High Illegal Entry"**

22 Contrary to what might be gleaned from President Trump's Executive Order,
 23 Section 102 does not authorize the construction of a wall across the entire two-
 24 thousand-mile southwest border. The plain language of Section 102 only authorizes
 25 the Secretary to install additional physical barriers "to deter illegal crossings in

26 ¹¹ The San Diego Project also fails to satisfy Section 102's requirement that
 27 barriers be installed so as "to deter illegal crossings." 8 U.S.C. § 1103(a). The
 28 prototypes built in the San Diego Project Area were constructed with large gaps in
 between them—rendering them ineffective as a border security tool.
<http://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/visuals/photography/sd-pg-trump-border-wall-prototypes-finished-20171025-photogallery.html> (last visited November 21, 2017).

1 **areas of high illegal entry.”** 8 U.S.C. § 1103(a) note (emphasis added).

2 Acknowledging this limitation, the 2017 Waivers assert that the San Diego and El
3 Centro sectors are areas of high illegal entry. To support this assertion, the San
4 Diego Waiver points to the amount of drugs seized and number of persons
5 apprehended during the last fiscal year throughout the entire San Diego sector. (Ex.
6 11.) The Calexico Waiver points to similar sector-wide data from the El Centro
7 sector. (Ex. 12.) Reliance on such sector-wide data is misplaced because it fails to
8 show that the San Diego and Calexico Project Areas are themselves areas of high
9 illegal entry.

10 First, the amount of drugs seized by border patrol agents in a sector says
11 nothing about whether a particular segment of that sector is an area of high illegal
12 entry. Large drug seizures often occur far from the Mexican border at highway
13 checkpoints, during vehicle searches at the points of entry, or when border patrol
14 agents discover a drug-smuggling boat or drone. (Ex. 19, DHS Press Releases and
15 Media Report Concerning USBP Drug Seizures in San Diego and El Centro
16 Sectors.) Nothing suggests such seizures occurred at the segments of the border
17 targeted for the San Diego and Calexico Projects, much less that the amount of
18 drugs seized correlates with the number of illegal entries there.

19 Second, sector-wide apprehension data does not establish that the project areas
20 themselves are areas of high illegal entry. The Calexico Project Area represents
21 only about 4% of the total 70-mile border in the El Centro sector. The San Diego
22 Project Area represents just 1/4 of the 60-mile border within the San Diego sector.
23 Moreover, the Secretary offers no factual findings to demonstrate that these two
24 areas are priority areas within the San Diego and El Centro sectors.

25 The sector-wide apprehension figures are even less probative when one
26 considers that the San Diego Project Area has fewer illegal border crossings than
27 the San Diego sector as a whole. DHS maintains apprehension data for the stations
28 responsible for specific segments of the border, but the 2017 Waivers do not

1 mention this information. The reason for this omission is obvious: the most recent,
2 publicly available, station-specific apprehension data demonstrates that the number
3 of illegal entries is much lower in the San Diego Project Area, which is patrolled by
4 the Imperial Beach and Chula Vista Stations, than in the San Diego sector as a
5 whole. (Ex. 3, pp. 8-12; Ex. 20, pp. 19-20; Ex. 22, pp. 10-15 and app. G.) This is
6 unsurprising given that the San Diego Project Area is already the most heavily
7 fortified area along the entire southwest border, with at least two layers of fencing
8 along a 14-mile segment and three layers of fencing in certain areas. (Ex. 1, p. 48,
9 Ex. 22, pp. 10-15 and app. D; Exs. 23-24, Photographs of Triple Fence; Declaration
10 of M. Cayaban, ¶¶ 24-26; Exs. 3, 6, 10.)

11 Further, to the extent sector-wide data is relevant, DHS's apprehension records
12 show that the San Diego and El Centro sectors are no longer areas of high illegal
13 entry. For example, the CBP's apprehension data indicates the number of
14 deportable migrants apprehended in the San Diego sector fell from 483,815 in 1996
15 (the year Section 102 of IIRIRA was enacted) to 31,891 in 2016, a reduction of
16 over 93%. (Ex. 2, pp. 1, 17; Ex. 22, pp. 12-15 and appendix G.) Between 2013 and
17 2015, the San Diego sector represented just 7% of the total number of
18 apprehensions along the southwest border, far less than sectors in other states. (Ex.
19 1, pp. 46-49.) The decline in El Centro sector apprehensions has been even more
20 dramatic, with a reduction of nearly 92% from 2000 to 2016. (Ex. 2, pp. 1, 17.)
21 Moreover, El Centro sector apprehensions accounted for just 4% of the total
22 number across the entire southwest border between 2013 and 2015. (Ex. 1, pp. 46-
23 49.)

24 Thus, the San Diego and El Centro sectors are not sectors of high illegal entry
25 regardless of whether that term is measured using historical standards or by
26 comparing the current rates of illegal entry across all southwest border sectors.
27 Because Section 102 only authorizes the installation of barriers in areas of high
28

1 illegal entry, DHS cannot establish that its San Diego and Calexico Projects satisfy
2 this requirement. Accordingly, the projects are not authorized by Section 102.

3 **B. Section 102 Permits Only the Installation of**
4 **“Additional” Barriers and Roads, Not the**
5 **Replacement of Existing Fences**

6 Section 102 repeatedly uses the word “additional” to describe the types of barriers
7 and roads authorized by the statute. At the outset, Section 102(a) provides:

8 The Secretary of Homeland Security shall take such actions as may be
9 necessary to install **additional** physical barriers and roads (including the
10 removal of obstacles to the detection of illegal entrants) in the vicinity of
11 the United States border to deter illegal crossings in areas of high illegal
12 entry into the United States. (emphasis added)

13 8 U.S.C. § 1103(a) note. Section 102(b)(1) uses the phrase “additional fencing
14 along southwest border” to describe the 700 miles of fencing, including 370 miles
15 of expedited fencing in priority areas, that the Secretary must construct by no later
16 than December 31, 2008. *Id.* § 1103(b)(1) note. And Section 102(b)(3) uses the
17 term again in directing DHS to incorporate safety features. *Id.* § 1103(b)(1) note
18 (requiring safety features “while constructing the additional fencing”).

