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Hot Topics Lunch

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case called *Vineyard Area Citizens for Responsible Growth, Inc., et al v. City of Rancho Cordova*. The court is expected to consider the extent to which agency environmental review for land use plans must also consider water supply aspects. After the three panelists spoke, they took questions from the audience.

Julie M. Schmidt

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Keynote Speaker: John C. Cruden, U.S. Assistant Attorney General, Environment and Natural Resources Division, U.S. Department of Justice.

During lunch, Mr. Cruden gave the keynote conference address. Mr. Cruden gave a very captivating address, which included several personal stories from his career. Mr. Cruden concluded his address by suggesting that in this day of age, water law is increasingly intersecting with other areas of law such as environmental law. Because of this trend, water lawyers will have to address a wider variety of legal issues.

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Panelists: Edwin Kneeder, Jeanne Zolezzi, Gregory Wilkinson, Paul Haik, and Jeff Kightlinger. Moderator: Rod Walston.

The panel began with a discussion of recent and current cases in front of the Supreme Court. Mr. Kneeder gave his views and a brief summary of the cases.

Mr. Haik spoke about a recent compact between the Great Lakes states and the Canadian provinces of Ottawa and Quebec. The compact is titled, "Great Lakes Resources Compact and Agreement," and it was signed in September 2005.

Mr. Wilkinson and Ms. Zolezzi discussed recent California Supreme Court decisions. Mr. Wilkinson had participated in the oral arguments in one of the cases.

Finally, Mr. Kightlinger discussed recent developments regarding the Colorado River. Mr. Kightlinger is the General Manager of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. He discussed the proposal and draft agreement between the Colorado River Basin states that was recently submitted to the Secretary of the Interior.

Andrew Ellis