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9	DEBONNEVILLE, LLC, and DISCOVERY REALTY, INC.				
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11	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT				
12	NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA				
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14	DISCOVERY BUILDERS, INC., FARIA LAND INVESTORS, LLC,	Case No.			
15	DEBONNEVILLE, LLC, and DISCOVERY REALTY, INC.	COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF UNDER THE			
16	Plaintiffs,	AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF UNDER THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES ACT AND THE NATIONAL			
17	VS.	ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT			
18	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE;				
19	JAMES MATTIS, in his official capacity as Secretary of Defense; U.S. DEPARTMENT				
20					
21	STEVEN R. ISELIN, in his official capacity				
22	as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Energy, Installations, and Environment; ERICA SPINELLI, in her				
23	official capacity as Deputy Base Closure Manager, Base Realignment and Closure				
24	Program Management Office,				
25	Defendants.				
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NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. Plaintiffs DISCOVERY BUILDERS, INC. ("Discovery Builders"), DISCOVERY REALTY, INC. ("Discovery Realty"), FARIA LAND INVESTORS, LLC ("Faria"), and DEBONNEVILLE, LLC (collectively "Plaintiffs") bring this Complaint pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act ("NEPA") and the Administrative Policy Act ("APA") to challenge the adequacy of Defendants' Final Environmental Impact Report ("Final EIS") and associated Record of Decision ("ROD") issued with respect to the closure and planned transfer of the Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, Detachment Concord ("CNWS") for development by the City of Concord ("Disposal and Reuse Project" or "Project").

- 2. Plaintiffs bring their Complaint against the following Defendants: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE; JAMES MATTIS, in his official capacity as Secretary of Defense; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY; RICHARD V. SPENCER, in his official capacity as Secretary of the Navy; STEVEN R. ISELIN, in his official capacity as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Energy, Installations, and Environment; and ERICA SPINELLI, in her official capacity as Deputy Base Closure Manager, Base Realignment and Closure Program Management Office West (collectively "Defendants").
- 3. Plaintiffs challenge Defendants' erroneous decision to approve the disposal of the CNWS, which paves the way for the development of over 5,000 acres of land along one of the most congested transportation arteries in the nation. In approving this decision that will add 12,272 residential units and 6.1 million square feet of commercial space, Defendants failed to take the required "hard look" at the Project's impacts on the residents of the region, as they are mandated to do by law. Defendants' decision would add over 32,000 new residents—a nearly 25% increase from the City of Concord's 2016 population—and generate thousands of new vehicle trips, cause significant pollution, and strain an overburdened municipal system.
- 4. In reaching their decision, Defendants relied upon incomplete, faulty data and assumptions, an analysis that conveniently ignored and segmented consideration of the proposed use of the CNWS. The analysis provided a range of alternatives that failed to identify a less impactful action. Defendants failed to supplement their analysis notwithstanding significant new

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INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

information regarding traffic patterns and methodology, air quality, and emerging contaminants.

- 5. The CNWS Project will cause a 25% increase in the population of the City of Concord, and further clog transportation arteries that are already badly congested. The transportation impacts were not fully disclosed and, among other things, Defendants made unrealistic assumptions regarding the number of generated trips, misallocated traffic to create a rosier picture of commute conditions, and ignored the impacts of this exponential population increase on public transportation infrastructure.
- 6. Similarly, Defendants glossed over and in some cases ignored serious air quality concerns and data in an area that is already subject to pollution stressors. The analysis ignored significant contributors to criteria pollutant emissions during the operational phase of the Project and the analysis incorrectly applied their chosen emissions model, and also disregarded the reasonably foreseeable developments precipitated by Defendants' actions.
- 7. Additionally, in determining that there will be no impacts from remediation, Defendants made a blanket assertion of deference to compliance with federal, state, and local laws and regulations without identifying mitigation measures or conducting an independent evaluation of the adequacy of such measures, as required by NEPA. Further, the scope of remediation described in the EIS conflicts with what the City of Concord's Disposal and Reuse Project has described in its Environmental Impact Report prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, resulting in an inconsistent project description that concludes that portions of the property will be unsuitable for the intended use.
- 8. Defendants have completely failed to provide the public and decision-makers with complete information in violation of the protections of NEPA and the APA.

JURISDICTION

- 9. Because this action arises under the laws of the United States, this Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331.
- 10. This Court is empowered to perform judicial review of federal agency decisions pursuant to 5 U.S.C. §§ 701-706.
 - 11. This Court may issue such declaratory and injunctive relief as is necessary pursuant

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to 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201-2202.

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Defendants U.S. Department of Defense ("DOD") and U.S. Department of the 12. Navy ("Navy") took a final action that is reviewable under the APA when the agents named in the caption above issued the Record of Decision ("ROD"), approving the Final EIS and authorizing the Disposal and Reuse Project under NEPA.

VENUE

13. Venue in the Northern District of California is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(e)(1), because "a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claim occurred" and "a substantial part of property that is the subject of the action is situated" in Contra Costa County, which is a part of the Northern District.

PARTIES

Plaintiff Discovery Builders, Inc.

- Plaintiff Discovery Builders, Inc. is a corporation formed in 1998 in the State of 14. California and engaged in the development of real estate in the San Francisco Bay Area.
- 15. Discovery Builders maintains its headquarters at its company offices in Concord, California at 4061 Port Chicago Highway, within the impact area of the Disposal and Reuse Project. Discovery Builders' headquarters are located within one quarter mile of Highway 4, and within one half a mile of the North Concord/Martinez Bay Area Rapid Transit ("BART") station.
- 16. Discovery Builders' officers and eighty-five (85) employees are headquartered at the company offices, and regularly use the Highway 4 and Interstate 680 transportation corridors and regional transportation infrastructure. Additionally, Discovery Builders' officers and employees reside near or regularly visit the vicinity of the CNWS. Discovery Builders and its officers and employees intend to continue to use and enjoy these areas on an ongoing basis in the future.
- 17. Without the relief sought herein, the aesthetic, health, and transportation interests of Discovery Builders and its officers and employees will be adversely affected and irreparably injured. The impacts to these resources will directly and adversely impact Discovery Builders' property, the operations of its business and, most importantly, the health and welfare of its

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employees and officers.