19 Congress’ repeated use of the word “additional” makes sense given the
20 evolution of border infrastructure along the southwest border and the evolution of
21 Section 102: with each new iteration of Section 102, Congress sought to install
22 fencing in areas where none existed at the time. When Section 102 was originally
23 enacted, Congress sought to add new layers of fencing to supplement the existing
24 primary fence in San Diego. Pub. L. 104-208, div. C, title I, § 102(a) to (c), 110
25 Stat. 3009-554 (Sept. 30, 1996). When amending Section 102 in 2006, Congress
26 sought to add at least 800 miles of double layered fencing along the border. Pub. L.
27 109-367, § 3, 120 Stat. 2638 (Oct. 26, 2006). Finally, in amending the statute for
28 the last time, Congress imposed a December 31, 2008, deadline for adding
hundreds of more miles of fencing in priority areas on an expedited schedule. Pub.
L. 110-161, div. E, tit. V, § 564(a), 121 Stat. 2090 (Dec. 26, 2007).

This “context,” which courts consider in determining a statute’s meaning,

1 makes clear that Congress intended Section 102 to permit only the installation of
2 additional fencing, meaning fencing where none existed. *McNeill v. United States*,
3 563 U.S. 816, 819 (2011). That reading is consistent with the ordinary meaning of
4 the term “additional,” which is defined as: existing or coming by way of addition:
5 added, further. Webster’s Third New International Dictionary, Copyright 2002.
6 Notably, this is exactly how Section 102 was interpreted in the five waivers
7 initiated by former Secretary Chertoff between September 2005 and April 2008.
8 Each waiver identified projects that proposed the construction of additional fencing
9 in areas where none existed at the time. None of the waivers were initiated for the
10 purpose of replacing, repairing, or enhancing existing barriers. See Exs. 13-17.

11 Unlike the previous waivers and contrary to the express terms of Section 102,
12 the 2017 Waivers do not provide for installation of “additional” barriers or fences.
13 Instead, the 2017 Waivers purport to authorize the replacement of existing fencing.
14 Neither the San Diego or Calexico Projects would result in more miles of fencing
15 along the southwest border. Because Section 102 only allows for the installation of
16 additional fencing, the Secretary and DHS acted beyond the statutory authority
17 granted by Section 102 in commencing construction of the Border Wall Projects.

18 **C. Defendants Exceeded Their Statutory Authority by**
19 **Constructing Fencing in Areas Where the Barriers**
20 **Would Not Be “Most Practical or Effective”**

21 In 2008, Section 102 was amended to specify the amount and location of
22 fencing permitted under Section 102(a). 8 U.S.C. § 1103(a) note. The 2008
23 Amendment gave the Secretary more discretion concerning the location of
24 additional fencing, but required that the fencing be constructed in areas where it
25 would be “most practical and effective.”¹²

26 ¹² The clause “most practical and effective” is used twice within Section
27 102(b). 8 U.S.C. § 1103(b)(1)(A) note; *Id.* § 1103(b)(1)(B) note. In light of the
28 context in which it is used and the stated “purpose of carrying out subsection (a),”
the phrase “most practical and effective” must be interpreted as applying to areas
where additional fencing would be most the effective in deterring illegal entries.

1 DHS officials admit that the San Diego and Calexico Project Areas are not
 2 areas where additional infrastructure would be most practical or effective in
 3 deterring illegal entries. Former Secretary Kelly has opined that existing fences are
 4 “extremely effective” in reducing illegal entries, and DHS concedes that these
 5 sectors have the lowest priority for infrastructure projects. (Kelly TV Interview,
 6 2:10–2:27; Ex. 9, p. 15.) DHS also acknowledges it does not have any high priority
 7 infrastructure needs in either the San Diego or El Centro sectors. *Id.* Thus, DHS and
 8 the Secretary have clearly acted beyond their statutory authority.

9 **D. Because Defendants Lack Authority to Build the**
 10 **Border Wall Projects, the 2017 Waivers Are Invalid**

11 Because DHS and the Secretary lack authority to construct the Border Wall
 12 Projects under either Section 102(a) or (b), they also lack authority to waive laws to
 13 expedite that construction under Section 102(c). Section 102(c) provides that:

14 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary shall have the
 15 authority to waive all legal requirements such Secretary, in such
 16 Secretary’s sole discretion, determines necessary to ensure expeditious
 construction of the barriers and roads **under this section.**

17 8 U.S.C. § 1103(c)(1) note (emphasis added). As Defendants themselves concede,
 18 the phrase “this section” unambiguously refers to Section 102. (Case No. 3:17-cv-
 19 01215-GPC-WVG, Doc. 18-1, p 17.) Accordingly, the phrase “under this section”
 20 limits the Secretary’s waiver authority to construction authorized by Section 102.
 21 *See Setser v. United States*, 566 U.S. 231, 239 (2012) (courts should give effect “to
 22 every clause and word of an Act”). Because construction of the Border Wall
 23 Projects is not authorized by Section 102 for the reasons explained above, the 2017
 24 Waivers likewise are invalid.

25 **IV. THE 2017 WAIVERS ARE INVALID BECAUSE THE WAIVER AUTHORITY**
 26 **EXPIRED ON DECEMBER 31, 2008 (FOURTH CLAIM)**

27 Alternatively, even assuming Section 102 authorizes construction of the
 28 Border Wall Projects, the 2017 Waivers are invalid because the authority to issue

1 them has expired. To hold otherwise would violate the well-established rule that,
2 “[w]hen Congress acts to amend a statute, we presume it intends its amendment to
3 have real and substantial effect.” *Stone v. INS*, 514 U.S. 386, 397 (1995).