- 18. For example, Discovery Builders reasonably believes that employees who suffer from respiratory problems will experience worsened conditions due to deteriorated air quality in and around the CNWS, and that employees and officers will be negatively impacted by worsened traffic conditions in and around the CNWS.
- 19. By way of example, the planned development will introduce an additional 32,000 residents using roadways like Port Chicago Highway that are already graded at Level of Service C or lower. Portions of Highway 4 are already rated at Level of Service F—meaning there is "[c]ongestion, high delays, and extensive queuing occurring." Increasing the population by 25% will increase the burden on transportation infrastructure that is already beyond capacity and no satisfactory mitigation has been proposed.
- 20 Discovery Builders' officers and employees use the area's roadways and transportation infrastructure daily, and will be further injured by undisclosed and unanalyzed air quality emissions from stationary sources within the Project. These concrete injuries are directly caused by Defendants' failure to comply with their mandatory duties under NEPA.

Plaintiff Faria Land Investors, LLC

COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY AND

INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

- 21. Plaintiff Faria Land Investors, LLC ("Faria") is a limited liability company formed in the State of California in 2004, and is engaged in the development of real estate in the San Francisco Bay Area.
- 22 Faria maintains an office in Concord, California at 4061 Port Chicago Highway, within the impact area of the Disposal and Reuse Project. Additionally, Faria owns approximately 606 acres of land directly adjacent to the CNWS to the west, which has been designated and planned for residential use for over fourteen years. The planned Faria development is within one mile of Highway 4 and within two and one-half miles of the North Concord BART station.
- 23. Faria's property adjacent to the CNWS and its business interests are directly and adversely impacted by Defendants' planned transfer of the CNWS and Defendants' failure to adequately disclose, analyze, and assess impacts to the property resulting from impaired air quality during construction and operation, transportation congestion and hazardous waste contamination.

comply with NEPA.

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Plaintiff Discovery Realty, Inc.

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24. Plaintiff Discovery Realty, Inc. is a corporation formed in 2011 in the State of California, and is engaged in the sale of real property in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Faria reasonably believes that it will suffer concrete injury due to the Defendants' failure to

6 7 Discovery Realty maintains its headquarters at its company offices in Concord,California at 4061 Port Chicago Highway, within the impact area of the Disposal and ReuseProject.

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26. Discovery Realty's officers and approximately forty (40) employees are headquartered at the company offices, and regularly use the Highway 4 and Interstate 680 transportation corridors and regional transportation infrastructure. Additionally, Discovery Realty's officers and employees reside near or regularly visit the vicinity of the CNWS. Discovery Realty's Concord headquarters is located within one quarter mile of Highway 4 and within one half mile of the North Concord/Martinez Bay Area Rapid Transit ("BART") station. Discovery Realty and its officers and employees intend to continue to use and enjoy these areas on

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27. Without the relief sought herein, the aesthetic, health, and transportation interests of Discovery Realty and its officers and employees will be adversely affected and irreparably injured. The impacts to these resources will directly and adversely impact Discovery Realty's property, the operations of its business and, most importantly, the health and welfare of its

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employees and officers.

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an ongoing basis in the future.

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from respiratory problems will experience worsened conditions due to deteriorated air quality in and around the CNWS and its employees and officers will be negatively impacted by worsened

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traffic conditions in and around the CNWS. Discovery Realty's officers and employees use the

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area's roadways and transportation infrastructure daily, and will be further injured by undisclosed

For example, Discovery Realty reasonably believes that its employees who suffer

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air quality emissions from stationary sources within the Project. These concrete injuries are

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directly caused by Defendants' failure to comply with their mandatory duties under NEPA.

Plaintiff DeBonneville, LLC

- 29. Plaintiff DeBonneville, LLC ("DeBonneville") is a limited liability company formed in the State of California in 2015, and is engaged in the development of real estate in the San Francisco Bay Area.
- 30. DeBonneville maintains an office in Concord, California at 4061 Port Chicago Highway, within the impact area of the CNWS. Additionally, DeBonneville owns approximately 60 acres of residential-zoned land within the impact area of the Disposal and Reuse Project. The planned DeBonneville development is within one-quarter mile of Highway 4 and within two and one-half miles of the North Concord BART station.
- 31. DeBonneville reasonably believes that it will suffer concrete injury due to the Defendants' failure to comply with NEPA including, but not limited to, impaired air quality during construction and operation and worsened traffic conditions.

Defendants

- 32. Defendant U.S. Department of Defense ("DOD") is the parent agency of the United States Department of the Navy and responsible for the closure and transfer process of the Concord CNWS, which is the subject of the EIS challenged here. The Department of Defense is responsible for compliance with the APA and NEPA.
- 33. Defendant James Mattis is the Secretary of the United States Department of Defense and is responsible for all DOD activities. He is sued in his official capacity.
- 34. Defendant U.S. Department of the Navy is the agency directly responsible for operation, closure and transfer of the CNWS, which is the subject of the EIS challenged here.
- 35. Defendant Richard V. Spencer is the Secretary of the Navy, and is responsible for all Navy administrative activities. He is sued in his official capacity.
- 36. Defendant Steven R. Iselin is the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Energy, Installations, and Environment. He approved and signed the Navy's September 29, 2017 Record of Decision ("ROD") selecting EIS Alternative 1 for disposal of the CNWS. He is sued in his official capacity.
 - 37. Defendant Erica Spinelli is the Deputy Base Closure Manager at the Navy's Base

Realignment and Closure Program Management Office, West, and is the principal individual responsible for the preparation of the Final EIS challenged here. She is sued in her official capacity.