4 In its 2008 Amendment to Section 102, Congress changed the statute to
5 require the Secretary to “construct reinforced fencing along not less than 700 miles
6 of the southwest border where fencing would be most practical.” Pub. L. 110-161,
7 div. E, tit. V § 564, 121 Stat. 2090 (Dec. 26, 2007). Under the heading “PRIORITY
8 AREAS,” Congress also required the Secretary, “in carrying out this section,” to
9 identify 370 miles “where fencing would be most practical and effective in
10 deterring smugglers and aliens attempting to gain illegal entry into the United
11 States.” *Id.* Significantly, the 2008 Amendment provided that the authority to
12 determine any “other mileage” for priority area fencing “shall expire on December
13 31, 2008.” *Id.* The 2008 Amendment also imposed a deadline of December 31,
14 2008, for the expedited construction of fencing in priority areas. *Id.*

15 Recognizing the mandate to complete expedited fencing projects by the end of
16 the year, former Secretary Chertoff in 2008 identified more than 370 miles of
17 priority areas for expedited construction, issued waivers for this expedited
18 construction, and committed DHS to a total of 661 miles of border fencing by the
19 first half of 2009. (Ex. 5, pp. 2 (unnumbered), 8-9.) By April of 2013, DHS
20 reported that it had completed all but a one-mile stretch of these projects, which
21 ultimately involved 705 miles of fencing. (Ex. 6, USBP Mileage of Pedestrian and
22 Vehicle Fencing by State.)¹³

23
24
25 ¹³See also “The Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration
26 Modernization Act, S. 744: Hearing Before the Senate Committee on the
27 Judiciary,” April 23, 2013 (remarks by DHS Secretary Janet Napolitano in response
28 to question, stating that the U.S. Border Patrol had completed all but one-mile of
the fencing) transcript available at <http://www.c-span.org/video/?312302-1/dhs-sec-napolitano-testifies-immigration-reform> (last visited November 22, 2017).

1 The imposition of a firm deadline to expedite construction establishes that
2 Congress did not grant the Secretary waiver authority in perpetuity to be used for
3 any and all construction of border fencing. Nor could an unlimited waiver authority
4 be squared with the plain language of Section 102's waiver provision, which
5 provides that a waiver may be used only when "necessary to ensure expeditious
6 construction of the barriers and roads under this section." 8 U.S.C. § 1103(c)(1)
7 note. Defendants' position to the contrary would render impermissibly superfluous
8 the limitations Congress placed on the Secretary's authority to identify priority
9 areas and to complete construction by the end of 2008. *See Duncan v. Walker*, 533
10 U.S. 167, 174 (2001). Accordingly, because the waiver authority has already
11 expired, the 2017 Waivers exceeded the Secretary's authority and are therefore
12 invalid.

13 **V. DEFENDANTS EXCEEDED THEIR STATUTORY AUTHORITY IN ISSUING**
14 **THE 2017 WAIVERS BY MAKING NO FINDINGS (FIFTH CLAIM)**

15 Alternatively, even if Section 102 authorizes the Border Wall Projects and the
16 deadline to expedite construction has yet to expire, the 2017 Waivers are invalid
17 because the Secretary failed to make the requisite findings to show that the projects
18 comply with the requirements of Section 102. In issuing the 2017 Waivers, the
19 Secretary must do more than "paraphrase the statutory language." *Gonzales v.*
20 *Oregon*, 546 U.S. 243, 257 (2006). Where, as here, an agency alters the application
21 of existing laws, it must give "good reasons" for doing so. *Organized Village of*
22 *Kake v. United States Dep't of Agric.*, 795 F.3d 956, 967, 969 (9th Cir. 2015)
23 (holding agency action invalid because it "failed to provide a reasoned
24 explanation") (citation omitted).

25 The statute's plain language requires the Secretary to determine that the
26 Border Wall Projects meet the requirements of Section 102. Section 102(a) requires
27 that projects be "necessary," limited to "additional physical barriers and roads," and
28 in "areas of high illegal entry." 8 U.S.C. § 1103(a) note. Section 102(b) requires the

1 Secretary to construct fencing where it would be “most practical and effective.” *Id.*
2 at § 1103(b)(1)(a) note. And Section 102(c) requires the Secretary to determine that
3 waiving certain legal requirements is “necessary to ensure expeditious construction
4 of the barriers and roads.” *Id.* § 1103(c)(1) note. These findings are necessary so
5 that a court can assess whether the Secretary selected qualifying projects and issued
6 a valid waiver.

7 Here, the Secretary has provided insufficient findings to justify the 2017
8 Waivers. Using boiler plate language copied from the statute, the 2017 Waivers
9 claim that there is an “immediate need to construct border barriers and roads” in the
10 San Diego and Calexico Project Areas because they are “areas of high illegal
11 entry.” (Exs. 11, 12.) Such findings are inadequate because an agency that “merely
12 parrots the language of a statute without providing an account of how it reached its
13 results . . . has not adequately explained the basis for its decision.” *Dickson v. Sec’y.*
14 *of Def.*, 68 F.3d 1396, 1405 (D.C. Cir. 1995) (rejecting agency’s waiver decision).
15 The 2017 Waivers also fail to support their conclusory statements that replacement
16 of fencing will “deter and prevent illegal crossings.” (Exs. 11, 12.) And the Waivers
17 do not even contend that the Border Wall Project Areas are where fencing would be
18 “most practical and effective,” as required by Section 102(b). Because the 2017
19 Waivers’ boiler plate statements offer no good reasons for stripping Californians of
20 their legal rights, the 2017 Waivers are invalid.

21 **VI. THE 2017 WAIVERS INTERFERE WITH CALIFORNIA’S EQUAL**
22 **SOVEREIGNTY AND POLICE POWERS IN VIOLATION OF THE TENTH**
23 **AMENDMENT’S FEDERALISM PRINCIPLES (ELEVENTH CLAIM)**

24 The Tenth Amendment to U.S. Constitution states that “[t]he powers not
25 delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States,
26 are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.” The Supreme Court has
27 interpreted this amendment to protect states and their people from federal
28 overreach, including a federal law that burdens some geographic regions but not
others or invades realms traditionally reserved to the states absent a showing that it

1 is “sufficiently related to the problem that it targets.” *Shelby Cty., Ala. v. Holder*,
2 133 S. Ct. 2612, 2622 (2013) (citation omitted). The Court has recognized that a
3 federal statute violates the Tenth Amendment as over-inclusive in either of two
4 ways. First, a validly enacted federal statute that burdens a subset of states but not
5 others will become unconstitutional if progress is made curbing the problem the
6 statute seeks to prevent. *Id.* at 2628-29. Second, a federal statute that interferes with
7 states’ traditional police powers by enabling the nullification of laws which do not
8 impede the statute’s object is a disproportionate and therefore unconstitutional
9 means to an end. *City of Boerne v. Flores*, 521 U.S. 507, 534-535 (1997). Because
10 Section 102(c) suffers from both these constitutional infirmities, it cannot validly
11 strip California and its people of their legal protections.