STATUTORY FRAMEWORK

- 38. The Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. §§ 701–706, authorizes courts to review final agency actions to ensure that the agency's actions, findings, and conclusions are not arbitrary and capricious, an abuse of discretion, or otherwise not in accordance with law. The APA authorizes judicial challenges to any final agency action taken pursuant to any statute, including NEPA, where the action is made reviewable or where there is no adequate remedy at law. 5 U.S.C. § 704.
- 39. The National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 4321-70h is "our basic national charter for protection of the environment" (40 C.F.R. § 1500.1(a)). NEPA serves two purposes: (1) "it ensures that the agency, in reaching its decision, will have available, and will carefully consider, detailed information concerning significant environmental impacts," and (2) it "guarantees that the relevant information will be made available" to the public so it may play a role in the decision making process. *Robertson v. Methow Valley Citizens Council*, 490 U.S. 332, 349 (1989). The NEPA process is intended to help public officials "take actions that protect, restore, and enhance the environment." 40 C.F.R. § 1500.1.131.
- 40. Pursuant to NEPA, agencies are required to prepare a detailed environmental impact statement ("EIS") for any major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. 42 U.S.C. § 4332(C). NEPA requires that federal agencies, through the EIS, take a "hard look" at major federal actions, including consideration of all direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts resulting from past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions (40 C.F.R. §§ 1508.7, 1, 1508.8, 1508.25(c)).
- 41. A "hard look" means the EIS must consider "<u>all</u> foreseeable direct and indirect impacts" and must involve "a discussion of adverse impacts that does not improperly minimize negative side effects." *League of Wilderness Defs.-Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project v. U.S. Forest Serv.*, 689 F.3d 1060, 1075 (9th Cir. 2012) (emphasis added).

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42. NEPA requires that, before taking final action, agencies make available highquality information, including accurate scientific analyses, expert agency comments, and public comments. 40 C.F.R. § 1500.1(b). Agencies are not entitled to use or rely upon inaccurate data or employ faulty assumptions. Native Ecosystems Council v. U.S. Forest Serv., 418 F.3d 953, 964 (9th Cir. 2005).

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- In March 2007, the U.S. Navy declared approximately 5,000 acres of property at 43. the CNWS to be surplus to the defense needs of the federal government, pursuant to the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act ("DBCRA"). The CNWS was closed in accordance with DBCRA on September 30, 2008.
- 44. As the Local Redevelopment Authority for CNWS, the City of Concord was charged with developing a reuse plan for the surplus property. In 2012, the City adopted the Concord Reuse Project Area Plan and amended the Concord 2030 General Plan to accommodate the planned redevelopment. During the NEPA process, however, Defendants only considered those alternatives that would be compatible with the policies adopted by the City of Concord, and failed to consider a reasonable range of alternatives as required under NEPA.
- 45. On March 14, 2013, the Navy published its Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS and conducted public scoping meetings in 2013. During the course of the public scoping meeting, the Defendants received comments raising understandable concerns regarding the Project's impacts on transportation, including comments by neighborhood residents who expressed concern that the anticipated 25% increase in residents and thousands of vehicles would generate more traffic in what was already one of the most congested areas in the nation. The California Department of Transportation ("Caltrans") submitted comments suggesting specific methodologies and guidance for analyzing traffic impacts, as did the City of Antioch.
- 46. Defendants also received scoping comments regarding deteriorating air quality, including a recommendation from U.S. EPA to provide a "detailed discussion of ambient air conditions, National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), criteria pollutant nonattainment areas, and potential air quality impacts." Commenters discussed environmental management of

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hazardous contaminant at the CNWS site, including a neighborhood alliance that requested Defendants identify how the environmental cleanup would be managed.

- 47. In 2014, the U.S. EPA published a Notice of Availability for the Draft EIS, and opened the public comment period as required by NEPA. The Draft EIS identified only two action alternatives, along with the NEPA-mandated alternative of no project. The action alternatives consisted of:
 - Alternative 1 (the Preferred Alternative) with concentrated development of a. 30% of the CNWS acreage for mixed use including 12,272 housing units and 6.1 million square feet of commercial space, and
 - b. Alternative 2 (Intensified Reuse) calling for an additional 3,500 housing units on top of the Preferred Alternative.
- 48 Defendants circulated the Draft EIS for the minimum required 45-day public and agency comment period in response to which 34 members of the community and state and federal agencies submitted comments highlighting a number of serious inadequacies in the analysis performed by the Defendants. Defendants' responses to these comments were perfunctory and failed to result in any substantive changes to the EIS, contrary to NEPA's procedural mandate and depriving the public of a full and fair discussion of the Project's impacts in violation of NEPA.
- 49. For purposes of the claims set forth in this Complaint, Defendants failed to adequately analyze and disclose significant environmental and health-related impacts associated with the Project's impacts on (1) traffic and transportation, (2) air quality, and (3) public health.

Inadequate Analysis and Disclosure of Traffic Impacts

- 50. In the Draft EIS, Defendants analyzed 28 intersections, five roadway segments, 12 freeway segments, and 21 freeway ramps using the Countywide Travel Demand Model adopted by the Contra Costa Transportation Authority in 2012. The traffic model projected that Alternative 1 would add 203,205 daily trips and 21,730 afternoon peak hour trips to the new and surrounding road network, which would cause dramatic drops in the Level of Service provided by the existing roadway and transit network, both inside and outside the City of Concord.
 - 51. Defendants erroneously concluded, however, that their Preferred Alternative would

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only result in negative impacts to 12 intersections, two roadway segments, four freeway segments, and 16 freeway ramps. Moreover, these undesirable impacts in fact comprise only a small fraction of the gridlock that is forecast to occur as a result of the Project development.