12 The Supreme Court recently curbed the same type of federal overreach on
13 display here. In *Shelby County*, the Court struck down a federal statute authorizing
14 the Executive Branch to suspend certain election laws in several California counties
15 and nine states because imposing such a burden on some geographic regions and
16 not others violated the “fundamental principle of *equal* sovereignty” among the
17 states. *Id.* at 2622 (quoting *Nw. Austin Mun. Util. Dist. No. One v. Holder*, 557 U.S.
18 193, 203 (2009)). The Court acknowledged that, in barring literacy tests and other
19 racially-motivated forms of vote suppression, the federal law at issue—Section 4(b)
20 of the Voting Rights Act (“VRA”)—was constitutionally enacted pursuant to the
21 Fifteenth Amendment and Article I, which affords Congress “significant control
22 over federal elections.” *Id.* at 2623, 2629.

23 Nonetheless, the Court held that Section 4(b) had become unconstitutional in
24 recent years because, by 2013, its disparate treatment of covered and non-covered
25 states no longer could be justified by “current needs,” making it “irrational.” *Id.* at
26 2630–31. The Court found that the VRA had reduced the disparity between
27 African-American and white voter turnout in those regions. *Id.* At the same time,
28 the Executive Branch had curtailed its exercise of the VRA-created power to

1 suspend local laws, underscoring the lack of need for federal interference in at least
2 some states or local areas. *Id.* at 2626. Because *some* states and local areas had
3 shown signs of progress, the Court held that the VRA’s “disparate treatment of the
4 States” was unconstitutional as to *all* of them. *Id.*

5 Here, changed circumstances—dramatic reductions across the entire southwest
6 border and even steeper declines in illegal border crossings within the specific
7 project areas selected by DHS—have similarly rendered Section 102
8 unconstitutional. As in *Shelby County*, the success of earlier federal action has
9 eliminated the justification for continuing to subject some states and not others to
10 federal interference, such as the waiver of existing California law and the waiver of
11 California’s rights under federal law. In the two decades following the 1996
12 passage of Section 102, illegal border crossings dropped by over 93% in the San
13 Diego Sector (Ex. 2, pp. 1, 17; Ex. 22, pp. 12-15; Appendix G) and 92% in the El
14 Centro Sector over the past 16 years. Moreover, illegal crossings along the entire
15 Southwest border have fallen 75% since their peak. (Ex. 2; pp 1, 17; Ex. 8, p. 19.)
16 In addition, in the last eight years, illegal border crossings in the San Diego Project
17 Area have declined by 75% (Ex. 2). Texas and Arizona now account for 92% of the
18 relatively few illegal crossings that continue. (Ex. 1, pp. 45-46; Ex. 2, p. 17; Ex. 20,
19 p. 20).

20 This progress “cannot be ignored” and confirms that continued federal
21 interference in state police powers and state sovereignty is no longer justified.
22 *Shelby Cty.*, 133 S. Ct. at 2628. Because some regions, such as the project areas
23 within California, no longer suffer from the once widespread problem that Congress
24 sought to combat, the “substantial federalism costs” that Section 102(c) imposes are
25 no longer justified. *Id.* at 2622. Much like in *Shelby*, the disparate treatment of
26 California, which has been targeted for the waiver of state laws even though the
27 California sectors are no longer experiencing larger numbers of illegal entries,
28 renders the entire statute unconstitutional under the Tenth Amendment.

1 Moreover, the sweeping waiver provision in Section 102(c) is far broader and
2 interferes far more with state sovereignty than any statute before it. According to
3 the DHS, Section 102(c) permits the Executive Branch to indefinitely waive all
4 state and local laws and regulations, requires no factual findings to justify it, and
5 deprives a litigant of any forum to challenge whether the statute's requirements
6 were even met. In contrast, the section of the VRA struck down by the Supreme
7 Court permitted the Executive Branch to suspend only "a discrete class" of state
8 laws, and allowed any covered region to exempt itself from federal oversight
9 simply by showing in court that the harm the VRA sought to prevent had not
10 occurred in "the preceding five years." *City of Boerne*, 521 U.S. at 533-535
11 (citation omitted).

12 Alternatively, Section 102(c) is unconstitutional because it is a "considerable
13 congressional intrusion into the States' traditional prerogatives and general
14 authority to regulate for the health and welfare of their citizens." *City of Boerne*,
15 521 U.S. at 534. It is well-established that the federal government "possesses only
16 limited powers," whereas the Tenth Amendment ensures that "the States and the
17 people retain the remainder." *Bond v. United States*, 134 S. Ct. 2077, 2086 (2014).;
18 U.S. Const., amend. X. And even where Congress acts pursuant to those limited
19 powers, it may still run afoul of federalism principles—as in *Shelby County*, where
20 the Court struck down the VRA. U.S. Const. art. I, Section 4, cl. 1; *Shelby Cty.*, 133
21 S. Ct. at 2623. "States have broad authority to enact legislation for the public
22 good—what we have often called a 'police power.'" *Bond*, 134 S. Ct. at 2086.
23 Applying these principles, the Supreme Court has refused to enforce federal laws
24 that, like Section 102(c), curtail states' "great latitude under their police powers to
25 legislate as to the protection of the lives, limbs, health, comfort, and quiet of all
26 persons." *Gonzales v. Oregon*, 546 U.S. 243, 270 (2006). The Court also
27 recognized that a federal law is unconstitutional where it so interferes with states'
28 traditional police powers as to be "out of proportion" to its object. *City of Boerne*,

1 521 U.S. at 533-536 (act which provided broad powers to nullify state laws not
 2 justifiable based on current needs, as the legislative history contained only old or
 3 “anecdotal evidence” of the harm Congress sought to curtail).

4 Section 102(c) reflects an even more disproportionate response to a
 5 nonexistent need. Like the act at issue in *City of Boerne*, Section 102(c) is grossly
 6 overbroad; its “sweeping coverage ensures its intrusion at every level of
 7 government” and purports to allow the waiver of “all federal and state law.” *Id.* at
 8 532. Such federal overreach is disproportionate because it endangers laws that do
 9 not work the evil Congress sought to combat, such as California’s work place
 10 safety, contract, and anti-graft laws. Further, forcing states to “beseech the Federal
 11 Government for permission to implement laws” they otherwise could enforce in
 12 their own courts is an unconstitutional intrusion into state sovereignty. *Shelby Cty.*,
 13 133 S. Ct. at 2624. Because this “federal intrusion into sensitive areas of state and
 14 local policymaking” is an “extraordinary departure from the traditional course of
 15 relations between the States and the Federal Government,” Section 102(c) must fail.
 16 *Id.* at 2624 (citation omitted).