- 52. Defendant Navy obfuscated the reasonably foreseeable impacts of the Alternative
 - a. misallocating over 13,000 PM peak hour trips, resulting in those trips simply disappearing from the analyzed network,
 - b. erroneously assuming that peak hour traffic would use alternate routes within CNWS,
 - c. erroneously assigning over 50% of PM peak hour commute trips to and from East County, and 0% of PM peak hour commute trips to the economic hubs of San Francisco and Silicon Valley,
 - d. assuming without justification that the addition of several thousand residences would in fact reduce traffic,
 - e. ignoring the impacts of an additional 8,800 riders per day on the already overburdened BART and bus systems,
 - f. relying on incomplete and unfunded off-site bicycle routes to defray traffic, and
 - g. failing to analyze queuing at key freeway ramps and intersections.
- 53. Only 40% of the traffic generated by the Project was assigned to study intersections. In other words, the EIS analysis only assessed about 8,600 of the Project's total PM peak hour volumes on the surrounding network; the remaining 13,000 PM peak hour trips simply disappear from the network.
- 54. An astounding 13,000 PM peak hour trips remain unaccounted and unanalyzed in the EIS. Additionally, the traffic analysis relies on the spurious assumption that congestion will be significantly reduced due to the construction of additional on-site roads and bicycle paths and is thus able to conclude that an additional 12,272 housing units and 6.1 million square feet of commercial space will somehow result in no significant increase to the overall traffic in the area.

55. Based on economic trends in the region, it is also highly speculative to assume that all 26,500 jobs will be developed in a timely manner. Yet Defendants rely on this highly optimistic figure to assume that 32% of all project traffic will remain internal to the City of Concord.

- 56. Rather than taking a conservative, hard look at the likely traffic and transit impacts of the Project, the Defendants have obfuscated the serious impacts to the local transportation network, which fails to provide a "full and fair" discussion of Alternative 1's regional traffic impacts.
- 57. During the minimum 45-day public comment period, community leaders from the East County Transportation Planning Committee ("TRANSPLAN"), the City of Concord, and Caltrans raised these issues with Defendants, finding even these watered-down impacts on state and local facilities "unacceptable." TRANSPLAN requested that the Defendants disclose the trip generation rates and mode splits for all land use types and questioned reliance on future increased BART capacity. Caltrans also questioned the Defendants' trip distribution, noting the lack of project trip generation directed towards employment centers in the west or south.
- 58. In response, the Defendants dismissed these concerns and merely directed commenters back to their existing defective, inadequate, and incomplete analysis, and did not provide further data or justification.
- 59. These deficiencies evince clear failures to observe "scientific integrity" as required by federal law (40 C.F.R. 1502.24) and deprived stakeholders—including Plaintiffs—of a full and fair discussion of significant environmental impacts.

B. <u>Inadequate Analysis and Disclosure of Air Quality Impacts</u>

60. Defendants admitted in the Draft EIS that Alternative 1 would result in significant impacts on air quality, but stopped short of fully analyzing and disclosing the full extent of these impacts. Both construction and operation would result in the emission of criteria air pollutants that will exceed the Bay Area Air Quality Management District's ("BAAQMD") significance thresholds. Construction emissions would reoccur over a 25-year buildout period, repeatedly exposing individuals in the vicinity of the Project to deteriorated air quality.

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would result in significant operational emissions. However, Defendants' assessment of these impacts was incomplete, leaving the public and other agencies uninformed about the full scope of their exposure to toxic air contaminants.

62. In assessing air quality impacts, Defendants relied on faulty assumptions, avoided

Defendants acknowledged that building energy use and increased vehicle traffic

- complete analysis, and reached conclusions based on inaccurate, incorrect, or insufficient data.

 Defendants presented daily and annual emission rates for criteria air pollutants during construction and operational phases as determined by the California Emissions Estimator Model

 ("CalEEMod"). However, Defendants used the CalEEMod model in a manner that is inconsistent with its prescribed guidance and, as a result, Defendants failed to accurately characterize the peak emissions associated with each stage and phase of development.
- 63. Additionally, the resulting estimates from the CalEEMod failed to address emissions from stationary sources likely to be found in mixed-use development, gasoline service stations, or dry cleaners. Further, despite scoping comments submitted by the U.S. EPA on this precise issue, Defendants did not evaluate whether the Project would cause or contribute to exceedances of National Ambient Air Quality Standards ("NAAQS"), and did not assess or identify the quantities of various air pollutants that would reach surrounding homes and businesses in the local community.
- 64. Defendants further claimed that they were not required to conduct a conformity analysis with the Clean Air Act because, they assert, the contemplated federal action is limited to only the transfer of land. At the same time, Defendants repeatedly acknowledged that the EIS was expressly intended to evaluate the potential direct, indirect, short-term, and long term impacts from the disposal of the former CNWS and the subsequent reuse of the property. Defendants therefore cannot avoid a conformity analysis.
- 65. Defendants failed to include this analysis, or to include sufficient information to determine whether the Project is consistent with local clean air plans. In this manner, Defendants attempted to improperly segment the transfer of the land from its ultimate reuse and, in doing so, failed to perform the requisite environmental analysis required by NEPA.

- 66. The mitigation measures prescribed by Defendants to address the significant air quality impacts of the Project are unstudied and inadequate. For example, in the first year of construction, the maximum NOx daily emission are almost five times the daily threshold, and more than three times the annual thresholds established by BAAQMD, and will remain above these thresholds for over a decade. The EIS discounts these as "temporary," but contains no assessment of particular mitigation measures designed to address exposure to these dangerous contaminants in excess of BAAQMD thresholds.
- 67. During the scoping process and the 45-day public comment period, neighboring residents expressed their concerns that the development of CNWS would exacerbate existing air pollution issues. Rather than evaluating these concerns, Defendants referred commenters to existing inadequate and incomplete sections of the EIS without further revision or explanation.
- 68. The concerns were fully justified— Defendants' EIS failed to provide an analysis of public health risks from various toxic and hazardous pollutants, including diesel particulate matter generated by both construction and increased traffic, and failed to provide sufficient information to evaluate the project's conformity with NAAQS.
- 69. In light of the paucity of analysis and data, U.S. EPA Region IX rated the Preferred Alternative as "Environmental Concerns—Insufficient Information" due in part to the significant air quality impacts. This rating indicates that the EIS lacked sufficient information for U.S. EPA to fully assess the environmental impacts that should be avoided in order to protect the environment and that the additional information, data, analyses, or discussion should be included in the EIS. In particular, U.S. EPA requested that Defendants include specific construction activity control measures and ban wood-burning fireplaces.
- 70. Defendants responded to the U.S. EPA by simply listing mitigation measures from the City of Concord's separate environmental review, without providing any analysis or discussion of the sufficiency of these mitigation measures to reduce the impacts to acceptable levels. Without an iota of scientific analysis, Defendants perfunctorily concluded no revisions were necessary.
- 71. Without high quality information and rigorous scientific analysis, Defendants could not possibly fully characterize the significance of the air impacts that would occur at nearby

homes and existing businesses, including Plaintiffs' offices and properties.

C. <u>Inadequate Analysis of Impacts from Hazards.</u>

72. Soil, groundwater, and existing structures at CNWS are heavily contaminated with hazardous materials including arsenic, volatile organic compounds, dioxins, and radiological

materials. Many of the structures onsite are also contaminated with lead-based paint and asbestos.

Ground-disturbing activities necessary to remediate this contamination can expose workers and

the public to hazardous materials, resulting in significant health effects including nausea,

vomiting, headaches, dizziness, burns, and even systemic damage to organs. Indeed, several of the contaminants of concern are known carcinogens.

- 73. Despite these known risks, the EIS lacks a sufficient degree of detail regarding the existing location and nature of all hazardous materials on CNWS. Defendants have impermissibly obscured the results of remediation activities at the site by relying on bare legal requirements to find that all impacts will be mitigated "to the extent practicable."
- 74. In analyzing impacts from hazards and hazardous materials, Defendants provided in the EIS only a cursory discussion of intensive remediation efforts that must occur prior to a transfer. Despite representing that the EIS is intended to evaluate "the consequences of . . . subsequent reuse by the local community," the EIS does not identify remediation standards, anticipated use limits, or the degree of supplemental remediation required by developers for the various sites.
- 75. Throughout the EIS, it is unclear whether CNWS will be remediated to a level that will support the planned use upon land transfer. For example, there is no indication whether the Defendants will lift land use controls (LUCs) prohibiting residential development on plots designated by the Preferred Alternative for residential neighborhoods. Similarly, for several areas, the investigation and remediation planning is still in progress with LUCs listed as "TBD" thus they fail to identify whether or not there would be LUCs on those portions of the site. (*See* EIS table 4.8-1, and areas where ICs are listed as "not yet specified" or "not yet determined if required," including Site 41, Site 42, UXO 0004).
 - 76. Defendants provided no Project-specific mitigation measures to ensure that the

effects of the remediation are in fact minimized. Instead, Defendants repeatedly cite compliance with the bare legal floor of the law without discussion or consideration of other effective mitigation measures. Site 22 in the CNWS is a good example. In 2011, a Record of Decision was issued for Site 22 imposing a land use control that "will not allow the property to be used for residences, hospitals for humans, schools for persons under 21 years of age, day care facilities for children, and playgrounds" due to the presence of arsenic in surface soils above remediation goals.

- 77. However, in Defendants' Preferred Alternative, much of Site 22 is designated for residential development. The EIS contains no discussion of the recent bioavailability study conducted for the site nor a method for lifting the current land use control. This lack of clarity and inconsistency is rampant throughout the discussion of hazards and hazardous materials, and renders the EIS unusable as an informational document.
- 78. Defendants' blanket reliance on potential compliance with bare legal requirements also deprived the public of information regarding feasible mitigation measures that would further reduce the risks to future Project residents and neighbors. NEPA requires the lead agency to consider mitigation measures "not already included in the proposed action" (40 C.F.R. § 1502.14) and to identify "[a]ll relevant, reasonable mitigation measures that could improve the project" even if they are beyond the scope of the lead agency's jurisdiction in order to "alert agencies or officials who can implement these extra measures . . . and encourage them to do so" (46 Fed. Reg. 18026, 18031-32 (Mar. 23, 1981)).
- 79. Defendants entirely ignored this obligation. For example, Defendants anticipate that the planned remediation will leave in place certain levels of volatile organic compounds beneath the residential development. Yet the EIS contains no discussion of management of this residual contamination. Instead, the Defendants rely only on compliance with CERCLA and RCRA, without any analysis or discussion of any other mitigation.
- 80. These deficiencies deprived stakeholders—including Plaintiffs—of a full and fair discussion of significant environmental impacts and the mitigation measures which could alleviate them.
 - 81. Despite all of these serious defects above, the Navy issued the Final EIS and ROD

on September 29, 2017.