17 **VII. SECTION 102(C)’S PROCEDURAL HURDLES AND THE VAGUE 2017**
 18 **WAIVERS VIOLATE CALIFORNIA’S ARTICLE III AND DUE PROCESS**
 19 **RIGHTS (SIXTH CLAIM)**

20 DHS’s vague 2017 Waivers and Section 102(c)’s unreasonable procedural
 21 hurdles are an impermissible assault on Californians’ Article III and due process
 22 rights and the rights of potential parties to petition the Court. “A fundamental
 23 principle in our legal system is that laws which regulate persons or entities must
 24 give fair notice of conduct that is forbidden or required.” *FCC v. Fox Television*
 25 *Stations, Inc.*, 567 U.S. 239, 253 (2012). The 2017 Waivers violate that principle by
 26 failing to identify the state laws that are purportedly waived. For example, the 2017
 27 Waivers purport not only to waive the 37 federal laws identified in the waivers but
 28 also “all . . . state, or other laws, regulations and legal requirements of, deriving
 from, or related to the subject of” those federal statutes. California and its citizens

1 are placed in the position of having to guess which state laws have been waived
2 and, thus, unable to determine the scope of conduct that remains the subject of its
3 own laws.

4 Moreover, the San Diego Waiver is hopelessly vague when it states that DHS
5 intends to install “various border infrastructure projects” within the “Project Area,”
6 a 15-mile segment of the border. (Ex. 11.) While the San Diego Waiver identifies
7 two examples of infrastructure projects DHS intends to build (prototypes and the
8 replacement of the primary fence), it fails to describe the other “various border
9 infrastructure projects” that DHS may elect to build sometime in the future. The
10 San Diego Waiver, therefore: (1) does not provide sufficient information to
11 determine whether the undisclosed projects are authorized by Section 102; (2) gives
12 no notice to property owners that their land may be burdened by the waiver; and,
13 (3) leaves open the possibility that DHS may attempt to build additional projects
14 not authorized by Section 102.

15 In addition, the San Diego Waiver fails to provide reasonable notice of when
16 any of these undisclosed projects will be constructed and purports to waive federal
17 and state laws for the on-going maintenance of those structures. This means DHS
18 may attempt to build a solid wall, or some other undisclosed structure, five or ten
19 years from now and claim the San Diego Waiver still applies, or may even assert
20 that the San Diego Waiver applies in perpetuity. The San Diego Waiver also fails to
21 specify how far the project area will extend in a northerly direction, leaving open
22 the possibility these undisclosed projects will lead to the condemnation of
23 additional state-owned or private property.

24 These uncertainties leave California and its citizens in legal limbo - unable to
25 determine whether the various infrastructure projects will be the types of projects
26 authorized under Section 102, whether the area will be considered an area of high
27 illegal entry at the time it is installed, and whether they should file a claim to
28 protect their individual rights.

1 The problems created by the 2017 Waivers’ lack of clarity are compounded by
 2 a 60-day statute of limitations that runs upon their publication, creating the risk that
 3 Californians will not learn about the full extent of the 2017 Waivers until it is too
 4 late. The Supreme Court has recognized that “all statutes of limitation must proceed
 5 on the idea that the party has full opportunity afforded him to try his right in the
 6 courts.” *Wilson v. Iseminger*, 185 U.S. 55, 62–63 (1902). Here, Section 102’s 60-
 7 day limitations period is “manifestly unjust” because, when combined with the
 8 2017 Waivers’ lack of clarity, it deprives a litigant “of a forum without giving . . .
 9 adequate notice to protect its otherwise valid rights.” *Hartford Cas. Ins. Co. v.*
 10 *FDIC*, 21 F.3d 696, 701–04 (5th Cir. 1994). In effect, the 60-day limitations period
 11 and the vague nature of the 2017 Waivers are being used to strip California and
 12 other litigants of their rights afforded under Section 102(c) and Article III of the
 13 United States Constitution.

14 In addition, by barring all non-constitutional claims from being heard in any
 15 forum, Section 102(c)(2)(A) unconstitutionally interferes with the “right of access
 16 to the courts”—one of the “most precious” liberties safeguarded by the First
 17 Amendment. *BE & K Const. Co. v. NLRB*, 536 U.S. 516, 524-525 (2002); U.S.
 18 Const. amend. I; *see also, Commodity Futures Trading Comm. v. Schor*, 478 U.S.
 19 833, 848 (1986). A statute like Section 102 that imposes burdens to discourage
 20 litigants from challenging its “validity or enforcement,” is especially suspect. *See,*
 21 *In re Workers’ Compensation Refund*, 46 F.3d 813, 821–22 (8th Cir. 1995).
 22 Accordingly, Section 102’s procedural hurdles, combined with the 2017 Waivers’
 23 vagueness, amount to “an unlawful attempt to extinguish rights arbitrarily.” *Wilson*,
 24 185 U.S. at 62–63.

25 **VIII. THE 2017 WAIVERS VIOLATE THE SEPARATION OF POWERS**
 26 **DOCTRINE (SEVENTH CLAIM)**

27 The Supreme Court has consistently reaffirmed “the central judgment of the
 28 Framers of the Constitution that, within our political scheme, the separation of

1 governmental powers into three coordinate Branches is essential to the preservation
2 of liberty.” *Mistretta v. United States*, 488 U.S. 361, 380-384 (1989). The Court has
3 also recognized that “our constitutional system imposes upon the Branches a degree
4 of overlapping responsibility, a duty of interdependence as well as independence
5 the absence of which ‘would preclude the establishment of a Nation capable of
6 governing itself effectively.” *Id.* The key constitutional concern is whether actions
7 or provisions of law “either accrete to a single Branch powers more appropriately
8 diffused among separate Branches or that undermine the authority and
9 independence of one or another coordinate Branch.” *Id.*

10 The Constitution separates the power to make law from the power and duty to
11 execute the law. Article I vests “[a]ll legislative powers” in the Congress. U.S.
12 Const. art. I, section 1. The President's constitutional role is to “take Care that the
13 Laws be faithfully executed.” U.S. Const. art. II, Section 3. This separation of
14 legislative and executive power is a central foundation of our government. *See, e.g.,*
15 *Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. v. Sawyer*, 343 U.S. 579, 587 (1952); *Buckley v.*
16 *Valeo*, 424 U.S. 1, 129 (1976); *Chadha*, 462 U.S. 919; *Bowsher v. Synar*, 478 U.S.
17 714 (1986). Therefore, Congress cannot vest its own legislative powers in the
18 Executive Branch even if Congress intended such a result. *Clinton v. New York*, 524
19 U.S. 417, 444-447 (1988). As the Court explained in *Youngstown Sheet & Tube*
20 *Co.*, 343 U.S. at 587, “the President's power to see that the laws are faithfully
21 executed refutes the idea that he is to be a lawmaker.”