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FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

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(VIOLATIONS OF NEPA AND THE APA) (INADEQUATE DISCLOSURE AND ANALYSIS OF TRAFFIC IMPACTS)

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82. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference paragraphs 1 through 81 above, inclusive, as

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cumulative environmental impacts, including compliance with applicable laws and regulations. 40

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C.F.R. §§ 1508.7, 1508.8, 1058.27(b)(10), 1052.25(b), 1052.2(d). That analysis should be based

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on reliable and up-to-date data.

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83. Under NEPA, an agency preparing an EIS must provide a "full and fair discussion of significant environmental impacts." 40 C.F.R. § 1502.1. An adequate analysis of environmental projects must rigorously examine and disclose the project's direct, indirect, and

- Here, however, the Navy's Final EIS has mischaracterized and obfuscated the 84. impacts of the proposed project. Defendants obscure the real impacts to the regional transportation network by (1) misallocating over 13,000 PM peak hour trips that simply disappear from the network, (2) erroneously assuming that peak hour traffic would use alternate routes within CNWS, (3) assigning over 50% of PM peak hour commute trips to and from East County and 0% to the economic hubs of San Francisco and Silicon Valley, (4) assuming without justification that the addition of several thousand residences would in fact reduce traffic, (5) ignoring the impacts of an additional 8,800 riders per day on the already overburdened BART and bus systems, (6) relying on incomplete and unfunded bicycle routes to defray traffic, and (7) failing to analyze queuing along key ramp intersections.
- 85 The Defendants failed to take "a 'hard look' at the potential environmental consequences of the proposed action," including the serious impacts to the transportation system serving Concord and the surrounding area. League of Wilderness Defs.-Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project v. U.S. Forest Serv., 689 F.3d 1060, 1075 (9th Cir. 2012).
- 86. Defendants relied on faulty assumptions, avoided complete analysis, and reached conclusions based on inaccurate, incorrect, or insufficient data rendering it impossible for

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decision-makers and the public to meaningfully evaluate the decision.

- 87. Serious concerns regarding the transportation analysis were elevated to Defendants' attention during the public comment period. Stakeholders raised concerns regarding, among other things, further congestion of already gridlocked roadways, and agency plans for handling of hazardous materials. These issues were squarely before Defendants throughout the administrative process and yet Defendants' responses were wholly inadequate to address the public's concerns.
- 88. Plaintiffs and others in the area will be adversely affected by these significant and undisclosed impacts.
- 89. Absent injunctive relief, Plaintiffs will suffer irreparable harm from significant impacts that Defendants have failed to analyze and mitigate through feasible and prudent alternatives or mitigation measures, including impacts from gridlocked roadways and overburdened transit.
- 90. Damages are not adequate to compensate Plaintiffs for Defendants' violations of NEPA and the APA and the significant impacts to health, safety and the environment that the project will concentrate on the communities adjacent to CNWS.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

(VIOLATIONS OF NEPA AND THE APA)

(INADEQUATE DISCLOSURE AND ANALYSIS OF AIR QUALITY IMPACTS)

- 91. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference paragraphs 1 through 90 above, inclusive, as though set forth fully herein.
- 92. Defendants have failed to fulfill their obligations under NEPA by depriving Plaintiffs and the public of a "full and fair discussion of significant environmental impacts" (40 C.F.R. § 1502.1) the Project will have on the region's air quality.
- 93. Defendants' analysis of environmental impacts—including air quality—was so deficient that EPA determined it could not assess the environmental effects of the Project. Defendants relied on faulty assumptions in projecting full build-out emissions, misused their emissions model, and failed to consider the project's consistency with NAAQS. The use of inaccurate data or faulty assumptions renders an EIS invalid as an informational document. *Native*

1	Ecosystems Council v. U.S. Forest Serv., 418 F.3d 953, 964 (9th Cir. 2005). Further, when an EIS		
2	fails to treat environmental details in sufficient detail or when its treatment suffers from		
3	"incomprehensibility," it is invalid. Envt'l Defense Fund Inc., v. Army Corps of Engineers, 348 F.		
4	Supp. 916, 922 (N.D. Miss. 1972).		
5	94. Defendants relied on faulty assumptions, avoided complete analysis, and reached		
6	conclusions based on inaccurate, incorrect, or insufficient data rendering it impossible for decision		
7	makers and the public to meaningfully evaluate the decision.		
8	95. Defendants received multiple comments regarding the substandard analysis of air		
9	quality impacts during the public comment period. These issues were squarely before the		
10	Defendants throughout the administrative process; yet Defendants' responses were wholly		
11	inadequate to address the public's concerns.		
12	96. Plaintiffs and others in the area will be adversely affected by these significant and		
13	undisclosed impacts.		
14	97. Absent injunctive relief, Plaintiffs will suffer irreparable harm from significant		
15	impacts that Defendants have failed to analyze and mitigate through feasible and prudent		
16	alternatives or mitigation measures, including impacts from deteriorated air quality over a span of		
17	decades.		
18	98. Damages are not adequate to compensate Plaintiffs for Defendants' violations of		
19	NEPA and the APA and the significant impacts to health, safety and the environment that the		
20	project will concentrate on the communities adjacent to CNWS.		
21	THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION		
22	(VIOLATIONS OF NEPA AND THE APA)		
23	(INADEQUATE DISCLOSURE/ANALYSIS OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS IMPACTS)		
24	99. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference paragraphs 1 through 98 above, inclusive, as		
25	though set forth fully herein.		
26	100. Defendants have failed to provide sufficient detail regarding the existing location		
27	and nature of all hazardous materials on CNWS and the risks posed by these hazardous materials		

INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

to human health and the environment. The EIS further contains no discussion of a method for

lifting the current land use controls that directly conflict with land uses contemplated in the Preferred Alternative. This lack of clarity and inconsistency is rampant throughout the discussion of hazards and hazardous materials, and renders the EIS unusable as an informational document.

- 101. Defendants have also impermissibly obscured the results of remediation activities at the site by relying on bare legal requirements to find that all impacts will be mitigated "to the extent practicable." Defendants' mere citation of legal requirements, without any disclosure or analysis, deprived the public of information regarding feasible mitigation measures that would further reduce the risks to future Project residents and neighbors.
- 102. NEPA requires the lead agency to consider mitigation measures "not already included in the proposed action" (40 C.F.R. § 1502.14) and to identify "[a]ll relevant, reasonable mitigation measures that could improve the project" even if they are beyond the scope of the lead agency's jurisdiction in order to "alert agencies or officials who can implement these extra measures . . . and encourage them to do so" (46 Fed. Reg. 18026, 18031-32 (Mar. 23, 1981)).
- 103. Defendants entirely neglected this obligation. Defendants failed to provide the requisite degree of detail necessary to evaluate the proposed action by omitting discussion of ongoing, intensive remediation activities, failing to evaluate the full scope of the reasonably foreseeable planned uses of the property, and failing to evaluate any mitigation measures beyond a rote citation of compliance with the law. Indeed, there remain many areas which are still under investigation where the full extent of contamination is yet to be defined.
- 104. Defendants made it impossible for decision-makers and the public to meaningfully evaluate the Project.
- 105. Defendants received multiple comments regarding the inadequate hazards analysis during the public comment period. These issues were squarely before the Defendants throughout the administrative process and yet Defendants' responses were wholly inadequate to address the public's concerns.
- 106. Plaintiffs and others in the area will be adversely affected by these significant and undisclosed impacts.
 - 107. Absent injunctive relief, Plaintiffs will suffer irreparable harm from significant

impacts that the Defendants have failed to analyze and mitigate through feasible and prudent alternatives or mitigation measures, including impacts from ongoing remediation efforts.

108. Damages are not adequate to compensate Plaintiffs for Defendants' violations of NEPA and the APA and the significant impacts to health, safety and the environment that the project will concentrate on the communities adjacent to CNWS.

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(VIOLATIONS OF NEPA AND THE APA)

(FAILURE TO PREPARE SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT)

- 109. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference paragraphs 1 through 108 above, inclusive, as though set forth fully herein.
- 110. Pursuant to NEPA, agencies are required to prepare supplements to either draft or final environmental impact statements if "[t]here are significant new circumstances or information relevant to the environmental concerns and bearing on the proposed action of its impacts." 40 C.F.R. § 1502.9(c). Additionally, every federal agency must adopt procedures for introducing a supplemental environmental impact statement ("SEIS") into its formal administrative record and prepare, circulate, and file an SEIS in the same manner as a draft or final EIS unless alternative procedures have been approved by the Council on Environmental Quality.
- of the FEIS, significant new information has developed concerning (1) traffic patterns in the Bay Area, (2) population growth models, and (3) emerging contaminants necessitating supplementation. This information has a direct bearing on the assumptions for and sufficiency of the environmental analysis contained in the EIS and needs to be addressed. For example, the findings of the EIS directly conflict with the traffic analyses in the following documents prepared in the intervening years between the Draft EIS and Final EIS:
 - Contra Costa County Congestion Management Program 2015 Monitoring Report,
 Contra Costa Transportation Authority, Walnut Creek, CA, August 2015;
 - Final Central County Action Plan, CH2MHill, Oakland, CA, September 2017;

- Contra Costa Center I-680/Treat Boulevard Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan, Alta Planning and Design, Oakland, CA, October 2017;
- East County Action Plan for Routes of Regional Significance, Fehr and Peers Associates, Walnut Creek, CA, March 2014; and
- Draft Environmental Impact Report for The Veranda, LSA, Oakland, CA, May, 2016.
- 112. Additionally, new contaminants have emerged that are highly likely to be present at the CNWS, necessitating intensive remediation that was not analyzed in the EIS. These contaminants include per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances ("PFAS"). These substances are commonly found at industrial sites and fire/crash training areas, such as CNWS, due to their presence in fire repellants and firefighting foams.
- 113. The California Office of Environmental Health and Hazards Assessment recently listed certain PFAS as known developmental toxicants and EPA has previously issued an advisory finding that "the weight of evidence for human studies supports the conclusion that PFOS exposure is a human health hazard."
- 114. An October 2017 Report to Congress by the US Department of Defense identifies the Concord Naval Weapons Station as a defense facility with a "Known or Suspected Release of PFOS or PFOA." (https://www.denix.osd.mil/derp/home/documents/aqueous-film-forming-foam-report-to-congress/) In that report, the Department of Defense states "Addressing elevated levels of PFOS and PFOA from DoD activities is a priority for DoD."
- 115. Despite the known danger posed by these contaminants, the Defendants have conducted no supplemental review to address this new information and its effects on the Project's residents and neighbors.
- 116. Defendants have not prepared an SEIS for the Project and opted instead to rely on stale data underlying the DEIS, ignoring substantial changes in circumstances and information concerning the area of the Project that are relevant to environmental concerns and bearing on the Project's impacts.
- 117. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that there are significant new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns over and bearing

on the Project and its impacts on the surrounding environment. Such concerns include previously unforeseeable increases in traffic and congestion, population growth, and emerging contaminants.