22 The Supreme Court has upheld statutes where Congress “legislated in the
23 contingency” by providing the Executive Branch with specific laws that Congress
24 has deemed appropriate to waive in certain contingent circumstances. For example,
25 the Court rejected challenges under the separation of powers doctrine in cases such
26 as *Field v. Clark*, 143 U.S. 649 (1892) and *J.W. Hampton, Jr. & Co. v. United*
27 *States*, 276 U.S. 394 (1928), where Congress performed the legislative function of
28 deciding which specific tariffs, or laws, could be modified or terminated and under

1 what circumstances, and the President was “the mere agent of the lawmaking
2 department to ascertain and declare the event upon which its expressed will was to
3 take effect.” *J.W. Hampton, Jr. & Co.*, 276 U.S. at 411. Another example is the
4 original version of Section 102, where Congress allowed for the waiver of two
5 specific acts of Congress, NEPA and the ESA, under certain circumstances, and
6 where the laws were clearly spelled out. In that case, the Executive Branch was
7 merely provided with discretion on how to implement the waivers of two statutes
8 that Congress had already chosen. Pub. L. 104-208, div. C, § 102(c).

9 In stark contrast, the current version of Section 102 authorizes the DHS
10 Secretary to pick and choose among enacted laws and determine, in his or her sole
11 discretion, which pieces shall be waived. In enacting Section 102,
12 Congress has not stated which laws are to be waived or why, and has instead given
13 the Executive Branch that authority. Section 102 was not “legislated in the
14 contingency” as the Supreme Court allowed in the *Field* and *J.W. Hampton* cases,
15 and Congress had no idea which laws were going to be waived when it enacted the
16 law, nor did the President when he signed the law. Congress has thus impermissibly
17 granted the Executive Branch the essential legislative power of waiving existing
18 law. Such a blanket waiver is investing legislative functions in the Executive
19 Branch, a clear violation of the doctrine of the separation of powers. This waiver
20 authority must therefore be declared unconstitutional and the 2017 Waivers must be
21 invalidated.

22 **IX. SECTION 102(C) AND THE 2017 WAIVERS VIOLATE THE NON-**
23 **DELEGATION DOCTRINE (EIGHTH CLAIM)**

24 “The fundamental precept of the delegation doctrine is that the lawmaking
25 function belongs to Congress . . . and may not be conveyed to another branch or
26 entity.” *Loving v. United States*, 517 U.S. 748, 758 (1996) (citing *Field v. Clark*,
27 143 U.S. 649, 692 (1892)). “The Congress is not permitted to abdicate or to transfer
28 to others the essential legislative functions with which it is thus vested.” *A.L.A.*

1 *Schechter Poultry Corp. v. United States*, 295 U.S. 495, 529 (1935). This doctrine
 2 stems from Article 1, Section I of the U.S. Constitution, which provides that “[a]ll
 3 legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States
 4”

5 **A. The Section 102(c) Waiver Provision Lacks a Sufficient**
 6 **Intelligible Principle**

7 Congress may delegate legislative power if it provides sufficient guidance for
 8 the recipient of that delegation. “[W]hen Congress confers decision making
 9 authority upon agencies Congress must ‘lay down by legislative act an intelligible
 10 principle to which the person or body authorized to [act] is directed to conform.’”
 11 *Whitman v. Am. Trucking Assocs.*, 531 U.S. 457, 472 (2001) (quoting *J.W.*
 12 *Hampton, Jr., & Co. v. United States*, 276 U.S. 394, 409 (1928)). This “intelligible
 13 principle” limits the scope of the delegation and enables review of whether the
 14 agency has properly exercised the delegated authority to achieve Congress’
 15 objective. *Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen v. Connally*, 337
 16 F.Supp. 737, 746 (D.D.C. 1971). It must be sufficiently definite to “enable
 17 Congress, the courts and the public to ascertain whether the [recipient of delegated
 18 authority] has conformed to those standards.” *Yakus v. United States*, 321 U.S.
 19 414, 426 (1944).

20 Previous district courts have found an intelligible principle in Section 102(c)’s
 21 inclusion of the words “necessary to ensure expeditious construction of the barriers
 22 and roads under this section.” *E.g., Defenders of Wildlife v. Chertoff*, 527 F. Supp.
 23 2d 119, 128 (D.D.C. 2007); *County of El Paso v. Chertoff*, No. EP-08-CA-196-FM,
 24 2008 WL 4372693 (W.D. Tex. 2008). All four district courts to consider the
 25 question reasoned that the circumstances in which the waiver could be exercised
 26 were narrow enough that it was an appropriate delegation of congressional
 27 authority. *Defenders of Wildlife*, 527 F. Supp. 2d at 128; *County of El Paso*, 2008
 28 WL 4372693; *Save Our Heritage Organization v. Gonzalez*, 533 F. Supp. 2d 58

1 (D.D.C. 2008); *Sierra Club v. Ashcroft*, No. 04CV0272-LAB (JMA) (S.D. Cal.
2 2005). As one court explained, “the Secretary may only exercise the waiver
3 authority for the ‘narrow purpose’ prescribed by Congress: ‘expeditious
4 completion’ of the border fences authorized by Section 102 in areas of high illegal
5 entry.” *Defenders of Wildlife v. Chertoff*, 527 F. Supp. 2d at 128.

6 However, even if this guidance provided a sufficiently intelligible principle
7 when Section 102(c) was enacted, it no longer serves that purpose today. The
8 passage of time rendered the criteria of “expeditious construction” useless as an
9 intelligible principle; the word “expeditious” is defined as “marked by or acting
10 with prompt efficiency.” Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary, 2017.
11 <http://www.merriam-webster.com> (Oct. 23, 2017). Applying the phrase
12 “expeditious construction” to new border infrastructure projects, planned and built
13 nearly a decade after the last amendment to Section 102, would strain that
14 definition.