- 118. Defendants' decision to rely on an outdated EIS and refusal to prepare an SEIS for the Project is contrary to NEPA, arbitrary and capricious under the APA, a prejudicial abuse of discretion, and not supported by substantial evidence.
- 119. Plaintiffs and others in the area will be adversely affected by these significant and undisclosed impacts and are further harmed as a result of Defendants' violations of NEPA and the APA because Plaintiffs have been denied the benefits and protections provided by compliance with those laws.
- 120. Plaintiffs, the public, and the decision-makers who approved and are carrying out the Project were not fully informed about the impacts of, mitigation measures for, and alternatives to the Project prior to the decision to approve and carry out the Project.

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(VIOLATIONS OF NEPA AND THE APA)

(FAILURE TO EVALUATE A REASONABLE RANGE OF ALTERNATIVES)

- 121. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference paragraphs 1 through 120 above, inclusive, as though set forth fully herein.
- NEPA imposes a mandatory procedural duty on federal agencies to rigorously explore and objectively evaluate all reasonable alternatives to a proposed federal action. 42 U.S.C. §§ 4332(C)(iii), 4332(E); 40 C.F.R. §§ 1502.14(a), 1502.14(d). An EIS is intended to inform decision-makers and the public of the reasonable alternatives that would avoid or minimize adverse impacts to the human environment. 40 C.F.R. § 1502.1. This analysis is the heart of the NEPA process. *Id.* at § 1502.14. Agencies are required "to the fullest extent possible" to "identify and assess the reasonable alternatives to the proposed actions. *Id.* at § 1500.2.
- 123. Defendants violated NEPA and its implementing regulations by failing to consider a reasonable range of alternatives for the development of the CNWS. Defendants ultimately considered only two alternatives—their "Preferred Alternative" and "Alternative 2." Alternative 2, however, was merely a more intensive version of the Preferred Alternative development.

124. This impermissibly narrow selection necessarily biased the process in favor of the						
Defendants' Preferred Alternative by positioning it as the least impactful of the alternatives						
considered. Defendants arbitrarily omitted an alternative contemplating less intensive						
development than their Preferred Alternative, depriving the public and decision makers of a full						
review of potentially viable alternatives.						

- 125. Plaintiffs and others in the area have suffered and will continue to suffer harm and injury to their legal interests arising from and associated with their use and enjoyment of the Project area as a result of the Defendants' actions.
- 126. Absent injunctive relief, Plaintiffs will suffer irreparable harm from the more intensive development due to the biased selection of alternatives.
- 127. Damages are not adequate to compensate Plaintiffs for Defendants' violations of NEPA and the APA and the significant impacts to health, safety and the environment that the project will concentrate on the communities adjacent to CNWS.

SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(VIOLATIONS OF NEPA AND THE APA)

(IMPROPER SEGMENTATION OF ANALYSIS)

- 128. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference paragraphs 1 through 127 above, inclusive, as though set forth fully herein.
- 129. When a proposed federal action is part of a larger federal and nonfederal action that will have a significant impact on the environment, NEPA requires the preparation of an EIS for the entire action. A lead agency is prohibited from piecemealing "connected" actions to avoid a full evaluation, and must analyze such actions in a single EIS. 40 C.F.R. § 1508.25(a). Actions are connected if they "automatically trigger other actions which may require environmental impact statements," "cannot or will not proceed unless other actions are taken previously or simultaneously," or "are interdependent parts of a larger action and depend on the larger action for their justification." 40 C.F.R. § 1508.25(a)(1)."
- 130. The development and use of the CNWS site is a "reasonably foreseeable" consequence of the Project that must be fully evaluated as part of the EIS. Despite statements that

the EIS is intended to evaluate "the consequences of . . . subsequent reuse by the local community," Defendants have on several occasions abdicated responsibility for the evaluation or mitigation of the effects associated with these reasonably foreseeable consequences or simply failed to include such analysis in the EIS. For example, Defendants have declined to evaluate the consistency of operational criteria pollutant emissions with federal NAAQS and have omitted any discussion of long-term mitigation for residual contamination.

- 131. Defendants' failure to evaluate these reasonably foreseeable consequences is a violation of NEPA and has deprived the public and decision makers of a full review of the Project's impacts.
- 132. Plaintiffs and others in the area have suffered and will continue to suffer harm and injury to their legal interests arising from and associated with their use and enjoyment of the Project area as a result of the Defendants' actions.
- 133. Absent injunctive relief, Plaintiffs will suffer irreparable harm from the more intensive development due to the piecemealed evaluation of the Project.
- 134. Damages are not adequate to compensate Plaintiffs for Defendants' violations of NEPA and the APA and the significant impacts to health, safety and the environment that the project will concentrate on the communities adjacent to CNWS.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs Discovery Builders, Inc., Faria Land Investors, LLC, Discovery Realty, Inc., and DeBonneville, LLC, pray for judgment against each Defendant as follows:

- 1. For a declaratory judgment finding that each Defendant violated the APA and NEPA by issuing the Record of Decision approving transfer of the CNWS to the City of Concord;
- 2. For an order vacating the EIS and the Record of Decision issued on September 29, 2017;
- 3. For injunctive relief enjoining Defendants from proceeding with the federal action approved in the Record of Decision, including the transfer of any portion of the CNWS, unless and until Defendants actually and fully comply with the requirements of the APA and NEPA, including the preparation and recirculation of a legally sufficient EIS;

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1	4.	For attorney's fees, exper	t fees and costs of litigation as provided pursuant to the	
2	Equal Access to Justice Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2412, and other applicable authorities; and			
3	5.	5. For such further relief as the Court deems necessary and just.		
4	Dated: Augu	st 20, 2018	FARELLA BRAUN + MARTEL LLP	
5				
6			By: /s/ James H. Colopy James H. Colopy	
7			Attorneys for Plaintiffs	
8			DISCOVERY BUILDERS, INC., FARIA LAND	
9			INVESTORS, LLC, DEBONNEVILLE, LLC, and DISCOVERY REALTY, INC.	
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