15 **B. The Lack of Judicial Review Violates the Non- 16 Delegation Doctrine**

17 The availability of review—whether it be judicial review, administrative
18 review, or congressional oversight—is critical to a proper delegation of
19 congressional authority. “The safeguarding of meaningful judicial review is one of
20 the primary functions of the doctrine prohibiting undue delegation of legislative
21 powers.” *Amalgamated Meat Cutters*, 337 F. Supp. at 759. Judicial review ensures
22 that the agency or official to which Congress has delegated power adheres to the
23 intelligible principle Congress provided. “The legislative policies and standards
24 being clear, judicial review of the remedies adopted by the [agency] safeguards
25 against statutory or constitutional excesses.” *Am. Power & Light Co. v. SEC*, 329
26 U.S. 90, 106 (1946). Without an opportunity for meaningful review of whether an
27 agency or official is acting within the scope of Congress’ delegation of authority,
28 the intelligible principle performs no function at all.

1 In *A.L.A. Schechter Poultry*, the Court struck down the National Industrial
2 Recovery Act. There, the Court expressed concern about the lack of review
3 provided by the statute, explaining that the statute in question dispensed with the
4 administrative procedures in place under the Federal Trade Commission Act “and
5 with any administrative procedure of an analogous character.” *A.L.A. Schechter*
6 *Poultry*, 295 U.S. at 533. The Court focused on the fact the National Industrial
7 Recovery Act included no procedures at all for review of whether actions taken by
8 the President came within the scope of Congress’ delegated authority. *Id.* This lack
9 of review, combined with the lack of an intelligible principle, resulted in the
10 Court’s decision to strike down the statute.

11 Courts have on numerous occasions found that it was the review —judicial or
12 otherwise—provided by the statute in question that saved the statute from a non-
13 delegation challenge. *See e.g. Touby v. United States*, 500 U.S. 160 (1991);
14 *Humphrey v. Baker*, 848 F.2d 211 (D.D.C. 1988). Section 102(c)’s waiver
15 provision, however, provides no meaningful opportunity for review of the
16 Secretary’s exercise of the waiver if the only challenges that can be brought are
17 constitutional challenges and the Secretary is allowed to exercise congressional
18 powers in his or her sole discretion and without regard to prerequisites set forth in
19 the statute. Because there is no meaningful opportunity for review of whether the
20 Secretary’s invocation of the waiver authority adheres to any intelligible principle,
21 Section 102(c) violates the non-delegation doctrine.

22 **X. SECTION 102(C) AND THE 2017 WAIVERS VIOLATE ARTICLE I, SECTION**
23 **3, OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION (NINTH CLAIM)**

24 Article I, Section 3 of the United States Constitution states in regard to
25 impeachment that “the Party convicted shall nevertheless be liable and subject to
26 Indictment, Trial, Judgment and Punishment, according to Law.” The Supreme
27 Court has stated on numerous occasions that this means the Constitution does not
28 provide immunity to criminal laws or criminal prosecution. *O’Shea v. Littleton*, 414

1 U.S. 488, 503-504 (1974); *Dennis v. Sparks*, 449 U.S. 24, 31-32 (1980). The Court
2 has repeatedly drawn distinctions between officials' powers to overcome civil law
3 and powers to overcome criminal law. In *Dennis v. Sparks*, the Supreme Court held
4 that a state judge could be held criminally liable for conspiracy involving bribery
5 under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, despite the judge being immune to civil liability under the
6 same statute. *Dennis*, 449 U.S. at 27-29. In other words, no person is above the law.
7 *U.S. v. Lee*, 106 U.S. 196, 220 (1882).

8 Further, Article I, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution states that the President
9 "shall have Power to grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offences against the United
10 States, except in Cases of Impeachment." This is the Executive Branch's check on
11 the power of the other two branches when acting in the criminal law sphere. *Ex*
12 *Parte Grossman*, 267 U.S. 87, 119-120 (1925). But the President and the Executive
13 Branch appointees are not immune from criminal prosecution and cannot simply
14 ignore or unilaterally waive a criminal law of the United States. *See United States v.*
15 *Nixon*, 418 U.S. 683, 707-708 (1974); *Marbury v. Madison*, 5 U.S. 137, 165-166
16 (1803). This is at the very heart of our Constitution. *Nixon*, 418 U.S. at 709; *Berger*
17 *v. United States*, 295 U.S. 78, 85-87 (1935).

18 Here, the Secretary has waived numerous criminal laws concerning Border
19 Wall Projects' construction. The Secretary, for example, has waived the Resource
20 Conservation Recovery Act provision (42 U.S.C. § 6928) making it a crime to
21 knowingly dump hazardous waste that puts another person in imminent danger of
22 death or serious bodily injury. The Secretary has also waived a law making it a
23 crime to knowingly pollute a river, stream or other water of the United States in a
24 way that places another person in imminent danger of death or serious bodily harm
25 in contravention of the federal Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(c). Congress
26 cannot provide the President or the Executive Branch with such sweeping powers to
27 waive federal criminal laws in its sole discretion, without even listing which
28 criminal laws can be waived. This is contrary to our legal system and puts the

1 Executive Branch above the law of the United States.

2 In addition, the Supreme Court has not resolved the question of whether more
3 specific guidance from Congress is required than the ordinary “intelligible
4 principle” where the delegation of legislative powers to the Executive Branch
5 pertains to criminal law or criminal sanctions. *Touby v. United States*, 500 U.S.
6 160, 165-66 (1991) (“Our cases are not entirely clear as to whether more specific
7 guidance is in fact required.”) Here, however, Section 102, if it even provides the
8 necessary guidance required by the “intelligible principle,” certainly does not
9 provide any further guidance that may be required for acting in the criminal sphere.
10 In fact, Section 102 allows the Executive Branch to immunize itself and its
11 contractors from any criminal law it deems necessary in its sole discretion.
12 Congress does not even name the criminal laws that can be waived. Therefore,
13 Section 102 has not met the heightened standard required of delegating in the
14 criminal sphere and has allowed the Executive Branch to put itself above the law.
15 Section 102’s waiver authority must therefore be declared unconstitutional and the
16 2017 Waivers should be declared invalid.

17 **XI. SECTION 102(C) AND THE 2017 WAIVERS VIOLATE THE PRESENTMENT**
18 **CLAUSE (ART. I, SECTION 7) (TENTH CLAIM)**

19 The Presentment Clause provides that “[e]very Bill which shall have passed
20 the House of Representatives and the Senate, shall, before it becomes a Law, be
21 presented to the President of the United States; if he approves he shall sign it, but if
22 not he shall return it.” U.S. Const. art. I, Section 7, cl. 2. The Supreme Court has
23 interpreted these procedural requirements to apply to both the enactment and repeal
24 of statutes. *INS v. Chadha*, 462 U.S. 919, 954 (1983).

25 Section 102(c) suffers from the same constitutional weaknesses as the Line
26 Item Veto Act at issue in *Clinton v. City of New York*, 524 U.S. 417 (1998). There,
27 the Supreme Court struck down the line item veto under the Presentment Clause
28 because the act, in legal and practical effect, allowed the President to partially

1 repeal laws, depriving the vetoed provisions of legal force and effect. *Id.* at 438. In
2 arriving at this conclusion, the Court distinguished the Line Item Veto Act from the
3 Tariff Act it upheld in *Field v. Clark*, 143 U.S. 649 (1892). The Court identified
4 three critical differences between the two acts that demonstrated the
5 unconstitutionality of the Line Item Veto Act. *Clinton*, 524 U.S. at 443. First,
6 exercise of the line item veto was contingent on conditions that existed when
7 Congress passed the laws the President partially vetoed, whereas suspension of
8 import duty exemptions in *Field* was contingent on conditions that did not exist
9 when Congress passed the Tariff Act issuing those exemptions. *Id.* Second, in
10 *Clinton*, after making congressionally prescribed determinations, the Executive
11 retained unbridled discretion regarding whether to veto spending measures. *Id.* at
12 443–44. And third, in issuing a line item veto, the President was acting contrary to
13 congressional intent. *Id.* at 444. The Line Item Veto Act, therefore, gave the
14 President “unilateral power to change the text of duly enacted statutes” in violation
15 of the Presentment Clause. *Id.* at 447.

16 Here, Section 102(c) grants the Secretary nearly unbridled discretion in
17 determining which laws to waive, under what timeline, and the scope of activities
18 covered by the waiver. Unlike *Field*, in which the President had a duty to act in
19 congressionally defined ways after determining a threshold condition had been met,
20 here the Secretary has unchecked authority to waive any laws for an indefinite time
21 period once he or she determines it necessary for expeditious border security. In
22 fact, the Secretary’s discretion to waive any laws is broader in some ways than that
23 of the President to exercise the line item veto in *Clinton*. There, the President could
24 exercise the line item veto only with respect to spending measures and Congress
25 retained the power to reject the line item veto. *Clinton*, 524 U.S. at 436. Here, the
26 Secretary has authority to waive any law regardless of subject matter, including
27 laws far outside the Secretary’s homeland security expertise, and Congress has
28 retained no authority to reject the waivers.

1 Further, much like the Line Item Veto Act at issue in Clinton, the waiver
2 provision allows the Executive to act contrary to the intent of Congress by waiving
3 laws passed by Congress and intended to apply to activities in the relevant region.
4 By remaining silent as to which laws the Secretary could waive, Congress provides
5 no guidance as to its intent regarding which laws the Secretary should waive. Did
6 Congress intend for the Secretary to waive bribery and racketeering laws, or the
7 prohibition on the intentional disposal of hazardous waste? Section 102(c) grants
8 such broad discretion to the Secretary regarding which, if any, laws to waive that
9 the Secretary's actions only can be said to be implementing the Executive's will,
10 not that of Congress. Also, as in Clinton, the fact that that Congress intended to
11 allow waivers when it passed Section 102(c) is of no import if the waiver provision
12 is unconstitutional. Clinton, 524 U.S. at 445–46.

13 The existence and use of waiver provisions in other laws does not force an
14 alternative conclusion, contrary to the court's view in *Defenders of Wildlife v.*
15 *Chertoff*, 527 F. Supp. 2d 119, 125 (D.D.C. 2007). Other waiver provisions have
16 limited Executive discretion by allowing waiver of a provision within the same act
17 or a limited category of laws, or by mandating specified waiver actions once the
18 Executive determines a threshold event has occurred, and none has precluded
19 judicial review. *See, e.g.*, 10 U.S.C. § 433 (limiting waivable laws to those specific
20 laws regarding management of Federal agencies); 22 U.S.C. § 7207(a)(3) (allowing
21 waiver of restrictions on aid to specified countries for specific reasons). In contrast,
22 the waiver provision in Section 102(c) grants the Secretary unbridled discretion to
23 waive any and all laws for an indefinite time and for undefined activities, and
24 provides for limited judicial review. This waiver, more than those in other statutes,
25 purports to allow the Secretary to unilaterally change statutes.

26 Further, no court to address Section 102(c) has dealt with such a broad
27 application of the waiver provision. *See, e.g., Defenders*, 527 F. Supp. 2d 119; *Save*
28 *Our Heritage Organization v. Gonzalez*, 533 F. Supp. 2d. 58 (D.D.C. 2008). By

1 expanding the use of the waiver provision, the 2017 Waivers demonstrate more
 2 clearly than the previous waivers the similarity between Section 102(c) and the
 3 Line Item Veto Act that the Court held unconstitutional in *Clinton*. The Secretary
 4 has used nearly unbridled discretion to effectively repeal dozens of laws – robbing
 5 them of legal force and effect for an indefinite time period and for as yet undefined
 6 activities in the region. Therefore, the Secretary’s application of Section 102(c) in
 7 the 2017 Waivers violates the Presentment Clause of the Constitution.

8 CONCLUSION

9 Defendants’ ill-defined and ill-considered project to construct a massive
 10 border wall and related barriers along our international border with Mexico is
 11 beginning to lunge forward in virtually secret-until-the-last-minute steps. This
 12 piecemeal activity is occurring without the comprehensive and reasoned public
 13 review and mitigation of the adverse environmental impacts of Defendants’
 14 proposed multibillion dollar development that is envisioned by fundamental federal
 15 statutes such as NEPA and the CZMA. This unlawful conduct cannot be justified
 16 by the outdated and inapplicable waiver provisions of Section 102 and is wholly
 17 inconsistent with the constitutional safeguards discussed above. Accordingly, the
 18 People of the State of California and the California Coastal Commission
 19 respectfully request the Court to enter summary judgment in favor of their claims.

20 Dated: November 22, 2017

Respectfully Submitted,

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